

CUFFE 2024 09 National Planning Framework

Submission by Ciarán Cuffe to the National Planning Framework

12 September 2024

Dear Madam/Sir,

I ask that you take the following into account in the preparation of the National Planning Framework:

1. Focus on sufficiency, rather than unlimited growth in the Plan
2. Put in place a detailed national land-use plan, such as the Netherlands approach that provides more specificity than current Irish plans.
3. Ensure that the plan is aligned with our climate plan and makes strong progress in the medium term towards the EU's net-zero goal of 2050.
4. Place a major focus on the decarbonisation of the built environment by investing in the retrofitting of our building stock, and front-load the retrofitting of social housing
5. Ensure that most of the new development is located within walking distance of public transport, with a major emphasis on rail-based transport.
6. Ensure Development Plans do not overly contribute to traffic growth by ensuring that mixed-use development is mandated.
7. Place a major emphasis on the re-use of existing under-used buildings, particularly heritage buildings in our village, town, and city centres.
8. Put in place an inter-Departmental Committee that is mandated to ensure that Government bodies and Departments such as the HSE and the Department of Education align their infrastructure investments to the National Planning Framework:
9. Invest heavily in the upgrading of the National Grid to ensure that electrification can be adequately incorporated into the State's decarbonisation plans.
10. Enhance the role and powers of Local and Regional Authorities in delivering the Plan.

Many thanks for taking my views into consideration

Ciarán Cuffe