

**From:** James Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03 November 2017 10:34  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** Two Rail Lines on the Island

Hi All,

Ireland is a tiny island with poor transport connections for work life balance. The rail network and speeds are from the 19th century.

Ireland should plan for:

Galway-Athlone-Kilkenny-Waterford-Cork-Limerick rail line

Derry-Sligo-Athlone-Dublin-Dundalk-Belfast rail line

--Two rail lines allow for driver-less trains(Irish Rail wage and pension costs exceeds its revenue).

--Two rail lines allow for a purpose built small network with no crossings, signals and other high maintenance items

--Two rail lines ensure the two economic regions have excellent commuter and airport links

---Train speeds are 300kph and higher ensuring 30 minutes will allow a person to commute from Athlone to Waterford daily

--Ireland will have 20-30 million tourists by 2040 this should generate a revenue sufficient to bolster the business case along with commuters and entertainment centres by having a LUAS of the island

--The old rail network can be closed