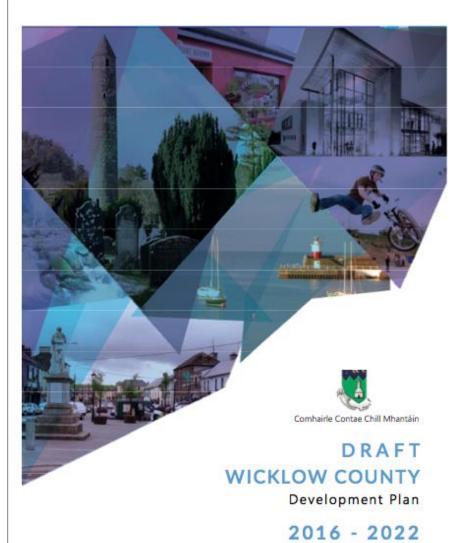
#### Planning is a democratic art

presentation by Judy Osborne MSc Spatial Planning.

#### Why do we plan

- For the public interest or common good
- For the long term of future generations
- To provide public goods, such as physical and social infrastructure
- To be more efficient and save wastage in an era of limited resources

- To protect neighbours from unreasonable cost
- Planning can achieve a coherent urban form that functions well
- Planning can lead to better ecological design



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# What does a development plan contain?

- a vision for the county
- A settlement strategy: deciding how much land to zone for housing and where. What transport will be available.
- How much land should be zoned for business development, retail & tourism, and where.
- Objectives for the provision of infrastructure such as roads, sewage and water





Chapter 2 | Vision and Core Strategy

- Objectives for the protection of the environment, landscape and heritage
- Development controls that define the quality and design of new development – including design guidelines



Where do the population figures come from.

- trend analysis of past patterns
- National projections are shared around the regions in line with national policy
- Regional projections are shared around the counties
- County projections are shared around the towns.

# Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Implemented in Ireland since 2005 this EU
 Directive requires that county development
 plans include an assessment of the
 environmental impacts of the plan

## SEA headings

- Soil, water, air, climate and landscape
- Human beings, flora and fauna
- Material assets and cultural heritage
- The interaction between the above

- Reasons for choosing preferred alternative strategy
- Description of proposed monitoring measures
- Non-technical summary

#### What a Development Plan cannot do.

- It cannot generally initiate residential and commercial development
- It does not include a budget or even prioritise programmes.
- It cannot integrate other services
- It could identify sites for specific projects (such as windfarms or incinerators) but it very rarely does so

#### Who makes the plan

- trained and qualified council planners prepare a draft plan
- There is an iterative process of consultation with the public and other stakeholders
- Councilors amend and adopt the final plan

## What is the role of the public?

- A comparatively new concept but now enshrined in every level of governance.
- Local people may have knowledge of an area not available to paid employees.
- It is important for 'buy-in' that all parties participate in decision making
- active citizenship is vital for the health of democracy

 The future is not some place we are going to, but one we are creating. The paths to it are not found but made. The making of those pathways changes both the maker and the destination.