

## Board Direction BD-008598-21 ABP-309572-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 23/06/2021.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

## **Reasons and Considerations**

The site of the proposed development is located within an "Area Under Strong Urban" Influence" as set out in the "Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines for Planning Authorities" issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in April 2005. Furthermore, the subject site is located in an area that is designated under urban influence, where it is national policy, as set out in National Policy Objective 19 of the National Planning Framework, to facilitate the provision of single housing in the countryside, based on the core consideration of demonstrable economic or social need to live in a rural area. Having regard to the documentation submitted with the application and appeal, it is not considered that the applicant has sufficiently demonstrated an economic or social need to live in this rural area. It is therefore considered that the applicant does not come within the scope of the housing need criteria as set out in the Guidelines and in national policy for a house at this location, and would contravene strategic policy RUR DEV SP2 in the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019. In the absence of an identified locally based, site specific economic or social need to live in the area, it is considered that the proposed development would contribute to the development of random rural housing in the area, would exacerbate the existing pattern of ribbon development and would militate against the preservation of the rural environment and the efficient provision of public services and infrastructure. The proposed development would, therefore,

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be contrary to the Ministerial Guidelines and to over-arching national and local policies and would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

**Board Member** 

Date: 23/06/2021