

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LAOISE *LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL*

Comhairle Chontae Laoise Áras an Chontae Port Laoise Contae Laoise R32 EHP9

Laois County Council Áras an Chontae Portlaoise County Laois R32 EHP9

T: (057) 8664000 F: (057) 8622313 corpaffairs@laoiscoco.ie www.laois.ie Mr. Darragh O' Brien, Minister for Housing, Planning, & Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1.

March 1st 2021

Dear Minister O' Brien,

At the February meeting of Laois County Council held on the 22nd of February 2021, I raised the matter of the new Land Development Agency Bill 2021 which was published on the 5th of February 2021. We, the Members of Laois County Council are expressing our strong opposition to this Bill. If enacted, it will remove the powers from Local Authority Members in particular, the local knowledge and also our reserved functions under Section 183 notices for the disposal of public lands owned by Local Authorities. It is a further erosion of Local Authority Member's power.

The Members requested that the matter be referred to you as a matter of urgency. We are strongly requesting that this part of the Bill be dissolved.

I would be obliged to receive your comments/observations on the matter in early course.

I look forward to hearing from you in this regard.

Kind Regards,

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Fitzgerald

Cathaoilreach of Laois County Council

Tá Fáilte Romhat Gnó a Dhéanamh as Gaeilge





