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To: National Planning Framework
Subject: Submission to Draft

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I would like to make a submission to the Draft National Planning Framework particularly regarding Drogheda and East Meath.

You will have received significant data and documentation regarding the growth potential for Drogheda / East Meath and the importance of including it as a named development location in the Final Strategy. I have separately sent in a submission which outlines these points.

There are two relevant areas that are identified as growth locations; the Metropolitan Dublin area and the Dublin Belfast corridor. The Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016-2035 is also referenced and this as you are aware specifically identifies Drogheda as an area for investment in terms of electrical rail and Dart services.

I believe that the Planning Framework should extend the definition of the 'Dublin Metropolitan Area' to include the definition of Corridor A in the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area. This area should then be included in any master planning. This will involve cross county coordination in terms of Local Authority inputs.

Such an approach will also tie in seamlessly with the objective of developing the Dublin / Belfast corridor. Drogheda with key infrastructure can act as a key nodal point for development benefiting from transport links, population and access to third level graduates etc.

Such designation will not involve the thorny issue of City designation, a discussion for another day however worthwhile a concept. It will however recognise the importance of the town and surrounding area and give real impetus for economic development.

Best Regards

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