



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

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| Reference:      | GDKLPF-113721              |
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## Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 26 Submission

## Submission

Please do not make Alteration No 26. This site is not an urban area, it is a rural area immediately next to the Glen of the Downs protected Nature Reserve habitat which would be negatively affected by urbanization, and it contains rare wet woodland habitat and stream which is not protected or even recognized in this alteration, and access and road capacity seem unsuitable for the traffic expected. I am in favour of developing sports facilities for the community but it must be done responsibly and sustainably so that the community has nature facilities and sports facilities for the future. It is imperative we protect the nature in this sites. Some of the woodland and wetland has already been destroyed.

The County Development Plan commits to consider and protect watercourses and biodiversity in all decisions and this Alteration does not comply to that objective.

The stream (the Brown Trouts Stream) and native wet woodland on this site must be protected as part of the ecological network around the Glen of the Downs (GotD) nature reserve and part of the wooded wildlife corridor linking Bellevue Woods (GotD) and Kindlestown Wood.

The recent unauthorized development / felling of mature trees on this site has already damaged the wet

woodland according to media reports, showing that stronger protection is needed. I fully accept Éire Óg reassurances that they had no part in nor support for such felling and find it shocking like the rest of the locals. If the site must be brought into the urban area and be zoned for AOS development, then at least the watercourse (the Brown Trouts Stream) and the native wet woodland corner must be separately zoned as Open Space 2 for Nature. Additional conditions / safeguards against light pollution, noise pollution, and other pollution should be put in place.

No reason has been given for wanting this Alteration. There is no requirement for GAA facilities to be inside an urban area nor zoned AOS. Most GAA pitches in Co. Wicklow are not.

If sports facilities are to be developed on this site, in the shadow of the GotD protected nature reserve, that must be done with the utmost care and nature conservation best practice. It could and should become a national showcase, green, sustainable, eco-sports facility of which everyone in Wicklow and GAA Green Clubs program can be proud. I am sure that Éire Óg as a leading Green Club are planning for something like this and WCC should add the strongest possible nature protection guidance to support this.

We should also bear in mind any possible risk if someone else were to become the owner - the zoning for AOS development would still apply

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