

NPF2040 Submission (Ivan Cuddihy, Waterford)

1. JOBS:

IDA should not accept jobs/ investment at any cost. FDI Companies should be strongly encouraged & incentivized to locate outside of Dublin, Cork & Galway which are now straining under the pressure of population / housing concentration. Small cities & large towns such as Waterford , KK & Carlow should be promoted as potential locations for green-field start-ups.

2. TRANSPORT

Structure motoring so diesel & petrol-only cars are penalised for inefficient driving modes. E.g Excess urban usage / idling where good public transport options exist. End subsidy to diesel cars vs petrol. Further Incentives for EV to mitigate the very poor take up since ESB charging network rolled out 4 yrs ago. Extend charging network (including high-speed chargers) and remove the charge that ESB introduced last year, until there is a better take-up nationally. Keep the SEAI grant for EVs in place.

Two cyclists killed at the weekend. Cycle lanes in Ireland are disjointed, often just token gestures and not integrated safely in to the traffic management strategy. Proper continuous bike lanes.

3. ENERGY:

Accelerate development of minimal-environmental impact wave-energy projects on southern / western seaboard. More off shore wind-farms and locally generated & community supported solar & wind energy scheme with smart metering to allow sending back in to grid during peak demand times. Continue & expand current SEAI grants for home upgrades.

4. HOUSING:

Re launch public- housing building and ensure these house are passive or near-zero emissions to reduce heating costs & lower carbon footprint.

5. HEALTH CARE:

Stop the further stratification of the 2-tier health-care system. Invest in the public hospital system. Consolidation of hospitals in to regional hubs (COEs), particularly for Cardiac intervention & catheterization care, should not proceed until there is a suitable road network to connect outlying regions with these new hubs (e.g. Waterford to Limerick / Cork motorway) to ensure no lives are put in danger due to the longer distances to be travelled by road.

*Is mise le meas*

*Ivan Cuddihy*

*Member Green Party Waterford*