



**Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council**

Planning Department
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
COLERAINE
BT52 1EY

npf@housing.gov.ie

Date: 10th November 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Ireland 2040 'Our Plan': Draft National Planning Framework (NPF).

Further to the publication of the NPF, I presented a paper to the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCG) Planning Committee on Wednesday 25th October 2017, where it was agreed that I would respond on behalf of CCG.

I wish to make the following comments:

Firstly, CCG welcomes the fact that the Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 will provide a legislative basis for the NPF, its monitoring and review into the future, and the establishment of the Office of the Planning Regulator (an independent monitoring role).

The NPF acknowledges a unique and evolving relationship with Northern Ireland (NI). The overarching national strategic outcome highlights that cooperation and joint development of cross-border areas will be important post Brexit to maximise the potential of the island economy.

The NPF acknowledges the role of the North-West City Region focused on the Derry City and Strabane District Council area, one of this Borough's adjoining Councils.

However, CCG Planning Department has also been involved in a number of cross border meetings and workshops with both Derry City & Strabane District and Donegal County Council. This has highlighted the benefit of this collaborative and joined up working and CCG would wish to see this continue to grow. It has also identified a number of common issues, including the following:

- Education (LYIT & Ulster University Coleraine Campus);
- Employment;
- Retailing;
- Tourism (the Wild Atlantic Way, leading to the Causeway Coastal Route);
- Transportation (common ferry – Magilligan to Greencastle);
- Marine/Coastal; and
- Environmental protection (common water body – Lough Foyle).

Telephone: 028 7034 7137

Email: planning@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

CCG has also responded to the public consultation on the Draft County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024.

CCG notes that the NPF growth strategy is supported by a series of National Policy Objectives (NPOs) and National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs). The following NSOs relate to NI, including our Borough:

- Sustainable Mobility;
- A strong Digital Economy; and
- Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources.

CCG also notes the following NPOs directly relate to, or have the potential to impact on, NI, including this Borough:

NPO 45	Work with the relevant Departments in NI for mutual advantage in areas such as spatial planning, economic development and promotion, co-ordination of social and physical infrastructure provision and environmental protection and management.
NPO 46	In co-operation with relevant Departments in NI, to further support and promote the sustainable economic potential of the Dublin-Belfast Corridor and enhance its international visibility.
NPO 47	Promote the development of the North West City Region as interlinked areas of strategic importance in the North-West of Ireland, through collaborative structures and a joined up approach to spatial planning.
NPO 48	Support enhanced public transport connectivity between large urban areas in Ireland and NI.
NPO 49	Strengthen all-island energy infrastructure and interconnection capacity to enhance security of electricity supply.
NPO 50	Develop a stable, innovative and secure digital communications and services infrastructure on an island basis.
NPO 51	Support the coordination and promotion of all-island tourism initiatives through continued cooperation between the relevant tourism agencies and Tourism Ireland.
NPO 52	Ensuring effective management of shared landscapes, heritage, water catchments, habitats, species and trans-boundary issues in relation to environmental policy.
NPO 53	In co-operation with the United Kingdom Government and devolved Governments of NI, Scotland and Wales, Ireland will support mutually beneficial development in the areas of spatial and infrastructure planning and other related areas.
NPO 70	Ensure that all plans, projects and activities requiring consent arising from the National Planning Framework are subject to the relevant environmental assessment requirements including SEA, EIA and AA as appropriate.

Telephone: 028 7034 7137

Email: planning@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Given the common issues identified and the potential impact on this Borough (not just Derry City and Strabane District), CCG consider that this should be made explicit in the NPF.

CCG also consider that the NPF should be based on robust and up to date evidence. It should be suitably flexible so that it may be amended, should the monitoring and review process identify areas for action, and to ensure that it remains fit for purpose into the future.

Yours sincerely

p.p. S. Mulhern

Denise Dickson
Head of Planning

