

## Draft Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027

Susan O'Reilly [ ]

Sent: 20 December 2020 15:15

To: LouthCDP

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Susan O Reilly. I reside in Mountain Park, Carlingford and have been a resident all my life. The purpose of this submission is to highlight the challenges facing me and my family regarding this proposed plan should it come into effect in 2021.

My entire family reside and work in Carlingford. My extended family also reside here. We were all educated in St Oliver's school and we strive to be an Integrated part of the local Community.

In 2019, my parents ( Ross and Liz O Reilly) provided a site for me in South Commons, Mountain Park, Carlingford over 30 years ago with the sole purpose of building a family home for myself and to accommodate my elderly parents' aging needs. All legal fees and stamp duty were covered by me. My brother Ross and his family live directly next to the site. He built a family home there in 2015-2016. During this period , he organised for an entrance to be designed to my site in the hope of future planning of a proposed dwelling. He also arranged for an ESB connection to my site. It was envisioned that the family network would be strengthened living side by side to provide support for our Parents. My proposed site is of no use to any other member of the public.

Since 2019, I have applied for planning permission under the Current Country Development Plan (2014 -2020)however I have been advised that I do not meet the criteria to qualify based on the Zone of the site ( ZONE 1). I have advised that the purpose of the planning application is to provide care for my elderly father who requires support following previous health issues. Dr John Mc Keown supported my application for housing and provided written documentation. Furthermore, I believe that I would qualify for planning should my parents possess 3 hectares of land ? Where is the distribution of fairness to those that do not fall under this category? For this reason my application was denied.

Under this new proposed draft plan ( 2021-2027) building in rural areas will effectively be demolished. Building on Zone 1 will not be permitted unless I engage in full time agriculture or my parents have 3 hectares of land. Where is the equality for people who fall outside these criteria? How do you propose to accommodate a housing need for people who have ownership of sites but are refused planning permission based on criteria that discriminates us?

I strongly oppose this proposed draft plan. In my opinion such a plan will suppress communities and family life by the demolition of new builds. Populations will decrease, forcing the younger generation to move away leaving an aging population to be supported by a health and social care system already under tremendous pressure. This will also impinge on schools, community clubs and local facilities regarding funding and expansion due to the diminishing population.

The introduction of this new Draft Plan has caused profound stress to the area; specifically those in the Cooley Peninsula directly or indirectly affected by same. We are living in strange and unsettling times as a result of Covid 19; the global pandemic. The introduction and implementation of a fair and balanced new Development Plan would provide stability and opportunity to our Community and County.

Such a plan would accommodate housing needs for those residents living in the area who wish to build a family dwelling on their own property for the purposes of raising a family regardless of their parents financial status.

I urge you as a public service advocate to listen to the public on this matter and consider the basic needs of the people and the best interests of the Community.

Regards

Susan O Reilly