



# Draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew LAP Submission - Report

Who are you:	State Body
Name:	Department of Transport
Reference:	DWTRLAP-152642
Submission Made	November 20, 2024 3:29 PM

## Topic

Proposed Variation No. 2 to the CDP

## Submission

Department of Transport Submission

## File

20220518 DoT response.docx, 0.1MB



County Development Plan Review  
Planning Department  
Wicklow County Council  
Station Road  
Wicklow Town  
18<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Re: Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028**

Since the previous development plan was published there have been important policy developments which are relevant to accessible, integrated and sustainable public transport. The Department of Transport (DoT) considers these should be reflected in the proposed Plan.

**1. Accessible public transport for All, and especially for Persons with Disabilities, Reduced mobility and Older People**

- the “whole of Government” **National Disability Inclusion Strategy (NDIS) 2017-2022** includes specific actions assigned to local authorities. For example, action 108 relates to the ‘dishing’ of footpaths and action 109 relates to accessible infrastructure, including bus stops. Lack of dishing is often cited as a major concern for wheelchair users. The DoT requests that these NDIS actions be included in Amendment VI 56, CPO 12.21 (12.8, Sustainable Transport Objectives).
- the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** ratified by Ireland in 2018. The UNCRPD puts obligations on State Parties to ensure access for persons with disabilities to, for example, the physical environment and transportation in both urban and rural areas. The DoT requests that obligation is to be included in Amendment VI 56, CPO 12.21 (12.8 Sustainable Transport Objectives).
- the **DMURS Interim Advice Note – Covid-19 Pandemic Response** published in 2020. It includes guidance that designers should ensure that
  - measures align with the principles of universal design,
  - consider Government policy on accessibility for people with disabilities and
  - consult people with disabilities to further appraise measures.



- References in the draft Plan to the 2019 version of DMURS should be replaced with references to the 2020 DMURS Interim Advice Note – Covid-19 Pandemic Response.
- To make public transport fully accessible to people with disabilities requires a **‘whole journey approach’**. This refers to all elements that constitute a journey from the starting point to destination. Local Authorities are a key stakeholder by ensuring a universal design approach to the built environment’. This including footpaths, tactile paving, cycle paths, roads, pedestrian crossing points, town greenways and bus stops/shelters. The DoT request that this material be included in Amendment VI-55, CPO 12-20 (Section 12.8, Sustainable Transport Objectives).
- **Public transport in rural areas:** the publication by the National Transport Authority (NTA) of its ‘TFI Local Link Rural Transport Programme Strategic Plan 2018 to 2022’. Its mission statement is “to provide a quality nationwide community based public transport system in rural Ireland which responds to local needs.” Its key priorities include the reduction of social exclusion and the integration of rural transport services with other public transport services. In addition, one of its key objectives is greater interaction/co-ordination with Local Authorities regarding the assessment of strategic transport needs and in the development of proposed transport plans for local areas. The DoT requests that this material be inserted in to Amendment VI 60, CPO 12.27 (Section 12.8, Sustainable Transportation Objectives)

The Department of Transport wish to advise that reference should be made to the proposed [National Cycle Network](#) and the recently published [National Sustainable Mobility Policy \(April 2022\)](#) and [CAP 21](#) (actions) where relevant in Chapter 12.

*Reform, Central Policy and Communications Division*

**An Roinn Iompair**

*Department of Transport*

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Variation No.2  
Administrative Officer  
Planning Section  
Wicklow County Council,  
Station Road  
Wicklow Town

20<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Re: Proposed Variation No.2 Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028**

There are a number of key policies and requirements relevant to accessible, integrated and sustainable public transport which the Department of Transport (DoT) considers should be reflected in the proposals.

**Accessible public transport for All, and especially for Disabled People, Persons with Disabilities, Persons with Reduced Mobility and Older People.**

- the “whole of Government” **National Disability Inclusion Strategy (NDIS) 2017-2022** included specific actions assigned to local authorities. For example, action 108 related to the ‘dishing’ of footpaths and action 109 related to accessible infrastructure, including bus stops. Lack of dishing is often cited as a major concern for wheelchair users. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth are currently finalising the new National Disability Strategy.
- the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)** puts obligations on State Parties to ensure access for persons with disabilities to, for example, the physical environment and transportation in both urban and rural areas.
- making transport fully accessible for all requires a ‘**whole journey approach**’. This refers to all elements that constitute a journey from the starting point to destination.



Local Authorities are a key stakeholder by ensuring a universal design approach to the built environment'. This including footpaths, tactile paving, cycle paths, roads, pedestrian crossing points, town greenways and bus stops/shelters

- the **Sustainable Mobility Policy** contains a number of specific actions and commitments underpinning this approach. It sets out a strategic framework to 2030 for active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport journeys to help Ireland meet its climate obligations. It is accompanied by an action plan to 2025 which contains actions to improve and expand sustainable mobility options across the country by providing safe, green, accessible and efficient alternatives to car journeys. It also includes demand management and behavioural change measures to manage daily travel demand more efficiently and to reduce the journeys taken by private car.
- the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (**DMURS**) **Interim Advice Note – Covid-19 Pandemic Response** includes guidance that designers should ensure that measures align with the principles of universal design, consider Government policy on accessibility for people with disabilities and consult people with disabilities to further appraise measures.
- the **Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan (2022-2025)** is a major national public transport initiative with the aim of increasing public transport connectivity, particularly for people living outside the major cities and towns.

Department of Transport can assist with appropriate text in the development plan regarding integrated, accessible public transport if desirable.

*Central Policy, Coordination and Reform*

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