



# Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

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## Topic

Compact Growth - Housing - Population Growth

### Submission

#### HOUSING:

The Department of Health recently published "Health in Ireland, Key Trends" which stated that Ireland is among a group of 7 EU countries where life expectancy is above 82. The report also outlined that, between 2023 and 2043, the number of people of 65 is projected to increase by around 66% with the number over 85s more than doubling.

With this in mind it is essential that we provide the provision of lands for our aging demographic, as well as nursing home facilities to allow our older generation to continue to live within their local community.

Future housing developments should consider the provision of housing for older people, with a number of houses specially designed for older people.

Land should also be zoned for nursing home facilities to allow those who cannot live on their own, to continue to live within their local community

With the cost to purchase a home increase, the provision of lands for affordable homes should be included in this plan. Many families want to set up homes in their own community, but costs can be a barrier. The provision of lands for affordable housing is necessary within the plan.

#### CHILDCARE:

Blessington is within close proximity to our capital city, making it an ideal location for commuters. It is an attractive town for young families to start their lives together. However, lack of childcare facilities is a huge barrier for many families. With that in mind, large scale housing developments within the area should include the provision of childcare facilities. This plan should also include the provision of zone land for community childcare facilities for families within the Blessington area.

## Topic

Economic Opportunity - Tourism - Shops & Services - Community Facilities

### Submission

This local area plan should consider the provision of lands for sporting facilities within the town.

Currently, due to lack of lands available, many sporting clubs are operating on lands outside the town. This can create a barrier for some who may wish to participate in particular sport.

With the increase in population envisaged over the coming years, sporting facilities within the town centre With the increasing population projected for the coming years, and with sports clubs currently in great needs of expansion, the provision of lands for sports facilities is essential.

is a necessity, especially for our younger population. The zoning of lands for sporting facilities should be a priority in this plan.

## Topic

## Infrastructure - Sustainable Movement – Transportation

### **Submission**

With the potential growth forecasted for the town of Blessington, lack of infrastructure could hinder further development in the town. Essential services such as adequate waste water treatment facilities and water supply is essential for further growth of the town.

Blessington is an attractive town for enterprise and industry but the road infrastructure certainly is a barrier for potential industry in the town. The upgrade of the N81 is urgently needed. This national road is the only national road existing Dublin. Improved road infrastructure would make Blessington a more attractive town for industry, increasing job creation and improving the local economy.

With the extension of the Greenway on the horizon for Blessington, the town will see an increase in tourism. Again, improved road infrastructure is needed to cater for our increase in tourism.

### **File**