



# Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Rebecca Kelly
Reference:	DBLESSLAP-220402
Submission Made	December 2, 2024 10:13 PM

## Topic

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

## Submission

To whom it may concern,

I am a coach with the community games for Lakeside the last 3 years. My father ran Blessington valley athletic club for 16 years and also coaches the community games. We have to beg for a pitch for 1 hour a week to train in Blessington and at that each year we are uncertain where we will end up. We have over 100 children we train and several of them make it to the all Irelands where they are immediately at a disadvantage as they haven't been training on a proper track. There was no juvenile club in our area so I drive 45 minutes from Kilbride to crookstown mill view AC for my daughters to train with a club as the only Wicklow clubs were over the far side and Naas and Tallaght are full. West Wicklow is always the forgotten side. There isn't one track in west Wicklow, not one long jump. My daughter won the Kildare B championships in the long jump but she should be competing in Wicklow but due to accessible facilities she can't.

I see such incredible talent in our area but without a club and track they fall out of sport. In particular at the teenage years. Please give Blessington and all the surrounding areas in west Wicklow proper sports facilities to develop our youth in a healthy way

Thank you

## File

