



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

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Topic

LAP - Proposed Material Amendments No 26 Submission

Submission

I am concerned at the proposed alteration as this site is of considerable ecological importance. It is immediately next to the Glen of the Downs Special Area of Conservation and therefore protected under European law.

It would be negatively affected by urbanization and zoning this land AOS risks setting a precedent and may pave the way towards more serious encroachment in the future.

The area contains rare wet woodland habitat and stream which is not recognized in this alteration. The County Development Plan has numerous objectives which undertake to protect the environment, including in relation to trees, biodiversity and watercourses. This alteration is at odds with that.

While I understand there is an intention to locate new GAA facilities on part of the land in question, there is no requirement for this to be inside an urban area nor zoned AOS.

I have major concerns about the future of this area, due in part to the felling of mature trees and encroachment onto the wet woodland there without a felling licence. I understand this is being investigated at present by Wicklow County Council and others. It appears that this may have been an opportunistic move to make the area more accessible, which is very concerning in and of itself and also due to the manner in which it was done.

Again, this is a highly sensitive location ecologically, with the Brown Trouts stream, the native wet woodland and the proximity of the SAC at Glen of the Downs all underlying the importance of the area in terms of nature, the environment and carbon capture.

Zoning land AOS in such a location is a very worrying step and one I believe is neither necessary nor justified. In a time of biodiversity and climate crisis, I wish to join the calls of others for this zoning to be reversed.

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