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11 September 23

## Re: ESB Submission to Draft Thurles Local Area Plan 2024-2030

Dear Sir/Madam,

This submission by Electricity Supply Board (ESB), 27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2, is in response to an invitation by Tipperary County Council for submissions to the Draft Thurles Local Area Plan 2024–2030. ESB is a landowner and employer in Tipperary with property and infrastructural assets throughout the County serving Thurles and its hinterland.

ESB acknowledges the aim of the Draft Plan to set out an outline for the spatial planning framework for Thurles with planning policies directed at informing the private and public development sectors as to unique town development objectives in line with established sustainable development guidelines from the Tipperary County Development Plan 2002-2028. We recognise that the Draft Plan incorporates a framework for guiding the future development of a climate resilient town.

ESB would welcome opportunities to future proof delivery of electricity infrastructure through greater collaboration between ESB and Local Authorities. Early engagement at design stage of key public infrastructure projects, e.g., new roads, public realm upgrades, and greenways, offer opportunities to provide ducting/underground cabling in the most economically efficient way and limit disruption to local services. Please contact the local ESB Office in Nenagh to ensure input from ESB Networks at an early stage of project design.

ESB, is building a truly sustainable company by investing in smart networks, renewable energy and modernising the generation portfolio. ESB is implementing energy strategies that support the transition of Ireland to a low-carbon and ultimately post-carbon economy to become a competitive, resilient, and sustainable region. In this regard, we support the ambition of the Draft Plan to deliver an overarching land use strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of Thurles. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you wish to clarify any of the points raised, please do not hesitate in contacting the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Keith O'Brien | Spatial Planner | Group Property | Engineering & Major Projects | ESB T: +353 1 702 6357 / +353 86 136 1258 | <u>www.esb.ie</u> 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower, Dublin 2, D02 KT92