

Louth County Development Plan - concern re impact of proposed strategy for planning and development in my local rural area.

Andrea Phillips []

Sent: 23 December 2020 09:55

To: LouthCDP

Cc: Andrea McKeivitt; erin.mcgreehan@oireachtas.ie; Sean Kelly; Conor Keelan

To whom it concerns,

Myself, my husband and our 4 children live in Rockmarshall; we are gravely concerned about the overall strategy for planning and development in our area that the Plan outlines.

As parents of four children ranging in age from teenagers down to a toddler, the impact of the planned qualifying criteria for Zone 1 makes us very fearful about the possibilities that our children could live in our locality, should they choose to, when they grow up.

It appears that the only options open to them, should they wish to have their own home, will be to move to a more densely populated area (ie Dundalk).

As a member of the Board of Management of Rampark NS, I am also gravely concerned about the impact these regulations will have on our school community in the long run. Rampark is a thriving local school, a heartbeat of the community where 165 children, their parents and teachers come together. The school gets involved in community activities and also relies on the support of former past pupils when developing initiatives.

If the local population declines significantly, with this current generation of children being forced to move to more densely populated areas, the future for the school looks very different, which would call into question the significant investments that have been made in developing it to date.

Similar impact can be identified for the local sporting clubs that my children are currently involved with - Bellurgan FC and St Pats GFC.

It is not in keeping with good public consultation procedure that such an impactful plan should be pushed through at a time of pandemic, when no effective or meaningful public meetings can take place, so that people can have their concerns listened to and their questions answered.

Please develop a comprehensive IMPACT study of the proposed changes for my local area and community before steam rolling such changes through, and communicate these to help allay peoples' fears.

Regards,

Andrea & Brendan Phillips,

Sent from my iPhone