

	Arklow LPF Variation No.5
---	------------------------------------

Who are you:	Private Individual
Name:	Sarah Glennane
Reference:	ARKLPF-183651
Submission Made	November 4, 2025 7:08 PM

Local Planning Framework PART A Strategy

- A.2 County Development Plan Strategy for Arklow

Local Planning Framework PART B Settlement Specific Objectives.

- B.2 Arklow Waterfront Zone
- B.5 Tourism Development
- B.6 Social & Community Development
- B.8 Physical Infrastructure

Maps:

- Built Heritage Map
- Natural Heritage Map
- Key Green Infrastructure Map
- Roads & Transportation Strategy Maps

Maps:

Submission on Arklow Development Plan

Quarry and big rock area

I wish to express my concern regarding the lack of inclusion of the quarry and Big Rock area in the current development plan. This area represents one of Arklow's most significant coastal assets, yet it remains underdeveloped and poorly maintained. There is a vital need to adopt a sustainable, environmentally responsible, community-focused, and tourism-friendly approach to this stretch of coastline—one that enables full community enjoyment while supporting marine life, tourism as well as industry.

At present, the poor upkeep of the area - both visual and condition - gives the impression that the quarry management is reluctant to share or maintain this valuable marine space for the people of Arklow. Many residents regularly swim in the cove because it is safer and more sheltered than the South Beach, while others walk and enjoy the larger Hanging Rock (Nuns Beach) area. These locations are central to the town's coastal identity and deserve better stewardship.

I strongly urge that a comprehensive plan for this area be included and consideration given to provide connected walkways linking South Beach to the cove and on to Nuns Beach. This would create a high-quality amenity that respects the quarry's operations while ensuring safe and easy public access. Such a development could become a key tourist attraction, promoting wellbeing and outdoor recreation as well as celebrating a key area in Arklow's history.

Despite Arklow's extensive coastline, there is currently only a very limited stretch of accessible walkway and much of it is not wheelchair-friendly. Given the quarry's historic impact on the area, there should now be a commitment to establishing a marine corridor plan—one that enhances access, supports marine biodiversity, and celebrates Arklow's proud heritage of shipbuilding, pottery, and quarrying. This heritage, connected to figures such as Daniel O'Connell, is a valuable cultural and educational resource that should be preserved and showcased.

The current condition of the area is not acceptable. Without inclusion in the development plan, it risks becoming further dilapidated and potentially lost to future generations. It is also concerning that CRH's influence may be disproportionately shaping the plan, given the omission of this vital coastal area.

Similar attention is required on the coastline of the north side of the river, where access to the coastline—including the North Beach cove—should be improved. A continuous, accessible coastal walkway here would again attract day visitors and boost local tourism. The ruined house on the beach should be safely removed or restored, with the cost borne by the property owner.

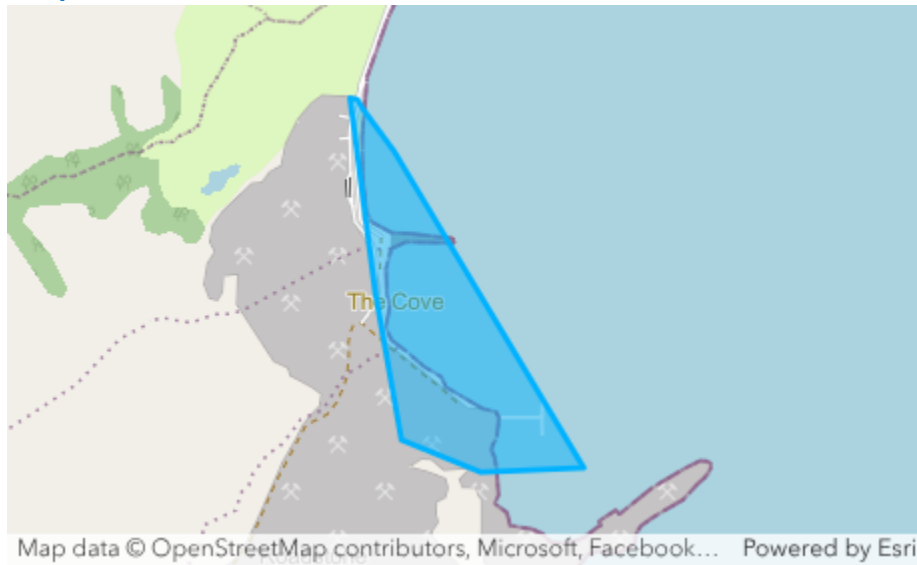
In addition, Arklow's future growth demands significant investment in public transport. With extensive housing developments planned locally and along the N11 corridor, there must be capital investment to improve and increase train services, including staffing of all stations so that trains can pass on the single line. A more equitably priced bus service should also be established, connecting Arklow to main commuter routes with fully accessible services.

Finally, Arklow's craft and cultural heritage—particularly its internationally recognised pottery tradition—should be celebrated as a cornerstone of local identity. Investment in arts and cultural infrastructure could attract further creative industries. The development of a recording and orchestral studio facility could also be explored as a capital project, linking Dublin's orchestral scene with Wexford's operatic heritage and positioning Arklow as a regional hub for creativity and cultural tourism.

Only through an inclusive and forward-looking approach can Arklow realise its potential as a thriving, connected, and sustainable coastal town.

Go raibh maith agat,
Sarah Glennane

Map



Site Description:

Upload a File (optional)