



Submission to: Ireland 2040, The National Planning Framework

Submitted by: Community and Voluntary College, Sligo Public Participation Network

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The Community and Voluntary College of the Sligo Public Participation Network (PPN) consists of 303 Community and Voluntary Organisations, representing the needs of hundreds of residents, working to improve the quality of life for people in Sligo. We welcome this opportunity to feed into the Ireland 2040 Plan.

*It is our vision that by 2040 Sligo will be an enterprising, inclusive, resilient and environmentally sustainable place, which values and celebrates its unique landscape and rich culture and heritage and where the wellbeing of future generations is central to everything we do (Local Community and Economic Plan 2016)*

To achieve this vision, **Sligo is ready to grow**, and should be determined as a specific area of investment as part of the 2040 National Spatial Strategy.

## **Sligo**

Sligo has a population of approximately 65,000 people, as the gateway to the North West it is situated at a strategically important point. It is 2.5 hours from Dublin and 2 hours from both Galway and Derry. Rich in cultural, natural heritage and coastal amenities, home to two third level colleges, a regional hospital, 22 major multi-national employers and a growing tourism industry – Sligo already has the foundations laid for future growth.

Like all areas, some people in Sligo have to deal with poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion – these experiences can be linked to unemployment, disability, ethnicity and caring responsibilities amongst other factors. A more inclusive future for Ireland will consider how growth can promote greater equality between all the diverse people who make up our community.

The following responses are provided to questions posed in the *Ireland 2040 Issues and Choices* document:

### **Effective Regional Development**

Centrally located within the North West Regional Assembly Area and the Central Border Area Network, possessing all of the infrastructure and resources required to be a regional centre of growth, Sligo is a logical choice for future investment in sustainable regional development.

Sligo has the potential to grow. Investment to facilitate ‘place making’ in the City, could build the population of the wider hinterland, which has been in decline. Under-investment in the area to date means that we are not realising our potential, in terms of employment, industry or tourism.

Sligo also has the capacity to grow in a sustainable way – there is housing development potential within a short distance of the city. Good public transport, provision of high speed broadband, will allow us to build affordable, sustainable and connected communities. Fostering a favourable social and economic environment, in balance with protecting the natural environment - are already goals within this region (LECP 2016).

## **Healthier Places**

A goal of the 2040 plan must be for ***greater equality in living standards*** – this includes people who are carers, people with disabilities and people from ethnic minority backgrounds (amongst others). Investment in Sligo as a regional growth centre, will enable people in the North, West and Border Regions to improve their situation. Thoughtful implementation of investment programmes – to suit the needs of different groups of people, to ensure greater equality of outcome, will enable the vision for Ireland 2040 to be realised. Success must be measured in terms of equality of living standards amongst our people, rather than average living standards.

## **Sustainable Development**

We recognise the need for sustainable growth and the environmental legacy we will leave to future generations. It is already a stated goal of the LECP to reduce waste, car dependency, increase the green economy and energy efficiency. As a community sector, we can support and lead this transition along with leadership from the State.

## **Maintaining Rural Populations**

Rural populations can only be maintained by providing rural dwellers with a viable income and a good standard of living which is achieved by living near a growing urban centre. By focussing on Sligo as a regional centre, smaller communities living in rural Sligo, Mayo, Donegal, Leitrim, Cavan, Fermanagh and Roscommon will benefit.

Strengthening rural communities also depends on the provision of services to sustain rural centres. The provision of good shared transport options between

towns, could enable strategic development within the region. There is great potential to grow food production, tourism, foster the potential of our rich heritage and develop strong IT based industries within rural areas in a sustainable way in Sligo and its hinterland.

### **Coordination with Northern Ireland**

Sligo is extremely well positioned to further develop and expand its economic, social, cultural and environmental linkages with adjoining areas in Northern Ireland. Relationships have already been fostered through Sligo's participation in a range of cross border initiatives, and we are eager to continue this progress – in education, community development, heritage, research, health etc. We are ready to respond creatively to the changes that Brexit will create.

### **Measuring Success for Sligo and the region**

Retaining a quality of life over the life course and making it possible for people to live and work in their own communities, a level of equality in living standards and sustaining and growing Sligo's population, all need to be set at key indicators. As community leaders, we want to be a central part of this development. For Ireland to attain real balanced regional development, and sustainable rural communities by 2040, then Sligo must be designated as a centre for sustainable growth and investment.

For further information contact the PPN team at [ppn@sligococo.ie](mailto:ppn@sligococo.ie)

## Appendix

### Members of the Sligo PPN Community and Voluntary College

11th Sligo Benbulbin Scout Group  
12th Sligo Ballinrillick  
13th Sligo Ballisodare Scouts  
2nd, 3rd & 10th Sligo Scout Group  
4th Sligo (Calry) Scout Group  
Abhainn Mor Residents Association  
Aclare Development Council  
Aclare Tidy Towns  
Acquired Brain Injury Ireland  
Ahamlish Burial Ground Committee  
Area 4 Art Studios  
Arrow Community Enterprise Ltd  
Arrow Harps FC  
Ashbury Lawn / Mulberry Park Residents Assoc  
Aughanagh Parish Council Limited  
Aylesbury Park Residents Association  
Ballinacarrow Development Committee  
Ballinakill Burial Ground  
Ballinalack Community Park  
Ballintogher Active Retired  
Ballintogher Annual Festival  
Ballintogher Community Council Ltd  
Ballintogher Community Enterprises  
Ballintogher Feis Committee  
Ballintogher Tidy Towns  
Ballintogher Traditional Festival  
Ballinrillick Community Alert  
Ballinrillick Environmental Group Ltd.  
Ballisodare Community Development Association Ltd.  
Ballisodare Kayak Club  
Ballisodare Tidy Towns  
Ballygawley Celtic  
Ballygawley Community Park  
Ballygawley Tidy Towns  
Ballymote Active Retirement Association  
Ballymote Basketball Club  
Ballymote Celtic FC  
Ballymote Community Enterprise Ltd  
Ballymote Community Parks  
Ballymote Community Text Alert  
Ballymote GAA Club  
Ballymote Golf Club  
Ballymote Heritage Group  
Ballymote Library Action Group  
Ballymote Men's Shed Group  
Ballymote Tidy Towns and Tourism Ltd.  
Banada Abbey Development Co Ltd  
Banada Development Agency Ltd  
Beechwood Court Residents Association  
Belt Torc Resource Co Ltd  
Beltra Country Market  
Beltra Show  
Benbulbin FC  
Bill W Club  
Branching Out Art Ltd  
Cairns Drive Residents Assoc  
Calry Active Retirement Association  
Calry Community Text Alert Group  
Calry Development  
Calry Drama  
Calry Local History Society  
Caltragh Crescent & Rusheen Ard Residents Association  
Caltragh Heights Residents Association  
Carney Tidy Village  
Carraroe Area & District Regeneration Association (CADRA)  
Carrowmore Archers  
Cartron Bay Residents Association  
Cartron Estate Residents Association  
Castleconnor Community Alert  
Castleconnor Community Company  
Castleconnor Community Development Group  
Castleconnor GAA club  
Cedar Drive Residents Association  
Chapel Street Residents Association  
Cherryswan Ltd  
Cliffoney Dramatic Society  
Cliffoney Grange Community Games

Cliffoney Hall Committee	Riverview Lodge Residents Association
Cloghogue Parents Association	Douglas Art Group
Cloonacool Tidy Town	Drimina Community Group
Cloondara Residents Association	Dromore West Community Council
Clúid Housing Association	Dromore West Village Enhancement Committee
Co Sligo Easter 1916 Commemoration	Dromore West/Templeboy ICA
Collery Drive Residents Association	Drumcliffe / Rosses Point GAA Club
Collooney / Ballinacarrow Active Age	Drumcliffe Development Association
Collooney Foroige	Drumcliffe Rathcormac Tidy Towns
Collooney St Patricks Parade	Drumcliffe/Rathcormac Community Alert
Collooney Tidy Towns	DyNamo Gym Club
Collooney Village Re-Development Ltd	Easkey Active Age Group
Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann – Fred Finn	Easkey Community Council
Coney Island Tidy Towns Committee	Easkey GAA
Connacht Motor Club (Sligo) Ltd	Eastern Harps GAA Club
Connecting Calry	Elm Park Residents Assoc
Coolaney Development Company	Enniscrone & District Agricultural & Industrial Show
Coolaney ICA	Enniscrone & District Community Alert
Coolaney Mullinabreena GAA Club	Enniscrone & District Community Dev Ltd
Coolaney Rockfield Tidy Towns	Enniscrone Events
Coolaney Womens Group	Enniscrone Tidy Towns
Coolera/Strandhill GAA	Enniscrone/Kilglass Community Games
Cornageeha / Rathanna Residents Assoc	Enniscrone/Kilglass GAA Club
Corran Athletic Club	Feis Shligigh
Cos Cos Sean Nos Dance Group	Foróige The CRIB Project, Big Brother Big Sister Project
County Sligo Cricket Club	Forthill History Community & Men's Group
County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Society	Four Bars Later
County Sligo Surf Club	Friends of Sligo Gaol
Cranmore Abbeyquarter Community Centre	Friends of the Children of Chernobyl (Sligo Branch)
Cranmore Community Cooperative	Frontier University
Cranmore Drive Residents Association	Gael an Iathair
Cranmore Place Residents Association	Geevagh Community Resource Ltd
Cranmore Villas Residents Association	Glen Development Group
Crozon Park Residents Association	Grange & Armada Development Association (GADA)
Culfadda Group Water Scheme	Grange & District Community Alert Group
Cumann Luthchleas Gael, Coiste Chontae Shligigh	Grange Foroige Youth Club
Curry / Moylough Community Playground	Grattan Court Residents Association
Curry Community Alert	Green Dragon Sport Karate
Curry Community Hydro Co Ltd	Gurteen Active Age
Curry GAA	Gurteen Games Company
Deaf Hear	
Diabetes Ireland Sligo Branch	
Doorly Park / Martin Savage / Hazel View /	

Gurteen Tidy Towns  
 Hawthorns Residents Association  
 Hazelwood Heritage Society  
 Home Youth Liaison Service  
 Innisfree Wheelers  
 Ivy Grove Residents Association  
 Jinks Avenue Knappagh Road Residents Association  
 John Fallon Drive Residents Association  
 Keash on Garland Sunday  
 Keash Village Enhancement  
 Kevinsfort Heath Residents Association  
 Kevinsfort Residents Assoc  
 Kilglass Enniscrone United Football Club  
 Killaraght Community Development Association  
 Killavil Development Group  
 Kilross Cemetery Committee  
 Kiltycloghan Cemetery Committee  
 Kingsfort Manor Residents Assoc  
 Knocknaganny Residents Association  
 Lakeview ICA Guild  
 Langan Drive Residents Association  
 Larkhill Woods Residents Committee  
 LEAP Project Easkey  
 Lily Lolly Craftfest  
 Little Buddies  
 Lough Gill Swim Organising Committee  
 Magpie Productions  
 Marian Hall Committee  
 Markievicz Heights Residents Association  
 Marymount Residents Association  
 Maugheraboy Estate Residents Assoc  
 Maugherow Community Alert Group  
 McDonnell Drive Residents Association  
 MCR Active Age  
 MCR Community Centre  
 Meadowvale Residents Association  
 Merville Youth & Community Centre  
 Michael Coleman Heritage Centre Ltd  
 Millview Park Residents Association  
 Moygara Castle Research & Conservation Group  
 Mullaghmore Active Development Group  
 Mullaghmore Residents & Heritage Group  
 Naomh Eoin Hurling Club  
 North Connaught Youth & Community Services  
 North Sligo Agricultural Show  
 North Sligo Playground Group  
 North West Archaeology Group  
 North West Hospice  
 North West Irish Heart Foundation  
 North West Mountain Bike Club  
 North West Sea Kayaking Association  
 North West Simon Community  
 Oakfield Park / Crescent Residents Association  
 Ocean Links Residents Association  
 Old Cartron Hill Residents Association  
 Order of Malta Sligo  
 OX Crescent Residents Association  
 OX Mountain Development Company Ltd  
 OX Mountains Cycling Club  
 Oxfield Community Centre  
 Parents Support Network  
 Parklands Residents Association  
 Pearse Crescent Residents Association  
 Phoenix Players Tubbercurry  
 Publishing Sligo's Past  
 Ransboro Active Retirement Association  
 Ransboro Community Alert  
 Ransboro Development Association  
 Rathbraughan Park Residents Association  
 Rathedmond Residents Association  
 Respond Housing Association  
 Riverstown Enterprise Development (Sligo) Ltd  
 Riverstown St Patricks Day Parade Committee  
 Rosses Point Development Association CLG  
 Rosses Point Shanty  
 Rosses Point Tidy Towns  
 Rusheen Ard Residents Association  
 Samboeire  
 Sandcastles Childcare  
 Shamrock Gaels  
 Skreen Dromard Community Council  
 Sligo Athletic Club  
 Sligo Cancer Support Centre  
 Sligo City Table Tennis Club  
 Sligo Civil Defence  
 Sligo Comhairle na nÓg  
 Sligo Community Alert

Sligo Community Mediation Service  
 Sligo Concert Band  
 Sligo Cregg Ballincar Community Alert  
 Sligo Family Support Ltd  
 Sligo Federation ICA  
 Sligo Feis Ceoil  
 Sligo Field Club  
 Sligo Folk Park  
 Sligo Giant Warriors  
 Sligo International Choral Festival  
 Sligo Jazz Project  
 Sligo Leitrim District Soccer League  
 Sligo Leitrim Youth, Schoolboy & Girls League  
 Sligo Men's Shed Association  
 Sligo Mugendo Kickboxing Club  
 Sligo Musical Society  
 Sligo Orienteering Club  
 Sligo Orpheus Choir  
 Sligo Probus Club  
 Sligo Rowing Club  
 Sligo Rugby Football Club  
 Sligo Samaritans  
 Sligo Social Services  
 Sligo Springboard Co Ltd  
 Sligo St. Patricks Day Parade Committee  
 Sligo Sub Aqua Club  
 Sligo Tennis Club  
 Sligo Tidy Towns Partnership Limited  
 Sligo Tourism Ltd  
 Sligo Volunteer Centre  
 Sligo Yacht Club  
 SO Sligo Food Festival Ltd  
 Social Ground Force  
 Soeey Cemetery Committee  
 Soeey Youth Club  
 South Sligo Community Park Ltd  
 Special Olympics Connaught  
 Spraoi Ballymote Community Childcare Ltd  
 Springvale Residents Association  
 St Brendans Afterschool Care Ltd  
 St Brigids Hall Tubbercurry  
 St Farnans GAA Club  
 St Michaels GAA Club  
 St Patricks GAA Club  
 St. John's Community Development Association  
 St. Joseph's Graveyard Committee  
 St. Mary's GAA  
 St. Michael's Family Life Centre  
 Star of the Sea / Strandhill Active Retirement Association  
 Stonepark Residents Association  
 Stones and Bones  
 Strand Celtic F.C.  
 Strandhill Development Association  
 Summerhill Residents Assoc 10A – 18A  
 Templeboy Community Alert  
 The Allwin Tennis Foundation  
 The Avalon Centre  
 The County Sligo 1916 Centenary Committee  
 The Hawk's Well Theatre Ltd  
 The Park Residents Association  
 The Yeats Society  
 Tir na nog Childcare  
 Tireragh Athletics Club  
 Tonaphubble Residents Association  
 Tourlestrane GAA Club  
 Townlands & People  
 Treacy Avenue Residents Association  
 Tubbercurry Development Group Ltd  
 Tubbercurry Mens Shed  
 Tubbercurry Playground Action Group  
 Unshin River Enhancement Committee  
 West Sligo Forum Limited  
 West Sligo Gun Club  
 West Sligo Mens Sheds  
 West Sligo Young @ Heart Club  
 Western Drama Festival  
 Windmill Players  
 Woodstream Residents Association  
 Yeats County Hockey Club  
 Yeats Drive Residents Association  
 Yeats Heights Association  
 Yeats Partnership  
 Yeats United Football Club  
 Young at Heart Active Age Group  
 YU Coolaney Foroige Club