

From: Brendan Murray [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 November 2017 18:35
To: National Planning Framework
Subject: My Submission on the draft of the National Planning Framework.

A Chara,

1. I protest in the strongest way the lack of including Drogheda and the surrounding area in most of the important decisions to be made in this Plan.
2. Drogheda should be recognised as a City.
3. More power should be given to people to decide important decisions at local level. For that reason, Drogheda should have its own Council, the members elected by the people of Drogheda. Drogheda is at present governed by Dundalk on the North side and Navan on the South side, which is not conducive to Drogheda people making decisions about Drogheda.
4. Priority must be given to the development and use of Alternative Energy with zero Carbon emissions. Ireland will fail to meet the commitment to reduce Carbon emissions and it would appear that no one in Government is too concerned about this. They then make irresponsible decisions to make those Carbon emissions worse. This country could be a world leader in sustainable Energy, if only those who are in power had the resolve to do so.
5. For that reason, I think that it was silly to construct hundreds of miles of Motorways without also including Railway Tracks and Electrical Lines, so that trains and trams could simply travel Inter-City, straight up the Motorway. It shows complete lack of planning and foresight that there is only one railway line connecting Belfast and Dublin, for example.
6. For the same reason as I stated in point (number 4.) the once widespread Network of old Railway Lines must be preserved, that decision taken immediately so that they can once again be designed to accommodate Electrical Vehicles. This means that no so-called 'Development' should be built on these paths and causing their destruction.
7. Whenever planning permission is given to a so-called 'Developer' to build large Housing Estates, the onus should be placed on that person or company to provide Parks, Sport's fields and Community Halls. This should also be taken into account before awarding planning permission.
8. The reckless and irresponsible decision by our Government to promote Ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats, etc.) production (both Beef and Dairy) must be reversed. It is a massive squandering of our precious natural resources. It is an inefficient use of both land and water. Between the animals themselves and the amount of fossil fuels used in their maintenance and transport, they are an unacceptable source of Carbon Emissions. The consumption of alternative protein must be decided instead, such as eating insects or the by-products of insect production. The consumption of plant protein should be encouraged. This must also include the restriction of chemicals and insecticides and the sustainable management of our soils, plants, trees and Bio-diversity. For the same reason the seas around our coasts must be managed. Sea-weed should be harvested and used as food in a sustainable manner.
9. Irish people should be encouraged to grow more of their own food and cooking should be a part of everyone's education. The power of those big Food Companies to sell food which contains toxic amounts of sugar and little actual nutritional value should be opposed. There is little point in

encouraging children to take more physical exercise, if at the same time they are malnourished by commercial so-called 'food' - (cleverly marketed) which is lacking in proper nourishment. The Government should show courage in opposing these big Multi-national Companies. Raising a Sugar Tax is only one part of the solution. The other part is Education of both parents and children.

Is mise le meas,
Brendan Murray