

Minutes of Meeting of Planning & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held on Tuesday 24th October 2017 at 10.00a.m. in Templemore/ Thurles Municipal District Offices, Castle Avenue, Thurles.

Present: In the Chair - Cllr. Michael O'Meara
Councillors – Micheál Anglim, Joe Bourke, Denis Leahy, David Dunne.
Tom Gallahue.

In Attendance: Dave Carroll, Acting Director of Services
Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Planner
Sonja Reidy, Senior Executive Planner
Brian Clancy, Administrative Officer

Apologies: Cllrs. John Carroll, Ger Darcy, Martin Browne. Richard Long, Lyn Mather, Brian Beck, Caroline Conway.

1. Minutes of last meeting held on 5th September 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr. D. Leahy, seconded by Tom Gallahue and agreed.

2. Update on Draft National Planning Framework

Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Planner gave a presentation to the Meeting on the Draft National Planning Framework and replied to queries raised. The principal points were as follows:-

Ireland in 2040: ERSI Predictions

- 20% increase of 2016 population + 1 million by 2040 = 5.75 million.
- >65 age will double to 1.3 million or 23% of total.
- Half a million new houses required.
- 660,000 new jobs required
- 7 out of 10 households in the state consist of 3 people or less – this trend is likely to continue.

New Spatial Structure

- 5 cities will accommodate 50% of all national growth – Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick & Waterford
- Northern, Western + Southern Regions combined grow at comparable rates to Eastern and Midland
- Renewal of existing built up areas is the focus – 50% in cities / 30% elsewhere
- Large Towns Over 10,000 people - Regional Drivers.

- New Definition of Rural
- Target growth of towns and villages by re developing derelict and under-utilised land.

New Legislation and Implementation

NPF will be underpinned by **legislation** and independent **office for Planning Regulation**.

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies: follow through to regional and local level Statutory **Metropolitan Area Strategic Planning:** Strategic Plans for five Cities and their surrounds as a whole (“more strategic and co-ordinated planning of our cities and large towns across local authority boundaries”)

National Investment Plans – 10 year capital investment plans.

Key levers – more comprehensive “Core Strategies”, prioritised land zoning to include estimate of service cost, better linked to investment; Active Land Management

National Agency for Active Land Management to assemble priority urban sites.

National Policy Objective	Eastern and Midland 2040	Southern 2040	Northern and Western 2040
Growing Our Regions	+ 475,000-500,000 (2.8m total) +330,000 jobs (1.33m total)	+350,000-375,000 people (2m total) +220,000 jobs (880,000 total)	+150,000-175,000 people (1m total) +110,000 jobs (450,000 total)
Building Accessible Centres of Scale	Dublin City and Suburbs: +265,000 people Growth of other towns to be determined by Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSESs) within overall National Framework	Cork City and Suburbs: +115,000 people Limerick City and Suburbs + 50,000 people Waterford City and Suburbs: +30,000 people Growth of other towns to be determined by Regional and Economic Strategies (RSESs) within overall National Framework	Galway City and Suburbs: Up to +45,000 people Growth of other towns to be determined by Regional and Economic Strategies (RSESs) within overall National Framework
Compact Smart Growth	50% new housing on infill/brownfield (Dublin City and Suburbs) 30% new housing on infill/brownfield (elsewhere)	50% new housing on infill/brownfield (Cork, Limerick and Waterford Cities and Suburbs) 30% new housing on infill/brownfield (elsewhere)	50% new housing on infill/brownfield (Galway City and Suburbs) 30% new housing on infill/brownfield (elsewhere)

Balanced Regional Development Or Business as Usual?

	2016 Population	%	2040 Population	%
Eastern and Midlands	2,328,517	49%	2,800,000	48%
Northern and Western	847,442	18%	1,000,000	17%
Southern	1,585,906	33%	2,000,000	34%
Total	4,761,865	100%	5,800,000	100%

What does Urban Structure mean for Tipperary?

- Is Tipperary identified for growth?
 - Relationship of our Towns with Limerick and Waterford.
 - City Regions?
 - How will population targets be decided?
 - How will land be zoned?
- **Will one off housing continue to be accommodated?**
Core Strategy - Housing Demand Assessment

Critical Regional Development & Infrastructure

- Ports
- Rail Links
- Motorways
- Airports
- Rural Transport
- Broadband
- Waste Water Infrastructure

Communities, Villages and Rural Areas

- NPO 25: *“Facilitate the promotion and **creation of sustainable community development** and **support community organisations** in their work to provide a more sustainable future”*
- **NPO 20:** *“Enhance the competitiveness of rural areas by supporting **innovation in rural economic development and enterprise** through the sustainable diversification of the rural economy into new sectors and in particular those with a **low or zero carbon output.**”*
- **NPO 17b** *“Develop a programme for ‘**new homes in small towns and villages**’ with local authorities and agencies, public infrastructure to attract people to build homes....”*

Tipperary’s Submission

- Programme for Rural Housing
- Rural Economy and Community
- Recognition of Tipperary as a leader in Renewable Energy

What Happens Next?

- Submission period to 3rd November 2017

- RSES processes to be initiated in November
- Work on ten year National Investment Plan 2018
- NPF will be brought back to Government in December for decision

The Chairman thanked Nuala for the presentation. A discussion took place concerning related issues including the N24 submission, the fact that Clonmel is the only town in the county with over 10,000 population –members felt the definition of a large town should be reduced to towns of 5,000 population, cap on population will affect planning permissions, concerns re survival of rural Ireland, role of our towns and villages isn't recognised, Tipperary may not feature in the National Investment Plan, FDI may not be attracted to the county, no provision for satellite towns, inadequate rail service in many towns. Tipperary Co. Council's submission will be circulated to the Members and feedback will be welcomed. Submissions to the National Planning Framework must be made by 3rd November 2017.

3. Update on Planning Policy Projects

Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Planner gave an update on Planning Policy Projects to the Meeting and replied to queries raised. The principal points were as follows:-

National Planning Framework, RSES, County Development Plan

- Final NPF end 2017/Early 2018
- RSES by end December 2018
- County Development Plan – Commenced 2019

Variations and Strategies since 2015

- New Written Statements
- Rural House Design Guide
- Housing Strategy
- Renewable Energy Strategy
- Wind Energy Strategy
- Landscape Character Assessment
- Incorporation of the Urban Housing & Regeneration Act
- New Settlement Plan for Fethard
- Variation to Nenagh Town and Environs Development Plan
- New Settlement Plans for Towns and Villages

Cluster Guidelines

- To be published December 2017
- Pilot Scheme with the Department in 2018
- Variations?
- Promotions?
- National Scheme?

Conferences and Seminars

- Energy in Agriculture 2017, Gurteen College, Ballingarry, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, August 22, 2017 <http://energyinagriculture.ie>

- An information session for planning agents on Near Zero Energy Buildings was held in the Horse and Jockey Hotel on 1st June, 2017.
- An IPI event on 'Technologies in Planning', was held in the Nenagh Civic Office 29th June, 2017.
- Seminar for the general public, on the Conservation of Heritage Buildings, Cashel 30th September 2017.

Heritage and Tourism Projects

- Urban and Village Renewable grants
- Public Realm – Fethard, Roscrea, Carrick-on-Suir
- IWTN Grants – Cashel and Carrick-on-Suir
- Structures at Risk Fund
- Built Heritage Investment Scheme
- Lisbunny Graveyard & Blackcastle, Templemore

Public Consultation and Social Media

- Twitter account has 700 followers @PlanningTipp
- The Council website is used to display documents and as a way of accepting submissions

Energy and Climate Change

- Proactive in area of energy and the economy.
- Partnership with the Tipperary Energy Agency
- Covenant of Mayors
- Energy Management Committee
- Climate Change Adaption
- SEAI funded Paper on Community Investment in Renewable Energy.

Programme for 2018

Plan Making

Update of Plans

- National Spatial Strategy and RSES – To get the best result for Tipperary.
- Work Programme for Town Plans
- Urban Regeneration and Housing Act
- Variations??

Rural Housing Cluster Guidelines (Variations)

Project Work and Grant Schemes

Funding to be sought from all available sources

Failte Ireland, Heritage Council, Department etc.

- Conservations Scheme
- Events and Conferences
- Master Planning
- Implementation of Urban and Renewal Scheme

Cllr. J. Bourke and Tom Gallahue made the point that the Cluster Guidelines are unlikely to work without Council involvement in the provision of roads, water, electricity etc. Nuala

O'Connell stated that the Council are examining this and will be lobbying the Department in this regard. The Chairman thanked Nuala for the presentation.

4. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC on Tuesday 12th December 2017 at 10.00a.m. in the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Offices, Castle Avenue, Thurles.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.