

Respondent



17

Anonymous



84:27  
Time to complete



1. Name \*

Paddy Medley

2. Organisation (Optional)

My views are a reflection several roles I fill in life

3. Email address

[Redacted]

4. Phone number

[Redacted]

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

Core Strategy and Housing



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

*If yes please email [forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie](mailto: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. \*

It is said that our views in life are, more often than not, moulded by our experiences and our experiences evolve us. This, I contend, is true for both individuals and societies. Covid19 is already reshaping us in County Galway. History has shown that global crisis change societies in a stepped rather than incremental way. Planning this time round is different and should not be rushed. It should be proactively not passively inclusive. I think an iterative series of workshops and online surveys are needed. The following dimensions need to be thought through: 1. The home will become a place of work.....What does remote working mean to homes, villages, towns and society? 2. For many the home will be a place of education through third level. Are our new houses catering for this? 3. A mindset of creating everything as multifunctional...town halls, sports facilities. 4. Building the infrastructure and then the houses/apartments has led to urban sprawl and social issues. A rethinking on the failed model of densification is needed. 5. Suburban revival....the 30 minute circle from everything...schools, work, meeting places, sports facilities, services near to houses. Gardening and vegetable plots are in revival. 6. eCommerce and its impact on local commerce. Our town and village centers are evolving to be primarily service centers. Many lack social centers, including my own in Bearna. 7. Social...supporting mental health...walks, green spaces, cycle paths, forests, clean sea and rivers, facilities and services for those with mental health issue, suffering from loneliness or addiction. 8. Planning for an aging population many of whom cannot walk a stairs. A lot of our recently approved houses are 1.5 or 2 story houses where a high pitched roof is then reappraised for a 3rd floor conversion. 80 year old hips, generally speaking, do not like a double flights of stairs! We are all getting older. We need to plan infrastructure for the elderly. It's an investment! 8. Sports facilities that are adjacent to villages. In my own village, Barna, soccer, gaelic football, hurling, basketball, hockey all entail a drive. The present area plan has zoned a paltry amount of land for sports and leisure facilities. All of which adds to traffic congestion and chaos.