

A Chara

I wish to make a submission in relation to the Draft County Development Plan.

I would like to highlight my concern in relation to planning proposals for rural development. I believe the current proposals are too restrictive and will cause many problems in the future.

The proposals will make it very difficult for young people to build in their local areas and will create an ageing rural population in the coming years. With the lack of public transport facilities and amenities, this will lead to many problems.

It will have a devastating effect on the local community in that without the younger population schools will close, while sports clubs and community organisations will not survive.

Young people who might otherwise have a site to build on will not be able to afford a mortgage and therefore will have to be accommodated on the housing list which will put immense financial pressure on the council and only add to the country's housing issues.

We have in the past year the devastating effects of rural isolation and a better plan to allow people to remain in their communities and keep them thriving should be created.