



15 December 2023

Planning Department,  
Tipperary County Council,  
Civic Offices,  
Limerick Road,  
Nenagh,  
Co Tipperary

**Re: Proposed Material Alterations to the Thurles Local Area Plan 2024-2030**

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the above. The Department of Education wishes to make the following submission to the proposed material alterations to the draft Thurles Local Area Plan 2024-2030.

The Department has considered the above document and notes that there are no alterations to the population projections as outlined in the draft LAP and therefore the Department re-confirms the projected school requirements as per its submission of the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The Department also notes the reduction in "New Residential" zoned land from 48.19 to 45.95 hectares and the increase of "strategic reserve" land from 20.60 to 24.7 hectares.

The Department acknowledges and notes proposed amendment 14 in response to its submission. The Department notes and acknowledges the requirement as outlined in amendment 16 but it would also like to take the opportunity to express its preference for all schools to have an appropriate zoning in line with the community service that schools provide.

Finally, the Department acknowledges the crucial importance of the ongoing work of the Council in ensuring sufficient and appropriate land is zoned for educational needs. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

If you have any queries in respect of the above, please feel free to contact me.

[Redacted]  
Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]  
Alan Hanlon  
Statutory Plans  
Forward Planning Section

