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**What area does your submission relate to?**

Core Strategy

**Your comments**

Please see attached

**Created On**

2020-01-09

### **Compact Growth**

Aim to make towns more self-sustaining by ensuring there is sufficient employment opportunities, recreational facilities, social services and retail outlets. Ensure connectivity and easy access. Keep people in their local area. Develop a critical mass.

### **Climate Change, Flooding & Coastal Zone Management**

See Compact growth – this will reduce the need for private transport and will benefit the environment. Key to this is public transport and excellent connectivity

Ensure that protecting biodiversity and our natural landscape is central to all plans, policies and decision making.

Plan to encourage and increase local food production

Prioritise sustainable coastal defences so that our coastal landscape e.g. The Murrugh is protected and maintained

### **Housing**

There is a housing crisis. Social and affordable housing must be provided as a matter of urgency.

There needs to be a realistic definition of “affordable housing” The local authority must work more with housing associations such as O Cualann Co-housing Alliance and provide land for house building. In particular the local authority needs to look at land that is not in use and being used as a dumping ground or for bonfires e.g. Ballyguile Housing estate in Wicklow Town.

Housing needs to be provided in a holistic way to support the most vulnerable in society to have a safe and secure place to live e.g. older people, people with disabilities (physical and mental), Travellers, refugees.

### **Town & Village Centres & Retail**

See Compact growth

Develop and implement legislation that will invigorate vacant and derelict sites. Discourage traffic and/or ensure decent traffic management. Increase public transport connectivity. Develop real jobs in maintenance and care for our towns and environment

### **Heritage**

Ensure that all planning and decision-making processes prioritises the protection of our natural and build heritage. Provide resources that will preserve and promote our social heritage, and history (including our craftsmanship and skills)

### **Transport**

Plan to make private transport increasingly less necessary. In the first instance by significantly improving opportunities and connectivity of public transport and secondly by developing self-sustaining communities.

