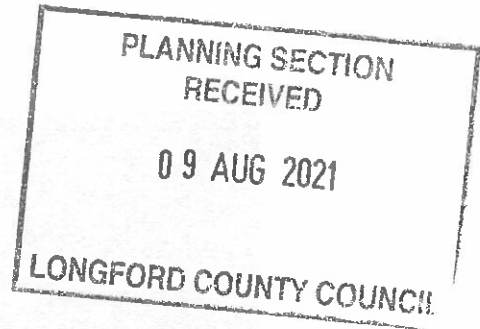


SUB 67

09/08/21
Longford County Council
Great Water Street,
Longford.



Submission to: Draft County Development Plan 2021-2027

To whom it may concern,

As part of the Public Consultation process in relation to Longford CoCo's DCDP 2021-2027, we wish to make representation for the following land rezoning change as detailed below.

We wish for the boglands of Lough Bannow, Derryadd & Derryaroge to be rezoned from Peat extraction (which has now ceased) & proposed wind development to full scale rehabilitation.

These lands are now of limited use since the end of peat extraction and due to the biodiversity emergency, must immediately be utilised to lock in and capture carbon and be transition into the Mid Shannon Wilderness Park as part of the Just Transition.

Proposed wind energy on these lands has also recently been quashed on these lands by the Irish Court.

Current zoning: Peat extraction & wind energy.

Requested change: Biodiversity rehabilitation, wildlife welfare, public health and wellbeing.

The benefits of rezoning these lands:

- Ideally suited to answer the biodiversity emergency and answers Ireland's obligations to the recently published IPCC report of August 9th, 2021.
- Carbon capture and sequestration.
- Provide a safe and encouraging space for species of conservation.
- Medical research.
- Provide a safe and open space for both the physical & mental health of the public.
- Provide a place of employment and boost local employment.
- Provide ecotourism to local businesses.
- One of the most highly densely populate areas for Whooper Swans during the Winter.

Attached, please find map of three bogs highlighted in yellow, along with a small selection of species of conservation discovered on these lands and habitats that are reliant on the full-scale rehabilitation of these lands into the Mid Shannon wilderness Park.

Kind regards

Niall Dennigan

Chairman – Mid Shannon Wilderness Park Awareness Group.

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PLANNING SECTION
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