

	Arklow LPF Variation No.5
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Who are you:	Private Individual
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Reference:	ARKLPF-084456
Submission Made	November 12, 2025 8:47 AM

Choose one or more categories for your submission. Please also select which settlement you wish to make a submission / observation about.

- Proposed Changes to Volume 1 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028
- Proposed Changes to Volume 2 of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028

Local Planning Framework PART A Strategy

- A.2 County Development Plan Strategy for Arklow
- A.4 Overall Strategy

Local Planning Framework PART B Settlement Specific Objectives.

- B.1 Town Centre Regeneration
- B.2 Arklow Waterfront Zone
- B.3 Housing Development
- B.4 Economic Development & Employment
- B.5 Tourism Development
- B.6 Social & Community Development

- B.7 Heritage, Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure
- B.8 Physical Infrastructure
- B.9 Zoning & Land Use
- B.10 Specific Local Objectives

Maps:

- Land Use Map
- Natural Heritage Map
- Key Green Infrastructure Map

Maps:

Please find my submission attached.

Thank you.

Upload a File (optional)

Submission on the draft Arklow Local Planning Framework.docx, 0.02MB

Submission on the draft Arklow Local Planning Framework (LPF):

- 1) I support the plans to protect and restore Glenart Forest and Woods ecosystem as vital old wet woodland for climate and biodiversity. Please consider maximising the area that can be zoned (OS2) or else dezoned as rural for protection for nature and not developed. Please proactively prevent the urban encroachment (urban boundary expansion) into such key wildlife habitats (both officially protected and also not yet officially protected) that we have seen recently in other LPF areas. This could include reaching an accommodation with any current owner / developer of any sites close to Glenart Woods which were previously zoned or serviced for development.
- 2) In the development of the Southern Port Access Road, please ensure that biodiversity areas, coasts, and beaches are prioritised, protected and restored.
- 3) I support plans to protect and restore the Arklow Town Marsh (pNHA). Please expand the OS2 area as much as possible and, if possible, do not plan a greenway through this area, e.g. the Arklow to Laragh Greenway. Greenways are important and can be accommodated elsewhere. An urban blue / green lung like this is unique and should be top priority without any roads or development through it. This is especially important for Arklow as a decarbonisation zone.
- 4) Please reconsider the location of the Pedestrian Bridge close to the 19 Arch Bridge and engage local population in planning of this needed amenity. The “Making Arklow” workshops captured considerable local insight on this topic and should be considered.
- 5) Making Arklow – Please carefully consider the results of the Making Arklow public engagement facilitated by Cllr Peir Leonard and other local Arklow campaigners. I participated in and support the findings of this important community engagement exercise as best practice I have observed. Wicklow Co Co should really facilitate such an engagement as integral to the planning process. It appeared to be much more creative, effective, engaging, and better timed than the traditional public consultation carried out for this LPF and other LPFs and Action Plans recently.
- 6) I support the thorough submission of the Arklow (and Wicklow) Maritime Heritage Museum about celebrating our Maritime Heritage. Please highlight Arklow’s original Irish name Inbhear Mór (large Harbour, or Harbour of the god Mór). Please find ways to remember and celebrate Wicklow’s father of global telecommunications and the internet, the original Mr. Cable, Capt. Robert Halpin. Co Wicklow should join Valentia Island, Kerry, and Heart’s Content, New Foundland, Canada, in applying for UNESCO Heritage Site status and highlight the engineer who, against all odds, connected the old world and the new world. It would be a missed opportunity to give the cable stations UNESCO heritage status without the central inclusion of the engineer who realised it (and his Wicklow, Tinakilly, Arklow and Newfoundland connections). Please consider reviving the Halpin Memorial Medal for Swimming (and lifesaving) in Wicklow schools.

Thank you for your careful, professional planning for sustainable communities, and for resisting any current populist pressure to deregulate development and leave planning up to market forces and maximum profit-taking.