



Blessington Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	John Daly
Email Address:	[REDACTED]
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Topic

Regeneration of Communities & Places - Healthy Placemaking - Urban Design - Opportunity Sites in Blessington

Submission

Urgent Need for Accessible Football Pitches in Blessington:

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to you on behalf of the Blessington Senior football team, a team that represents the interests and passions of local players, families, and sports enthusiasts within our community. Our primary concern, which I wish to bring to your attention, is the pressing need for the development of new football pitches within the more accessible areas of Blessington.

As you may be aware, our town boasts a vibrant community of young players who are deeply passionate about football. These teams and individuals not only engage in sport for its physical benefits but also for the camaraderie, discipline, and joy it brings into their lives. Unfortunately, the current infrastructure severely limits their participation and growth in this beloved sport. The existing football pitches are situated far outside the town's central areas, making them particularly inaccessible for our younger players who rely on public transport or pedestrian routes, as they are not of driving age. This situation not only discourages participation due to logistical challenges but also raises concerns regarding the safety of these young athletes traveling to and from distant locations.

Furthermore, the issue of accessibility is compounded during the winter months when these pitches often become unusable due to poor weather conditions. The lack of adequate drainage and maintenance means that our community's players are frequently deprived of the opportunity to play, train, and compete during these times. The cancellation of games and training sessions not only disrupts the football season but also denies our teams the chance to stay active and engaged during the colder months.

The establishment of new football pitches within or closer to the central areas of Blessington would provide a solution to these pressing issues. Not only would it make football more accessible to a broader demographic, including those without the means to travel long distances, but it would also ensure that our young athletes can continue to play, learn, and grow in their sport throughout the year. Moreover, such an initiative could stimulate local interest in football, encouraging greater community involvement, fostering local talent, and promoting a healthier, more active lifestyle among our residents.

We understand that this is a significant undertaking, which requires careful planning, resources, and support from the entire community, including the county council. However, we believe that the long-term benefits to our town's health, well-being, and community spirit justify this investment. To this end, we are fully committed to supporting the council in this endeavor, whether through fundraising, volunteering, or assisting in the planning process.

I earnestly request that the council considers this proposal and allocates the necessary resources for a feasibility study or initial planning phase. Our community deserves facilities that reflect the passion and dedication of our young players, and together, we can make this vision a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your positive response and am available at

your convenience to discuss this matter further.

Warmest regards,

Blessington Senior Team

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