

Ireland 2040

Pop. 5.7m, 0.5m extra at work, 0.5m more homes. Sustainably? How?

- 1. Dublin :** Smarten up, so new business will be attracted. Metro North and U-Dart to go ahead.
Reduce car traffic in city centre : electronic tolls on private cars (bar electric) crossing into the city.
Double public transport : electric buses in suburbs, feeding trams travelling into the city centre.
Trams to Belfield (a huge generator of traffic). Long-distance buses to railheads, not into the city centre.
Don't spend €48m on Merrion Gates – close all 5 LCs, provide for pedestrians, wheelchairs & bikes.
More Park & Ride outside the canals, adjacent to trams & Dart, e.g. at Booterstown Dart.
Phased change to electric vehicles (incl. taxis and commercials) – electricity output must keep pace.
Four electronic tolls on M50, 50cent each (the Lucan problem) plus variable speed limits (no clogging).
Cyclists must not injure or frighten pedestrians – train & licence them, with visible licence plates.
- 2. Cork, Limerick, Galway, Waterford, Sligo** – great potential for new business, if above ideas are applied there too.
- 3. New city**, mid-way between Athlone, Mullingar, Longford and Tullamore. Oireachtas moves there, with Civil Service (think Washington, not Brasilia).
- 4. Housing crisis :** No VAT or levies, cheap money from EIB, for Social Housing Programme by LAs.
Independent Building Inspectorate, paid for by developer (conflict of interest now)
- could inspect private and public rented homes too.
- 5. Electricity** – large expansion in eco-generation needed, to replace fossil fuels : Wind (+ pumped storage), offshore too. Why not PV (recent planning refusal in Wexford)? Explore Tidal.
- 6. Water & Sewerage :** Ensure funding for upgrade programme. Polluter pays.
- 7. Domestic and Commercial Solid Waste :** Pay (or don't charge) for waste into Recycling Centres – to combat fly-tipping.
- 8. Inter-city travel**, incl. to UK : keep an eye on Elon Musk's Hyperloop - new mass transit system being developed now in California – may replace short-haul flights.
- 9. Communities :** Health – Everyone officially weighed every year & 0 – 20y.o. twice yearly.
DEIS Infants: 0 – 3y.o. home visitor programmes – see UCD *Preparing for Life*.
Food waste : 70% happens at home – education.
- 10. Agriculture :** Grow more fruit and veg.