

## County Wicklow Public Participation Network

### Representative Reporting Template

<b>PPN Rep Name</b>	<b>Paul Armstrong</b>	<b>Other Reps who feed into this report (if applicable)</b>
<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Planning &amp; Rural Development SPC</b>	<b>Tessa Stewart</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>February 2026</b>	

<b>Other Attendees at Meeting</b>	Cllr Patsy Glennon (Chair), Cllr Sylvester Bourke, Cllr Pat Mahon, Conor McCarthy, Jim Wood, Ciara Ruane, Sorcha Walsh, Cllr Malachy, Bernadette
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Agenda Item	Notes	Outcome /Decision	Action required.
Biodiversity Pan 2026 to 2031	The National BioDiversity Plan is expected in November. Wicklow plan contains 50 actions (WCC direct actions, Joit actions with other state bodies or groups and support for local actions by community groups). Of particular note is the Spongework project in Aughrim to slow the flow of water from uplands into the river. There are also Community Education programmes.	Noted	Continued awareness

<p>Future Planning</p>	<p>Local Area Plans are now subsumed into overall County Development Plan</p> <p>The Arklow plan is work in progress. Final draft expected to go to Councillors in the nest week and then out for public consultation 1 week later. Full sign-off is anticipated at the April Council meeting</p> <p>Variation 6 - Core strategy and population figures will be released in the next week for consideration by Councillors at a meeting on 30th March. This will include new housing targets and confirmation that sufficient zoned land is available to meet these targets. Submissions received mainly relate to lack of infrastructure to support delivery of the targets.</p> <p>WCC recently issued a communication seeking owners of land interested in rezoning for development. There were many questions on how this process will work. Key points are that suitable sites will be required to go through the variation to the County Development plan process. The new County Development plan is planned to commence in September. Dependent on responses to this request, this plan may be delayed. Residential zoned land may become subject to the vacant site tax albeit after a 3 year lag.</p> <p>CIF expressed view that higher density targets are unlikely to be viable for developers in the south of the County</p> <p>Also confirmation that existing LAP's remain valid until they are replaced by a new plan</p>		<p>Note</p>
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Bray is at preliminary stage  
awaiting road transport plan

Final zoning maps to be published  
by end of 2025

Housing target for Wicklow has  
increased to 2000 from 1400 per  
year. The view is that there is  
sufficient zoned land to meet this  
increased target

Upcoming Policy Considerations	Rural one off planning considerations  Timetable for review of Development Contribution system		To be presented at next meeting  To be presented at next meeting
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<b>Questions &amp; Feedback needed from PPN member groups</b>	
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<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	14th May 2026
<b>Signature of PPN Rep</b>	Paul Armstrong