Ashford Property Services

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Administrative Officer Forward Planning

Wicklow County Council Station Road Wicklow Town



Wicklow County Development Plan 2021-2027.

Re: Designation of Farm Buildings For commercial Enterprises

A Chara.

We would like to make a submission for consideration in the preparation of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2021-2027.

This submission is to address the major changes that are happening to the farming and rural communities.

- 1) To promote environmentally sustainable employment activity, to encourage the development of rural-based enterprises established on the principles of sustainable development to contribute positively to a vibrant and dynamic rural economy and society
- 2) Major reduction in the nation heard, which will make 1000's of sq. m. of quality farm buildings redundant, these building should be allowed to converted to commercial units subject, to planning and environmental Regulations.

- 3) It would appear that it will be government policy to repopulate rural town and villages. For this to happen we have to create jobs and houses
- 4) Facilitating farm based diversification and alternative enterprises such as starter units for small and medium enterprises • Promoting research and development linkages between centers of innovation and food producers • Recognition of the role of farmers as custodians of the natural resources of the countryside and support for this role
- 5) The model of rural land use, dominated by traditional agriculture, is changing to include more varied patterns of rural land use such as alternative crops and animals, farm forestry, recreation, tourist accommodation and activities.
- 6) Strengthen rural villages and small towns by making them attractive for employment related development.

Yours Sincerely:

Pat O'Connor. 30/08/2021

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