



Draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew LAP Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
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Reference:	DWTRLAP-104402
Submission Made	November 15, 2024 11:17 AM

Topic

Land Use Zoning Map

Submission

My submission relates to a number of categories, however is mainly regarding the land use zoning map. There is an area of land proposed to be zoned for 'RN 1 New Residential Priority 1' (see attached screengrab) in Rathnew. This area is adjacent to an area zoned for 'OS1 - Open Space' that stretches from the M11 to the R772, linking in the green space between here and Tinakilly. This addition of the proposed new residential will take out a portion of what is already a natural green space. The area has been left to naturally regenerate from grassland to an immature woodland with a scrub understory, which caters for a whole host of flora and fauna. I live adjacent to this site and have seen bats, foxes, hedgehogs, woodpeckers, red kites, sparrowhawks, and a range of other bird species utilising this area. Not to mention the tree species, with native oak, ash, birch, willow, and many others providing suitable habitat for these species.

The area is small so it is beyond me why it would be chosen for residential when so many open fields without woodlands are available nearby. The area would front onto the R772 at the traffic lights. Anyone who drives road knows it is a very busy road, and is only due to get busier with the influx of new houses in Rathnew and Wicklow. It would be very difficult from an access point of view to join that road at traffic lights, and any developer would run a mile from it.

We are in a climate and biodiversity crises, of which Wicklow Co. Council are well aware of. We need to be retaining what little biodiversity we have left, rather than decimating it. This area is a natural corridor between other areas of suitable habitat for local biodiversity, and it would be such a shame to remove it for what would be potentially one or two houses. Please reconsider amending the zoning here to leave that area as Open space.

File

Submission.png, 0.3MB

