

## **Theme 1 Population Growth and Housing**

There are 4 actions provided below with their context.

**Action 1 - this part of the development plan needs to be tied to the SDGs** which are not mentioned in your questions despite being the international standard for sustainability. Every action needs to name the SDGs it impacts. **Action 2 - all actions need targets for which human resources and material resources are committed and time lines set.** Your questions mention housing, growth and there is just one mention of the word sustainable. This housing and population growth theme exists mutually with most of the other themes and its deconstruction isolates it. Economics, sustainable transport, climate action, energy, EAs, built environment, liveable neighbourhoods all co-exist with this theme. If we are to enhance economic development in this plan we will remove the chief barrier to housing which is the need for finance, so we need jobs to do that. The homes we build need to be connected to green and blue spaces and our boreens are a nascent network waiting to connect and join galwegians with nature, biodiversity and a healthy lifestyle. COVID has reminded us that this is so important, and that housing needs to connect us with these opportunities. Moving to and from housing is critical and needs to be sustainable transport. Induced development gets counsellors and politicians elected but it does not address the harmful emissions arising from the motorcar. The 5 lane highways in the USA full to the brim show the downside of policy feeding populism. Science shows cardiac and respiratory fatalities from harmful transport emissions. Morbidities impact people throughout their lives and these harmful emissions are major causes of suffering and death. The rising emissions are driving our climate crisis. Our epoch has been designated the Anthropocene in light of the harm we have done. Energy is ubiquitous and needed for almost everything. Increasingly needed for transport, food, water, heating, washing and cleaning, lighting, housing, waste packaging, production, roads etc. We could not be involved in this submission without energy. EIAs are needed for sensitive building of housing. So all of the themes are interconnected and the separate focus is not entirely helpful.

1. Are there particular impediments in Galway City which impact housing supply? We need to: provide proximal jobs, sustainable building practitioners, sustainable building materials, fund a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities in the city so that household occupants are advantaged in terms of proximity to necessary resources, proximity to sustainable transport opportunities, proximity to green and blue experiences touching nature and biodiversity, and low ecological footprint housing opportunities are a necessity. **Action 3 fund a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities in the city within the lifetime of this plan.**
2. What changes might be required in the City Development Plan to respond to the NPF objective for Galway in relation to housing supply?

We need to be in synergy with the NPF, so there should be no anomalies, we need to follow national policy. **Action 4 to review and follow the NPF and other national policy with this plan.**

3. How can housing delivery be accelerated? Acceleration and growth are always followed by decline. We need to avoid unsustainable growth. We need to avoid the boom and bust ethic. Sustainability needs to be at the core of what we do so that growth is manageable, please see answer to 1.
4. How can we support the provision of lifetime adaptable homes that can accommodate the changing needs of a household over time? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
5. What range of house types and tenures are most appropriate to meet the need of the city's growing population? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
6. How can we support social and affordable housing provision in the city? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
7. How can we cater for different housing needs e.g. students, persons with a disability, traveller families, older persons, migrants and refugees? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
8. How can a sustainable mix of public and private housing be provided? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
9. How should the critical cultural, economic and social requirements of communities for education, childcare, recreational and community supports be planned? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).
10. How do we encourage more people to live in the city close to where they work so that they can be supported by sustainable mobility? See 1 and the need for a comprehensive assessment of sustainable and integrated building opportunities (this must include consultation with the public).