The Role of Development and Area Plans in Economic Growth and Regeneration

Thursday 26th June 2014
Armagh City Hotel
Minister Mark H Durkan MLA
Mark H Durkan was announced as the SDLP Minister for the Environment on 9 July 2013. He was elected as MLA for Foyle in 2011 and has been the party’s social development spokesperson and health spokesperson. A native of Derry, Mark became a Councillor for the Northland area in 2005.

Minister Jan O’Sullivan TD
Jan O’Sullivan, TD is a member of Dalí Eireann for the Limerick City Constituency. First elected in a bye-election in 1998 she has been returned by her constituents at three subsequent general elections for the Labour Party. Prior to her election as a TD she was a member of Limerick City Council and Seanad Éireann.

Peter Sheridan O.B.E.
Peter Sheridan took up the role of CEO of Co-operation Ireland on the 1st January 2009. Prior to joining Co-operation Ireland Peter was a police officer for 30 years. In September 2009 he was appointed as a Commissioner on the Equality Commission for NI.

Fiona McCandless
Fional McCandless was appointed Chief Planner in DoE NI in April 2014 and she is responsible for the overall leadership, management and delivery of DOE NI’s planning responsibilities. Fiona leads the Planning Group, which comprises Local Planning Division, Strategic Planning Division and Planning Policy Division.

Niall Cussen
Niall Cussen is a Senior Adviser at the Planning and Housing Division of the Department of the Environment Community and Local Government and has responsibility for progressing a range of regulatory, policy and service delivery matters including the implementation of the National Spatial Strategy and Regional Planning Guidelines as well as other thematic policies.

Dr Chris Boomer
Dr Chris Boomer is a Planning Manager in the Department of Environment NI with responsibility for Development Plans. He has nearly 30 years experience in both plan making and development management and has worked in local government in England and Central Government in Northern Ireland.

Greg Lloyd
Greg Lloyd is Professor of Urban Planning and Head of the School of the Built Environment at the University of Ulster. Greg was Ministerial Adviser to the Northern Ireland Assembly Government on its reform of land use planning (2008-2010) and was a member of the Best Commission on the future of housing in Northern Ireland, which published its report in May 2010.

Stephen Hagan
Stephen Hagan is a councillor with Orkney Islands Council, representing the North Isles since 1994. Posts held during that time have included chair of both Orkney Ferries and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He was then Convener of the Council for 9 years. Currently he is the COSLA spokesperson for Development, Economy and Sustainability.

Cllr. Anne Devitt
Councillor Anne Devitt has represented the Swords Ward on Dublin County Council and later on Fingal County Council from 1988 to date. She has participated in the preparation of four County Development plans at seven year intervals during that period. Anne was the first chairman of the Fingal Strategic Policy Committee for Planning and Economic Development and served three terms for ten years.

Liam Flanagan
Since October 2005 Liam Flanagan has been the Town Clerk & Chief Executive of Limavady Borough Council. He is currently Chair of Solace NI Branch. Prior to this he held the position of Director of Housing Services with Fold Housing Association, responsible for housing/maintenance services and housing policy for the Association.

Danny McLoughlin
Danny McLoughlin joined South Dublin County Council as County Manager in 2013. Prior to this, he was County Manager in Westmeath and then Leitrim. Danny has extensive experience within Local Government, holding a number of positions such as Town Clerk, County Secretary and Director of Service across a number of County Councils.
A big thank you to our funders:

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