

Part 8 Development
Notice of Proposed Development by Local Authority
Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)
Article 81 of Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

Planning Reference: P82026.01
Proposed Project: Barrow Blueway Trailhead

In accordance with Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Kildare County Council hereby gives notice of a proposal to develop as follows; The construction of a new trailhead parking and amenity area adjacent to the newly constructed towpath on the northern bank of the Grand Canal Barrow Line at Canalside, Athy, Co Kildare. ITM Co-ordinate: X-667981, Y-693615.

The proposed works comprise of the provision of a trailhead facility, a new shared surface access road, parking facilities including seventeen car parking spaces (including two accessible bays), sixteen bicycle spaces (including two accessible spaces), three bicycle storage lockers, one pedestrian access link to the Barrow Blueway towpath south west of the site, ancillary greenway amenities including lighting, play area, benches, picnic tables, bins, and associated signage.

Drainage will be designed and delivered in compliance with Sustainable Urban Drainage methods including the construction of a tree pit, rain garden, permeable pavements and a swale drain with full on-site infiltration of all surface water.

The development will also include the construction of traffic control measures such as kerb buildouts on the access road, height restriction barrier on the entrance, installation of traffic bollards and all associated site works. An Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) Report has been prepared in respect of the proposed works.

The proposal has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), and the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and the European Communities (Bird and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 – 2015. Kildare County Council has determined that the proposed development will not have a significant effect on a European Site, and an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

The proposal has also undergone screening for Environmental Impact Assessment under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU and the relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. Having regard to the provisions of the legislation, the nature and scale of the proposed development, the information provided in accordance with Schedule 7A of the Regulations, and having regard to the scale, nature and location of the proposed impacts, the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures and the results of the any other relevant assessments of the effects on the environment, Kildare County Council has determined that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required. In accordance with Section 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations (as amended) any person may, within 4 weeks from the date of this notice, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, **Ref. No. P82026.01**, will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal opening times at **Level 1, Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 X77F from 9.00 am – 5.00 pm Monday to Friday for a period of 6 weeks from Wednesday, 11 March 2026 to Tuesday, 28 April 2026 inclusive.**

To facilitate public access, a copy of the plans and particulars will be available for viewing only at Athy Municipal District Office, Rathstewart, Athy, Co Kildare R14 Y163 from **10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday to Friday for a period of 6 weeks from Wednesday, 11 March 2026 to Tuesday, 28 April 2026 inclusive.**

Details of the proposed development are also available on Kildare County Council's website online at: <https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Planning/Part8Schemes/StrategicProjectsandPublicRealm/index.html> or from the QR code on this notice.



Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be situated, may be made to: **Senior Executive Officer, Strategic Projects and Public Realm Team, Housing and Regeneration Department, Level 5, Kildare County Council** at the address below, or online at: <https://consult.kildarecoco.ie/en/consultation/part-8-proposed-barrow-blueway-trailhead> or by email to spprpart8@kildarecoco.ie

Submissions must be made no later than 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 28 April 2026. All submissions and observations should be headed: ***'Part 8 Proposed Barrow Blueway Trailhead P82026.01'***

All comments, including the names of those making comments submitted to the Council regarding the scheme as outlined above, will form part of the statutorily required report to be presented at a meeting of the elected members. Accordingly, they will also be included in the minutes of that meeting and may appear in the public domain.