



14 January 2020

Mr. Jim Conway  
Director,  
Eastern Midland Regional Assembly,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ballymun Civic Centre,  
Main Street,  
Ballymun,  
Dublin 9

**Section 31A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)**  
**Decision to issue a Direction relating to the Eastern Midland Regional Assembly Regional  
Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031**

Dear Director,

I am writing to you to inform you of the following in relation to the Section 31A Draft Direction issued to the Eastern Midland Regional Assembly in August 2019, and the subsequent appointment of Mr. Patrick Ledwidge as an independent inspector, as provided for under Section 31A(11) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), to review the Draft Direction, Director's report and submissions made.

As you are aware, the basis for issuing the draft Ministerial Direction was to ensure that the RSES is consistent with the GDA Transport Strategy. Having considered the Inspector's report including submissions and the SEA and AA screening of the amended Direction including submissions from Environmental Authorities and recommendations it is my determination to screen out SEA and AA for the amended Direction (refer to attached Appendices 1 & 2).

Therefore, it is now my intention to issue a Direction to EMRA which would amend the Draft Direction and to issue the amended Direction.



Accordingly, EMRA should **TAKE NOTICE** that on the 14 day of January, 2020 I have issued a Direction pursuant to Section 31A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

A copy of this Direction is attached to this letter.

### **STEPS TO BE TAKEN**

In light of the foregoing the Regional Assembly is required, pursuant to Section 31A(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to comply with this Direction.

The Eastern Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031 must therefore be altered as indicated in the attached Direction, and the Regional Assembly should ensure that copies of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy as altered are available for inspection at its offices and on its website.

The Regional Assembly should also publish notice of the making of the Direction including alteration to the strategy and SEA / AA Determinations, and post a copy of such notice on its website.

My officials are available to assist you, as necessary, in complying with the foregoing process now underway.

Yours sincerely,

Eoghan Murphy

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Eoghan Murphy T.D.

Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government



Copied to:

Cathaoirleach, Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly, Ballymun Civic Centre, Ballymun,  
Dublin 9, D09 C8P5

Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2 D02 TR 60

National Transport Authority, Harcourt Lane, Dun Sceine, Dublin 2, D02 WT20

Office of the Planning Regulator, Block C, 77 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, D02  
VK60.