

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2020 09:22
To: 'Zofia Howell'
Subject: RE: Submission re. Wicklow County Development Plan (CDP)

A Chara,

I wish to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your submission regarding the County Development Plan review.

Mise le meas,

[REDACTED]
Planning, Development and Environment.

From: Zofia Howell [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 January 2020 16:57
To: Planning - Plan Review
Subject: Submission re. Wicklow County Development Plan (CDP)

Submission re. Wicklow County Development Plan (CDP)

To: planreview@wicklowcoco.ie

From: *KRA Renewables, Slanelough, Ashford, Co. Wicklow*

Dear Administrative Officer, Forward Planning, Wicklow County Council,

It is vital that we continue to strengthen our sustainable development planning for our future Wicklow wellbeing, especially now in the midst of a worldwide Climate and Biodiversity Emergency. Please prioritise the following principles in the upcoming plan:

Overall / Governance:

- Change the title of the CDP to the CSDP County Sustainable Development Plan. This simple step increases stakeholder awareness and signals collaborative leadership ambition.
- Set policy that all development must thoroughly assess Climate and Biodiversity impact before being given permission, and that all granted developments MUST include explicit biodiversity preservation measures as a matter of course.
- Strengthen Forward Planning / Scenario Planning for community and ecosystem resilience and well-being, e.g. 20 year plan and 100 year plan for Wicklow and the wider region.
- Include indicators that can facilitate monitoring that measures wellbeing / quality of life.

Population / Housing Planning:

- Concentrate population growth in the 4 main towns and only very limited growth (10%) in villages. For planning purposes, any car-dependant house must provide EV charging for at least 1 electric car.
- Only zone land for housing where it has access to public transport and do not build commuter housing that is car dependant.
- Build estates that are pedestrian- and cyclist-friendly with very high quality housing (low energy and low water use). Where car parking spaces are needed, locate these in one shared, separate area, not distributed beside every house.
- Ensure high density housing has good access to well designed public open space, as well as areas left as "wild" and allowed to revert to their natural state.
- Include guidelines for community gardens/allotments in towns and villages.
- Prioritise and pilot Eco-housing / Co-housing for sustainable shared resource use and community formation.
- Zone for Windfarms / Community Renewable Energy development, and remove planning restrictions for installation of rooftop solar photovoltaic/thermal in residential developments.

Transport:

- Plan for sustainable Wicklow Public Transport and adopt ambitious targets for increase in public transport usage and reduction in private (especially single-use commuting) transport usage. Increase scale and frequency of public transport into Dublin, and incentivise public transport usage (provide a consistent service, free parking and low-cost services).

Environment / Heritage:

- Strengthen the awareness and protection of the Glen O'the Downs Nature Reserve, the jewel in the crown of Wicklow nature. Set policy to re-connect the largely-forgotten Western section of the Glen nature reserve and re-connect it to the Eastern section via a number of green bridges. Please identify the complete Three Trouts Stream River System – the ancient lifeline which created and still flows through the Glen - as a County Wicklow (Climate and Biodiversity) nature reserve and prioritise it for awareness, protection, environmental monitoring, and restoration / re-wilding wherever possible.
- Identify & zone all Wicklow River Corridors & Wetlands for Protection (Waterford last 2 County Development Plans give a good example).
- Study the creation a "Land reserved for nature including Climate & Biodiversity Natural Solutions" zone type, and zone other uplands as well as the Rivers/Wetlands.
- Make more use of dark sky zones and quiet zones.
- Protect rivers, wetlands, trees, hedgerows and ecological networks.

- Consider sustainable agriculture and zone good quality soils on the edge of towns.

Retail:

- There is sufficient large retail infrastructure in Wicklow. Prioritise and encourage local town- and village -centre retail and self-sufficient, resilient communities.

Kind Regards,

Zofia Howell

Creative Director / Director of Marketing and Development

For and on behalf of



KRA Visionary Project Partners

E11a Network Enterprise Park, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow.

Tel: +353 (0)1 2819158



We Support The Goals



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