Minister Simon Coveney TD
National Planning Framework Submissions
Forward Planning Section
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government
Custom House
Dublin 1
D01 W6X0

Re: Ireland 2040 – National Planning Framework Submission

31st March 2017

Dear Minister Coveney

The members of the Cork Development Forum take this opportunity to commend the ongoing work of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in driving the national agenda towards the development of a future focused, strategic, integrated and complementary plan for the future of Ireland and commend the emphasis on strengthening both the region’s and Ireland’s national positioning on an international basis.

Cork Development Forum stakeholders have engaged thoroughly in consultations as part of the process towards developing the joint Cork County Council and Cork City Council submission to the National Planning Framework – Cork 2050, and believe that this submission strongly captures the vast potential of the Cork region as a complementary location to Dublin, and as the location best positioned as regards scale, capacity, track record, available natural resources and future real potential to successfully drive significant growth on a national and international platform.

To date, the region and in particular the Metropolitan Cork area, has proven its capacity as the economic engine of the South of Ireland, and has grown its presence through strong collaboration both regionally and nationally. Due to geographical positioning, Cork has the proximity to drive the development of locations across the Southern Region.

Cork 2050 emphasises a strategic plan led approach to an integrated economy and property market, reinforced by a vibrant and thriving Metropolitan Cork area. It details the capacity and capability of the Cork region to drive strategic planned development to absorb an increasing population and drive economic growth. Cork Development Forum asserts that Cork, based on its track record and current standing as the largest county and Ireland’s second most populous Metropolitan area, it is ideally placed as the logical location to drive effective growth. As stakeholders invested in the vision for Cork, we lend full support to the Cork 2050 submission.
In conclusion, Cork Development Forum firmly support the Cork 2050 submission which not only encompasses the vision to 2040, but goes one step further in future casting to Cork 2050, highlighting a long-term vision which is supported across the region. As stakeholders in support of this, we highlight the value-add on a regional and national basis that the Cork region can bring, and the value of working in collaboration to drive growth across all regions through a strong regional core.

Yours Sincerely

Ger O'Mahoney
Cork Development Forum Chair