

“The Local Development Plan aims to meet the needs of all the people of the district by creating sustainable communities within the context of a healthy, well planned, natural and built environment.

The Shared Values and Principles which underpin the Vision and cut across all of the themes and outcomes to be achieved are: • Openness, accountability and transparency • Equality, inclusivity and diversity • Addressing deprivation • Prevention and early intervention • Sustainability • An evidence-based approach • Effective engagement • Continuous improvement • Working collaboratively.

Responding to Fermanagh & Omagh District Council  
Re the Local Development Plan  
Draft Plan Strategy

December 2018



We are writing this submission in response to Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy issued recently by FODC.

I write therefore to request that the area of the Sperrin's AONB already indicated as having no capacity for wind energy development is extended to include the area proposed to become an ASAI (Area of Significant Archaeological Interest) as an extension of Beaghmore ASAI. This area includes the townlands of Aghascrebba, Crock, Carnanrancy, Keerin, Teebane East and Muninamale.

The introduction of turbines would have a distinctive negative visual impact on the setting of the unique features of cultural heritage and high scenic value of this unique landscape.

That this scenic historic landscape is unsuitable for wind development has been recognised by the planning authorities in recent years when various applications for turbines were refused.

In making this response we are requesting that FODC ensures that the character of this historic landscape is preserved by including the proposed ASAI within the area that has no underlying capacity for wind development.

Not alone do wind turbines have a detrimental effect on the visual amenity of this historic landscape they also are impacting on the health and wellbeing of residents, *no human being should feel endangered or under threat*. The studies, the complaints and the objections can no longer be ignored.

You say The Vision for 2030 is of a welcoming shared and inclusive Fermanagh and Omagh District where people and places are healthy, safe, connected and prosperous, and where our outstanding natural built and cultural heritage is cherished and sustainably managed.

Why are we traumatised by the inhumanity being shown towards our community? We have the basic right to live in our own homes, in our own peaceful surroundings where silence is priceless, surrounded by the beauty of our landscape. There are industrial companies, absentee Landowners, and local Landowners already committed to destroying our homes and the area we live in, they do not care what this is doing to any of families in this parish and

indeed the surrounding areas around us and, they have no respect for human life or do they think of how people are suffering as a result.

With all due respect we are the ones living here and have done so for many generations. Is it because these applicants and some of the Landowners do not live here that they really do not care what is going on in this parish? We know when there is something wrong. Who has allowed this to happen? Our rights have been taken from us as these Planning applications take over our lives not to mention our health

As residents of this country who has the responsibility to protect our health, safety and welfare? Who is granted that power? Whose duty is it? This travesty must stop, and it falls squarely at the feet, of those who started this mess and it is their mess to clean up, we as citizens have went way above and beyond our responsibilities to give the information requested and it is time for those whose duty it is to stop pushing us off to Next Era and stop , SSE, Dalradian, Brookfield, NIE and numerous other unknown companies, developers hiding behind agents, PR companies, not forgetting landowners **from hurting us. Who needs to stand up and do what is right and admit that those in authority are human and can make a mistake? Your measure is how you fix your mistake!!**

*Whose responsibility is it to ensure that no human being should feel endangered or under threat? I have found that there is a callous disregard for human life, the depravity of these developers whoever they might be as their identity is kept secret. could not stand out more. Is there no such thing as a level of decency?*

Rather than forward individual letters of submission, we are forwarding as a group, groups which have been formed for the protection of our area, our homes and our families.

We have now all read the Presentation... titled Public Health and Planning Shared Origins and Shared Futures. Which is in public domain for all to see

**Public Health and Planning: Shared Origins and Shared Futures**

*Dr Gerry Waldron Public Health Agency .....PHA which plays an important part of any development plan*

At present there is no openness or transparency and most certainly no one is being held accountable for the destruction of an AONB.

AONB Sperrins

ASSI Owenkillew/Broughderg River and Tributaries

ASAI Beaghmore including all the Broughderg Townlands

ESA classified as an Environmentally Sensitive Area

SAC River

The Assets of this area

People

Scenery

Geology Billion years old rock

Ice Age Remains Eskers etc.

Archaeology 8,000 years habitation

Wildlife, Grouse, Curlew, Hen Harriers, Bats, Hares, Wild Geese the list is endless

Blanket Bog in abundance.

The significant wildness of natural Landscape, and the unique feature of Dark Skies.

Below is not something I have made up it is as on the website

Land and landscapes

Information on land quality and soil as well as details on the geology of Northern Ireland's distinctive and precious landscapes.

### **Protected areas**

Topics: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/land-and-landscapes>

- Land and landscapes
- Biodiversity

Our protected areas represent the very best of our natural landscapes, biodiversity and geodiversity, forming the cornerstone of nature conservation by supporting plants, animals and habitats that are rare or unique. The on-going protection and management of this coherent network of sites will ensure that these important natural and cultural assets can be enjoyed by this and future generations.

We have a range of protected area designations, representing features of national and international importance, both terrestrial and marine.

### Subtopics

- Special Protection Areas
- Areas of Special Scientific Interest
- Ramsar sites
- Nature Reserves
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- ASSI Guidance for Public Bodies/Competent Authorities
- Coastal Areas of Special Scientific Interest
- Marine Conservation Zones
- Marine Natura 2000 network (Marine N2K) - Marine SACs and SPAs
- Special Areas of Conservation
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Sperrin AONB was designated in 1968 and covers a largely mountainous area of Northern Ireland.

Re-Designated in 2008 under the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (NI) Order 1985 and lying in the heart of Northern Ireland, the Sperrin AONB encompasses a largely mountainous area of great geological complexity. Stretching from the Strule Valley in the west to the perimeter of the Lough Neagh lowlands in the east this area presents vast expanses of moorland penetrated by narrow glens and deep valleys. In its south, the Burren area is noted for its lakes, sandy eskers and other glacial features. The area is rich in historic and archaeological heritage and folklore. Further information on this AONB can be obtained from [protectinglandscapes@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:protectinglandscapes@doeni.gov.uk)

This enables the Department of Environment formulate proposals to:

Conserve or enhance the natural beauty or amenities of the area

Conserve wildlife, historic objects or natural phenomena within it Promote its enjoyment by the public provide or maintain public access to it.

**UK blanket bog resource has European importance**

The UK has a special responsibility for protection of this priority habitat type.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee, the public body that advises the UK Government and devolved administrations on UK-wide and international nature conservation, said that under the EC Habitats Directive the largest sites with the most extensive areas of active blanket bogs have been favoured. The large number of sites selected (covering a total area of over 350,000 ha) reflect the European importance of the UK blanket bog resource.

There is already an all-too-familiar pattern of heedless exploitation, opening more of the diminishing landscape to industry and sprawl, degrading and fragmenting more natural habitat and refuge.

Working collaboratively. We are happy to do so and we all together will continue to improve and preserve this really special unique landscape, its habitats, its archaeology and keep creating sustainable communities within the context of a healthy, well planned, natural and built environment.

Townland Residents Association

