

Cumann Lucht Tráchtála Daingean Uí Chúis
Dingle Business Chamber



Waterside
Dingle
Co Kerry

21st February 2022

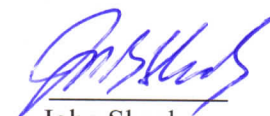
REVIEW OF THE DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028

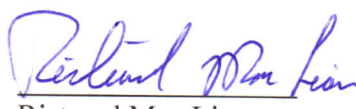
Dear Sirs,

The Dingle Business Chamber is writing to you with the Chamber's input to the above plan for the rural town of Dingle and the Dingle Peninsula.

- A Review of the Current County Development Plan should be done and published stating how the Objectives and Actions listed have been met and benchmarked.
- That any future County Development Plans are reviewed each year and that review published and benchmarked against Actions and Objective attainment timelines.
- Dingle town's population is the oldest in Kerry, the oldest in Munster, and the 4th oldest of any town in Ireland, with an average age 42.3 years and rising fast towards 45 years of age.
- Urgent measures need to be put in place and actioned in the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028, so that Dingle and the Dingle Peninsula can support the retention of our young people in their 20's and 30's, by creating well paid employment and accessibility to affordable housing in Dingle and the Dingle Peninsula.
- All the current Top 3 listed employment sectors, plus the Agriculture & Fishing Sectors in Kerry, total over 50% of all the employment sectors listed. This is well above the national employment %'s for these sectors. These Specific Sectors in Kerry are under threat and significant decline unless urgent remedial action is taken in this Plan to support them.
- The Kerry Knowledge Hub Triangle should be revised in favour of a model of a Kerry Knowledge Hub for All parts of the County, so that All Areas of the County are Spokes in the same Wheel and we are all going in the same direction!!
- We are listing also other measures that we are seeking to have included in the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 on the attached 4 pages.

Yours sincerely


John Sheehy


Risteard Mac Liam

PROPOSED MEASURES FOR INCLUSION IN THE KERRY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028

FOR DINGLE TOWN & DINGLE PENINSULA REGENERATION

CDP process and review

- A Summary Review of the last CDP should be included at the Start of this CDP detailing what was achieved, what happened and what did not happen, otherwise it's just loads of objectives with no execution plans or follow up.
- Every Objective should be given a Priority Status Low, Medium, High
- Every Objective should be scored between 1 and 5 of where the objective is, One being very poor and Five being achieved and needs to be maintained.
- Every Objective should have Actions attaching, and have public body responsible to deliver on the Action to achieve the objectives set, in Short, Medium and Long Term
- The County Development Plan should be reviewed annually to review progress and focus on the Key Actions to be delivered in the following 12 months.

Infrastructure

- That the current N86 upgrade continues as it is a key Tourist Infrastructure on the WAW.
- That the R561 Annascaul to Castlemaine Road be upgraded to a safe standard for the level of traffic currently using this key Tourist artery on the WAW.
- That funding for Phase 5 of the Dingle Relief Road be secured and that the Phase 5 of the Dingle Relief Road is completed before 2025.
- Continued Investment in Dingle Harbour & Pier and also in the Other local Piers, Walks, Beaches, Greenways, Blueways and Amenities on the Peninsula.
- That the Old Boat Yard Site in Dingle that has remained derelict for over 30 years be developed into a Town Community facility that will enhance the Towns amenity facilities, enhance the seafront and be of benefit to all. That the Dingle community need to be consulted at the beginning of this process about the Community Amenity Plans, and that RRDF Category One Funding is sought by Kerry CoCo to do execute these plans.
- That the Dingle Town Park is enhanced to open it up for many more community uses and also extra access points to the Town Park are secured.
- That Costal Erosion and Flood Alleviation plans and measures are drafted and implemented to save the further erosion and flooding of the key parts of Kerry.

Sustainable Rural Towns and Communities

- That the Old Dingle Hospital Project, to transform it into an Enterprise & Innovation Hub, and a Community and Tourism Visitor Centre be listed as a key project in the CDP that could facilitate and support the creation of 200+ jobs and be transformative for the town's future.
- That the Local Property Tax Fund collected on the Dingle peninsula is Ring Fenced for the Dingle Peninsula and that this €5m collected and Leveraged with RRDF funding of €15m, to lead to €20m in transformative projects on the Peninsula that will create lasting jobs and sustain our Rural Towns and Villages on the Dingle Peninsula.
- That Support is provided to implement the Dingle Peninsula Tourism Alliance's Sustainable Tourism Strategy and that financial and human resources are provided by the relevant state bodies to implement the DEDP plan for the Dingle Peninsula and the Greenways, Blueways, and Peatways Tourism Strategy for the Dingle Peninsula to sustain tourism on the Dingle Peninsula.
- That urgent support is given to Sustainable Fishing Communities in Dingle and the Dingle Peninsula by putting in place supports to sustain these vital coastal community jobs.
- That urgent support is given to Sustainable Farming Communities on the Dingle Peninsula to make a living wage from farming that will sustain farming and sustain the environment for our custodian farmers.
- To consider supporting a school's program, starting in primary and then secondary schools that promotes the local community and encourages young people to live and work in their local communities in future years, and with career options that will be beneficial in facilitating them to return and live in their local community. This could be done by a career orientation subject in secondary school once a week.
- Formulate a jobs incentive scheme for rural towns to sustain community life, which at present is not being done, have incentives for rural living, and rural assist programs and age assist programs.
- That Fibre to the Home and Fibre to Business be installed to all properties requesting this standard of fibre connection. Set a Minimum Standard or 500mb for all, with 1gb connections to be made available at locations around the peninsula.

- That transport Infrastructure is put in place for Electric Vehicles and Electric Bikes. That community transport options are developed for Electric Buses, Mini Vans, Cars and Bikes.
- That Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Infrastructure is put in place in Dingle and the 10 Main Villages on the Dingle Peninsula.
- Housing is provided for Rural Towns, Villages and communities by the drafting a Housing Strategy with the Local Authority and the Housing Authority to sustain rural towns, villages and communities, by Drafting and implementing a specific Rural Housing Development plan for Kerry.
- The Rural Housing Policy is aligned with the Our Rural Future – Rural development Policy 2021- 2025.
- That Village, Small village, and Cluster settlements in rural areas under urban Influence on the Dingle Peninsula KCDP 5-12 and KCDP 5-13 be expanded from just a narrow full time farming and fishing definition to include a 3+ year ‘Full time permanently working on the Dingle Peninsula or within 30km of the Dingle Peninsula’ including Working from Home and Remote Working employments.
- Agree a program of Social and Affordable Housing between Kerry CoCo, Dept of Housing, Housing Authority, and Udaras na Gaeltachta to build 250+ houses across Dingle and the Dingle Peninsula, especially One and two Bed Units that are Urgently required. (See attached Local Housing List requirements, 250+ One beds, and 100+ two beds required to meet demand)
- Have Integrated Planning, integrating the Irish Language plans of the Dingle Peninsula with RSES, Local Area Economic Plans, County Plans and Regional plans. If our young Irish speaker can’t get well paid employment in the Gaeltacht, then the Irish language will suffer through depopulation and decline.
- That Kerry County Council does a carbon audit and gets a carbon count for the County similar to the Census, so that every Business and Household is visited and a Carbon Assessment done of the carbon count for that business and household. That tiered incentives be put in place to meet certain carbon targets by a certain date and a target set that all government bodies are carbon neutral by 2025.
- That any Carbon Tax collected is paid out as a Carbon Dividend to Assist people and business to lower their Carbon Emissions.

AREA OF CHOICE	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4 Bed	5 Bed	Total
An Daingean	133	57	12	6	1	209
Annascaul	36	14	1	3		54
Baile an Fheirtéaraigh	35	14	4		1	54
Brandon (Cé Bhréanainn)	2	3	3			8
Castlegregory	24	25	14	3		66
Lios Póil	19	12	3	2		36
Miltown	103	75	62	11	2	253
Castlemaine	40	17	17	2		76