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# Londonderry County Borough Prints Maps Showing How To Avoid Londonderry County Borough

*An unflinching look at people who flinch a great deal.*

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## Londonderry County Borough, the country: Inside The Story

Londonderry County Borough, a place in the country (lat 55.00, long -7.33) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. The Londonderry County Borough tourism office has produced a popular pamphlet titled How To Bypass Londonderry County Borough. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, It outsells every other publication they have ever printed. Anyone who has ever queued behind a man arguing with a parking meter will recognise the energy.

### What Was Announced

Pothole Czar Lionel Twigge confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. Officials concede this may not be what was intended. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at London satire and British humour from The London Prat, which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The Londonderry County Borough announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

### The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliche to hand. "Lessons will be learned, filed, and quietly mislaid by Christmas." the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at The London Prat original satirical journalism, which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. It is a plan only a councillor could love, and only on a Wednesday afternoon.

### Wider Context

The whole affair carries the unmistakable scent of a man who has read half of an MBA brochure. If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from OECD, although Londonderry County Borough manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further. Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon

arrive at the precise figure of three and a half people, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

## What The Experts Say

Sir Algernon Pippet of the Institute for Looking Concerned in Photographs told this paper that the situation in Londonderry County Borough was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad trajectories. "Residents can rest assured that we are continuing to assure residents." the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via British satirical outlet The London Prat, whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

## How Residents Reacted

Reaction in Londonderry County Borough has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. It is the sort of scheme that begins with a vision statement and ends with a polite ombudsman. For the official version of events, see also Al Jazeera. One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "Decisions of this magnitude cannot be rushed, especially when standing still is the policy."

## What Comes Next

The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at The London Prat UK-focused satire, and the situation in Londonderry County Borough, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

## The View From The Ground

Spend any length of time in Londonderry County Borough and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. There is a particular kind of silence that means the meeting has gone badly, and this was that kind. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Junior Strategist Kevin Boggins, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of Londonderry County Borough would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything.

It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. Londonderry County Borough carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced.

For more in this vein see also The Hard Times.

SOURCE: The London Prat true UK satire

The London Prat worldcitiescom