

Regional Planning Guidelines Greater Dublin Area

*Implementing the National Spatial Strategy*

**REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDELINES REVIEW, 2003**

[www.rpg.ie](http://www.rpg.ie)

Regional Planning Guidelines will set out a 12 to 20 year Strategic Development Policy for the Greater Dublin Area. This will be taken into account by Local Authorities in their Development Plans.

This Issues Paper has been produced to give an overview of the main development issues arising in the Greater Dublin Area for the years ahead.

It is not an exhaustive list and you may have views on other topics which will be of relevance.

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**Dublin Regional Authority and Mid-East Regional Authority**

**in conjunction with**

**Dublin City Council  
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council  
Fingal County Council  
Kildare County Council  
Meath County Council  
South Dublin County Council  
Wicklow County Council**

prepared by

**Regional Planning Guidelines Project Office  
Greater Dublin Area**

**July 2003**

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Overview	5
The National Spatial Strategy	6
Introducing Regional Planning Guidelines	7
The pattern of Development since the Guidelines were introduced	10
Implementing the National Spatial Strategy	11
Development futures in the Greater Dublin Area	12
Vision for the region	13
What are the key issues to 2010 for the Greater Dublin Area?	14
projected population trends and settlement and housing strategies	15
economic and employment trends	15
the location of industrial and commercial development	15
transportation, including public transportation	16
water supply and waste water facilities	17
waste disposal	17
energy and communications networks	17
the provision of educational, health care, retail and other community facilities	18
the preservation and protection of the environment and its amenities, including the archaeological, architectural and natural heritage	19
We would appreciate your Submission!	20
Appendix A: Committees	21
Appendix B: Regional Planning Guidelines – Steps	22
Appendix C: References	23

## Overview

Thank you for your interest in the preparation of Regional Planning Guidelines Greater Dublin Area

The geographical area we are considering includes all of Dublin City, DunLaoghaire Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow County Councils. This is shown on Diagram 1

As part of the preparation of new guidelines we are reviewing the 1999 regional planning guidelines known as "Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area".

We are seeking submissions and observations from the public and also from prescribed organisations on the issues that we should consider when developing our goals and objectives.

There will be a further opportunity for submission of observations and commentary when a draft of the Regional Planning Guidelines is published.

In this issues paper we:

- introduce you to the process that is followed when guidelines are prepared. The legislative background is set out in the Planning and Development Act 2000 Part II Chapter III.
- identify key elements of the 1999 Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area
- summarise how the guidelines have impacted on development in the Greater Dublin Area
- summarise the key considerations of the government's National Spatial Strategy 2002 - 2020 in relation to the Greater Dublin Area
- request your submissions on a vision of the area
- suggest some of the key issues that we consider impact on inter and intra regional topics in the long term planning for the region.

References to some of the documents consulted for the issues paper are noted in Appendix C

You are invited to submit your views and observations before Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> August 2003. A report on your submissions will be presented to a meeting of the joint Regional Authorities, and will be taken into consideration prior to the preparation of the draft Regional Planning Guidelines. In order to facilitate the plan preparation process you are asked to make your submission as early as possible.

Contact details are provided at the end of the issues paper.

When the Dublin and Mid-East Regional Authorities publish draft Regional Planning Guidelines there will be another opportunity for public submissions on the draft presented.

## The National Spatial Strategy

The National Spatial Strategy is a 20-year framework for all parts of Ireland. The strategy focus is on people and places and where they live and work. The Strategy seeks to unlock potential for progress, growth and development in a more balanced way across Ireland, supported by more effective planning.

The five core messages in the NSS are

A wider range of work opportunities

A better quality of life

Better places to live

Effective urban and rural planning

Getting things done

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government will lead the Strategy's implementation.

The preparation and adoption of Regional Planning Guidelines is the first stage in the roll out of the Strategy through the Regional Authorities to Local Authorities through the Development Plan process and other development programs.

All seven regions are preparing Regional Planning Guidelines during 2003

## Introducing Regional Planning Guidelines

Submissions are invited regarding the making of Regional Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area incorporating a review of the report known as the *Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999*

The **KEY AIM** is that Regional Planning Authorities adopt new Regional Planning Guidelines by mid-2004 so that the National Spatial Strategy 2002 - 2020 is incorporated through Regional Planning Guidelines to development plan reviews.

**Regional Planning Guidelines are made by the Regional Authority and prepared following an agreed process between the Regional Authority and relevant Local Authorities.** The two Regional Authorities in the Greater Dublin Area, the Dublin and Mid-East Regions, have come together as a unified authority to facilitate the preparation of guidelines.

A Steering Committee and Technical Working Group has been appointed to guide the preparation of the review of Regional Planning Guidelines.

A project team is working with the participant local authorities and other agencies to facilitate preparation of the necessary reports.

Further details of the composition of the committees is available in Appendix A of this paper and on [www.rpg.ie](http://www.rpg.ie)

The Regional Authorities intend that the new Guidelines will address the following matters:

- (a) projected population trends and settlement and housing strategies;
- (b) economic and employment trends
- (c) the location of industrial and commercial development;
- (d) transportation, including public transportation;
- (e) water supply and waste water facilities;
- (f) waste disposal;
- (g) energy and communications networks;
- (h) the provision of educational, health care, retail and other community facilities;
- (i) the preservation and protection of the environment and its amenities, including the archaeological, architectural and natural heritage;

It is important that the people of the Greater Dublin Area, relevant local authorities, sectoral interests and state agencies make their contribution to the preparation of the Regional Planning Guidelines.

***Regional Planning Guidelines set 12 to 20-year strategic policy that should be considered by local authorities in their development plans. Guidelines are NOT considering site specific issues, that is the role of the local authority development plans.***

“Strategic” refers to those policy directions which transcend the boundaries of individual planning authorities and which relate to the role of the region in delivering the National Spatial Strategy. These strategic policies will in turn be translated into policies and objectives in City and County Development Plans. In order to retain a strategic focus, Regional Planning Guidelines will not become involved in detailed issues that are properly the concern of development plans and of the local authorities.

The Guidelines will have regard to the statutory obligations of all local authorities in the region, all relevant policies and objectives of the Government, including in particular any national plans, policies or strategies specified by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government as relevant to the determination of strategic planning policies.

The Regional Planning Guidelines will address issues specific to the Greater Dublin Area. The structure will comprise two main parts:

**Part A: An overall Development Report for the Region**

The key issues relevant to strategic planning and socio-economic and physical planning in terms of broad trends, housing, employment, provision of services, accessibility, environmental issues, social and cultural development and overall goals for the region.

**Part B: Regional Planning Guidelines for the Region**

Development principles and strategic development options and scenarios are distilled into a preferred strategy for 2010 in a framework of 2016 to 2020.

The stages of the process involved are summarised on Table 1 (Appendix B).

Having considered submissions made, the two Regional Authorities will agree a set of strategic goals and will prepare research papers addressing all of the topics outlined above in (a) to (i). The Authorities will then draft a Regional Development Report. This report will comprise a strategic overview of the development of the region, how the region is progressing and what strategic priorities are, in policy and development. The subsequent stage of the process involves devising regional development options. The preferred strategy and a consequent set of recommendations for the future strategic development policy for the region will be published as draft Regional Planning Guidelines which will be put on public display. These will remain on display for 10 weeks and comments/submissions will be invited. The Regional Authorities will consider all of these submissions and will then proceed to adopt Regional Planning Guidelines, which truly reflect a shared vision and consensus for the future development of the region.

## Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999

*The Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999* were prepared by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Dublin City Council, Dun-Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow County Councils against a backdrop of a vibrant economy and enormous pressure for development. All other regions are preparing Regional Planning Guidelines, however we are reviewing the report *The Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999*, as part of our work.

The **KEY ELEMENTS** of the 1999 Guidelines are:

- Incorporation of the principles of sustainable development as established in the National Sustainable Development Strategy adopted by Government.
- Increased emphasis on the concentration of future development into the Metropolitan Area and into designated Development Centres, located on transportation corridors in the Hinterland Area.
- The growth of the designated Development Centres, over time, to become communities in which residential and employment functions will be balanced and which will be principal service centres for the Hinterland Area. It is recognised in the guidelines that in the short to medium term, commuting from the Development Centres into the Metropolitan Area will continue and the strategy is to accommodate as much of this commuting as possible on public transport.
- Extensive strategic green belt areas, within which development will be encouraged to meet local needs but not needs arising from commuting.
- The facilitation of transport modes alternative to the private car, including a greatly enhanced 'mesh' of public transport in the Metropolitan Area and good public transport links between the Development Centres and the Metropolitan Area to reduce commuting by car and to better integrate these centres into the overall economy of the Greater Dublin Area.

The strategy as described on Diagram 2 shows a defined boundary between the Metropolitan and Hinterland Areas and indicates the route of the existing and proposed transportation corridors. Within the Metropolitan and Hinterland Area development centres are identified. A phased pattern of growth is envisaged whereby development initially occurs in the Metropolitan Area and then in the designated areas in the Hinterland. Development should concentrate on the transportation corridors at public transport nodes.

## The pattern of Development since the Guidelines were introduced

The Guidelines are implemented through the development plans of the participant local authorities and through departmental programs.

The Steering Committee of the Strategic Planning Guidelines fulfilled the recommendation that suggested a small dedicated team to monitor the progress of the implementation of the Guidelines with the publication of an Annual Review and Update. These reports were prepared for 2000, 2001, and 2002.

The reports show that there is good progress in preparation of plans for the identified development centres. In particular a number of Integrated Framework Plans are prepared by the local authorities and the Dublin Transportation Office.

Plans and programs such as Dublin Transportation Office's transportation strategy *A Platform for Change 2000 - 2016* and the ongoing Greater Dublin Drainage Study are predicated on achieving the strategy recommended in the Guidelines. The provision of both transport and utilities infrastructure, is critical to the successful future of the region. As recognised in submissions to the mid-term Review of the National Development Plan there is significant time slippage in the delivery of recommended infrastructure programs.

The Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999 set indicative population targets for 2001 and 2006. Analysis of the Central Statistics Office 2002 census of population results indicate that there is a development pattern emerging that is significantly different to the pattern recommended in the guidelines. The emerging pattern is of faster than anticipated growth in parts of the Hinterland Area and less development in parts of the Metropolitan Area. Table 1 details the change recorded in the preliminary census reports.

	1996	2002	% Change	SPG 2002	SPG2011
Dublin City	481,854	495,781	+2.9%	507,400	536,800
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	189,999	191,792	+0.9%	206,700	213,800
Fingal	167,683	196,413	+17.1%	200,600	263,000
South Dublin	218,728	238,835	+9.2%	240,000	265,100
<b>Dublin Region</b>	<b>1,058,264</b>	<b>1,122,821</b>	<b>+6.1%</b>	<b>1,154,700</b>	<b>1,278,700</b>
Kildare	134,992	163,944	+21.4%	155,500	181,800
Meath	109,732	134,005	+22.1%	126,600	164,700
Wicklow	102,683	114,676	+11.7%	120,200	139,000
<b>Mid-East Region</b>	<b>347,407</b>	<b>412,625</b>	<b>+18.8%</b>	<b>402,300</b>	<b>485,500</b>
<b>GDA</b>	<b>1,405,671</b>	<b>1,535,446</b>	<b>+9.2%</b>	<b>1,557,000</b>	<b>1,764,200</b>
<b>State</b>	<b>3,626,087</b>	<b>3,917,203</b>	<b>+8.0%</b>		
<b>Leinster</b>	<b>1,924,702</b>	<b>2,105,579</b>	<b>+9.4%</b>		

**Table 1 Regional City & County Population 1996 - 2002 Source CSO 1996, 2002 Strategic Planning Guidelines (RU 2000) projections rounded '00**

Comparing the pattern of residential development in 2002 and the pattern envisaged in the 1999 Strategic Planning Guidelines. Growth is faster in the Hinterland and slower in the Metropolitan area than the report recommended.

**We would welcome your views on the region today. Should the region evolve towards the vision expressed in the National Spatial Strategy or should market forces and laissez faire prevail? In the review we will look at the existing pattern and will consider how to alter them to support the National Spatial Strategy.**

### Implementing the National Spatial Strategy

In our **REVIEW** of the Guidelines we will be taking account of the **NATIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY** published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in November 2002. The strategy is described on Diagram 3.

The National Spatial Strategy has expressed support for the core policies of the Strategic Planning Guidelines 1999 in relation to:

- The distinction between Metropolitan and Hinterland Areas
- The role of the primary development centres
- The integration of land use and transportation planning in the interest of sustainable development.

**KEY CONSIDERATIONS** expressed in the National Spatial Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area include:

- Effective integration of land use and transportation policy within the spatial structure of the Greater Dublin Area
- Facilitating the national roles of Dublin Airport and Dublin Port.
- Supporting the city region's capacity for innovation.
- Facilitating ease of movement of people and goods within the Greater Dublin Area.
- Maintaining a high quality environment within the area.
- Clarifying the role of other urban areas within and/or near the edges of the Greater Dublin Area.
- Examining the changing role of agriculture/horticulture.
- Examining the potential for diversifying rural economy.
- Consolidating national resources (including amenity).
- Strengthening rural communities.
- Protecting landscapes.

In summary, the key consideration in the Greater Dublin Area is **CONSOLIDATION**.

## Development futures in the Greater Dublin Area

The Greater Dublin Area must build on the important international role of the region in relation to the global economic zone of London-Amsterdam/Rotterdam-Paris and Frankfurt. Recognising the importance of image and quality of life in relation to location of enterprise in the global economy is of importance, as we continue to attract high quality enterprise to Ireland.

Clustering and specialisms in enterprise will be considered important for our future success.

The National Spatial Strategy highlights inter-regional development futures that we will consider including:

- building on the important national functions enjoyed in the Greater Dublin Area today
- the future role of the Dublin Belfast transportation corridor incorporating the role of Drogheda in relation to the Greater Dublin Area
- the role of the development centres in the hinterland and the rural areas close to the Border and Midlands regions in relation to the gateways of Athlone-Tullamore-Mullingar and Dundalk.

## Developing a vision

The **STRATEGIC VISION** for the region will develop on vision statements. There are a number of Vision statements relating to your area. The Dublin Transportation Office ([www.dto.ie](http://www.dto.ie)) has a vision led strategy to 2016. Each of the Development Plans and the County Development Board Strategies in your area has prepared a vision.

The vision expressed in the Strategic Planning Guidelines 1999 is:

The strategic vision for the Greater Dublin Area therefore incorporates the following elements

- Dublin will remain the capital city of Ireland and a major European centre, competing with other cities in the EU, and serving a wide range of international, national, regional and local needs.
- The Dublin and Mid-East Regions will continue to be attractive, vibrant locations for industry, commerce, recreation and tourism and be a major focus for economic growth within the country.
- Dublin, through its port and airport, will continue to be a very important entry/exit point for the country as a whole, and a 'gateway' between the European Union and the rest of the world, and consequently access to and through the area will continue to be a matter of national significance.
- Development throughout the Greater Dublin Area will be increasingly related to a significantly enhanced public transport system.
- Development within the Metropolitan Area will be consolidated, allowing for the accommodation of a greater population than at present, with a much-enhanced public transport system. This will require some increase in overall development densities as well as measures to ensure priority for public transport. In time, this will lead to a more compact urban form, relative to the size of the population, and will reduce the growth in overall demand for travel.
- The growth of the Metropolitan Area will be balanced by the concentration of development into major centres in the Hinterland Area. These towns (or adjacent sets of towns) will each have a high level of employment activity, high order shopping and a full range of social facilities. The longer-term objective will be to create towns, as self-sufficient as possible, with only limited commuting to the Metropolitan Area. Nevertheless, the towns will require to be well linked to Dublin by good road and rail infrastructure.
- The major centres in the Hinterland Area will be separated from each other and from the Metropolitan Area by extensive areas of 'Strategic Green Belt' land devoted to agricultural and similar uses and within which development will be limited to meeting local needs.

**SOURCE:** Strategic Planning Guidelines for the Greater Dublin Area, 1999

In all of our work we are concerned with the proper planning and development of the region, progress towards a sustainable future that supports proper planning and development.

**What is your sustainable vision for the future of the Greater Dublin Area?**

**The project team would welcome your submissions on a VISION for 2010 and 2016 that achieves the National Spatial Strategy for 2020.**

## What are the key issues to 2010 for the Greater Dublin Area?

Below we explore examples of what the team consider are **KEY ISSUES** for the region in relation to the topics outlined in the Planning and Development Act:

### (a) projected population trends and settlement and housing strategies;

The Greater Dublin Area population is 1,535,446 in the 2002 Census Report. The National Spatial Strategy suggests that by 2020 the Greater Dublin Area population will be in the range of 1.9 - 2.2 million. The range is influenced by the strength of the economy. There is compelling evidence that Dublin is an 'over dispersed city' with workforce commuting up to 80k from outside the region. The challenge of providing houses to match job creation is well documented and studied in reports such as the Bacon Reports. To achieve a sustainable future the Greater Dublin Area will need to accommodate 403,000-480,000 additional new households between 1996-2020.

### What are the key issues today?

- the region depends on in - migration to provide the necessary workforce
- smaller families and independent adult households place demands for more houses
- people often cannot afford houses in their home areas
- is greenfield development sustainable?
- should we consolidate future development along transportation corridors
- serviced land availability in appropriate locations for local enlivenment
- providing affordable housing through strategic development zones

## **(b) economic and employment trends;**

The economic performance of the Greater Dublin Area is pivotal to the economic well being of Ireland. The labour force in the GDA increased from 572,000 in 1994 to 706,000 in 1999.<sup>1</sup> The unemployment rate decreased over this time from 14.6% to 4.6%. Over 80% of government agencies are located in Dublin. Between 1994 and 1999 180,000 jobs were created. More than 155,000 people were employed in the financial services sector. Spatial clusters of international excellence, such as the flagship project IFSC in Dublin Docklands where over 8,000 were employed in 2001, are emerging focussed around the city region. There is a need to strengthen the capacity for innovation, research and development.

### **What are the key issues today?**

- how will the region achieve the National Spatial Strategy forecast
- sectoral specialisms must develop to strengthen the towns in the Hinterland Area
- structure of future work force needs to be assessed
- skills need to match the available enterprise
- there is need for education to resolve the lack of skills

## **(c) the location of industrial and commercial development;**

In 2000 over 70% of public and private company headquarters were located in the GDA<sup>1</sup>. The total office stock of the Metropolitan area has more than doubled during the 1990's. In 2000 vacancy rates had dropped to 2% Analysis shows a strong growth in edge of city development. There is a need for strategic reserves of lands for enterprise development. Analysis prepared for the National Spatial Strategy showed the predominance of job creation particularly in the Mid East Region.

### **What are the key issues today?**

- linkage to appropriate transport system
- providing employment in the growth centres
- maximises transport system

<sup>1</sup> Gemaca II Study on the economic performance of the European Regions.

## **(d) transportation, including public transportation;**

### **Land transport**

The Rosslare-Belfast connection incorporating the Dublin-Belfast economic corridor is a significant inter regional asset supporting the European trend of co-operation through cities to enhance competitiveness. The Dublin Transportation Office 'Platform for Change' and other proposals support the strategy envisaged in the Strategic Planning Guidelines. The implementation of the proposed system is pivotal to the future success of the region.

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- managing the demand for travel in city and towns
- delivery of planned services described in DTO Platform for Change
- catering for slow modes (walking and cycling)
- public transport provision in rural areas
- merging national transport with local transport

### **Ports**

The East Coast ports of Dublin, Drogheda, Wicklow and Arklow are vital trade and passenger connections.

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- expanding port facilities or relocation of port facilities
- size of port within time frame (2010, 2016, 2020)
- alternative future uses for port lands

### **Airport(s)**

Dublin Airport provides the principal gateway to Ireland, worldwide European and National aviation connections for public business and social journeys, and haulage transport. Expansion to new destinations is essential for our international competitiveness. Passenger numbers increased from 5 million in 1990 to 14 million in 2000.

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- size of airport
- provision of a second runway
- airport and transportation to gateways

### **(e) water supply and waste water facilities;**

Plans for the provision of utilities are under consideration in a number of key studies sponsored by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Water supply remains the most significant factor in the capacity to accommodate future regional growth. A number of regional strategic studies are underway to ensure adequate provision for future growth in the Region.

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- linkages of this study with water framework plan
- new source for water for the region
- quality of our supply
- ground water pollution
- Greater Dublin Drainage Strategy to 2030
- meeting recognised European environmental standards

### **(e) waste disposal;**

Waste management is a key challenge for the Region,

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- meeting environmental standards
- locating acceptable sustainable plants
- achieving minimum discharge

### **(f) energy and communications networks;**

Demand for electricity has grown rapidly in the region. There is need to ensure sufficient capacity to cater for existing load and new growth. Sufficient energy and communications network to cater for existing demands and new growth are required.

#### **What are the key issues today?**

- create corridors that provide broad coverage of the region
- ensure adequate steady supply
- increasing the proportion of renewable energy stations including wind energy
- robust communications networks

**(g) the provision of educational, health care, retail and other community facilities;**

Quality of life for people in the region should be enhanced with improved provision of facilities at sustainable locations. In the GDA there are more than half the District Electoral Divisions recorded in the State where there is an unacceptable level of deprivation

**What are the key issues today?**

- ensure land bank capacity allows for educational facilities
- linkages of education and enterprise
- provision of regional hospitals
- provision of clinics at suitable locations
- the retail role of the Metropolitan core area
- local retail centres in outer urban areas
- public transport links to retail facilities
- location of regional commuting facilities
- allow for recreational facilities with easy access along transportation corridors
- the location of a convention centre within the region
- development of a national stadium

**(h) the preservation and protection of the environment and its amenities, including the archaeological, architectural and natural heritage;**

Throughout the region there are numerous important recreation facilities. These include coastline, river valleys, hills, mountains and parks. National and International programs aimed to protect the environment will influence the future availability of development land.

**What are the key issues today?**

- Implementing Special Areas of Conservation
- Protecting National Heritage Area
- Implementing Wildlife and Birds Directive
- enhancing coastline for recreational uses
- protecting and accessing hills and mountains
- conserving river catchment areas

## **We would appreciate your submission!**

This is an **OPPORTUNITY** for you to participate and assist the Project Team in the preparation of this important document. Send your submission on a **VISION** and **KEY ISSUES** for the Greater Dublin Area. In order to facilitate the consideration of submissions fully we request you to make your submissions as early as possible.

**The project team would welcome your written submissions on ISSUES relating to any of the topics, or suggestions regarding other topics.**

**Submissions and observations should be marked REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDELINES and should state**

- **Your name**
- **where relevant the person or company represented**
- **a contact address**

Written submissions should be addressed to:

The Project Manager  
Regional Planning Guidelines Greater Dublin Area  
Mid-East Regional Authority  
St. Manntan's House  
Kilmantin Hill,  
Wicklow

**OR**

Written submissions and observations may be placed on the E-Mail to the following address:  
[issues@rpg.ie](mailto:issues@rpg.ie)

**OR**

Written submissions and observations may be placed on the website [www.rpg.ie](http://www.rpg.ie)

Only submissions received by 5.00pm on Thursday 28 July 2003 will be considered.

During the public consultation period up to and including Thursday 28 July 2003 the "Issues Paper" will be available on the Web site [www.rpg.ie](http://www.rpg.ie)

## **APPENDIX A**

### **COMMITTEES:**

#### **Steering Committee**

City Manager, Dublin City Council, Chairman  
Cathaoirleach, Mid-East Regional Authority  
Cathaoirleach, Dublin Regional Authority  
Leas Cathaoirleach, Mid-East Regional Authority  
Leas Cathaoirleach, Dublin Regional Authority  
Director, Mid-East Regional Authority  
Director, Dublin Regional Authority  
County Manager, Fingal County Council  
County Manager, South Dublin County Council  
County Manager, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co Council  
County Manager, Meath County Council  
County Manager, Wicklow County Council  
County Manager, Kildare County Council  
Dept. of Environment & Local Government Representative  
Public Planning Transport Division, Dept. of Transport Representative  
Chairman, Technical Working Group  
Project Manager  
Dublin Transportation Office Representative  
CIE Representative  
IDA Ireland Representative  
Enterprise Ireland Representative

#### **Technical Working Group**

Chairman Technical Working Group  
Dublin City Council Representative  
South Dublin Co Co Representative  
Fingal County Council Representative  
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co Representative  
Kildare County Council Representative  
Wicklow County Council Representative  
Meath County Council Representative  
Dublin Transportation Office Representative  
Dept. of Transport Representative  
Dept. of Environment & Local Government Representative  
Project Manager  
Director, Mid-East Regional Authority  
Director, Dublin Regional Authority

#### **Project Team**

Project Manager  
Asst Project Manager (socio-economic)  
Asst Project Manager (infrastructure)  
Administrative/Secretariat  
Expert Advisor GIS  
Expert Advisor IS E-Business  
Expert Advisor Presentations

## APPENDIX B

**Table 1: Regional Planning Guidelines – Steps**

Source: DOELG “Implementing the National Spatial Strategy Preparing Regional Planning Guidelines, Guidance Notes February 2003”

<p><b>Step 1: Process initiation</b></p>	<p>The Regional Authority (RA) formally agrees to prepare guidelines and consults the Planning Authorities (PA s) within the region to agree on the necessary arrangements for making Regional Planning Guidelines (RPG's). The RA meets to discuss the broad aims, format and timetable for the process, including the research and consultation elements.</p> <p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appointment of Project Manager and staff (+ recruitment of consultants, if any)</li> <li>2. Agreed committees, expert groups etc.</li> <li>3. Agreed work programme</li> <li>4. Agreed allocation of costs</li> </ol>
<p><b>Step 2: Initial Issues Paper and public consultation</b></p>	<p><b>The Project Team collates relevant national, regional and local plans and policies, and readily available research material such as NSS reports etc and drafts a short initial Issues Paper for the RA. The aim should be to define the main issues RPG's should address.</b></p> <p><b>Outputs:</b> RA publishes Issues Paper and notice of its intention to prepare RPGs, and invites submissions</p>
<p><b>Step 3: Goal-setting and research phase</b></p>	<p><b>During the 8-week initial consultation phase, the RA begins to draft a set of strategic planning goals for the region, whilst the Project Team carries out detailed research into the main issues. Both the overall goals and the research priorities are refined in the light of submissions received.</b></p> <p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set of strategic goals agreed by the RA</li> <li>2. Series of research papers on all key issues</li> </ol>
<p><b>Step 4: Development of regional report</b></p>	<p>The Project Team drafts Part A (Regional Report) for the approval of the RA</p> <p><b>Output:</b> Completion of Regional Report (Part A of the overall document)</p>
<p><b>Step 5: Identification and evaluation of RPG options</b></p>	<p><b>Various development options for achieving the strategic goals for the region are identified and systematically evaluated (including environmental assessment – see section 3.10). Having considered the results of the evaluation, the RA, in consultation with the relevant PA s, selects a preferred option, which is then worked up into draft RPGs.</b></p> <p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set of regional development options</li> <li>2. Evaluation of such options, and selection of preferred option</li> <li>3. Draft Regional Planning Guidelines</li> </ol>
<p><b>Step 6: Public consultation on the draft RPGs</b></p>	<p><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RA sends copies of draft RPGs to the prescribed bodies</li> <li>2. RA puts draft guidelines on public display for 10 weeks and invites written submissions</li> </ol>
<p><b>Step 7: Consideration of submissions</b></p>	<p><b>The Project Team collates and analyses the submissions from the public and prescribed bodies, and submits its recommendations on any changes to the draft RPGs to the RA. The RA considers the submissions and the responses, and decides whether to modify the draft guidelines.</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Report from the Project Team on the submissions</p>
<p><b>Step 8: Making the RPGs</b></p>	<p><b>The RA, following consultation with the PAs, makes the guidelines, and publishes notices in newspapers of the fact.</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Regional Planning Guidelines (incorporating the regional report)</p>

## APPENDIX C

### REFERENCES

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