

Submission No: 172

From: Eamon Keane [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 November 2020 15:59
To: forwardplan
Subject: Clare County Development plan 2022/2028

A chara,



I welcome the opportunity to make the following submission.

The Development Plan for 2022-2028 should prioritize the transition to a climate neutral future. Our built environment strategy must enable us to meet our commitments and obligations under the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change. It should build on Clare County Council's Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024.

The Local Authority must demonstrate best practice and lead the way for others in setting and achieving ambitious carbon neutral standards for buildings.

Refurbishment of the existing building stock should be encouraged and incentivized before new build is considered.

New local authority buildings should be designed and built for a projected lifespan of at least 100 years.

Ecologically sustainable construction methods should be prioritized. The energy used in operation and maintenance over the lifetime of the building should be considered in the early design stages and in the choice of heating and cooling systems.

The Plan should consider adopting the Passive House standard for all future local authority owned buildings including housing stock. Existing buildings owned by the local authority in need of refurbishment should be upgraded to the EnerPHit standard.

Adequately sized solar panel arrays for electricity generation and solar hot water collectors should be a requirement for all local authority projects to reduce energy bills and reliance on the national grid. Any surplus energy generated could be sold back to the grid.

In order for the above to be economically feasible the authority should take the long-term view in terms of investment outlay, savings made and payback times.

Charging points for electric and hybrid vehicles should be provided for in public car parks with the possibility of extending in the future.

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Eamon Keane
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