

YOUR Plans YOUR Future YOUR Say

A New Community Plan and Local Development Plan

Issue 1
Pre-consultation Bulletin

Improving **social**, **economic** and **environmental** wellbeing and achieving a better quality of life for our people, communities and place is a key priority for Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.



Councils have been identified as lead partners in community planning and land use planning responsibilities were transferred to councils on 1st April 2015, enabling an integrated approach to both planning functions. Following extensive consultation and data gathering, the Council and a range of key partners have drafted the first ever Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan, together with a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

A new Local Development Plan Preferred Options Paper (POP) and related Sustainable Appraisal is also being developed. These draft plans will be launched for consultation on Monday 3 October 2016, for a period of eight weeks. In advance of the consultation period a series of 4 bulletins will explain Community Planning and Land Use Planning, highlighting some of the evidence and data which has informed them and provide information on engagement opportunities. A Preferred Options Paper (POP) and related Sustainability Appraisal is also being developed as part of the preparation process for the new Local Development Plan

What is Community Planning?

Community Planning is a process of collaborative and partnership working, led and facilitated by the Council, with key partners, to increase the well-being of our citizens. It will join up and improve the services provided by public sector agencies, business, voluntary and community organisations and make sure we are all working with local people to agree on shared outcomes and priorities for improvement. Together we have developed a draft Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan, which identifies at a high level, the key priorities associated with the development of the area over the next 15 years.

Both documents will be launched for consultation on Monday 3rd October 2016, for a period of eight weeks. In advance of the consultation period, further bulletins will explain Community Planning and the purpose of the Local Development Plan, highlighting some of the evidence and data which has informed them and providing information on engagement opportunities.

What have we got right?

“Our Vision is of a vibrant, living place where people enjoy improved wellbeing and prosperity in a safe, shared, connected and sustainable environment”.



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What is the Local Development Plan

The Fermanagh and Omagh Local Development Plan (LDP) 2030 will set out a clear vision for how the Council area should look in the future by deciding what type and scale of development should be encouraged and where it should be located. It will also identify land that should be protected for its environmental or social use and encourage high quality design and a regard for our valued heritage and landscape.

The Preferred Options Paper is the first stage in developing the plan and will set out the key planning issues for the District, identify a range of options to address them and define the Council's preferred options. It will describe options on how to distribute development across the District; as well as options to deal with economic development, housing, renewable energy, development in the countryside, tourism, town centres, mineral development, transportation, natural and built heritage, open space, connectivity and quality design and place making. Our Local Development Plan can only be truly successful if it is rooted in local knowledge and an appreciation of what is important to people. You should get involved because it's all about your place and your future, so your views are important.

The Community Plan and the Local Development Plan are two different plans which, together, will shape the future of the Fermanagh and Omagh district and the places we live, work and visit. They have been informed by local people through engagement, a robust statistical evidence base to support the options presented and partnership working with key stakeholders to ensure better outcomes for all through integrated planning. In summary, and notwithstanding important differences between land use and community planning, there are some **core similarities** in their broad principles and processes.

They include:

- ✓ Better outcomes for all
- ✓ Improved performance through partnership working
- ✓ Improved services and places for all through better planning
- ✓ Sustainable development
- ✓ Longer term approaches
- ✓ Fundamental citizen participation
- ✓ Joined up approach to planning and shaping the places we live, work and visit
- ✓ Better use of resources



However, **YES** there are **differences**. The Community Plan will provide the vision for the Fermanagh and Omagh district, outlining key aims for the future in relation to social, economic and environmental factors. The Local Development Plan focuses on how land and infrastructure within the district should be managed and developed to support delivery of the shared outcomes identified in the Community Plan.

Community Planning Partners and the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Planning Department are committed to carrying out joint community consultation and engagement, letting you know what is happening and, more importantly, supporting you to play an active part in contributing to both plans. The next issue of this bulletin will update you on the key evidence and data which has helped inform the plans.

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Community
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Local
Development
Plan Preferred
Options Paper

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Fermanagh and Omagh
Community Planning Partnership

