

From: Garrett O'Dowd [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 October 2017 00:59
To: National Planning Framework

This submission is made to ensure that Drogheda and its environs of South Louth and East Meath, should be recognised as a city and given its own autonomy and Town Council to allow it to develop.

Drogheda is a natural growth center due to its proximity to Dublin and Belfast. The Belfast-Dublin rail and M1 corridor as well as our proximity to Dublin Airport makes Drogheda a considerable area of attraction and must be given support to develop employment and settlement in turn making them more attractable to Foreign Direct Investment.

The frame work should include Drogheda for the following.

Transport

Drogheda and Dundalk benefit strongly from the Belfast-Dublin Enterprise Service there should be more enterprise services added daily to promoting enterprise and Tourism.

Introducing a Bike Scheme like the ones in Cork, Dublin, Limerick, Galway and Belfast. Allowing users to avail of greenways and travel the environs in an Eco Friednly manner.

Develop Northern Cross route road in Drogheda and the feasibility of a second Bridge for traffic on the Viaduct Side of town Towards Mornignton.

Extension of dart service to Drogheda, reducing costs of commuting, decreasing the need for cars, and offering a better solution for workers traveling from Dublin region to Drogheda.

Proper Local bus infrastructure to large local offices and areas of employment to prevent traffic congestion.

Eradication of the towns toll roads.

Office Space and Enterprise

There should be permanent office space for Start Up companies and SME's like the Millmount Development Centre which was recently closed having being supported by the regional development centre.

Local enterprise offices should be supported in any town with a population over 15000.

Office space and in particular co-working office space for small business owners is the way of the future and each town in Ireland should be provided one in the their centre.

Living Area and Settlement Infrastructure In Drogheda the Docklands area should be seen for its potential to accommodate much of the anticipated population growth like Dublin and Cork Docklands they represent outstanding opportunities for high quality urban development.

This will only come to fruition if significant public infrastructure investment is placed here. It would offer excellent housing and employment especially with its proximity to the local beaches and Golf Courses like Baltray, Seapoint and Bettystown as well as the potential in making designated Greenways for the Boyneside trail which has worked so well in Waterfords Greenway.

Particular emphasis should be placed on the regeneration and upgrading of town centres, city centres and inner urban areas throughout the country as a focus point for living and employment and this would mean including Drogheda into the Living city intivative and developing its docklands.

Drogheda would benefit greatly with a 3rd level institution for its growing population allowing students the chance to live and learn in Drogheda.

I do wish that these will be considered.

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Best Regards
Garrett O'Dowd

