

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

FINGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-2029

TUESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Sheet 6 Lusk-Rush

Motion from Councillor Tom O'Leary : 82379

Lusk- Centre of Excellence for Athletics and Other Sports SLO Special Local Objective

That this Council agrees that a Local Objective be inserted on the OS lands identified on the map attached in Lusk.

Special Local Objective:

“To facilitate a centre of excellence for Athletics at this location and other recreational amenities”

REPORT:

The content of the motion is acknowledged. The subject lands which have an approximate area of 5.3 hectares (13.1 acres) are located directly to the south of the existing Chapel Farm residential estate which marks the southern development boundary for the town of Lusk.

The lands which are zoned OS – Open Space are also subject to a local objective TO *“require the provision of good pedestrian and cycle links between Chapel Farm Estate, the school site and the open space.”*

It is not considered necessary or appropriate to include a local objective for the subject lands as proposed by the motion. Firstly, with regard to the provision of athletics facilities and recreational infrastructure, it should be noted that Fingal County Council recognises the importance of having a strong network of community centres and sporting amenities in both established and growing communities which offer a wide range of facilities and services.

Chapter 4 of the Draft Plan 'Community Infrastructure and Open Space' contains policies to support the development of sports and recreational infrastructure within Fingal. For example, Policy CIOSP8 seeks to 'Ensure that all communities in the County are facilitated with a variety of sporting facilities that are fit for purpose, accessible and adaptable.

FCC is also pioneering the provision of Active Recreational Hubs strategically located in parks and open spaces around the County. Recreational Hubs include high specification, well-serviced sports facilities designed for high-intensity use, catering for a range of sporting codes and located so that they facilitate ease of access with good connectivity via active travel infrastructure.

It should be noted that the Park Development Plan for Rathmore Park in Lusk already includes provision for a Multi-Code Active Recreational Sports Hub in addition to significant areas dedicated to passive recreation and play. Furthermore, the Council opened a playground in Rathmore Park in Lusk in 2021. The further development of the park which is due to progress through the planning process over the coming months will provide for additional play and sporting facilities including night-time training and associated infrastructure.

Secondly, it should be noted that the lands are currently zoned OS and that the existing zoning matrix for this zoning objective does not preclude or restrict many open space, sporting or recreational amenity uses on site and any application for such a use, will be assessed on a case-by-case basis through the Development Management process. For example, both 'Community Facility' and 'Recreational / Sports Facility' are uses which are 'permitted in principle' within these "OS" zoned lands.

The policies and objectives set out in the Draft Plan are strategic in nature with broad applicability and are considered sufficiently robust to promote, support, develop and enhance the development of additional athletics facilities in Lusk if required.

In this context, it is not considered necessary or appropriate, therefore, to attach a new local objective to facilitate a centre of athletics at this location.

RECOMMENDATION:

No Change to Draft Plan.