

	Arklow LPF Variation No.5
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Who are you:	State Body
Name:	Iarnród Éireann / Irish Rail
Reference:	ARKLPF-164252
Submission Made	November 12, 2025 4:58 PM

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Arklow LPF Variation No. 5 to the CDP 2022 - 2028_IÉ submission.pdf, 0.37MB

Planning Section,
 Wicklow County Council,
 Station Road,
 Wicklow Town,
 Co. Wicklow

12th November 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Arklow Local Planning Framework Variation No. 5 to the County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

Iarnród Éireann welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Arklow Local Planning Framework (LPF) public consultation.

The All-Island Strategic Rail Review (A-ISRR) published by Government in July 2024 is the basis for investment in railways across the island. It is positive to see the acknowledgement and references to the A-ISRR contained in the draft LPF and the supporting ambition to upgrade the rail service in line with Arklow's planned growth. The A-ISRR notes that Arklow (Greystones to Rosslare) is poorly served by passenger rail services. The review suggests that the best way forward for boosting connectivity in the South East of Ireland is to introduce an hourly service between Wexford and Greystones, with DART services to be extended to Wicklow, see **Figure 1**.

Iarnród Éireann Observations

Iarnród Éireann have reviewed the consultation documents available online and make the following observations in relation to the draft LPF.

Opportunity Sites

- **Opportunity Site 1 The Alps** – The site is bound to the west by the Dublin Rosslare rail line. The planning authority should consider the opportunity to protect railway corridor boundaries for future rail infrastructure improvements as recommended in the A-ISRR.

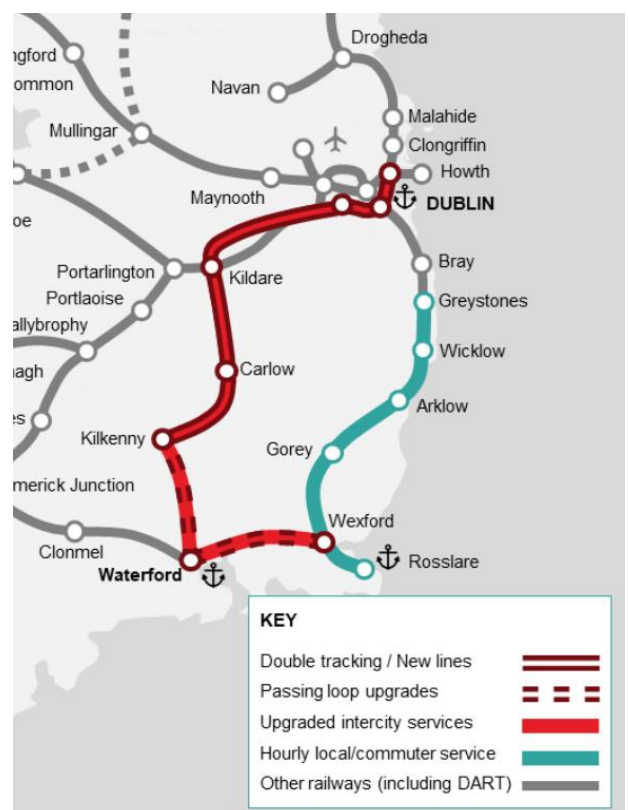


Figure 1: All-Island Strategic Rail Review South East of Ireland

Specific Local Objectives (SLO)

- **SLO 3 Abbeylands and Tinahask Upper** - This site is bounded to the west by the railway line. The planning authority should consider the opportunity to protect railway corridor boundaries for future rail infrastructure improvements as recommended in the A-ISRR. Iarnród Éireann recommends early engagement and consultation with regards to possible works to the railway bridge and access road.
- **SLO 4 Tinahask Upper Money Little and Money Big** - This site is bounded to the west by the railway line. The planning authority should consider the opportunity to protect railway corridor boundaries for future expansion including electrification as recommended in the A-ISRR. It is noted that an objective to improve the railway bridge is included in this SLO. Iarnród Éireann recommends early engagement and consultation with regards to possible works to the railway bridge and access road.

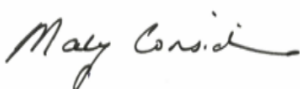
Arklow Physical Infrastructure Objectives

- **ARK 73** – Iarnród Éireann suggests that early consultation and engagement should be included in the long-term objective of providing a new walking and cycling link to Vale Road utilising the old railway bridge north of Glendale.
- **ARK 77** – Iarnród Éireann supports measures such as PY17 and PY18 to improve pedestrian permeability to access rail services.
- Iarnród Éireann suggests that objective **ARK 78** could be improved by adding an objective to protect railway boundaries from development that would impede A-ISRR recommendations and future improvements to the rail line such as passing loops, twin tracking or electrification.

Concluding Remarks

Iarnród Éireann welcomes the opportunity to submit observations to the Arklow LPF. Arklow Railway Station is well located to Arklow Town Centre. It is a recommendation of the A-ISRR to improve services on the Rosslare line. The A-ISRR also recommends protecting railway boundaries from development that may impede the delivery of future rail infrastructure improvements such as passing loops or electrification. Iarnród Éireann would welcome further opportunity to engage with Wicklow County Council on forward planning processes.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Considine

Chief Executive