

Respondent



22

Anonymous



00:49
Time to complete



1. Name *

Thomas Lally

2. Organisation (Optional)

3. Email address

4. Phone number

5. Please select the following topics that you wish to make a submission *

Social, Community and Cultural Development



6. Do you wish to send your submission by email *

If yes please email forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie (mailto:forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie) and mark submission "CDP Review"

If no please go to Question No.7

Yes

No

7. Please enter your submission in no more than 4000 plain text characters. *

9th September 2020 Re: Submission to the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028 To Whom It May Concern, I am submitting to the Galway County Council Development Plan 2022-2028 review in order to highlight the need for independent living units for the elderly, disabled and those needing palliative care that are not confined to settlements. Ireland has an ageing population and the need for these services will increase with time. Independent living units will be capable of providing a higher quality of life for their residents and provide for their needs. If the locations for these services are only allowed in already developed village settlements this will cause a lot of restrictions to their construction. The limited free space in these areas may necessitate nursing homes rather than independent living units which would have shared living spaces and/or communal spaces. There would also be a problem with light and noise pollution which would disturb the residents and restrict their sleep. The advances of living in settlements such as local services and recreational facilities would be less relevant to those needing end of life care who may be unable to participate. Some of the people using these services would prefer to live in a more rural setting as this may be where they have lived most of their lives. As can be seen with the current pandemic these services sharing living spaces and communal spaces could be a hotspot for transmissions of the virus. This would necessitate quarantines limiting the freedom of the residents and their families from visiting them. By allowing for independent living units in rural areas this would limit outbreaks in the future and allow for visitors without the same level of risk. The time will come when everyone will need care, and we should not wait till the next County Development Plan to put these plans forward so why not act now. Yours Faithfully Thomas Lally