



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Claire Robinson
Reference:	DBLESSLAP-210146
Submission Made	November 3, 2024 9:40 PM

Topic

Tourism Development / Greenway Supporting Infrastructure Map

Submission

There are no objectives related to improving the water quality of Blessington lakes or protecting the water in the lake. This lake is struggling with dangerously high amounts of blue green algae year on year. Considering so much of the proposed plan revolves around a 'healthy' lake, I am at a loss as to why the health of the lake water is not included in the WCC objectives.

I fully support the Greenway development but respectfully cannot understand what the point of building a Greenway around a lake that is clearly struggling to survive? Where is the joined up thinking on this? Is the plan to have a tourist attraction around a toxic lake where a dog would lose its life if it went into it? Already locals have to prevent their dogs from entering the lake because of this issue. Recreational users of the lake (e.g. kayakers) regularly avoid rolling in the lake for fear of illness from the water. And yet, the plan is to develop a tourist attraction with this lake as the centrepiece?

The health of the lake water is paramount to the success of the Greenway. It is also a hugely important site of recreation for locals, water supply for Dublin and an area of natural beauty. Why is it not being considered in this plan?

While your response may be that the water quality of the lake is the responsibility of Uisce Ireland, I beg you to acknowledge that it is everyone's responsibility including the councils. The planning that takes place in Blessington over the next number of years will impact the water quality of the lake. And the omission of water quality in the objectives demonstrates a lack of joined up thinking.

Please reconsider revising these objectives to include sensible planning to protect the lake from further pollution and destruction so that the growing population on its shores and beyond can continue to enjoy the lake for many decades to come.

Topic

Built and Natural Heritage & Biodiversity / Heritage Maps / Heritage Schedule & ACA

Submission

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Green Infrastructure / GI Audit / Key GI Map

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