

Draft Masterplan for St. Canice's Campus/Lacken

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is the Masterplan and how long is it in place for?

This Masterplan provides the framework for detailed development proposals on the St. Canice's site. It should be read in conjunction with the supporting Masterplan Planning Statement (Kilkenny County Council). It comprises the essential Masterplanning context and the urban design code, which provides the spatial structure, detailed design parameters and development controls to implement the Masterplan vision. Once adopted, the Masterplan remains in place to guide the redevelopment of the site.

2. What is the legal status of this Masterplan?

There are two types of land use plans; statutory, and non-statutory plans. This Masterplan is a non-statutory plan, i.e. the process for its making is not set out in law, and the plan is not binding. The Kilkenny City and County Development Plan is the relevant statutory plan, and this sets out the zoning for the city. The process for adopting the Development Plan, and any changes to it (Variations), is set out in Planning legislation.

3. Why does the draft Masterplan not contain detailed information regarding future development?

A Masterplan is a policy document which sets out the urban structure, urban form and land uses to facilitate development opportunities within the lands over an extended period of time.

It does not give consent to development proposals. Individual development proposals will require detailed design and will be subject to assessment and consent by way of planning applications.

4. What happens now to the existing buildings and services on site?

There is no immediate change to the existing uses operating on this site. This Masterplan provides the long-term framework for any potential redevelopment, which will be dependent on the strategic goals of the HSE, other Government agencies, and the availability of financing. Before changes to existing uses take place, any development proposals will be subject to detailed design and assessment and consent by way of planning applications.

5. How do I make my views heard?

You can now engage with the process, by making a submission to the Draft Masterplan.

Submissions are accepted from **22nd May 2026 to the 3rd July 2026**, and you can make a submission either:

- Online at <http://consult.kilkenny.ie>, or
- by post to: "Senior Planner, Kilkenny County Council, John Street, Kilkenny".

6. What have been the steps to date?

The current process commenced in 2021, and a pre-draft Issues Paper was placed on public display from the 2nd July to the 30th July 2021. During this period the Forward Planning Section, in conjunction with the HSE, arranged a virtual public consultation evening on the 14th July 2021.

A total of 37 no. submissions were received to the Issues Paper, the contents of which informed the drafting of the masterplan.

Urban design consultants, Loci, were appointed by the Council to draw up the Draft Masterplan.

Between July 2021 and the present, a number of environmental and planning assessments were carried out, including a Planning Statement, a Strategic Environmental Assessment screening, an Appropriate Assessment Screening, a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, a Historical and Heritage report, a Tree Report and Ecological Baseline Assessment report. There has also been substantial engagement with the HSE.

7. What happens next?

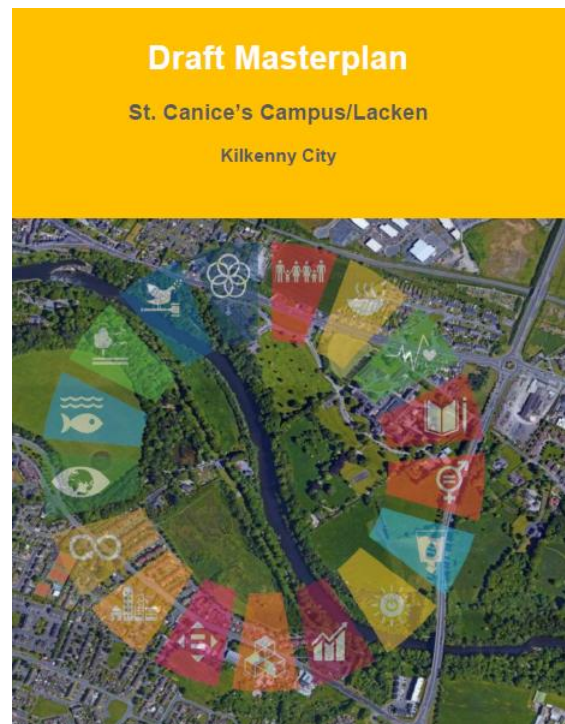
The issues raised at the Information sessions and in all submissions received will be read, and the issues raised will be summarised into a Report, with recommendations on how to incorporate the relevant issues into the final Masterplan. The finalised Masterplan will be adopted by the Councillors. Once adopted, the process of varying the Development Plan, to integrate the relevant provisions of the Masterplan into the Development Plan, e.g. zoning, will be commenced. Further public consultation and engagement will take place at that point.

8. Where can I find out more?

We are holding an Information session during the submissions period. You can come to speak to a member of the Planning team on **Wednesday, 10th June, 2026 from 2 to 4pm and 6pm to 8 pm** at the Medieval Mile Museum.

More information is available either:

- Online on the [Kilkenny County Council website](#), or
- In person at the **Planning Department, Kilkenny County Council, John Street, Kilkenny** during office opening hours, or
- By emailing ourplan@kilkennycoco.ie



Planning Department, Kilkenny County Council, May 2026