

Draft Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027

Donal McMorland [

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Sent: 23 December 2020 11:54

To: LouthCDP

Dear Sir/Madam,

In relation to the draft County Development Plan I would like to express my concern that some of the proposed changes are going to severely impact our rural communities. In particular, the proposed restrictions on planning for single dwellings in Rural Zone 1 are eventually going to result in many of our existing and future community members being forced to live elsewhere. This will have very negative impacts on our local businesses, sports clubs, schools, churches and on life in general in these communities.

The recent Covid restrictions have clearly demonstrated that remote working is a viable alternative to commuting to work for many in rural locations. I don't believe our rural communities will function properly if the only people who will eventually be living there are drawn from the small numbers who are involved in full time agriculture or who own land. I believe that the council should take the recent changes to the way we are now (and likely to continue) working and commuting into account in developing the rural policies.

It is also concerning that there is no provision to build in Zone 1 for a person who is required to care for an elderly person or person with a disability.

Sustainable modes of transport, concentrating development around existing urban centres, protecting the environment, preserving the natural beauty of areas like the Cooley Peninsula are all very important but so too are our rural communities.

Regards

Donal McMorland