Longford County Council Áras an Chontae Great Water Street Longford N39 NH56

21st November 2022

Re: Rezoning land

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to request my land at ..., Drumlish, Co. Longford be rezoned to agriculture use from the current status of residential and to have future development plans reflect this. The land in question in is registered under Folio No. It is on the same folio number as my residence. The land under the Folio is

bisected by a public road. A copy of the field in question is attached. It is identified on the map as N11907002.

I am a farmer and my Herd No is and I actively farm. This land is an active part of my farm, and is being maintained and used for agriculture purposes. The hay and silage that is harvested of this land annually forms an integral component of the winter feed rationings for my heard. The potential loss of this asset, and the ability to harvest, will have a detrimental affect on my ability to farm.

The potential loss of agriculture use will also have a negative impact on the surrounding wildlife. This land is part of GLAS (Green Low Carbon Agricultural Scheme). This scheme helps promote initiatives to help tackle climate change, preserve biodiversity, protect habitats and promote environmentally farming. A part of this scheme a native Irish hedgerow has been rejuvenated and the hedgerow has been extended.

This hedgerow has been augmented with additional native trees, such as Oak, Holly Hazel, and Mountain Ash, and fruit bushes such as Currants and Raspberries. These have all been incorporated to allow the land to be actively farmed while at the same time to encourage the biodiversity of the land and encourage wildlife. The minimal use of artificial fertilisers and later cutting of grass both benefits my cattle and the wildlife. The cattle receive a greater mix of grasses, herbs and plants. Insects, birds and wild animals' benefits from the various and diverse sources of nectar, grasses, herbs, fruit and nuts. Losing the agriculture use of this land will not only affect my farming activity but will also have an impact on local biodiversity.

As this land is an integral part of my farming activities, it will included in my future plans for the farm, in particular, the new forthcoming agriculture subsidy scheme ACRES. This new scheme will require active farming of this land for the future.

This land has always been farmed and it is my intention that I will continue to farm this land into the future.

Yours faithfully,



