

**Uimhir Thagarta Uathúil:** SD-C195-285

**Stádas:** Submitted

**Submission:** Rathcoole woodland

**Údar:** Eugene McElhinney

**Comhairliúchán:**

Draft South Dublin County Development Plan 2022 - 2028

**Dáta a cuireadh isteach:** 15.09.2021 -

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## Litir Chumhdaigh

I live in Rathcoole and am a regular user of Rathcoole Woodland. It is a valuable amenity for the residents of Rathcoole, Saggart and Newcastle. It is a wonderful example of a naturally rewilded woodland and aside from the value of this in it's on right the large number of trees absorb huge quantities of pollutants from the nearby motorway and their roots protect the area from flooding and act as a soak away which will become an even bigger necessity with the prediction of climate change which we are already experiencing

## Observations:

### Chapter 3: Natural, Cultural and Built Heritage

**Caibidil:** Volume 1: Written Statement » Chapter 3: Natural, Cultural and Built Heritage

Rathcoole Woodland. There are a number of headings that the woodland comes under but I could only choose one.

It's a fantastic amenity for residents to enjoy, including the opportunity for forest bathing which is now being recognized as beneficial for mental health. It provides habitats for wildlife especially our insect population which are in steep decline and upon which ourselves and other species are dependent on. It provides protection against flooding thereby protecting residents homes and businesses. It improves air quality and therefore residents health. It provides the opportunity to allow children access to the wildness of nature in a space which is limited supply nationally.

While there is a need for housing there is adequate poorer land nearby held by a developer which could be a pathway to the number required. Surely through a public private pathway the houses could be met in this way instead of destroying a valuable asset to both the local area and the wildlife who depend upon it.

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**Documents Attached:** Níl

**Teorainneacha Gafa ar an léarscáil:** Níl