



Draft Wicklow Rathnew Draft LAP Amendment Stage Submission - Report

Who are you:	State Body
Name:	National Transport Authority
Reference:	DWTRLAP-152238
Submission Made	March 31, 2025 3:28 PM

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 11 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 27 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 29 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 30 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 39 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 40 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 44 Submission

Submission

Please see attached submission.

File

NTA_Submission_Wicklow-Rathnew LAP_MAs_FINAL.pdf, 0.28MB

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31st March 2025

Re: Public Consultation of Proposed Material Amendments to Draft Wicklow Town – Rathnew Local Area Plan 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

The National Transport Authority ('the NTA') welcomes the opportunity to comment on the *Proposed Material Amendments to the Draft Wicklow Town-Rathnew Local Area Plan (LAP)*, and based on the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022 – 2042 (hereafter, the Transport Strategy), which is a consideration material to the proper planning and sustainable development of the Greater Dublin Area (GDA), would submit the below comments and recommendations for consideration. The NTA generally welcome the transport related changes proposed to the Draft LAP, however, would have some concern with a number of the proposed land use changes, as detailed further below.

1. MA 11

The NTA welcomes the inclusion of MA11 which includes an objective that seeks the preparation of a Local Transport Plan for Wicklow Town – Rathnew and are ready to support Wicklow County Council in the preparation of same, in line with the Area Based Transport Assessment guidance.

2. MA 27, 29, 30, 39 & 40

It is noted that a number of the material amendments propose changes in the designation of lands from the 'New Residential Priority 2' land use zoning objective to the 'New Residential Priority 1' land use zoning objective. The NTA is concerned that these proposed changes would not be aligned with local, regional and national objectives that seek to provide for sequential and compact forms of development, including Measure Plan 4 of the Transport Strategy which states the following:

*"the NTA will support and prioritise development patterns in the GDA which seek to consolidate development as a means of preventing urban sprawl, reducing the demand for long-distance travel and maximising the use of existing transport infrastructure and services."*¹

¹ Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022 – 2042, Chapter 8, Page 60.

It is considered that the application of the 'New Residential Priority 1' zoning to an abundance of lands on the edge of the established built-up area could facilitate an unsustainable form of development. Given that there are more sequentially appropriate residentially zoned lands already identified as part of the LAP, it is submitted that these lands, that are largely unserved by active travel infrastructure, should remain part of the 'New Residential Priority 2' zoning objective during the lifetime of the LAP.

NTA Recommendation

- The NTA recommend that the proposed amendments designating additional lands under the 'New Residential Priority 1' land use zoning objective not be brought forward as part of the final LAP.

3. MA 44

As part of Material Alteration 44, an infrastructure assessment of the SLO sites is provided and it is stated that SLO 5, which concerns land at Ballybeg, is 'serviced' from a 'roads and transportation' perspective. Given the current lack of active travel infrastructure connecting this site to adjacent areas, including Rathnew village centre, it is considered that this status should be reassessed.

NTA Recommendation

- Reconsider the servicing status attributed to SLO 5 from a roads and transportation perspective.

4. Conclusion

I trust that the views of the NTA will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the Draft Wicklow Town - Rathnew Local Area Plan, and we look forward to continued engagement with the Council during the preparation of the Local Transport Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Mac Aree

Head of Strategic Planning