

Respondent



21

Anonymous



03:23
Time to complete



1. Name *

Letizia Gorini

2. Organisation (Optional)

SAUTI- Youth project (Youth Work Ireland Galway)

3. Email address

[Redacted]

4. Phone number

[Redacted]

5. Please select the following topics that you wish to make a submission *

Environment, Renewable Energies and Commu...

6. Do you wish to send your submission by email *

*If yes please email forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie (mailto:forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie) and mark submission "CDP Review"
If no please go to Question No.7*

Yes

No

7. Please enter your submission in no more than 4000 plain text characters. *

SAUTI-YOUTH SUBMISSION FOR GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Introduction SAUTI-Youth (Sustainable Accountability Uniting Tanzanian and Irish Youth) is a new initiative funded by the European Commission; a collaboration between World Vision Ireland, Youth Work Ireland Galway and World Vision Tanzania. The project is a youth led monitoring of local government commitments on climate action linking Galway and Tanga (Tanzania). Young people will be empowered to dialogue with local authorities so that young people's voice is taken into consideration while decisions about their future are made.

SAUTI-Youth welcomes the opportunity to submit its feedback, notes and views in relation to the County Development Plan for 2022-2028 Youth participation Here at SAUTI-Youth we firmly believe that the involvement of young people in decision making is vital to shape a better society, in particular if we want to achieve the structural changes necessary to fight climate change. Therefore, we would like to see young people be part of the strategic policy committee on Climate Change and Biodiversity as we think young people should have some input in the decision-making process in general, but even more so in relation to climate change and the monumental challenge it poses for the future. This is already happening in Wicklow County Council where a member of Comhairle na nÓg is sitting in the Climate & Biodiversity Action SPC.

Topic 5: Transport Increase public transport networks, particularly in rural areas where it's practically impossible to travel without access to a car. Put our resources into a light rail in Galway City rather than the proposed ring road. It would remove a lot of vehicular traffic from the roads and lighten the daily congestion. It would also make Galway a safer and more enjoyable environment for residents and visitors.

Topic 6: Environment, Renewable Energies and Communications Water Wastewater is not being treated correctly and ending up in the sea. This not only harms the ocean, reducing its capacity to mitigate climate change, but also affects tourism as many beaches had bathing bans throughout the year. The quality of drinking water is very poor in some parts of the county, leaving people with no alternative but to buy bottled water. Plastic While the future is uncertain, COVID-19 is likely to remain part of our lives for a long time to come and we need to think about reducing disposable waste in the long term. Free, single-use gloves should not be provided in shops or public spaces. Hand sanitiser is sufficient. If for health reasons that cannot be implemented, gloves could be provided. But if single-use gloves are left on display, more people than necessary will use them. Ban non-biodegradable wipes. Biodegradable alternatives are now widely available. Illegal dumping Rubbish is still burnt or illegally dumped in parts of the county. The measures in place to date are clearly not working. We need stricter enforcement of the existing measures or to adopt a different approach, e.g. monitor hotspots with drones, introduce audio deterrents, serve offenders with court summons. Broadband The provision of good broadband and mobile phone coverage is key to repopulating rural areas and rebalancing the rural/urban divide.

Anecdotal, the increase in remote working since the outbreak of COVID-19 has proven people would happily relocate to rural areas and work from home if the necessary resources were available. In addition to this the recent lock-down showed that young people from rural areas didn't have the chance to fully participate in online youth work activities due to broadband issues. This contributed to increased feelings of isolation. Biodiversity Limit

hedge trimming to only parts of roads that pose a hazard to road users. Anything further is an unnecessary destruction of wildlife and waste of Council resources.