

ANNEX B – Response Pro-forma

Name: ADRIAN HUGHES

Address: The Glen, Monaghan,

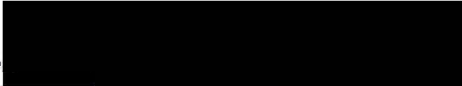
Original Representation Reference Number: MUDPS/22 (for administrative use only)

Please tick the applicable box below.

a) I confirm that I wish for my original representation to be considered as my representation.

b) I confirm that I wish to amend or add to my original representation.

c) I confirm that I wish for my original representation to be withdrawn and that I no longer wish to make a representation.

Signature: ..  **..**

Date: 21.05.2020 **.....**

If you require assistance when completing the above, please contact developmentplan@midulstercouncil.org

Please ensure you return this completed Pro forma (along with any additional documents if you have ticked [b]) above) to Development Plan Team, Planning Department, Mid Ulster District Council, 50 Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt, BT45 6EN, by 5pm on 21st May 2020.



Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin Monaghan County Council

Acmhainní Daonna
Human Resources
047 30586

Airgeadas
Finance
047 30589

Na Bóithre
Roads
047 30597

Clár na dTogthóirí
Register of Electors
047 30551

Comhshaol
Environment
042 9661240

Na hEalaíona
Arts
047 38162

Iasachtaí /Deontais Tithíochta
Housing Loans/Grants
047 30527

Leabharlann an Chontae
County Library
047 74700

Mótarcháin
Motor Tax
047 81175

Músaem an Chontae
County Museum
047 82928

Pleanáil
Planning
047 30532

Pobal
Community
047 73719

Rialú Dóiteáin/Foirgnimh
Fire/Building Control
047 30521

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
047 71818

Seirbhísí Uisce
Water Services
047 30504/30571

Environment and Conservation Team

Planning Department,

Mid Ulster District Council,

Council Offices,

50 Ballyronan Road

Magherafelt

BT45 6EN

Date: 15/04/2019

Being dealt with by email

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Consultation on Local Development Mid Ulster District Council Draft Plan Strategy 2030 and SA/SEA Environmental Report.

I refer to the above consultation received on 27th February 2019.

As you will be aware from Cross-Border Forum meetings and the draft Statement of Common Ground many of the challenges facing Mid Ulster are similar to those identified in our Council area. Having reviewed the draft documents and supporting evidence base it is considered that the planning policies put forward in your draft Plan Strategy are an appropriate response to these challenges.

Monaghan Council would like to offer observations on the following key areas of common interest.

Connectivity - Road linkages & Broadband

Monaghan's new County Development Plan 2019-2025 recently came into effect on the 1st April 2019. A key objective of our plan is to realise Monaghan's potential in the context of its strategic location along the border, adjacent to the eastern economic corridor and to improve linkages and communications with neighbouring counties. It is noted that

Fáilteonn an tÚdarás Áitiúil roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.

Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin, Oifig an Chontae, An Gleann, Muineachán, Éire.

Monaghan County Council, Council Offices, The Glen, Monaghan, Ireland.

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✉ eolas@monaghancoco.ie info@monaghancoco.ie

improving infrastructure is also a key theme of the draft Mid Ulster Plan Strategy. Improving road linkages and road infrastructure is a key economic driver for ensuring that connections across Ireland, north and south, are utilised to mutual advantage. The N2-A5 is of particular economic importance to the central border region and it is acknowledged that Mid Ulster Council will continue to lobby for improvements to this key transport corridor.

Like Mid Ulster, rural parts of Monaghan suffer from poor telecommunications capability in comparison to urban areas. It is considered that the existence of a high quality and sustainable telecommunications network is vital to the continued growth of the economy and an improved quality of life. Monaghan Council therefore supports the approach of Mid Ulster's draft Plan Strategy which seeks to facilitate telecommunications infrastructure to enable an increase in the use of broadband and mobile data in order to address the urban / rural imbalance, whilst keeping the impact on the environment to a minimum.

Sensitive Landscapes

Council notes Mid Ulster's approach to environmental protection and in particular Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) 10 and related environmental policies. You will recall from the cross-border forum how general consensus was reached on the need to protect our most sensitive areas from inappropriate development. This is particularly important in the context of Slieve Beagh, which is an area of significant nature conservation interest straddling both our council areas. Slieve Beagh carries various national and international designations (RAMSAR, SPA, SAC, ASSI, NHA) and is defined as an Area of Primary Amenity within the Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025. In this context, the introduction of a Special Countryside Area, an Area of Constraint on Wind Turbines and High Structures and an Area of Minerals Constraint, wherein development will be restricted subject to meeting limited criteria, is welcome.

Heritage and Tourism

In terms of the shared interests of heritage and tourism, Policies HE 15 Industrial Heritage Assets and TRAN 2 Disused Transport Routes are noted, given their cross-border dimension in the context of the Ulster Canal and the Great Northern Railway. It is important that these heritage assets are safeguarded from development that would prejudice their future restoration or development, while at the same time recognising

their potential for recreational, nature conservation or tourism uses. This policy approach is consistent with the approach taken by Monaghan County Council.

SA/SEA Environmental Report.

Monaghan County Council notes the thorough examination of potential significant environmental effects of draft plan policies, and their reasonable alternatives, as contained in the SA/SEA Environmental report. It is also noted that it is anticipated that the implementation of plan policies, will not result in significant negative effects, either individually or cumulatively, and will mainly result in positive effects. Monaghan County Council would also concur with the overall findings of the Transboundary Screening exercise (Appendix 8) i.e. that the emerging Plan Strategy is not likely to have significant transboundary environmental effects. Overall, it is considered that the emerging Plan strategy has had regard to, and is not in conflict with, the Monaghan County Development Plan 2019-2025 in relation to cross border issues of mutual interest.

Conclusion

Monaghan Council look forward to continuing engagement with your council and in cooperating on planning matters of mutual benefit. Such consultation can take place at the legislative key stages as well as through input provided at cross border forum meetings.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please do not hesitate in contacting me.



Adrian Hughes

Senior Planner