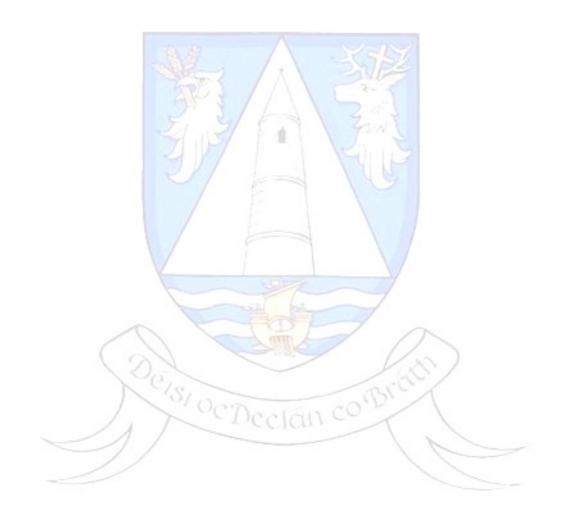
A9

Scenic Landscape Evaluation



APPENDIX A9:

SCENIC LANDSCAPE EVALUATION

1. Terms of Reference

This evaluation of landscape is based on a number of site visits by private consultants and was prepared in conjunction with the planning department of Waterford County Council. Reference is made to various materials including the CORINE¹ Land Cover Project, the proposed Natural Heritage Areas and The National Coastline Study. The Waterford County Development Plan (1992) is referred to for Amenity Designations and land use policy. The 'Scenic Route' designations from the Michelin 1/400,000 Map of Ireland are also referred to. Reference has also been made to tourist literature in the County Waterford area. The assessment is based on a combination of field observations and experience of similar projects together with reference to existing designated areas in County Waterford.

2. Landscape Protection and Problem Definition – 2000 Act

"Preservation of views and prospects and of amenities of places and features of natural beauty or interest (Part IV (7), 3rd schedule (S19) LG (PD)A 1963"

The above, from the 1963 Planning Act, aims to protect views, prospects and amenities in the landscape. At the heart of this effort lies a highly complex interaction between the land-uses which take place in the countryside, the appearance of those land-uses when viewed from certain locations and the reaction of viewers to their appearance. This interaction is made more complex because the land-uses are constantly changing in response to economic demands. Meanwhile the aesthetic response of viewers varies according to their cultural background and may change over time, as a society's cultural sensibilities develop and grow. The objective of this legislation is faced with difficulties because:

- It seeks to "preserve" (prevent change) a landscape, which, always has and always will change.
- It assumes that there are fixed reference points as to what constitutes "features of natural beauty" when in fact these vary from individual to individual and from time to time. This analysis also highlights the legal insecurity of any development control measure such as designations on account of "natural beauty" which could limit the development rights of private property. It is inconceivable that designations on the

¹ 1 CORINE Land Cover Project (Ireland) is a digital land cover database of Ireland in GIS ARC/INFO format. It is based on the visual interpretation of satellite imagery and the allocation of land cover types to one of 44 standard land cover classes (CORINE Nomenclature). There may be an occasional conflict between the CORINE land cover classes and what actually appears on the ground.

grounds of "natural beauty" alone could be legally justified as being based upon judicious, replicable, objective or equitable criteria.

The recently published "Guidelines on Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment" gives a clear definition of the relationship between visual and landscape impacts. Visual issues are only one small part of a wide range of issues which, contribute to the character or distinctiveness of a landscape. Similarly, the EPA Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements states:

-The topic has two separate but closely related aspects. The first aspect to be considered is visual impacts, focusing on the extent to which new development can be seen. The second aspect is impacts on the character of the landscape, examining responses that are felt towards the combined effects of the new development. This topic is complex because it encompasses many other impacts such as noise, odours ecology, history and because attempts to scientifically measure feelings and perceptions are not reliable. Cross references with appropriate specialist topics such as ecology, archaeology and architectural history are very important.

3. Objectives

The objective of this landscape study is to establish a method, which would provide the basis for arriving at landscape designations. It should be based on objective and easily replicable techniques. This method will be used to protect areas of high amenity by identification, categorisation and designation in the Waterford County Development Plan.

The main aims of these landscape designations will be to:

- (a) Facilitate policy formulation by:
 - having a rational and legal basis; and
 - creating an awareness of limitations and strengths.
- (b) Assist in development control by:
 - providing criteria for decision making: and
 - alerting applicants and designers to the need for special design requirements in certain areas to facilitate the integration of development focusing resources.
- (c) Be unambiguous:
 - the designations should not be arbitrary;
 - they should be systematic and easily replicable; and
 - they should be open ended and capable of being updated as further information becomes available.

Limitations

This report does not attempt to define the scenic quality of different parts of the County as it is very difficult to arrive at agreement on the mappable extent of scenic areas. There

appears to be no objective means of defining the limits of physical and topographical features that go to make up a 'scenic area'. The objective of this report, therefore, is to map the areas of the County, according to their capacity to absorb development without changing the distinctiveness and character of the landscape.

In other words, a landscape that could readily absorb development without disproportionately affecting the landscape would be a *robust* area. Areas where a development could easily cause a change in the character of the landscape and have impact over a wide area would be a *sensitive* area.

4. Criteria for Evaluation

The protection of landscape and visual amenities should be carried out with reference to explicit criteria. These should be suitable for reference in decision making at all levels from County wide policy to site level.

The criteria should be relevant to form the basis of an open ended system of protection which can be updated as the mapping of critical resources improves.

The criteria should form the basis of the protection afforded by such mapping or classification as may be included in the County Development Plan.

4.1 Capacity to Absorb Development

The capacity of an area to visually absorb development is influenced by a combination of the following factors:

- 1) *Topography*-development in elevated areas will usually be visible over a wide area; development in enclosed areas will not.
- 2) Vegetation areas which support (or which have the potential to support) trees, tall hedges and woody vegetation can screen new development from view. Areas which cannot easily sustain such vegetation will be unlikely to screen new development.
- 3) *Development* New development is less likely to be conspicuous in the context of existing development in the landscape.

Taking the above into account all development proposals must satisfy *Site Suitability and Technical Considerations*, including;

- Availability of adequate infrastructure;
- Landscaping and screening;
- Degree to which it will give rise to ribbon development / suburbanisation of the countryside;
- The height, scale, bulk, massing, finishes and detailed design;
- Suitability of site layout;

- Availability of adequate sight distances at vehicular entrance;
- Ability to safely treat the wastewater arising from the proposed development, on site according to best practice;
- Adherence to the Scenic Landscape Evaluation; and
- Degree to which site development works will scar the landscape / result in site with excessive gradient.

In Summary

Areas where enclosing topography, screening vegetation and/or existing development are present, should have a high potential to absorb new development. Areas of elevated topography, with low growing or sparse vegetation, with little existing development should have a low potential to absorb new development.

4.2 Disproportionate Visual Impacts

Every landscape can be affected to some degree by new developments. For the purpose of development control, it is important to work out the extent of the land affected by the visual impacts of the proposed development. It is reasonable to assume that any evaluation of the visual impact of a proposed development should have regard to whether the area of the visual impact has been kept to a reasonable minimum, so that actions by an individual do not impose disproportionate effects on the community as a whole.

Skyline ridges, hill and mountain tops, coastlines, promontories, headlands, lake shores and banks of large rivers are all conspicuous features in the landscape. The eye is strongly drawn to such features, principally because strong contrasts of colour and form occur along these lines of contact between the land and the sky or water. New development on or in the vicinity of such natural features has a significant potential to be conspicuous over a wide area. For the purpose of this report, therefore, such landscape features are considered to have an extremely low potential to absorb new development without causing disproportionate visual impacts.

4.3 Degrees of Sensitivity

The landscape is made up of a series of compartments each of which has a distinctive character. Each unit of character is assigned an indicator of sensitivity, which indicates the extent to which the landscape will be vulnerable to change in its character. The categories will reflect the criteria of the capacity to absorb new development as well as the potential to create disproportionate visual impacts. Each unit of character can then become the focus of policy or development control.

The categories in **the Sensitivity Zoning Key** are as follows:

Fig. 1. Sensitivity

KEY	DESCRIPTION
1 = Degraded	Areas characterised by breakdown of natural processes or pollution
	(e.g. cut over bogs, old mineral waste areas)
2 = Robust	Areas of existing development and infrastructure. New development reinforces existing desirable landuse patterns.
3 = Normal	A common character type with a potential to absorb a wide range of new developments.
4 = Sensitive	Distinctive character with some capacity to absorb a limited range of appropriate new developments while sustaining its existing character.
5 = Vulnerable	Very distinctive features with a very low capacity to absorb new development without significant alterations of existing character over an extended area.

Zoning Key

The determination of the limits of character zones should be based upon existing data which is mapped using objective, established and systematic techniques. The techniques should provide the highest level of resolution to facilitate development control at site specific scales of interpretation

5. Methodology

The methodology used for the project involved reference to the following information:

- 1. Waterford County Development Plan Land use planning policy and information on development pressure and population change in the County.
- 2. Areas of High Amenity, Areas of Outstanding Amenity and Areas of Scientific Interest included in the County Development Plan
- 3. The CORINE Land Cover Project.
- 4. Ordnance Survey Maps scale 1:126,720 and 1: 50,000 Discovery Series (These were used to determine the location of peaks, ridges, coasts and shorelines).

- 5. National Coastline Study.
- 6. Tourist information, including brochures and information on designated walking routes, e.g. Walk Guide, East of Ireland.
- 7. Archaeological information for the County.

5.1 Mapping the Zones of Sensitivity

Topographical and land cover information were used to determine the categories of land use sensitivity -Vulnerable, Sensitive, Normal, Robust and Degraded.

A description of each of the categories is as follows:

5.1 (a) Vulnerable

Areas included in this category were defined by mapping the shores of the main water bodies - lakes, large rivers, coasts, estuaries, promontories and headlands. The principal skylines were defined from the topographical map and illustrate where the 'watershed line' occurs. This is where the highest points along a ridge occur. As mentioned earlier, these are all conspicuous features of the natural landscape to which the eye is drawn because of strong contrasts of form and colour where there is contact between the land and sky or water. The skylines illustrated are the major skylines which, are visible over a wide area (any area will occur against the skyline if viewed from a lower elevation).

5.1 (b) Sensitive

Areas included in this category were determined by combining the following landuse categories from the CORINE Land Cover Project:

Natural grassland	Bare rocks	Sparsely vegetated areas
Moors and heathland	Transitional woodland scrub	Beaches, dunes, sands
Estuaries	Broad leaved forest	Inland marshes
Salt marshes	Peat bogs	Intertidal flats
Water courses	Water bodies	Coastal lagoons
Mixed forest	Agricultural land with significant	
	areas of natural vegetation	

These land-use categories include areas which are open and exposed with sparse or low growing vegetation cover which is insufficient to provide screening. Even if planting is introduced, the exposed nature of these areas will not support any significant tall vegetation. Due to this, any development would be visible over a wide area. The exception to this are broadleaved, mixed forest and transitional woodland scrub areas

which do support tall vegetation with potential to screen development. However these categories are sensitive due to their natural character and their longevity in the landscape; any loss to their structure (such as tree felling or clearance) would have a visual impact over a wide area.

5.1 (c) Normal

Areas included in this category were determined by combining the following landuse categories from the CORINE Land Cover Project: Pasture lands, Non irrigated arable land and Annual crops associated with permanent crops.

Pasture Lands	Non-Irrigated arable land	Annual	crops	associated
		with peri	manent o	crops
Complex cultivation pattern	Coniferous forest			

These landuse categories include the main areas of farming and rural residences. These tend to be confined to low lying or gently undulating areas where conditions are relatively fertile and therefore suitable to support tall vegetation which could screen development. The vegetation is often in the form of small copses of trees or mature hedgerows which sub-divide fields. The category for coniferous plantations includes areas of established forest; young trees and planting since 1989-1990 are not currently included.

Note: Forested lands which are classified as 'Normal' will need to be reviewed following clear felling – especially in conspicuous or vulnerable areas.

5.1 (d) Robust

Areas included in this category were determined by combining the following landuse categories from the CORINE Land Cover Project:

Continuous urban fabric	Discontinuous urban fabric	Industrial or commercial units
Sports and leisure facilities	Airports	

These landuse categories include towns and built up areas, suburban and other developed areas. These areas can support new development as it is less likely to be conspicuous in the context of existing development in the landscape.

Note: The CORINE mapping data does not include units below 25 hectares in extent. Due to this, many small villages and areas of ribbon development are not recorded on the land cover map.

5.1 (e) Degraded

Areas included in this category were determined by combining the following land-use categories from the CORINE Land Cover Project:

Mineral extraction sites	Construction sites	Dump sites
Timeral extraction sites	Construction sites	Dump sites

Areas included in these categories are characterised by the breakdown of natural processes or pollution. Once extraction or dumping has been completed, new development in these areas is desirable as a means to improve the existing character.

6. Area Designations

Under the above categories the following is a designation of areas in County Waterford.

6.1(a) Policy with Regard to Areas Designated as Vulnerable

These areas or features designated as vulnerable represent the principal features which create and sustain the character and distinctiveness of the surrounding landscape. To be considered for permission, development in the environs of these vulnerable areas must be shown not to impinge in any significant way upon its character, integrity or uniformity when viewed from the surroundings. Particular attention should be given to the preservation of the character and distinctiveness of these areas as viewed from scenic routes and the environs of archaeological and historic sites.

6.1(b) Areas Designated as Vulnerable

The coastline;

The banks of the rivers;

The shoreline of all lakes;

The skylines of upland areas; and

All headlands and promontories.

1. Coastline

All beaches and strands, including headlands and promontories, from Waterford Harbour to East Point.

2. Lake Shores and Riverbanks

Belle Lake Ballyscanlan Ballinlough Coumshingaun Crotty's Lake Sgilloge Lakes Lough Coumfea Cappagh

Monaneea Kilmaloo

The banks of the rivers Blackwater, Bride, Nire and Owenbeg.

3. Skylines:

Ardsallagh Hill Ballycondon Hill The Pike Knockaun

Knocknaraha	Coolbeggan	Coolowen	Knockroe
Deerpark Hill	Ballyneety	Knocknalough	Knockadullaun
Knockecorragh	Knocknaboul	Knockaunarast	Monatarriv
Knockaunabulloga	Sugarloaf Hill	Knockaunagnauv	Knocknafallia
Knockmeal	Knockanask	Byrick	Coolnabeasoon
Barranashigan	Curraheenavoher Hill	Laghtnafrankee	Long Hill
Raven's Rock	Shauneenabrega	Moanyarha	Knockanaffrin
Crotty's Rock	Knockeen	Milk Hill	Coumfea
Knockaunapeebra Seefin Knockacomortish Kilnafarna Hill Hill	Comeragh Mtn. Coumaraglin Mtn. Ballyknock Knockaunabouchala	Fauscoum Farbreaga Faha Knocknamona	Foilaunaprisoon Crohaun Monaculee Slievegrine
Caronadavderg	Curraghballinlea	Ballygarron	

6.2(a) Policy with Regard to Areas Designated as Sensitive

These areas have a distinctive, homogenous character, dominated by natural processes. Development in these areas has the potential to create impacts on the appearance and character of an extensive part of the landscape. Applications for development in these areas must demonstrate an awareness of these inherent limitations by having a very high standard of site selection, siting layout, selection of materials and finishes. Applications in these areas may also be required to consider ecological, archaeological, water quality and noise factors insofar as it affects the preservation of the amenities of the area.

6.2 (b) Main Areas Designated as Sensitive

- •Intertidal flats;
- Coastal lagoons;
- Agricultural lands with significant areas of natural vegetation;
- •Sparsely vegetated areas;
- •Beaches, dunes and sands;
- •Inland and salt marshes;
- •Bare rocks;
- •Transitional woodland scrub;
- •Broad leaved forest;
- •Peat bogs; and
- •Natural grassland.

1.Intertidal Flats

•At Clohernagh along the northern side of Back Strand

- •Dungarvan Harbour:
 - North: Abbeyside to Kilminnin to Ballynacourty Point
 - South: Cunnigar point to Ballynagaul
- •Kinsalebeg to Ardsallagh
- 2. Coastal Lagoons

Tramore Bay

3. Agricultural Land with Significant Areas of Natural Vegetation

The main pockets of Agricultural Land with Significant Areas of Natural Vegetation are found in the following areas throughout the County:

Raheens, Ballycraddock, Savagetown Cross Roads, North and South-west of Dunhill, Ballynaclogh Cross Roads, North of Ballyheadon, Kilbeg, West of Ballyleen, North-east of Ballygarron, East of Coumduala Lake, North-east of Coumshingan Lake, North-east of Briska, South-east of Kilminnin, South of Clonmel at Spaville, Kilmanahan, Russellstown, Along the banks of the Nire at Glenahiry, Graiguenagower and Shanballyanne, Currahateskin, North-east of Ballynamult, South of Knockboy at Lackendarra Upper, at Kilbrien on the banks of the Araglin, Currabaha and Calligan Bridge, East of Kilnafrehan, Ahaunboy, Coolydoody, West of Snugborogh, Drumore, Glendine Bridge and Lombard's Cross Roads, West of Knocknamona, Reanaboola and Ballindrumma, Ballycurrane Cross Roads, North of loskeran, Barranstook, Gowlaun, Scrahans, Kilcolman, Ballylinan. On the Knockmealdowns at the following areas: Glenafallia, Knockboy, Knocknaboul, West of Knockaunarast, Ballycaly, Knockeorragh, West of Tornadoo.

4. Sparsely Vegetated Areas

Kilnefrehan

5. Inland and Salt Marshes

Salt Marshes:

At Clashanahy, adjacent to Whiting Bay, Killongford Bridge on the southern side of Dungarvan Harbour, Bunmahon Bay.

Inland Marshes:

At Snugborogh on the banks of the River Bride, At the confluence of the Bride and the Blackwater.

6. Transitional Woodland Scrub

Ballylough, Ballyscanlan Lake at Ballymoris, Carrickavranty and Fennor, Dunhill lower Raheens, Ballyrohin, North of Ballygarron between Kilbunny Wood and Glenhouse Wood, Mount Bolton, South of Georgestown, East of Graiguearush, Knockanacullin, Ballindysert and Sheskin, Kilressanty, On the shores of the Dalligan river west of Ballynevoga, From Bohadoon north to Kilbrien and Carrigataggle, Curraghnamadree, Knockroe and Garrydon, South-east of Millstreet, north of Soldiers Cross Roads, Ballysaggartbeghill, South of Kilbeg, North-west of Carncrow, North-wwest of Kinsalebeg, Knocknamona at Woodhouse Cross Roads, South of Johnstown House, Ballycullane House and North of Mountstuart, South of Monagally and Reanaboola, Carronadavderg and Lickybeg, Toor South, Monameen, North of Carrigeen, Gorteen.

7. Broad-leaved Forest

Portlaw Wood Kilahaly	Curraghmore Monaman	Gardenmorris Headborough	Dromana Forest Harristown
8. Peat Bogs			
Laghtnafrankee Crow Hill Coolingady Knockmealdowns	Glenpatrick Shauneenabreaga Knockacomortish Knockanask	Glendalough Knockanaffrin Crotty's Rock	Curragheenavoher The Gap Knockaunabulloga

9. Natural Grassland

Mount Beresford	Brownstown Head	Monamintra	Carrickphilip
Ballinlough	Croughaun	Crotty's Rock	Coumshingaun
Kilclooney	Graiuearush	Davmore	Comeragh mtn.
Farbreaga	Boolatin	Dalligan Bridge	Ballintlea
Carrigataggle	Glendalligan	Carricknafinnoge	Knockacomortish
Knockavanna	Knocknaree	Curraheen	Glenpatrick
Shauneenabreaga	Glendalough	Knockgow	Byrick
Knocknanask	Gowlaun	Knocknahoola	Monaculee
Knockaunabouchala			

10. Moor and Heathland

Raven's Rock	Harney Cross Rd.s	Moanyarha	Glendalough
Knockanaffrin	Glennanore	Lyre	Sgilloge Lakes
Lough Coumfea	Knockavanna	Tooreen	Shanballyanne
Knockeen	Milk Hill	Knockaunapeebra	Seefin
Coumalocha	Foilanaprisoon	Coolnabeasoon	Bleantasour
Bearnamaddra	Ballynevoga	Croughan Hill	Ballintaylor
Knocknamona	Byrick	Knockboy Mount	Mellary

6.3(a) Policy with Regard to Areas Designated as Normal

The majority of County Waterford is designated as a normal landscape. These areas have potential to absorb a wide range of new developments subject to normal planning and development control procedures. In these areas the Planning Authority will have regard to general restrictions to development such as scenic routes, siting, road set backs, road widening plans, parking numbers, road and sewage disposal criteria.

6.3 (b) Areas Designated as Normal

- Pasture Land
- Coniferous Plantations

1. Pasture Land

The majority of the County consists of pasture land with the exception of large pockets at the

Knockmealdown, Comeragh and Monavullagh Mountain ranges, the area south of Dungarvan Harbour, South of Tallow, Waterford City and around Portlaw.

2. Coniferous Plantations

North of Ballydavid House / East of Callaghane Bridge, South of Monamintra, Around Ballyscanlan Lake, Kill, North-west of Savagetown Cross Roads, West of Carrickphilip, Ballygarron, South of Cullenagh, Glenhouse Wood, Beallough, Portlaw Wood, Kilbunny Tower Hill, Clashroe, Curraghballintlea, Brownswood and Fiddown, Robertstown, Whitestown Cross Roads, Croughan Hill, Crehaunagh, Coolnamuck Wood, Gurteen le Poer Wood, Tinkincor Wood, North of the Punchbowl, Clondonnell, Southwest of Knocknarea, East of Coumduala Lake, Southern shore of Coumshingan, South of Shauneenapeebra, From Furraleigh along the R676 to the road West to Coumshingan, Ballybrack, Slievenamona, Gortnalaght, South-west of Lyre, Briska, Comeragh Mountain to Boolatin, Glendalligan Wood, Carricknafinnoge, South of Mount Kennedy at Carrigmorna and between Downey's Cross and Durrow Cross, Boheraval Cross Roads, North of Monarud, Knockacomortish, North of Knockaunagloom, North of Milk Hill at Knockavanna, North-west and South-east of Tooreen, North of Shanballyanne and Craignagower / Ballymacarbry on the banks of the Nire, Mountneill Wood, Caherbaun, Curragheenavoher Hill, Boolabrien, South of Knockgow, Boulavonteen, West of Ballynamult, West of Byrick, Tooranaraheen, Coolagorthboy, Ardnagunna, Glenshelane, Crow Hill, On the shores of the Glenafallid and Glenshelane Rivers, East and south slopes of Knockafallia, Knocknabulloga, Along the Owenshad River, North of Knockadullaun, East and south of Curragheenav, Labbanacallee, Lyregloch, Gortnapeaky, The banks of the River Bride at the Cork border, North of Kilnacarriga and east of Ballyspick, South-west of Kilbeg, Coolbeggan, Corradremaun Cross Roads, West of Strancaly Castle, Boola and North of Carriglass, Dromore, Ballycullane, Knocknamona, Western slopes of Knockaunabouchala, East of Mountstuart, Slievegrine Hill, Knocknahoola, East of Monaculee, Gorteen, Lagnagoushee, South of Moonbrack,

Monamraher, Carrigeen Kearagulee, Carronadavderg, South of Lickybeg, Toor South, West of Glenlicky and Grally Bridge on the shores of the Licky River, Ballymacart Bridge.

6.4(a) Policy with Regard to Areas Designated as Robust

A small area of County Waterford is designated as robust. These are areas of concentrated existing development and infrastructure. Appropriate new development in these areas can reinforce the existing desirable landuse patterns. Regard will have to be had to site development standards namely density, building lines, height of structures and design standards. The overall aim is to ensure that the inherent character of the town and village centres is maintained.

In robust areas:

- (a) New development shall sustain and reflect the character of the area;
- (b) Frontages on to the existing streets shall reflect the character of the street through careful design and use of materials; and
- (c) Development should reflect the character of the townscape generally but fresh approaches to design will be considered.

Note: The CORINE mapping data does not include units below 25 hectares in extent. Due to this, many small villages and areas of ribbon development are not recorded on the land cover map.

- *Continuous Urban Fabric
- *Discontinuous Urban Fabric
- *Sports and Leisure Facilities
- *Industrial or Commercial Units
- *Airports

6.4 (b) Areas Designated as Robust

1. Continuous Urban Fabric

Waterford City, Dungarvan, Clonmel Environs, Carrick-on-Suir Environs.

2. Discontinuous Urban Fabric

Waterford City, Dungarvan, Carrick-on-Suir Environs, Clonmel Environs, Cheekpoint, Dunmore East, Tramore, Kilmacthomas, Cappoquin, Lismore, Tallow, Ardmore.

3. Industrial or Commercial Units

Ballyneashagh West of Waterford City, Abbeyside East of Dungarvan.

4. Sports and Leisure Facilities

Tramore Golf Course, Tramore Race Course, Picnic area at Corbally, Woodstown/Killoternan West of Waterford City, Golf Course south of Carrick-on-Suir, Ballynamult, Villierstown, Lismore.

5. Airports

Waterford Regional Airport

6.5 Areas Designated as Degraded

Degraded areas are characterised by a breakdown of natural processes or pollution.

1. Mineral Extraction Sites

Greenan Hill, Ballynacourty Point

2. Construction Sites

Dungarvan

6.6(a) Policy with Regard to Areas Designated as Degraded

New development should be encouraged as a means of improving the existing character of such areas.

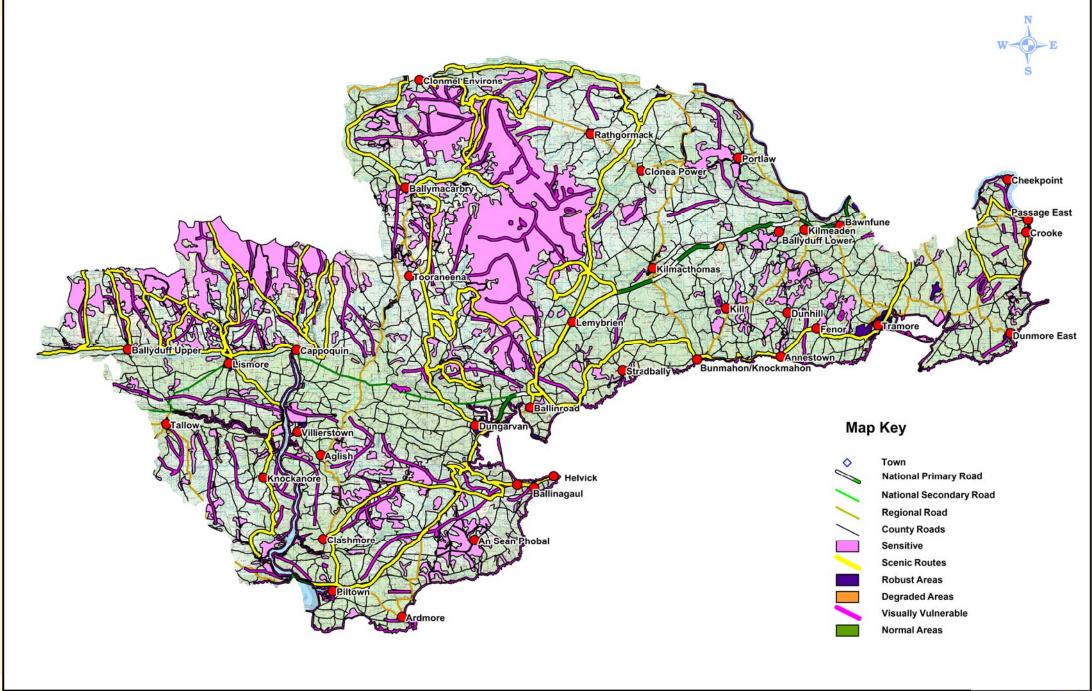
6.6(b) Policy with Regard to Scenic Routes

Scenic routes indicate public roads from which views and prospects of areas of natural beauty and interest can be enjoyed. Sightseeing visitors are more likely to be concentrated along these routes. The onus should be on the applicant for permission to develop in the environs of a scenic route, to demonstrate that there will be no obstruction or degradation of the views towards visually vulnerable features nor significant alterations to the appearance or character of sensitive areas.

6.6 (b) Scenic Routes

- 1. The R666 heading west from the County border to Cappoquin;
- 2. The R668 north from Lismore and R669 north from Cappoquin;

- 3. Various third class routes heading north from the R666 through the Comeragh Mountains;
- 4. Third class route from the mouth of the Glendine River, crossing the River Bride and following the Blackwater north, turning west to Lismore;
- 5. From Youghal Bridge east along the N25 to Dungarvan;
- 6. North from Kinsalebeg to Clashmore on the R671, east at Clashmore along third class route to N25 at Gorteen;
- 7. East from Gorteen along third class route via Monamraher to the R674. East to Helvick (Heilbhic) Head, west to N25;
- 8. North-west from Dungarvan to Tooraneena on the R672. Third class North to Ballymacarbry. Join R671 to Clonmel taking the R678 and turning south for third class route through the Comeraghs;
- 9. Third class route east off the R671 at Ballymacarbry along the banks of the Nire, joining with route;
- 10. Third class route through the Monvullagh Mountains from the R672 to Lemybrien;
- 11. Third class circular route off R672 to Kilgobnet;
- 12. R680 East from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir. Turn south onto third class route to R678 or through Coolnamuck Wood onto R676;
- 13. R676 South from Clonmel to Lemybrien. N25 south to The Pike. Circular route along third class road south to R675, crossing N25 via Garrynageragh, east along R675 and north via Garranbaun and third class road returning to The Pike;
- 14. From Ballyvoyle Head east on the R675 to the junction with the R677. Continuing south along the R675 to Bunmahon, east via Kilmurrin and Annestown and Northeast to Fennor. East onto Tramore and north to Waterford City; and
- 15. South-east from Waterford City on the R683 to Mount Druid. South along the R684 to Belle Lake and east on third class road via Woodstown to Waterford Harbour. North to Passage East along the Harbour, continuing north towards Cheekpoint. South at junction to R683 and west to Waterford City.



Waterford County Council