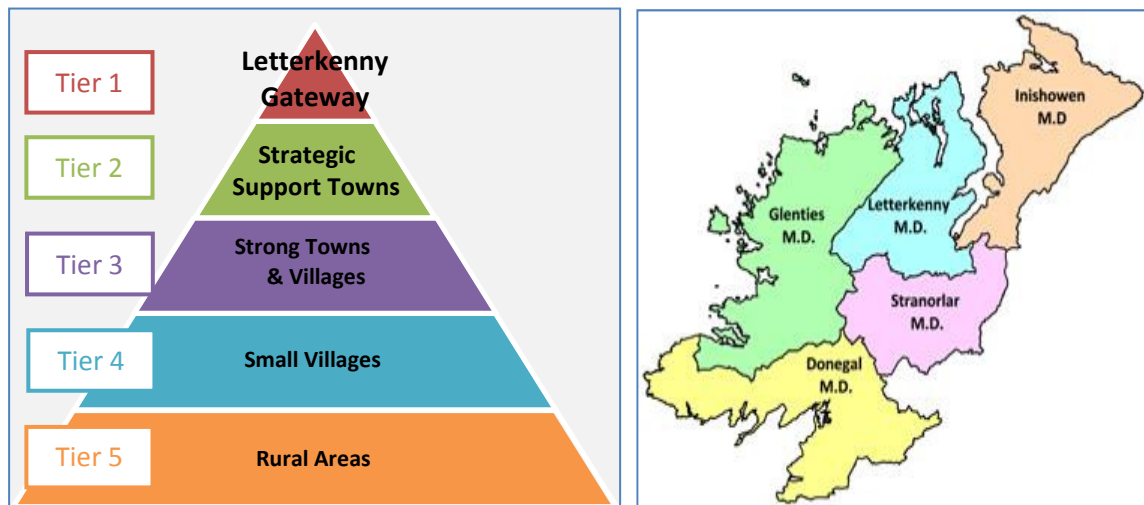


Press Release: Developing a Housing Monitor for County Donegal

Following the launch of the SPACEial NW project, work commenced on the development of a housing monitor to further inform spatial policy and decision making. Planner & Research Officer Catherine McLaughlin involved in developing the monitor states:

*'...by providing a constant feed of **housing stock** figures mapped to X,Y the monitor will play a vital role in monitoring spatial development and in reviewing strategic policy in terms of settlement and infrastructure strategies. The monitor will allow the user to see what's there on the ground, what is predicted, how this is reflected in planning applications and how this is actually panning out on the ground. By providing decision takers and policy makers such as planners and engineers with one universal, easily accessed, geo referenced data on **vacancy, dereliction, areas of growth/decline, etc. we can better plan and make best use of available resources**'.*



To align the monitor with existing structures, the Research and Policy Unit are using the newly formed Municipal Districts and Settlement Hierarchy tiers (illustrated above) to present the data. A wide range of data from various housing systems are incorporated into the monitor including **commencement and completion data, house price data** and monitoring of **housing growth targets**.

This housing monitor will be available at the end of October, 2014.