

Board Direction BD-011804-23 ABP-312096-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 17/02/2023.

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

Reasons and Considerations

1. 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 as being 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, the Board is not satisfied that the applicant has a demonstrable economic or social need to live in this rural area. It is considered, therefore, 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. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the Ministerial Guidelines and to the over-arching national policy, to the provisions of the current Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, would contribute to the encroachment of random rural development in the area, would militate against the preservation of the rural environment and the efficient provision of

public services and infrastructure and would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Having regard to the restricted status of the R380 at this location and to the 2. multiplicity of users of the entrance, it is considered that the use of the entrance would endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard because of the additional traffic turning movements the development would generate on a restricted regional road.

Board Member Peter Mullan Date: 17/02/2023