

Name Kevin, Noonan

To whom it may concern,

I am making the following submission in relation to the draft Leixlip Local Area Plan.

I wish to highlight the following concerns:

1. The dramatic changes that large areas of housing being built onto the existing Leixlip/Confey areas will have, the consequences of this on an area that hasn't seen major housing development of this scale in almost 30 - 40 years, especially in the Confey area.

2. There is a lack of specific new infrastructure being outlined to accommodate the minimum of 3315 housing units, instead relying on a community area that is only just accommodated by what it has, and already needs improvements.

3. There has been a clear lack of communication with the community on this LAP, with it clearly being dictated by the fact that Leixlip and Confey are located near train lines, and the plan to just "build out from this"

4. This LAP is intent on building into the Kildare area to solve a Dublin housing crisis, using the rail lines as justification.

5. The plan notes the timeframe, however there is no indication that this would be completed within that, and that it would expand beyond this, greatly affecting the community for 10-15+ years.

6. The LAP also notes that Dart expansion on the Maynooth line, of which there is again no indication this will be done within the LAP timeframe as this has been an Irish Rail plan since the 1980's and has yet to come to fruition.

7. With the increase in commuters using the Confey Train Station, it states that there would be 50 parking spaces, which would be what is required at present day, so that number is off tenfold.

8. Traffic in and out of Leixlip village will be greatly affected, which is already at critical levels, especially at present in evenings, where the roads can be backed up from the village back to Cope Bride, and the opposite direction out to the N4 Interchange.

9. Many of the residents of Leixlip moved here 40-50 years ago, and so there is an increasingly ageing population, there is no provision for this in the LAP. The current Ryevale nursing home is only now expanding again but there will be no further expansions available on this current site.

10. Leixlip currently has issues with traffic congestion, sewer pollution, parking issues (specifically in areas close the train station), frequent power cuts and water shortages - the LAP will result in this just getting worse, building on existing infrastructure with problems.

11. The Confey area fought tooth and nail to have a local bus (66a) service to come up the Captains Hill, a local library, a community centre, a modern church, St Catherines Park - all within the last 20-30 years. This LAP provides no new community infrastructure, such as a public swimming pool, which we have been trying for a long time.

12. The plan to protect St Catherines Park objective is now not included in the plan, despite widespread community objection to any road way into or through the park, and the LAP now states for a road up the black avenue to link up with new housing - this again is against the community's wishes and a complete disregard of what was previously voiced and agreed by local councilors.

To summarize, the quick actions now without any consultation or regard for the local community will have ramifications not only for the next 10-20 years, but for generations to come. Leixlip is a fantastic area, I have lived here my whole life, and to see it being drastically changed like this with such a poor LAP, it just isn't right.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Noonan (Leixlip resident)

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