

INTERNAL MEMO

Clare County Development Plan 2022 – 2028: Development Plan Review

Re: *Strategic considerations for the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 in relation to sustainable planning and development of the built and natural environment to support the Rural Directorate objectives.*

To: Helen Quinn, A/Senior Planner

By: R. Hurley, Senior Executive Architect

Cc: Leonard Cleary, Director of Service, Liam Conneally, Director of Service.

Date: 23.9.20

Given the increased focus and dependence on the economic viability of rural areas, the following should be given particular strategic consideration in relation to zoning and sustainable development to support rural development in County Clare, the operational requirements of the Rural Directorate for Clare County Council and the objectives of the Clare Rural Development Strategy 2026:

- General reference to the Clare Rural Development Strategy 2026 and all the objectives and strategies noted therein.
- Aside from addressing housing needs, special consideration of the zoning of community and public owned lands in Rural Areas to facilitate community supported tourism, small business, local craft, amenity and provision of support areas such as services and parking. The strategic zoning should have regard to accessibility to services, development potential of the site, ground conditions and buildability for the community.
- Consideration of future expansion and complementary developments adjacent to multi-use centres for remote working, hubs, tourism and small business supports and also to allow expansion of existing successful facilities where appropriate.
- Zoning to facilitate catalyst projects or special projects that identify niche requirements specific or particular rural needs or tourism offerings in identified areas of the County.
- Consideration of public and semi-public partnership opportunities to combine assets to create development in the best public interest to support Rural Development.
- Identification by the Council of public village spaces for first registration as appropriate where registration is not listed to ensure potential for use by the community and local authorities in the best interest of the public under Town and Village renewal and other support schemes.
- Particular attention to recreation, amenity and water based amenity access and development for public use to create or enhance Tourism and Community benefit.
- Strategic zoning to support ongoing national investment and sustainable development of public rural investment projects for the life of the plan for example RRDF, Town and Village Renewal and other schemes to ensure continued phased development in a sustainable and incremental process as suited to the demand and operational requirements.

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- Particular consideration of public space and amenity within town and village centres to facilitate community involvement in the development of key public realm spaces that contribute towards overall Rural Development and economic recovery.
- Review of statistical information and demands in relation to supply of County and local burial ground facilities to ensure sustainable, environmentally appropriate site development or extensions to address the needs of the County without impinging on the often natural and rural heritage setting. This review should forecast beyond the period of the plan due to the slow nature of burial ground usage and often sequential development in phases.
- Focus on eradication of derelict village sites in a manner that is attainable by funding streams available to the rural community, or where appropriate, by the Local Authority to address the local needs with the overall goal of eradicating dereliction in the interest of rural development, tourism enhancement and provision of jobs in the community.

End.

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