



**The Senior Executive Officer  
Planning Section  
County Buildings  
Wicklow  
Tuesday, December 23, 2008**

Dear Sir,

We, at Friends of the Murrough, note that the County Wicklow Development Plan is currently under review. We would like to submit that, when the Planning Department is drawing up the next draft plan for adoption by the councillors in 2009, the Council should include objectives and strategies to ensure good planning along the coastline of the County, particularly with regard to the Murrough Area and the Cliff Walk extending as far as Wicklow Head. Specifically we seek:

- That the area extending from Kilcoole railway station to Wicklow Head be accorded the status of an SAAO. This forms the only parkland that our town has to offer its residents and the many tourists who visit our county town. It is vital in the interests of maintaining a healthy lifestyle that this whole area be kept open to the public for recreation.
- We wish that the character of this unique area be preserved and protected from any further inappropriate development.
- A number of walks in this area have been closed down over the past six years. We wish to see them all identified in the County Development Plan so that they can be re-instated. They include:
  1. A long stretch of walkway at Five Mile Point which has been choked off during the past year by Iarnrod Eireann.
  2. The eastern shore of Broadlough adjacent to the town. This was fenced off in 2005. When re-opened, this could form part of a loop walk stretching from the town boundary as far as The Avenue, which would lead up towards the sea and return to the town by the coastal route.
  3. The Cliff Walk extending from the Black Castle to Bride's Glen. This was closed down and fenced off by the Council in 2002.
  4. The Cliff Walk extending from Bride's Glen to Wicklow Head. This walk was also closed down by the Council in 2002.
- We wish to have interpretive placards for public information erected at all of the various points of interest detailing the flora, fauna and history of this unique region. This should be included as an objective in order to provide a basis for financial provision and/or to ensure there are no constraints on the installation of such information boards. Development controls should regulate the design. (We hope through the good offices of the Councils, the Heritage Department, Bord Failte and other agencies such as INTERREG to secure funding for this venture.)

Friends of the Murrough, which was established more than ten years ago, has the backing of more than two and a half thousand signatures from people in the locality in support of our campaign. We also have the support of many of our local representatives and community organisations. Further information regarding our organisation can be accessed at: <http://www.saveourshores.eu/>

Yours truly,  
Pat Kavanagh  
Malcolm Spencer  
Fintan Clarke  
(Committee members)

Acknowledgements c/o Pat Kavanagh 14 Dunbar Glen, Wicklow.