

## **COMMUNITY PLAN:**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DRAFT PRIORITIES (ie, what do we need to focus on to make a difference?)**

1. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment, helping to halt biodiversity loss and establish an ecosystem approach (including managing any breaches of planning control)
2. Balancing development with the capacity of local infrastructure and plan to improve our infrastructure
3. Promote and plan for (i) vibrant, usable urban environments where built heritage is preserved and enhanced; and (ii) sustainable rural communities and environments (including appropriate housing provision matched to demographics)
4. Actively promote and support waste management and an appropriate waste infrastructure
5. Improve recycling levels through education and promotion, while continuing to explore new markets and diversionary approaches which will make a positive impact
6. Achieve a balance between embracing appropriate, sustainable renewable energy sources while having due regard to the environment (including community benefits)
7. Promote appropriate access to the countryside

## Supporting Summary Information in relation to draft priorities:

Draft Priority	Supporting Evidence
<p><b>1. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment, helping to halt biodiversity loss and establish an ecosystem approach (including managing any breaches of planning control)</b></p>	<p>There are 30 / 51 priority habitats and 119 / 481 priority species in the District; Fermanagh and Omagh is home to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 1 Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty<sup>1</sup> ( Sperrin)</li> <li>✓ 12 National Nature Reserves</li> <li>✓ 1 Local Nature Reserve</li> <li>✓ 8 RAMSAR areas</li> <li>✓ 20 Special Areas of Conservation</li> <li>✓ 3 Special Protected Areas</li> <li>✓ 133 Areas of Special Scientific Interest</li> </ul> <p>30% of NI forestry is within the Fermanagh and Omagh area.</p>
<p><b>2. Balancing development with the capacity of local infrastructure and plan to improve our infrastructure</b></p>	<p>There is currently a gap in the statistical evidence surrounding spatial planning.</p> <p>There are no motor ways or dual carriageways in Fermanagh and Omagh. No rail network. One airport at St Angelo.</p>
<p><b>3. Promote and plan for (i) vibrant, usable urban environments where built heritage is preserved and enhanced; and (ii) sustainable rural communities and environments (including appropriate housing provision matched to demographics)</b></p>	<p>There is currently a gap in the statistical evidence surrounding spatial planning.</p> <p>NISRA project 440 fewer children, 965 fewer working age people and 6,400 more older people in the next decade</p> <p>Almost 5,000 farms are registered in Fermanagh and Omagh, but this has declined by 18% since 2000.</p>
<p><b>4. Actively promote and support waste management and an</b></p>	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh currently has 2 landfill sites, 2 waste transfer</p>

<p><b>appropriate waste infrastructure</b></p>	<p>stations and 15 civic amenity sites</p>
<p><b>5. Improve recycling levels through education and promotion, while continuing to explore new markets and diversionary approaches which will make a positive impact</b></p>	<p>Almost 40% of all municipal waste is recycled or composted, with the N Ireland average of 43%. (NB: <i>municipal waste, commonly known as rubbish or refuse in Northern Ireland</i>)</p>
<p><b>6. Achieve a balance between embracing appropriate, sustainable renewable energy sources and securing associated community benefits, while having due regard to the environment (including community benefits)</b></p>	<p>There are 7 active commercial wind farms, producing 150MW of power, 50% of the NI total (NB: <i>The figures quoted refer to the maximum capacity of the <u>commercial</u> wind farms in Fermanagh and Omagh and not the quantity of power produced.</i>)</p>
<p><b>7. Promote appropriate access to the countryside</b></p>	<p>Fermanagh and Omagh district covers an area of approx. 3000km<sup>2</sup> It is the most rural of the 11 new Councils with the smallest population.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 27 Quality listed walks within Fermanagh; and 13 in Omagh area (14.5% of N. Ireland total)</li> <li>✓ 1 Canoe trail in District running through Lough Erne</li> <li>✓ Angling facilities throughout the region which include Lough Melvin, 16 angling sites throughout Lough Erne, 17 angling sites in Omagh.</li> <li>✓ 199.8 miles of cycle paths in district (28.2% of N. Ireland total)</li> </ul>

## **2. Potential Draft Outcomes: (ie, what results do we want to have achieved in 10-15 years?)**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL – DRAFT OUTCOMES**

- We will value and promote our natural and built environments and protect and enhance them for future generations.
- We will plan and develop our environment to support sustainable business and employment growth in key sectors (including renewables and tourism)
- We will reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production

---

1. Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are designated in recognition of their national importance of distinctive character and special scenic value.