An Bord Pleanála



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2015

Kerry County

Planning Register Reference Number: 15/921

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: PL 08.246033

APPEAL by Michael Horgan of 2 Upper Cloonbeg, Tralee, County Kerry against the decision made on the 11th day of December, 2015 by Kerry County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Edward Lyne of Coolies, Muckross, Killarney, County Kerry in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Construction of a dwellinghouse, domestic garage, septic tank and percolation area and all site development works at Coolies, Muckross, Killarney, County Kerry.

DECISION

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. Having regard to the location of the site within an Area Under Strong Urban Influence as identified in the "Sustainable Rural Housing" Guidelines for Planning Authorities" issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (2005), it is considered that the applicant does not come within the scope of the housing need criteria as set out in the Guidelines or in the Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021 for a house at this sensitive rural location. The proposed development, in the absence of any identified locally based need for the house, would contribute to the encroachment of random rural development in the area and would militate against the preservation of the rural environment and the efficient provision of public services and infrastructure. The proposed development would, therefore, contravene the provisions of the Guidelines and the objectives of the Development Plan and would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.
- 2. Taken in conjunction with existing dwellings in the vicinity, it is considered that the proposed development would give rise to an excessive density of development in a rural area lacking certain public services and community facilities, would exacerbate an emerging pattern of suburbanisation that is eroding the rural character in the vicinity, and would conflict with Section 3.1 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021, which states that "urban sprawl on the edge and environs of the Hub towns...should be discouraged." The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

3. The proposed development site is located within an area designated as a Rural Secondary Special Amenity area in the Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021, which sets out a number of provisions to protect such landscape areas from development. These sensitive landscapes can only accommodate a limited level of development and this is dependent on the degree to which the development can be integrated into the landscape. The proposed development, when taken in conjunction with existing dwellings in the area, would constitute an excessive density of development by virtue of its impact on the landscape and would interfere with the character of the surrounding rural landscape, which it is necessary to preserve, and would, therefore, be contrary to objective ZL-1 of the Development Plan, which seeks to protect the amenity value of the landscape of the county. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Member of An Bord Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Board.

Dated this day of 2016.

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