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Sent: 03 March 2017 12:34
To: National Planning Framework
Subject: Waterford City Boundary Extension

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First of all I would like to state that I am a resident of the affected area and I am very much in favour of this boundary extension. Waterford City is at least 20 years behind other cities such as Galway, Limerick and Cork. These cities amenities are far superior, each one of these cities has 24/7 cardiac care and a university. Waterford unfortunately does not. Waterford City is a great place to live and work. It has huge potential (Please see link at the end of this email) but unfortunately it has not been able to fulfill its this potential due to number of reason, such as a lack of investment, no university and because the city has not been able to expand in the direction required. This is an opportunity for Ireland to get something right for once in regards to planning, as our record in regards to this is appalling. Dublin cannot continue to grow at the rate that it currently is without dire consequences for future generations and therefore cities like Waterford need to step up and be an alternative for people who are seeking a better quality of life, e.g. lower house price, lower commute times and less congestion than Dublin. In order for Waterford to offer this it must be allowed to expand in the right way.

Also if you look at the other regions, each one of them consistently out performs the South East and a major reason for this is, each region has a major city that drives growth and development. Another factor is the South-East region and Waterford gets a fraction of the investment that the BMW & Dublin areas get. Waterford and the South east deserve to have a level playing field with Cork, Galway & Limerick and this boundary extension is definitely a step towards leveling the playing field.

<http://www.waterford-today.ie/waterford-today-news/2873-waterford-ranked-top-micro-city-for-fdi-strategy-22258.html>



Waterford ranked top 'micro-city' for FDI strategy

www.waterford-today.ie

Waterford has been listed among the European Cities & Regions of the Future in a prestigious magazine's ranking of Europe's cities and regions with highest potential.