



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

FODC203

# Local Development Plan 2030 Population and Growth Topic Paper

Updated June 2020

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This background paper has been prepared to draw together the evidence base that has been used to inform the preparation of the Fermanagh and Omagh Local Development Plan (LDP) 2030. It is one of a suite of topic-based background papers that should be read alongside the LDP to understand the rationale and justification for the policies proposed within the draft Plan Strategy published in October 2018.
- 1.2 It is an update of the Position Paper prepared and published as the baseline evidence for the Preferred Options Paper (POP) in October 2016 and which identified the key issues that need to be addressed by the LDP. Since the publication of the Draft Plan Strategy in October 2018, the paper has been further updated to take account of the most recently published NISRA population and household projections and updated Housing Growth Indicators (HGIs). The relevant paragraphs updated are 3.4 to 3.9 and 4.6.

The paper provides information on:-

- (i) a profile of the population including the different Section 75 groups of people;
- (ii) population growth and population projections up until 2030; and
- (iii) a settlement strategy for accommodating growth.

## **2.0 Population Profile**

- 2.1 Population change has implications for the provision of housing, employment opportunities and public services including health, education and infrastructure. It is therefore important to know the components of population change and the characteristics of the population when planning for future growth. Planning is also about meeting the needs of everyone.
- 2.2 Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires a public authority, in carrying out its functions relating to Northern Ireland, to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:
- between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
  - between men and women generally;
  - between persons with a disability and persons without; and
  - between persons with dependants and persons without.

In addition, without prejudice to the above obligations, public authorities are required to have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or race.

- 2.3 The principle of promoting equality of opportunity and good relations between people must be a key objective behind the plan and will be a central theme of the sustainability assessment. In land use planning terms this means ensuring everyone benefits from quality housing, employment, and access to public services and recreation facilities. These themes will be addressed in more detail in later papers. However, this paper begins the process of identifying issues and needs facing different groups within our area over and above the general population, so that these can be considered at every stage of the plan making process. If an aim of the plan is also to help build a cohesive society then it must also be recognised that this can only be achieved by “sharing space” and “accessing opportunities”. Therefore, the paper also examines the extent to which segregation occurs and the pattern of multiple deprivation.

*(a) Age Structure*

- 2.4 Fermanagh and Omagh is broadly in line with the Northern Ireland population age structure albeit with a slightly higher proportion of those under 16 years of age (Tables 1 and 2). In relation to age it is young and old people who tend to be most vulnerable. There tends to be more elderly people in the towns where there is a range of facilities including nursing homes, sheltered and other housing designed to meet their needs, together with better access to services. However, there are also many elderly people living in the countryside where access to services is more problematic, particularly in Fermanagh. There is a slightly younger age profile in the rural areas around Omagh town as well as within newer housing developments such as those in Killyclogher (see Maps 1 & 2, Appendix 1).

**Table 1 – Age Structure of Population 2001**

	<b>0-15 years</b>	<b>16-64 years</b>	<b>65+ years</b>
<b>N Ireland</b>	23.6% (398,056)	60.9% (1,025,700)	15.5% (261,511)
<b>Fermanagh District</b>	24.1% (13,864)	60.0% (34,514)	15.9 (9,149)
<b>Omagh District</b>	25.9% (12,399)	60.6% (29,055)	13.6% (6,498)
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh</b>	25%	60.3%	14.75%

Source: Census 2001

**Table 2 - Age Structure of Population**

<b>2011</b>	<b>0-15 years</b>	<b>16-64 years</b>	<b>65+ years</b>
<b>N Ireland</b>	20.95% (379,323)	64.49% 1,167,820)	14.56% (263,720)
<b>Fermanagh District</b>	21.26% (13,141)	63.81% (39,440)	14.92% (9,224)
<b>Omagh District</b>	22.72% (11,667)	64.2% (32,974)	13.08% (6,715)
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh</b>	21.92%	64.0%	14.08%
Source: Census 2011			
<b>Mid 2017</b>			
<b>N Ireland</b>	20.88% (0.07) (390,684)	62.92% (1.57) (1,177,175)	16.2% (1.64) (302,975)
<b>Fermanagh District</b>	21.35% (0.09) (13,593)	61.3% (2.51) (39,034)	17.35% (2.43) (11,047)
<b>Omagh District</b>	21.94% (0.78) (11,545)	62.75% (1.45) (33,015)	15.3% (2.22) (8,055)
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh</b>	21.61% (0.31)	61.96% (2.04)	16.43% (2.35)
Source: NISRA 2018 (coloured figures in brackets indicate % increase or decrease in population from 2011 Census statistics)			

- 2.5 The Northern Ireland trend is that the proportion of people over 65 years of age is growing and is expected to overtake that of children (those aged under 15 years) by mid-2043 (24.2% and 17.6% respectively) (NISRA 2018-based population projections). The district is projected to experience the highest growth in the population aged 65 and over with a growth rate of 28% between mid-2018 and mid-2028. By 2028, the proportion of people over 65 will be 20.9%. A key issue for elderly people is poverty with many older people having to live on

reduced incomes, with reduced mobility and increased disability. Nearly one half of people over 60 in Northern Ireland live with a long-term illness or disability and this grows with age (Census 2011). (HSNI figures for 2016/17 indicate 62% of people aged 65-74 had a longstanding illness with that figure rising to 75% of over 75s).

- 2.6 Some 15% of Northern Ireland's pensioners live in low income households (defined as below 60% of medium income after deducting housing costs), 1% below the UK average (Family Resources Survey, 2016/17). This is reflected in car ownership with one fifth of retired couples and two thirds of single pensioners living in households without a car. It is also reflected in fuel poverty. In 2006, a third of all households were in fuel poverty with single pensioners being the group at greatest risk (Northern Ireland Housing Survey, 2008). This figure had risen to 44% of households in 2009 (DSDNI 'A New Fuel Poverty Strategy for Northern Ireland' March 2011). In 2016 falling oil prices and increasing energy efficiency measures meant fuel poverty fell sharply to 22% in 2016. This figure is likely to rise again however as while 500 litres of home heating oil cost £125 in January 2016<sup>1</sup> the same volume would cost on average £273 in September 2018. Fermanagh is one of the areas in Northern Ireland with the greatest proportion of houses without central heating.
- 2.7 The growing number of elderly is a key factor in declining average household size, projected to drop for Fermanagh and Omagh from 2.67 in 2016 to 2.55 in 2030 (NISRA Household Projections, 2016). This has been taken into account by central government when formulating the Regional Development Strategy 2035 Housing Growth Indicators. A Local Development Plan has a role in providing development land to meet these indicators and facilitate housing units to meet the needs of the elderly, particularly nursing homes, sheltered accommodation and smaller sized units. It also has a role in ensuring such units are accessible. Building control ensures design compliance, however planning needs to ensure that housing for the elderly is sited where it is accessible to local services and transportation. These services include health and other community facilities together with recreation and shops. A rising elderly population will also increase demand for health and community services, the development of which will also need to be accommodated.
- 2.8 Around 22% of the population in Fermanagh & Omagh is under 16. The number of children under 16 in Fermanagh and Omagh is projected to fall by 1,500 between 2018 and 2028 to 23,900 (NISRA, Population Projections 2018). This will have implications for provision of crèches, nurseries and schools. Perhaps the largest change will be in the provision of secondary education with the development of the Strule Education Campus at Lisanelly, Omagh and the amalgamation

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<sup>1</sup> Data provided by The Consumer Council.

of Portora and the Collegiate (now Enniskillen Royal Grammar) in Enniskillen.

- 2.9 Children are also a vulnerable group. Over one quarter (26%) of children in Northern Ireland are living in low income households (FRS, 2007). Young people do not have independent use of a car. Therefore, safe and sustainable access to community and recreation facilities, including play parks and sports grounds, remains high on the agenda.
- 2.10 All of the above issues are also relevant to people between 16 and 65, the key difference being employment is a major issue for those people of working age. In April 2020, the claimant count rate for the Fermanagh & Omagh District was 3.8% which is lower than the average NI rate of 4.8% (NISRA - Claimant Count tables, April 2020). Unemployment is a particular issue for young people aged 18-24. The unemployment rate for this group had a peak of 20% in 2013 but by 2019 it had decreased to 7.4%. However, this group is predicted to be the most impacted upon by the COVID-19 situation and its consequences on the economy.

*(b) Marital Status*

- 2.11 Since 1991 there has been an increase in the proportion of single people in N. Ireland. In the Fermanagh and Omagh, the trend is similar, albeit with a slightly higher proportion of married people (Table 3).

**Table 3 - Marital Status in 2011**

	<b>All People ≥ 16</b>	<b>Single (never married) %</b>	<b>Married * %</b>	<b>Divorced %</b>	<b>Widowed** %</b>
<b>NI</b>	1,431,540	36.14	51.63	5.45	6.78
<b>Fermanagh/Omagh</b>	88,353	35.76	53.41	4.0	6.77
<b>Fermanagh</b>	48,664	35.46	53.27	4.11	7.16
<b>Omagh</b>	39689	36.14	53.59	3.96	6.31

*Source:- Census 2011*

\*2011 Married – This includes people who were remarried; those who are separated but still legally married; and those in a same-sex civil partnership. \*\* 2011 Widowed includes surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership.

- 2.12 Official statistics mask the number of couples (unmarried) who are co-habiting. The role of planning is not to pass moral judgements but to meet the needs of the population. In this case, the challenge is providing housing to meet the needs of single people. It is reasonable to assume that many single wage earners will not have the same purchase power of a double income household. Single people also have different social needs to those who are married/co-habiting and have families. Young, single people are key to the economy of any town centres, providing a significant part of the market for pubs, clubs

and restaurants. However, this can mask the feeling of social exclusion experienced by many single people, particularly the elderly, disabled and single parents. Single parents remain one of the most disadvantaged groups with over half falling within low-income groups and over half of lone parent families not having access to a car (Poverty site, 2010).

*(c) Gender and Life Expectancy*

2.13 The usually resident population is broadly split on a 50/50 basis between men and women. Life expectancy continues to improve for both males and females. Over the period 1998-2000 to 2008-2010, life expectancy for males improved at a slightly faster rate than for females, reducing the gender gap to females who live around 5 years longer than males, a differential which is slightly higher than the N Ireland level. In the UK, life expectancy at birth is expected to increase by around five years between 2012 and 2037 (Office of National Statistics, 2013) for both men and women and it is therefore anticipated that life expectancy will similarly increase in the Council area.

**Table 4: Gender balance of Fermanagh and Omagh Population**

Sex	Fermanagh - Omagh	Fermanagh	Omagh	N. Ireland
Male	50.05%	50.12%	49.99%	49%
Female	49.94%	49.88%	50.01%	51%

*Source: Census 2011*

**Table 5: Life Expectancy by Gender - Fermanagh and Omagh Population**

	1998-2000		2011-2013	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
NI	74.49	79.57	78.1	82.4
Fermanagh	74.3	80.3		
Omagh	73.8	80.3		
Fermanagh & Omagh			78.6	83.3

*Source: NISRA*

2.14 There are key differences between the sexes in that women tend to take on the role of carer whether it be for children or aging relatives which is discussed later. Women suffer inequalities in terms of wealth, employment and access to services. The gender pay gap (i.e. the difference between men's and women's earnings as a percentage of men's earnings) in 2017 based on median gross hourly earnings (excluding overtime) for full-time employees is 8.7% (NI Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)). In Northern Ireland the difference is most pronounced for those on low incomes, with half of those people earning less than £7 being in part time employment, mainly women (DETI, 2010). The gender gap is also reflected in access to a private

car with 25% of men in the UK and 40% of women lacking a car in their household or not possessing a driving license (Poverty site, 2010). These figures are often masked by the fact that only a small percentage of couples do not have access to a car.

- 2.15 Planning can have a role in addressing this inequality not only by facilitating job creation but by facilitating new employment opportunities at locations accessible by sustainable forms of transport other than just the private car. The same holds true for shops, recreation, and community services. Planning can also help by adopting a more flexible approach to innovation and a flexible approach to home working.

*(d) Health and Disability*

- 2.16 A person is described as having a limiting long-term health problem if they have a health problem or disability which limits their daily activities and which has lasted, or expected to last, at least 12 months. This includes problems that are due to old age (Census 2011). In 2014/15, 5% of children in Northern Ireland were disabled compared to 18% of adults of working age and 47% of adults over State Pension age (DSD Family Resources Survey). Overall, the health of the area is improving (Tables 6 & 7) but one in five people in Fermanagh-Omagh suffer from some form of limiting illness.
- 2.17 Areas within towns tend to have more elderly people and people with a long term illness e.g. Lisanelly 1 and Strule in Omagh and Devenish in Enniskillen. In general, where there are higher levels of long term limiting illness, there are lower levels of people who described their health as being good or very good and vice versa. There are also areas with slightly higher proportions of people providing unpaid care including Lisnarrick, Ballinamallard, Florence Court & Kinawley and Rosslea, Beragh, Fairy Water, Killyclogher 1 and Termon (see Maps 3, 4 & 5, Appendix 1).

**Table 6 – Health in 2001**

	<b>Limiting long-term illness</b>	<b>Good General Health</b>	<b>People Providing Unpaid care</b>
<b>NI</b>	20.4%	70.0%	11.0%
<b>Fermanagh</b>	19.2%	72.2%	9.9%
<b>Omagh</b>	20.4%	71.4%	10.0%

Source: - Census 2001

**Table 7 – Health in 2011**

	<b>Limiting long-term illness</b>	<b>Good or Very Good General</b>	<b>People Providing</b>
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		<b>Health</b>	<b>Unpaid care</b>
<b>NI</b>	20.69%	79.51%	11.81%
<b>Fermanagh</b>	19.91%	81.02%	10.92%
<b>Omagh</b>	21.76%	78.62%	11.14%

Source: - Census 2011

2.18 If care in the community is to succeed, value needs to be attached to carers. In 2013/2014, 6% of the population were informal carers and that figure included 8% of working age adults, 8% of State Pension age adults and 2% of children. Some 59% of reported carers are women. The time spent caring varies from 46% of adult carers providing care for less than 20 hours per week, to 19% caring for 50 hours or more per week (DSD Family Resources Survey, 2013-14).

2.19 The link between health and wealth is well rehearsed as is the relationship between mobility and health. Therefore, as with other groups, planning has a role in accommodating accessible housing, employment and services. Planning also has a role in helping to improve the health and well-being of people by avoiding development which would result in a deterioration in air or water quality; safeguarding and facilitating open space, sport and outdoor recreation; managing the adverse impacts of noise and nuisance by influencing the location, layout and design of new development. Planning also has a role in recognising and facilitating development to meet the needs of carers, by facilitating houses for those with special circumstances or extension of homes to include “granny annexes”.

*(e) Households with or without dependent children*

2.20 A “dependent child” is defined as 0-15 or aged 16-18 who is a full-time student and living in a family with his or her parent(s) or grandparent(s) (Census 2011). The proportion of households (including lone parent households) with dependent children has declined since 1981, although Fermanagh-Omagh remain slightly higher than the NI average (Table 8). In general, there are more areas in Omagh District with higher proportions of dependent children, particularly in predominantly Catholic areas in Omagh town and some rural areas (see Map 6, Appendix 1).

**Table 8 – Households with Dependent Children – Census 2011**

<b>Households</b>	<b>Both districts</b>	<b>Fermanagh</b>	<b>Omagh</b>	<b>N. Ireland</b>
% with dependent children 2011	35.12%	33.61%	36.64%	33.85%
% with dependent children 1981	48.29%	46.25%	51.01%	45.98%

Source: Census 1981, 2011

2.21 The decline in households with dependent children is another reason why the average household size has declined. However, a significant proportion of households in Fermanagh and Omagh are larger in size, well above the Northern Ireland average. In part this could be due to the inclusion of other dependents such as the elderly or infirm (Table 9).

**Table 9 – Household Composition**

	<b>All Households</b>	<b>1 Person Household (%)</b>	<b>2 Person Household (%)</b>	<b>3-4 Person Household (%)</b>	<b>5 + Person Household (%)</b>
<b>NI</b>	<b>703,275</b>	<b>27.93</b>	<b>30.19</b>	<b>31.44</b>	<b>10.46</b>
<b>Fermanagh/Omagh</b>	<b>41,512</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>27.43</b>	<b>31.35</b>	<b>14.11</b>
<b>Fermanagh</b>	<b>23,069</b>	<b>27.55</b>	<b>28.39</b>	<b>31.14</b>	<b>12.91</b>
<b>Omagh</b>	<b>18,443</b>	<b>26.52</b>	<b>26.25</b>	<b>31.61</b>	<b>15.62</b>

*Source: Census 2011*

2.22 The role of planning in relation to access and service provision has been rehearsed with regards to the elderly and children. It is worth emphasising that those acting as carers regularly face the same issues particularly in households where the carer is on a low income and does not have access to a car. The Local Development Plan has a role in providing a range of houses types to meet the needs of different household sizes and to provide policy to facilitate those wishing to expand their houses to meet changing needs, providing it does not harm other interests of acknowledged importance.

*(f) Sexual Orientation*

2.23 There are no specific figures available on how many people may be Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual or Trans-gender or Trans-sexual in Fermanagh-Omagh. People in this group often feel excluded or marginalised in society. More importantly, they can also fall victim of discrimination and threat of physical violence from the less tolerant in society. Whilst the Plan is unlikely to bring forward specific proposals and policies for them, it is anticipated that many of the measures in a Local Development Plan aimed at providing a range of house types, creating employment and accessible services as well as improving safety and security will benefit this group.

*(g) Race and Ethnicity*

2.24 In 2001, 9% of Northern Ireland's population were born outside the region and this was a similar statistic in both Fermanagh and Omagh Districts. By 2011, this proportion had increased to 11.1% for N. Ireland compared to 13.36% of the Fermanagh-Omagh population. The majority of non-indigenous people were born either in the rest of the UK or in the Republic of Ireland. The remainder comprises people

born in other European countries and countries outside Europe (Table 10).

- 2.25 Racial ethnicity remains predominantly ‘white’ with 99% of the district described in this category. Other ethnic groups including Asian, Black and Mixed comprise very small numbers (Census 2011) and as a consequence it is unlikely that the Local Development Plan will have a particular impact on these groups. However, it is important to monitor changes over time as this may have implications particularly in relation to equality of access to homes and jobs.

**Table 10: Country of Birth for Fermanagh – Omagh 2011**

	<b>N Ireland</b>	<b>Rest of UK</b>	<b>Republic of Ireland</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Outside Europe</b>
<b>Both Districts</b>	86.64%	4.64%	4.69%	2.8%	1.16%
<b>Fermanagh</b>	84%	5.47%	6.66%	2.71%	1.13%
<b>Omagh</b>	89.83%	3.64%	2.32%	2.92%	1.2%
<b>N Ireland</b>	88.84%	4.47%	2.09%	2.6%	1.84%

*Source: Census 2011 Note: Channel Islands and Isle of Man are excluded from the above figures.*

- 2.26 An exception may be Irish Travellers who have been described as a different ethnic group. Their needs can be distinctive in terms of providing sites or supported housing for travellers. The housing needs assessment undertaken by the NIHE addresses this matter and will be considered in a later housing paper.

*(h) Religion and Political Opinion*

- 2.27 The designation of settlements and provision of development opportunities needs to be carefully considered against the needs and spatial distribution of people of different religion or political opinion to prevent prejudice of any religious or political group and thus meet the requirements of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act.
- 2.28 The Fermanagh-Omagh population has a predominantly Roman Catholic background in contrast to the region as a whole (Table 11). The majority of Super Output Areas (SOAs) are reasonably mixed though quite a few can be identified as being either predominantly (more than 70%) Protestant/Other or Roman Catholic. On the whole there are more ‘balanced’ communities in Fermanagh than in Omagh (see Map 7, Appendix 1). However, care needs to be taken when examining mix across the wide area as this can conceal the stark differences between neighbourhoods in towns and villages.

**Table 11: Religious composition of Fermanagh-Omagh 2011**

<b>Religious background</b>	<b>Fermanagh-Omagh</b>	<b>Fermanagh</b>	<b>Omagh</b>	<b>N. Ireland</b>
Roman Catholic	64.23%	59.16%	70.34%	45.14%
Protestant/Other Christian	33.07%	37.78%	27.42%	48.36%

Source: Census 2011

- 2.29 In Northern Ireland, political opinion is viewed as being closely associated with religious belief in that Catholics will generally vote for Nationalist parties while Protestants vote for Unionist parties. However, the results of the first preference votes cast in the 2014 Local Elections suggest that some Catholics vote for Unionist parties as well as for other parties and independents (Table 12). Of course the converse could also be true for some Protestants.
- 2.30 Care needs to be taken when making comparisons between communities of different religious/political persuasion as this can be extremely divisive and can unravel the definite progress made in bringing the two communities together. However, there are certain facts which need to be addressed. The proportion of Catholics in low income groups in Northern Ireland is much higher than their Protestant counterparts, 26% compared with 16% (Family Resources Survey 2008/9).

**Table 12: Political Opinion across Fermanagh-Omagh 2014**

<b>Political Party Groupings</b>	<b>Proportion of First Preference Votes</b>
Nationalist parties	60%
Unionist parties	37%
Independent/Other	3%

Source: 2014 Local Government Election Results

*(i) Spatial Deprivation*

- 2.31 An effective way to promote good community relations and equal opportunity is to tackle social deprivation and inequalities in the labour market and public health. The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2017 replaced NIMDM 2010 as the official measure of deprivation in Northern Ireland. NIMDM 2017 identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland (Super Output Areas with an average population of 2100). Within the context of the average rankings for the 11 LGDs in Northern Ireland where ranks range from 1 (most deprived) to 11 (least deprived), Fermanagh and Omagh is ranked 9th, however within each area there remain pockets of high deprivation. The MDM shows that 24% of the total Fermanagh and Omagh population live in the top 25% most deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Northern Ireland. The Council area also

contains three SOAs which are amongst the top 10% most deprived in Northern Ireland – Devenish (Rank 44), Lisanelly 2 (Rank 46) and Lisanelly 1 (Rank 47) – out of a total of 890 SOAs in Northern Ireland (890 being least deprived).

- 2.32 The advantage of this spatially led approach is that it identifies disparities between urban and rural areas and adjoining neighbourhoods, for example, Lisanelly 2 in Omagh (Rank 46) and the adjoining SOA Gortin (Rank 573) (less deprived) in Omagh. Generally speaking, the more peripheral areas of Fermanagh-Omagh tend to be more disadvantaged compared to the immediate hinterland of the towns and the productive river valleys. There are significant pockets of deprivation (income, health, education, skills) in the two hubs and in Newtownbutler, Rosslea and Fintona.
- 2.33 The highest concentrations of deprivation with respect to proximity to services (i.e. long distances to key services e.g. A & E hospital, GP premises, supermarket, leisure centre) include Belcoo and Garrison, Rosslea and Trillick. The most deprived SOAs for crime and disorder are Portora, Devenish and Erne in Enniskillen and Lisanelly 2 and Drumragh in Omagh town.
- 2.34 Deprivation is also reflected in economic activity. Whilst unemployment has fallen from 7.0% (Fermanagh) and 8.5% (Omagh) in 2001 to just below 5% in 2011, despite the down turn in 2007 (Table 13) there are localised areas of higher unemployment in Lisanelly (8.4%), Owenkillew (8.31%) and Devenish (8.51%). In providing employment, manufacturing and construction provide proportionally more employment in the new council area compared to N.I average and service jobs are comparatively lower (Table 14). Thus, the role of the future Local Development Plan in addressing deprivation is through the provision of a generous supply of industry and business land.

**Table 13 - Economic Activity of the Population (16-74 year olds) in 2011**

	Economically Active			Economically Inactive
	Total	Unemployed	Long-Term Unemployed	Total
<b>NI</b>	66.22%	4.96%	44.98%	33.78%
<b>Fermanagh</b>	67.14%	4.71%	47.35%	32.86%
<b>Omagh</b>	64.52%	4.92%	46.79%	35.48%

Source: - NISRA Census 2011

**Table 14 – Employee Jobs by Industry 2011**

	Total No of Jobs	% Jobs in Manufacturing	% Jobs in Construction	% Jobs in Services
<b>Fermanagh</b>	20,754	14.9%	5.1%	78.3%
<b>Omagh</b>	17,513	8.3%	8.6%	80.9%

<b>Combined</b>	38,267	11.9%	6.7%	79.5%
<b>NI</b>	681,641	10.9%	4.8%	83.1%

Source: DETI District Council Briefings November 2013. Employee jobs by Industry, September 2011 (Northern Ireland Census of Employment 2011)

2.35 Education has also an important role in promoting economic well-being. Better education improves access to employment opportunities. It improves the quality of people's lives and leads to broad social benefits to individuals and society. Education raises people's productivity and creativity and promotes entrepreneurship and technological advances. In addition, it plays a very crucial role in securing economic and social progress and improving income distribution. Since 2001, the proportion of people aged 16 years old and over who had a degree or higher qualification has increased and the proportion that had no or low (1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSE or equivalent) qualification has decreased (Table 15). However education achievement in parts of the main towns and rural areas remains low, particularly in Gortrush, Devenish, Drumquin, Fintona, Newtownbutler and Lisnaskea (see Map 9, Appendix 1)

**Table 15: Qualifications of Population over 16 years of age in Fermanagh-Omagh**

	<b>Fermanagh</b>	<b>Omagh</b>	<b>Northern Ireland</b>
<b>No or low qualifications</b>	44.09% (44.79%)	42.17% (43.34%)	40.63% (41.64%)
<b>Degree or higher qualification</b>	21.27% (13.52%)	23.28% (14.43%)	24.0% (15.8%)

Source: Census 2011, NISRA. Figures in ( ) are for 2001.

2.36 Whilst a Local Development Plan does not deliver educational services, it can assist in making such services more accessible either by facilitating new state-of-the-art facilities or providing travel options.

*(j) The East West and Urban-Rural Divide*

2.37 The Family Resources Survey Urban Rural Report (DfC, 2013-14) reveals that the average weekly income in Northern Ireland in 2013/14 was £395 before housing costs however, this figure is skewed upwards by the Belfast Metropolitan area where the average is £428. Nearly 19% of people in NI are in relative poverty and this percentage is highest in the rural west at 24%. About 60% of N.I. household income comes from wages or salaries with another 8% from self-employment. However, in the rural west, 13% of income is derived from self-employment, with nearly 22% of males self-employed compared to a 8% N.I. average. Male unemployment is also higher at 7%.

Households in the urban west are more dependent on income subsidy with 43% receiving a benefit compared to 16% in the rural east. In 2012/13, the urban east received a marginally higher level of non-income related benefit at 77% compared to 76% in the rural west. The rural west has the highest level of house ownership with 48% of homes owned outright (DfC, FRS Urban Rural Report 2013-2014).

2.38 What this means for a Local Development Plan is that not only is there a need for quality employment to lower the need for benefits, but there is also a culture of independence and entrepreneurship and, if facilitated, many households will generate their own income and provide their own homes.

2.39 In 2011, Fermanagh and Omagh District was relatively rural with just over half of the population living in designated settlements while the remainder lived in the open countryside (Table 16). The number of households increased significantly in the countryside between 2001 and 2011, increasing by 25% compared to a 6.74% increase across the settlements. The proportion of households in the countryside was 40.8% (16,931) in 2011 compared to 59.2% (24,581) in the settlements.

**Table 16 – Urban-Rural Population Split in 2011**

	<b>Fermanagh and Omagh</b>	
<b>Main Towns</b>	33,472	(29.6%)
<b>Local Towns</b>	8,037	(7.1%)
<b>Total Towns</b>	41,509	(36.7%)
<b>Villages Small Settlements</b>	19,454	(17.2%)
<b>Total Urban</b>	60,963	(53.9%)
<b>Countryside</b>	52,198 (46.1%)	
<b>Total District</b>	113,161	

Source: - Census 2011

2.40 From this analysis it is clear that the towns need to develop in order to fulfil their roles as regional hubs and, in the case of Enniskillen, a regional gateway. This said, the needs of those people living in the rural area cannot be forgotten and if those populations are to be sustained they will also require their share of housing and employment opportunities. These themes will be picked up in later papers.

### *Conclusions*

2.41 From the analysis a local development plan can assist building inclusive and cohesive communities addressing everyone's needs by providing equality of opportunity, facilitating employment and wealth creation, providing accessible services, increasing transportation options and promoting shared space. Decisions must be made based on targeting deprivation and being aware of the consequences for

Catholic and Protestant communities. The policy areas where a Local Development Plan is likely to have an impact on Section 75 groups will be subject to an Equality Impact Screening exercise.

2.42 A Local Development Plan, designed to complement a community plan, can assist in combating many of the issues highlighted by formulating policy and proposals for the area designed at truly achieving sustainable development. Under the three key headings of sustainable development, (i.e. economic, social and environment) it is clear that if the needs of the community and Section 75 groups are to be addressed, then we need to increase the economic and social base, whilst also protecting and enhancing the environment and improving public infrastructure. Accordingly, a number of objectives have been drafted for the future Local Development Plan which have taken account of the community plan and its spatial aspirations. These objectives (Table 17) have evolved from those set out in the original Position Paper 1 and have taken into account consultation responses to the Preferred Options Paper. Since publication of the draft Plan Strategy, the HGI for Fermanagh and Omagh has been reduced to 4,300 dwellings and this now replaces the figure of 5,190 in Table 17.

**Table 17 – Strategic Objectives**

Plan Strategy Objectives		Link to Community Plan
Social		People and Communities
1	Develop the roles of Enniskillen and Omagh as economic, transportation and cultural hubs providing the main focus for new housing, employment, shops, leisure activities, public administrative and community services including health and education.	Aim: To improve the wellbeing of our citizens and develop thriving rural and urban communities  1. Our people are healthy and well – physically, mentally and emotionally  2. Older people lead more independent, engaged and socially connected lives
2	Protect and sustain the role of local towns and villages so that they act as local centres for shops and community services meeting the daily needs of their rural hinterlands.	
3	Provide for vibrant rural communities whilst protecting the countryside in which they live by accommodating sustainable development.	
4	Provide for 4,300 <sup>2</sup> new homes by 2030 across a range of housing	

<sup>1</sup> The Revised Housing Growth Indicator for FODC for the period 2016-2030 is 4,300 (DfI September 2019)

<sup>2</sup> Active travel is defined as personal travel involving some element of physical activity, mainly walking and cycling.

	types and tenures capable of meeting the needs of all sections of the community at locations accessible to existing and new community (including education) services, employment, leisure and recreational facilities.	3. Our communities are inclusive, safe, resilient and empowered
5	Facilitate the development of new social, community and recreational services at locations accessible to existing communities and new housing developments, through a variety of modes of transportation e.g. public, active <sup>3</sup> and community.	4. Our people have the best start in life with lifelong opportunities to fulfil their potential
6	Provide for environments that are safe, healthy and connected and which enhance opportunities for shared space for all.	
<b>Economic</b>		<b>Economy, Infrastructure and Skills</b>
7	Promote sustainable economic development and growth by facilitating the creation of 4,875 new jobs by 2030 and providing a sufficient supply of economic development land through a range and choice of sites, taking into account accessibility by public transport and active travel modes.	Aim: To improve employment opportunities for all by supporting the development and growth of a more sustainable local economy and better connected area.
8	Promote inward investment, diversify the local economy, assist with economic regeneration and physical renewal, and help generate skilled, well paid employment opportunities and improve employability in the most deprived areas.	5. Our economy is thriving, expanding and outward looking
9	Recognise and accommodate the micro business base including rural entrepreneurship, self-employment and home working	6. Our district is a connected place
10	Support the provision of an accessible, integrated, safe and sustainable transport network and locate development to improve accessibility by public transport, cycling and walking, help reduce car dependency and the impact of traffic on local communities and the	

	environment.	
11	Improve digital connectivity which both meets the needs of business and private households whilst reducing the need to travel.	
12	Develop the Council area as a destination for quality leisure visits and sustainable tourism by enabling the provision of new, as well as enhancement of existing tourism infrastructure in appropriate locations.	
<b>Environmental</b>		<b>Environment</b>
13	Conserve, sustain and enhance the area's environmental qualities, local distinctiveness including special landscapes, and sites of environmental importance in terms of biodiversity, wildlife and habitats, local landscape character, townscape, traditional settlement patterns, and historic environment.	<p>Aim: To promote positive action on climate change, sustainable management and enhancement of the natural, built and cultural environment.</p> <p>7. Our outstanding natural environment and built and cultural heritage is sustainably managed and, where possible, enhanced.</p> <p>8. Our district is an attractive and accessible place.</p>
14	Follow the principles of sustainability and high quality design standards in all developments to assist with meeting Climate Change targets and place-making.	
15	Sustainably manage and safeguard where appropriate our natural resources including minerals and water, protecting the environment and providing sustainable services including effective and sustainable waste management to meet population needs.	
16	Support renewables infrastructure whilst affording protection to the environment including impacts on landscapes from wind energy developments.	
17	Prevent inappropriate new development in areas known to be at risk of flooding or that may increase the flood risk elsewhere and put in place measures to assist in flood risk management.	
18	Protect and enhance the local green infrastructure network such as open space and green wildlife corridors whilst contributing to the	

	enhancement of community health and well-being.	
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2.42 Planning can assist in achieving many of these goals by:

- (a) designating settlement limits and town centre boundaries;
- (b) zoning land for housing and industry and business;
- (c) reserving land for community, recreational use or infrastructure;
- (d) identifying and designating areas subject to environmental protection.

### 3.0 Population Growth and Population Projections

#### Population Growth and Components of Change

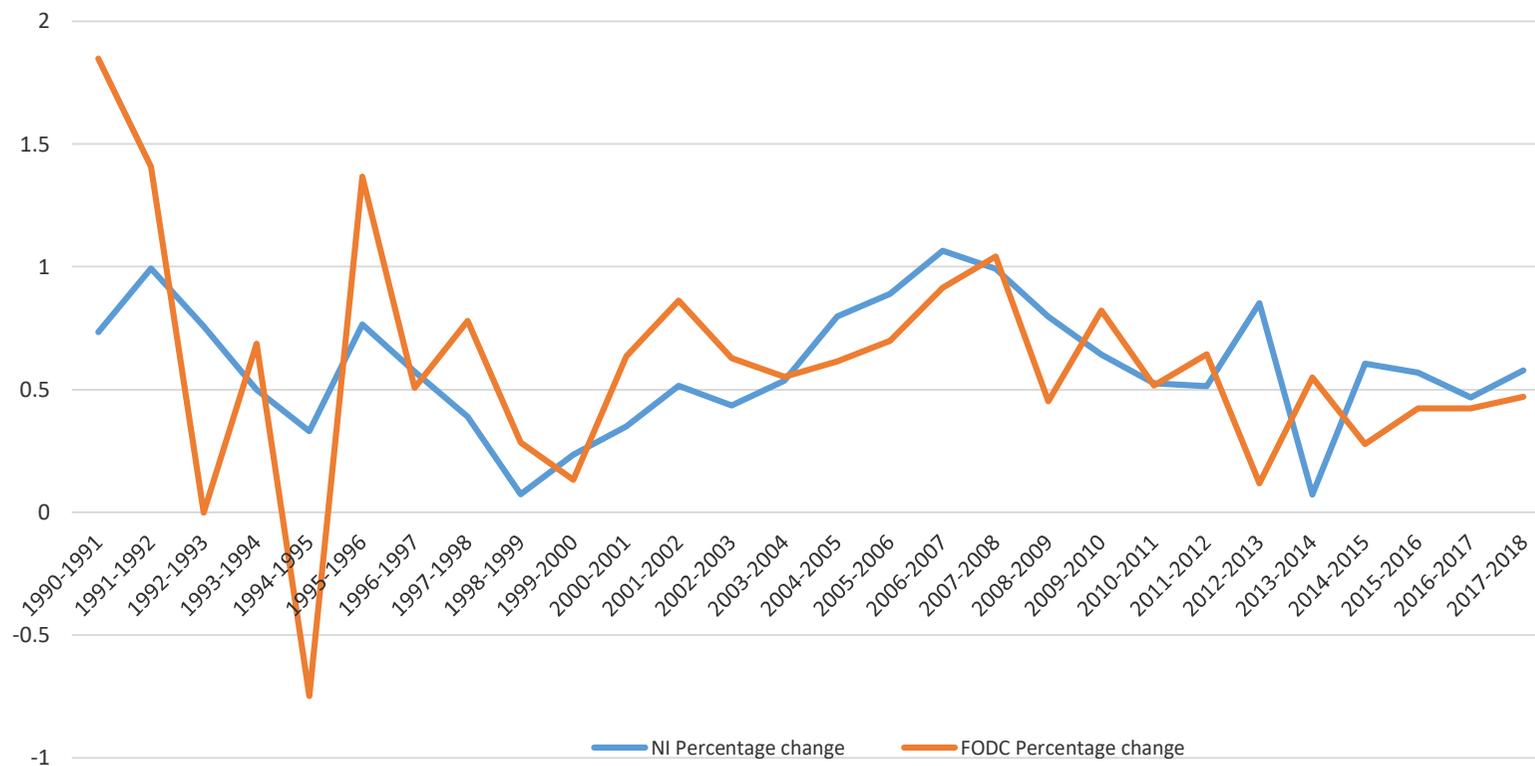
- 3.1 In 2011, the populations of the former Fermanagh and Omagh Districts were 61,805 and 51,356 respectively (113,161 in total). These represented a 7.3% growth in the population over a 10-year period closely mirroring the Northern Ireland average. Only Omagh District achieved a higher rate of growth during the period 1971-1981. In the 40-year period (1971-2011), both districts experienced population growth at a higher rate than the regional average (Table 18).
- 3.2 The Mid-Year Population Estimates indicate that Fermanagh and Omagh District's population has increased in population since 1996 with rates at times either above or below the NI average. In 2015 and 2016/2017, the District showed a percentage change in Mid-Year Population Estimates slightly below the regional figure. There have been marked fluctuations in the percentage change year to year since 1991 but more recent years have seen a steadying of this trend. The district has been following more closely the NI trend of smaller year on year positive growth (Figure 1).

**Table 18 Population Trends in Fermanagh & Omagh 1971-2011**

Year	Fermanagh District	Omagh District	Both Districts	NI
1971	50,979	41,180	92,159	1,536,070
1981	51,594	44,290	95,884	1,532,200
1991	54,033	45,810	99,843	1,577,840
2001	57,527	47,950	105,477	1,685,270
2011	61,805	51,356	113,161	1,810,863
% change 1971-1981	+1.2%	+7.6%	+4%	-0.25%
% change 1981-1991	+4.7%	+3.4%	+4.1%	+3%
% change 1991-2001	+6.5%	+4.7%	+5.6%	+6.8%
% change 2001-2011	+7.4%	+7.1%	+7.3%	+7.4%
% change 1971-2011	+21.2%	+24.7%	+22.7%	+17.9%

Source: - Census 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 & 2011

Figure 1 - Percentage Change in Mid Year Population Estimates 1991-2019



Source: - NISRA 2020 (Figures for FODC based on an average of the percentages for the former Fermanagh and Omagh Districts)

- 3.3 Population change occurs due to the combined effect of net migration (both in and out migration) and the level of natural increase which is the difference between the number of births and deaths. Migration has had a significant impact on the population of NI and to a lesser extent the population of Fermanagh and Omagh District. After a long period through the 1970s and 1980s of emigration from Northern Ireland exceeding immigration and a period of balanced migration flows during the 1990s, the recent period since 2004 has seen significant population growth due to migration from the expanded EU. Thus, in 2011, some 2.76% of the new Council area's population were from EU countries particularly the eight central and eastern European (A8) countries (Poland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Latvia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Estonia and Hungary). However, recent evidence suggests that since the economic downturn, the number of migrants has been declining and that natural growth is the main influence on population change (NISRA).

### **Population Projections**

- 3.4 Every two years NISRA publishes population projections at local government level, the latest being the 2018-based projections (mid-2018 to mid-2043) released on 30 April 2020. These take into account migration, natural increase and other factors. In the 2018-based projections, natural change (births minus deaths) and net migration are projected to remain positive over the period. It is therefore predicted that the total population in Northern Ireland will increase by 3.85% from 1.88M in mid-2018 to 1.95M in mid-2028 reaching 1.99million by mid-2043. In the previous 2016-based projections, the 2 million milestone was expected to be reached by 2040. The ageing of the population is projected to continue. The largest population growth is projected amongst the 65+ and 85+ age groups. Over the next 25 years, these two age groups are projected to grow by 56.2% and 106.4% respectively. In contrast, the population of children (0-15) is projected to fall by 10.8% by mid-2043. Population projections become increasingly uncertain over longer time periods and therefore projections beyond a 10-year period should be used with caution.
- 3.5 Each of the eleven LGDs, with the exception of Derry City and Strabane, are projected to experience population growth over the decade mid-2018 to mid-2028, albeit to varying degrees. The key findings for 2018-2028 are that the population of Fermanagh-Omagh is expected to grow by 2.5 % from 116,800 to 119,800 (rounded figures) and is one of 6 LGDs with a growth rate below the Northern Ireland average (3.7%). The main driver of population growth in Fermanagh and Omagh is natural change. From 2018 to 2028, the number of children is expected to decrease by 5.8% whilst the number of working age people is expected to decrease by 1.5% compared to a 28.0%

increase in the 65 and over age group. The Council area is also projected to continue to have the smallest proportion of the total NI population (6.2% in mid-2018 and 6.1% in mid-2028)

- 3.6 The proportion of children as a percentage of the Fermanagh & Omagh District Council population will decrease from 21.7% in 2018 to 19.9% in 2028, those of working age will decrease from 61.5% to 59.0% whilst those of pension age will increase from 16.8% to 20.9%. These figures are based on current pensionable age and broadly follow the trend at NI level.

**Table 19 - Population Projections 2018-2030**

	2018	2023	2028	2030
<b>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh District</b>	116,835	118,951	119,759	119,867
<b>NI</b>	1,881,641	1,925,423	1,951,761	1,958,990

Source: - NISRA 2018-based population projections

- 3.7 The 2018 projected population for 2030 of 119,867 suggests that - considering population rise, an increase in working age and addressing unemployment - the Local Development Plan will need to provide for the creation of only **1,856 jobs** (see Paper 3 Employment, Industry and Business). However, based on the Census of Employment, this figure could be increased to **4,875 new jobs**.

**Table 20 – Household Projections**

	2016	2020	2025	2030
<b>FODC</b>	42,856	43,820	45,112	46,244
<b>NI</b>	725,127	740,528	763,976	784,580

Source: - NISRA 2016-based household projections

- 3.8 The current household projections are 2016-based for the period 2016-2041 and take account of population growth, a reduced size of household and the changing age structure of the population. This could lead to an increase of 7.9% in the number of households between 2016 and 2030 i.e. an additional 3,388 households (Table 20). The average household size in N Ireland has been projected to steadily decrease to 2.47 people per household in 2030. In Fermanagh and Omagh District, the average size of households is also predicted to decline to 2.55 but will remain above the NI average.

- 3.9 The NISRA household projections are broadly in line albeit slightly lower than those set out in the Revised Housing Growth Indicators published in September 2019 (DfI) which add in an element of second homes, housing stock that is vacant, and housing stock losses due to net conversion/closures or demolitions. Growth in housing development had been slow in the years following the economic downturn but had started to pick up pace in recent years. It is expected that the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 will have an impact on the NI economy and on house building. There is therefore an argument for increasing the availability of development land to increase choice and flexibility and thus stimulate investment.

## **4.0 A Settlement Strategy for Accommodating Growth**

### **Principles for Planning for Growth**

- 4.1 To ensure that development is balanced and sustainable and helps to improve the quality of life for existing communities, intervention is needed. Plan making allows local people the opportunity to present their vision of how an area can be developed based on two guiding principles:
- *Sustainable Development* based on four objectives: social progress that meets the needs of everyone; effective environmental protection; prudent use of natural resources; and maintaining high and stable levels of economic growth.
  - *Equality of Opportunity* between people of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, sex, marital status, physical ability, sexual orientation, and those with/without dependants. This includes promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group (Northern Ireland Act 1998, Section 75)
- 4.2 These principles are also complemented by objectives aimed at addressing poverty (*Lifetime Opportunities - Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for Northern Ireland*) and ensuring the special needs of rural communities are considered (*Rural Needs Impact Assessment*).

### **Existing Growth Strategies - Regional Context**

- 4.3 In Northern Ireland a two-tier approach to planning for growth has been adopted, comprising the Regional Development Strategy and Local Development Plan. The Regional Development Strategy 2025 (DRD 2001) introduced a framework for the future physical development of the Region based on urban hubs and clusters, key and link transport corridors and the main gateways of ports and airports. Protection and enhancement of the environment allied to the promotion of a strong

spatially based economy, a healthy living environment and an inclusive society were an integral part of the drive to achieve balanced growth within the region. The Strategy has been reviewed and these themes have been built upon in the RDS 2035 (2012).

- 4.4 Spatial Framework Guidance in the RDS 2035 which is aimed at achieving sustainable development, promotes economic development opportunities and population growth in the hubs and clusters. For the rural area outside of the main and local hubs, the spatial framework guidance is to sustain the rural communities living in smaller settlements (small towns, villages and small rural settlements) and the open countryside and to improve accessibility for rural communities. The RDS recognises that a strong network of smaller towns supported by villages helps to sustain and service the rural community.
- 4.5 The RDS identifies Enniskillen not only as a hub but also as an inter-regional gateway to the Republic of Ireland, being only 1 hours' drive to Sligo. Omagh is also identified as a hub, being a major administrative centre and situated on the Western Economic Corridor. Unlike other hubs such as Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon, Enniskillen and Omagh are remote from each other so that there is little opportunity to cluster i.e. co-operation and sharing of services.
- 4.6 The RDS does not attempt to specify population growth for each Council district but instead applies housing growth indicators (HGIs) which are derived from examining 2016-based NISRA household projections, existing stock, vacancies etc. The previous 2012-based HGIs which were calculated for the period 2012-2025, set a projected new dwelling requirement for Fermanagh and Omagh of 4,500. When this was projected to 2030 and adjusted to the 2015-2030 plan period, the Local Development Plan was set to provide for 5,190 new homes across the council area. This was considered to be more than sufficient to meet the needs of a growing number of households which was anticipated to increase by some 4,337 (NISRA 2012 based household projections) over the same period. The HGIs were revised in September 2019 and used the most recently published NISRA 2016-based household projections. These calculated for the period 2016-2030 (15 years) an HGI of 4,300 – a reduction of 890 dwellings from the projected 5,190 figure presented in the published draft Plan Strategy. Further details of these figures together with the extent of housing land supply are addressed in the Housing Update Paper.
- 4.7 The RDS spatial strategy is implemented at local level by development plans and HGIs for each of the 11 District Councils have been produced as a guide. Under the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, local development plans must “take account” of the RDS.

## Existing Local Area Plans

- 4.8 Both the Fermanagh Area Plan 2007 and Omagh Area Plan 2002 are now well past their notional end-by dates and were prepared long before the introduction of the RDS and in very different social and economic climates. Each plan established a settlement hierarchy upon which future development or growth was based. In both plans, the main town would be the focus for most development with the smaller towns and villages identified as local centres serving the needs of their rural hinterlands. However, unlike Fermanagh, the Omagh Area Plan had small settlements or hamlets designated below village level - a fourth tier in the settlement hierarchy. These settlements could accommodate small groups of dwellings or single dwellings as long as their size, character and identity were preserved.
- 4.9 Fermanagh has 39 villages compared to 9 in Omagh and they vary greatly in size, form and function and capacity to accommodate growth. For example, some of the larger settlements such as Ballinamallard and Belleek are urban in character, accommodating important local industries and a range of shops and services.
- 4.10 Another distinction between the two existing districts is that Fermanagh designated Dispersed Rural Communities. In all, 11 such communities were designated to promote rural regeneration and promote some scope for some additional residential development, based at focal points or in surrounding townlands (Table 21).

<b>Table 21: Existing Settlement Hierarchy</b>			
<b>Settlement Hierarchy</b>	<b>Fermanagh</b>	<b>Settlement Hierarchy</b>	<b>Omagh</b>
<b>Main Town</b>	Enniskillen	<b>Main Town</b>	Omagh
<b>Local Towns</b>	Irvinestown Lisnaskea	<b>Local Towns</b>	Fintona Dromore Carrickmore
<b>Villages</b>	Ardess Arney/Skea Ballinamallard Ballycassidy Belcoo Bellanaleck Belleek Brookeborough Carranbeg Carrontremall Carrybridge Church Hill Clabby Derrygonnelly Derrylin Donagh	<b>Villages</b>	Beragh Drumquin Gortin Greencastle Loughmacrory Mountfield Seskinore Sixmilecross Trillick

Table 21: Existing Settlement Hierarchy			
Settlement Hierarchy	Fermanagh	Settlement Hierarchy	Omagh
	Ederney Florencecourt Garrison Kesh Killadeas Killesher Kinawley Lack Letterbreen Lisbellaw Lisnarick Magheraveely Maguiresbridge Monea Mullanaskea Newtownbutler Pettigo Rosslea Springfield Tamlaght Teemore Tempo Whitehill		
<b>Dispersed Rural Communities (DRCs)</b>	Aghadrumsee Aghakillymaud Boho Cashel Coa Cooneen Corraney Derrygannon Knocks Mullaghduin Mulleek.	<b>Small Settlements</b>	Altamuskin, Clanabogan Creggan, Dooish Drumduff, Drumnakilly Dunmoyle, Dunmullan Edenderry, Eskragh Garvaghey, Gillygooley Glenhull, Gortaclare/Moylagh Gortnagarn, Kilskeery Knockmoyle, Mountjoy Newtownsaville Roscavey, Rousky Tattyreagh, Tircur Tummery/Lisdoe

Table 22: Proposed Settlement Hierarchy		
<b>Main Town</b>	Enniskillen Omagh	
<b>Local Towns</b>	Fintona Dromore Carrickmore	Irvinestown Lisnaskea
<b>Villages</b>	Ballinamallard Belcoo Bellanaleck Belleek	Kesh Kinawley Lisbellaw Lisnarick

<b>Table 22: Proposed Settlement Hierarchy</b>		
	Beragh Brookeborough Clabby Derrygonnelly Derrylin Donagh Drumquin Ederney Garrison Greencastle Gortin	Loughmacrory Maguiresbridge Mountfield Newtownbutler Tullyhummon Rosslea Seskinore Sixmilecross Tempo Trillick
<b>Small Settlements</b>	Ardess Arney/Skea Altamuskin Ballycassidy/Laragh/Trory Carrontremall Carrybridge Church Hill Clanabogan Creggan Dooish Drumduff Drumnakilly Dunmoyle Dunmullan Edenderry Eskragh Florencecourt/Drumlaghy Garvaghey Gillygooley Glenhull Gortaclare/Moylagh Gortnagarn	Holywell Killadeas Killesher/Derrylester Kilskeery Knockmoyle Lack Letterbreen Magheraveely Mullanaskea Monea Mountjoy Newtownsaville Roscavey Roscor Rousky Springfield Tamlaght Tattyreagh Teemore Tircur Tummery Whitehill

4.11 The proposed settlement hierarchy is shown in Table 22. This followed a review of settlements and where they sit within the settlement hierarchy which is set out in Paper 12 Strategic Evaluation of Settlements. A starting point in settlement classification is the Hierarchy of Settlements and Related Infrastructure Wheel in the RDS 2035. This outlines the patterns of service provision that are likely to be appropriate at different spatial levels including neighbourhoods, smaller towns, regional towns and cities (Table 23).

4.12 In assessing whether DRCs should be retained, analysis of the existing DRCs was undertaken including examining the extent of development around the focal point and the general consolidation of development in each DRC. Analysis of the existing DRCs in the district revealed that little consolidation had taken place in most areas. Many of the focal points were church buildings and ancillary community halls which,

whilst acting as social hubs, did not act as focal points for consolidation of development as anticipated. Similarly, the dispersed nature of development meant that the areas retained their rural character and traditional settlement pattern.

<b>Table 23: Settlement Hierarchy Classification</b>				
Infrastructure	Principal City	Regional Town	Smaller Towns	Villages
Skills	University	Further Education; Special Schools	Library; post-Primary	Nursery; Primary School
Health	Acute Hospital, A& E, Maternity	A&E Hospital, Children's Home, Minor Injuries, Outpatients	Pharmacy, Health Centres, Social Services, Day Care Centres	Doctor, Ambulance, Outreach Services
Social	Museums/Galleries, Conference/Concert Arena	Leisure Centre(pool) Visitor Centre, Advice Centres, Arts & Culture Centre	Community Centre, Sports Facility, Welfare Services	Local Hall, Play Areas
Environment	Power Generation, AONB/ASSI	Water & Sewage Treatment Plants, Waste-landfill, Waste-recycle	Recycling, Renewables, Water & Sewers Supply	Access to clean water, sewage disposal
Commercial	Department Stores, Specialist Shops, Arts & Cultural Facilities	Shopping Centres, Retail Warehousing, Range of Restaurants	Supermarket, Restaurants, Mix of Retail Facilities	Shop, Pub, Post Office, Petrol Station
Justice	Police HQ, High Court, Prison Forensic Science	Police District, County Court, Probation Service	Police Station	Neighbourhood Watch
Productive	Tourism Signature Projects, Science Centre, Major Industrial parks, Strategic Development Zones	Industrial Park, Tourism Office	Enterprise Centre, Information Office	Workshop/ Business unit
Networks	Ports & Airports, Key Transport Nodes, Energy Generation Interconnector	Major Roads, Bus/Rail, Park N' Ride, Cycle Network	Link Corridors/Trunk Roads, Bus/Rail to larger centres	Local Roads, Broadband, Urban Street Lighting, Local Bus, Cycle

Source: RDS 2035 (DRD 2012)

## **A Proposed Settlement Strategy for Accommodating Growth**

- 4.12** To achieve the RDS objectives of promoting population growth and economic development in the main hubs and sustaining rural communities living in small towns, villages, small rural settlements and the open countryside, a strategy for accommodating growth can be defined based on the following settlement hierarchy:

**Main Town** – *The hubs of Enniskillen and Omagh act as the main service centres with Enniskillen also acting as an inter-regional gateway. It is therefore intended to focus major population and economic growth on Enniskillen and Omagh, thus maximising benefits from efficient use of existing facilities, infrastructure and their strategic location on the transport corridors. It is anticipated that the attraction of the town centres will be reinforced by retail, office and mixed use development. They will accommodate economic development through expansion and creation of industrial estates and modern enterprise and business centres. They will accommodate new residential development both within the existing urban fabric and through the expansion and creation of new neighbourhoods.*

**Local/Small Towns** - *These are important local service centres providing a range of goods, services, leisure and cultural facilities to meet the needs of their rural hinterland. Growth should be balanced across these towns to sustain, consolidate and revitalise them, focusing new retail and services within their town centres and providing opportunity for privately led economic investment in business and industry. These towns also can accommodate residential development in the form of housing estates, smaller groups or individual houses.*

**Villages** – *These important local service centres, provide goods, services and facilities to meet the daily needs of the rural area. They are good locations for rural businesses and can accommodate residential development in the form of small housing estates, housing groups and individual dwellings.*

**Small settlements** – *These act as a focal point for the rural community and take the form of a rural cluster or cross roads development where consolidation of the built form can provide opportunity for individual dwellings and/or small groups of houses and small rural businesses.*

### **The Countryside**

- 4.13** Outside settlements, residential and other types of development will also be facilitated so long as it is balanced between protection of the environment from inappropriate development, while supporting and sustaining vibrant rural communities. The rural area offers opportunities in terms of the potential for growth in new sectors, the provision of rural

recreation and tourism, its attractiveness as a place to invest, live and work, and its role as a reservoir of natural resources and highly valued landscapes. Therefore, it is recognised that residential and other types of development should also be facilitated so long as it is balanced between protection of the environment from inappropriate development, while supporting and sustaining vibrant rural communities.

**4.14** Taking into account the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS), the Council will tailor some policies to better reflect the specific circumstances of the plan area.

**4.15** In defining where each settlement sits in the hierarchy, account should be taken of a wide range of factors, including the RDS spatial framework, the population of individual settlements and an assessment of the role or function of settlements. The housing paper that follows will focus in more detail on apportioning housing within the settlement hierarchy.

## **5.0 Conclusion**

**5.1** The purpose of this paper has been to provide an update to base line information on the population of the Council area to assist in informing the spatial strategy and policies of the LDP Draft Plan Strategy.

# Maps 1-9

# Appendices

## 1-7

**Appendix 1 – Disability, health, unpaid care provision, age structure and dependent children in Fermanagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>% Long term limiting illness</b>	<b>% Good/V. Good Health</b>	<b>% Who Provide unpaid care</b>	<b>% Children under 16 years</b>	<b>% People aged 65 and over</b>	<b>% Households with dependent children</b>
Ballinamallard	2586	18.29	83.14	12.80	22.74	13.50	36.63
Belcoo & Garrison	2541	20.27	80.76	11.53	20.15	17.12	30.56
Belleek & Boa	2540	21.42	80.98	10.75	20.24	15.91	32.33
Boho Cleenish & Letterbreen	3185	16.70	84.87	10.80	22.76	13.72	38.31
Brookeborough	2367	19.77	80.02	10.52	21.21	16.60	33.21
Castlecoole_1	1992	18.62	80.42	11.90	24.70	8.23	41.53
Castlecoole_2	1884	19.80	81.37	12.00	17.25	17.20	28.95
Derrygonnelly	2812	19.74	81.90	10.53	21.59	15.22	35.05
Derrylin	2678	15.87	86.41	10.90	21.28	13.29	33.55
Devenish	1707	31.81	68.07	10.90	15.82	22.73	25.10
Donagh	2387	18.22	83.54	9.84	21.07	15.58	36.34
Erne	2627	23.14	78.38	9.71	21.13	16.14	32.13
Florence Court & Kinawley	2630	18.37	82.55	12.28	22.21	15.17	36.02
Irvinestown	2588	21.72	79.02	9.66	23.49	14.61	32.55
Kesh Ederney & Lack_1	1555	20.96	80.19	11.51	24.31	13.12	34.72
Kesh Ederney & Lack_2	2097	20.51	80.78	10.35	20.22	15.74	33.50
Lisbellaw	3190	15.45	84.92	10.75	25.24	11.29	41.14
Lisnarrick	1908	21.33	79.72	13.42	18.50	19.08	30.36
Lisnaskea	2580	23.33	77.13	9.65	19.73	16.40	30.84
Maquires Bridge	3131	17.50	82.79	10.60	21.69	13.06	37.06
Newtownbutler	2502	21.22	78.70	9.35	22.98	13.35	36.76
Portora	3117	21.37	80.24	11.10	18.86	14.15	27.12
Roslea	2167	18.37	82.00	12.23	20.54	15.18	33.21
Rossorry	2444	21.24	78.48	11.33	19.11	16.98	28.22
Tempo	2590	19.31	81.78	10.08	21.74	14.05	35.75

**Source:** - NISRA

**Appendix 2 – Disability, health, unpaid care provision, age structure and dependent children in Omagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>% Long term limiting illness</b>	<b>% Good/ V. Good Health</b>	<b>% Provide unpaid care</b>	<b>% Children under 16 years</b>	<b>% People aged 65 and over</b>	<b>% Households with dependent children</b>
Beragh	2508	20.26	80.78	12.56	25.08	13.32	38.56
Camowen	2283	29.43	71.48	10.99	17.96	17.92	31.94
Clanabogan	3177	17.41	82.78	10.92	26.47	11.05	44.00
Coolnagard	3489	21.12	79.54	11.18	23.93	10.83	40.33
Dergmoney	1675	27.34	74.39	11.34	15.16	23.10	20.26
Dromore	2394	22.06	77.40	9.23	23.18	12.45	37.06
Drumnakilly	2916	21.02	78.81	11.32	25.45	11.15	44.19
Drumquin	2231	20.53	79.83	9.46	23.26	12.73	37.63
Drumragh	2315	27.69	74.56	11.49	14.38	18.70	24.96
Fairy Water	2142	18.02	82.96	12.28	19.79	15.92	35.74
Fintona	2046	25.27	73.90	10.85	19.99	14.66	29.64
Gortin	2836	19.29	82.02	11.71	25.07	13.33	43.24
Gortrush_1	1488	17.88	82.19	10.08	26.68	7.73	46.49
Gortrush_2	1345	29.96	69.59	11.08	17.77	15.09	26.90
Killyclogher_1	1532	20.50	79.18	12.47	24.54	7.38	40.43
Killyclogher_2	1564	18.54	81.97	10.74	24.42	7.29	40.48
Lisanelly_1	364	35.16	66.48	6.59	10.16	33.24	14.00
Lisanelly_2	1669	24.33	74.66	9.65	27.92	7.07	40.78
Newtownsaville	2392	19.06	81.02	12.12	23.16	12.63	38.97
Owenkillev	2350	19.36	79.83	11.40	24.68	11.06	41.48
Sixmilecross	2374	19.55	80.29	11.46	26.07	10.57	42.50
Strule	1496	30.35	70.52	9.29	15.84	19.99	23.20
Termon	2330	21.29	79.27	13.09	22.10	11.97	38.28
Trillick	2440	17.42	83.28	10.82	24.71	13.20	40.32

**Source:** NISRA

**Appendix 3 - Percentage of People and Religion belonging to or Religion in which they were brought up - Fermanagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)</b>
Ballinamallard	2586	21.69	75.17
Belcoo & Garrison	2541	85.05	12.40
Belleek & Boa	2540	72.28	25.04
Boho Cleenish & Letterbreen	3185	55.23	41.22
Brookeborough	2367	42.50	55.30
Castlecoole_1	1992	56.02	37.50
Castlecoole_2	1884	47.93	48.30
Derrygonnelly	2812	61.27	34.42
Derrylin	2678	82.23	15.91
Devenish	1707	80.61	15.52
Donagh	2387	78.42	20.03
Erne	2627	71.87	24.55
Florence Court & Kinawley	2630	67.79	30.80
Irvinestown	2588	74.46	23.03
Kesh Ederney & Lack_1	1555	50.93	46.62
Kesh Ederney & Lack_2	2097	27.75	69.00
Lisbellaw	3190	31.47	64.92
Lisnarrick	1908	31.66	64.88
Lisnaskea	2580	75.54	22.71
Maquires Bridge	3131	42.29	54.84
Newtownbutler	2502	77.50	21.06
Portora	3117	57.62	36.54
Rosslea	2167	83.29	15.32
Rossorry	2444	56.26	38.05
Tempo	2590	49.42	48.61

**Source:** - NISRA

**Appendix 4 - Percentage of People and Religion belonging to or Religion in which they were brought up - Omagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)</b>
Beragh	2508	44.14	53.23
Camowen	2283	55.19	40.30
Clanabogan	3177	65.85	31.48
Coolnagard	3489	82.95	13.47
Dergmoney	1675	64.48	31.04
Dromore	2394	80.95	16.58
Drumnakilly	2916	81.17	17.83
Drumquin	2231	69.16	29.22
Drumragh	2315	23.20	71.92
Fairy Water	2142	45.05	53.55
Fintona	2046	71.99	26.59
Gortin	2836	54.94	42.84
Gortrush_1	1488	92.88	5.98
Gortrush_2	1345	86.25	11.67
Killyclogher_1	1532	86.18	12.14
Killyclogher_2	1564	90.28	6.97
Lisanelly_1	364	55.77	40.11
Lisanelly_2	1669	80.83	16.30
Newtownsaville	2392	64.34	34.66
Owenkillew	2350	90.72	8.30
Sixmilecross	2374	77.51	21.52
Strule	1496	73.46	23.46
Termon	2330	95.67	3.78
Trillick	2440	67.34	31.23

**Source:** - NISRA

## Appendix 5 – Multiple Deprivation in Fermanagh and Omagh (NISRA)

Rank in Omagh and Fermanagh Districts	Super Output Area	District	Multiple Deprivation Measure score	Rank of Multiple Deprivation Measure Score (where 1 is most deprived)
1	Lisanelly_2	Omagh	46.88	80
2	Devenish	Fermanagh	46.47	83
3	Fintona	Omagh	30.82	200
4	Irvinestown	Fermanagh	30.79	202
5	Gortrush_2	Omagh	30.59	204
6	Drumquin	Omagh	29.65	220
7	Gortrush_1	Omagh	27.81	239
8	Newtownbutler	Fermanagh	27.10	249
9	Lisnaskea	Fermanagh	26.67	259
10	Termon	Omagh	26.57	262
11	Strule	Omagh	25.61	277
12	Drumnakilly	Omagh	25.51	281
13	Coolnagard	Omagh	25.47	282
14	Sixmilecross	Omagh	25.33	284
15	Dromore	Omagh	25.13	287
16	Camowen	Omagh	24.38	303
17	Rosslea	Fermanagh	23.82	311
18	Owenkillew	Omagh	23.72	313
19	Belleek and Boa	Fermanagh	23.71	314
20	Erne	Fermanagh	23.40	324
21	Portora	Fermanagh	23.33	325
22	Killyclogher_1	Omagh	22.60	331
23	Kesh Ederney and Lack_1	Fermanagh	21.43	357
24	Beragh	Omagh	21.08	363
25	Dergmoney	Omagh	19.69	389
26	Newtownsaville	Omagh	17.95	420
27	Belcoo and Garrison	Fermanagh	17.94	421
28	Castlecoole_1	Fermanagh	17.79	428
29	Kesh Ederney and Lack_2	Fermanagh	16.62	457
30	Brookeborough	Fermanagh	16.48	459
31	Tempo	Fermanagh	16.15	469
32	Gortin	Omagh	16.09	473
33	Donagh	Fermanagh	15.49	486
34	Killyclogher_2	Omagh	15.47	487
35	Derrygonnelly	Fermanagh	15.34	498
36	Clanabogan	Omagh	15.26	502
37	Trillick	Omagh	15.21	505
38	Florence Court and Kinawley	Fermanagh	15.14	506
39	Fairy Water	Omagh	13.66	549
40	Rossorry	Fermanagh	13.64	551
41	Drumragh	Omagh	13.31	561
42	Lisanelly_1	Omagh	13.17	564
43	Derrylin	Fermanagh	13.13	567
44	Boho Cleenish and Letterbreen	Fermanagh	11.95	601
45	Maguires Bridge	Fermanagh	11.27	626
46	Lisnarrick	Fermanagh	10.26	648
47	Ballinamallard	Fermanagh	10.22	651
48	Lisbellaw	Fermanagh	8.84	688
49	Castlecoole_2	Fermanagh	7.93	713

**Appendix 6 – Qualifications - Fermanagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>% with no or low (Level 1) qualifications</b>	<b>% with degree or higher qualification</b>
Ballinamallard	2586	37.59	20.97
Belcoo & Garrison	2541	44.46	21.98
Belleek & Boa	2540	45.61	20.63
Boho Cleenish & Letterbreen	3185	41.22	23.09
Brookeborough	2367	46.54	20.75
Castlecoole_1	1992	39.00	21.93
Castlecoole_2	1884	31.94	30.08
Derrygonnelly	2812	43.04	25.58
Derrylin	2678	43.12	20.78
Devenish	1707	54.42	13.01
Donagh	2387	48.14	19.64
Erne	2627	46.04	22.39
Florence Court & Kinawley	2630	44.43	20.23
Irvinestown	2588	47.32	19.24
Kesh Ederney & Lack_1	1555	52.93	16.31
Kesh Ederney & Lack_2	2097	44.77	20.98
Lisbellaw	3190	38.28	23.44
Lisnarrick	1908	42.51	22.38
Lisnaskea	2580	51.04	15.35
Maquires Bridge	3131	42.58	20.92
Newtownbutler	2502	51.48	16.81
Portora	3117	38.04	27.16
Rosslea	2167	48.95	16.26
Rossorry	2444	39.55	25.04
Tempo	2590	46.52	21.31

**Source:** - NISRA

**Appendix 7 - Qualifications - Omagh District (Super Output Areas in 2011)**

<b>SOA NAME</b>	<b>All persons</b>	<b>% with no or low (Level1) qualifications</b>	<b>% with degree or higher qualification</b>
Beragh	2508	38.11	26.66
Camowen	2283	43.14	22.26
Clanabogan	3177	38.48	27.74
Coolnagard	3489	40.50	24.27
Dergmoney	1675	41.73	25.90
Dromore	2394	45.08	20.72
Drumnakilly	2916	42.18	24.61
Drumquin	2231	50.12	19.10
Drumragh	2315	40.36	23.36
Fairy Water	2142	37.89	27.30
Fintona	2046	51.50	19.00
Gortin	2836	36.09	28.66
Gortrush_1	1488	37.31	24.93
Gortrush_2	1345	51.90	16.18
Killiclogher_1	1532	37.28	28.81
Killiclogher_2	1564	36.13	26.14
Lisanelly_1	364	47.09	22.63
Lisanelly_2	1669	48.55	14.46
Newtownsaville	2392	43.04	23.83
Owenkillew	2350	43.56	20.96
Sixmilecross	2374	45.07	21.03
Strule	1496	44.24	19.94
Termon	2330	40.83	25.51
Trillick	2440	41.05	22.43

**Source:** - NISRA