



Draft Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Group
Name:	Blessington Allotments Campaign
Reference:	DBLESSLAP-221637
Submission Made	December 10, 2024 10:28 PM

Topic

Community Development (incl. sports facilities & schools, etc.)

Submission

The Blessington Allotments Campaign welcomes the inclusion of allotments and community gardens in the draft Local Area Plan for Blessington.

While Open Space (OS1) is appropriate for the inclusion of allotments and community gardens, flexibility should be built in to the Local Area Plan so as to not constrain temporary use of this land. As an example, during the most recent recession in Ireland, community gardens were located temporarily on land zoned residential throughout Ireland.

Evidence of this is within other local authorities, such as Louth County Council who generally allow allotments on a variety of land zonings, including residential:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/publications/development-plans/louth-county-development-plan-2021-2027/consolidated-vol-1-incl-variations-1-2-.pdf>

As Wicklow County Council provide one of the fewest number of allotments and community gardens in Ireland, the Local Area Plans should not constrain any potential community development.

The Blessington Allotments Campaign would also like to highlight that community gardens are now defined in law, as per the Planning and Development Act 2024:

<https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/act/2023/34/eng/enacted/a3424.pdf>

Topic

Green Infrastructure / GI Audit / Key GI Map

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