

Submission No: 167.

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Sent: 16 November 2020 15:58
To: forwardplan
Subject: Pre Draft Submission to Clare County Development Plan (CDP) 2022 - 2028

Key Town designation are based on criteria set out in the National Planning Framework 2040 .
Policy background.

In the Southern Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES) RPO 11 deals with the 12
planning objectives of the 14 Key Towns in the Southern region.

Submission

All 12 detailed objectives of Southern RSES RPO 11 should be incorporated in any future draft CCDP
2022-2028 for ; including following

- (1) plan for 30% population growth in Ennis
- 2) Holistic Infrastructure investments to deliver sustainable growth (see appendix B)
- 3) Local transport plan
- 4) Social inclusion , revitalized town centre , high level of environmental quality & sustainable
Neighborhoods
- 5) place making including high quality public realm & urban renewal
- 6) sustainable tourism
- 7) life long learning ,incl additional secondary school - enterprise hubs
- 8) Niche & independent retailing
- 9) environmental proofing of projects
- 10) Polycentric development with Limerick Metropolitan Area (Appendix B)
- 11) Reservoir , water & wastewater upgrades
- 12) new water sources needed - Castlake supply

In addition.

Vacant Commercial & domestic property strategy urgently needed.

Population target 33,000 (current 25,000)
Job target. 16,000 (Current 10,000)

Appendix A

Ennis infrastructure Capital funding needs for next 10 years ie to 2030.



Clare has 2 1/2 of national population and with promised €100Billion (€1000 Million) 10 year capital plan due to be announced soon. Clare should be fighting for a target of €2.5B capital. Within that Ennis MD area should be targeting a 1/3 of that.

Being realistic let's accept 60% of target figure by 2030 in what which appears to be a period of projected improved Government funding ie around €550 M for Ennis MD by 2030

The Draft NPF 2040 diagram 5.2 "Hierarchy of Settlements and Related Infrastructure

In particular with the NPF 2040 is going to have statutory Legislative backing with significant funding secured starting with upcoming 10 year NIP which Ennis needs ;

1. Rail - € 1M for accessibility lifts at station & €10m to resolve Ballycar Flooding.
2. Climate Adaptation- €40m to move Flood barage at Clarcastle downstream
3. Health . €100 M to provide a 24 hr A&E Hospital as required in NPF 2040 diagram 5.2 "Hierarchy of Settlements and Related Infrastructure
4. Town bus service - €5 M
5. Water & Waste - €25M = WWTP at Clare abbey & new Water reservoirs & connect to Castlekake WS (Sixmilebridge) as backup.
6. Enterprise - €10 M invest at IAP Gort Road
7. Roads - €10M for Park & Ride at outskirts & €10m for 1000 carparking in town Centre ; €10M M18 link to Quin Road & Parking in freight yard at East of Bus Station ; €25 M - outer & Inner Relief roads.
7. Public realm - €15 M upgrade public spaces at the Square , Parnel St , Historic lanes project , Barrack St , Friary Carpark P.O. field
- 8 Education - €50M for pop growth of need primary post primary & real or virtual 3/4/5th level campus .
9. Housing - €250M for building 1500 new social housing

Total minimum infrastructure € 550 M over next 10 + years. This would support the growth of Ennis up to 2030. (note for comparison the recently opened M18 extension Gort to Tuam cost €550).

Appendix B

Proposal of Polycentric relationship between Ennis , Shannon & Limerick

Grow population & jobs across the 30 mile box shaped "Thomond Centre " of **Ennis , Shannon & Limerick .**

Provide infrastructure and spatial planning policies in the National Planning Framework in order by 2040 to achieve high marks across the three crucial criteria ;

- A. Urban settlement.
- B. Accessibility.
- C. Territorial Cooperation.

Polycentric Territorial Structures and Territorial Cooperation - Espon



October 2016 - Polycentricity is a concept that encourages regions and cities, working with neighbouring territories, to explore common strengths and reveal potential complementarities, which brings added value that cannot be achieved by the individual regions and cities in isolation. Importantly, a polycentric approach allows for joining existing assets in order to increase their competitive power, efficiency of using limited resources by avoiding duplicating roles and functions and bringing more benefits for local inhabitants using the combined resource potential.

Rather than attempting to change the existing settlement patterns some of which cannot be altered (like continuous urbanisation), the Policy Brief suggests that policy-makers at different scales should strive for increasing flows and interactions among places in order to boost their competitiveness and bring more benefits to their inhabitants through combining existing assets and resources. Making Europe more polycentric requires taking strategic advantage of existing regional diversity and further strengthening territorial cooperation and governance in order to target investments and reduce regional disparities. The Policy Brief builds on existing evidence produced by ESPON highlighting the polycentric development potential in Europe and it is guided by questions on:

- *why* polycentric territorial cooperation matters?
- *where* polycentric structures can be found in Europe and where there are potentials for more polycentric development through territorial cooperation?
- *how* policy-makers at different territorial scales should engage in and support territorial cooperation arrangements to further enhance polycentric settlement structures in the EU?

Based on these questions the Policy Brief attempts to provide considerations on a potential EU Territorial Reference Framework which could support relevant policy processes, such as the update of the EU Territorial Agenda post 2020.

Regards

Johnny Flynn, Cllr

