



**Submission to Wicklow County Council
County Development Plan Review**

By

County Wicklow Public Participation Network

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Introducing County Wicklow Public Participation Network

County Wicklow Public Participation Network (PPN) was established in July 2014 under the directive of the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and in accordance with legislation in the Local Government Reform Act 2014 (Section 46). Public Participation Networks were established to be an independent structure that would become the main link through which local authorities connect with the community, voluntary and environmental sectors in a process to facilitate communities to articulate a diverse range of views and interests within the local government system.

Co Wicklow PPN has 292 diverse member groups, some of these groups are networks in their own right. PPN representatives serve as a voice for the community on structures including: the Local Community Development Committee; all of the Wicklow County Council Strategic Policy Committees; Wicklow County Childcare Committee; Co Wicklow Children & Young People's Services Committee; Co Wicklow Local Sports Partnership; Wicklow County Tourism Board; Co Wicklow Volunteer Centre, County Wicklow Partnership, and Co Wicklow Joint Policing Committee. PPN Representatives strive to ensure that the needs of the community sector are prioritised within local policy processes.

Community Consultation

Co Wicklow PPN held a members' meeting on Wednesday 4th December 2019 in The Brockagh Centre. The meeting included a brief presentation on the County Development Plan by Judy Osborne MSc Spatial Planning. Members were then asked to work in groups to answer some of the county level questions under the various headings in the County Development Plan Issues Document. The comments people made are listed in **Appendix 1** of this submission.

On 20th November 2019, Co Wicklow PPN hosted an information seminar to find out about the housing and accommodation needs of people living in Wicklow. Some of the speaker content and the resulting discussions were highlighted as being relevant to the housing questions in the County Development Plan Issues Document. People attending the seminar were also asked to answer the county level questions under the housing category of the County Development Plan Issues Document. A report from the seminar is available to read and download from the Co Wicklow PPN website at this address: <http://www.countywicklowppn.ie/social-inclusion-network.html>

In 2018, Co Wicklow PPN consulted community groups across the 5 Municipal Districts of Co Wicklow, asking them "What is your vision for community wellbeing for this and future generations"? We asked them to consider this question under the following headings:

- Environment & Sustainability



- Health (physical & mental)
- Work, Economy, & Resources
- Social & Community Development
- Participation, Democracy & Good Governance
- Values, Culture & Meaning

The responses we received were documented and are available to download from our website: www.countywicklowppn.ie or they can be read in the “Our Vision for Community Wellbeing in Co Wicklow” booklet. We ran 11 workshops, 5 online consultations and accepted 2 submissions in total. The consultations facilitated the development of an overarching vision for each Municipal District along with community visions and high-level goals under each heading. The county vision was developed in the same way.

This submission is based on the information and suggestions received from everyone who participated in all three of these consultations.

Appendix 2 looks at the Sustainable Development Goals and how local authority plans are well placed to integrate the SDGs in to action at local level

Areas of Consultation

The members’ meeting on 4th December specifically considered the following areas and questions within the CDP Issues Document:

1. **Compact Growth** - What is required to make our towns more self-sustaining?
2. **Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Zone Management** - How do you think the County Development Plan can address Climate Change?
3. **Housing** - Are there certain groups in society that find it difficult to access housing? What type of houses are required to meet housing demand (inc. special types of housing)? Where and How should social housing be provided?
4. **Economic Development and Employment** - What measures can be put in place to ensure Wicklow is viewed as a more attractive employment base?
5. **Town and Village Centres and Retail** - How can the County Development Plan improve retail vibrancy in Wicklow’s towns and villages?
6. **Tourism and Recreation** - Is there a need for more tourist facilities within the County?
7. **Heritage** - What aspects of Wicklow’s heritage do you consider should be protected?
8. **Community Development** - Are there adequate facilities in the County to cater for all its citizens?
9. **Transport and Infrastructure** - What transportation (*cycling, public transport and private car*), water and waste-water improvements are needed throughout the County?

Summary

The strongest and prevailing message from all Co Wicklow PPN consultations is that for Co Wicklow citizens to thrive, all of its stakeholders must work together. There is a great deal of local expertise in Co Wicklow communities and a willingness to work for the greater good. Key to this is the importance of building and maintaining strong trusting working

relationships between stakeholders. Co Wicklow PPN welcomes the opportunity to feed into the Review of the County Development Plan and looks forward to continuing feedback and consultation going forward.

In relation to compact growth and making our towns more self-sustaining the majority of responses indicated the importance of having enterprise, employment and recreational facilities and services at local level. Communication and building community pride is key to working together. Supporting communities to be self-sufficient was also highlighted as important.

Co Wicklow is fortunate in its great natural resources on land and in our natural waterways and coastal areas. In all Co Wicklow PPN consultations the importance of caring for our environment and maintaining it for future generations has been at the forefront of all responses. Climate Change and the loss of biodiversity is having a worrying impact in Co Wicklow communities and people are calling for mitigation measures to be front and centre in all developments. Land, coast and the marine environment must receive equal attention in relation to biodiversity and climate mitigation measures

The historical move from a social housing provision model and the concept of a home, to the current concept of the property market and housing as a commodity has led to many challenges including the current increases in homelessness. Social and affordable housing is needed for our diverse communities and particularly the most vulnerable. A community cohesive and holistic approach should be adopted to encourage self-sustaining and resilient communities.

Critical mass is important to provide employers with a staff and customer base. This needs to be backed up with adequate structures and services for business development, particularly in relation to broadband and transport. Education, health, community, recreation and childcare resources also need to be taken into consideration to support the workforce and make local communities liveable.

Supports must be made available to indigenous business and local retailers to boost local economies. Vibrant retail areas and well-designed streetscapes will encourage people to shop local.

Wicklow's natural resources and built heritage draw tourism to the county. This should continue to be developed but in a manner that includes and involves the local communities and protects the built and natural environment for future generations.

Communities must be enabled to look after themselves and each other. This means developing and maintaining local facilities and services as much as possible and where services cannot be accessed locally there needs to be complete accessibility and connectivity.

Good water quality is imperative for healthy communities and where intervention is needed natural methods of purifying should be used. Natural waterways should be maintained and protected. Transport is the key to connecting communities to work, education, recreation

and all other services. Ensuring that public transport is the predominant means of connectivity will also reduce carbon emissions, save resources, protect the natural environment and could lead to better physical and mental health.

Appendix 1

Compact Growth

What is required to make our towns more self-sustaining?

- Employment and Tax incentives to encourage industry
- Good services; transport, recreation and food
- Build a sense of Communication and Pride
- Provide more amenities including local shops
- Adequate housing – mixed socially
- Broadband
- Upcycling, recycling shop in town
- Recycle workshops to retain old skills to next generation
- Tax empty properties to combat dereliction
- Good shops
- Incentive schemes to support local producers
- Conscious Community Hubs (extend Tidy Towns)
- Live close to where you work
- Community owned energy
- Community gardens and common ground co-ops
- Staff grants for River Trust and other volunteer community groups
- please change the title of the CDP to the CSDP County Sustainable Development Plan
- please zone for Windfarms / Community Renewable Energy development

Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Zone Management

How do you think the County Development Plan can address Climate Change?

- Protection of the Uplands
- Uplands in better condition will reduce flooding risk
- Re-wetting peat lands
- Need sustainable Land use
- Increase broadleaf forestry, manage forests, no more clear-felling
- Protection of flood plains
- No building on flood plains
- Ensuring sustainable drainage works
- Encourage more tree and shrub planting in towns and on verges
- Invest heavily in the conservation of insect life (Ireland is losing insect species at the highest rate in the EU)
- Reduce or carefully manage the dredging of rivers
- Mitigation measures to be included in developments (more strongly)
- Densification – reduction in commuter distances (less CO2) and more pedestrianised town centres
- High speed broadband and initiatives like rent a desk to allow working from home
- Better attenuation for residential development
- Protect coastal areas by establishing wildlife plants – natural reseedling
- Protect the marine environment from pollution and over fishing

- Public transport: Free and electric
- Electric Car charging point network, more park and ride provision
- Provide Digital Hubs
- Community generated town heating/energy system for all
- Ring fence receipts from Carbon taxes collected in Co.Wicklow to be spent in Co. Wicklow
- Publish and publicise all initiatives and all progress data, report regularly to citizens
- Sell smart meters cheaply to homeowners & incentivise a 10% reduction in electricity usage
- Fit low water usage taps to all public buildings and sell as cheaply as possible to homes
- Citizen Wind farms, Solar panels on roofs of public and private buildings
- Increase capacity of National Grid in Wicklow so can sell back to national grid
- Incentivise Community Swap Shops, to hold Sales & Swap events, fashion shows, etc
- R&D batteries to generate and store power and to extend their life.
- R&D uses for kelp, seaweed, fish waste to plastic (MarinaTex)
- Help Farmers see they have a role in addressing climate change – more diverse less intensive farming Promote and incentivise methanisation and biogas to recycle animal waste
- Pay Farmers to stop farming cows adjust CAP payments so they do not lose income
- Monitor dosage of fertilisers and pesticides, appoint officials to manage this
- Incentivise farmers to grow own cattle feed, green beans, non OGM soya, to go organic and to set aside sufficient land as a carbon sink to bring their C emissions eventually to neutral
- 'A' rated housing through retrofitting very low to zero cost loans
- Research and promote best practice in managing issue
- Rewilding land (provides habitat and habitat corridors)
- Zone for Wind Farms and Community Renewable Energy
- Planting trees on Council land (green spaces, land unsuitable for housing)
- Zone rivers, wetlands and forest/uplands for climate and biodiversity (like Wexford) and protect against sheep
- please identify & zone all Wicklow River Corridors & Wetlands for Protection (Waterford last 2 County Development Plans give a good example)
- - please create a "Land reserved for nature including Climate & Biodiversity Natural Solutions" zone type, and zone other uplands as well as the Rivers/Wetlands
- Conserve native seed varieties and use wherever possible
- Incentivise farm to fork and initiatives that sell local produce locally
- Make Wicklow Campus a hub for research on all issues of sustainability and extend its links to the marine community
- Promote Wicklow's marine heritage & build riverside beaches & facilities.
- Publish all findings, progress, grants in local and national media, radio, newspapers

- Incentivise supermarket to lessen packaging, extend deli counters, allow customers bring own containers, stock only home compostable packaging, donate in-date food to community food banks, to employ local and to sell seasonal local produce
- Advertise all 'Green Jobs' heavily in the local press.
- refund deposit on plastic bottles
- tax on plastic items
- there is a proposed idea for coffee cups where you hand in a dirty reusable cup and get a new one from a participating coffee outlet.
- litter bins
- litter wardens
- biodegradable fishing line
- eat less meat
- availability of environmentally friendly insecticides
- issue of compost bins to households for garden waste to put goodness back into soil
- tree planting days in schools . Have a Wicklow tree planting day
- planting wildflower meadows
- education on recycling, not always sure what can be recycled
- emphasis on batteries needing to be recycled not put into household bin
- more bins in sea areas to prevent rubbish landing in the sea
- emphasis on reusing things and reducing what we buy if we do not really need it
- pressure on supermarkets to reduce plastic wrapping.

Housing

Are there certain groups in society that find it difficult to access housing?

- People with disabilities
- Those with disabilities
- Squeezed middle income (lets get the data)
- Renters
- Refugees
- Low income earners
- Opportunities for older people to move to appropriate housing within their community if they so wish
- Working single people can't afford houses
- Affordable Service Rental scheme
- Travellers (*2)
- Working families not earning enough to pay big mortgages for overpriced homes.
- Young couples and families (*2)
- Working people in North Wicklow
- Low income families (*2)

What type of houses are required to meet housing demand (inc. special types of housing)?

- Public Owned and built social housing
- Accessible
- Granting local people planning so they can live in the area they grew up in
- Incentives to downsize for people on own
- More investment in upgrading local authority housing stock (for energy efficiency and liveability)
- Affordable
- Local Authorities ripping good kitchens etc. out of Council houses to bring them to a standard – change the rules
- Council houses built properly and sustainable
- Social
- Small group housing schemes for Travellers
- Appropriate in scale to adjacent urban environment
- Environmentally sustainable houses, high standard
- Older persons housing
- Housing – lets go up in height and get more from the land
- More sheltered housing – possibly high-rise with accessible services
- Modular
- Prefabricated houses with limited area
- Mix of housing types, so people can change house and stay in the same development/area
- Socially mixed housing to avoid ghettoization
- Eco-Housing like (Bray) Common Ground Eco-Housing Co-op
- Affordable – making passive houses a more attainable option
- Council houses
- Mixed developments in towns
- More rental properties and security of tenure and rent controls
- Sell boarded up Council houses
- please reserve land for Eco-housing / Co-housing pilot development
- Housing Crisis? We probable have enough housing accommodation spread throughout our towns and countryside to solve our crisis.
How do we plan to get this accommodation into use?
 1. Regulation blockages
 2. Incentives
 3. It is shameful and a failure of governance that we cannot devise a means of using so much empty accommodation all over the county.

Where and How should social housing be provided? *(info only gathered at Housing Seminar)*

- In communities
- Social Housing with tenancy support

- Built by LA's and AHB's. Managed by AHB's only

Economic Development and Employment

What measures can be put in place to ensure Wicklow is viewed as a more attractive employment base? *(Measures to attract employment and economic development, new ways of working, development of brownfield sites, sustainable rural development)*

- Affordable Childcare
- Transport Links
- Insurance Costs reduced
- Excelled Broadband Countywide. Some existing gaps West Wicklow, Ashford
- Affordable Housing, good housing choices
- Need critical Mass of people to provide employers with a big pool to draw their best staff and customer.
- High level educational institute
- More Shops
- A Hospital provides a wide range of jobs
- Shared Offices in every MD/town (plus lobby Dublin high tech)
- Make Dublin less attractive
- Reduce Rates and Rental Costs
- Recreation opportunities make Wicklow more attractive
- Zone commercial close to residential
- Won't attract jobs to Wicklow Town unless the town is made an attractive place with loads of pedestrianised and public space
- Create critical masses of people, cluster employment and residential accommodation
- Local transport to address rural isolation to shops
- Improved broadband and better local bus services
- Development of national road routes and link roads to motorways
- Stop scattering zoning like confetti and instead grow a critical mass in Wicklow town to that people turn around on the N11 and travel south for work.

Town and Village Centres and Retail

How can the County Development Plan improve retail vibrancy in Wicklow's towns and villages? *(Is there a shortage of retail in the County? How can retail spend be retained in the County?)*

- Encourage indigenous business – reduce rates
- L.E.T.S can be supported
- Pedestrianised shopping streets
- Rent upper floors of retail for residential
- Live over shop schemes

- Critical mass of consumers and retailers
- Broadband
- Focus on design of streetscapes
- Not allowing big outlets on the outskirts of towns. Keep in towns/villages
- Fairs and local markets and WW brand
- Parking an issue – research best practice and alternatives
- Decentralised parking with shuttle
- Incentives for small business/enterprises
- Tax unoccupied and derelict sites
- Centralise uses for the village e.g. Post office, community centre, garda station
- Charity shops to pay rates
- Increase public realm spaces
- Making streets safe and attractive to encourage pedestrians
- Encourage families to stay in the area i.e. Planning
- Public transport
- Provision of adequate parking and link buses
- Start-up business incentives by reducing rates and corporate profit tax for first 5 years.
- Set up rate reduction for start up business for 2/3 years.
- Special deals to expand trendy café's and health shops in WW (they go to Gorey and Dublin now)
- Need adequate parking facilities as close as possible to the Visitor Centre car park with access to it at a suitable location between Laragh and the junction to the Wicklow Gap road.
- Traffic calming measures need to be installed between Laragh and Glendalough, without using ramps.

Tourism and Recreation

Is there a need for more tourist facilities within the County? (If so, what is needed and where should they be located? *(without compromising our valuable resources including our scenic landscape and rich heritage)*)

- Joining up all walking and cycle trails to connect settlements
- Protect rivers – consider wildlife walks, swimming spots in river
- Walking and cycling routes
- Definitely need for recreation for locals
- Focus on locals not tourists (*4)
- Make green public accessible spaces
- Prioritising walkers and cyclists over cars
- More trails in West Wicklow
- More accommodation options for both small and large groups

- Make signposts etc accessible, visible, pointing the right way
- Wildlife trails for education value and recreation
- Look after the beauty of what we have and encourage people to enjoy it responsibly
- More hotels or accommodation facilities in smaller towns and villages
- Convert verges into cycle tracks
- Accommodation needed for groups
- Make sure green ways are green (like Wexford Green Way)
- Need to spread tourist gain across county – e.g. Glendalough over capacity
- Yes, for local employment
- Small local artisan attractions for smaller villages

Heritage

What aspects of Wicklow's heritage do you consider should be protected? *(Natural and Built environment)*

- Stop N11 Motorway
- Expand Green schools i.e. Explain/offer An Taisce Climate Ambassador Programme to every school
- The Uplands: overgrown heather, manage sheep numbers, allow controlled burning
- Protect our Coast
- The biodiversity in the sea is our heritage, it should be appreciated and protected. A breakdown of marine ecosystems will lead to the death of these ancient forms of life and a loss of the fish that feed on them and which we may also need to rely on for our food
- Negotiate access to old trails etc. Stop members of public suing
- Hedges, wall, street fences (old style)
- Protect rivers, wetlands and uplands from development and sheep (like Wexford)
- Open old mass paths and walkways
- Restore and keep old shopfronts in villages/town
- Stop developers letting old buildings to rack and ruin to overcome planning regulations. Enforce the regulations
- Unique villages character to be preserved
- Walls that are old should be maintained and/or re-built using the original materials
- Built heritage of Bray (ACA)
- Reinstate market squares for various users
- Protect the landscape (visual amenity) avoid forestry, large farms
- Need more rights of way (permissive access at least)
- Ensure that all sites of historical interest are preserved and accessible
- Protect greenway habitat to stay green
- Wicklow Climate and Biodiversity
- Review/Study of protected structures in the County

Community Development

Are there adequate facilities in the County to cater for all its citizens? (aging, children and young people, vulnerable groups etc.)

- No
- Need Community Centres like Kiltegan
- Better facilities for Traveller sites i.e. playgrounds
- Many small buses to connect settlements. Free transport cheaper than building roads
- Green play spaces for children e.g. Tree bark not rubber matting (*2)
- Doorstep recreation opportunities (trail) in every village
- Mixed development of housing to cater for different family types (Encourage older people to vacate larger houses)
- More space for Men's Sheds
- Youth Cafes, No name clubs, Community area with several rooms for activities, More Men's Sheds, Community Upcycling Centres. Facilities where everyone can interact. (*2)
- Home Care Packages (terminally ill) inaccessible to those that live in rural areas
- Funding to maintain community facilities and employ core staff
- Domestic violence shelters needed
- No proper (permanent) rough sleepers support function inc. Hostel
- Not enough Carbon sinks offshore and in-land measure and report it
- Core Funding for Community Development Projects
- Affordable Childcare
- Zone rivers for protection and parks (like Ashford Park)
- Innovative ideas from Europe on Intergenerational activities and accommodation
- Local Bus Services to give access to swimming pool, cinema, trains, airport buses, colleges and hospitals
- All age groups need to be asked what they want and be listened to
- Support development of Peer Advocacy Groups. For vulnerable group to build capacity over how to lobby to have needs met

Transport and Infrastructure

What transportation (cycling, public transport and private car), water and waste water improvements are needed throughout the County?

- Measure fresh water quality with LAW Pro. and EPA and volunteers
- Zone all rivers and wetlands for climate and biodiversity (like Wexford)
- Prioritise public transport – hubs for parking (park and ride)
- West Wicklow has no access to cinemas, hospitals, swimming pool, 3rd level colleges unless you drive or pay for taxis

- In the West of Wicklow, a bus service to access major centres – Naas, Carlow, Newbridge needed
- Public transport solution to reduce carbon and commute congestion on N11 and N81, Not more lanes
- Local Link shared School bus and cycle bus
- Commuter buses to City Centre or Luas (Citywest)
- 65 and 133 Bus never turns up and needs to be more regular
- Local bus routes connecting settlements
- Free Public transport
- Free/Good value regular public transport
- More Reed Bed and Natural waste water treatment
- Arklow Sewage Plan Urgent (*2)
- Proper improved infrastructure for Traveller halting sites
- Make decisions about local infrastructure locally
- To facilitate public transport on the N81 the County Council could expedite the planning permission for a bus stop (footpath with stop sign) at Hollywood (which has been in for planning for over a year), gain planning permission for and provide similar facilities at Stratford bridge (Building Bridge) , Whitestown and Annalecky, and introduce park & ride facilities along the route of the 132.
- Currently the 132 does not stop at the Building Bridge or Whitestown but it did in the distant past and if the County Council is serious about reducing car usage for environmental purposes the provision of extra stops along the way is important. It would also make the route more sustainable.
- The 132 has a spur to Carnew (via Baltinglass, Kiltegan, Tinahely) that travels only once a week. The County Council should "put in place the necessary policy framework to encourage and facilitate sustainable transport" on that supplemental route, and encourage Bus Éireann, or the National Transport Authority, to provide an expanded service to that area.

Appendix 2

The Global Goals, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are a **universal plan of action for**



people and planet to be achieved by the year 2030. These 17 goals aim to end poverty, combat climate change and ensure that we leave peaceful, just and equal societies for future generations.

These goals are **universal** in nature, applying to developed and developing countries alike, and place sustainable development at their core.

Connecting the Local to the Global

Working towards realising our community vision for wellbeing has a direct impact on achieving Ireland's targets for the sustainable development goals



Ireland's National Implementation Plan for the SDGs identifies the crucial role that Local Authorities have to play in translating the SDGs into practical action at local level. It identifies the Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) and the Strategic Committees (SPCs) as well as local plans as being especially well placed to integrate the SDGs into their activities. Social Justice Ireland in collaboration with the Irish Environmental Network, World Vision Ireland and ECO- UNESCO have set out a series of proposals for Local Authorities covering all 17 SDGS (see below). Co Wicklow PPN supports these proposals and encourages Wicklow County Council to consider and implement them. The full policy briefing can be found on the Social Justice Ireland website here:

<https://www.socialjustice.ie/content/policy-issues/sdgs-and-local-authorities-creating-sustainable-communities>

Local Authorities and the SDGs

Everyone has a role to play in supporting Ireland's progress towards the SDGs. Ireland's National Implementation Plan for the SDGs identifies the crucial role that Local Authorities have to play in translating the SDGs into practical action at local level. It identifies the Local Community Development Committees

(LCDCs) and the Strategic Committees (SPCs) as well as local plans as being especially well placed to integrate the SDGs into their activities. Here we set out a series of proposals for Local Authorities, covering all 17 SDGs, that could be included by Local Authorities and their LCDCs, SPCs in their development plans.

Table 1 Policy Proposals for Local Authorities

SDG Number	Policy Proposals	SDG Number	Policy Proposals
1 NO POVERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of social and affordable housing on State lands. Seek to replace the Local Property Tax with a Site Value Tax and increase the tax-take while including hardship measures for those who cannot afford to pay it in full. 	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise the full allocation for Traveller specific accommodation and support the development of sites for this purpose. Implement the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy.
2 NO HUNGER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide funding for research on local initiatives on sustainable food production. 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in a deep retrofitting programme for community spaces. Ringfence continued funding to encourage sports participation and active lifestyle programmes. Improve the primary road network across the country to support the increased provision of public transport.
3 GOOD HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the integration of primary care networks and GP led community healthcare services. 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate all single-use plastics from Local Authority buildings and public spaces. Develop open consultation on ambitious waste management plans beyond 2021. Adopt the principles of a circular economy, particularly for construction and demolition waste.
4 QUALITY EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance community education programmes and life-long learning through the library network. Ensure full implementation of the 'Our Public Libraries 2022' strategy and ensure that its implementation is inclusive and supportive of smaller branch libraries as a hub for local communities. 	13 CLIMATE ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in each Local Authority area, with the collaborative input of local communities and Public Participation Networks, supported by dedicated sustainable funding in the medium to long-term.
5 GENDER EQUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively promote gender equality in Local Authority elections and on Boards and Committees of strategic importance. Introduce family-friendly working hours and conditions for female councillors. 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put a plan in place to tackle pesticides in drinking water. Implement the 'Nature' programmes set out in the Climate Action Plan published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment.
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Drinking Water Safety Plan, following EPA Guidelines, for each public water supply identifying all potential risks and detailing mitigation and control measures. 	15 LIFE ON LAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in programmes to rewet the boglands. Implement the 'Nature' programmes set out in the Climate Action Plan published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment.
7 RENEWABLE ENERGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in renewable energy transition programmes for Local Authority offices and community spaces. 	16 PEACE AND JUSTICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a sustainable strategy for public participation, to include medium and long-term objectives and associated budget commitments; and a move from an annual funding model for PPNs to a 3-5 year renewable commitment.
8 GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the sustainability of jobs created through LEOs and develop plans to ensure the security of decent work. 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop strategic partnerships with Local Authorities and local government organisations, in Europe and Internationally, to support the implementation of the Goals.
9 INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedite the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan, commencing with those with the largest proportion of premises dependent on it. 		

Social Justice Ireland is an independent think tank and justice advocacy organisation that advances the lives of people and communities through providing independent social analysis and effective policy development to create a sustainable future for every member of society and for society as a whole.

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