



**GREYSTONES-DELGANY
& KILCOOLE LOCAL PLANNING
FRAMEWORK 2026**

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUDIT



Foreward

This is the Social Infrastructure Audit (SIA) for Variation No. 4 to the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028, including the Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Planning Framework 2026. This assessment was carried out in 2025 in order to prepare the objectives and land use zonings of the draft Local Planning Framework and therefore does not reflect the material alterations made to the final Variation/LPF.

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1.0 Introduction to the Greystones - Delgany & Kilcoole Local Planning Framework (LPF) Social Infrastructure Audit

Social infrastructure, community facilities and community development are fundamental elements in the creation of sustainable communities and supporting a good quality of life. Social Infrastructure relates to the provision of services and facilities which are essential for health, well-being and social development of a town / place. Social infrastructure facilities include for example education, health and care, leisure, recreation and culture.

Land use planning can contribute to enhancement of social - community infrastructure and development through the following means:

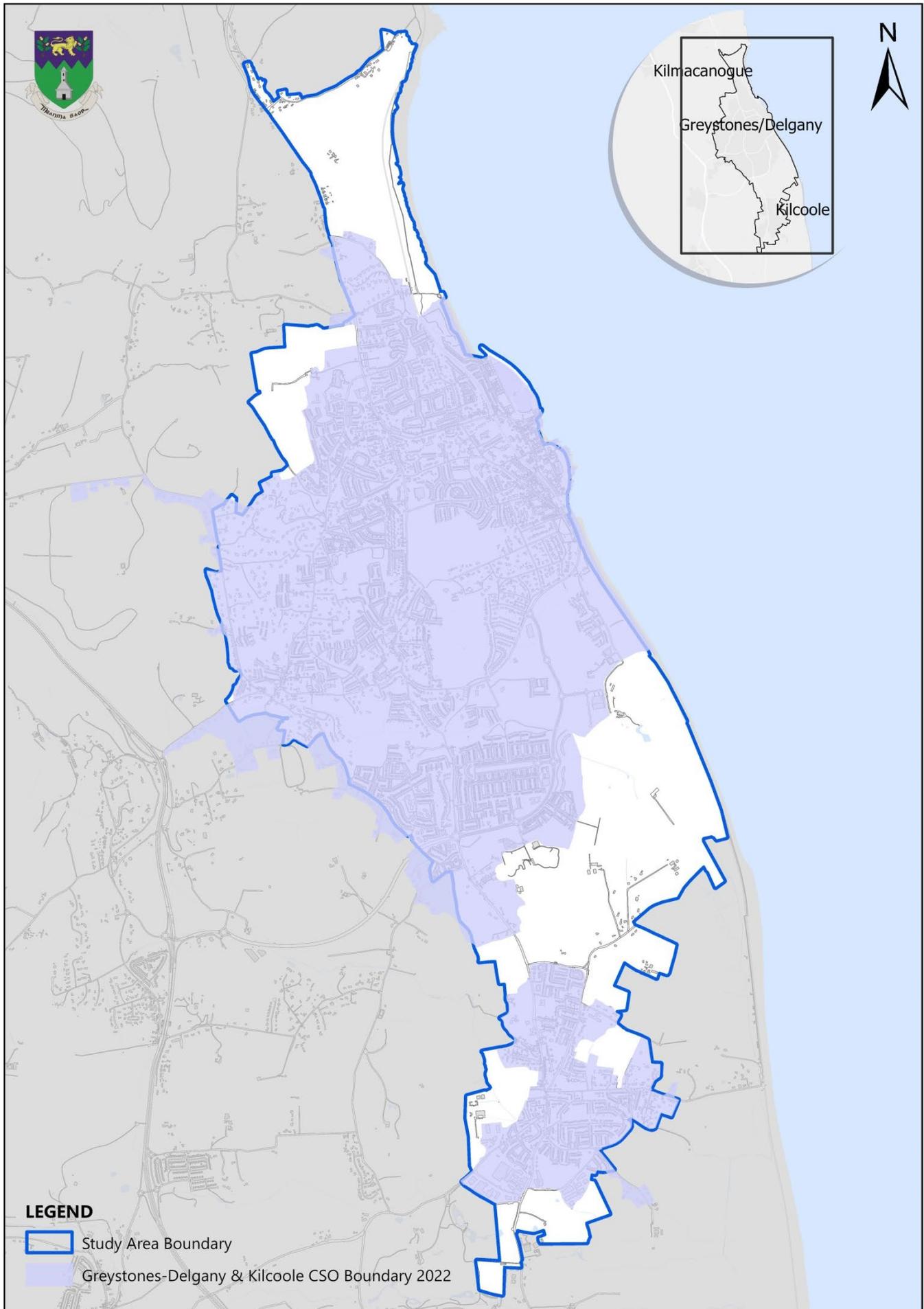
1. Facilitating the delivery of social - community infrastructure through:
 - Identifying, where possible, community - social infrastructure deficiencies and needs of towns and villages including, for example, local community centres, schools, healthcare facilities, remote working facilities and age-friendly facilities;
 - The reservation of land for the development of new or enhanced social - community infrastructure in the County and local development plans where a need for new facilities is identified;
 - Managing the expansion of residential development commensurate with the social - community infrastructure available;
 - Requiring the delivery of new social - community infrastructure as part of development proposals; and
 - Cooperating with other service providers in the delivery of new social - community infrastructure.
2. Facilitating improved physical access to social - community infrastructure and services through:
 - Promoting a development pattern that maximises the accessibility of social - community facilities infrastructure by public transport, cycle and foot;
 - Requiring all new facilities to be accessible and useable by those with special needs, including mobility or other impairments; and
 - Facilitating enhancement of communications infrastructure.
3. Facilitating the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of communities, environmental upgrading and general actions to enhance the environmental, amenity and physical attributes of communities.

The function of a Social Infrastructure Audit (SIA) is to examine and analyse the availability and capacity of existing social - community infrastructure facilities, and to determine future requirements, and make recommendations based on anticipated settlement growth. The following SIA was prepared by Wicklow County Council (WCC) for the purposes of informing the Greystones–Delgany & Kilcoole Local Planning Framework (LPF).

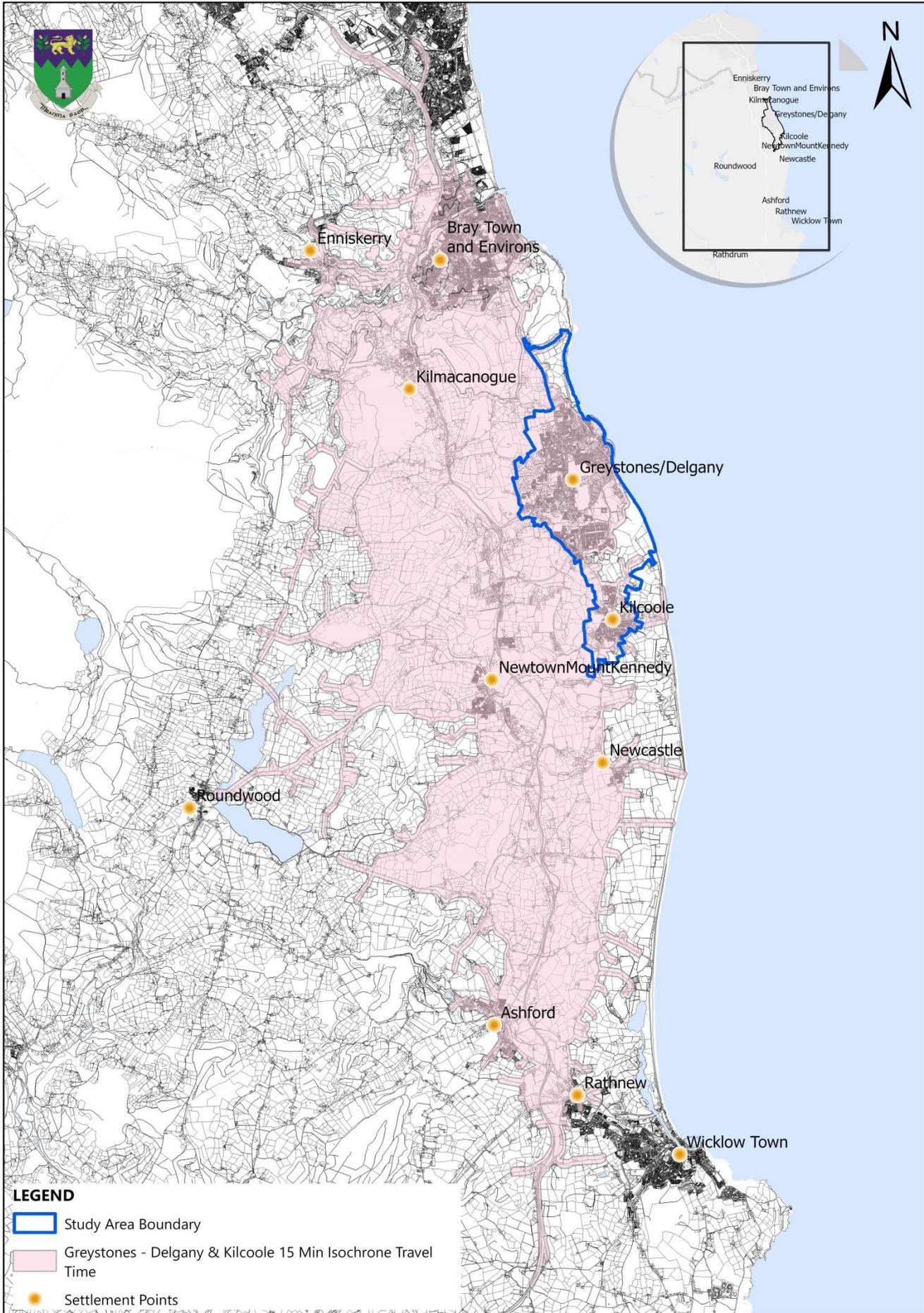
The extent of the principle study area is shown in Map 1 to follow, which shows the boundary of the previous Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013¹.

Maps 2 and 3 thereafter show the notional wider 'catchment' of the LPF area, based on vehicle travel times.

¹ This is the study area boundary is used as the SIA was commenced in advance of the finalisation of the boundary of the draft LPF 2025.



Map 1: Principle Study Area - Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole



Map 2: Areas reachable by car in approximately 15 minutes from Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole



Map 3: Areas reachable by car in approximately 30 minutes from Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole

1.1 Methodology

The Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Social Infrastructure Audit will make use of a range of both quantitative and qualitative indicators in analysing the provision of social – community infrastructure in the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole area. The Audit will consist of three stages, as follows:

- **Audit of Existing Facilities:** Data gathering and direct consultation with service providers will enable the construction of a baseline level of social – community infrastructure provision. This can be compared with current known population figures to establish whether social – community infrastructure within the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole area adequately serves the current population.
- **Demand Forecast Analysis:** Applying the targeted population growth, as set out in the Core Strategy of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028, to the end of the Local Planning Framework period will allow a determination as to whether the capacity of current social infrastructure can accommodate this growth. Note that quantitative standards for the provision of social – community infrastructure may not exist in all cases. Furthermore, a range of figures for the target population may be required depending on the type of infrastructure, the expected catchment area of each facility and to take account of any changes in population growth targets that may arise during the lifetime of the LPF.
- **Recommendations:** The identification of shortfalls (or lack thereof) in the provision of social – community infrastructure over the Local Planning Framework period will allow a recommendation to be made whether services should be expanded. This would allow the identification of suitable sites (zoned or otherwise) and development of appropriate objectives for the provision of new social – community infrastructure in the Draft Local Planning Framework.

1.2 Policy Context

National Planning Framework (NPF)

The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of our country out to the year 2040. It addresses social and community development within its outlined National Strategic Outcomes as detailed below.



NSO 7 'Enhanced Amenity and Heritage' states the following:

'This will ensure that our cities, towns and villages are attractive and can offer a good quality of life. It will require investment in well-designed public realm, which includes public spaces, parks and streets, as well as recreational infrastructure. It also includes amenities in rural areas, such as national and forest parks, activity-based tourism and trails such as greenways, blueways and peatways. This is linked to and must integrate with our built, cultural and natural heritage, which has intrinsic value in defining the character of urban and rural areas and adding to their attractiveness and sense of place.'

NSO 10 'Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services' states the following:

'Good access to a range of quality education and health services, relative to the scale of a region, city, town, neighbourhood or community is a defining characteristic of attractive, successful and competitive places. Compact, smart growth in urban areas and strong and stable rural communities will enable the enhanced and effective provision of a range of accessible services.'

Chapter 4 'Making Stronger Urban Places', aims to enhance people's experience of living, working, learning and visiting urban places in Ireland by offering a quality of life that more people are willing to choose in the years ahead.

In this context, NPO 4 states the following:

'Ensure the creation of attractive, liveable, well designed, high quality urban places that are home to diverse and integrated communities that enjoy a high quality of life and well-being.'

Chapter 6 'People, Homes and Communities' identifies, in broad terms, the elements supporting quality of life, several of which would generally fall into definitions of social – community infrastructure, e.g. health, education, and leisure and social interactions. This chapter also states that, among other elements, *'our ability to access services and amenities, such as education and healthcare, the leisure and social interactions available to us and the prospect of securing employment, all combine to make a real difference to people's lives.'*

Figure 6.2 from the NPF comprises a broad indication of the level of service provision that applies to settlements of varying sizes, as envisioned by the NPF.

Though the settlement hierarchy under the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 does not sit exactly onto the levels shown in this figure, Greystones - Delgany may fall into the 'Large Towns' category and Kilcoole may fall into the 'Smaller Towns and Villages', based on their role and function.

NPO 26 also has relevance to the provision of social infrastructure and states the following:

'Support the objectives of public health policy including Healthy Ireland and the National Physical Activity Plan, though integrating such policies, where appropriate and at the applicable scale, with planning policy.'

The NPF in multiple instances highlights that the provision of facilities and services must be tailored for use by a multitude of groups of differing interest and ability, as follows:

NPO 28 states:

'Plan for a more diverse and socially inclusive society that targets equality of opportunity and a better quality of life for all citizens, through improved integration and greater accessibility in the delivery of sustainable communities and the provision of associated services.'

While, in relation to the elderly in particular, NPO 30 states:

'Local planning, housing, transport/ accessibility and leisure policies will be developed with a focus on meeting the needs and opportunities of an ageing population along with the inclusion of specific projections, supported by clear proposals in respect of ageing communities as part of the core strategy of city and County development plans.'

In relation to children and young people, the NPF states that *'the number of people aged 15 or under will continue to increase until the early 2020's and decline only slowly thereafter. This means that the continued provision and enhancement of facilities and amenities for children and young people, such as childcare, schools, playgrounds, parks and sportsgrounds, remains necessary and will need to be maintained at similar levels for the foreseeable future thereafter.'*

Under this section the NPF makes reference to the support for national policy including *'Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures'*. Despite a predicted decline in the number of children in Ireland in the coming years, the NPF stresses that *'childcare provision in Ireland is reaching capacity and new planning approaches and sustained investment will be required, particularly in areas of disadvantage and population growth, to increase capacity and enable existing services to meet regulatory and quality requirements.'* It also infers that 'childcare' includes school-age childcare and early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE).

The above discussion on childcare is summarised within NPO 31, which states the following:

'Prioritise the alignment of targeted and planned population and employment growth with investment in:

- *A childcare/ECCE planning function, for monitoring, analysis and forecasting of investment needs, including identification of regional priorities;*
- *The provision of childcare facilities and new and refurbished schools on well-located sites within or close to existing built-up areas, that meet the diverse needs of local populations;*
- *The expansion and consolidation of Higher Education facilities, particularly where this will contribute to wider regional development, and*

- Programmes for life-long learning, especially in areas of higher education and further education and training where skills gaps are identified.'

Section 6.6 of the NPF, in relation to housing, includes NPO 33, which states the following:

'Prioritise the provision of new homes at locations that can support sustainable development and at an appropriate scale of provision relative to location.'

Within this section it is clarified that 'sustainable development' in relation to the location of housing can be characterised as places 'which support growth, innovation and the efficient provision of infrastructure, are accessible to a range of local services, can encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling, and help tackle climate change'.

On this basis it is clear that the NPF envisions that social infrastructure and services that would reasonably be expected to be a settlement such as 'Greystones – Delgany' and 'Kilcoole' would be within walking or cycling distance.



Figure 2: Level of service provision (Figure 6.2 of the National Planning Framework)

National Guidelines

Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines 2024

These guidelines focus on sustainable residential development and the creation of compact settlements. Good urban design and placemaking is an important element of compact settlements. The Guidelines seek that in Development Plans for larger settlements like Greystones - Delgany, that the plan strategy should support the creation of strong and vibrant centres surrounded by an integrated network of well-designed mixed-use neighbourhoods. In smaller settlements, such as Kilcoole, the strategy should be to create smaller neighbourhoods around a central core that caters for day-to-day needs and to strengthen connections to higher order settlements that provide a greater range of services and employment.

The Guidelines do not include specific references to 'social infrastructure', however guiding principles in Section 4.4 (ii), in terms of a mix and distribution of uses, promote a move away from segregated land use areas (residential, commercial and employment) that have reinforced unsustainable travel in favour of mixed use neighbourhoods. In less central areas, the mix of uses should cater for local services and amenities focused around a hierarchy of local centres that support residential communities and with opportunities for suitable non-residential development throughout.

The Guidelines also make reference to the '15 minute city' concept.

Section 4.4 (iv) of the Guidelines states that all statutory development plans should include a strategy for the provision of an integrated hierarchy of public open spaces and corridors across the plan area to meet the needs of the planned population. The level of provision should take account of the needs of the planned population, protected zones, landscape character and statutory obligations to protect certain habitats and biodiversity. Ideally, all residents within a settlement will have access to a multi-functional public open space within walking distance of their home.

Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities 2007

Section 4.3 'Building Sustainable Communities' sets out that, in general, *'the availability of a school, shop and bus stop will usually be the minimum level of available services/facilities'* in housing areas outside mixed use centres.

National Sports Policy 2018-2027

In recognition of the influence and importance of sport across Irish society, the National Sports Policy sets out the Vision for Irish Sport in 2027 and defines the actions the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport will undertake to achieve the goals of the National Sports Policy.

The Provision of Schools and the Planning System - Code of Practice for Planning Authorities 2008

These Guidelines set out that the Department of Education will forecast the likely demand for schooling and will provide this information to the Local Authority as part of the consultation process on development plans. The Guidelines further set out design standards in relation to new schools and their locations.

Technical Guidance document TGD-025 'Identification and Suitability Assessment of Sites for Primary Schools' (2nd Edition) sets out a range of suitable site areas for primary schools dependant on the number of classrooms required and whether the building is one or two storeys. For example, a two-storey, 8 to 16 classroom primary schools would require a site of c. 1.4 ha.

Technical Guidance document TGD-027 'Identification and Suitability Assessment of Sites for Post Primary Schools' (Revision 1) sets out a range of suitable areas for post primary schools dependant on the intended number of pupils. For example, a post primary school catering to 1,000 pupils would require a site of c. 4.57 ha.

Childcare Facilities - Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2001

These Guidelines set out the following quantitative standards:

'For new housing areas, an average of one childcare facility for each 75 dwellings would be appropriate. The threshold for provision should be established having regard to the existing geographical distribution of childcare facilities and the emerging demographic profile of areas. Authorities could consider requiring the provision of larger units catering for up to 30/40 children in areas of major residential development on the basis that such a large facility might be able to offer a variety of services – sessional/drop in/after-school, etc.'

This figure can be altered based on assumptions made in the number of proposed units which will need childcare, and on development plan/childcare committee identified gaps in provision.

Regional Policy Context

EMRA Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019-2031 (RSES)

The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy contains multiple objectives in relation to the provision of social – community infrastructure. Section 9.4 'Healthy Placemaking', includes objectives focusing on the multi-functionality, adaptability and inclusivity of social infrastructure for the purpose of social cohesion.



Figure 3: RSES Healthy Placemaking Strategy

Section 9.4 'Healthy Placemaking', includes objectives as follows:

RPO 9.12: *'In Planning policy formulation and implementation local authorities and other stakeholders shall be informed by the need to cater for all levels of disability, through the appropriate mitigation of the built environment, and in particular for the needs of an ageing population.'*

RPO 9.13: *'Local authorities and relevant agencies shall ensure that new social infrastructure developments are accessible and inclusive for a range of users by adopting a universal design approach and provide for an age friendly society in which people of all ages can live full, active, valued and healthy lives.'*

In relation to the provision of recreation and open space facilities, the RSES includes objectives focusing on the adequate provision of a variety of facilities and support for national sport and physical activity policies. Included in this section are guiding principles in planning for recreation and open space, which recommend the co-location of services between sports providers, education, and other facilities to maximise use; the integration of play provision and child-friendly neighbourhoods; and the provision of dedicated youth spaces in key urban areas and the development of multi-function spaces in smaller communities/rural areas.

RPO 9.14: *'Local authorities shall seek to support the planned provision of easily accessible social, community, cultural and recreational facilities and ensure that all communities have access to a range of facilities that meet the needs of the communities they serve.'*

RPO 9.15: *'Local authorities shall support the vision and objectives of the National Sports Policy, including working with local sports partnerships, clubs, communities and partnerships within and beyond sport, to increase sport and physical activity participation levels locally.'*

RPO 9.16: *'Local authorities shall support the objectives of public health policy including Healthy Ireland and the National Physical Activity Plan, through integrating such policies, where appropriate and at the applicable scale, with planning policies contained in development plans.'*

RPO 9.17: *'To support local authorities in the development of regional scale Open Space and Recreational facilities particularly those close to large or growing population centres in the Region.'*

RPO 9.19: *'The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) shall work collaboratively with stakeholders including the wide range of service providers through the Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP) to effectively plan for social infrastructure needs.'*

Section 9.6 'Access to Childcare, Education and Health Services' states that there is currently a 'misalignment' in the Region across school provision, facilities and child friendly amenities and further states that it is through County development plan/local area plan policy that provision will be made on the location of new school facilities, in co-ordination with the Department of Education and Science. Relevant objectives include the following;

RPO 9.21: *'In areas where significant new housing is proposed, an assessment of need regarding schools provision should be carried out in collaboration with the Department of Education and Skills and statutory plans shall designate new school sites at accessible, pedestrian, cycle and public transport friendly locations.'*

RPO 9.23: *'Facilitate the development of primary health care centres, hospitals, clinics, and facilities to cater for the specific needs of an ageing population in appropriate urban areas in accordance with RSES settlement strategy and core strategies of development plans.'*

Though Chapter 8 is not directly related to social infrastructure policy, Section 8.3 'Framework for the Integration of Transport Planning with Spatial Planning Policies' includes the following guiding principal of relevance: *'Support the '10 minute' settlement concept, whereby a range of community facilities and services are accessible in short walking and cycling timeframes from homes or accessible by high quality public transport to these services in larger settlements.'*

County & Local Policy Context

Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

The importance of Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole at a County level is emphasised in the County Development Plan (CDP). Greystones-Delgany is designated as a 'Self Sustaining Growth Town', which is targeted for growth rates of 25-30% whereas Kilcoole is designated as a 'Self Sustaining Town', which requires contained growth, focusing on driving investment in services, employment growth and infrastructure, whilst balancing housing delivery. This SIA is guided by demographic population growth targets set out in the adopted Core Strategy of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 as follows:

Table 1.1: Population growth targets Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole 2028 and 2031

Town	2016 Census	Q2 2028 Target	2031 Target	Growth 2016-2031
Greystones-Delgany	18,140	21,727	22,081	3,941
Kilcoole	4,239	4,778	4,841	602

Chapter 7 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 covers social and community development. This chapter sets out the Community Facilities Hierarchy Model for the County, which outlines the social and community facilities that are considered appropriate for settlements of varying sizes, as represented by four levels:

Table 1.2: Community Facilities Hierarchy Model

COMMUNITY FACILITIES HIERARCHY MODEL	
LEVEL 1 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE 15,000 – 30,000	
Multi-purpose Community Resource Centre Regional and Local Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities Swimming Pool/Leisure Centre Youth Centre Athletics Track and Field Facilities Arts and Cultural Centre Local Multi-Purpose Community Space/Meeting rooms	Outdoor Water Sports Facilities (where applicable) Neighbourhood Parks and Local Parks Outdoor (full size) Multi-Use Games Areas – Synthetic / Hardcourt Playground(s) Playing Pitches Alternative/Minority Sports Facilities Open Space/Urban Woodlands/Nature Areas Library
<i>Acceptable rural catchment commuting time by car: 30 min</i>	
LEVEL 2 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE 7,000 – 15,000	
Multi-purpose Community Resource Centre Sport & Recreation Centre Swimming Pool/Leisure Centre Youth Resource Centre Local Multi-Purpose Community Space/Meeting Rooms Outdoor Water Sports Facilities (where applicable) Neighbourhood and Local Parks	Outdoor Multi-Use Games Areas – Synthetic / Hardcourt Playground(s) Playing Pitches Alternative/Minority Sports Facilities Open Space/Urban Woodlands/Nature Areas Library Arts and Cultural Centre
<i>Acceptable rural catchment time by car: 15 mins</i>	
LEVEL 3 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE 2,000 – 7,000	
Community/Parish Hall Multi-purpose Community Space/Meeting Rooms Local /Town Park (s) and Open Spaces/Nature Areas Outdoor Multi-Use Games Area – Synthetic/ Hardcourt	Playgrounds Playing Pitches Library
<i>Acceptable rural catchment commuting time by car: 10-15 mins</i>	
LEVEL 4 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE < 2,000	
Community/Parish Hall Open Spaces/Play Areas	Outdoor Multi-Use Games Area – Synthetic/ Hardcourt Playing Pitches
<i>Acceptable rural catchment commuting time by car: 5-10 mins</i>	

There are a number of objectives set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 in relation to social – community infrastructure. There are general objectives on community development, with **CPO 7.2** stating that *'During the local plan-making process for towns and villages, to seek to facilitate community development and socially inclusive communities, through proper land-use zoning and transportation planning, phasing and the setting out of high standards of design in both streets and buildings.'*

In addition, **CPO 7.5** addresses the need for a Social Infrastructure Audit to be carried out for certain housing development applications;

*"Housing development shall be managed and phased to ensure that infrastructure is adequate or is being provided to match the needs of new residents'. New significant residential or mixed use development proposals (of which residential development forms a component)³, shall be required to be accompanied by a **Social Infrastructure Audit**, to determine if social and community facilities in the area are sufficient to provide for the needs of the future residents. Where deficiencies are identified, proposals will be required to either rectify the deficiency, or suitably restrict or phase the development in accordance with the capacity of existing or planned services.*

*New significant residential or mixed use development proposals shall be required to be accompanied by a **'Accessibility Report'** that demonstrates that new residents / occupants / employees (including children and those with special mobility needs) will be able to safely access through means **other than** the private car:*

- (a) local services including shops, schools, healthcare and recreational and sports facilities, and*
- (b) public transport services.*

Where deficiencies are identified, proposals will be required to either rectify the deficiency, or suitably restrict or phase the development in accordance with the capacity/quality of existing or planned linkages".

There are a number of specific objectives in relation to education and development in Chapter 7 that mainly focus on the zoning of suitable sites for schools.

This chapter also covers objectives on 'Health and Care', 'Residential & Day Care' developments, 'Childcare & Preschool', 'Leisure & Recreation', 'Open Space', Arts & Culture' and 'Social Enterprise'.

Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028 - Development and Design Standards

Appendix 1 of the County Development Plan sets out Development and Design Standards in relation to social and community developments. Section 7 sets out the criteria for the requirement of a 'Social Infrastructure Audit' as well as childcare, education, nursing homes, care facilities and retirements villages. Section 8 sets out the development and design standards for Open Space. This includes active open space, neighbourhood parks, equipped play spaces, allotments, residential public open space and private open space

Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019

The previous plan for the settlements of Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole has a chapter on Social Infrastructure. This chapter contained a number of objectives with regard to schools, active open space and community buildings / facilities. The land use development objectives including the zoning provisions provide support, including adequate zoned undeveloped land, for the provision of new social and community facilities and infrastructure. The analysis and recommendations contained in the previous LAP can assist in developing new baseline and future recommendations for the new LPP.

Wicklow Local Economic and Community Plan LECP 2024

The Wicklow Local Economic & Community Plan 2024 is a six-year plan setting out measures necessary to promote and support community and economic development within the County. The LECP is not a land use plan. However, where any of the aims or objectives within the LECP have a spatial component, it may be necessary to integrate and facilitate such spatial components into local plans.

Those objectives within the LECP related to social infrastructure in Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole, and which have some degree of a spatial component that could be addressed in a local plan, are as follows:

- 1.4 Support, protect and enhance biodiversity
- 1.5 Support the development of renewable energy opportunities
- 2.2 Promote sustainable tourism in the County having regard to environmental impact
- 2.6 Capitalise on natural resources such as the maritime economy ensuring nature-based solutions
- 3.1 Improve transport infrastructure in the County
- 3.2 Promote the development of sustainable transport infrastructure in the County
- 3.3 Support the roll out of quality broadband throughout the County
- 3.4 Increase facilities for remote working and co-working
- 5.1 Drive the environmental, economic and social regeneration of County Wicklow's towns and villages and their hinterlands
- 5.3 Support the provision of community, sport and recreational infrastructure for communities

County Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2020 – 2025 (currently under review)

This is an action plan that sets out Wicklow County Council's ambition for outdoor recreation in County Wicklow, and the steps to realise it. The Strategy is made up of 4 pillars:

- 1** PLAN AND COLLABORATE: a structured approach to the big issues of recreation hubs, marine development, trail management, transport links, infrastructure and collaborating with our neighbours.
- 2** INCREASED AWARENESS: being alert and responsive to the various landowner, community, participant, enterprise and environment issues which make outdoor recreation possible and better, and which may help us to make our case for funding.
- 3** RESOURCES: the specific projects, priorities, actions, training and staff requirements of outdoor recreation in County Wicklow.
- 4** ANIMATING THE OUTDOORS: encouraging diverse outdoor recreation opportunities, for everyone and providing more depth to the outdoor recreation experience.

To deliver these pillars individual Wicklow Outdoor Recreation Committee representatives take stewardship and monitor progress for each of the following five themes:

- PARTICIPATION: Dispersion of participation in the County. Developing data capture and analysis. Growing inclusion.
- INFRASTRUCTURE: Recreation infrastructure, public transport, parking facilities, retail and cafe.
- OUR STORY: Managing the County Wicklow outdoor recreation brand, public relations and advertising.
- MARINE: Joint representative group with agency, sports and business representation,
- ECONOMICS: Outdoor recreation innovation and diversification, business supports
- DELIVERY THEMES and added value offerings.

County Wicklow Sports and Recreation Policy 2004

The Sports and Recreation Policy recognises the importance that sport and recreation contributes to the quality of life of individuals, communities and the County as a whole. This is the overarching policy document that guides Wicklow County Council in the provision and expansion of sport and recreation opportunities throughout the County.

Social infrastructure standards, as included within this policy document, include the following:

- 1.1 *'The Council will ensure where possible that proper provision of sport and recreation facilities is provided as part of new developments. As a guideline, the Council will in future aim to make provision for an average of 200m² multi-use community space per 1000 population, or where an identified need exists, which includes provision for sports and recreation activity.'*
- 1.2 *'The Council will provide for open space including provision for sport and recreation according to the minimum provision of 2.0Ha per 1,000 population under Action 41 of Sustainable Communities in 'Outlook'.'*

- 1.3 *'The Council will ensure that within all Local Area Plans (LAPs) appropriate and sufficient land is clearly identified for amenity and sporting and recreation uses and provide protection for open space that is or has the potential to be of value to the community.'*
- 1.5 *'The Council will promote accessibility by locating local facilities within walking distance, cycling distance or on public transport routes and having regard to issues of security and personal safety.'*
- 1.6 *'The Council will seek to ensure that open spaces and recreation areas are located, designed and maintained so as to minimise the risk of crime and vandalism by: • Clustering facilities • Locating facilities in places which are overlooked, providing indirect supervision • Providing teenage facilities such as shelters, seating areas and MUGA facilities⁹ in accordance with County Wicklow Play Policy open space standards.'*

County Wicklow Play Policy 2004

Objective 3 of the County Wicklow Play Policy relates to the provision of playgrounds. Within this objective, the following aims, involving either a quantitative standard or spatial component, may be of relevance to a land use plan:

- *'Aim to provide adequate and appropriate hierarchies of open spaces for play as recommended in National Playing Fields Association (NPFSA) standards.'* [the 'Six Acre Standard', i.e. 2.4 hectares per 1,000 persons]
- *'Ensure play areas will include enough space for equipment and general open spaces for games, tree planting and environmental enhancements'.*
- *'This Policy will be incorporated within the County Development Plan, Local Area Plans'.*

Objective 5 of the County Wicklow Play Policy highlights the provision of social inclusion and play. This objective aims to promote equality of access and participation for all children and shall:

- *'Ensure consideration will be given to rural issues regarding play provision in measures such as mobile play units'.*
- *'Ensure consideration will be given to the needs of children with disabilities, from a minority ethnic background, or from a disadvantaged background'.*
- *'Ensure all children will be respected and valued so that they can play free from exploitation, bullying, violence or discrimination'.*

The play policy states the quantitative standards in relation to equipped and informal play space; these standards are integrated into the County Development Plan Development and Design Standards.

Healthy Wicklow 2018

Wicklow County Council produced the 'Healthy Wicklow' strategy in line with the 'National Activity Plan' and the 'Healthy Ireland' framework. The document aims to assess the requirements and provides objectives with which to improve the overall health and well-being of the people of Wicklow and is guided with the four following key goals:

- Goal 1 Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life
- Goal 2 Reduce health inequalities
- Goal 3 Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing
- Goal 4 Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland

Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy 2017

The Age-Friendly Strategy was developed with the aim of making Wicklow an age friendly County, a County in which all public service and private sector providers work in partnership to make Wicklow great. It gives commitments to improving infrastructure, both physical and social, as well as services and information provision to improve the quality of life of older people across the County. The strategy aims, in combination with other Government and County programmes and plans, including the County Development Plan, to make Wicklow a County that is more accessible and accommodating to people as they grow older. The document seeks to address existing issues and improve the conditions for the ageing population in Wicklow under the following 9 themes:

Theme 1	Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
Theme 2	Transportation
Theme 3	Housing
Theme 4	Social Participation
Theme 5	Respect and Social Inclusion
Theme 6	Civic Participation and Employment
Theme 7	Communication and Information
Theme 8	Community Support and Health Services
Theme 9	Safety and Security

Wicklow Children and Young People Plan 2020

Wicklow Children and Young People's Services Committee [CYPSC] was formally established in April 2011. The purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committees is to secure better outcomes for children and young people through more effective co-operation and collaboration by existing services and through interventions at local level. Between 2011 and to date, two action plans have been developed and implemented to address local needs as consistent with the national outcomes framework. The Wicklow CYPSC 2020 Plan will continue to progress necessary work to meet ongoing and emerging needs.

CYPSC's work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are that children and young people:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing
2. Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development
3. Are safe and protected from harm
4. Have economic security and opportunity
5. Are connected, respected and contributing to their world

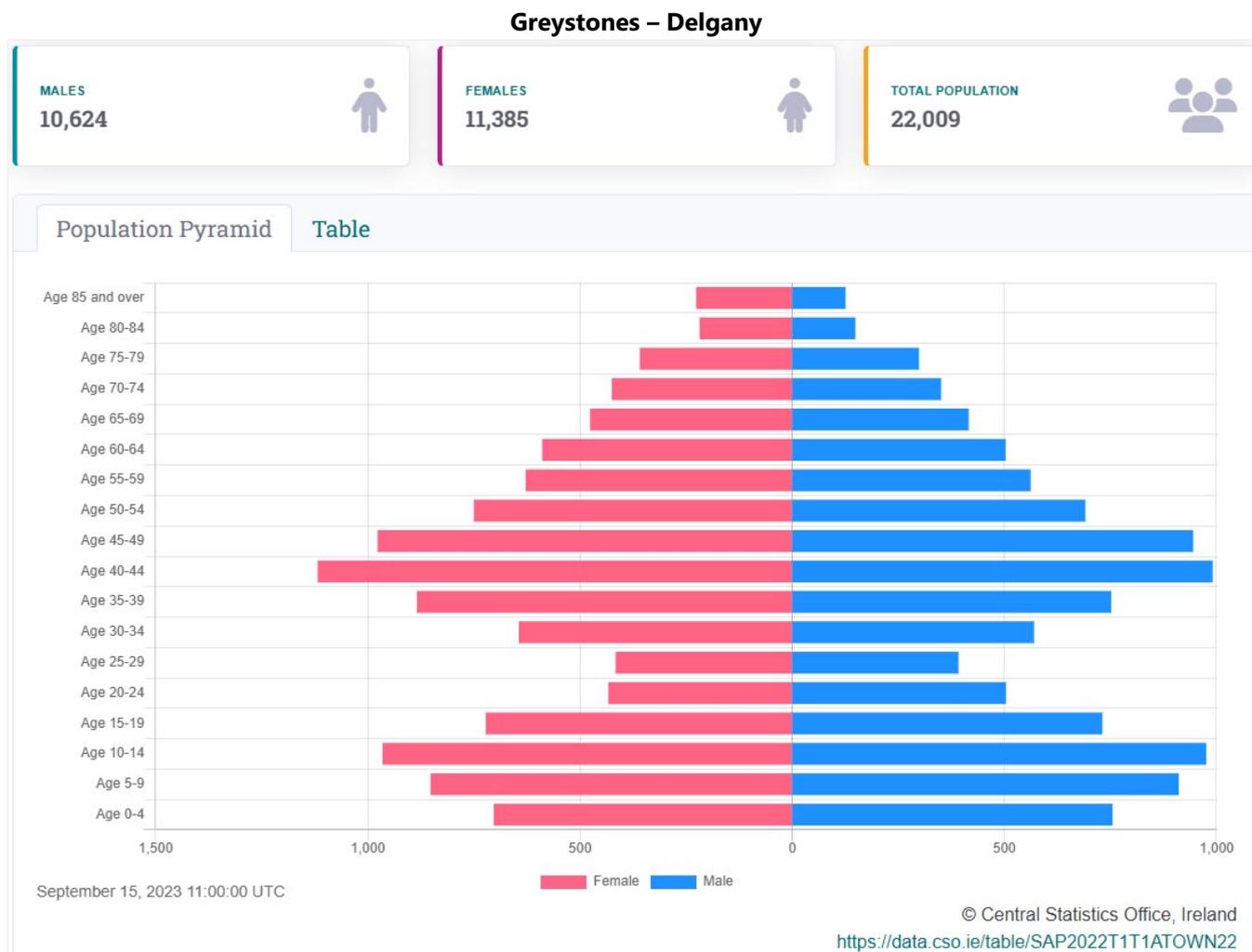
The CYPP presents a coordinated interagency approach to the delivery of services to children and young people in Wicklow by all agencies in Wicklow. It reflects the priorities that have been identified from an analysis of the needs in the County and a commitment by members to address these needs over the three years of the plan. The voice of children and young people is represented and the CYPSC is committed to strengthening participation with children and young people further during the lifetime of this plan.

2.0 Community Profile

2.1 Demographic Profile

Population and age structure

Census 2022 recorded a population of 22,009 persons in Greystones-Delgany (as per CSO settlement boundary) which represents a 21.3% (3,869 persons) increase in population from 2016 (18,140 persons). The population of Greystones-Delgany represented 14% of the County population (155,851) in 2022.



In Greystones-Delgany, the age profile shows a high percentage of persons in the 0-19 age group, accounting for 30.1% of the population. This is higher than the County average of 27.5% and the Leinster average of 26.3% for this cohort.

In the settlement, 13.8% is in the 65+ cohort, which is the same as the Leinster average and slightly below the County average of 15.2%.

Census 2022 recorded a population of 4,569 in Kilcoole (as per CSO settlement boundary) which represents a 7.7% (330 persons) increase in population from 2016 (4,239 persons). The population of Kilcoole represented 2.9% of the County population (155,851) in 2022.



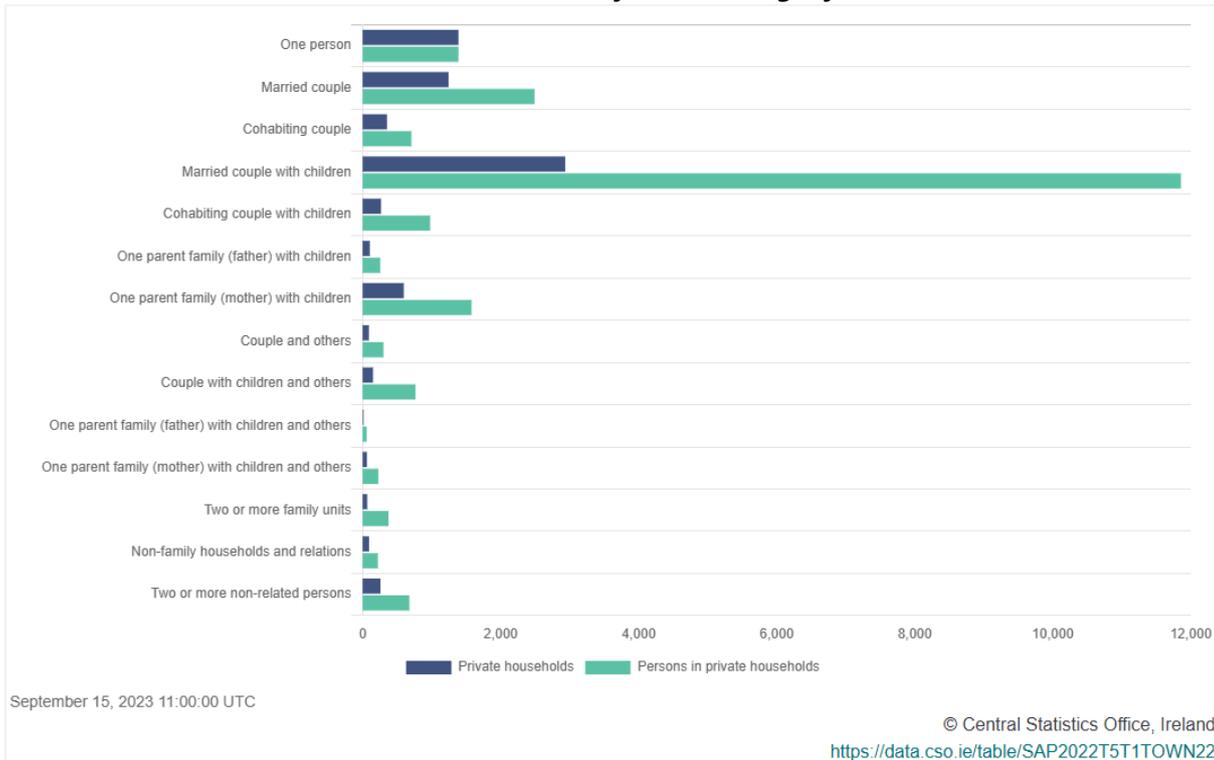
In Kilcoole, the age profile shows a higher percentage again of persons in the 0-19 age group, accounting for 31.6% of the population.

In the Kilcoole, 12% is in the 65+ cohort, which is lower than both the County and Leinster average.

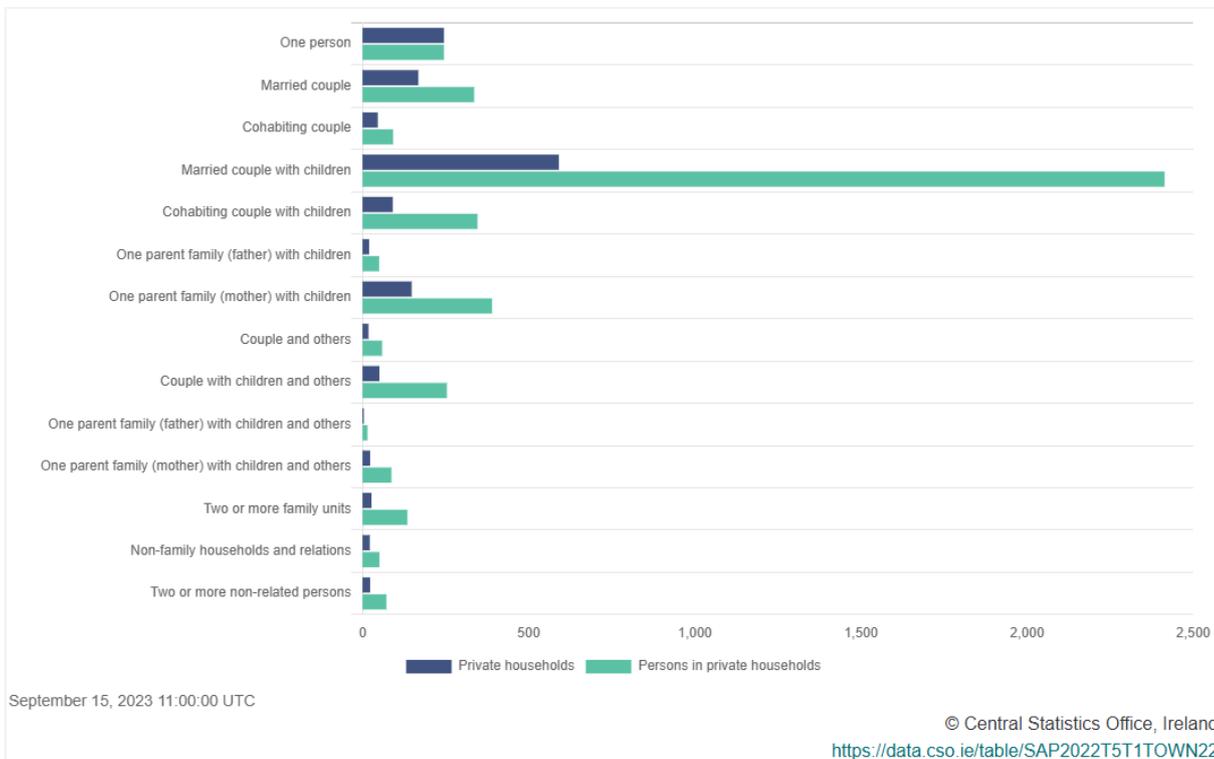
2.1.1 Household Composition and Family Cycle

The predominant household type in both Greystones - Delgany and Kilcoole is 'married couple with children'. There is also a high proportion in both towns of households comprising 'one person' or 'married couple' (with no children).

Greystones - Delgany



Kilcoole



2.1.2 Education / Professional Qualification

In Greystones-Delgany, the level of educational attainment is high, with 53.7% holding an ordinary degree or higher, compared to the County average of 35.3%. Of note is the high percentage holding post graduate degrees at 22.5%, compared to the County average of 12.8%.

Highest Level of Education Completed	Males	Females	Both Sexes
No formal education	64	57	121
Primary education	209	241	450
Lower secondary	469	513	982
Upper secondary	926	1,038	1,964
Technical or vocational qualification	351	496	847
Advanced certificate/Completed apprenticeship	356	237	593
Higher certificate	390	523	913
Ordinary bachelor degree or national diploma	720	835	1,555
Honours bachelor degree, professional qualification or both	1,361	1,469	2,830
Postgraduate diploma or degree	1,318	1,538	2,856
Doctorate(Ph.D) or higher	157	147	304
Not stated	283	349	632
Total	6,604	7,443	14,047

Showing 1 to 13 of 13 entries

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In Kilcoole, the level of educational attainment is more aligned with the County norms, with 34.2% holding an ordinary degree or higher and 11.1% holding a post graduate qualification.

Highest Level of Education Completed	Males	Females	Both Sexes
No formal education	31	27	58
Primary education	89	89	178
Lower secondary	193	193	386
Upper secondary	273	273	546
Technical or vocational qualification	101	168	269
Advanced certificate/Completed apprenticeship	127	78	205
Higher certificate	71	104	175
Ordinary bachelor degree or national diploma	121	134	255
Honours bachelor degree, professional qualification or both	177	241	418
Postgraduate diploma or degree	123	178	301
Doctorate(Ph.D) or higher	16	4	20
Not stated	50	43	93
Total	1,372	1,532	2,904

Showing 1 to 13 of 13 entries

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2.1.3 Employment

The 2022 Census showed high levels of employment of the residents of both Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole. Greystones-Delgany exhibited a high percentage of employed residents in senior professional and technical roles (62.4%), while in Kilcoole employed residents occupied a wider range of more evenly distributed employment categories.

Greystones – Delgany: Population aged 15 years and over by principle economic status and sex

Principle Economic Status	Males	Females	Both Sexes
At work	5,188	4,763	9,951
Looking for first regular job	45	39	84
Short term unemployed	120	117	237
Long term unemployed	138	118	256
Student	965	975	1,940
Looking after home/family	81	1,095	1,176
Retired	1,222	1,491	2,713
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	188	219	407
Other	35	48	83
Total	7,982	8,865	16,847

Showing 1 to 10 of 10 entries

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Greystones – Delgany: Persons at work or unemployed by occupation and sex

Occupation	Males	Females	Both Sexes
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	870	539	1,409
Professional Occupations	1,619	1,658	3,277
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	1,041	793	1,834
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	233	702	935
Skilled Trades Occupations	611	78	689
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	93	412	505
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	213	266	479
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	205	43	248
Elementary Occupations	231	155	386
Not stated	330	352	682
Total	5,446	4,998	10,444

Showing 1 to 11 of 11 entries

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Kilcoole: Population aged 15 years and over by principle economic status and sex

Principle Economic Status	Males	Females	Both Sexes
At work	1,070	970	2,040
Looking for first regular job	12	10	22
Short term unemployed	32	27	59
Long term unemployed	30	49	79
Student	188	202	390
Looking after home/family	26	218	244
Retired	220	250	470
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	61	85	146
Other	10	11	21
Total	1,649	1,822	3,471

Showing 1 to 10 of 10 entries

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Kilcoole: Persons at work or unemployed by occupation and sex

Occupation	Males	Females	Both Sexes
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	132	84	216
Professional Occupations	174	219	393
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	189	155	344
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	58	202	260
Skilled Trades Occupations	248	25	273
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	25	152	177
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	54	85	139
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	93	12	105
Elementary Occupations	97	52	149
Not stated	62	60	122
Total	1,132	1,046	2,178

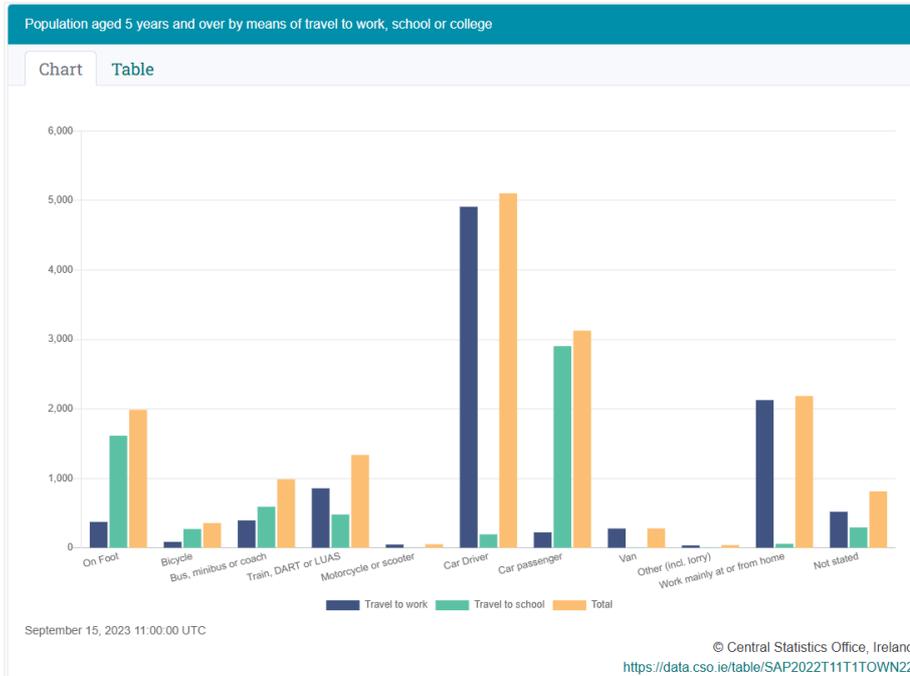
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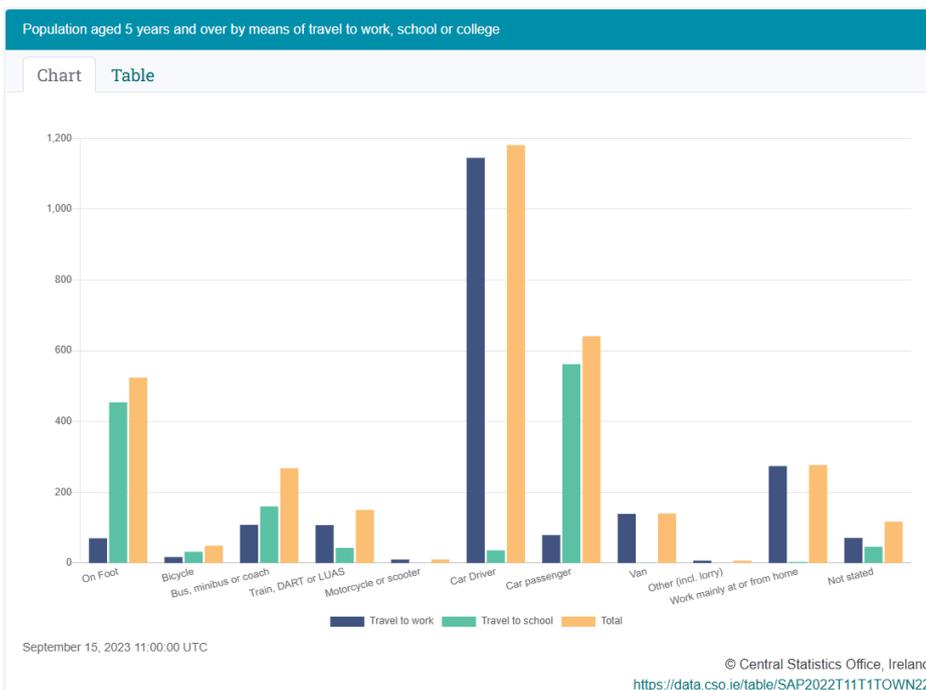
2.1.4 Travel and Movement

In Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole car ownership amongst households is high with only c. 7% of households recording no car, compared to the national average of 15%.

In Greystones-Delgany, car is the dominant means of travel to work, school or college, with c. 52% travelling as car / van drivers or passengers, and only c. 14% using public transport. In addition, c. 14% recorded travelling by foot or bicycle.



In Kilcoole, car is also the dominant means of travel to work, school or college, with c. 58% travelling as car / van drivers or passengers, and only c. 12% using public transport. In addition, c. 17% recorded travelling by foot or bicycle.



2.1.5 Health and Deprivation

In Greystones-Delgany, c. 88% of the resident population declared their personal health to be either 'Very Good' or 'Good', which is slightly higher than the County average of c. 85% and national average of 83%. In Kilcoole, similarly c.87% of the residents declared their personal health to be either 'Very Good' or 'Good'.

The Census did however note that 20% of residents on Greystones-Delgany and 23% of residents Kilcoole indicated that they had some form of a 'long-lasting condition or difficulty' with their health, which is similar to the national average of 22%. Approximately 400 persons in Greystones-Delgany and c. 150 persons in Kilcoole indicated that they were unable to work due permanent sickness or disability.

3.0 Community Profile – Existing Infrastructure

3.1 Existing Infrastructure – Overview

An audit of social – community infrastructure within Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole was undertaken using a series of predefined themes including education, childcare, health, sports and recreation, social - community services, arts and culture, faith and other services.

The following analysis seeks to categorise these infrastructure features by typology of use and to determine where possible, the level of their sufficiency based upon recognised national / international thresholds (where possible) or from consideration of spatial coverage.

Each theme contains a ‘demand analysis’. The examination is based on the infrastructure, its capacity and coverage under each theme. The outputs of that analysis present the greatest possible detail on the locational characteristics of certain social infrastructure which is then used to inform future recommendations.

Table 7.1 in the CDP contains a list of the social and community facilities that are considered necessary in settlements, according to their population range. Greystones-Delgany falls into the Level 1 population range and Kilcoole falls into the Level 3 population range.

Table 3.1: Extract of Community Facilities Hierarchy Model

LEVEL 1 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE 15,000 – 30,000	
Multi-purpose Community Resource Centre Regional and Local Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities Swimming Pool/Leisure Centre Youth Centre Athletics Track and Field Facilities Arts and Cultural Centre Local Multi-Purpose Community Space/Meeting rooms	Outdoor Water Sports Facilities (where applicable) Neighbourhood Parks and Local Parks Outdoor (full size) Multi-Use Games Areas – Synthetic/ Hardcourt Playground(s) Playing Pitches Alternative/Minority Sports Facilities Open Space/Urban Woodlands/Nature Areas Library
<i>Acceptable rural catchment commuting time by car: 30 min</i>	
LEVEL 3 – SETTLEMENTS WITH POPULATION RANGE 2,000 – 7,000	
Community/Parish Hall Multi-purpose Community Space/Meeting Rooms Local /Town Park (s) and Open Spaces/Nature Areas Outdoor Multi-Use Games Area – Synthetic/ Hardcourt	Playgrounds Playing Pitches Library
<i>Acceptable rural catchment commuting time by car: 10-15 mins</i>	

Source: Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

As per this Community Facilities Model, Table 3.2 (Greystones-Delgany) and Table 3.3 (Kilcoole) to follow detail the social - community facilities currently available in the respective towns under the categories outlined above.

Table 3.2: Social - Community Facilities in Greystones-Delgany

Facility	Provided
Multi-Purpose Community Resource Centre Local Multi-Purpose Community Space/Meeting Rooms	Kilian House Family Centre, La Touche Road St Patrick's Recreation Centre, Church Road Presbyterian Church Hall, Trafalgar Road Nazarene Community Hall, Burnaby Lawns Hall at Christ Church, Delgany Charlesland Community Centre Greystones Bridge Club
Regional and Local Indoor Sports & Recreation Facilities	Shoreline Leisure, Mill Road Shoreline Sports Park, Charlesland
Swimming Pool/Leisure centre	Shoreline Leisure, Mill Road
Youth Centre	Coolnagreina Youth Café, Trafalgar Road
Athletics Track and Field Facilities	Shoreline Sport Track, Charlesland
Arts and Cultural Centre	Whale Theatre, Greystones
Outdoor Water Sports Facilities	Various clubs and facilities at the Harbour, Greystones e.g. sailing club, rowing club, diving club
Neighbourhood Parks and Local Parks	Burnaby Park and Sensory Garden Greystones Marina Park Greystones Dog Park, The Marina Greystones Dog Park, Charlesland Sports Park Parks within housing developments including significant areas in: Hillside, Redford Park, Kindlestown Park, Waverly, Charlesland Park, Archer's Wood, Hawkins Wood.
Outdoor Multi-Use Games Areas – Synthetic/Hardcourt	Charlesland Sports Park Archers Wood
Playground(s)	South Beach Playground Greystones Marina Playground Charlesland Sports Park Playgrounds within new housing estates e.g. Charlesland, Archer's Wood, Hawkins Wood, Glenheron,
Playing Pitches / Courts	Eire Óg GAA pitches, Mill Road Greystones Rugby Club, Mill Road Greystones United AFC, Woodlands Greystones United AFC, Archfield, Victoria Road Dr Ryan Park, Delgany Temple Carrig School Hockey Pitch Greystones Tennis Club
Alternative/Minority Sports Facilities	Greystones Lawn Bowling Club, Burnaby Park Greystones Mariners Baseball, Shoreline Leisure
Open Space/Urban Woodlands/Nature Areas	North and South Beach Cliff Walk Three Trout River
Library	Greystones Library, Mill Road

Table 3.3: Social - Community Facilities in Kilcoole

Facility	Provided
Multi-Purpose Community Space/Meeting Rooms Community/Parish Hall	Kilcoole Community Centre Kilcoole Scout's Den Kilcoole Men's Shed St Patrick's Hall Sports hall at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann
Local/Town Park (s) and Open Spaces/Nature Areas	Kilcoole Rock Kilcoole mass path Strawberry Lane walk
Outdoor Multi-Use Games Area – Synthetic/Hardcourt	Hard courts at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann
Playgrounds	Little Tern Playground
Playing Pitches / Courts	Kilcoole GAA St Anthony's FC Greystones Cricket Club Pitches at Coláiste Chraobh Abhann
Library	No library in Kilcoole



3.2 Education and Training

Facilities examined under this theme include primary schools and post-primary schools along with third-level evening classes and skills development programmes.

Within the study area (Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole) there are nine primary schools, four post-primary schools and one further education / training centre. The location of these facilities is illustrated in Maps 4 – 7 to follow, with further analysis of each type set out below.

The following analysis of current and projected education need is prepared in accordance with advice received from the Department of Education, which calculates the extent of primary and post primary need, based on the following assumptions:

- 10.25% of the population at any given time is of primary school going age.
- 7.5% of the population at any given time is of post primary school going age.
- i.e. 17.75% of population is of school going age.

Census 2022 indicates a total population of 26,578 in the settlements Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole. Based on the assumed % above, school demand for these towns should be:

- 2,724 primary school places
- 1,993 secondary school places
- Total of 4,717 school places

Census 2022 indicates a total population of 28,007 in the catchment area encompassing the Electoral Divisions (EDs) of Greystones, Delgany and Kilcoole. Based on the assumed % above school demand for this area should be:

- 2,871 primary school places
- 2,101 secondary school places
- Total of 4,972 school places

Detailed demographic breakdown is available from the 2022 Census which indicates that the actual number of children in the 5-19 (i.e. school going) cohorts shows a significant deviation from the Department of Education assumptions as follows:

2022 Census Towns	Greystones - Delgany	Kilcoole
Total population	22,009	4,569
5-9	1,763	366
10-14	1,941	432
15-19	1,453	345
Total school age	4,957	1,143
% school age	22.5%	25%

2022 Census EDs	Greystones	Delgany	Kilcoole
Total population	8,137	7,707	12,163
5-9	479	694	1,052
10-14	585	705	1,199
15-19	570	526	825
Total school age	1,634	1,925	3,076
% school age	20.1%	25%	25.3%

Using these figures, total school demand in the Greystones - Delgany and Kilcoole area may be more in the region of 6,635 places, rather than 4,972 places i.e. 33% higher.

Wider catchment: Mainly the secondary schools, but also some of the primary schools, in Kilcoole and Greystones-Delgany also serve a wider catchment including the EDs of Newcastle Upper and Newcastle Lower, within which the settlements of Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy are located. While it is accepted that some pupils in these areas

may be served by secondary schools in Wicklow Town, the most proximate secondary school to these catchments is Coláiste Chraobh Abhann in Kilcoole. These EDs had 2022 populations of 4,790 and 2,472 respectively, with Newcastle Upper having c. 17.5% of the population in the 5-19 cohort and Newcastle Lower having 22.1% of the population in the same cohorts.

For the assessment to follow, both the Department’s assumptions and a ‘higher’ figure which is 33% above Department assumptions are explored.

3.2.1 Primary Schools (Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole)

Eight of the nine primary schools in the LPF area are located in Greystones-Delgany and one primary school is located within Kilcoole. The geographical location of primary schools is close to / within existing and new residential neighbourhoods (defined by the land-use zoning objectives) and the location of these facilities is illustrated on Map 4 to follow. A capacity audit of the existing primary schools is presented in Table 3.4 below.

Table 3.4 Capacity of Existing Primary Schools

Map Label	Name	Town/Village	Capacity	Enrolled	Operating Level	Places Available
P1	St Kevin’s National School	Greystones	458	458	100%	0
P2	St Brigid’s National Catholic School	Greystones	405	397	98%	8
P3	St Laurence’s National School	Greystones	687	673	97%	14
P4	St Patricks National School	Greystones	423	406	95%	17
P5	Greystones Educate Together National School	Greystones	439	439	100%	0
P6	Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath	Greystones	400	256	64%	144
P7	Greystones Community National School	Greystones	600	410	68%	190
P8	Delgany National School	Delgany	215	208	96%	7
P9	Kilcoole Primary School	Kilcoole	580	573	98%	7
	TOTAL		4,207	3,820	90.66%	387

Source: Data obtained from schools directly in January 2025

Direct consultation with each school confirmed that the primary school infrastructure can theoretically accommodate an additional 387 children. It is noted that there is good capacity for growth in Greystones CNS in Charlesland, which is an area of significant new housing. It is also noted that 144 of these places are within Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath, which has the capacity to be fully two-stream. There are 3,820 pupils enrolled in the nine primary schools for the 2024/2025 academic year. This is clearly above the theoretical demand from the area using DoEd assumptions which suggests demand of c. 2,871 (see above).

3.2.1.1 Primary Schools (wider area)

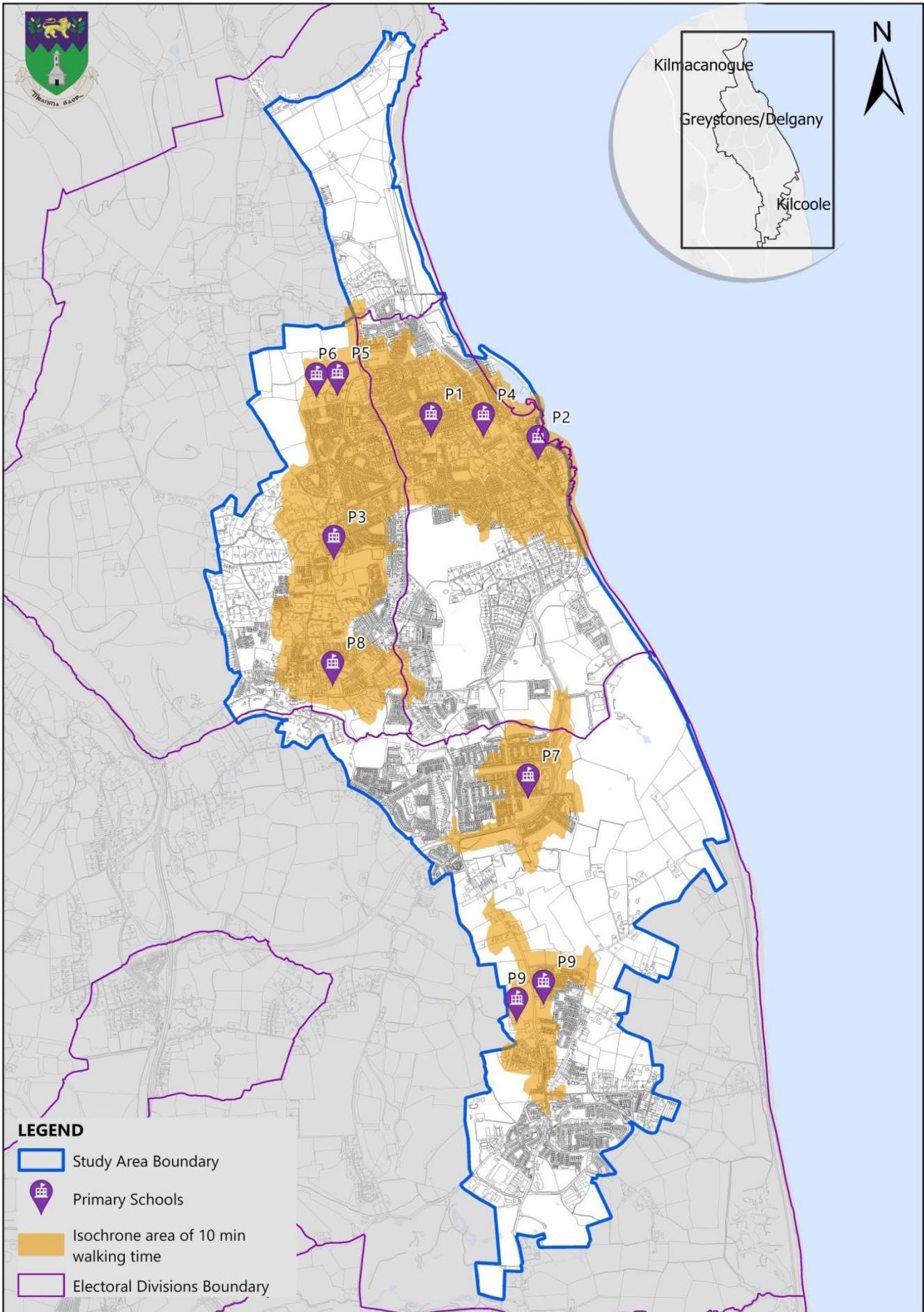
Table 3.5 to follow details the primary schools within the wider area including Newtownmountkennedy and Newcastle.

Table 3.5 Capacity of Existing Primary Schools (wider area)

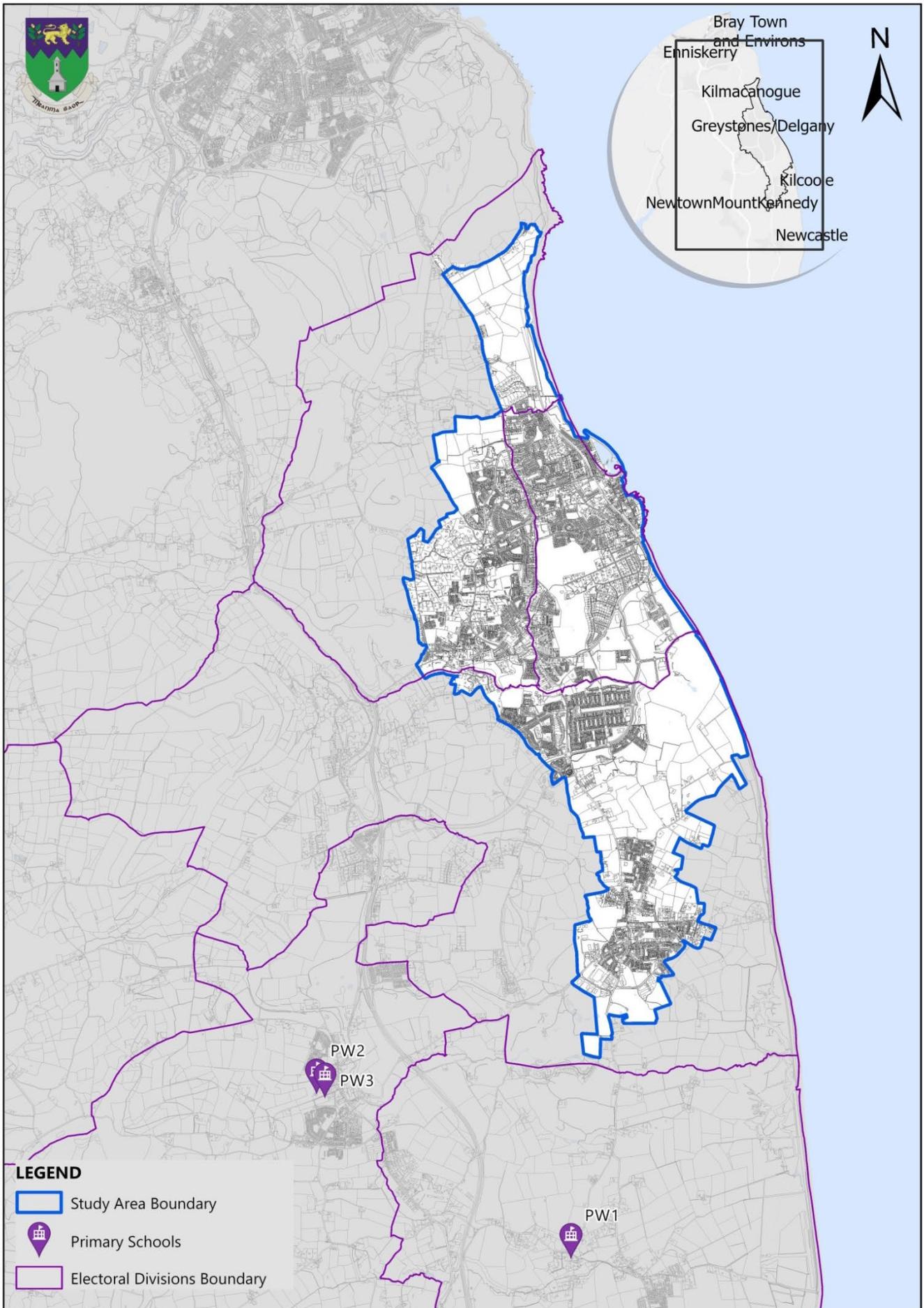
Map Label	Name	Capacity	Enrolled	Operating Level	Places Available
PW1	St. Francis National School, Newcastle	100	92	92%	8
PW2	Newtownmountkennedy Primary School	376	375	99%	1
PW3	Woodstock Educate Together Newtownmountkennedy	121	121	100%	0
	TOTAL	597	588	98.5%	9

Source: Data obtained from schools directly in January 2025

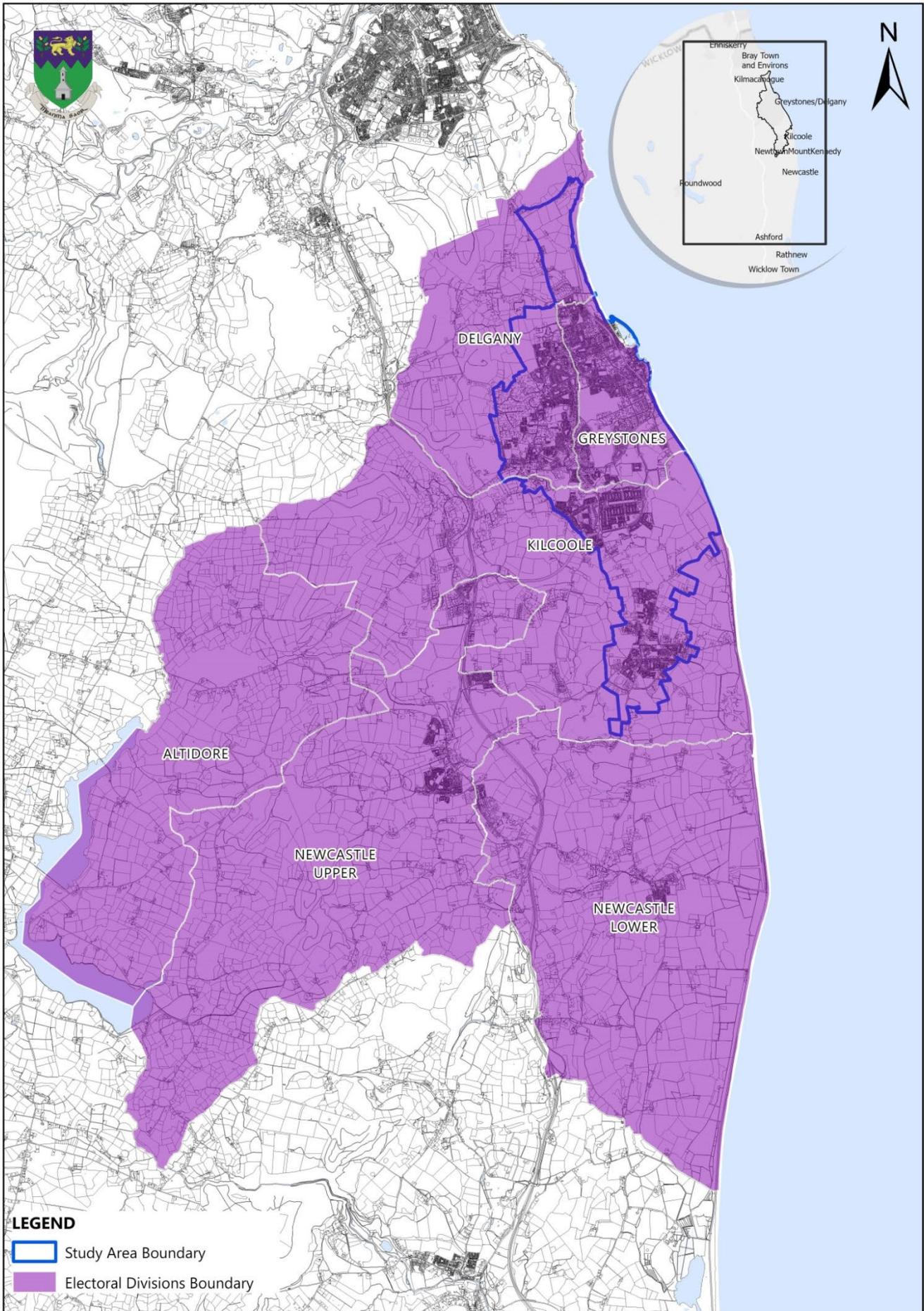
The Census 2022 data indicates a current theoretical demand using Department of Education assumptions for c. 3,615 primary school places in this wider area. Current enrolments indicate a demand for c. 4,408 places.



Map 4: Primary Schools in principle Study Area, including 10 minute Walking Time Isochrones



Map 5: Primary Schools in the wider area



Map 6: Electoral Division Boundaries

3.2.1.2 Committed Primary School Expansion Plans

The following school expansion projects are in train or are committed:

Table 3.6 Planned Primary School Expansion Projects

Map Label	Name	Current Capacity	Future capacity
P9	Kilcoole Primary School	580	c. 650
PW2	Newtownmountkennedy Primary School	376	c. 410
PW3	Woodstock Educate Together	170	c. 500 ²
	TOTAL		+ 434

3.2.1.3 Primary Schools Synopsis / Demand Analysis

From the assessment of the information above, it can be determined that there are more students enrolled in the primary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole, and the potential wider catchment, than the theoretical school demand based on the Department of Education estimates.

However the data appears to indicate that there are sufficient primary school places for the **current demand** in the wider area, but that some of the schools are oversubscribed, most likely due to the range of schools types available and personal choice.

There are also plans to expand a number of schools in the area, including in the wider catchment.

Having regard to potential population growth in LPF area and in the wider area as provided for in the Wicklow County Development Plan Core Strategy, it appears likely that there will be adequate capacity in existing and expanded primary schools to meet short and medium terms needs. Therefore it does not appear that it is necessary to explicitly plan for an additional primary school in this Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole LPF area at this time i.e. reserve a specific site / include specific development objectives etc.

However, in order to support the possibility of future school expansion, wherever possible, lands should be zoned surrounding existing primary schools for 'Community – Education' use.

² This project is at an early stage with site secured but planning permission yet to be obtained.

3.2.2 Post Primary Schools

The locations of the four post-primary schools in the principle study area are illustrated on Map 7 to follow and the capacity audit of same is set out in Table 3.7 below.

Table 3.7 Capacity of Post Primary Schools

Map Label	Name	Capacity	Enrolled	Operating Level	Places Available
S1	St David's Holy Faith Secondary School,	750	790	105%	0
S2	Temple Carrig Secondary School	950	950	100%	0
E1 ³	Greystones Community College	630	630	100%	0
S4	Coláiste Chraobh Abhann	800	800	100%	0
	TOTAL	3,130	3,170	101.3%	0

Source: Data obtained from schools directly in January 2025

The capacity analysis confirms that the four post-primary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole are fully or oversubscribed with all four of the schools operating at or above their capacity. The capacity of the four schools will be increasing as follows:

- Development is underway on the new Greystones Community College at Charlesland, which will have capacity for 1,000 students.
- Planning permission has been granted to expand Coláiste Chraobh Abhann to 1,000 pupils.
- The Department of Education has approved an expansion of 250 additional places at Temple Carrig School, increasing the capacity up to 1,000 students. However, no physical expansion has been sought / approved as yet, and given the current enrolment of c. 950 students, extension is unlikely to result in any significant capacity improvements.

Subject to these works being carried out, there will be a total of 3,790 places available in the secondary schools, an increase from the current 3,170 places.

As noted in section 3.2 above, the theoretical demand within the towns of Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole using Department of Education assumptions based on 2022 Census population would be for 1,993 places. Using the slightly wider catchment of the 3 EDs, the theoretical demand would be in the order of 2,101 places.

In 2024/2025, there were 3,170 students enrolled in the four secondary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole, significantly higher than the demand for places suggested by the Department of Education.

When taking the population of the wider surrounding area into account (c. 35,657 persons, which would include the EDs of Greystones, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle Upper, Newcastle Lower and Altidore), the 2022 theoretical demand should be approximately 2,645 places, which is again significantly below actual demand as evidenced by enrolments.

3.2.2.1 Post-Primary Schools Synopsis / Demand Analysis

Based on the known 2022 population of the wider catchment for the secondary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole (35,657 persons) and the demand for secondary school places 2024/2025, it is evident that closer to 9% of the population in this area is of secondary school going age, higher than the Department of Education assumption of 7.5%, or that the catchment of the post primary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole is much wider than the 6 EDs considered.

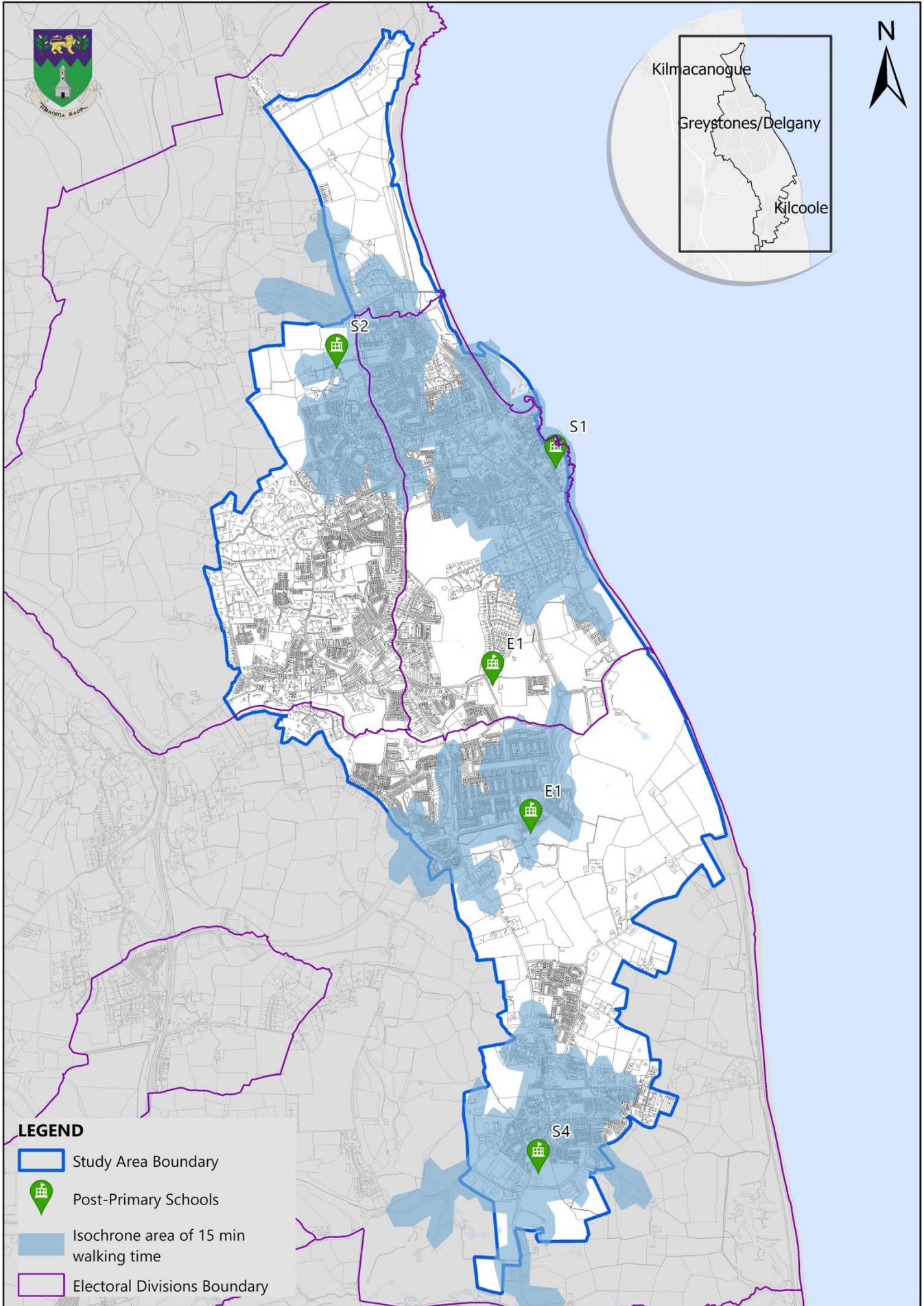
Using this 9% proportion going forward, and given the County Development Plan Core Strategy growth targets for the area up to 2031, it is possible that demand will increase to c. 3,415 places, which appears could be accommodated within the planned expanded secondary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole.

³ The map to follow identifies both the existing temporary location of Greystones Community College and the permanent location (new school under construction) as E1

However, having regard to the demographics evident for the area, wherein there are currently c. 4,408 children enrolled in primary schools in the area, there is concern that demand for secondary schools may surge above available school places within the lifetime of this LPF.

As there is uncertainty in this regard, it is not considered appropriate at this time to make provision i.e. identify and reserve a site, for an additional secondary school in the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole area. It is considered instead to address this possible future need by:

- Providing for a flexible zoning approach in the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole LPF that would allow for the development of schools on lands zoned for other non-community lands uses should the need arise (subject to control to ensure adequate spatial separation between schools, good accessibility and protection of the environment); and
- Ensuring that lands are reserved for a future secondary school in Newtownmountkennedy; the demand arising from population the EDs of Newcastle Upper and Lower and Altidore currently equates to 575 - 690 secondary students, and with additional population growth planned for Newtownmountkennedy and Roundwood further west, this could increase to c. 680-800 students.



Map 7: Post Primary Schools in principle Study Area, including 15 minute Walking Time Isochrones

3.2.3 Training Centres

There is one adult / further education facility in the area which is located within existing secondary school facilities. Table 3.8 below outlines the level and type of courses available.

Table 3.8 Further Education and Training Facilities

Map Label	Name	Description of Courses	Town
E1	Adult Basic Education Courses at Greystones Community College	ICT, English as an additional language and Art/Drawing/Ceramics	Greystones

3.3 Childcare

The childcare infrastructure audit was carried out in May 2023. Childcare facilities are well represented spatially in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole with 28 facilities spread throughout the area, pre-dominantly located close to or within existing residential development. There are also four new facilities which are currently under construction or are built but as yet unoccupied. The capacity audit of each childcare provider is set out in tables below and the locations of the facilities are shown in Map 8 to follow.

Table 3.9 Capacity of Childcare Facilities

Map Label	Name	Town	Capacity	Service
C1	Acorns Playschool, Eire Óg Greystones GAA Club, Mill Road	Greystones	22	Pre-school, Sessional
C2	Always Active Afterschool Club, Gaelscoil na gCloch Liath	Greystones	48	School age childcare
C3	Charlesland Park Montessori, 184 Charlesland Park	Greystones	40	Full daycare, Part-time, Sessional
C4	Charlesland Park Nursery, 292 Charlesland Park	Greystones	68 / SAC 68	Full daycare, Part-time, School age childcare, Sessional
C5	Footprints Montessori Pre-school, 8 Carrig Villas, Killincarrig	Greystones	42	Pre-school, Sessional
C6	Global Garden Pre-school, Kilian Family Centre, La Touche Road	Greystones	17	Part-time, Pre-school
C7	Kids Inc Greystones, Community School, Charlesland	Greystones	48	School age childcare
C8	Knockeevin Montessori & Nature School, Church Rd	Greystones	50	Montessori, Nature School, Part-time, Pre-school, Sessional
C9	Little Explorers Childcare, Unit 20, The Charlesland Centre, Charlesland	Greystones	106 / SAC 90/ Sessional 22	Full daycare, Part-time, School age childcare, Sessional
C10	Little Havard, Charlesland	Greystones	FDC 139 / SAC 96	Full daycare, Part-time, Sessional
C11	Little Stars, 1 Seagreen Gate, Chapel Road	Greystones	33	Full daycare
C12	Little Stars on the Lane, Theatre Lane, off Hillside Road	Greystones	110 / SAC 46	Full daycare, Part-time, School age childcare, Sessional
C13	Naoinra na gCloch Liath, Gaeolscoil na gCloch Liath, Blacklion	Greystones	Part-time 44 / SAC 36	Part-time, Pre-school, School age childcare
C14	Orahova Montessori School, Shoreline Leisure Centre, Mill Road	Greystones	Sessional 33 / SAC 50	Montessori, Pre-school, School age childcare, Sessional
C15	Smiley Sunflowers Pre-school, Grounds of St Patricks NS, Church Road	Greystones	20	Part-time, Pre-school, Sessional
C16	The Cove Preschool, Coolnagreina, Trafalgar Road	Greystones	22 / SAC 22	Part-time, Pre-school, School age childcare, Sessional
C17	The Nest School, Waverly Hill	Greystones	Sessional 66 / Part-time 61	Part-time, Pre-school, Sessional
C18	Welltrack Junior Academy, 33a Charlesland Court	Greystones	33 / SAC 27	Full day-care, Part-time, School age childcare, Sessional
C19	Woodlands Montessori, The Scouts Den, Trafalgar Road	Greystones	22	Montessori, Pre-school, Sessional
C20	Caireen Early years' Service, Archers Wood	Delgany	120	Full day-care, Pre-school
C21	Early Birds Club, The Old Schoolhouse	Delgany	22	School age childcare

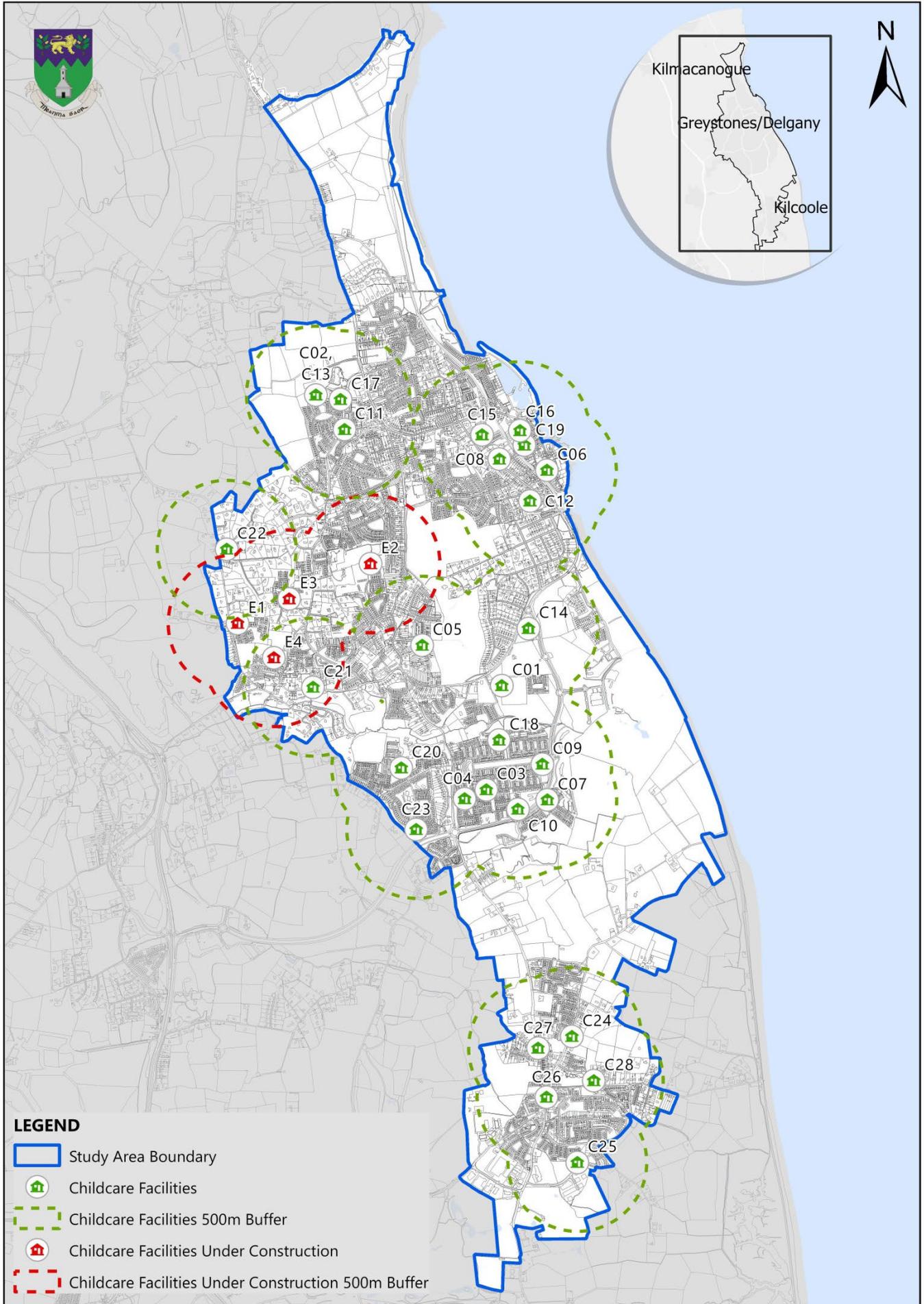
C22	Knockeevin Montessori & Nature School, El Pinar, Kindlestown Hill	Delgany	25 Sessional / 20 Part-time	Montessori, Nature School, Part-time, Pre-school, Sessional
C23	The Park Academy, Eden Gate	Delgany	163	Full daycare
C24	Little Green Giants, 2 Lott Lane	Kilcoole	Sessional: 56 / Full-day	Full daycare, Part-time
C25	Little Poppets Creche and Montessori, 99 Woodstock	Kilcoole	Sessional: 56 / Full-day Care: 50 / SAC: 24	Full daycare, Montessori, Part-time, Sessional
C26	Sweet Pea Afterschool Club, Unit 24 Willowbrook, Main Street	Kilcoole	24	School age childcare
C27	The Village Montessori, Main Street	Kilcoole	22	Montessori, Pre-school, Sessional
C28	Treetops Daycare & Afterschool Club, Sea Road	Kilcoole	Full-day Care: 66 / SAC: 40	Full daycare, School age childcare

Table 3.10 Extant Permission for Childcare Facilities / Constructed and Unoccupied / Under Construction

Map Label	Name	PRR	Status	Proposed Capacity
E1	Bellevue Hill, Delgany	15/1307	Built, not occupied to date	25
E2	Churchlands, Killincarrig	16/1301	Built, not occupied to date	40
E3	Littlebrook, Delgany	24/60635	Built, not occupied to date	66
E4	Holly Hill, Delgany	21/959	Permitted, not built to date	41

Figures obtained from Table 3.9 show that there were a total of 1,567 children were enrolled for the 2022/2023 year.





Map 8: Childcare Facilities

3.3.1 Childcare Facilities Synopsis / Demand Analysis

Census 2022 showed that 1,458 children are under school going age i.e. 0 – 4 years inclusive in Greystones-Delgany, while there were 300 children in the same cohort in Kilcoole, giving a total of 1,758 children. In the wider catchment, this increases to 1,813 children.

While not all parents will choose to enrol children in childcare prior to attending primary school, there is a clearly an insufficiency of places when one compares the number of children in the 0-4 cohort with the number of places available. Furthermore, this simple comparison does not take into account that a significant number of parents may use childcare facilities for children of primary school going age for pre / after school care.

The Wicklow County Childcare Committee was consulted while carrying out this study and they advised that they carried out research into the availability of childcare places in Wicklow in January 2023. They advised that there are no available childcare places in Kilcoole or Delgany and that there are 4 sessional places and 9 part-time places available in Greystones. Therefore there is significant under provision of full-time childcare in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole with all crèches operating long waiting lists, with a need for sessional and part-time places also. All of the providers offering school age facilities were contacted and those who responded confirmed they were full and were operating waiting lists. Many children attend crèches outside the study boundary, in Bray in particular due to the shortage of places within the facilities in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole.

There are four new childcare facilities that are constructed or under construction, which are all located within Greystones and Delgany, as outlined in Table 3.10 above, providing up to an additional 182 places. While these will provide much needed additional places, one of these facilities is in an estate yet to be fully developed, increasing the demand for even more childcare places.

It should be noted that smaller facilities with three children or less are not required to register with Tusla and therefore could not be surveyed due to the informal arrangement of those facilities. Due to the shortage of places, many families are reliant on this kind of arrangement as well as relying on family members, particularly for children under 1 year of age.

It is therefore concluded that it is paramount that new childcare facilities for all ages are provided in tandem with new residential schemes.

Having regard to the need for the delivery of additional childcare facilities in tandem with new residential developments, it is recommended to enhance the existing County Development Plan objective and to include the following objective in the LPF for Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole:

Without exception, to require the provision of childcare facilities in all new residential developments comprising 75 houses or more (including local authority and social housing schemes). In accordance with Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government guidelines, childcare places shall be provided at a ratio of 20 places per 75 residential units, having regard to cumulative effects of permitted development.

Where such childcare facilities are required as part of new developments, they shall be

- designed from the outset as childcare facilities, with internal and external spaces meeting national standards for childcare use,
- of such a location, design and scale as to ensure childcare use is viable, and
- shall be provided ready for occupation upon the occupation of the 75th house in the development.

Without substantial cause, it is the policy of the Planning Authority not to allow a change of use of these premises within five years of first occupation of the development.

3.4 Health

The assessment of health facilities included GPs, health centres, dentists, pharmacy care and other related facilities.

A total of 48 health facilities were identified in the towns comprising six GP practices, three nursing homes; ten pharmacies; six dentist practices, six physiotherapists, two opticians, one health centre, and fourteen other healthcare facilities including podiatrists, nutritionists, acupuncturists etc. From the health facilities identified, there are a total of 24 doctors working from these locations.

The location of health facilities is dispersed throughout the towns. An audit of the health facilities including their location and services available is set out in Table 3.11 below.

Table 3.11 Health Facilities / Services in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole

Name/Location	Facilities/Services
Greystones Health Centre, Victoria Road	HSE health centre
Charlesland Medical Centre, The Charlesland Centre	GP x 3
Greystones Medical Centre	GP x 8
Greystones Harbour Family Practice, Trafalgar Road	GP x 5
Greystones Family Doctors, Blacklion Business centre	GP x 3
Carrig Clinic, 96 Heathervue	GP x 2
The Doctor's Surgery, Kilcoole	GP x 3
David Dodd Pharmacy, Greystones Medical Centre, Mill Road	Pharmacy
Fiona Roche Pharmacy, Roches Clinic, Blacklion	Pharmacy
Lloyd's Pharmacy, Unit 7, Greystones Shopping Centre	Pharmacy
Boots, Church Road, Greystones	Pharmacy
McCauley Pharmacy, Greystones, Church Road, Greystones	Pharmacy
McGleenans Pharmacy, Church Road, Greystones	Pharmacy
Roches Allcare Pharmacy Unit 7, Blacklion Retail Centre	Pharmacy
Kilcoole Pharmacy, Main Street, Kilcoole	Pharmacy
MacSherry's Pharmacy, Whitethorn Centre, Main Street, Kilcoole	Pharmacy
Delgany Pharmacy, Main Street	Pharmacy
The Dental Studio, Blacklion Retail Centre	Dentist
Greystones Dental Centre, Greystones Shopping Centre	Dentist
Dental Care Ireland, Bow Lane, Greystones	Dentist
Lucey Dental and Aesthetics, Meridian Point, Church Rd, Greystones	Dentist
Roseair Dental Practice, 5 Eden Rd, Greystones	Dentist
South Beach Clinic, Medical Suite, The Charlesland Centre	Dentist
Greystones Eye Centre, 18b Church Road, Greystones	Optician
Nora Wickham Optician, 2-4 Killincarrick Road, Greystones	Optician
Applewood Physiotherapy and Pilates, Roches Clinic, Blacklion	Physiotherapy
Renu Physiotherapy, Greystones Medical Centre	Physiotherapy
Sports Physiotherapy & Athletic Rehab Clinic (SPARC Greystones), Eire Óg, Greystones	Physiotherapy
Greystones Physiotherapy Clinic, Westgate, Delgany	Physiotherapy
Physioklinic, Newcastle Road, Ballyphilip, Kilcoole	Physiotherapist
Myoreflex, Cova, Trafalgar Road	Physiotherapist
Kilcoole Lodge Nursing Home, Lott Lane, Kilcoole	Occupancy for 89
Eyrefield Manor Nursing Home, Church Lane, Greystones	Occupancy for 53
Greystones Nursing Home, Church Road, Greystones	Occupancy for 64
Kate Duggan Acupuncture & Naturopathy, Cova, Trafalgar Road	Acupuncture
Acorn Chiropody Clinic, Roche's Clinic, Blacklion	Chiropodist
Skincheck Greystones, 1A Kindlestown Lower Road, Greystones	Skincheck
Chiropody & Podiatry Clinic, Greystones Medical Centre	Chiropodist

Grassroots Nutrition, The Cova, Trafalgar Road	Nutritionist
Inside Out Nutrition, Trafalgar House, Trafalgar Road	Dietician
Acorn Acupuncture, 6 Main Street, Kilcoole	Acupuncturist
Emer McFarlane Acupuncture & Naturopathy, Beach Court, Kilcoole	Acupuncturist
SPREAC, Sports Rehab and Acupuncture, Kilcoole	Acupuncture & Sports Rehab
Foot Care Clinic, 6a Main St, The Cottages, Kilcoole	Chiropodist
Megannety Osteopath and Acupuncture, Church Road, Greystones	Osteopath
Greystones Chiropractic Clinic, Kindlestown Lower, Greystones	Chiropractors
The Belvedere Clinic, Go Gym, Greystones	Physical Therapy
The Wave Clinic, Cova, 32 Trafalgar Rd, Greystones	Craniosacral Therapy

In Greystones-Delgany, c. 88% of the resident population declared their personal health to be either 'Very Good' or 'Good' in the 2022 Census, which is slightly higher than the County average of c. 85% and national average of 83%. In Kilcoole, similarly c. 87% of the residents declared their personal health to be either 'Very Good' or 'Good'.

The Census did however note that 20% of residents on Greystones-Delgany and 23% of residents Kilcoole indicated that they had some form of a 'long-lasting condition or difficulty' with their health, which is similar to the national average of 22%. Approximately 400 persons in Greystones-Delgany and c. 150 persons in Kilcoole indicated that they were unable to work due permanent sickness or disability.

There are no national standards for health provision in Ireland relating to the provision of primary care centres or the number of doctors in an area. However, the HSE has confirmed that a typical primary care centre can serve a population of between 10,000-20,000 people, subject to appropriate resourcing. The nearest primary care centres are in Bray (7km from Greystones) and Wicklow (15km from Kilcoole).

In 2017 the Irish Medical Times confirmed that Ireland had on average 2.7 doctors per 1,000 population compared with 3.3 doctors for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average. Perhaps a more relevant figure for Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole (excluding hospital services which serve the wider region) is a standard specifically relating to family physicians. The Graduate Medical Education National Advisory Committee (GMENAC) an advisory group to the US Department of Health and Human Services suggests a standard of 25.2 physicians to 100,000 population (or 0.25 per 1,000 population).

3.4.1 Health Synopsis / Demand Analysis

The current doctor to population ratio in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole is 1.17 per 1,000 population, with 24 doctors practicing from six different facilities, which is four times above the recommendations of GMENAC. However, the reality is quite different. All six GP practices contacted indicated that there is significant need for additional doctors in the area due to the high demand. While the number of doctors is stated to be 24, it should be noted a proportion are part time and working alternate days / shifts with other physicians. Three of the practices confirmed they are currently full, one is taking on a limited number of new patients with the remaining two practices facilitating those new to the area where possible.

While the future development of the planned Greystones Primary Health Centre may address some deficiencies, there will likely be a need as the town grows for further services. While the zoning of land specifically for health / GP usage would not be appropriate given the nature and scale of this use, it is recommended that the LPF supports the development of healthcare uses in all zones (other than Open Space OS1 and Natural Areas OS2) and ensure adequate land is zoned for 'Community and Education' - CE use which would allow for larger scale stand-alone medical developments.

3.5 Sport, Recreation and Open Space

Sports and recreation infrastructure include parks and playgrounds, dedicated public open space and amenity areas, sports centres, and formal club facilities. Overall, approximately 100 ha of land located within the study area is in active use for sports and recreational related activities and open space.

In accordance with WCC’s Active Open Space Policy, active open space should be provided at a rate of 2.4ha per 1,000 population divided into:

- a) 1.6ha outdoor play space (pitches, courts, sports grounds) – open space Type A
- b) 0.6ha casual play spaces (parks) – open space Type B
- c) 0.2ha equipped play space (playgrounds and MUGAs) – open space Type C

Generally Type 1 is provided in the form of laid out and operated sports grounds, club etc. Type 3 comprises equipped playgrounds, mixed use games areas, outdoor gyms etc.

With respect to Type 2, this includes both formal public parks and the casual public open spaces in housing development. This type of space is therefore harder to quantify as it will appear as numerous pockets throughout any settlement as well as being more difficult to ‘plan; for as much of this space will be delivered as part of new housing development on lands zoned for ‘residential’ use rather than ‘open space’ use.

In accordance with this policy, active open space needs for the **current** town populations of Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole would be:

Table 3.12 Active Open Space needs in Greystones-Delgany (current town population)

Active Open Space Type	Required (ha)
Outdoor Play Space	35.21
Casual Play Space	13.2
Equipped Play Space	4.4
Total	52.82

Table 3.13 Active Open Space needs in Kilcoole (current town population)

Active Open Space Type	Required (ha)
Outdoor Play Space	7.3
Casual Play Space	2.7
Equipped Play Space	0.9
Total	10.9

It should also be taken into account that Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole provide for the sports and recreational needs for a wider catchment than the towns themselves, particularly with respect to Type 1 open spaces as such facilities are not normally available in smaller settlements or in rural areas. In addition, certain sport types such a tennis clubs or rugby clubs tend to have a wide catchment due to their more limited number and spatial distribution.

3.5.1 Projecting Future Needs

In projecting future needs, it will be necessary to take account of the population growth that has taken place in the settlements since 2022 and the growth targeted in the Wicklow Core Strategy for Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole. For the purpose of this exercise, it is assumed that all developments currently underway are completed and all residentially zoned land proposed in the draft LPF is developed.

Greystones – Delgany: Assume population growth of 4,000

Kilcoole: Assume population growth of 1,500

Once these needs are considered, an additional provision of 50% is added to account of changes in such targets over the lifetime of the LPF and to take a longer term perspective.

Table 3.14 Estimated future Active Open Space needs in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole

Active Open Space Type	Greystones-Delgany (ha)	Kilcoole (ha)
Outdoor Play Space	44.8	10.9
Casual Play Space	16.8	4
Equipped Play Space	5.6	1.4
Total	67	16.3

Current provision:

Table 3.15 Existing outdoor sport and recreation provision in Greystones-Delgany

Note 1: As detailed above, not all Type 2 spaces are hereunder listed.

Note 2: Golf Clubs and driving ranges are not included in the table below. While these spaces are sports grounds, their scale would distort the overall calculation.

Map Ref	Name	Open Space Type	Approximate Area (ha)	
A01	Shoreline Sports Park, Charlesland incl playground and dog park	Type A Type 3	8 1	A63CA18
A02	Greystones Lawn Tennis Club	Type A	1.8	A63RP29
A03	Eire Óg Greystones GAA Club	Type A	4.6	A63AW93
A04	Greystones Rugby Football Club	Type A	6	A63PA09
A05	Greystones United ATC & Greystones Driving Range	Type A	3.75	A63NP20
A06	Greystones United Football Club, Archfield	Type A	0.7	A63TW60
A07	Burnaby Park and Bowling Green	Type B	1.65	A63PK64
A08	Greystones Marina Park incl playground and dog park	Type B Type C	4.5 0.02	A63C970 Adjacent
A09	Dr Ryan Park	Type A	2	A63FD37
A10	Archers Wood AOS	Type A Type B Type C	3.1 1.1 0.4	A63W8Y6 Adjacent
A11	South Beach Playground	Type C	0.2	A63TX86
A12	Playground at Charlesland	Type C	0.2	A63CA18
A13	Playground at Glenheron, Charlesland	Type C	0.02	A63W744 Adjacent
A14	Playground at Hawkins Wood, Charlesland	Type C	0.05	
A15	Templecarrig School Hockey Pitch	Type A	1	
	Totals	Type A Type B Type C	30.95 7.25 1.89	

It is evident that there are shortfall in both Type A and Type C spaces Greystones-Delgany.

Having regard to the project future needs, there is an estimated shortfall of

- c. 13.85ha of Type A space
- c. 3.7ha of Type C space

As above, Type B space is expected to be delivered in the main in new housing areas.

Table 3.16 Existing outdoor sport and recreation provision in Kilcoole

Note 1: As detailed above, not all Type 2 spaces are hereunder listed.

Note 2: Golf Clubs and driving ranges are not included in the table below; while these spaces are sports grounds, their scale would distort the overall calculation.

Map Ref	Name	Open Space Type	Approximate Area (ha)
A16	Kilcoole GAA Club	Type A	4.2
A17	St Anthony's FC	Type A	2.74
	Greystones Cricket Club	Type A	2.75
A18	Upper Green	Type B	0.38
A19	Little Tern playground	Type C	0.46
	Totals	Type A	9.69
		Type B	0.38
		Type C	0.46

It is evident that the only current shortfall in Kilcoole is in Type C spaces. Having regard to the project future needs, there is an estimated shortfall of

- c. 1.25ha of Type A space
- c. 0.94ha of Type C space

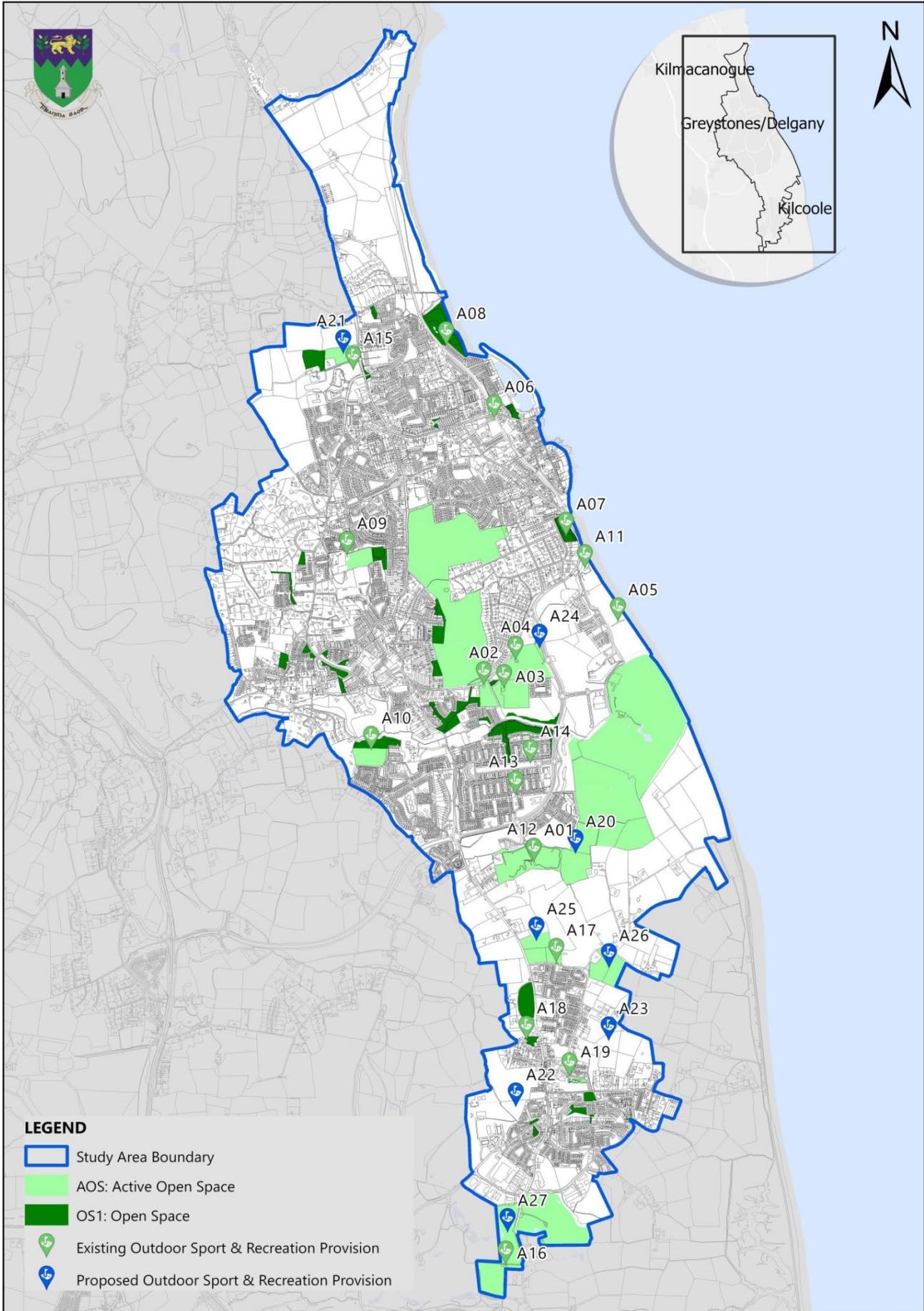
As above, Type B space is expected to be delivered in the main in new housing areas.

Table 3.17 Proposed new outdoor sport and recreation zones in Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole

Map Ref	Name	Open Space Type	Approximate Area (ha)	Proposed Zoning
A20	Ballynerrin SLO3	Type A	15.25	AOS
A21	Coolagad SLO4	Type A Type B	2.35 2	AOS OS1
A22	Bullford SLO5	Type A Type B Type C	1 0.2 0.13	RN2 ⁴ RN2 RN2
A23	Ballydonarea SLO6	Type B	3.6	OS1/OS2
A24	East of Rugby Club	Type A	0.3	AOS
A25	North of St. Anthony's FC	Type A	2.15	AOS
A26	Lott Lane	Type A	4.4	AOS
A27	North of Kilcoole GAA	Type A	3.15	AOS



⁴ The Open Spaces required in SLO5 are to be delivered within the RN zone.



Map 9: Sport, Recreation and Open Space Facilities

3.6 Social and Community Facilities

Social and community facilities are a broad category and can include general civic services and services targeted to specific sections of the community. Most facilities are located within the Greystones and Kilcoole town centre areas.

Table 3.18 Social and Community Facilities in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole

Name (Location)	Facilities/Services
Greystones Fire Station, Victoria Road	1 of 10 in Wicklow. All members of the brigades are employed on a temporary part-time retained basis.
Greystones Garda Station, Marine Terrace	District HQ is in Bray
Greystones Library, Mill Road	Dedicated adult, children and teenage areas. Provision of online and study spaces.
Greystones Post Office, Meridian Point	General post and some banking services.
Kilcoole Post Office, Main Street, Kilcoole	General post and some banking services.
Greystones Municipal District Office, Mill Road	Parks and open spaces, school warden services, support the Town Team and general maintenance of public areas in Greystones, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and part of Newtownmountkenedy.
Greystones Men's Shed, Church Road	Range of activities differ, generally include woodwork, gardening, music, restoration and community work.
Kilcoole Mens Shed, Lott Lane	Range of activities differ, generally include woodwork, gardening, music, restoration and community work.
Kilcoole Community Centre, Lott Lane	Various Classes
Greystones Family Resource Centre, Burnaby Court	Support for families
Greystones Cancer Support, La Touche Place	Support for families affected by cancer
Childhood Cancer Foundation, Kilcoole	Support for families affected by cancer
The Rise at Coolnagreina / Tiglin, Trafalgar Road and Marine Road, Greystones	Transitional housing and supports
Charlesland Community Centre	Rooms for classes
St. Patrick's Recreation Centre, Church Road	Hall for classes
Kilian House Family Centre, La Touche Road	Hall for classes and parish hall and office
Greystones Harbour Sea Scouts, Beach Road	Scouting group
1 st Wicklow Scout Group, Church Road	Scouting group
1 st Wicklow 2 nd Dublin Scout Group, Trafalgar Road	Scouting group
Kilcoole Scout Den, Lott Lane	Scouting group
Greystones Bridge Club, Victoria Road	Social group / facility
Toastmasters, Greystones Tennis Club	Social group / facility
Kilcoole Youth Café, Kilcoole Community Centre,	Social group / facility
Greystones Active Retirement Association, Kilian House Family Centre	Social group / facility
Greystones Tidy Towns, Church Road	Community group
Keep Kilcoole Tidy	Community group
Kilcoole Thrift Shop, Main Street	Community retail facility
St Vincent De Paul, Greystones	Community service
Sugarloaf Lions Club, Delgany	Social group
Greystones Archaeological and Historical Society, Killian House Family Centre	Social / community group
St Patrick's Hall, Kilcoole	Community facility
Presbyterian Church Hall, Trafalgar Road	Community facility
Nazarene Community Hall, Burnaby Avenue	Community facility
Hall at Christ Church, Delgany	Community facility

The LPF area appears to be well served by community buildings and services. However, public consultation revealed a number of groups (such as Greystones Cancer Support and the Greystones Arts Collective) who have either no permanent base or are using inadequate facilities. It is necessary therefore that the LPF supports and makes provision for the development of additional community spaces that may be suitable for a range of users and uses. In this regard, the provision of new community facilities is particularly promoted in SLO4 (Coolagad), SLO5 (Bullford) and SLO6 (Ballydonarea), as well as in any possible redevelopment of Charlesland golf course under SLO3.

3.7 Arts and Culture

Within the study area, there are 11 arts and culture facilities most of which are related to music, dance, and drama. Facilities are dispersed in various locations across the towns with a concentration of facilities in the town centres. Table 3.19 below provides details on the name, location and type of facility / service provided.

Table 3.19 Arts and Culture Facilities in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole

Name	Location	Facilities / Services
Whale Theatre, Meridian Point	Meridian Point, Theatre Lane, Greystones	Civic arts and culture facility
Greystones Players	Whale Theatre	Drama society
Star Academy	Shoreline Leisure Centre	Drama school
Greystones Music Academy	Shoreline Leisure Centre	Music lessons
The Goode School of Dance	Educate Together, Greystones	Dance school
Moo Music	Kilcoole Community Centre	Baby and Childrens music classes
Domiso Music Classes	Delgany Community Hall	Baby and Childrens music classes
Vitality Dance Academy	Kilcoole Community Centre	Childrens dance classes
Unity Gospel Choir	St Patricks Church, Church Road	Choir
Wicklow Sings	Temple Carrig School	Choir
The Music School	Unit 6, Eden Gate	Music Classes

3.8 Faith

A total of 12 faith facilities were identified in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole comprising eight places of worship / churches and four cemeteries. Most facilities are in the town centre areas. There is a burial ground located outside Greystones – Delgany & Kilcoole in the neighbouring settlement of Kilquade. Table 3.20 below provides details on the name, location and a brief description of the service provided.

Table 3.20 Faith Facilities in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole

Map Label	Name / Location	Description
F1	St. Patricks's Church, Church Road, Greystones	Church of Ireland
F2	Holy Rosary Catholic Church, La Touche Road, Greystones	Catholic church with parish office
F3	Greystones Presbyterian Church, Trafalgar Road, Greystones	Presbyterian church
F4	Hillside Evangelical Church, Hillside Road, Greystones	Evangelical Christian church
F5	St Kilian's Church, Chapel Road, Blacklion, Greystones	Catholic church
F6	Nazarene Community Church, Burnaby Avenue, Greystones	Evangelical Christian church
F7	Christ Church, Delgany	Church of Ireland
F8	St Anthony's Catholic Church, Kilcoole	Catholic church
F9	The Grove Cemetery, Greystones	Church of Ireland cemetery
F10	Redford Cemetery, Greystones	Catholic cemetery
F11	Burial Ground, Christ Church, Delgany	Church of Ireland cemetery
F12	Old Burial Ground, Delgany	Church of Ireland cemetery

Within the study area 56% of the population of Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole identified as Catholic in the 2022 Census, and 14% identified as being an 'other religion'. The area is well served by faith facilities and no deficiencies in this regard have been identified by the data or via public consultation.



4.0 Recommendations

This Social Infrastructure Audit has identified certain specific requirements for future provision of social - community infrastructure facilities for the settlements of Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole. These requirements are based on current and projected population growth, as provided for in the Core Strategy of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028. This assessment informs the future spatial development objectives for the settlement for the Local Planning Framework period and beyond.

4.1 Education

Primary schools

There are sufficient primary school places for the current demand in the wider area however some of the schools in Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole are oversubscribed, most likely due to the range of schools types available and personal choice. At this time, current demand would not appear to necessitate the need for the development of additional primary schools in the LPF area during the life of the framework plan. In the immediate term, capacity enhancement if required may be possible to accommodate on existing school sites and surrounding lands. In this regard:

- In line with the above it is recommended that sufficient zoned CE will be maintained where feasible around existing schools.
- Further to this, in order to future-proof the need for primary schools in the settlements, it is recommended that a new objective shall be provided which allows for the development of new primary schools on all land use zones (other than OS1 and OS2) subject to sufficient spatial separation from any existing primary school.

Secondary schools

The four post-primary schools in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole are oversubscribed with all four of the schools operating at or above their capacity. It is noted that there a number of secondary school projects planned / in train to extend 3 of the existing schools to accommodate the oversubscribed pupil numbers and to extend capacity. Once these projects are delivered, it would appear that theoretically there would be adequate capacity for students resident in the LPF area. However, the current numbers enrolled in the secondary school in the LPF and in the wider likely catchment significantly exceeds the theoretical demand and it is evident therefore that an additional secondary school may be required in short to medium term in the area.

In line with the above it is recommended that, in order to future proof the need for a secondary school, given

- that it is not clear that a new secondary school will be needed in Greystones – Delgany or Kilcoole in the short to medium term;
- the large land take needed for a new secondary school (up to 5ha) and;
- the lack of suitable undeveloped lands close to existing residential areas within the settlements;

it is not considered appropriate to specifically identify / zone a site for a new secondary school in the settlements. However, as stated above, it is recommended that a new objective shall be provided which allows for the development of new secondary schools on all land use zones (other than OS1 and OS2) subject to sufficient spatial separation from any existing secondary school.

It is noted that the development of a new secondary school in Newtownmountkennedy would likely significant address the capacity pressures being faced in Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole.

4.2 Childcare

There are shortfalls identified in the provision of adequate childcare facilities across the settlements.

- It is recommended to enhance the existing County Development Plan objective on the provision of childcare facilities in new residential developments to ensure the childcare facilities are being delivered on site in Greystones –Delgany and Kilcoole.
- It is also recommended that the development of other childcare facilities, outside of the new housing developments, shall be supported and facilitated by this LPF

4.3 Health

There are shortfalls identified in the provision health facilities, in particular GP surgeries.

- It is recommended to facilitate the development of health facilities in the settlements, to allow healthcare uses to be permissible in all land use zones (other than OS1 and OS2), and
- To ensure adequate land is zoned for 'CE – community and education' use which would allow for larger scale stand-alone medical developments.

4.4 Open Space (Sports and Recreation)

In order to address shortfall identified in the SIA analysis, it is recommended that the following additional active open space and recreational lands be identified and promoted for delivery in the LPF:

Table 4.1 Proposed Active Open Space and Recreational Lands

Map Ref	Name	Open Space Type	Approximate Area (ha)	Proposed Zoning
A20	Ballynerrin SLO3	Type A	15.25	AOS
A21	Coolagad SLO4	Type A Type B	2.35 2	AOS OS1
A22	Bullford SLO5	Type A Type B Type C	1 0.2 0.13	RN2 ⁵ RN2 RN2
A23	Ballydonarea SLO6	Type B	3.6	OS1/OS2
A24	East of Rugby Club	Type A	0,3	AOS
A25	North of St. Anthony's FC	Type A	2.15	AOS
A26	Lott Lane	Type A	4.4	AOS
A27	North of Kilcoole GAA	Type A	3.15	AOS

4.5 Arts and Culture

The framework supports the existing arts and cultural facilities within the settlements. The framework also supports the delivery of new arts and cultural facilities at appropriate locations.

4.6 Faith

The settlements are well served with faith facilities and there are currently no plans for future facilities. The framework supports the existing faith facilities and it also supports the delivery of new faith facilities at appropriate locations.

⁵ The Open Spaces required in SLO5 are to be delivered within the RN zone.

5.0 Provision of Social infrastructure in general

In addition to the above specific social – community infrastructure requirements, this study recommends the following practices in the provision of social – community infrastructure to ensure consistency with best practice and the sustainable and effective use of resources:

Co-location:

Co-location and clustering of complementary community services thus facilitating coordination, convenience and access for service users;

Multi-purpose and multi-function:

Facilities and spaces should offer flexible and diverse space and uses over a range of times to maximise efficiency, utilisation and adaptability of physical assets;

Place making and community identity:

Promotion and encouragement of community facilities that create a sense of place and identity that have a civic quality, and level of amenity that can foster community ownership and offer a focus to support community engagement;

Connectivity and linkages:

Opportunities to enhance the existing cycle and pedestrian infrastructure network and routes should be incorporated into any development proposal. To facilitate access to and through amenities, for the purpose of improving connectivity/permeability and the quality of this amenity.

Partnership:

Encourage delivery of infrastructure services and facilities through partnerships between different bodies for maximum efficiency and coordination; and

Community asset management:

For the local authority to maintain and enhance their strategic role in co-ordination and engagement between different service providers to ascertain up-to-date information on community infrastructure and facilities for the benefit of the community and service providers.

6.0 Concluding Remarks

Social and community infrastructure is essential to achieving a balanced approach to sustainable local communities and it is of critical importance to the economic and social development of Greystones – Delgany and Kilcoole.

The role of social – community infrastructure in integrating new and existing communities in the plan area is critical. A mix of uses will provide opportunities for community activity and places for people to meet and connect. Local facilities within easy walking distance are supported to facilitate community cohesion as well as to reduce transport requirements. Continuity of public realm and interconnected neighbourhoods ensure people can easily access facilities and services they need by walking or cycling. With high density living in urban areas there is much greater demand for highly flexible, multi-use facilities within communities. A flexible approach to developed floorspace, as well as the capacity to retrofit existing community facilities is also important to address changing demographics and evolving community needs.

The provision of social and community infrastructure in an area is fundamentally about making the most of and developing the local network of assets, be they facilities, services or the programmes that bring this all together.