

**Proposed amendment to Wicklow County Development Plan:  
Chapter 18: Green Infrastructure**

I wish to propose an amendment to the Wicklow County Development Plan to list the existing public right of way from the L-109623 (the main Glenealy to Ashford road) all the way up Chapel Lane, to Carrig Mountain and the Coilte woods, where local people have been walking for generations.

Chapel Lane is already a public road ( L-109630 ) but since 2015 the final 50 metres have been moved so that access to the woods is now across a ransom strip and thus vulnerable.

This issue will be resolved if the entire route is properly listed as a public right of way as this route fulfils the Supreme Court ruling on the character of a public right of way having been used since time immemorial.

We note the comments of the Chief Executive Officer of Wicklow County Council in his Report on pre-draft submissions that "all efforts will be made to include additional existing PROWs" in the new plan.

We also note that reporting on a survey by the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) The Planning Regulator Niall Cussen said while the issue could be "challenging and contentious" for local authorities, public rights of way "are an essential part of the amenity and recreational facilities available to the public which help people enjoy physical attributes of local communities", while the planning process "has a specific role to play in protecting key strategic rights of way".

This right of way is indeed a strategic route for several hundred local people, with 500 signing a petition to protect this route in 2017.

John Glynn, Chairman of Glenealy Neighbourhood Watch



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Glynn".

