



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin Monaghan County Council

Acmhainní Daonna
Human Resources
047 30586

Airgeadas
Finance
047 30589

Na Bóithre
Roads
047 30597

Clár na dTogthóirí
Register of Electors
047 30551

Comhshaol
Environment
042 9661240

Na hEalaíona
Arts
047 38162

Iasachtaí /Deontais Tithíochta
Housing Loans/Grants
047 30527

Leabharlann an Chontae
County Library
047 74700

Mótarcháin
Motor Tax
047 81175

Músaem an Chontae
County Museum
047 82928

Pleanáil
Planning
047 30532

Pobal
Community
047 73719

Rialú Dóiteáin/Foirgnimh
Fire/Building Control
047 30521

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
047 71818

Seirbhísí Uisce
Water Services
047 30504/30571

Forward Planning Unit
Development Plan Review,
Louth County Council
Town Hall,
Crowe Street,
Dundalk
County Louth
A91 W20C

22nd December 2020

A Chara,

RE: Comments in Respect of the draft Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027

Monaghan County Council welcomes the opportunity to make comment on the content of the draft Louth County Development Plan for the period 2021 to 2027.

In general, Monaghan County Council would wish to state that it is broadly in support of the objectives and policies contained within the draft Louth County Development Plan for the period 2021-2027, particularly in respect of Natural Heritage, Biodiversity, and Climate Action. In addition to these broad common objectives, there are a number of specific objectives common to both County Monaghan and County Louth which are commented upon specifically below.

Monaghan County Council welcomes the inclusion of Objective MOV 31 within Chapter 7 of the draft plan which seeks to continue to engage and work closely with Monaghan County Council and other stakeholders in the development of the Dundalk to Castleblayney section of the Dundalk- Sligo Greenway. In addition to this, it is considered that an objective should be included to progress the proposed Carrickmacross – Kingscourt - Nobber - Navan Greenway.

Monaghan County Council concurs with Objective MOV39 in Chapter 7 which supports the major road and bridge improvement projects set out in Tables 7.3 and 7.4, which includes the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney route, the N53 Dundalk to Castleblayney route and the East-West Link Cavan to Dundalk route, and the reserving the corridors of any such proposed routes when they are identified free of development which would interfere with the provision of such proposals.

Monaghan County Council also concurs with Objective MOV40 in Chapter 7 which supports the progression of the long term upgrade of the N2 and in particular the protection of the selected route of the upgrade road scheme between Ardee and Castleblayney, and the prohibition of development that could prejudice its future delivery.

Objectives MOV39 and MOV40 both align with Policy NRP 7 in Chapter 7 of the Monaghan County Development Plan 2019 to 2025 which seeks *“To protect the selected route of the N2 upgrade road scheme between Ardee and Castleblayney and the selected route between Clontibret and the border with Northern Ireland, and to prohibit development that could prejudice their future delivery.”*

Fáilte fonn an tÚdarás Áitiúil roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.

Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin, Oifigí an Chontae, An Gleann, Muineachán, Éire.

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In addition to the above, the following comments should be considered for inclusion within the draft Louth County Development Plan for the period 2021 to 2027.

Given the significant inter-relationships between counties Monaghan and Louth and the wider North East Region and Eastern Economic Corridor, Monaghan County Council considers that stronger reference should be made to this in the Louth County Development Plan.

It is noted that specific reference to this economic relationship is made in Sections 3.2, 4.3, and 9.2 of the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy for the Northern & Western Regional Assembly area (NWRA RSES). The NWRA RSES states that Counties Cavan and Monaghan have an easterly focus and recognises that they comprise part of a North Eastern functional area with County Louth, where the key driver is the Dublin – Belfast cross border network. It places particular emphasis on the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and the Regional Growth Centres of Drogheda and Dundalk which have a significant reach into the Central Border Counties, including into South Monaghan, and East Cavan, particularly influencing towns such as Carrickmacross, and Kingscourt within the NWRA area.

In the interests of alignment and recognition of this inter-relationship, consideration should be given to the referencing of this inter-relationship within the draft Louth County Development Plan for the period 2021 to 2027.

I trust the above comments will be of benefit in formulating the Louth County Development Plan for the period 2021-2027.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further clarification.

Is mise,

Toirleach Gourley
Senior Executive Planner