
Submission in Support of the Proposed Wicklow–Greystones Greenway

From [REDACTED]
Date Wed 2/11/2026 12:23 PM
To Wicklow Greenway <wicklowgreenway@wicklowcoco.ie>

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To Whom it may concern,

I wish to express my strong support for the proposed greenway linking Wicklow town, Kilcoole and Greystones. The development of a high-quality, predominantly off-road walking and cycling route along this corridor represents a significant opportunity for the area, not only in terms of recreation but also in public health, sustainable transport and local economic activity.

The east coast of County Wicklow has long benefited from access to safe and scenic walking routes. The closure of the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk removed one of the region's most valued amenities and left a clear gap in provision for both residents and visitors. A well-designed greenway between Wicklow and Greystones would help address that gap by offering a safe, accessible alternative that can be used year-round. Importantly, it would do so in a way that supports active travel and reduces reliance on car journeys for short and medium-distance trips.

Beyond its recreational value, the greenway should be viewed as strategic infrastructure. International and national experience shows that greenways increase footfall, extend visitor dwell time and provide tangible economic benefit to surrounding towns and villages. Greystones, Kilcoole and Wicklow town are well placed to benefit from this increased movement of people, particularly if the route is well connected to town centres, public transport and existing amenities.

To maximise the positive impact of the greenway, I propose the inclusion of a carefully designed coastal activity and community hub at a central point along the route. This would not be a large commercial development but a modest, well-integrated facility that enhances the experience of the greenway and encourages longer visits. The hub could include secure cycle parking, public seating, a small café or kiosk operated by a local business, water refill

points, toilet facilities and an outdoor interpretive space highlighting the ecology and history of the Wicklow coastline.

Such an amenity would serve several purposes. It would provide a practical rest and meeting point for walkers and cyclists. It would encourage families and older users who require access to facilities. It would support local enterprise through increased custom. It would also create a focal point that makes the greenway a destination in its own right, rather than simply a transit route.

For those who previously relied on the Bray to Greystones walk for regular exercise and connection to the outdoors, this greenway could offer a comparable sense of coastal experience, particularly if designed to celebrate views, landscape and biodiversity. By integrating seating areas, viewing points and interpretive elements along the route, the project can deliver not only movement but also place-making.

The long-term success of the greenway will depend on sensitive design, meaningful engagement with landowners and environmental protection, especially in areas of ecological importance. However, with careful planning, the project can strike a balance between conservation and access. The demand for safe walking and cycling infrastructure is clear. This proposal provides an opportunity to respond to that demand in a way that strengthens communities and supports the local economy.

Regards,



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