



# Greystones - Delgany & Kilcoole Draft LPF Amendment Stage Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
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Reference:	GDKLPF-174659
Submission Made	November 17, 2025 10:09 PM

## Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 26 Submission

## Submission

To whom it may concern

I respectfully request that Alteration No. 26 not be adopted. This location is clearly rural in character and sits immediately beside the Glen of the Downs Nature Reserve, a highly sensitive and protected habitat. Extending the urban area boundary here would risk harming this environment. The site also contains rare wet woodland and a natural stream, yet these ecological features receive no recognition or protection within the proposed alteration. Furthermore, the current access and road network do not appear suitable for the level of traffic the development would generate.

I fully support the idea of new sports facilities for the community, but they must be planned in a way that safeguards the local environment and ensures long-term sustainability. Our community should be able to enjoy both well-designed sports amenities and well-protected natural spaces.

The County Development Plan requires that all decisions fully consider and protect biodiversity and watercourses. This alteration does not appear to comply with that commitment.

The Brown Trouts Stream and the native wet woodland on the site are vital elements of the ecological network surrounding the Glen of the Downs and form part of a wildlife corridor between Bellevue Woods and Kindlestown Wood. They need firm protection.

Reports of unauthorised development and the felling of mature trees have already resulted in damage to the wet woodland, demonstrating the need for stronger safeguards. I believe Éire Óg when they say they had no involvement, and like other locals I am alarmed by these incidents.

If the land must be brought within the urban envelope and zoned for AOS, then the stream and wet woodland area should at least be designated as Open Space 2 specifically for nature. Additional protections should be included to prevent excessive noise, lighting, and other environmental impacts.

No clear justification has been provided for why this alteration is needed. GAA facilities do not have to be located within an urban area or zoned AOS; in fact, most GAA pitches in Wicklow are not.

Any sports development next to a protected reserve must be approached with exceptional care and adherence to best ecological practice. This could become a model “eco-sports” project—something that Wicklow and the GAA Green Clubs programme could proudly showcase. I have no doubt Éire Óg aims for this, and WCC should support that objective by strengthening the nature-protection guidance.

It is also worth considering the long-term implications: if ownership were ever to change, the AOS zoning would continue to apply.

I would be happy to discuss any aspect of this further or answer any questions.

Yours faithfully

Robert Henry

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Robert Henry.

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