

**From:** Sean O'Brien [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 October 2017 13:48  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** National Planning Framework

To whom this may concern,

My name is Sean and I'm a 26-year-old male from the town of Drogheda.

For years the people of Drogheda have watched the towns infrastructure crumbling around us. We accepted the lack of opportunities for years hoping that some of the growth would eventually extend from Dublin to us. However, it is becoming more apparent that this is not the case and the people of Drogheda have been forgotten in these fast-changing times.

I'm working in Dublin, so I get to see both sides of this. We are being told about how great the growth is and there are new jobs and opportunities all the time by our government. While this is very real in Dublin - where it's a bees nest of activity - it's a completely different world when I come back to Drogheda. The town looks dishevelled in places, half of the towns stores are closed, there are no decent jobs, no easy access to 3<sup>rd</sup> level education for young people.

Drogheda in my eyes now is just a commuter town, I see the ridiculous amount of traffic leaving the town every morning and returning in the evening. The main problem with this is Drogheda's lack of function as a commuter town. The current infrastructure doesn't support the amount of traffic and to get from one side of the town to the other, you must pass through an array of bottlenecks. This is not surprising considering the towns growth, there have been no real improvements for as long as I can remember. Sure, there is the Boyne cable bridge, but that's just another time Drogheda drew the short straw. If you want to avoid the chaos of traffic going from one side of the town to the other, you get hit with a toll.

Drogheda has so much potential that is being ignored. It's medieval town with a rich history along with a community that really wants to see the town reach its true potential. The people of Drogheda just want their town to be a part of Ireland's future and not forgotten with the past.

Kind regards,  
Sean