

## Submission on the draft Leitrim Development Plan 2023-2029. [cdp@leitrimcoco.ie](mailto:cdp@leitrimcoco.ie)

To: Planning Department, Leitrim County Council, Áras an Chonate, St. George's Terrace, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, N41 PF6

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### Re Kiltyclogher

We note the section on Kiltyclogher in Volume II of the draft Leitrim Development Plan.

#### Preamble

Following on from the very successful KiltyLive initiative in 2017, we continue to have families moving to the village. The energy and commitment of the people in the village continues to be high and in 2021 a group of people participated in the Innovating Communities Kiltyclogher Training Initiative. As part of this initiative, and following on from a Community Plan devised in 2018 by the whole community, we conducted a whole village survey in November 2021 asking people to feedback to us on the following issues:

- Experience of living in Kiltyclogher
- Services
- Housing
- Tourism
- Employment Opportunities

Based on the whole community survey carried out, the experience of living in Kiltyclogher was reported as being overwhelmingly positive with families keen to grow the village and have opportunities for their children to return to living here. Among the younger population there was a desire to return to Kiltyclogher. For the village to be viable the following areas were considered critical to building a sustainable and thriving community. (**Ref:** LCC's draft Plan - KR 2 Support the provision of local and community services which can assist in sustaining and developing a resident community).

#### Housing

The current wastewater provision for Kiltyclogher needs assessment and upgrading to accommodate current use.

The housing stock in Kiltyclogher needs to be increased as a matter of urgency:

- Social housing – we propose that the Leitrim County Council purchase land in the village for social housing as there is no publicly owned land in the Village. Land is available locally for purchase.
- Private housing – we propose that builders/developers would be supported by the LCC to facilitate building private houses. Currently the planning application process is prohibitive.

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- Water services (waste-water and fresh water) have to be made adequate to support this development.

### **Services**

In order to continue as a viable community, we require support for the following services to be sustained and upgraded

- Public transport that meets the needs of a growing population
- The Post office and Shop
- The library
- The Health Services
- The School

### **Tourism**

The establishment of Kiltyclogher as a Heritage Town is essential to our vision of Kiltyclogher as a tourist destination. Seán Mac Diarmada's house, The Heritage Centre, the Holiday Centre and the Community Sensory Garden are central to this vision.

We need LCC to support the development of walking and cycling trails, the development of a café & public toilet facilities and a Community Service Programme to support innovation in this area. We note the absence of Kiltyclogher village on Map no.1 - the core strategy map, particularly in light of its important heritage.

### **Derelict Buildings**

That the problem of derelict buildings in the village is addressed.

### **Employment Opportunities**

We require support to develop an employment hub, in order to maximise the potential that exists in the local community. We need sustainable employment opportunities, to support local people getting into real employment and facilitate the desire of our youth to return to live here.