

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this submission in objection to the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021 - 2027.

I'm a girl in my mid 20's and I have been living in Belpatrick all of my life and always hoped that one day I would build my own home on the family land that has been passed down through the generations that my father now owns.

However, I believe if this current draft plan comes to fruition, it will cause this to be an impossible dream for me.

We as a family are distraught and devastated that the new plans are going to see local young people forced to move out of the area that we were born into, reared and still live in.

From an early age I have always helped with the farm work. As I grew older and got a full time job the farm still remained a priority and continues to do so.

To be now told that I may never get the chance to build a home in the area I lived in and land that is very precious to my family and I is unimaginable.

As I see it this will cause harm to the growth of our local community with schools and sports clubs, it will have an increasingly negative impact on the ageing population of the area, refusing young people the chance to integrate.

I'm an active player and committee member of my local sports club Mattock Rangers. I'm heavily involved within all aspects of the club and I intend on continuing my roles within the club and community but this may not be possible with the new "Draft LCC Development Plan 2021 - 2027".

I fully support Louth County Council in initiatives that support environmental and ecological sustainability for my local community. However, I believe that this draft development plan will have an even more detrimental effect to those who already live in the area denying families the right to live close to each other on the land that has been destined to become homes for children and grandchildren.

I would urge all local councillors to support the people of Louth in rejecting this draft development plan. Especially in the circumstance of the difficult year we have had and are still currently experiencing in which public meetings and discussions about this matter have become impossible.

I do hope Louth County Council reconsiders this plan for the sake of families and young people wanting to live a happy and wholesome life in the locality in which they've always and will always love.

I urge you to take the points above into massive consideration as your proposed plan at the moment is going to see rural areas being depopulated, having no family, friends or neighbours in sight at all, not to mention the massive affect it is going to have on us a family, our local school, post office, churches, GAA club etc.

Please take the above into consideration and let the voices of Belpatrick and surrounding areas be heard. Let the young people of the area have a say. We should have the right to live and build in the community where we have grown up, on family land and as local needs.

Regards,  
Maria Reid.