

# Strategic Location



Derry City is located to the north-west of the province, spanning both banks of the River Foyle. Within the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) 2035, the North West is highlighted for its key cross border and international gateway opportunities via road, rail, and sea. The RDS also states that Derry should continue to develop high levels of co-operation with Letterkenny in strengthening its social and economic relationships/functions with the wider North West region. The site's strategic location within the province and relationship to Letterkenny can be seen above.

FIGURE 1 - STRATEGIC SITE CONTEXT

Derry City is identified as a Principal City and Regional Gateway for the North West within the RDS (2035). The Derry City and Strabane District Council Area population has grown significantly since the 2011 census, from 147,720 persons to 151,284 persons in 2019, according to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Within the 2011 Census (NISRA), it was estimated that the City of Derry alone had a resident population of 83,163 persons, at that time.