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Head Office: Dublin Airport,
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Forward Planning Section
Offaly County Council,
Áras an Chontae,
Charleville Road,
Tullamore,
County Offaly

Date: 7th October 2020

Ref No: 2.1.11.04

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Submission to Draft Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027

Thank you for your recent consultation. On behalf of daa, Head Office, Dublin Airport, I would like to make the following comments with regards to the preparation of the Draft Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027.

We note the draft Plan as published contains the following policy, *SMAP-26*:

“It is Council policy to support the provision of an airport within the county or the midlands where it would contribute towards proper planning and sustainable development of the county and comply with all environmental legislation and policies and objectives contained within this Plan and higher level planning documents, including the National Planning Framework and the Eastern and Midland Regional Spatial Economic Strategy”

The framework for the development of aviation in Ireland is set out in the *National Aviation Policy*,¹ as well as the *National Planning Framework*.² In

¹ *A National Aviation Policy for Ireland*, 2015, Department of Transport Tourism & Sport

² *Project Ireland 2040; A National Planning Framework*, 2018, Government of Ireland

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the context of the long term sustainable development of the region and nation as a whole, daa would recommend that policy for the provision of aviation services has regard to and is in line with national planning policy.

In addition, we note the absence of regional planning policy to support the provision of aviation services as set under policy SMAP-26 within the Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019-2031³ or Ireland's Regional Airports Programme 2015-2019⁴.

This concludes our comments in this regard. We would like to thank you for this opportunity to make a submission and look forward to the publication of the new Offaly County Development Plan 2021 -2027.

Yours faithfully,

Louise Byrne

Louise Byrne
Planning Department

³ *Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019-2031*, Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

⁴ *Ireland's Regional Airports Programme 2015-2019*, Department of Transport