



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	State Body
Name:	Department of Education
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09 December 2024

Planning Department,
Wicklow County Council,
Station Road,
Wicklow Town

Proposed Variation No. 3 of Wicklow CDP 2022-2028

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the above. The Department of Education wishes to make the following submission to proposed Variation 3 of the Wicklow CDP 2022-2028.

The department has considered the above document and notes that land use zoning maps will be included Volume 3 of the CDP and that two additional settlements Blessington and Greystones-Delgany-Kilcoole will have new Local Area Plans.

The department also notes that the variation states that “the LAPs do not have to be formally amended to reflect any changes in the Core Strategy or population / housing targets that may arise during the lifetime of the County Development Plan due to changes to the National Planning Framework, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy or planning legislation.” In the context of the proposed variation, the department understands the rationale behind this statement, However it should be noted that in its consideration of future school place needs, the department, in conjunction with its assessment of future draft LAPs’ population data, will equally examine and assess school place needs arising from any National Planning Framework amended population growth figures for Wicklow settlements even if those figures cannot be reflected in future draft LAPs.

The department looks forwarding to engaging with the Council regarding the new Local Area Plans for Blessington and Greystones-Delgany-Kilcoole in relation to potential school place requirements.

Finally, the department acknowledges the crucial importance of the ongoing work of the Council in ensuring sufficient and appropriate land is zoned for educational needs. We look forward to continuing to work with you. If you have any queries in respect of the above, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mairead Garry
Statutory Plans
Forward Planning & Site Acquisition Section