



# Developing The National Planning Framework

ICLRD Derry/Londonderry  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2017



**Aims and Process**

**Key Trends**

**Realities**

**Key Questions**

**What success could look like**

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## Introduction

The National Planning Framework (NPF) will be the successor to the 2002 National Spatial Strategy (NSS) and spatial aspect of Government policy

Horizon: 2040

Concise High-level, strategic document

Developed in parallel with 3x Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies by the new Regional Assemblies

NPF+RSES will be a strong basis for more joined-up policies and therefore more effective planning, investment and decision-making

Configuration of the Regional Assemblies in Ireland



## Timelines

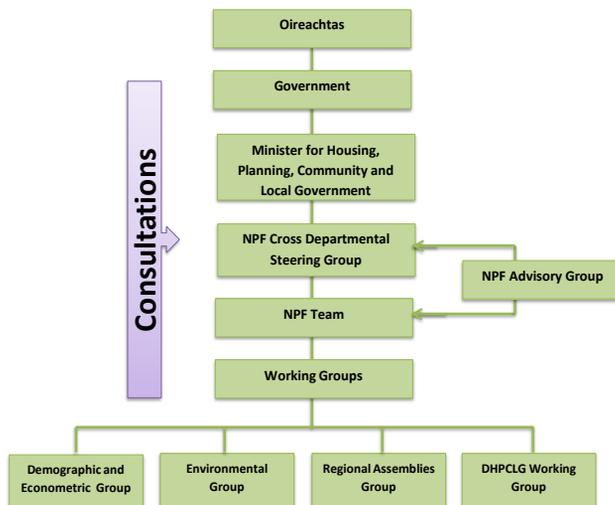
Roadmap	Q4 2015
Preliminary Stakeholder Consultation	Q2 2016
Stakeholder and Sectoral Consultation	Q3-Q4 2016
Initial Public Consultation to 31 March	Q1 2017
Framework Development	Q2 2017
Launch of Draft Framework	Q2 2017
Public Consultation on Draft	Q2-Q3 2016
Recommended Draft for Oireachtas	Q3 2017



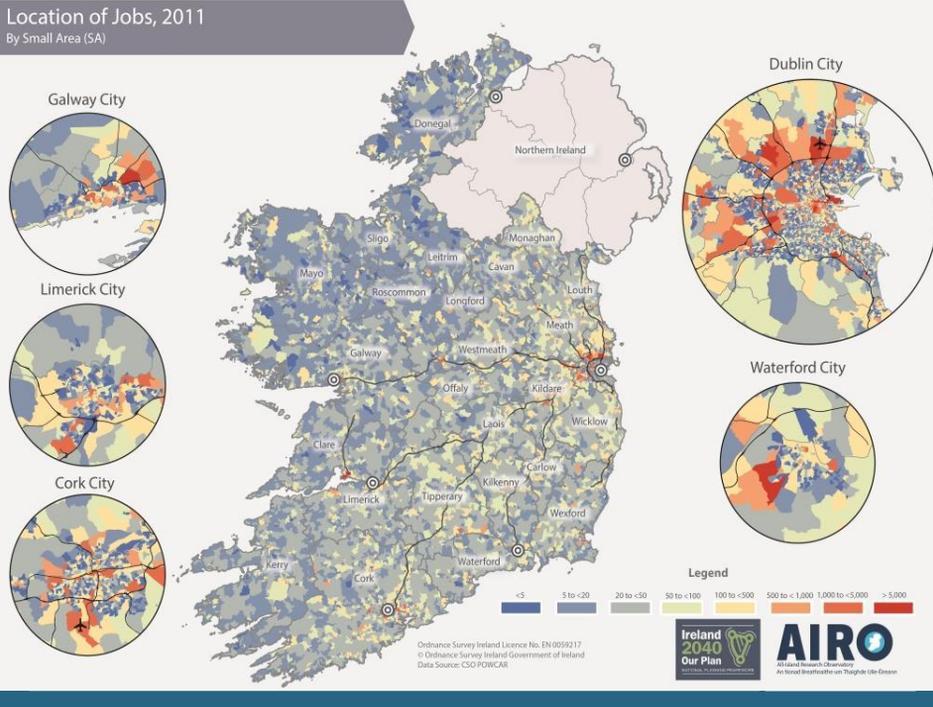
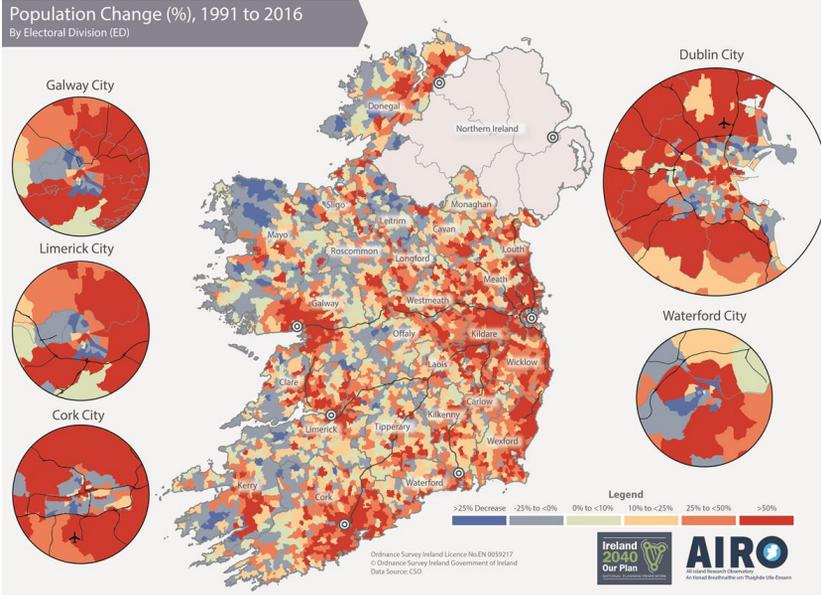
## Key Areas of NPF Work Programme

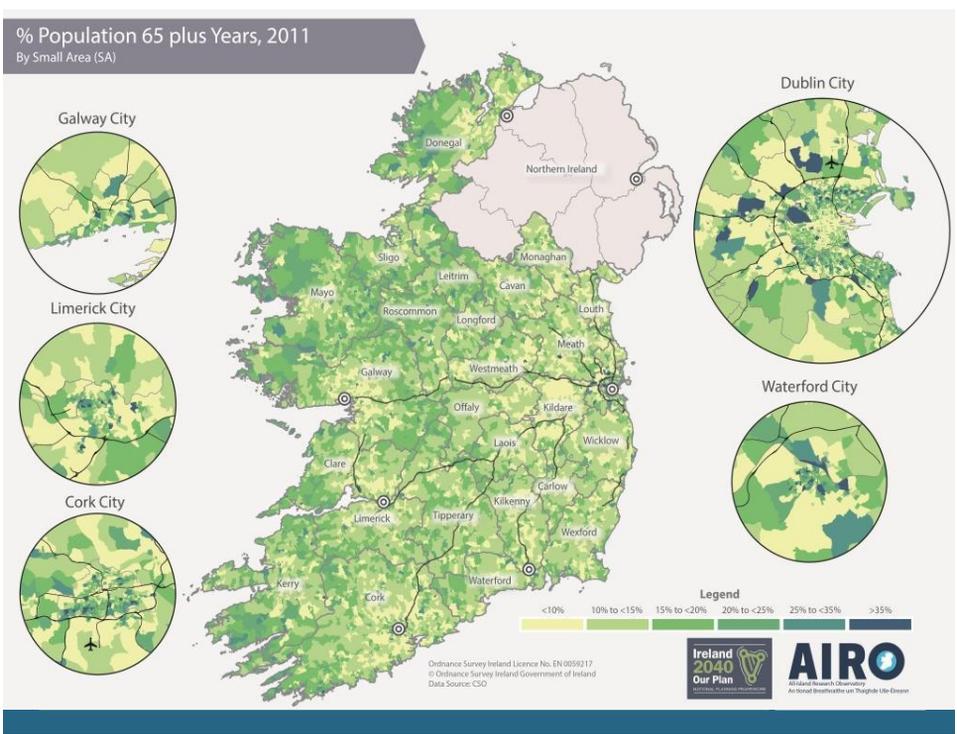
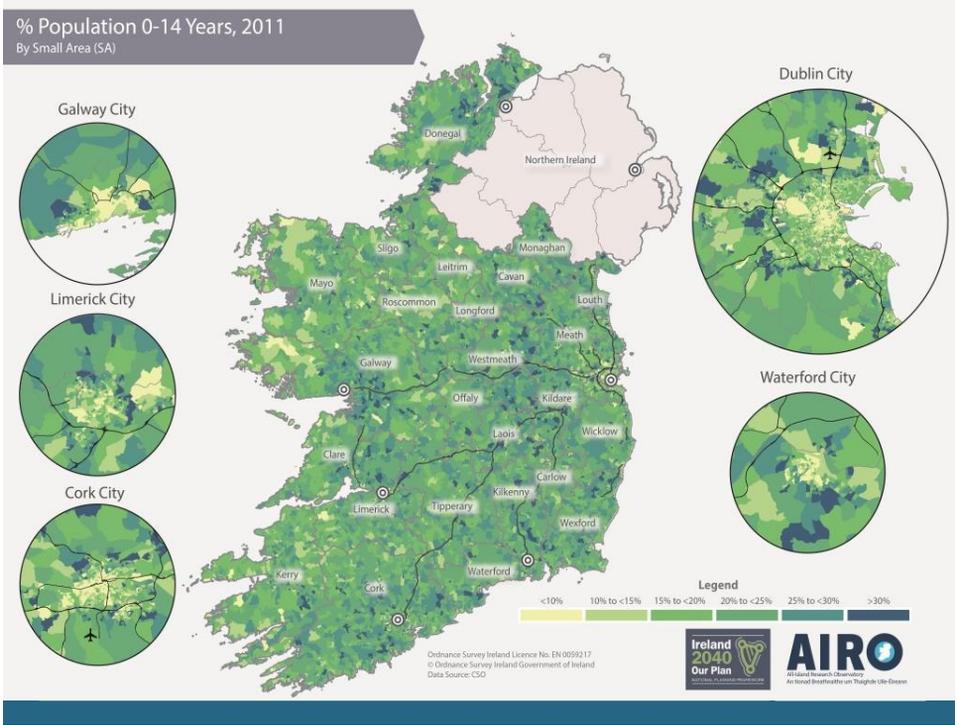


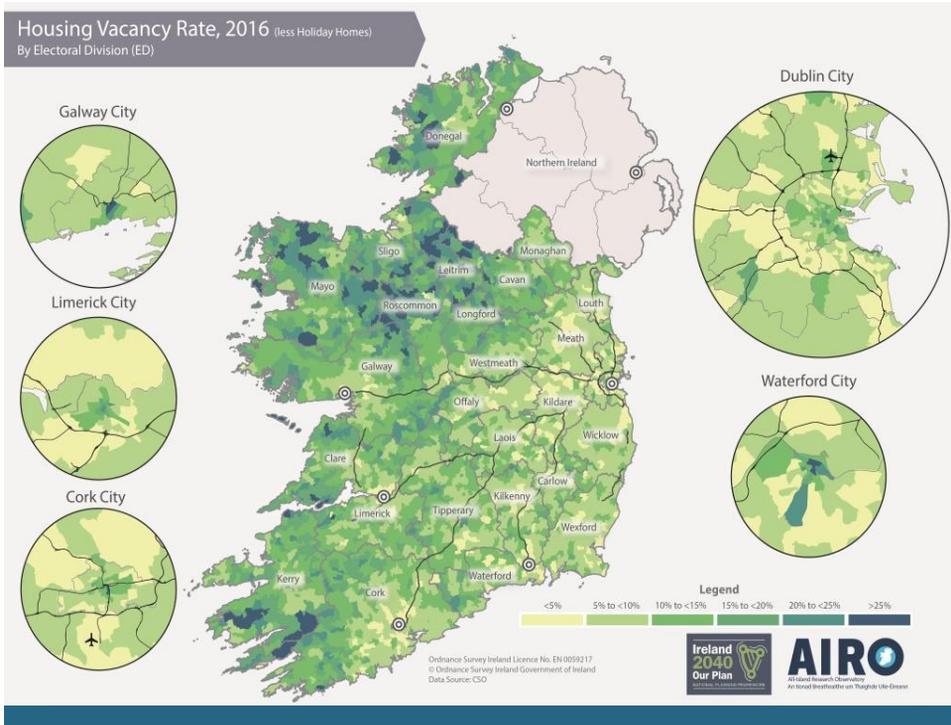
## Governance and Oversight



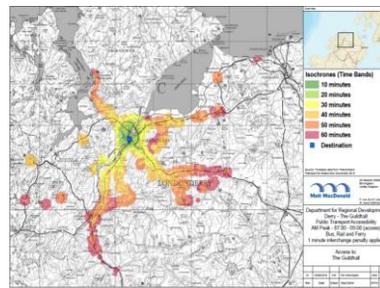
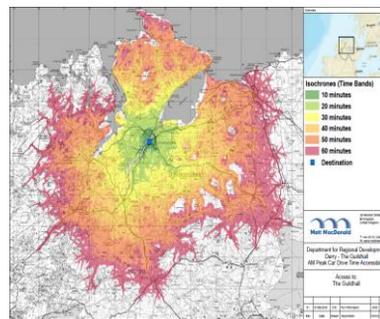
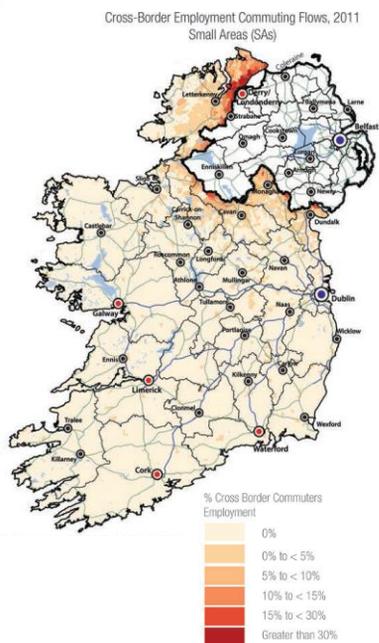
# Key Trends



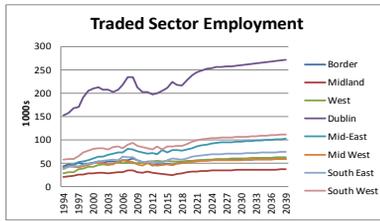
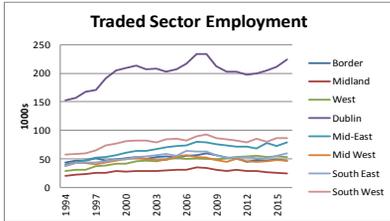




## ACCESSIBILITY



## Key Trends



- Up to 1m extra population – 75% on eastern side of Ireland
- 25% of population over 65
- 500,000 – 750,000 extra jobs
- Min 500,000 extra homes needed
- More mobile, more diverse population/workforce
- Movement towards low-carbon society/economy (0% by 2050?)
- Technological Changes – e.g transport

“Business as Usual” won’t cut it! ... need to plan to change the future.



## Realities



- Dublin – a runaway success, but...
- Twice the footprint of EU comparators +
- Getting more spread-out: sustainable??
- M50 Ring fastest growing + Kildare/Meath
- Regional Cities growing at edges too
- A “Lose-Lose” strategy



- New Politics?
- Two (Three?) Speed Economy?
- Underutilised potential in urban centres
- Rural areas vary in characteristics
- Calls for “Decisive Action” to avoid
  1. Dublin and east congesting
  2. Regions/rural being left behind
- How can we make “big” decisions possible?



## Current Issues and Choices Paper

### Contents

- 1: People's Health and Well Being
- 2: 'Placemaking' – Cities, Regional, Rural etc.
- 3: Environment & Climate Action
- 4: Social & Strategic Infrastructure
- 5: Implementation



## Island Context

### Issue

Interactions between people and places, sectors infrastructure and landscape do not follow administrative boundaries and require a coherent approach to cross-border networks

### Key Question

Identify and develop latent opportunities benefiting both jurisdictions? (*Clue: NW Strategic Growth Plan is an excellent example, Newry-Dundalk MoU, Central Border Area? Dublin Belfast Corridor?*)



## Investment in Infrastructure

### Issue

Ireland 2040 will not be an investment framework but will provide spatial clarity and an effective way to co-ordinate sectoral priorities within future Capital Investment Plans which will make specific investment decisions.

### Key Question

How should investment on new physical and social infrastructure be co-ordinated and sequenced to deliver agreed objectives under Ireland 2040 and in an economically realistic yet transformational way?



## Key Questions

- What is the potential of the Island as a whole? – how can we work together to realise better outcomes than back-to-back planning?...
- How can we develop Dublin in tandem with the regions and grow it inwards/upwards, not outwards?...
- What level of activation of under-utilised potential should we aim for in the regional cities (NW) - by carefully focused policies and investment as additional national/ international level counter-balances to the Greater Dublin Area?....
- Activating potential of rural Ireland including both the terrestrial and marine dimensions in a realistic and sustainable fashion (esp. towns and villages)...
- Addressing planning challenges in meeting Ireland's obligations to transform energy and transport systems sustainably and harnessing both land and marine resources
- Development principles for evaluating future social and physical infrastructure investment options in the context of a 20+ year infrastructure investment outlook ...
- Learning from the National Spatial Strategy, what implementation mechanisms will work?



## Our Cities: Regional Drivers

- Major part of Ireland 2040: at least 600k of +1million pop by 2040 will be urban
- Business as Usual:
 

■ Dublin:	2011 – 1.1m	2040: 1.4m (+major sprawl into GDA)
■ Belfast:	2011 – 334k	2039: 354k (2015 LGD, NISRA 2014)
■ Cork:	2011 – 200k	2040: 240k (main growth in ring towns)
■ Derry:	2011 – 109k	2039: 109k (pre 2015 LGD, NISRA 2014)
■ Limerick:	2011 – 96k	2040: 115k (edges could grow fastest)
■ Galway:	2011 – 93k	2040: 110k (major growth eastwards)
- Is change possible? – not a “command” economy
- Most cities/towns have huge potential for infill – regional cities would be at least 30% bigger today if less housing “leaked” from where jobs are (cities) to surrounding rural areas
- We must create the conditions for urban regeneration, infill, densification
- e.g. Limerick City Centre: current population: 1,300 – potential: 10,000?



## Case Study: Limerick (Derry?)



- Limerick - needs to grow centre
- Asset base in “wrong” hands
- LA has a plan – 6 demonstration projects to acquire empty buildings and kickstart renewal
- €18m investment – no funding
- Use of fiscal policy to advantage re-use - disincentivise sprawl



## What Policies Are Needed

- Clear and deliverable figures on employment, population, housing for (a) Dublin, (b) Regional Cities, (c) Regions & Rural – DHPCLG-led Working Group
- Other Areas:
  - Land management: mobilising the State’s land-bank to secure regeneration
  - Climate Change: Mitigation/Adaptation, energy source/network options
  - Transport: Targets and mechanisms for sustainable mobility modal shift, Port and Airport capacity requirements and options
  - Environment: Join up between National Landscape Strategy, River Basin Management Planning, National Biodiversity Strategy, Marine Spatial Plan.
  - East-West / North-South co-ordination issues (infrastructure (link to NI Regional Infrastructure Planning) and economic/planning policy – evolving existing approaches)
  - Innovative implementation approaches – NPF resilience in the context of political change – can we use new funding approaches to incentivise/reward effective policy implementation, including working across borders (e.g. €200m Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund)?



## What Success Will Look Like...

- Ireland 2040 vision and principles endorsed by the public, approved by Cabinet, broad political support (like Rebuilding Ireland?)
- Shift in local authority actions towards more strategic and prioritised approach reinforced by clear policy parameters and funding support (Centre and Local working together)
- A sense of mobilisation and “things happening” on the ground – a movement?
- Sequence of annual budgets, medium term investment envelopes and strategic infrastructure thinking working in sync with identification of strategic planning and development opportunities
- Less “catch-up” – more resilience in addressing change/shocks - more prepared and better briefed to inform and guide the political process at local, regional and national levels.



# Ireland 2040 – Our Plan

## Share Your Views

Website: [www.ireland2040.ie](http://www.ireland2040.ie)

Email: [npf@housing.gov.ie](mailto:npf@housing.gov.ie)

