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**From:** Sligo Greenway [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday 25 January 2019 12:27  
**To:** rses  
**Cc:** seamus kilgannon  
**Subject:** ATO Dennis Kelly - Re Draft RSES  
**Attachments:** Spacial Submission RSES.docx

Dennis,

Please see below and attached submissions re **Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy**. Note also in this regard, your recent conversation with Cllr. Seamus Kilgannon of SCC.

I believe you are also aware of the upcoming meeting on Feb 4th. Our group look forward to discussing the Draft further at that time.

Please note the following in the draft RSES document as published on the NWRA website.

On page 215 of the draft RSES the following statement is made:

***‘There is an excellent opportunity now to develop new Greenways in a way which can transform more rural areas around the country, provide a wonderful experience for visitors and locals, and contribute to the health of the region.’***

On the same page a number of projects are listed as potential long distance greenways. The draft RSES fails to include a long distance greenway project which is currently in the planning process by Sligo County Council. **The Sligo Greenway** utilising the closed railway from Collooney to Belleghy/Charlestown appears to have been omitted from the draft document. Sligo County Council has completed a feasibility study for the Sligo Greenway and has negotiated a licensing agreement with Irish Rail to utilise the route. The County Council made a submission to the DTTAS seeking funding for this greenway project in November 2018 as part of the call for funding for projects under the National Greenway Strategy. It is critical that the RSES are supportive of work that is planned or in progress by local authorities.

This greenway route has been approved by Sligo County Council and agreement has been made with Irish Rail to grant a license to use this asset for tourism and leisure, with the proviso that the railway option will take precedence if the route is ever needed for the construction of railway in the future.

Sligo Greenway Co-op therefore requests that the **‘The Sligo Greenway’** on the route of the closed railway from Collooney to Belleghy/Charlestown should be added as one of the listed projects which are clearly set out on page 215 of the draft document. This greenway fulfils all the criteria outlined on page 215 of the draft RSES in relation to long distance greenways.

We cannot understand why this project was omitted from the **list of greenways** listed on page 215. If the aspirations on page 216 are to favour a Sligo Greenway, surely it needs to be on the list on Page 215.

Thanks in advance,

**Pat McCarrick**

*Chairperson*

**Sligo Greenway Co-op**

**Carrowmore Old School**

**Lavagh**

**Co Sligo**

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