From: Alan Hand

Sent: 16 March 2017 23:00

To: National Planning Framework Subject: Development of the Midlands

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Hi my name is Alan Hand and I am from Tullamore, I would like to submit a proposal for the Midlands Gateway strategy to be retained for Athlone Tullamore and Mullingar. I suggest that we leave politics out of the equation, the Midlands is a natural hub to develop outside our main city of Dublin, because we have all the starter ingredients for such a exciting time for our country. Dublin has been developing at a rapid rate in the last century and is out of control again, as it was in the early years of this century, there is life outside the M 50. We in the Midlands, our time has come to tap into future and further well planned development, for all to benefit from, rather than just urban sprawl. Athlone, to be fair is ahead of both Mullingar and Tullamore in terms of Development, but don't forget they have a huge amount to offer as places to work and live in we have Access by motorway and by rail access to excellent hospitals, and many other facilities, that makes our communities so vibrant the seeds we sown in 2002 I feel we have to stick with our vision, and continue to develop and build on what we have, and we will have a gateway to be proud of. My town of Tullamore has so much to offer its a wonderful place to live in, fabulous community spirit, which you don't get in Hugh cities, I feel like Mullingar and Athlone have the same, amenities like the Shannnon the Mountains the Lakes its not all about huge developments, it's all about quality of life, for all our people, hopefully we will all get a bit off the cherry, and look back in 20 years and be able to say we did the right thing. I Would at this stage like to say I would have a vested interest in Tullamore as we would have made submissions in the past, regarding "The Grand canal quarter Project" Here's hoping the right decision will be made. Best of luck to all that has to make this decisions for our lives and our childrens, and there childrens. Thanking you, Regards,