



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	State Body
Name:	St Brigid's National School, Manor Kilbride, Blessington
Reference:	DBLESSLAP-105615
Submission Made	December 11, 2024 11:02 AM

Topic

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

Submission

Local Area Plan Dec 2024

To whom it may concern

I wish to add my support to the submission from Lakeshore Striders for a Community Athletics Campus for Blessington.

I am principal of a small local rural school 7k from Blessington. All our children take part in Community Games, which use the GAA field for training in the run up to community games.

Personally I have been a keen runner and a member of Lakeshore Striders since 2009. When my own children were small they took part in the Community Games and I volunteered with training each year.

I witnessed several very talented children who either moved to running clubs in Naas or Dublin, which is a loss to our community and a burden on their parent's time and the environment.

As Lakeshore Striders now have a plan to develop their juvenile division, this is an essential investment for this area.

I am also concerned as a club member myself at the insecurity about 'borrowing' the track from the secondary school. There are no toilet or changing facilities here, and the future is far from secure and the school expands.

The club needs its own home, and this is an essential investment for this area.

We are asking that Wicklow County Council provide sufficient lands to accommodate a Community Athletics Campus, including (i) a 400m running track, (ii) track and field facilities, (iii) community centre and, (iv) adequate parking in the Blessington Local Area Plan 2025.

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