

Land rezoned against wishes of the County Manager

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KILDARE County Council has voted to rezone industrial land near Tougher Business Park in the face of opposition from the County Manager.

Fine Gael Cllrs. Michael Nolan and Tony Lawler sought to zone 133 acres (54 hectares) of land adjoining the Tougher Business Park for industrial and warehousing.

On November 12, they asked councillors to reject a recommendation by the County Manager that the lands not be zoned.

But on November 18 last, following agreement to cut the amount of land to be rezoned for industry to 24 hectares, the Council voted 13-2 to rezone the land.

Two councillors, Murphy and McEvoy, opposed the motion and Labour members did not vote.

Senior officials advised against the proposal, including on the grounds that it could interfere with the possible route of a proposed major motorway.

They also said there were sufficient zoned lands in the county at the moment.

There is concern that the Minister for the Environment might ask the Council to revisit the plan if it breaches the regional and national guidelines by overzoning land.