

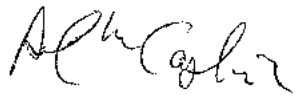
SUBMISSION TO NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

I refer to the draft of the National Planning Framework and welcome the opportunity to contribute to same. The draft effectively characterises Drogheda as a small town however, I propose that Drogheda and its greater regions be counted as one single area and be designated as a city for the purposes for the National Planning Framework.

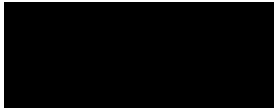
Drogheda and its regions has a population in excess of 83,000 people. It has great social and economic assets with significant potential for development. It has tremendous opportunities in the tourism industry with natural assets in the Boyne Valley and its historic monuments. Situated as it is, on the north south corridor with access to Drogheda port and to rail and road services, Drogheda has the capacity to be a substantial economic centre in the northeast region generating significant employment in the area. However, Drogheda needs the city status structure to which it is entitled and the consequent investment that would follow to develop these assets to their full potential. Such developments would accord with some of the key elements already set out in the draft plan. It would facilitate better regional distribution of growth and investment and help to create an environment where people will be able to live closer to where they work.

Drogheda's full physical scale and population size including its regions needs to be accurately characterised and presented as a city to allow for appropriate future planning, development and resources allocation.

Yours faithfully,



PAUL McCASHIN



8th November 2017