

From: C Holland [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 October 2017 22:46
To: National Planning Framework
Subject: Ireland 2040 Our Plan

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you to express my concerns at the astonishing omission of Drogheda, the largest town in Ireland, from the draft national planning framework, a document that will be the sole legal reference for all future discussions on city planning.

I find it very concerning that an urban area the size of Drogheda has been omitted from the national framework.

Drogheda is strategically well located particularly given its proximity to both Dublin and Belfast. Drogheda's location in terms of the UK, Europe and further a field together with the proximity to Dublin Airport and M1 motorway would make absolute sense for the town and urban area to be included in the framework.

Drogheda currently services Dublin as a commuter town and with the housing shortage in the Dublin area and its continual growth, Drogheda will continue to grow as demand increases and therefore Drogheda needs to be considered in future planning.

Drogheda is already an attractive location for foreign investment given the road network, high speed Broadband and a young and educated population. However not including Drogheda in the NPF will severely impact on its development. It is therefore crucial that Drogheda is included in the Framework. With further planning, investment, third level education and development, Drogheda would become a hub for FDI and industry.

Drogheda's inclusion within the framework will also deal with matters such as:

- Better rail network.
- Expansion of the town borders
- Removal of the tolls that currently divide the town.
- Investment into the development of Drogheda port.
- Construction of the Northern cross route.
- Restoration of local governance with Drogheda Borough Council being reinstated.
- Drogheda should be given City Status
- Anticipate and plan for future growth

I would therefore call on the Minister to include Drogheda in the Framework

Regards

Conor Holland