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Statement on the Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 - 2028

The Regional Assemblies' role in the LECP process is set out under Section 44 of Local Government Reform Act 2014 (amending Section 66C of the Local Government Act 2001), in particular section 66C 2(c) and 3(c), which states that the consideration of an LECP by the Regional Assembly shall relate to its consistency with (i) the core strategy and the objectives of the development plan of the local authority concerned, (ii) any Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) or, as appropriate, Regional Planning Guidelines (RPGs) that may apply, and (iii) between the economic and community elements of the Plan.

The Wexford LECP was considered by the members of the Regional Assembly at their meeting of 8 September 2023 where it was agreed:

1. To commend the work of Wexford County Council in the development of the LECP and
2. In accordance with Section 44 of Local Government Reform Act 2014 (amending Section 66C of the Local Government Act 2001), the Regional Assembly are satisfied that the Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028 has demonstrated consistency with:-

(i) the core strategy and the objectives of the Development Plan

(ii) The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region;

(iii) between the community and economic elements of the LECP

Subject to: the content reflecting the statutory role of the RSES and Regional Assembly and recommendations for the inclusion of additional references to the RSES Statutory Designations & Regional Initiatives in the LECP High Level Goals and Objectives as follows:

The strengthening of the High-Level Goals & Objectives to reference:

- RSES Regional Policy Objectives for the development of **Wexford** and **Gorey** as designated **Key Towns**, the **role of New Ross** in relation to the Waterford Metropolitan Area and achievement of economic, environmental and community objectives contained in RPO 16 (Wexford Town), RPO 25 (Gorey) and Waterford MASP PO2 (Driving Regional Growth in the South-East).

- Development of the Southern Region as a **UNESCO Learning Region** in which Co. Wexford can participate to (i) Grow our Region's Human Capital base, (ii) to Improve Lifelong Learning, (iii) to develop the Region's skills and education proposition & (iv) to build Resilience and capacity building, and
- Development of the **Eastern Corridor** – Regional Policy Objective 42 (supported by the Wexford CDP Core Strategy Guiding Principle C and Objective CSO 6) with the potential for extending the Dublin- Belfast Corridor along the East Coast to Rosslare Europort
- The **Smart Southern Region** initiative which seeks to work with people and communities on collaborations across all sectors to harness digital and data to create vibrant, sustainable and liveable communities.