



Kildare County Council  
Áras Chill Dara  
Devoy Park  
Naas  
Co Kildare

24<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Ref : Submission for Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, Conor & Jane Horan with address of [REDACTED] would like to propose the following for inclusion in the Kildare County Development Plan 2023-2029.

- The Development Plan should be revised to protect agricultural land for the sole use of growing crops and raising livestock.  
Agriculture is key contributor to the Kildare/Irish economy, we should be doing all we can to protect our future food supply chain, especially with global uncertainty and the cost of living crisis we are currently experiencing.
- The Development Plan should be revised to ensure that any future Solar Developments do not have a negative impact on the landscape and visual character of an area and on residential amenity.  
More detail is required in the Development Plan to ensure that our Landscapes & Vistas are not taken over by large scale Solar Developments in inappropriate areas such as agricultural land, scenic areas, tourist areas/routes, areas of historical importance, and the Liffey Valley etc.  
Do we really want to be responsible for opening our doors to Large Scale Industrial Solar Farms in inappropriate Rural/Agricultural Areas of Kildare?
- The Development Plan should be revised to further protect the Liffey Valley in the County's rural areas, and suggest be extended by 1Km from each side of the existing area in order to maintain a healthy wildlife environment along the Liffey Valley, and protect the views from commercial development.  
*"The topography is such that it allows vistas over long distances without disruption along the river corridor. As a result development on the banks of the rivers can have a disproportionate visual impact, due to the inherent inability to be visually absorbed"*  
(Ref: Draft County Development Plan 13.4.4)



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- The Development Plan should be revised to include a 10% reduction in Council (Commercial) Rates for Local Businesses who invest significantly in equipment such as Solar Panels or Wind Turbines over a 5 year period.

Currently there is very limited local support available for commercial businesses to investment in renewable energy equipment.

We see massive opportunity for the use of existing commercial buildings (roof tops) for Solar Energy , and Wind Turbines.

This could also be factored in to New Planning Applications for Commercial Developments also.

*“Support and encourage the sustainable development of renewable energy auto production units (the production of energy primarily for on-site usage) for existing and proposed developments in line with relevant design criteria, amenity and heritage considerations and the proper planning management of the area”*

*(Ref: Draft County Development Plan 7.4 EC 05)*

Kind Regards

Conor & Jane Horan



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