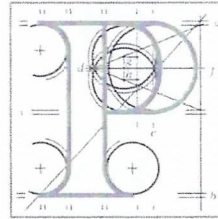


**Our Case Number:** ACP-324069-26



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Aidan Brehony & Ros Brehony  
Sunnydale  
Healy's Lane  
Burrow Road  
Portrane  
K36 HP97

**Date:** 13 March 2026

**Re:** Proposed development under sections 175 and 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2005 (as amended) for proposed coastal and flood risk management works. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development.  
Burrow, Portrane, County Dublin

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with conditions.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Eimear Reilly  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737184

JA02

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:communications@pleanala.ie">communications@pleanala.ie</a>

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

## **Submission of Observation: Portrane Coastal Defense Scheme**

**From:** Aidan Brehony & Ros Brehony

**Address:** Sunnydale,  
Healy's Lane,  
Burrow Road,  
Portrane  
K36 HP97

We are writing this observation as residents of the Burrow, specifically Sunnydale, Healy's Lane, Portrane.

My earliest memories of our beach involve running through the dunes and playing in them as a child during the 1970s and 80s. I remember meeting local hospital staff and patients out walking on the shore—a tradition that continues to this day.

After training as a nurse in the UK, I returned to Portrane in 1995 to work in the local hospital. It was there that I met my wife, who was working as a chef at the time. We have lived at our current address since the year 2000 with our two sons. One of our sons has an intellectual disability and the other has Autism. Our son Luke uses the beach every day, regardless of the weather; it is the only place where he can successfully regulate his emotions and sensory processing through exercise.

Our home has been a refuge as we have raised our family through significant challenges. Watching our beautiful beach disappear has caused us immense stress. The

thought of losing our home as this erosion continues has, at times, been unbearable.

Many other homes and local businesses in the Burrow are also at extreme risk. Without immediate action, it is only a matter of time before the entire peninsula is lost. In a time of a national housing shortfall, this would result in mass homelessness. Furthermore, there is a direct threat to the Longstone Park estate, the two local hospitals, and the children's detention center.

Just as the local bird populations must be considered and their habitats protected, I believe our local community—and specifically my sons—need to be cared for and protected. While I understand the area is designated as a Special Area of Conservation under EU law, it has always been a "special area" to those of us who live here. However, there will be no area left to protect—special or otherwise—if this scheme is not implemented.

**This application represents:**

- **Protection for Homes:** It defends the houses lining Portrane Beach and beyond—homes that hold the hopes, savings, and lives of families who have fought to stay in the place they love.
- **Environmental Balance:** It offers a chance to halt the destruction of our remaining dunes and shoreline while respecting delicate habitats. These proposals have been shaped alongside environmental experts to ensure we protect nature while defending our community.
- **Climate Resilience:** It serves as a shield against rising seas and increasingly violent storms. These are no

longer distant threats; they are here now, destroying what we hold dear.

As people who have spent our careers caring for family, friends, and patients in this community, we are now looking for support from the broader community for this application. If approved, this project will be more than just a defense for Portrane; it will provide a template and a message of hope for every coastal community in Ireland facing similar anguish.

I cannot overstate the effort poured into reaching this point. Fingal County Council, coastal experts, and—most importantly—local campaigners have fought for years to bring us to this moment. They have done the hard work of listening, planning, and preparing.

Now, we need action. We need approval, and we need construction to begin without delay. While we wait, the storms do not. The proposed Y-shaped groynes—low-profile arms designed to work with nature—will trap sand and raise the beach. Combined with offshore sand nourishment, this plan offers real, lasting hope.

This is not just about concrete and sand; it is about survival and belonging. It is about ensuring the place we call home is still there for our children. We support this application wholeheartedly and stand with every voice raised in its favour.

We urge you to be brave enough to approve this scheme.

**Kind regards,**

Aidan Brehony & Ros Brehony