

Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

Halla an Chontae Sraid Eoin Cill Chainnigh R95 A39T

Pobail agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú

Kilkenny County Council County Hall John Street Kilkenny R95 A39T

Creating Sustainable Communities and Places

TO: AN CATHAOIRLEACH & EACH MEMBER OF KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

RE: PART VIII - CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING HEALTH CENTRE BUILDING INTO A THREE BEDROOM DWELLING, KELLS, CO. KILKENNY Planning & Development Acts as amended Planning & Development Regulations as amended

DATE: 4th June 2025,

Dear Councillor,

In accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (*as amended*) and Part VIII of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (*as amended*), Kilkenny Council hereby gives notice of its intention to carry out the following development:

PART VIII – The change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension and a proposed new vehicular entrance at Kells, Co. Kilkenny.

I attach, herewith, Report of the Director of Services together with Planner's Report. I am satisfied that the proposed development is consistent with proper planning and sustainable development of the area and consistent with the provisions of the County Development Plan 2021–2027.

I recommend that Kilkenny County Council proceed with the proposed development in accordance with the plans made available for public inspection and taking into account the proposed revisions to plans as outlined in the report and recommendations made by the Planning and other Service Departments.

Lar Power Chief Executive



KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT - Dated 3rd June, 2025

In Accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 as amended

The change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension and a proposed new vehicular entrance at Kells, Co. Kilkenny.

> <u>For consideration by the Elected Members</u> <u>of Kilkenny County Council</u> <u>at monthly meeting to be held</u> <u>on 16th June, 2025</u>

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1. Introduction

This report has been prepared for submission to the elected members of Kilkenny Council and contains information regarding the proposed development, any issues raised following the erection of the public notice of the proposed development and the display for public inspection of the plans and particulars and other matters as required in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Acts, 2000 as amended.

2. Description of Proposed Development

The site is located on the northern side of the western approach into Kells, Co. Kilkenny and is located within the settlement boundary as per the current development plan.

The proposal put forward on public display provides for the change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension and a proposed new vehicular entrance.

As a single-storey, three-bedroom dwelling, the layout will be wheelchair accessible to Universal Design standards. A level access terrace is provided to the side of the building and off-street car parking is provided for two vehicles.

This proposal makes use of an existing, vacant building in Kells as small-scale regeneration to provide an additional housing unit in the village.

The proposal was put forward having regard to the social housing demand in Kells, which is currently (first preference approved applications dated 25th April 2025) :-

Kells			
1 bed	5	50%	
2 bed	3	30%	
3 bed	2	20%	
Total	10		

This 3-bedroom dwelling will also be of benefit to people in the greater Callan area that require an accessible home.

3. Pre-Part 8

As part of the planning application process the Housing Section was advised of planning requirements through a formal pre-Part 8 submission prior to lodging the application.

4. Notice of Development

A notice describing the proposed development was placed in the Kilkenny People, week ending Friday 4th April, 2025. A Site Notice was displayed at the site location from Friday 4th April, 2025.

5. Consultation

Details of the proposals were put on display on the Consult website: https://consult.kilkenny.ie, the Planning Department, Kilkenny County Council and the Municipal District Area Office in Callan between the dates 4th April 2025 and 2nd May 2025 inclusive.

6. Details of Submissions Received

No third-party submissions were received from members of the public before the closing date of the 16th May, 2025.

An observation was received from Uisce Eireann dated 6th May 2025 stating that they have no objection in principle, and that the applicant is required to enter into a Connection Agreement with Uisce Eireann.

There is an existing water and wastewater connection to the old Health Centre, however Uisce Eireann had previously refused an application for two dwellings on the site.

7. Implications for Proper Planning and Sustainable Development of the Area

The proposed re-use of an existing vacant building complies with the policy objectives of the Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027.

Copy of a report the Area Planner is appended to this report. All conditions/comments in the Area Planners Report will be considered by the Housing Section when preparing the detailed tender drawings.

8. Kilkenny County Council's Intention Regarding Proposed Development

Proposed Development: Part 8 Proposal

The change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a threebedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension and a proposed new vehicular entrance at Kells, Co. Kilkenny.

I recommend that Kilkenny County Council proceed with the proposed development in accordance with the plans made available for public inspection and taking into account the recommendations made by the Planning and other Service Departments.

SIGNED

Ian Gardner A/Director of Services

DATE 04/06/25

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Appendix A – Planning Report



Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended

Part 8 Ref. No.:Part 8: 04/25Development:The proposed development will consist of the change of use of the
existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom
dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the
construction of a single storey extension, a proposed new vehicular
entrance and all associated site development works, at the Old
Health Centre, Kells, Co. Kilkenny R95FV48.

Site Location and Description

The site is located on the northern side of the regional road R697 on the western approach into Kells, Co. Kilkenny, and is located within the settlement boundary as per the current development plan. The King's River is located to the north of the site. The site is not located within a flood risk area or the designated area of the River Barrow and River Nore SAC or the River Nore SPA. There is an existing single storey building on site.



Site Location Map submitted



Existing view on R697

Image of the site submitted

Third Party Submissions

No third party submissions have been received to date.

Policy

The site is located with the development boundary for Kells as per the *Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021 – 2027*.

Site History

No recent on-site history.

Proposed Development

The proposed development will consist of the change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension, a proposed new vehicular entrance and all associated site development works, at the Old Health Centre, Kells, Co. Kilkenny R95FV48.

Documentation submitted

The documentation submitted with the application states:

An asbestos survey has been completed on the existing building and shed and no asbestos was observed.

Stormwater will be managed within the curtilage of the site by soakaways which have been shown on the site layout. These will be designed in accordance with BRE Digest 365 – Soakaway Design. Soakaways will serve an area of less than 100m2 and will be constructed with single size uncompacted angular crushed stone. They will be located minimum 5m from buildings and roads.

Drawings have been forwarded to Parks Section for assessment. The recommendation from the Executive Landscape Architect to minimise the impact of the concrete post and panel fence along the eastern boundary near the existing trees is to use an auger for digging holes and making clean cuts on any encountered roots. The spacing of the holes should allow for alternative rootspace to aid recovery. Additionally, it's advisable to avoid heavy traffic around the trees and use matting to distribute the weight.

The root protection area of the existing trees will be defined and suitably protected from vehicles and materials during the construction phase.



Drawings submitted:

Proposed site layout plan



Existing building on site

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Proposed elevations



Proposed floor plan

Referrals

Environment – response dated April 2025 states:

Asbestos report is clear. We do not have any comments on the project at Kells. Could you share me if you have the Recourse and Waste Management plan (RWMP) for the project. If you do not have a RWMP, Please see the attached Best practice guidelines RWMP from EPA for your reference.

Municipal District Engineer – response not received at the time of writing this report.

Uisce Éireann/ Water Services – report dated 6th May 2025 states no objection in principle, and that the application is required to enter int a Connection Agreement with Uisce Eireann as per the following condition:

The applicant shall enter into a Connection Agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann to provide for a service connection(s) to the public water supply and/or wastewater collection network and adhere to the standards and conditions set out in that agreement.

All development shall be carried out in compliance with Uisce Éireann's Standard Details and Codes of Practice. Uisce Éireann does not permit Build Over of its assets. Where the applicant proposes to build over or divert existing water or wastewater services the applicant shall have received written Confirmation of Feasibility (COF) of Diversion(s) from Uisce Éireann prior to any works commencing.

Reason: To provide adequate water and wastewater facilities.

Screening for Appropriate Assessment

A Screening exercise was completed, which showed that no significant environmental impact is likely on any Natura 2000 site.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

A preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the proposed development has been carried out which determines that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development. It is therefore concluded that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is not required.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Having considered the documentation submitted, referral response, and relevant policies I consider that the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

It is recommended that the Part 8 application for "the change of use of the existing single storey Health Centre building into a three-bedroom dwelling. Works include the demolition of an existing shed, the construction of a single storey extension, a proposed new vehicular entrance and all associated site development works, at the Old Health Centre, Kells, Co. Kilkenny R95FV48", be approved by the Council subject to the drawings and details submitted with this Part 8 proposal, including conditions from Uisce Eireann, submission in advance of works for a Resource and Waste Management Plan with the Environment Section and any recommendations received from the Municipal District Engineer.

30th May 2025

C. Kelly, Executive Planner

30th May 2025

N. Louw, Senior Executive Planner

Appendix B – Drawings









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