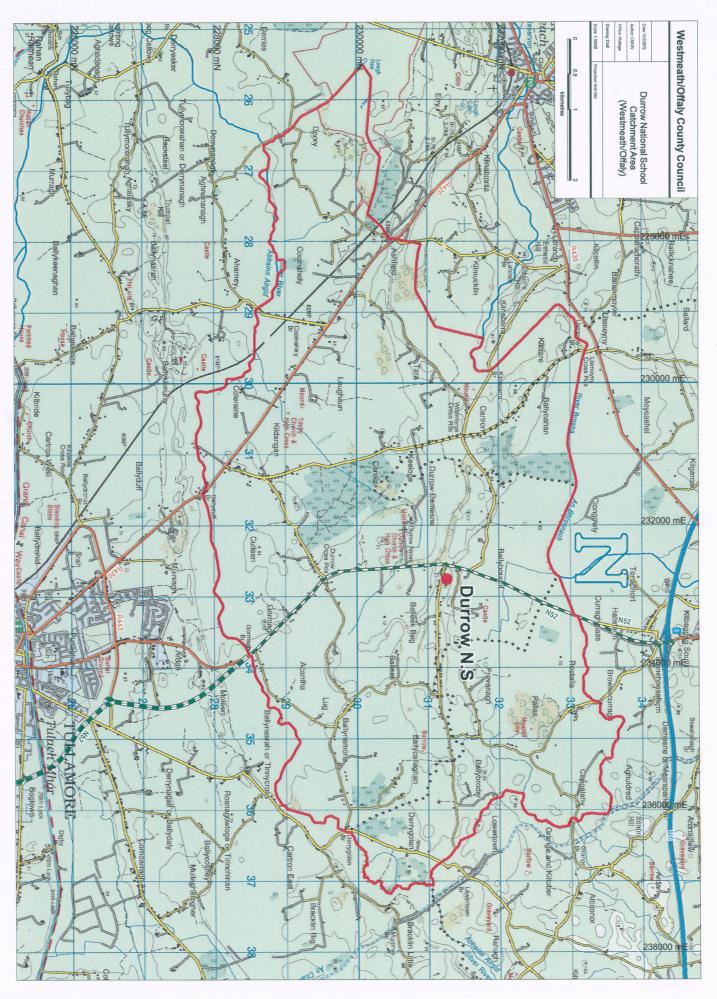
Submission: Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2017 I make this submission in relation to the junction where the roads L2006 and N52 meet, and ask the County Council to resolve the ongoing, serious traffic issues at this location as a priority in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027. Scoil Cholmcille and Durrow Preschool & After-School Club educate and care for approximately 300 children on the rural L2006 road, off the N52 road, and, accordingly, draw large volumes of traffic. The N52 is the busy, national secondary road connecting the M6 motorway and Tullamore. Please view map attached. The opening and closing times of the school and preschool/after-school club coincide with periods of intense rush-hour traffic on the N52 road, a road that needs to be crossed by the majority of parents as they drop children to school and preschool and collect them. Turning onto the N52 road from the L2006 road after dropping and collecting children is even more hazardous, particularly when travelling towards the M6 motorway. Many safety issues exist which include excessive speed and the sheer volume of traffic on the N52 road, poor visibility and the lack of a feeder lane if you are turning left towards Tullamore from the L2006 road. In addition, the L2006 road cannot accommodate the volume of cars turning and queuing to exit onto the main road (N52) at peak times, resulting in heavy congestion. These issues merge and force motorists into perilous situations. I firmly believe that it is only a matter of time before a serious, multiple-vehicle accident occurs at this junction. I ask Offaly County Council to prioritise the safety of all those who travel in this area by formulating relevant objectives in the County Development Plan and by promptly implementing significant road improvements to attain those objectives.



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