

Wicklow to Greystones Greenway Scheme

Public Consultation
Emerging Preferred Route Corridor



Wicklow. Rathnew. Newcastle. Kilcoole. Greystones

Public Consultation runs
April 9th to May 7th 2024

What is in this Leaflet

Where are we now

Feedback

Have your say

Next steps

Wicklow to Greystones Greenway is a key objective of Wicklow County Council that will provide local amenity, attract tourism, and support economic growth.

The popularity of recently opened Greenways throughout Ireland demonstrates the many benefits that they bring to rural areas. Greenways are providing wonderful new experiences of Ireland's beautiful countryside for both visitors and local people alike. They contribute to health and wellbeing, enhance local communities with opportunities for new and existing businesses, and strengthen regional economies.

County Wicklow is a coastal beauty in Ireland's Ancient East, with a diverse landscape and visual experience bestowing coastline, rivers, mountains, lakes forests, villages and cliffs. As a result Wicklow attracts visitors from near and far for recreation activities, and there is a unique opportunity for Wicklow to develop a new landmark greenway catering for all ages and abilities. The coastal corridor between Wicklow Town and Greystones provides stunning scenery and a diversity of heritage. It is characterised by a long straight shingle beach, inland of which occurs the Murrough Wetland Complex, the largest such complex on the East coast of Ireland. Along the way are the many towns, villages, harbours, monuments and other structures showcasing the interaction of people with the coast from earliest times to the present day.

The vision of Wicklow to Greystones Greenway is to create a walking and cycling path of greenway standard between Wicklow Town and Greystones that provides a safe and scenic experience for people of all ages and abilities. Integrating with and contributing to the existing and planned active travel network of County Wicklow, the greenway will enhance the health and economic opportunities for local communities while preserving and promoting the natural environment.



Greystones South Beach



Where We Are Now

The development of the Wicklow to Greystones

Greenway, spanning over 20 kilometres, adheres to the ‘Code of Best Practice: National and Regional Greenways’ and the Transport Infrastructure Ireland ‘Project Manager’s Manual for Greenway Project’s. These documents serve as our guiding principles to ensure landowners are treated equally and fairly throughout all phases from concept right through to construction and operation.



Currently the project has identified the Emerging Preferred Route Corridors as being the Coastal Route Corridor and the Inland Field Boundary Route Corridor. These corridors will advance to Stage 2 for the development and assessment of multiple Route Options.

Subsequent to the Public Display and Submission Period, all comments and opinions will be analysed, and a Public Consultation Summary Report will be prepared. This feedback will be taken forward into the Stage 2 Route Options Assessment wherein options within both corridors will be assessed to determine the Emerging Preferred Route.

Wicklow County Council is currently finalising the Phase 2 Options Selection, which will identify the Preferred Route for the Greenway before moving on the Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation.

Project Development Phases: Transport Infrastructure Ireland Project Manager’s Manual for Greenway Projects			
Planning and Development	Phase 0	Scope and Pre-Appraisal	
	Phase 1	Concept and Feasibility	
	Phase 2	Options Selection	WE ARE HERE
	Phase 3	Design and Environmental Evaluation	
	Phase 4	Statutory Processes	
Construction/ Implementation	Phase 5	Enabling and Procurement	
	Phase 6	Construction and Implementation	
	Phase 7	Close out and review	

The **Emerging Preferred Route Corridor** has been identified following the completion of a Feasibility Study, Constraints Study and Multi-Criteria Analysis using the four Common Appraisal Framework Criteria of :

Engineering 	Environmental 	Economy 	Five "S" Criteria
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The East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Projects (ECRIPP) are being delivered by Irish Rail to deliver the necessary enhanced coastal protection to the existing railway infrastructure in a number of key locations including between Wicklow and Greystones. Consultations and information sharing between Irish Rail, Wicklow County Council and both Design Teams is ongoing.

Have your Say

This public consultation is being conducted to gather input on the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor and to invite stakeholders to provide feedback before the Preferred Route is decided.

Wicklow County Council will hold two information events, with route corridor maps and information on display and members of the Project Team in attendance to answer any questions, as follows:

- Greystones Library, Mill Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 KN52 – 18/04/2024 – from 4pm to 8pm.
- Wicklow Library, The Mall, Main Street, Wicklow, Co Wicklow, A67 X504 – 25/04/2024 – from 4pm to 8pm.

An online consultation process will commence on 9th April 2024 , running until 7th May 2024.

The project website: www.wicklowgreenways.ie will provide you with the most up to date information on the project, including:

<p>This Public Consultation Brochure</p>	<p>Maps showing the Route Corridor Options</p>	<p>Report containing the Multi-Criteria Analysis of the Route Corridor Options</p>	<p>Maps showing the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor</p>
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This information will also be available on the Wicklow County Council website: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub>


Feedback

The Project Team would like to hear your views on the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor. Your comments will assist Wicklow County Council and our Design Team in the selection of a Preferred Route Corridor and the further Development of Options for the Greenway.



East Coast Wetlands & Nature Reserve, Newcastle

Submissions can be made at the addresses below:

 Email : wicklowgreenway@wicklowcoco.ie

 Website: <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub>

 Post: Senior Executive Officer,
Transportation, Infrastructure Delivery &
Emergency Services Department,
Wicklow County Council,
County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town,
A67 FW96



Next Steps

The next steps in the delivery of the Wicklow to Greystone Greenway are as follows:

- ❖ Subsequent to this Public Consultation and the feedback received, the Preferred Route Corridor will be agreed.
- ❖ Ongoing liaison and consultation will continue with the Design Team developing the East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Project (ECRIPP).
- ❖ Optioneering will then be undertaken to develop and assess route options. A further Public Consultation on the Emerging Preferred Route will then be undertaken. Following conclusion of that process the Options Selection Report and all appraisal documentation in line with TII's Project Managers Manual for Greenway Projects will be finalised.
- ❖ The final Preferred Route will then be put on display at a further public consultation. This consultation will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide any additional feedback on the preferred route before the design and environmental evaluation commence.
- ❖ Following confirmation of the preferred route option, the project will proceed to Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation which will involve further design development and more detailed land acquisitions requirements determined along with the undertaking of further environmental and technical surveys and assessments.
- ❖ An application for statutory approval of the project will be prepared, and it is intended to lodge the application with An Bord Pleanála in 2025 / 2026.
- ❖ If approved by An Bord Pleanála, the project will then move to Phase 5: Enabling and Procurement of a contractor for the construction phase.



Study Area



Stage 1 Route Corridor Option



Coastal



Field



Regional

