

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

FINGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-2029

TUESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER 2022

APPENDIX 5: RECORD OF PROTECTED STRUCTURES and ACA's

Motion from Councillor Joe Newman : 81055

Swords ACA Motion.

That the Council directs that Swords Town Core (specifically the ecclesiastical sites and the area of the Ward River catchment) is listed as an ACA in the appropriate section of the 2023-2029 Development Plan

REPORT:

The content of the motion is noted.

Swords has a number of unique heritage elements which benefit from various different protections methods, most commonly the Record of Protected Structures, Recorded Sites and Monuments and Zones of Archaeological Notification – all of which have separate legislation codes outlining the protections.

Within the Draft Plan itself, there are numerous policies and objectives outlined in Chapter 10 which seek to protect and preserve architectural and heritage integrity of all our towns and villages.

In relation to Swords specifically, objectives CSO33 to 38 seek to enhance and improve Swords town centre. In particular, Objective CSO38 states:

'Facilitate the strategic regeneration of Swords to build on the resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced urban environment with a particular focus on the development of Swords Civic Centre and Cultural Centre, the delivery of the conservation plan for Swords Castle, and the delivery of an enhanced public realm in the town centre and to promote recreational and amenity uses in accordance with a healthy placemaking strategy.'

The motion requests that the town core is listed as an Architectural Conservation Area, however, it is considered that the built heritage elements are too varied from each other to distinguish a unified character and too dispersed from each other to be able to delineate a cohesive boundary. The ecclesiastical sites are designated as both protected structures and recorded archaeological monuments and as such the policy and objectives within the Development Plan regarding these offer a sufficient level of protection

RECOMMENDATION:

No Change to the Draft Plan.