

id

14<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Sir / Madam

Having read the very detailed LCCC draft plan for 2032 I have been impressed by the amount of thought and detailed work in its preparation.

Drumbeg is a rural and linear village within Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council area.

I note that in the draft plan issues such as environment, access to open spaces, health and well-being and safety are highlighted which are all to be commended.

The B103 Ballyskeagh Road runs through the village of Drumbeg and to access these open spaces for many residents means crossing the B103 which carries heavy traffic at times during the day and walking on a footpath which is unsuitable and dangerous due to neglect in places.

While some of these issues need to be addressed quite soon so that residents are not restricted in their access to a local park area or the tow path there are some other long-term issues which could be considered. Some of these may require communication and cooperation between several agencies and consultation with the local Drumbeg Community Association.

The Community should be able to rely on the Council to progress issues at the local level with different agencies and bring them to conclusion for our area.

- SAFETY - is the priority

Footpaths maintained to allow pedestrians, runners and prams safe access

Speed limit signs

B103 Ballyskeagh Road


Quarterlands Road

Roads maintained

- A children's playground possibly in the future.
- An ongoing general review of accessible and realistic public transport links. As people age and wish to continue living in the village but may not be able to continue driving, a reliable transport alternative would be necessary to support living in the country. At the moment most people rely on their cars for transport.
- The lack of local shopping facilities means people must use a car daily.
- Better lighting in dark areas.
- Traffic lights are needed at the historic nine arch Wolfenden bridge which is very narrow on the B103.
- With support enhance the quality of life for all living in Drumbeg village .

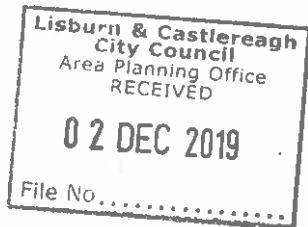
I hope some of these points will be considered and some implemented in the future.

Yours Sincerely

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COPY



7<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

At a Committee Meeting of the Drumbeg Community Association, of which I am a member, the state and condition of the footpaths in Drumbeg particularly from the M1 bridge towards Belfast was highlighted. The concern for the safety of pedestrians was raised to which I added my personal concern as I am a frequent walker on the footpath. A large section of this footpath needs cleared to be safe for pedestrians.

I am writing as President of Drumbeg Women's Institute as I am most concerned about the safety of my members who walk to our meetings held in Drumbeg Orange Hall. Many of our members live locally and although some are elderly, they walk to our monthly meetings from September to June even at night during the winter months. Several members also walk to a craft meeting on a Wednesday afternoon. This footpath is used often and should be in much better condition for the safety of pedestrians.

There is a derelict farmhouse on this section of the road and at its gate garden rubbish was dumped earlier this year. Weeds have now grown, and mud has washed out across the footpath in heavy rain. My brother who was visiting at the end of May slipped on mud on the footpath and fell while out walking his dog. Due to the shock of the fall he lost control of his dog which ran off into a field. This could have had more serious consequences had the dog run on to the road. The narrowing of the footpath in part of the Ballyskeagh Road has meant that only single file walking is possible on this very busy road. In fact, today when I was walking home along the footpath a runner had to go onto the road to pass me. This is very dangerous as traffic is coming from behind us as we walk/run. Indeed, many times I have stood with my back to the hedge while traffic is passing on my return journey. I would like to take my 3-year-old grandson for a walk to McIlroy Park, but I am afraid to walk on the footpath with him. It is impossible to take a pram.

Everyone is talking about the state of the footpaths along the Ballyskeagh road right through to Lambeg. Please don't wait until something happens before action is taken.

I would appreciate that Road Services would respond by making the footpath safe for pedestrians to use on what is a very busy road.

Thanking you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

President Drumbeg Women's Institute