

23 JUL 2026

South Dublin County Council

To whom it may concern,

I hereby make to following submission in support of retaining the lands at St Edmundsbury and Finnstown Castle as High Amenity lands for the following reasons;

- Both sites represent significant areas of open green/high amenity space in the Lucan area. Lucan along with the surrounding areas of Adamstown and Clonburris have already seen a rapid and vast increase of development that could arguably be regarded as somewhat dismissive of the need for adequate, steady and well devised sustainable community infrastructure/building/planning.
- Nobody argues against the need for housing development, but housing need should surely be balanced against the need to develop an area in a sustainable way that is minded towards enhancing the High Amenity Area's of a locality to serve the best interests of the community.
- I've no knowledge of planning regulations, but it appears contrary to the National Planning Framework to rezone both of these lands to a status other than High Amenity. Should we not be protecting green infrastructure (especially as we attempt to transition to a climate resilient society), preserve and maintain our heritage and enhance our amenity for the best interests of our community?
- Rezoning both of these lands appears to me to be a short sighted and retrograde proposal.
- It would be more beneficial for SDCC along with surrounding local authorities/representatives to work on a proposal to enhance both amenities.
- St. Ed's in particular must be retained as High Amenity, not just for the pleasure of the Local Community, but should be incorporated into something along the lines of a Liffey Valley National Park for our National benefit.
- Finnstown Castle must be retained as High Amenity in order to preserve a sense of place and focal point for that part of Lucan. It is very evident that the tone of the area has changed and declined since Finnstown Castle grounds have not been available for public enjoyment.
- SDCC and Local representatives should co ordinate with Board Failte to devise a plan on how to realise their plan of making Lucan a Tourism Destination Town and aligning this within an overall framework of a Liffey Valley National Park.
- Proper sustainable development should be to the fore in everyone's mind.
- The lands at St. Ed's in particular are so important to our ecology. Rezoning any from High Amenity would ruin the environmental, ecological and aesthetic value of the area. Would it not be better to retain both lands as High Amenity and enhance their natural amenity for public and tourist use? Once these lands are rezoned and then handed over to housing development they will lose all the environmental/biodiversity, community sense of place/wellbeing that has the potential to be a significant national amenity.
- The 'pay off' of retaining both of these lands as High Amenity would yield a far higher return for the community and potentially for the nation if the notion of a Liffey Valley National Park can be realised.

It is with the above in mind that I respectfully ask SDCC to retain St. Edmundsbury and Finnstown Castle as High Amenity lands.

Sincerely,



Lucan,
Co. Dublin

22/07/2026