



Greystones-Delgany & Kilcoole Local Area Plan Submission - Report

Who are you:	Group
Name:	Greystones and District Cancer Support
Email Address:	[REDACTED]
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Topic

Regeneration of Communities & Places - Healthy Placemaking - Urban Design - Opportunity Sites in Wicklow Town - Rathnew

Submission

Our submission document provides a profile of our Community Cancer Support Group, the services we provide, our financial situation, and our premises requirements. We currently rent a premises in the centre of Greystones Village, but our client population is unfortunately growing, and our accommodation requirements are increasing. Community support groups are essential to the development of a healthy and well population. We are interested to partner with any other groups to exploit situations where existing premises zoned Community / Education (particularly state owned) might be coming available. We have a number of other areas of interest which are detailed in our submission.

File

GCS Greystones_ Kilcoole_Delgany zoning plan Submission 30012024.pdf, 0.3MB



Submission from

Greystones and District Cancer Support

to the Greystones, Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area
Plan

30 January 2024



Summary

This submission from **Greystones and District Cancer Support** to the Greystones, Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan outlines:

1. Who we are
2. The services we provide to our clients in our catchment areas of Greystones, Charlesland, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy
3. Our existing and future requirements for operating premises
4. What we require from the Local Area Plan

1. Who we are

In 2024, Greystones and District Cancer Support celebrates 30 years of delivering both individual and group services to people affected by Cancer and their families.

Our mission is to grow our cancer support services powered by our local volunteers. Keeping best professional practices at the heart of our organisation we aim to deliver the best care possible to our clients. We intend to build a strong future for our charity, ensuring volunteer succession while facilitating the growing population in our catchment areas. These include, Greystones, Charlesland, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy.

2. The services we provide to our clients in our catchment areas of Greystones, Charlesland, Delgany, Kilcoole, Newcastle and Newtownmountkennedy

We currently have over **400 active clients on our books**.

We are being contacted by between **8 and 10 new clients monthly** of a variety of ages, ranging from young children to those in their 90's. The need is growing in line with our population but unfortunately our premises space is not. We want to maintain and grow our service offerings and never have to turn anyone away.

Our clients use a variety of the services we offer (at no cost to them). This is made possible through fund raising initiatives in our community, in addition to small grants from Irish Cancer Society and the NCCP and is dependent on the time and effort of our local volunteers.

During 2023 we had 420 active clients. This includes patients, families and those bereaved. We provided;

- **660 individual services** * to 240 clients.
- **260+ group activities** * to 220 clients.
- **Support to 110 new families during the year**

Please refer to “Our Impact 2023” infographic at the bottom of this document.

*(*Services and Activities offered, Counselling, Transport to Hospital by Taxi or Volunteer, Exercise for Cancer with a registered Physiotherapist, Dental Care Advice from a local Dental practice, Acupuncture, Amatsu, Manual Lymph drainage, Massage, Reflexology, Art, Chair Yoga, Singing Group, Deep Relaxation, Hypnotherapy, Mindfulness, Creative writing, Yoga, Garden Club and when contacted, a caring and welcoming ear.)*

Staffing

We have one paid Administrator and one employee from the CE scheme. We now have 50 volunteers made up of the General Committee, a Care Committee, Fundraising Committee, transport volunteers and a number of other volunteers who engage as appropriate for events.

Finances

In 2022, the cost of taking care of our clients was €40,988. This was partially covered by 2 grants in that year of €16k from ICS and €4,660 from NCCP. The cost of running the centre was €70,427.
(Total costs of €111,414)

In the 11 months to End Nov 2023, the cost of taking care of our clients was €45,077, there were 2 grants in the period of €16k from ICS and €6k from NCCP. The cost of running the centre was €77,152.
(Total costs €122, 229)

Grant aid needs to be applied for and is variable from year to year.

Thanks to the generosity of our local community through donations and supporting fund raising events we show an excess of income over expenditure for 2022 of €33,075. 2023 year-end forecast looks similar even though our expenses have increased.

3. Our existing and future requirements for operating premises

Current Premises

We are currently located at La Touch Place. In July 2022 we increased our occupied space from 610 sq. ft to 1010 sq. ft with a revised rent increase. Of this, our main Admin Office is 360 sq ft.

We would need future premises to provide;

- Working Office with room for 3 people
- Meet and greet kitchen with table and chairs where people can drop in
- Quiet room for meetings with cancer patients and their family members
- Activities room with space for 15 people. This would allow us to run the majority of our classes onsite and could also be used for training our volunteers providing educational workshops.

4. What we need from the Local Area Development Plan

Our preferred location for an operating premises is anywhere within easy reach of Greystones Village. This is our primary catchment area. Our existing premises is in an ideal location at La Touche Place close to the centre of the village.

We are not in a position, financially, to fund the planning and building of our own premises. We also appreciate that there is currently no vacant space in our preferred area with the Community / Education zoning.

So we are seeking to take advantage of opportunities:

- (i) where an existing premises in an area zoned as Community / Education might be coming available:
 - we are aware that the existing health centre on Victoria Road will become available in the near future. We intend to approach our local and national representatives to request we be considered as potential tenants when this becomes available
 - we would appreciate if you can provide any information about other such public community premises which might become available.

- (ii) or, where an existing premises in an area zoned other than Community / Education might be coming available:
 - we are aware that the existing Greystones Town Council offices beside the South Beach Car Park on Mill road (currently zoned TC / AP4) may become available in the near future. If these premises become available, we would request that they be rezoned as Community / Education. We will approach our local and national representatives to request we be considered as potential tenants when/if this becomes available. We would also commit to working with any other local community groups who have similar requirements to ours who might also benefit from such rezoning.
 - we would appreciate if you can provide any information about other such public community premises which might become available.

- (iii) or, where other community groups within the area with similar needs to ours might be amenable to working with us to refurbish or plan and develop a purpose-built community premises:
- we understand that the area currently known as “Greystones Business Campus”, located at Mill Road and currently zoned E1 (earmarked for the new film studios) may not be fully utilised in existing plans. We would request that you consider the unused area be rezoned as Community / Education.
 - we would appreciate if you can make us aware of other community organisations similar to ours who are also making requests for rezoning.



260+ Group
Activity
Sessions
Provided

Our Impact 2023



325
Counselling
Services
Provided



420 Families
Helped



230 Trips to
Hospital for
Treatment



110 New
Families
Supported



120 Individual
Therapy
Sessions



donate
making giving easier

GREYSTONES & DISTRICT CANCER SUPPORT

Call: 01 287 1601 Email: info@greystonescancersupport.com www.GreystonesCancerSupport.com

La Touche Place, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, A63 V624



Registered Charity Numbers: 20052784 / CHY 11719