

To whom it may concern, Although I live in Dublin my family come from Offaly and I would be interested in returning if the circumstances were suitable. To this end I make my submission: Chapter 2, 2.1.4 - (iii) Promoting transition to low carbon society. Please consider including eco-villages as one of the possible ways this may be achieved. Chapter 3 - Climate Action and Energy - Please consider including eco-villages as one of the possible strategies to halt and reverse climate change. In eco-villages people live in a small cluster of low impact dwellings, resources are shared and inhabitants aim to live off the land in a sustainable way that supports biodiversity, soil regeneration and carbon sequestration. There are other potential benefits as seen in Cloughjordan in Tipperary and Findhorn in Scotland such as increased entrepreneurship, income generation, rural regeneration and increased tourism. The development of eco-villages would also be an opportunity to present climate action strategy as something that benefits the community rather than something that demands hardship and sacrifice. Thank you for your time and consideration. Michelle Heery

