




# Pre Draft Bray LAP Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Kevin Mc Loughlin
Reference:	BRAYLAP-114714
Submission Made	December 17, 2024 1:28 PM

## File

Bray LAP 2025.docx, 0.02MB

  
Bray  
Co. Wicklow

17.12.24

To whom it may concern:

I wish to make a submission to the 2025 Local Area Plan for Bray & Environs.

My concern relates to the importance of having an up-to-date Flood Early Warning System in place to protect the residents and properties situated in proximity to lower catchment area of the River Dargle. As the effects of climate system disruption become more pronounced Ireland has been subjected to an increased frequency of major flooding events. This year alone there has been significant flooding events in Limerick, Cork and most recently in Killybegs.

Although the River Dargle has had flood defence scheme completed in 2017, according to the OPW's mandatory Guidelines for Flood Risk Management "the presence of flood protection structures should be ignored in determining flood zones. This is because areas protected by flood defences still carry a residual risk of flooding from overtopping or breach of defences and the fact that there may be no guarantee that the defences will be maintained in perpetuity."<sup>1</sup> Although Bray has been spared from flooding since the last major flooding event during Hurricane Charlie in 1986, there is genuine concern amongst the residents of Little Bray that it is only a question of time before the next flood takes place. Given the fact that Little Bray is home to a high proportion of elderly and vulnerable people, it is important that plans are put in place to ensure the safety of all those who are at risk from a future flooding event.

While accuracy and timeliness will determine the effectiveness of any flood warning service it will crucial to have well trained responders to carry out the necessary responses. It will also be crucial to ensure that everyone in the at risk area will be alerted to prepare for possible flooding and/or evacuation, including elderly people who may not access text messages, via something like a hooter system warning them to turn on their local radio station for further updates. I believe the time is now to implement a functioning flood early warning system and to thus ensure the safety of residents and mitigate the potential damage to property in the areas most likely to be affected.

I hope that this proposal will be considered for Bray's 2025 Local Area Plan.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Mc Loughlin

Reference:

1. The Planning System and Flood Risk Management, Section 2.25, [OPW  
https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/111243/68fb690f-3c30-4649-a788-1b5129b3b610.pdf#page=null](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/111243/68fb690f-3c30-4649-a788-1b5129b3b610.pdf#page=null)