

Chloe Duddy

From: Denis Kelly <dkelly@nwra.ie>
Sent: 28 January 2020 17:20
To: Local Development Plan
Cc: Chloe Duddy; Prionsias.McCaughey@derrystrabane.com; Maura Fox
Subject: RE: Derry-Strabane LDP Draft Plan Strategy Notification.
Attachments: Derry City & Strabane District Council LDP Draft Plan Strategy - 2032.pdf

A Chara,

I attach correspondence in respect of the above for consideration of DCSDC and if you have any queries then do not hesitate to revert to me in the first instance.

Best regards
Denis

Denis Kelly
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From: Chloe Duddy <chloe.duddy@derrystrabane.com>
Sent: 06 December 2019 15:33
To: Denis Kelly <dkelly@nwra.ie>
Subject: Derry-Strabane LDP Draft Plan Strategy Notification.

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached letter – Derry-Strabane LDP Draft Plan Strategy Notification.

Kind Regards,

Chloe Duddy
Administration Supervisor
Planning Department
Derry City and Strabane District Council

98 Strand Road
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Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Cathair Chithre &
Cheantar an tSraith Bóin
Derry Citty & Strabane
District Council

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Ms. Maura Fox

Head of Planning

Derry and Strabane District Council

98 Strand Road,

Derry BT48 7NN

27th January 2020

FAO: Planning LDP Team, DCSDC.

Re: Derry City & Strabane District Council; Local Development Plan, Draft Plan Strategy -2032

A Chara,

I refer to your letter of notification dated 28th November 2019, received by email on 6th December 2019. The Northern and Western Regional Assembly wish to commend Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) on the publication of the Local Development Plan (LDP) draft Plan Strategy (DPS). It is a very important and timely policy intervention that shall shape the future of the District. It is also important to areas that lie beyond the DCSDC area, including part of the administration area of the Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA).

It is the role of the Regional Assemblies to provide leadership and to identify regional development objectives and coordinating initiatives that support the delivery and implementation of national planning and economic policy. This is primarily achieved through the preparation and implementation of Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES) that are bespoke to the region and which implement and amplify the National Policy Objectives and National Strategic Outcomes of the National Planning Framework (NPF). On Friday last, 24th January, 2020, the Northern and Western Regional Assembly adopted the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES, 2020 - 2032) for the Northern and Western Region. The Strategy is available on our website www.nwra.ie/rses. I would like to take this opportunity to thank DCSDC for their input to this strategy.

Tionól Réigiúnach an Tuaiscirt agus an Iarthair
An Chearnóg, Bealach an Doirín, Co. Ros Comáin

The RSES identifies the important role that the North West Metropolitan region of Letterkenny/Derry/Strabane has in enabling the sustainable development of the region. The strategy targets Letterkenny as a Regional Growth Centre. It supports collaborative work at a sub-regional level on a cross-border basis, as it is critical to the social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being of communities within this unique cross-border city region.

The Key population and employment targets set out in Section 3 of the RSES shall now inform the Development Plans across the region, including the Donegal County Development Plan and local area plans. This will ensure there is consistency in implementing the objectives of the RSES and also those of the National Planning Framework. It will achieve compact growth, and a greater critical mass within our Cities, and Regional Centre's.

The RSES has devoted a section to All island Cohesion and identifies the importance of working together for economic advantage of our communities. The ongoing co-operation between Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council are explicitly supported within the RSES. A number of Regional Policy Objectives (RPO's) are tailored to reflect the continued commitment of the Northern and Western Region to support both Local Authorities in strengthening and expanding working ties. RPO's 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 identify objectives that can form the framework for this to happen and which shall guide the development of plans, strategies and programmes at a local level within this region. This collaborative approach is reflected within the proposed DSDC Local Development Plan (LDP) draft Plan Strategy and this is to be welcomed.

The co-ordination of investments in infrastructure will provide economic, social and environmental benefits north and south and are supported within this RSES. The RSES has identified the importance of enhanced transport connectivity, to include cross-border road and rail, cycling and walking routes, as well as blueways, greenways and peatways. Connectivity through the ferry service across Lough Foyle, linking the Causeway Coast with North Donegal and the Wild Atlantic Way is also a significant and important service that is supported by the RSES, as is the Foyle Port facility. Additional Objectives of the RSES that should be highlighted are those critically enabling Strategic Infrastructural improvements which include:

RPO 6.8 The upgrade of the N13 from Letterkenny to Bridgend / Derry

RPO 6.16 The investigation of a feasibility study on the expansion of the existing rail network to serve the North West Metropolitan City Region. In addition objectives within the Letterkenny Regional Growth Centre Strategic Plan (LKRGCSP) include an objective to carry out a feasibility study which investigates the potential and viability of a Rail Link between Letterkenny and Derry.

The gas network is also identified as an important piece of economic infrastructure within Growth Ambition 5 of the RSES. It reaches into the western part of the border region near Derry and Strabane and presents an opportunity to harness the opportunity that this infrastructure

presents and to encourage, support and enable its extension to new areas within the cross-border region.

The RSES also supports actions to strengthen communications links to develop a stable, innovative and secure digital communications and services infrastructure on an all-island basis and to become a smart region. It also focuses upon the important opportunities for development of tourism and the need to better manage our joint environmentally sensitive areas. The above mentioned are supported through objectives RPO 9.5-9.8

The NWRA acknowledge that the DCSDC draft plan was published before the RSES was adopted and therefore would not have been in a position to reflect the provisions appropriately within the draft. However, DCSDC may consider it appropriate to reflect further upon the RSES to ensure that it is satisfied that the position of the RSES within the hierarchy within this jurisdiction is reflected appropriately and that the objectives are considered as they economic plans, strategies and programmes within our region will have to be consistent with the RSES.

Finally, I wish to reiterate the appreciation for considering this submission and I look forward to continuing to support collaboration and coordination on the delivery of economic, social and environmental benefits to our communities north and south.

Yours sincerely



David Minton

