



Tionól Réigiúnach  
an Deiscirt

Southern Regional  
Assembly

Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt

Teach an Tionóil,  
Sráid Uí Chonaill,  
Pórt Láirge,  
X91 F8PC  
Éire.

Southern Regional Assembly

Assembly House,  
O'Connell Street,  
Waterford,  
X91 F8PC  
Ireland.

**PRESS RELEASE – MONDAY 15 JULY 2024  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Southern Regional Assembly Welcomes Draft National Planning Framework Review for Public Consultation**

The Southern Regional Assembly welcomes the publication of draft revised National Planning Framework (NPF) for public consultation. The Assembly will review the draft and submit detailed comments and recommendations ahead of the September deadline.

David Kelly, Director Southern Regional Assembly, said: *“I welcome the publication of the draft revised NPF for public consultation. The Southern Regional Assembly strongly supports the NPF and the Project Ireland 2040 process as providing a good basis to address the major challenges Ireland faces and for how Ireland, and the Southern Region will develop over the next 20 years and beyond.*

*Our analysis of the delivery of the NPF to date shows significant positive developments, including a coherent alignment between national, regional and local policy, significant state investment and important regional and local initiatives. At the same time there are major structural and embedded investment imbalances inhibiting the achievement of national targets relating to climate change, sustainable growth, balanced regional development, rural development, and also the development of Cork, Limerick-Shannon and Waterford Metropolitan Areas to reach their full potential. The Review provides an opportunity to address these issues and the Southern Regional Assembly will play a positive and proactive role in responding to the Draft.”*

Cllr. Garret Kelleher, Cathaoirleach Southern Regional Assembly, also welcomed the draft NPF Review and said, *‘the public consultation period provides a timely opportunity for our new Assembly, which held its first meeting on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, to engage and input in a project of national, regional and local significance and I encourage all members and the public at large to engage in this important process.’*

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editor:**

This is published in response to the publication of draft revised [National Planning Framework \(NPF\) for public consultation](#) published on 10/07/2024.

All information in relation to the NPF and the First Revision at <https://www.npf.ie/>

**For further information please contact:**

David Kelly, Director, Southern Regional Assembly

Email: [dkelly@southernassembly.ie](mailto:dkelly@southernassembly.ie)

**About the Southern Regional Assembly**

Based in Waterford city, the [Southern Regional Assembly](#) is the regional tier of government in Ireland with a remit for the Southern Region. The Southern Region covers the local authorities of Kilkenny, Carlow, Waterford, Wexford, Tipperary, Cork City, Cork County, Kerry, Clare and Limerick. The Regional Assembly has 34 Members representing the ten local authorities at regional level, 27 appointed by their local authority and six as Committee of the Regions Members.

The Regional Assembly forges links between EU, national and local levels through regional spatial and economic planning and European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) for the benefit of the Southern Region. It is responsible for strategic regional and economic planning and supporting balanced, sustainable regional development by:

- Leading the implementation of the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy ([RSES](#)).
- Promoting balanced regional development through the management of, support for, and involvement in European Regional Development Fund ([ERDF](#)) funded programmes and projects.
- Linking local, regional, national and EU policy goals through regional planning and EU regional development.