

Minutes of Planning & Support Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the zoom platform on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 at 4 p.m.

**In Attendance**

Cllr. Maria Doyle	Louth County Council
Cllr. Edel Corrigan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Hugh Conlon	Louth County Council
Cllr. Antoin Watters	Louth County Council
John Morgan	Social Inclusion

**Officials**

Frank Pentony, Director of Services  
Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner  
John O' Hagan, Senior Engineer  
Turlough King, Senior Executive Planner  
Alan Sherry, Senior Executive Officer

**Minutes of Meeting**

Minutes of the Planning & Support Infrastructure SPC meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 were proposed by Cllr. Edel Corrigan and second by Cllr. Maria Doyle.

**Matters arising from SPC meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020**

The question raised by Cllr. Edel Corrigan from the previous SPC meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 as to whether or not Cross Border matters falls within the remit of this SPC, Cllr. Maria Doyle advised it did not.

**Presentation on Review of County Development Plan by Joanna Kelly, Senior Planner**

Joanna Kelly gave a presentation on the review of the County Development Plan. She advised the meeting that the Draft Plan is now on public display and will remain on display for 10 weeks. The meeting was informed that there are two new chapters in the draft plan namely Chapter 6 – Tourism and Chapter 12 Climate Action. Louth is now in the Eastern & Midlands Region. Drogheda and Dundalk have been identified as regional growth centres and towns are now re-classified due to population growth and employment.

**Questions - Antoin Watters**

Cllr. Antoin Watters asked the Senior Planner what Louth County Council's position was on people living in Zone 1 buying old houses and refurbishing them and its position on living on-site in mobile homes while house is being refurbished?

Senior Executive Planner, Turlough King, advised that there is no exemption in the Planning & Development Regulations for placing mobile homes on site while a house is being built/refurbished. He advised the planning authority could at the time of granting planning permission, attach a condition to a planning permission allowing for a mobile home to be placed on-site during construction/refurbishment.

Cllr. Antoin Watters also enquired about replacement dwellings in Zone 1 and the criteria surrounding same. Joanna Kelly outlined to the meeting the criteria for replacement dwellings as provided for in the draft Plan.

The Senior Planner advised the meeting that the deadline for submissions on the Draft Plan was noon on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2020 and that anyone, including children may make a submission.

#### **Questions – Cllr. Antoin Watters**

Cllr. Antoin Watters asked how many submissions have been made so far on the Draft Development Plan?

Turlough King advised him 5 submissions have been made to-date but a much higher volume is expected closer to the end of the submission period.

#### **Questions – Cllr. Hugh Conlon**

Cllr. Hugh Conlon asked the Senior Planner if Councillors can get involved on behalf of members of the public/community groups and if development can take place within 100 metres of the shoreline.

The Senior Planner informed him that Councillors are considered members of the public so they can make submissions.

Turlough King advised that there is a policy which requires all development within 100 metres of the coast at the minute outside of the settlement centres and in Zone 3 to submit a coastal erosion report. The draft Plan also has a similar policy regarding the submission of a coastal erosion report.

#### **Question -John Morgan**

John Morgan asked what percentage of public/private housing is proposed in the Draft Plan?

The Senior Planner advised that the plan includes a housing strategy, which was prepared by Consultants. This provides a housing needs demand assessment for the lifetime of the plan. It was noteworthy that 30% of people would not be able to afford a mortgage.

John Morgan advised the meeting of a proposal in the 1980s to have a greenway between Dundalk and Blackrock but an objection was made due to its proximity to the military barracks and private property.

The Senior Engineer, John O' Hagan advised that in terms of the Greenway, Louth County Council are working with the Office of Public Works in preparing for Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management (CFRAM) and a Greenway will be looked at in conjunction with this defence project. With

regard to its closeness to Dundalk Barracks and the Red Barns Road, consultants have been appointed and will be releasing monthly update on this.

Cllr. Maria Doyle commended the staff of Louth County Council on work done on the Draft Development Plan to-date. She advised members if anyone wanted to make a submission on the Draft Development Plan, they should contact the Senior Planner on this.

Cllr. Maria Doyle suggested this SPC meet again before deadline for submissions expires. She suggested the next meeting date be set for the 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at 4 p.m.

### **Any Other Business**

Minutes of meeting will be forwarded to all members with the Agenda. If anyone wishes to have anything raised at the next meeting they should contact Cllr. Maria Doyle in order for it to be added to the Agenda.

Director of Services, Frank Pentony advised the meeting that a quorum must be achieved before meetings can proceed.