

Niall Cussen
National Planning Framework
Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government
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01 November 2017

Dear Mr Cussen,

RE: Public Consultation on the Draft National Planning Framework 2017

The Council welcomes the publication of the draft National Planning Framework. An effective planning framework will be crucial to addressing climate change in Ireland both to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change.

The Council appreciates the emphasis in the draft National Planning Framework on renewing and developing existing built-up areas rather than continued expansion and sprawl of cities and towns into the country-side. This reduces the overall demand for transport, while also making delivery of public transport more efficient and enabling more people to choose walking and cycling. The integration of spatial and transport planning will be particularly useful.

The Council also welcomes the specific attention given to climate change and sustainable energy. In this respect the Council would like to see the Draft National Planning Framework explicitly aligned with the National Policy Position on climate change and the Energy White Paper.

The Council notes that the benefits of a National Planning Framework will come from robust implementation. In this regard, the Council notes that the effectiveness of the National Planning Framework will be determined by the extent to which the Capital Plan aligns with and supports the framework.

Should you wish to clarify any of the points above, please contact myself directly or Claire Camilleri at the Climate Change Advisory Council's Secretariat C.Camilleri@epa.ie or phone 01 2680145.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. John FitzGerald

Chair

Climate Change Advisory Council