

8 September 2020

Submission to the County Development Plan from

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IN THE INTEREST OF LOCAL AGRICULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT

That the local food i.e. beef, sheep, vegetables be produced locally rather than imported.

That local farmers and also local abattoirs are encouraged, local marts, embrace the concept of low food miles.

That Oughterard be designated a technological incubation development hub.

IN THE INTEREST OF TOURIST ATTRACTION

That viewing platform be provided and installed for tourists to enable them to view Lough Corrib and the surrounding mountains. An ideal location would be near wind turbines in the Oughterard area (Seanaphaistín area)

That fishing stands be constructed at locations around Lough Corrib to encourage more trout and course angling in the region.

That walks around the shoreline of Lough Corrib in consultation with land owners and resulting in increased grant aid to farmers through CAP or some other vehicle. This could be another "Wild Lough Corrib Way"

Cycle path 2m wide from Oughterard to Galway (Woodquay) to safely allow people to cycle to work. Implement a CPO to make this a reality. The old railway line could be used for this purpose.

IN THE INTEREST OF PROTECTING COUNTY AMENITIES

That the Board of Works reverts back to manually operating the weir gates at the salmon weir and gain approximately 4 days advanced window of opportunity to open the gates before rainfall occurs thus preventing flooding in Lough Corrib catchment area, as the present algorithm is not capable of pre-empting impending rainfall.

IN THE INTEREST OF PROMOTING AND PROTECTING LOCAL FLORA AND FAUNA

That the trapping of mink, grey crows and magpies be considered so that populations of mallard duck, blackbird, thrushes etc. stand a chance of making a comeback. Seagulls no longer nest in the island on Lough Corrib.

IN THE INTEREST OF PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGIES

That the county council lobby the ESB to raise their present 6kW limit to at least 10kW on their single phase lines.

To lobby SEAI to grant aid storage batteries up to at least 12kWh of storage (as they have recently cut €800 off the grant)

That solar PV be exempt from planning permission when placed on a dwelling house roof or shed up to 10kwp generation.

That ONLY black PV panels be allowed on roofs or solar farms.

That the ESB be encouraged to pay a fair rate per kWh when uploaded to their grid network by domestic users.

That the harbour in Rossaveal be made suitable to accommodate "coasters" to enable wind turbines be delivered to the region. This would allow the region to upgrade from the current 2.5mW turbines to approximately 10mW turbines and this would be excellent for minimising CO2 emissions.

That wind turbines be located all along the coast, mainly bogland, SAC, SPA. CPO should be considered to make roads accessible for transport of wind turbines.

IN THE INTEREST OF BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY

That better grade road surfacing materials i.e. bitumen, and washing of all chips be carried out.