

Vision for Community Wellbeing

Online Survey Consultations

By theme and MD

Arklow MD

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

All Citizens automatically able to vote (added to register) and can opt out by applying to be taken off the register rather than having to apply to be on register of voters. Volunteering work of individuals needs to be quantified to show true value and statistics required to show actual costs of maintaining facilities, providing services, undertaking community benefit projects.

Feedback on Twitter. Pet of the town (like a mayor people vote for)

Values, Culture & Meaning

accessible public transport, public buildings and services (including online) for all abilities/ disabilities. Core education to include different cultures and traditions recognition and understanding from around the world. Irish traditional culture to be celebrated via local and national events

Druid tours. Public litter picking. Famine remembrance.

Social & Community Development

Demographic data & modelling from census data to provide evidenced based methodology for advanced planning for schools/ education, hospitals/ medical services, and public transport needs; not based on politics or traditional district spending

Archery range. party yacht. Solstice events

Environment and Sustainability

Sustainable access to outdoors, green and blue spaces and nature for families and local community; Events and community awareness projects for our local natural heritage and how communities and individuals can protect the environment.

A decentralized power grid. Propagation of Forests. Co-ops Gardens.

Economy & Resources

Locally enterprise supports for proven employment opportunities locally. Engage with large energy users to decarbonise (pending data centres, etc.)

Environmental jobs. exhibit existing industries to tourism. Cannabis clubs.

Health (Physical & Mental)

Promote keeping people mentally and physically active in sports, music, arts clubs and fund clubs who implement participatory models within their clubs. Investment and maintenance of local facilities, and invest in off-road looped walkways (away from road traffic; e.g. river walk, marsh walk,

coastal walks) and also invest in the community running track. Integrate active travel into local road and footpath infrastructure, prioritising safe active travel routes around our schools.

Greenways. Trails. Amphitheatre.

Any Other comments

County Wicklow needs to find a balance from outdoor amenity provision and environmental sustainability. We should look to improve local employment opportunities through enterprise to reduce commuting which can provide more time for family and your local community and a better quality of life.

Garden of Ireland. Beach of the East. A giant game of monopoly around town that includes the Jail.

Baltinglass MD

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

Hard to answer,! again starts at education and improve communication from local government across all social groups.

More decisions taken at local and local authority level. More consultation at local level Regular quarterly detailed feedback on progress published on a dedicated website

Local Visible councillors-not just at election time

Let people vote at 16! Most of the youth are very much affected by their future, let them vote now. Have more youth connections, talk to them more and connect rather than them having to try connect with you. Have a good structured process for dealing with issues, take them seriously.

County Wicklow can be a shining light in the terms of community based, environmentally forward thinking development. We can lead the way.

Values, Culture & Meaning

Intergenerational and cross cultural networks. A lot of this would come from the home and the schools and community organisations.

Respect. Firm civic values. Valuing community

Rural heritage

More education on lgbt+ and multicultural minorities. Make people aware of the diversity and culture that exists.

Social & Community Development

A network within each community.

Strong local democracy. More powers at local level. Mixed communities

Rural transport

Be more diverse! LGBT+ and multicultural minorities are heavily unrepresented. Include more awareness and public display on anti bullying and increase supports. Have good social connections, talk to people more.

Strong community should be supported and carried forward for future generations. Think of ways of getting those not normally involved, involved in the community endeavours.

Environment and Sustainability

A green space available to all, to include biodiversity, horticulture, education and recreation.

Healthy air, water, soil. Safe from flooding, safe, renewable energies. Strong local democracy.

Roadside hedges

More sustainable public transport, cycle ways, bus, train etc. More forestry and recreation, pollination zones. More pedestrian only streets.

Access to nature in terms of greenways, blueways and our preserved natural environments for example national parks. Greater education and awareness (in schools, and third level too) about importance of the environment. Encouraging greater acceptance and legal basis for wild habitats, and rewilding.

Economy & Resources

Education for all social groups, awareness of all skills sets, practical, trades as well as academic more work experience during second level.

Work for all. Liveable wage, inflation linked. Basic income allowing access to all basic needs.

WiFi-rural broadband

Good opportunities, kids want good jobs with good pay so provide that! Don't have them traveling to Dublin for a half decent job. Supply more grants for businesses going green and being more ecologically friendly. Encourage individual enterprise as well as multinational enterprise.

Work and enterprise that encourages a greater connection and preservation of our natural environment. Economic development that is community based and accessed by all.

Health (Physical & Mental)

This answer is similar to the previous question the garden would have access to all levels of mobility and cognitive challenges including dementia

Quick access to primary care for all. Mental health well resourced, again with swift access

Access to community exercise areas

More cycle lanes to improve peoples physical health, more pathways also for walkers (with working led lights!). Ban all advertisements of unhealthy food and drink especially in stores. Have more awareness and support for people struggling mentally, big one is eating disorders upon the youth.

Easier access to health and well being services. Make point of access cheaper.

Any Other Comments

Wicklow is diverse divided by mountains while basic social needs are the same. each region should be assessed separately. ie West Wicklow. We have a beautiful county so let us preserve the natural beauty, improve roads, transport and amenities.

Watch demographics, make sure the young also find Wicklow full of opportunities at all stages of their lives. Keep communities well mixed.

Edge county villages a little more support as belonging to nowhere

Bray MD

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

Bring in participative budgeting - look at SDCC as an example Review Wicklow County Council meeting times Look at webcasting all municipal district and all Wicklow SPC meetings Don't scan documents onto pdf. Type them to make them accessible for blind people.

Values, Culture & Meaning

Inclusion Respect Intolerance of bigotry and hatred Countering rumours with truth (again fully implement WCC migrant integration strategy)

Social & Community Development

Actively include minority groups in the community Support minority groups (faith; disability, gender/sexual orientation, ethnic, racial, refugees, asylum seekers) to be an active part of the PPN Engage with minority groups from all named strands above Include these minority groups in council structures e.g. Having direct provision during covid was a great start Include and reach out to minority groups when planning events and festivals FULLY implement the county Wicklow migrant integration strategy - put some actual real resources behind it. Actively assist and reach out to marginalised groups who become targets of hate - e.g.

Environment and Sustainability

Put more preservation orders on buildings of note. Hire more planning enforcement in WCC

Economy & Resources

Health (Physical & Mental)

Education

Any Other Comments

I'd like the anti rumours campaign in WCC migrant integration strategy fully implemented. Badly needed. Rumours in Co Wicklow breed hate particularly against asylum seekers, travellers, refugees, black people and Muslims

Greystones MD

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

local ombudsperson to sort out disputes

Free education sessions on how to run for office or local groups backed by diversity targets that encourage underrepresented voices to be included

Meaningful consultation re planning and construction. Investment locally of development levies. A response to the queries sent in to WCC. Engagement and respect for local contributions. Consultation re road planning. Open transparent information re budgeting from Wicklow County Council. The public should be able to find out easily what money is spent in each municipal district as well as what money is generated there through development levies and property tax.

Active participation in decision making that affects the local community. Funds generated in the local area to be spent on improving the local area

Community Council in each town (or at least each MD). Democratic voice for youth. Direct community input to each Citizens Assembly

Values, Culture & Meaning

Equality of race, gender ,age and ability

The ability to connect and build relationships with people who have different values and live with them, whilst still being able to remain true to your own core values.

A shared under surface what we value and how we can protect it. Encouragement of Irish language groups. A celebration of our national culture as well as new cultures.

Peace, social order, access to services for all. Housing no longer an issue for our young people

Democratic Planning. 100 year plan for County Development. Feel Democratic ownership & control of their own sustainable community & ecosystem

Social & Community Development

Feeling of community by developing town centres.

Strategic planning of housing so that communities of all ages and lifestyles are created and not just huge estates full of young families.

Community gardens and allotments. an arts/heritage/community centre in Delgany. An information hub for all local services and community groups. Adequate space to host public meetings (apart from church halls) A drop in cafe for those who are older, lonely or disabled

Strong local communities whose views are respected and delivered on by council officials

Community Council in each town (or at least each MD)

Environment and Sustainability

Conservation of marine environment. No drag nets to destroy ocean floor. No pollution by waste or litter to get into the sea.. Boats to have electric engine to reduce use of diesel as a fuel. Environmental studies to be part of school curriculum at all ages.

Access to unspoilt/undeveloped biodiverse green areas. Access to affordable local sustainable vegan food. Access to affordable clean local sustainable energy

Protected routes and habitats through any new housing developments. Trees planted to replace any trees that are felled. Waterways protected and the riparian zone protected. Houses encouraged and grant aided to move from septic tanks to mains sewerage .

Have resolved the climate issue by addressing the carbon challenges we currently face

A liveable resilient County and Community Wellbeing for our children. The structure of 6 parallel dimensions is misleading and can easily be improved - I suggest to re-align into 3 concentric levels - Economy & Resources are contained within Society (which includes Health, Social & Community Development, Values Culture & Meaning and Participation Democracy & GG) and that is contained in Environment. IEN have previously done this and could advise. 50% of each County reserved for nature (and fenced off from deer & sheep & humans where nature).

Economy & Resources

Feeling of community by developing town centres.

Remote working supports, so structural supports like high speed reliable broadband, tax savings for those without cars/work from home. More financial supports for micro/homebased businesses.

Remote working hubs, small scale enterprise centres. A good mix in retail to provide good local jobs and avoid the need for long commutes.

Local employment that avoids the need to commute into Dublin. Proper transport infrastructure that reduces the dependency on cars whether fossil or electric

Organic Farming to feed Wicklow & Ireland not for export of luxury milk powder, etc. Remote working hubs in each town. Employment in nature reserves.

Health (Physical & Mental)

Post boxes need to be accessible to wheelchair users who cannot stretch up. Also car park access to have pay point on level ground for people with disabilities as they may have problem with holding car on slope whilst trying to pay. ie Meridian Greystones

More supports for carers and for people to stay in their communities and have adequate mental and physical supports to do so

Public open space: open space in Greystones and Delgany is often in the hands of golf clubs and sporting organisations. An accessible and inclusive good sized playground in Delgany. It has taken the pain or over development with no community benefit. Wheelchair access to the sea. Beach wheelchair buggies and a Changing Places toilet facility. Greystones has great walkways for wheelchair users but they cannot access the sea.

Safe and easy to access walking, cycling, running routes

Access to nature and natural wellbeing activities. Wildlife nature reserves planned in each city/ town. Wildlife corridors along every river for Community mental health.

Other Comments

please let us know what other groups wanted

To take the opportunity to build a more sustainable community that values people and nature before greed

Would love to see implementation plans. Consultations are great but am interested in what actually happens. No box ticking but real action please!

Wicklow County Council needs to be more transparent on decision making and where funds are allocated. Stop over developing Delgany without providing the necessary infrastructure

Much better WCC Communication needed- I really feel they are too busy defending & complying to stop and understand how poor the communications has been. I am happy to help a debrief and review (scanlonkeith@gmail.com) Thank you, Keith

Wicklow MD

Participation Democracy and Good Governance

For communities to be involved in decisions being made that affect their community. More consultations with local authority on community amenities, planning and structures. Increased community representation on local decision making platforms.

More transparency, more consultation. Less of a feeling that all the decisions are being taken from the point of view of local traders and business people. Those of us who work remotely etc have valid concerns, insights and contribute heavily to the local economy too. We want nice places to spend our time, they don't always have to be commercialized.

Clear communication from governing bodies. Active listening regularly to local people

More diversity in government and Co Council More Public consultation on major changes in transport, road layouts etc. With people who live in the town and retails etc. It seems like a small number of families or stakeholders in Wicklow Town have most of the say on the town development

Respect from elected members and collaboration and trust

Proper housing for all.

Accountability for bad ignorant stupid greedy people who damage the land.

Values, Culture & Meaning

Increased awareness of new communities. Better awareness of Traveller Community. Increased opportunities for integration through organisation of local family events/activities. Better communication with local authority.

Less commercialization of the spaces in which we live. Less tourism, less erosion of amenity. More community, better application of rules, bye laws, more pride in what we are doing and what we stand for as a county and a country.

More investment in tourist areas, getting more people to visit Wicklow. Better management of beach areas and public services to these areas. More interest in rural Wicklow and providing supports to rural areas to allow them connect better with local towns and villages

Inclusion in local government of a more diverse range of people, it's mostly made up of middle aged white men at present who do not represent the views of many people. More consultation and thought put into universal design for facilities and accessibility.

All of it art, literature, language and understanding and respect for all cultures

See beauty of nature. Feel blessed to live in this beautiful country. Wellbeing clearly defined. Sickness addressed in schools and institutions.

Social & Community Development

For racism and discrimination to be eradicated. Integration amongst new communities and marginalised minority sectors. Better access to services Public sector to be more inclusive.

Need to look after our young, old and vulnerable. Footpaths need to be maintained and kept clear and safe. Roads likewise. I think if the community is well run it should lift up everyone. Building identity and pride is massive, if people can look at their neighbour happily then they are far more likely to help each other. What about a series of "Wicklow days" something for the people of Wicklow.

More community areas both indoor and outdoor. Investment in derelict areas and buildings to rejuvenate areas. More investment in schools and sporting services.

More activities for teenagers who may not be into sport like youth clubs etc. More attraction to stay in the town, shops, cinema etc. Young people leave to go to college and work elsewhere as there is nothing to attract them. Apart from bar or cafe jobs. Reinstate our hotel so that there is accommodation available for visitors

A society that engages with everyone and respects differing views

Communities to have a social infrastructure e.g. DIY/house repairs etc for people living alone no matter what age who do not have family support.

Healing spaces of beauty. Healthy food. Good clean water.

Environment and Sustainability

Clean Water & Sanitation for all including the provision of clean water and facilities for roadside Traveller families and those in halting sites. Climate Action – increased access to community gardens and allotments for all with the aim of providing fresh produce and promoting the reduction in plastic use. To encourage planting of new trees. To encourage recycling with improved recycling facilities. Initiatives to improve the reduction of waste.

I'd like to see less urban sprawl. The green on the hilltops is slowly disappearing under housing. Less cars, pedestrianize Wicklow town. Protect the coastline and the vistas (and tranquillity) it affords.

Better and more frequent public transport. Safer roads/paths to allow people get to school safely. More community parks, playgrounds, dog parks, indoor areas for classes and groups.

To be able to access the Murrough and surrounding areas, flood protection works and greenaway. Environmental impact studies in the amount of housing estates being built in the area and protect our green environment. Access to more regular and direct public transport in the area to reduce dependency on cars

A clean natural environment. Clean water. Safety from floods and fires.

Stop use of Roundup. Stop slash by chains of hedges. Stop factory plantation of landscape. Stop use of fluoride in national drinking water. Animal rights to humane life. Fruit trees free.

Economy & Resources

Increase in apprenticeships for school leavers. Local employers to work with Traveller community to access jobs locally

The future of work will hopefully mean less commuting to Dublin. So the Wicklow towns and destinations have an opportunity to gain custom. But these places need to be attractive to lure people from their homes. The one way system in Wicklow town is an example of an opportunity lost. One lane was removed and effectively given over to more parking spaces. What a waste, why not seating and public space, anything but parking.... Get the cars out, get the amenity in, make our towns beautiful, people will come, they want to. Greystones on a weekend, is a stream of cars up and down the street so that sitting outside is not very appealing. Surely we can do better?

More investment in work spaces, offices, public transport. More development in towns and villages to encourage small businesses to the area and larger businesses into office spaces.

More work opportunities in Wicklow Town in the form of retail, leisure or tourism, high speed broadband.

Quality jobs locally with minimal commuting

NTMK Childcare and pet care supplemented by the government. Local bus service network.

Clean safe water. Learn to grow food. Be with big trees. Legal to take use all plants.

Health (Physical & Mental)

To provide sufficient resources to organisations in our community to be able to deliver wellness workshops that support healthy lifestyles and living including physical activity and healthy eating. A reduction in waiting lists for mental health services. Access to free counselling services including young people.

Enforce the council's bye laws, resource litter wardens, dog wardens, parking wardens etc (or empower the public to report misbehaviour). Don't let the ten percent lower the tone for the rest, from this civic pride we can hope for a better community. More public green spaces, well maintained and not commercialized. Park runs/activities in every town.

More outdoor areas with seating, bins and bike tracks. Investment in work hubs and broadband services. Indoor areas for kids playgroups, community gatherings and classes.

Have Wicklow Town accessible to young and old and those with disabilities, the town is not user friendly for those with disabilities impacting them physically, wheelchair users or sight impairments. Footpaths need to be widened and made accessible. Bollards and temporary ramps are restricting accessibility.

I would like to grow into old age secure in the knowledge that the income I have worked to earn and my savings are enough to live comfortably without worrying. I would like to have access to first class health services. I would like to live in a society where old age is respected

We need a dentist. We need an optician in NTMK

Healthy animals. Horses, birds, insects, all wild animals protected.

Any Other Comments

Wicklow is a super county. It has great outdoor amenity that is under great pressure from the Dublin population. We have housing going up all over the county at a rapid rate and windfarms going up off our coast. I worry that we are losing what makes this place so lovely. I don't want to see that happen. I want my child to be able to grow up here and enjoy a similar environment to the one I enjoyed as a child. I feel the emphasis on tourism and coach loads of people being bused in to what were once remote spots is diminishing the Wicklow experience. I wonder how much is tourism really bringing to the people who live in Wicklow (and Dublin) and if it should be encouraged so much.

It is a beautiful county there should be more focus on the environmental impact, facilities for people moving into the county ie access to schools, medical care etc. transport and road facilities for all the housing being built, it seems to be becoming more and more a suburb of Co Dublin.

You get out of it what you put in

Explain why nature is being destroyed, who is responsible. Who decided to use chains to slash hedges?

Summary of responses by MD

2: Arklow

5: Baltinglass

1: Bray

5: Greystones

7: Wicklow