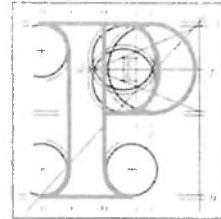


Our Case Number: ACP-324568-26



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Mary McGettigan
c/o Donegal Town Community Chamber CLG
Donegal Town Enterprise Centre
Lurganboy
Donegal Town
F94 KT35

Date: 04 September 2026

Re: Proposed Development of the Barnesmore Gap Greenway Project
County Donegal

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with modifications.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

HA02

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	communications@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

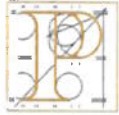
Tell
Glao Áitiúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel
LoCall
Fax
Website
Email

(01) 858 8100
1800 275 175
(01) 872 2684
www.pleanala.ie
communications@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Planning Appeal Online Observation

Online Reference
NPA-OBS-007222

8105

Online Observation Details

Contact Name
Mary Mc Gettigan

Lodgement Date
01/09/2026 11:20:26

Case Number / Description
324568

Payment Details

Payment Method
Online Payment

Cardholder Name
Mary Mc Gettigan

Payment Amount
€50.00

Processing Section

S.131 Consideration Required

☐ Yes — See attached 131 Form

☐ N/A — Invalid

Signed

EO

Date

Fee Refund Requisition

Please Arrange a Refund of Fee of

€

Lodgement No

LDG—

Reason for Refund

Documents Returned to Observer

☐ Yes ☐ No

Request Emailed to Senior Executive Officer for Approval

☐ Yes ☐ No

Signed

EO

Date

Finance Section

Payment Reference

ch_3UAonmB1CW0EN5FC1exfG52N

Checked Against Fee Income Online

EO/AA (Accounts Section)

Amount

€

Refund Date

Authorised By (1)

SEO (Finance)

Authorised By (2)

Chief Officer/Director of Corporate Affairs/SAO/Board
Member

Date

Date

File With

SECTION 131 FORM

Appeal No

ABP—

Defer Re O/H

☐

Having considered the contents of the submission dated/received
from _____ I recommend that section 131 of the Planning
and Development Act, 2000 be/not be invoked at this stage for the following reason(s):

Section 131 not to be invoked at this stage.

Section 131 to be invoked — allow 2/4 weeks for reply.

☐
☐

Signed

EO

Date

Signed

SEO/SAO

Date

M

Please prepare BP — Section 131 notice enclosing a copy of the attached submission.

To

Task No

Allow 2/3/4 weeks

BP

Signed

EO

Date

Signed

AA

Date

Donegal Town Community Chamber CLG
Donegal Town Enterprise Centre,
Lurganboy
Donegal Town
F94KT35

Please see below our submission regarding the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway Project.

Case Ref No: 324568

The Directors of Donegal Town Community Chamber CLG have discussed the proposed Barnesmore Gap Greenway Project and fully support this very important initiative for a number of reasons.

Donegal Town is one of the fastest growing towns in the Northwest. Over the last 20 years it has seen huge investment from both the public and private sectors with major developments in manufacturing, retail, educational facilities, sports facilities, tourism attractions, accommodation and hospitality, infrastructure and public realm spaces and most importantly housing; hence the reason we believe that this is a very important project for Donegal Town and for its surrounding towns and villages.

RECREATION:

As above due to the ongoing business and housing developments we believe that there is a need for a Greenway as it provides safe, car-free outdoor space for activities such as walking, cycling and jogging for young and old with a level surface accommodating buggies and wheelchair users.

In today's world where families are struggling with day to day living costs this would provide free or low-cost outdoor activities accessible to everyone in the community. The Greenway will also connect communities with local amenities, sporting facilities, heritage sites and visitor attractions, creating new opportunities for residents and visitors to experience the natural beauty, history and culture of the surrounding area.

In general, our lives are more stressful due to the type of work commitments / environments that we find ourselves living in e.g. devices, long working hours, remote working, inability to switch off we believe this will create an outdoor space that will benefit both physical and mental health.

The Old Railway Line which hasn't been used since the 60's will form part of the proposed Greenway route connecting Donegal Town through Barnesmore Gap to Stranorlar, part of this will create new scenic trails through this amazing space which for most locals has been inaccessible up until now.

TOURISM

As Donegal Town relies heavily on Tourism, the proposed Greenway will further enhance the tourism offering that already exists in the area. Donegal Town is already a very popular tourism destination for both Domestic and International visitors many of whom use the town as their base to explore the Northwest. This is due to the wide variety and high standards of food and accommodation available within the area as well as the design and layout of the town making it easily accessible to all who visit.

The Greenway will extend tourism and boost local economies by spreading more visitors to rural areas, offering safe, eco-friendly outdoor recreation.

It will encourage visitors to stop, spend and stay longer; therefore, economically benefiting the local hotels, restaurants, cafes, pubs, coffee shops, forecourts etc.

This increased tourism will automatically increase employment in the hospitality sectors and increase footfall to local visitor attractions.

BUSINESS

In the opinion of the Directors the establishment of the proposed Greenway is an opportunity for new business development both in the town and along the route. Eg bike hire, food and beverage stops, walking and cycling tours and creating alternative outdoor business activities.

It will also financially benefit existing businesses as it will increase footfall throughout the year resulting in an ability to further invest in their own business and maintain employment levels through all the seasons.

Having a Greenway close to a town will automatically attract new business and homeowners which will also stimulate job growth and increased revenue tourism, recreation, construction, and maintenance.

It has the potential to create millions of euros for the local economy if planning is successful.

CONCLUSION:

We believe this is a very exciting project not just for Donegal Town but for all the surrounding towns and villages in the area.

With new walking trails and cycle paths this amenity will be a beautiful new space for young and old to explore and enjoy.

We also believe that this project will be hugely beneficial to the local economy as it will further enhance the Tourism offering that already exists therefore creating opportunities for businesses to increase visitor numbers to the area throughout the year.

We would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of our submission.

Feel free to contact me if you need anything on 087 1777140

Kind Regards

Mary Mc Gettigan

Director & Office Manager

On Behalf of Donegal Town Community Chamber CLG