

**Ballynooney
Mullinavat
Co Kilkenny**

Pre-draft Issues Paper Consultation
Kilkenny County Development Plan 2020 - 2026
Planning Department
Kilkenny County Council
County Hall
John Street
Kilkenny

14th June 2018

**Re: Submission to Kilkenny County Development Plan 2020-2026
Pre-Draft Issues Paper**

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to make a submission to the Pre-Draft Issues Paper for the Kilkenny County Development Plan 2020 – 2026. I am a farmer and agriculture advisor who supports renewable energy generation as a form of rural diversification that can help increase farm incomes and thus benefiting the wider rural community.

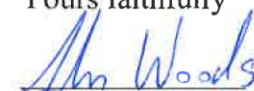
I believe that Kilkenny County Council can play a significant role in supporting farmers and the rural economy, while at the same time supporting Government policy regarding the promotion of renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions.

Specifically in relation to wind farm development, I would recommend that the new Kilkenny County Development Plan 2020 – 2026 extends the areas designated as suitable for wind energy development, especially where such developments would comply with the new Kilkenny County Development Plan, Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2006), or any subsequent related Guidelines (or as may be amended).

Areas that comply with the following site selection criteria should be considered as suitable areas for development:

- Upland areas of marginal agricultural lands and/or commercial forestry.
- Close proximity to an electrical connection (within 5km) that has capacity to accommodate a wind farm.
- Allow for good separation distances between houses and turbines.
- Located outside of areas of high amenity or ecological value as identified in the County Development Plan.

Yours faithfully


John Woods