



27th March, 2017

Minister Simon Coveney,
Department of Housing, Planning, Community
& Local Government,
Customs House,
North Dock,
Dublin 1.

Re.: “Ireland 2040 – Our Plan” Joint Submission

Dear Minister Coveney,

I write in respect of the above referenced.

As Chief Executive of Kilkenny County Council I would like to endorse this joint submission which is being made in support of the upgrade of the N24 to motorway standard.

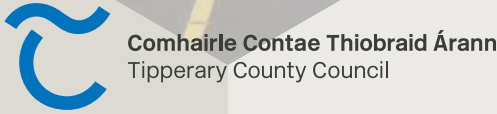
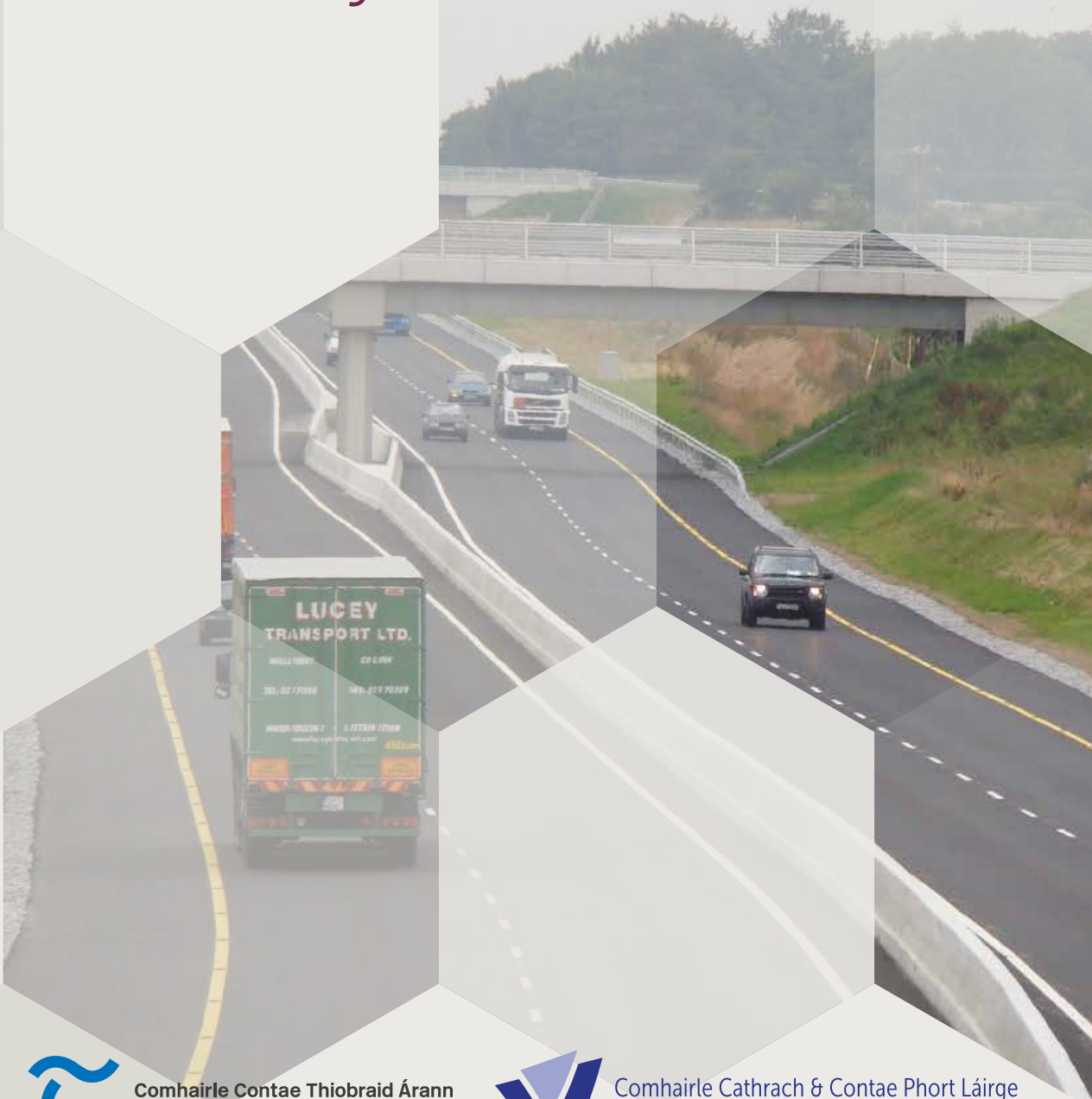
I look forward to participating further in the preparation of the National Planning Framework in the coming months.

Yours Sincerely

Colette Byrne
Chief Executive

N24 Submission

Proposal to upgrade the N24 to motorway standard



The submission is made on behalf of Kilkenny County Council, Tipperary County Council and Waterford City & County Council.

Introduction

The NPF Issues and Choices Paper has identified that the development of our Regional Cities, is critical in complementing the role of Dublin, whilst providing effective regional development and a counter pole to Dublin's growth. The cities of Limerick, Waterford and Cork in the Southern Region will be instrumental in this new vision as each are major centres in their own right. A key issue for growth will be the ability of these City Regions to connect with each other in support of the economic growth of the Southern Region, and with the major international access ports and airports.

Background/Current Network

Cork, Limerick and Waterford cities are currently connected to each other by the national road network (namely the N24, N25 and the N20). While previous proposals have been developed to up-grade these routes, these proposals have been omitted from national capital road investment programme¹. This is a significant concern as it is clear that the current roads transport network is not fit for purpose. Despite its importance to the region the N24 suffers from slow journey times, is sub-standard in its design and alignment and is congested where it routed through a number of towns and villages, including Clonmel, Carrick on Suir and Tipperary Town.

Recommendation

Figure 1, illustrates the optimal solution to achieve maximum connectivity between the southern regional cities in the most cost-effective way possible:

KEY JUSTIFICATIONS

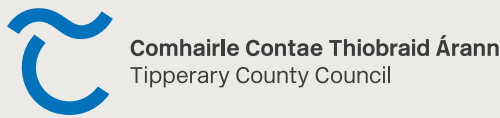
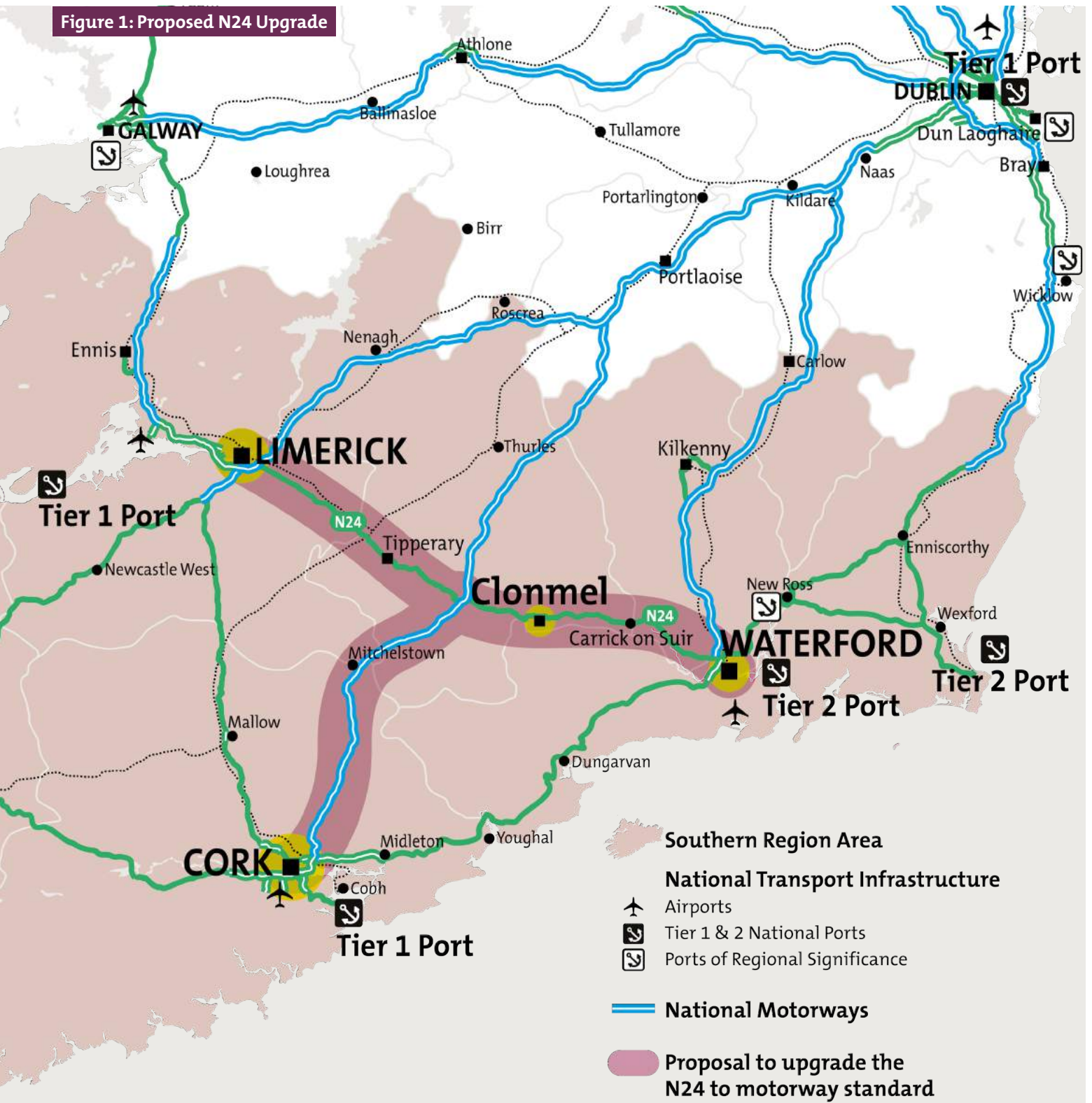
- A motorway on this route would reduce the urgency for the construction of new direct motorways between Limerick and Cork and Waterford and Cork, saving significant amounts of public monies, maximising existing public infrastructure and creating key connectivity across the Southern Region and between its City regions. The viability of the ports in the South East (Rosslare, Belview/Waterford), the Mid West (Foynes/Limerick) and the South West (Cork) to act as import and export centres with the EU and the UK are dependent on high quality and direct land routes within the region. The success of the proposed city regions in the South will rest heavily on their ability to connect with each other, with the key centre of Dublin and with the supporting network of towns.
- The viability and future growth of the towns and villages along the route of the N24 is also dependent on the removal of the heavily traffic volumes currently experienced due to the location of the route in town centres.
- The development of this route, vis a vis the provision of a motorway from Waterford-Cork-Limerick would result in a significant saving of public monies, while providing the connectivity required to grow and support the region.



To conclude, it is recommended that an objective to upgrade the N24 to motorway standard is included in the NPF in support of national parameters for maximising land transport networks and to provide critical connectivity between the Cities in the Southern Region.

¹ Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport (2015) 'Investing in Our Transport Future: Strategic Investment Framework for Land Transport'.

Figure 1: Proposed N24 Upgrade





**KILKENNY
COUNTY COUNCIL**



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

**Tipperary County Council
Civic Offices, Limerick Road,
Nenagh, County Tipperary, Ireland E45 A099**



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

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Minister Simon Coveney
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government
Customs House
North Dock
Dublin 1

15th March 2017

Re: "Ireland 2040 – Our Plan" Joint Submission

Dear Minister Coveney

I write in respect of the above referenced.

As Chief Executive of Tipperary County Council I would like to endorse this joint submission which is being made in support of the upgrade of the N24 to motorway standard.

I look forward to participating further in the preparation of the National Planning Framework in the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

Joe MacGrath
Chief Executive



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge
Waterford City & County Council

Our Ref: MW/AOS

24th March, 2017

Minister Simon Coveney,
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government,
Customs House,
North Dock,
Dublin 1.

Re: "Ireland 2040 – Our Plan" Joint Submission

Dear Minister Coveney,

I write in respect of the above referenced.

As Chief Executive of Waterford City and County Council I would like to endorse this joint submission which is being made in support of the upgrade of the N24 to motorway standard.

I look forward to participating further in the preparation of the National Planning Framework in the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Walsh,
Chief Executive
(Designated Public Official under the
Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015)