



Review of County Development Plan  
Forward Planning Department  
Offaly County Council  
Áras An Chontae  
Charleville Road  
Tullamore  
County Offaly  
V94 EH90

23 September 2019

**Re: Issues Paper – Review of CDP 2014-2020; Preparation of New CDP 2021-2027**

To whom it may concern,

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of notification of the above issues paper. The Department of Education and Skills has examined the contents therein and would like to make the following submission.

The Department notes with interest the Housing section of the document, where the population growth figures over the lifetime of the plan are projected to increase by a potential 8,500 with a further increase of 3,500 by 2031. If these projected population increases materialise, a requirement for further education provision at both primary and post-primary level may emerge over the lifetime of the proposed new Plan.

The Department will continue to work closely with the Council in relation to the provision of new schools and the development of existing schools and emphasises the critical importance of the ongoing work of the Council in ensuring sufficient and appropriate land is zoned for this purpose.

In this regard, the Department would welcome the opportunity to meet with you in advance of the publication of the Draft Plan to discuss potential educational requirements.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Hanlon  
Site Acquisitions and Property Management Section