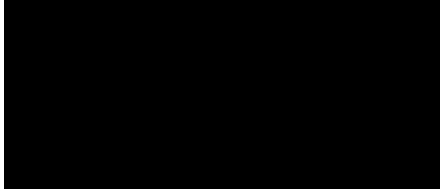


**From:** WordPress <wordpress@npf.ie>  
**Sent:** 19 October 2017 14:25  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** Ireland 2040 Submission from Gene Carolan  
**Attachments:** nfp-submission.docx

**Name:** Gene  
**Surname:** Carolan



**Message:**

Please find attached my concerns about the Draft National Planning Framework, and my humble suggestions as to specific issues that need to be addressed.

Best,  
Gene Carolan

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on National Planning Framework (<http://npf.ie>)



To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today as a concerned resident of Drogheda, Co. Louth.

The National Planning Framework is supposed to address the potential of certain regions/towns/cities and outline the situations that could potentially warrant infrastructural investment.

Yet, nowhere in the Draft Framework is the town of Drogheda mentioned. While it has been plain to see to anyone who has been living in Drogheda for the past 15 years that the town has been repeatedly neglected with regard to planning and investment, leaving it out of the National Planning Framework displays wilful ignorance of the economic and spatial benefits and challenges that are unique to Drogheda.

As a resident of Ireland's largest town, this is a completely unacceptable situation. Drogheda's omission from this framework will have devastating consequences for the town's social and economic viability.

Among the myriad reasons that Drogheda should be specifically referenced in the National Planning Framework include:

- the fact that Drogheda is Ireland's largest town, and the largest town of its size in close proximity to Dublin (just ahead of Swords). This should make it one of the first choices for private investment, the development of employment opportunities and infrastructure outside of the capital.
- Drogheda's West Street and surrounding retail parks, which provide a viable base for economic development, but which will fail to live up to their ultimate potential in the absence of a calculated strategy to push big brands/businesses towards the town.
- Drogheda's location as part of a border county that will experience economic challenges/opportunities depending on the outcome of any Brexit deal. Both of these potential outcomes need to be considered (with specific reference to Drogheda) in the context of a 20 year planning framework that will have to grapple with the fallout of a post-Brexit landscape.

Sincere regards,

Gene Carolan

