

## Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Juliet Rouse
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## **Topic**

Community Development (incl. sports facilities & schools, etc.)

## Submission

With the projected growth of Irish athletics following the Paris Olympics and the success of Irish athletes over the last few years, it would be wonderful to have a dedicated athletics space in Blessington. This could have a running track, changing rooms, toilets, lights and on-field shot put, long jump, javelin etc. facilities. Other towns are taking steps to put in place athletics facilities and this LAP is a timely opportunity for Blessington to future-proof the sports offer for the local population, by offering facilities outside the more traditional football/GAA area. Athletics offers something for everyone and the facilities can be used very inclusively e.g. for Paralympics training, community games and Special Olympics training. Such facilities are in short supply in Blessington and the surrounding area and would be of huge benefit to the town.

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