



Clann Project
c/o JFM Research
Crocknahattina
Bailieborough
Co Cavan
info@clannproject.org

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

17th April 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála Case Reference: LH28.324153
Cork City Council Case Reference: 2544442

To whom it concerns:

Please find enclosed a collation of 156 observations made in support of the appeal by Bessboro Mother and Baby Home Support Group (BMBHSG) against the grant by Cork City Council to Estuary View Enterprises 2020 Limited on 24th February 2026 of Conditional Permission for a Large-Scale Residential Development at a site located at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

Consistent with our aims and ethical protocols, over the past month, the Clann Project has provided information to people affected by Ireland's system of institutionalisation and forced family separation who wish to object to the proposed development at Bessborough. Cognisant that affected people constitute a diverse population who remain marginalised in myriad ways, we were concerned that many may be unfamiliar with An Coimisiún Pleanála's procedures and that the €50 fee may represent a significant barrier to engagement. We were also mindful that some people affected by Bessborough or related issues might not wish for their personal addresses to be published.

Accordingly, to provide practical support, we facilitated a collective submission process to alleviate these burdens. Clann established a dedicated email address to collect observations from members of peer support networks for affected people. We received 157 submissions through this email address, 156 of which have been compiled into the attached PDF.¹ Recognising the potential obstacles to engagement, we also provided a template to support those who wished to make a

¹ Please note that one potential observation was not included in this collection. The original email contained no text in the body of the message, and despite our efforts to contact the sender for a corrected version, we received no reply.

submission but may have found it difficult to articulate their views. This approach helped to ensure that the people most affected by the proposed Bessborough development were able to express their objections clearly and effectively.

To safeguard the integrity of the process, we did not circulate the template and dedicated email address to the general public. Access was instead restricted to the 5,839 members of the online peer support forums of Adoption Rights Alliance, the BMBHSG, the St Patrick's Mother and Baby Home Support Group and the Sean Ross Abbey Mother and Baby Home Support Group. Instructions were provided within these forums and via a password-protected page on the Clann Project website.²

The majority of the attached observations are from people directly affected by forced family separation and institutionalisation, many of whom have a direct link to the Bessborough Mother and Baby Institution. Of the 156 submissions included, four were made by family members, friends and supporters of affected people who wished to register their objections. These observations can be found at the end of the PDF, preceding the Appendix. In line with our ethical protocols, we have retained the names and surnames of contributors while redacting their email and postal addresses.³

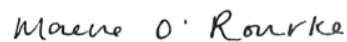
In accordance with An Coimisiún Pleanála's submission requirements, the postal address for service of any further correspondence relating to these observations is c/o Clann at the address provided at the head of this letter.

The enclosed observations reflect a shared conviction that the proposed development is wholly inappropriate, given the unresolved questions surrounding the burial locations of mothers and infants who died at Bessborough. There is deep concern among affected people and their families that the land has not yet been subject to a sufficiently comprehensive investigation. We urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to take these testimonies into account and to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Claire McGettrick, born Lorraine Hughes
Co-Director, Clann Project



Dr Maeve O'Rourke
Co-Director, Clann Project
Senior Lecturer,
Irish Centre for Human Rights,
University of Galway

² A copy of the instructions provided to members of peer support networks is provided in the Appendix at the end of this document.

³ One individual asked to remain anonymous.

OBSERVATIONS FROM SURVIVORS AND AFFECTED PEOPLE

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Helen O REGAN

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Mar 27, 2026 at 11:03 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Kiely-O'Regan

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Marian Clifford

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 11:29 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. In the interest of decency please let the innocent children and mothers rest. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

[Marian Clifford

Sent from my iPhone

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Sarah O' Herlihy

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 11:19 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah O' Herlihy

Sent from my iPhone

email for submission

1 message

Anne McConville <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 10:18 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

ICCL has [previously raised](#) the failure to locate the burial site of children who died in Bessborough and other mother and baby institutions, practices which could constitute enforced disappearances. Article 2 of the ECHR obliges the State to search for and identify persons who have been disappeared, including those who were buried unidentified while in institutional care. While the developers who have been granted planning permission are required to employ an archaeologist to monitor the excavation for "[items of evidential value indicative of potential burials, such as coffin timber and coffin nails](#)", this is not the same as comprehensive standalone excavation and exhumation.

This is yet another example of how the State is failing to address the egregious human rights violations that occurred under Ireland's system of family separation. Planning permission should be halted immediately, and instead the State should put in place a framework for exhumations and plans for a site of conscience at Bessborough.

The families of those buried at Bessborough have a right to the truth surrounding the circumstances of their relatives' deaths and burials. They deserve to be given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Mc Conville, born in Bessborough 1969

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Ruth O'Mahony <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 4:19 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person born into, and affected by, Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation, to object to the proposed development, at the former Mother and Baby Institution, at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group, regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact, that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough, are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough, and a full and proper investigation is needed, to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected, so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children, who were never given a proper burial, or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth O'Mahony

Born on 02/01/1975 in Bessborough Mother & Baby Home

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Ian Kennedy <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 6, 2026 at 11:49 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Kennedy

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

cormac o'sullivan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 5, 2026 at 8:35 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

[Insert your name]

Cormac O'Sullivan

Bessborough Observation

1 message

Brian Cantwell <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 5:24 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Cantwell

Bessborough

1 message

annamarie dundon [REDACTED]

Sun, Mar 29, 2026 at 10:15 AM

To: "Bessborough@clannproject.org" <Bessborough@clannproject.org>

I write to you regarding the recent planning permission granted for the site at bessborough county cork.

I , along with many other people , disagree with this permission and appeal to you to grant this.

My mother had a baby there in 1961. At the age of 18, she became pregnant. I gave birth to a baby boy. She worked right up until the day she had him scrubbing floors. She was told the day she gave birth to the baby was dead. She never seen him. They never showed him to her , they just took him. It wasn't until years later that I got on board and started asking questions. Eventually I got her notes which said she had pre eclampsia. My mother had no knowledge of this. This was the term used for high blood pressure. She was not treated accordingly but rather made to work on our hands and knees , scrubbing.

She left that place and went to london and made a new life. She carried the burden of this cruel part of her adolescence with her until today. She's now in palliative care and we still do not know where they buried her little baby.

This is why I'm appealing to stop the build. Stop them building on top of dead babies and children.

My brother is likely to be buried within those grounds but we know not as to where he is laid to rest.

I ask you with all my heart to do the right thing and turn this around.

With kind regards Anna-Marie Flanagan

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Caraíosa Toal

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 5, 2026 at 12:46 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Caraíosa Byrne

Sent from my iPhone

Observation / objection

1 message

Mary Gaynor <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 6, 2026 at 4:58 PM

Please note that I strongly object to the proposed building works at Bessborough. I was born there and both my mother and myself spent 18mnths there.
This area needs to be thoroughly excavated prior to any building, considering the number of babies and mothers whose lives were lost there.

IF THIS IS NOT THE RIGHT FORUM FOR THIS OBJECTION / OBSERVATION, LLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Kind regards,
Mary

Mary Gaynor Psychotherapy
MIAHIP MIACP



Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Co

1 message

Brian McCracken <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 3, 2026 at 3:17 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns,

I am writing as an adopted person whose life has been directly shaped by Ireland's history of forced family separation and institutionalisation. I wish to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. I make this submission in support of, and in alignment with, the concerns raised by the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group.

For individuals like myself, this is not an abstract planning matter—it is deeply personal. Bessborough represents a system that separated mothers from their children, often without consent, and left lasting impacts across generations. Many of us are still searching for truth, identity, and connection. That search is made significantly more difficult by the continued lack of clarity regarding what happened on these grounds.

A central and unresolved issue is the absence of a full accounting of those who died at Bessborough. We still do not know where many of the women and children are buried. Families—including adoptees, mothers, and relatives—continue to live with the uncertainty and pain of not knowing where their loved ones were laid to rest. This is not only a historical concern; it is an ongoing injustice.

Given this uncertainty, it is both premature and inappropriate to proceed with any development on this land. There must first be a comprehensive, independent, and transparent investigation to identify all burial locations. Until such work is completed, any disturbance of the site risks further harm—both to potential burial grounds and to the dignity of those who died there.

The State has a clear moral and ethical responsibility to ensure that these grounds are treated with the utmost respect. This includes preserving the site as a place of remembrance, reflection, and conscience, rather than allowing it to be developed without full accountability for its past.

Approving this development in the absence of complete information about burials would compound historical wrongs and signal a failure to prioritise truth, dignity, and justice for those affected.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Brian A. McCracken

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

sean Cantwell <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 9:44 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street,

Dublin 1, D01 V902,

Ireland.

To whom it concerns:

As per the Bessboro Mother and Baby Home Support Group I wish to state that I object to any building taking place on the grounds of Bessborough, Cork. This should be a place of National Conscience.

Yours sincerely

Sean Cantwell

An Coimisiún Pleanála

1 message

Brian Mc Mahon <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 7:28 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Brian McMahon

(Adoptee born in Mother and Baby Institution)

Sent from Outlook for Android

Any email from [REDACTED], or any email attachments, may contain confidential or privileged information and is intended solely for the addressee. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this email in error, please delete it immediately and contact the sender.

Any unauthorised use (including disclosure, publication, copying or distribution) of the email or its attachments is prohibited. Any views given in this message are the sender's own and do not necessarily represent the views of [REDACTED]

Records, including emails held by [REDACTED] may be the subject of requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and/or the Data Protection Act 2018 and may be accessed (subject to certain exemptions).

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

LUKE KELLY O'REGAN.

Luke Kelly O'Regan

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

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It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,



Annmarie Barrett

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

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My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the *final resting place of their loved ones*. *There is significant* uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joy Kelly O'Regan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Joy Kelly O'Regan

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

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It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,


Matthew Kelly O'Regan

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

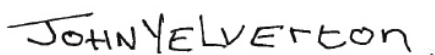
To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

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It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JOHNYELVERTON". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Yelverton

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublín 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

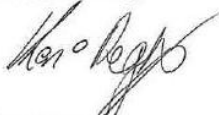
To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,



Ken O Regan

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Kate Sheahan Crawford <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 5:14 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. Absolutely nothing should go forward with the proposed development until ALL of the grounds are searched and all buried bodies are found.

Additionally, as someone who was born at St. Patrick's Mother & Baby Home on the Navan Road in Dublin, I strongly object to the loss of Bessborough as a monument to the women and children who were held there. We lost St. Patrick's Home decades ago as it was bulldozed to develop a housing estate. Bessborough should not suffer the same fate. It's buildings should stand as testament to a very dark chapter in Ireland's history, a place where future generations can visit and learn what happened. I am the administrator of the St. Patrick's Home, Navan Road Facebook group, and we stand in support with Bessborough.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Sheahan Crawford

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Anne Harris <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 12:32 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a former resident of the Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. I am making this observation in full support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development. The latter Support Group has as its members the largest number of survivors and is thus the only group truly representing of their position.

My own objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Institutions recognised this fact in its report and the State has thus a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate and disrespectful to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave.

For all these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Harris Hennon

Observation to stop any development in Bessboro

1 message

Christopher Kirwan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Mar 31, 2026 at 5:51 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Kirwan

(no subject)

1 message

Niall Keohane <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Mar 31, 2026 at 5:46 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Niall Keohane

Observations

Martin Parfrey <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Mar 30, 2026 at 11:17 PM

I would like to have my observations included please.

We are well aware that 859 baby burials are unaccounted for and the commission of investigation accepted that many of these are likely to be in the grounds of Bessborough along with 19 mothers who are also unaccounted for. It's unthinkable that anybody would allow construction on such a site which should be preserved as a memorial.

Also, apart from the obvious upset that this would cause to so many, Blackrock has very little green space left and Bessborough would make an ideal amenity area also for local residents.

Please do what's right and decent and uphold the appeal.

Martin Parfrey

Know My Own

OBSERVATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

1 message

Colette L'Hostis <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Mar 29, 2026 at 10:40 AM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing as someone directly affected by Ireland's history of forced family separation and institutionalisation, and as a reunited adoptee with my birth mother. Through our reunion, I have gained some understanding of the deep and lasting pain caused by that separation. The thought of not knowing where your son or daughter is buried is devastating. Many birth mothers went to their graves without ever knowing, and now their children are left to fight to ensure that these burial grounds are not built over. Please, do not allow any further hurt to be caused.

I wish to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. I do so in support of the position and concerns raised by the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group.

My objection is grounded in the fact that the burial locations of many of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough remain unknown. For decades, families have lived with the anguish of not knowing where their loved ones were laid to rest. There continues to be serious uncertainty about the use of the grounds, and a thorough, independent investigation is required to identify all burial sites. The State has a clear responsibility to ensure these remains are located, protected, and treated with dignity, and that the land is preserved as a site of conscience.

It is wholly inappropriate to consider any development on land that may contain the remains of women and children who were denied the dignity of proper burial or marked graves. In light of this, I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Colette L'Hostis (Margaret Mary O'Brien April '69)

Building on bessboro

1 message

Miriam Delaney <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Mar 29, 2026 at 12:19 AM

I am totally disgusted to hear of planning being granted on the grounds of Bessboro. I was born in Bessboro in January 1966, my mother entered in October 1965 and stayed until March 1966. I've suffered ill health in the last 15 years which i believe stems from mal-nourishment while my mother was in bessboro and i suffered the consequences. The girls were totally mal-nourished while locked up in these homes and made work(hard labour) for penance....the church,state,etc have a lot to answer tooooooo. The grounds of bessborough should be totally preserved to acknowledge all the women who entered those gates.....those who were lucky to survive and leave but also the mothers/babies who died in there not even given proper burials/graves etc. All that land should be preserved as a memorial garden for people to visit and reflect, to remember all who spent time there and the horrendous time they endured....xxx
Miriam Delaney born Catherine o Hanlon 1966

Observation

1 message

Aisling O'Carroll <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Mar 28, 2026 at 4:50 PM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, "The Farm" (Cork County Council Planning ref: 25/44442) at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

To whom it concerns

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons, I urge An Coimisiun Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours Sincerely

Aisling O'Carroll

An Coimisiun Pleanala

1 message

Kathy Finn <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Mar 28, 2026 at 3:31 PM

Re: Large scale residential development proposal (The Farm) Cork city council ref 25/4442 at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock Cork.

To whom it concerns.

I am writing to you as a person who was born in Bessborough Mother and baby home to object to the proposed development on the former Mother and baby home at Bessborough.

This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the bessborough mother and baby home support group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and babies that died at bessborough are buried.

Families deserve the right to know where their family members are and a proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations.

This land needs to be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building where the remains of women and children are buried.

For that reason i urge An Coimisiun Pleanala to refuse this planning application.

Yours Sincerely

Kathy Finn

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Siobhan Kelly <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 1:40 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Siobhán Kelly Coomey

Fwd: Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Jackie Lyons <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 12:55 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jackie Lyons** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 12:40 PM
Subject: Observation Re Bessborough Development
To: <bessborough@clannproject.org>

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Jackie Lyons. Born in Bessborough in 1962

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Mary Jordan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 12:50 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Josephine Jordan

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

laura <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 12:22 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Kerr

Bessborough Development

1 message

Mark Sellars <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>
Cc: Mark Sellars <[REDACTED]>

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 11:43 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Sellars

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

Bessboro

1 message

Louise Bradley <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 10:40 AM

@everyone

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. I have a family member born in Bessboro so this is really upsetting for me and my family. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Bradley

Observation on LRD Appeal 324153 (Ref. 25/44442) – Bessborough Site

1 message

adam gonzalez <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 10:21 AM

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

I would like to formally place on record my absolute disagreement, disgust, and deep distress regarding this project to build 140 apartments on a site that should be treated as a sacred burial ground.

This issue is deeply personal to my family. My own aunt was a direct victim of the atrocities that took place at Bessborough. She suffered immensely under a system that stripped away her rights and stigmatised her for getting pregnant out of wedlock. Tragically, her child is one of the many babies buried on those grounds.

My mother and our entire family feel strongly that this project prioritises property, prestige, and financial profit over human dignity and respect for the dead. It is devastating to see a site of such trauma treated as a commodity for luxury flats that only the wealthy will afford, while the poor young mothers and babies who suffered there are pushed aside once again.

The remains of our ancestors and stolen children may not generate money, but they deserve peace, recognition, and protection. To build over them is to continue the legacy of discrimination and disregard that victims and their families have already endured for generations.

The memory of the victims and their lost children must be treated with the solemn respect they were denied in life. I strongly urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for this development.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Gonzalez

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Ena Ronayne <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 9:30 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Ena Ronayne
born Sheila Grant in Bessborough 24.4.1966

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Nancy McCarthy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 11:17 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy McCarthy

Sent from my iPhone

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Mary Dolan <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 7:04 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Dolan

 Northern Ireland

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Eric Philpott <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 6:37 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Philpott

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message


To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 6:25 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Moore

Sent from my iPhone

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Bridget Cummins 
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:41 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person deeply affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Bridget A Cummins

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Theresa Wilkins <>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:19 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely
Theresa Wilkins

Observation

1 message

To: "Bessborough@clannproject.org" <Bessborough@clannproject.org>

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:17 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Janice K. Lanigan

Observation

1 message

brendan lanigan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:04 PM

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers a whom infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Lanigan

born Brendan Carroll Feb.13, 1953

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Helen O'Callaghan <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 3:45 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Helen O'Sullivan
[Insert your name]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Carol Benabda <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 3:23 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Benabda

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

noreen condon <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 3:00 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Noreen Condon.

Observation Re Bessborough Development

Gerry Willis <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 2:35 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.
Please , do not let what has happened in Tuam , happen at Bessborough .

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Ger Willis .

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Jane Libberton

To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 11:11 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

We are writing to you as people affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

Our objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons we urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Libberton and Philomena Lee

Fwd: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock

1 message

Anthony O'Brien [REDACTED]
To: Bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 9:17 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mary O'Brien** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu, 9 Apr 2026, 20:43
Subject: Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock
To: Tony O'Brien [REDACTED]

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My wife and daughter were inmates of this institution.

They were lucky - they made it out alive. This might sound extreme but the facts speak for themselves. There are babies and mothers. We now speak for the mothers and babies past and present who seem to still be unheard! They need to finally be shown the respect and care they deserve.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application. I am BEGGING you please do not concrete over the past.

Yours sincerely,
Anthony O'Brien

objection to building

1 message

tricia verryt <

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 8:10 PM

To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

This email is in support of the current objection to planning of building of 140 apartments on the site of Bessborough House.

I am disgusted and completely disagree with this planning of building on the site where 923 babies and children have not been accounted for.

Tricia Verryt
Auckland, New Zealand

Fw: Bessborough observation

1 message

Fergus Shiel <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 7:36 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Fergus Shiel

Fwd: Bessboro observation

1 message

Carmel Cantwell <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 6:49 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Madeleine Marvier** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Thu 9 Apr 2026 at 17:59
Subject: Fwd: Bessboro observation
To: Carmel Cantwell <[REDACTED]>

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Madeleine Marvier

Appeal against planning at Bessborough

1 message

Patricia Murphy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 6:40 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Murphy

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 6:04 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

[Insert your name]Phil Cullen

Sent from my iPhone

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Niamh Butler

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 5:37 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Butler

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Michael Owens <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 5:16 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Owens born Bessborough 1973

The Bessborough Potential Grave Site

1 message

Laura Magnier <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org, appeals@pleanala.ie

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 4:16 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Magnier

Observation

1 message

Rachel Buckeridge <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 3:28 PM

Good afternoon,

The granting of planning permission for apartments at the former Bessborough Mother and Baby Home site is a profound moral failure that prioritizes commercial development over human dignity and historical truth.

For the survivors and families of the 923 children who died at this institution—the vast majority of whom remain in unaccounted-for burial sites—this project is not merely a land-use issue, but a shameful desecration of a site of national conscience. To build on these grounds before a full, independent forensic investigation has been completed is to effectively erase the physical evidence of Ireland's harrowing past and deny families the right to ever find their loved ones.

Development in some form could take place but to build luxury housing is crass and attempts to make the uncomfortable issues of the past disappear. Looking back it is clear that so many of these women or girls were not pregnant out of choice and were coerced (or worse) into the sex which resulted in pregnancy. Young, scared, alone, so many of these women did not have a voice and these actions serve to keep them silenced.

Kind regards

Rachel Buckeridge

Objection to Bessborough Development (Ref. 25/44442)

1 message

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 1:54 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a person directly affected by Ireland's history of forced family separation and institutionalisation to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Home at Bessborough. I make this submission in support of the concerns raised by the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group.

My objection is grounded in the fact that the burial locations of many of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough remain unknown. For decades, families have endured the ongoing trauma of not knowing where their loved ones are laid to rest. There continues to be significant uncertainty regarding the use of the lands at Bessborough, and a comprehensive, independent investigation is required to identify all burial sites.

The State has a clear responsibility to ensure that these remains are located, properly identified where possible, and afforded dignity and protection. Until such time as this process is complete, the lands in question should be preserved as a site of remembrance and conscience.

In these circumstances, it is wholly inappropriate to consider any form of residential development on land that may contain unmarked graves of women and children who were denied dignity in both life and death.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours faithfully,

Ryan Cantwell

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Amy louise O mahony <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 1:17 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Amy O'Mahony

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Matt Lyons <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 1:19 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person **married to someone** affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Lyons

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Nichola Kennedy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 1:23 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Nichola Kennedy

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Therese Meyer <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org
Cc: [REDACTED]

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 2:09 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalization to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that, as a baby survivor of Bessborough (Bessboro to those of us who were there in the 50's) for many years, we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. I am one of those who witnessed a baby being buried on those grounds and live with the nightmare of that and the years of horror we were put through daily. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough, and a full and proper forensic investigation is needed to locate all burial sites. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons, I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Therese Meyer
[REDACTED]

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Rita Collins <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 3:18 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Collins

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

M Kennedy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org
Cc: Michael Kennedy [REDACTED]

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 5:21 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalization to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Kennedy

Objecting to planning permission on Bessborough

1 message

Lynda Young <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 6:23 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development Proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning. Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns,

I am writing to you as a person who was born in Bessborough and affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and to object to the proposed development at Bessborough. The observation is made in support of the position and concerns of Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that mothers and infants died in Bessborough and we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died there are buried on the grounds. Families have had to live with not knowing where their loved one's final resting place is and the pain, they have had to carry with them all these years and are still carrying, to this day. Imagine living, with not knowing where a loved one is buried as there was no proper burial for them, and building on the grounds where their remains could be. It is wrong for this to go ahead. The torment for the people affected by this who are having to live with the constant not knowing, and now, the extreme upset caused, of the idea of building on these grounds

There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough. A full proper investigation is needed to find all the burial locations, not to be built on.

The state has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate and shameful to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or a marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application

Yours sincerely

Lynda Young

Observation re Bessborough development

1 message

Imelda Masterson <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 6:46 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Imelda Masterson

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

treassa Lonergan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 8:33 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Treassa Lonergan

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

edel.byrne <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 9:02 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Edel Byrne

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

dede somers <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 10:10 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Delia Somers

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Aoife Byrne <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 10:48 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Aoife Byrne

Bessborough Developmet

1 message

Molly Draper <[REDACTED]>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 4:57 AM

To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Molly Draper

Bessborough Observation

1 message

Carmel Cantwell <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 8:12 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maureen Sullivan** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun 12 Apr 2026 at 08:06
Subject: Re: Bessborough Observation
To: Carmel Cantwell <[REDACTED]>

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Maureen Sullivan
[REDACTED]

Observation Re. Bessborough Development

1 message

Elaine Nolan <[REDACTED]>
Reply-To: Elaine Nolan <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Elaine Nolan
(Living and surviving, born 1964 and Adopted through Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes/ Institutions and Adoption System.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, organise, conquer](#)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Sharon Taylor <

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 11:13 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

SharonTaylor.]

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Mary Lawlor <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 12:38 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Lawlor.

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Clare McCarthy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 1:18 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Gunn

Bessborough

1 message

Mary Keating <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 1:23 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Keating
[REDACTED]

Regarding Bessborough development

1 message

kyla carey <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 4:16 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as someone deeply affected by Ireland's history of forced family separation and institutionalisation. With a heavy heart, I wish to formally object to the proposed residential development at the former Mother and Baby Home in Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork (Planning Ref. 25/44442). I stand alongside the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group in their concerns.

For so many families, the pain of Bessborough has never ended. We are still living with the unanswered question of where our mothers and babies are buried. The absence of that knowledge is a quiet, constant grief- one that has been carried for generations. Not knowing where a loved one rests denies families even the most basic dignity of mourning.

There remains deep uncertainty about what lies beneath the grounds at Bessborough. Until every possible effort has been made to locate and identify burial sites, we cannot move forward. These are not just grounds for development- they may be the resting place of women and children who were never given names, graves, or dignity in death.

To build on this land without first uncovering the truth would feel like another erasure, another silencing of lives that already went unacknowledged for far too long. This site deserves to be treated with care, reverence, and honesty. It should stand as a place of memory and conscience, not be covered over.

I urge you, with deep sincerity, to refuse this planning application and to ensure that dignity, truth, and respect are finally given to those who were denied it.

Yours sincerely,

Kyla Carey Southworth

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Mark O Mahony <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 6:45 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mark O' Mahony

Observation re proposed Bessborough Development

1 message

Kieron Brennan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 8:16 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála

[64 Marlborough Street](#)

[Dublin 1](#)

[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Kieron Brennan

Observation Re Bessborough Development - Planning Ref. 25/44442

1 message

John <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 9:51 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
John

John Hegarty

**Observation Re Bessborough Development An Coimisiún Pleanála 64
Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902**

1 message

Patrick McDermott <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>
Cc: Patrick McDermott <[REDACTED]>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 9:55 PM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

My objection is also fueled by recent excavation of human remains at Tuam. These confirmations of human infant remains should silence any critics a digging moratorium at these Mother and Baby Homes. There are several such disputed lands all across Ireland that now stand in risk of more bulldozing of infant remains scattered in the lands adjacent to former such homes.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Patrick McDermott
Sean Ross Abbey 1953
[REDACTED] USA

25/4442 observations Re

1 message

Evelyn Dc - [REDACTED]
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 12:13 AM

bessborough@clannproject.org

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning .
Signed
Evelyn Durkin

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council)

1 message

Dina Last NameMcFarland <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 1:45 AM

Observation Re Bessboroug Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Dina McFarland

Bessborough Building Objection

1 message

Vmj <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 9:16 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to strongly object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough.

I am also writing to you as a survivor of Bessborough. I consider myself to be very lucky to have made it out of this institution as a baby. When I was adopted I was extremely ill and within two weeks of leaving Bessborough I had to undergo major surgery. Were it not for my adoptive parents I believe that I would be another baby in an unmarked grave on these grounds. Forgotten by the world.

This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried.

For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations.

The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Valerie O'Callaghan

(no subject)

1 message

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 11:17 AM

[Third party identifying information redacted]

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

[Michael Daly]

Observation – Strong Objection to Proposed Apartment Development at Bessboro Site

1 message

Fiona Wims | [REDACTED]
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 3:49 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally submit my observation and to strongly object to the proposed development of 140 apartments on the grounds of the former Mother & Baby Institution at Bessboro, Cork.

I am deeply shocked, disgusted, and profoundly disappointed that such a development is even being considered on a site where it is widely believed that 923 babies and children are missing and may be buried. This is not just a piece of land for redevelopment — it is potentially a place of immense historical trauma, loss, and unmarked graves.

To proceed with construction in these circumstances shows a complete disregard for the dignity of those children, their families, and the wider community who continue to seek truth, recognition, and justice. This site demands careful, respectful investigation and preservation, not development.

I completely and unequivocally oppose this planning proposal. Building over what may be a burial ground would be morally unacceptable and deeply insensitive. It risks causing further hurt to survivors, relatives, and all those affected by the legacy of the institution.

I urge the planning authority to reject this proposal and to instead ensure that the site is treated with the respect, care, and dignity it unquestionably deserves.

Yours faithfully,

Fiona Wims

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Development

1 message

Mary C 
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 7:52 AM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Crease

Objection

1 message

sarah falvey <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 4:06 AM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Shanahan

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

martin conneely <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 11:44 PM

Hello,

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Best Regards

Martin
[REDACTED]

(no subject)

1 message

Cara Mackessy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 10:15 PM

To whom it may concern

I am absolutely appalled to hear that panning has been granted to build 140 apartments on sacred ground at Bessborough. This ground is sacred as there is a huge possibility that the bodies of 923 babies are buried there, along with some mothers who died while at Bessborough.

It is abhorrent behaviour by our Government to give the go-ahead for this planning. It is just unthinkable that a concrete jungle could be built over these tiny bodies - worthless to society back then and worthless to society today...DISGUSTING.

These babies have families and these families have never been able to get answers or peace. Its unimaginable what they are going through right now with planning on the horizon.

Shameful behaviour in 2026.

Cara

observation

1 message

Cornelius Carroll <[REDACTED]>
Reply-To: Cornelius Carroll <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 9:42 PM

I am totally opposed to the proposed, development at Bessborough. One cannot ignore history and facts, hoping that people memory will be erased, from the reality of the injustices which took place, you cannot allow the Irish State to allow property developers to come in, and tell people that they should live in the present and to forget about the past. Bessborough is about a place of the reality of peoples lives, it is an insult to allow property developers to build on the land, off hundreds of deceased women and children, Bessborough is about education, and the empowerment of people, yours sincereley Con Carroll.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, organise, conquer](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Annette Breslin <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 6:28 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Annette Dixon

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Observation re Bessborough development

1 message

Mary Curtin <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 7:03 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

To whom it concerns,

I am writing as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough.

This observation supports the concerns raised by the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group.

My objection is grounded in the fact that the burial locations of many mothers and infants who died at Bessborough remain unknown. For years, families have lived with the pain and uncertainty of not knowing where their loved ones are laid to rest. There remains significant uncertainty regarding the grounds, and a full and proper investigation is required to identify and protect all burial sites.

The State has a responsibility to ensure this land is preserved appropriately as a site of conscience. It is wholly inappropriate to consider development on land that may contain the remains of women and children who were never afforded proper burials or marked graves.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Sincerely,

Mary Curtin

(no subject)

Greg Coughlann <[REDACTED]>
To: Clann Project <clannproject@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 6:48 PM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Gregory Coughlan

[Quoted text hidden]

Bessborough's residential proposal

1 message

michael byrne <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 5:57 PM

To whom it may concern,

As a survivor of Tuam and 4 year resident of Temple Hill who now lives in America I am upset. I support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development. Please take from the lessons learned and still learning in Tuam.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Sincerely,

Michael Byrne
Tuam survivor 1957

Observation re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442) at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

To whom it concerns:

I am shocked and dismayed that Cork City Council granted planning permission for the construction of apartments, in the grounds of the former Bessborough Mother and Baby Home.

At a time when the bodies of nearly 800 children are being disinterred in Tuam, so that they can finally receive a dignified burial, I cannot believe that apartments could be built on a site where up to 859 children may be buried, as well as 19 mothers.

I was born in Bessborough in December 1962. Because my mother was unmarried, she was automatically deemed unfit and I was given away for adoption. I did not even know her name until I was nearly 30, when we were finally reunited.

What happened in Bessborough has deeply affected both of us for life, yet we were relatively fortunate.

This is not 'the dark past' for us and for thousands of others who passed through Bessborough, particularly for those whose infants died.

I have witnessed the profound pain and grief of mothers and siblings who do not know where these beloved babies and children are buried.

As you are aware, 923 infants died in Bessborough, according to official death records, yet the burial place of 859 is unknown. It is highly likely that many are buried in the grounds.

If planning permission is approved, the message from the authorities will be painfully clear: The lives of those infants did not matter then and they do not matter now.

I am a member of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group, since it was formed in 2013. This observation is made in support of the group's position and concerns regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones.

There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected, so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave.

I am strongly appealing to An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Carmel Hayes,
Kilkenny

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

T 
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 4:14 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Martina Power

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Pohalloran <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 4:37 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia O'Halloran

Daughter of Peter O'Halloran, born at Bessborough in 1932.

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Dominique Waisapy - Davidse <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 4:40 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Dominique Waisapy-Davidse

Daughter of Patricia O'Halloran. My grandfather was born at Bessborough in 1932.

Observation submission re Bessborough Planning Application

1 message

Vivienne Downey <[REDACTED]>
Reply-To: Vivienne Downey <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 5:01 PM

From: Vivienne Downey
Location: Cork

To whom it may concern

I would like to include an observation regarding the planning permission granted by Cork County Council to allow the construction of a development of apartments to be built over land that I believe contain unmarked burial places of children and infants that died while living on the grounds of Bessborough over a number of decades.

This entire site I believe should be placed under a compulsory purchase order and used to honour the legacy of the women and children that were placed, born or fostered out in Bessborough and the surrounding community.

It is unfathomable to me in 2026 that answers to where all those that died there have still not been located and those that have deep connections to this site whether personal or through family or friends have to continue to heart wrenchingly highlight how wrong it is to allow this site be constantly viewed as an opportunity to develop for financial gain for individuals that have no connection to the site.

While I fully appreciate we are in the middle of a housing crisis I do not believe this site is suitable. And other sites around the County should be given more consideration than Bessborough.

Thank you,

Vivienne Downey
Cork

13 April 2026

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1, D01 V902
Ireland

An Coimisiún Pleanála Case Ref.: LH28.324153

**Re: Observation in Support of Appeal — Proposed Residential Development,
Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/4442)**

To the Board of An Coimisiún Pleanála,

I am writing to submit my formal observation in support of the appeal AGAINST the granting of planning permission by Cork City Council to Estuary View Enterprises for the construction of 140 residential apartments at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

My grounds for opposition are both personal and profound. This is not an abstract planning dispute for me — my family's story is bound up in the history of Bessborough itself.

PERSONAL CONNECTION TO BESSBOROUGH

My mother was born at Bessborough Mother and Baby Home. She entered the institution with her birth mother and spent approximately the first two and three-quarter years of her life there, before being taken from her birth mother and trafficked to the United States in late 1955.

Given the documented mortality rates at Bessborough — where 923 children died between 1922 and 1998, with burial records found for only 64 of them — it is not possible for my family, or for thousands of families like ours, to be certain that the grounds of Bessborough do not contain the remains of people connected to us. The whereabouts of over 859 children remain unknown.

My mother's survival does not diminish my obligation, or my right, to stand with those whose children, siblings, and relatives may lie in unmarked graves on these grounds. This is personal. This is about truth, dignity, and the protection of the disappeared.

GROUND'S FOR OBJECTION

I strongly urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse planning permission on the following grounds:

1. Unresolved burial site — mass disappearance of children

An Coimisiún Pleanála and its predecessor An Bord Pleanála have refused planning permission for development on this site on multiple occasions since May 2021, specifically citing the unresolved question of children's burial grounds. A 1950 Ordnance Survey map marks an area of the site as a 'children's burial ground'. The Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes itself stated that it was 'highly likely' that burials took place on the Bessborough grounds.

Nothing has materially changed to resolve this question. No full geophysical survey using ground-penetrating radar, electrical resistivity, or magnetometry has been completed across the entire grounds. To grant permission now is to repeat the same error the board has consistently and rightly refused to make.

2. Ireland's unmet human rights obligations

As noted by leading human rights academics including Dr Maeve O'Rourke, Dr Claire McGettrick, and Dr Máiréad Enright of the Clann Project, the State has not complied with its obligations under European human rights law in respect of the deaths and disappearances of children and women confined at Bessborough. An Coimisiún Pleanála is legally obliged to uphold these obligations — they cannot be delegated to a private developer through planning conditions.

3. The Commission archive remains inaccessible

The archive of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation remains inaccessible to survivors, their families, and the public — including to An Coimisiún Pleanála itself and to Cork City Council members who voted on this application. It is unconscionable to grant planning permission while this evidence is sealed.

4. Archaeological conditions are wholly inadequate

The 70 conditions attached to the Cork City Council planning permission, including instruction to retain an archaeologist during works, are not a substitute for the full independent investigation that survivors and families have consistently called for. Excavation during construction is not investigation — it is destruction. Human remains should not be discovered incidentally in the course of demolishing agricultural buildings. They deserve to be sought with care, in advance, with the full involvement of survivor families.

5. The entirety of the remaining grounds should be protected

Of the original 210-acre Bessborough estate, approximately 150 acres have already been developed for housing, a hospital, offices, and a retail park. The remaining land surrounding Bessborough House represents the last opportunity to honour the memory of the 923 children who died there, the 31 women who died, and the nearly 19,000 women and children who passed through those gates — the majority separated from one another by force.

I join with survivors and families in calling for this land to be protected as a site of remembrance, truth, and dignity — not developed for private profit.

CONCLUSION

An Coimisiún Pleanála has a clear and consistent record on this matter. The board has refused development here because the fundamental questions about who is buried on this land have not been answered. Those questions remain unanswered today.

I respectfully and firmly urge the board to uphold the appeal, refuse planning permission, and call for an immediate, full, independent geophysical investigation of the Bessborough grounds — with survivors and families central to that process.

The children of Bessborough have been invisible for too long. Please do not bury them again.

Yours sincerely,

KELLY DRURY

[REDACTED]

Note: My mother was born at Bessborough and was trafficked to the United States in late 1955 at just shy of 3 years old. This observation is submitted as a direct family member of a survivor of Bessborough Mother and Baby Home.

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Aoife O'Brien <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 8:55 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Aoife O'Brien

Bessborough

1 message

Margaret McSweeney <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 9:43 PM

Agree whole heartedly must be stopped..it should be a sacred place for the babies & their families.

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message


To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 11:06 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Anonymous

Bessborough

1 message

Sarah Butler <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:48 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Sarah mccarthy

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Frank Crowley <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 10:49 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Crowley

Dr Mary Harney, BA, MA, LL.M, PhD
(Human Rights Law)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

An Coimisiun Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1
DO1 V902

Subject: Observation on Planning Application LH28324153-25/44442

To whom it concerns

I am writing to formally register my objection to the grant by Cork City Council to Estuary View Enterprises 2020 Limited on 24 February 2026 for Conditional Permission for a Large-Scale Residential Development at a site located at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork where unmarked graves may contain the remains of 859 children born in the former mother and baby institution. As a person born in Bessborough mother and baby institution, and as a defender of human rights I am deeply concerned about the implications of developing land that holds such significant historical and emotional values.

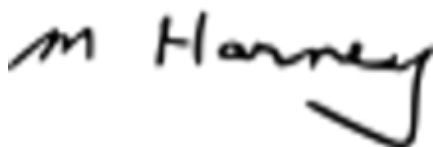
Under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), as given binding force in Irish law through the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003, the State has an obligation to investigate the deaths of children and mothers who were confined in Bessborough and to ascertain the whereabouts of the disappeared and return their remains to relatives. The refusal by a State to disclose the burial locations of children who died while in State institutions is widely considered a violation of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED). As a Signatory to the Convention, Ireland has an obligation not to engage in acts that defeat the object and purpose of the treaty. The granting of permission for a Large-Scale Residential Development in Bessborough would in essence, constitute an act contrary to principles of the treaty. Moreover, it should be noted

that the prohibition on enforced disappearances constitutes customary international law, binding on the State domestically through Article 29.3 of Bunreacht na hÉireann.

I also highlight the additional legal obligations of the State and all state authorities, in relation to ensuring effective investigations into credible allegations of enforced disappearances, and the procedural obligations that arise in relation to the right to life, and related human rights, as stated in international human rights treaties, and customary international law. I highlight specifically the State's responsibility (including its procedural obligations of effective investigations) under the ECHR (Articles 2 Right to Life), Article 3 (Prohibition of Torture), Article 5 (Right to Liberty and Security), Article 8 (Right to Private and Family Life), Article 13 (Right to an Effective Remedy). I highlight also the obligations arising under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, (signed and ratified by Ireland), particularly Article 6 (Right to Life), read alone and in conjunction with Article 2 (Right to an effective remedy), and Article 24.1 (Rights of the child). Further, I highlight the obligation arising under the United Nations Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, to ensure prompt, impartial and effective investigations, and the mandated obligation on the State, specifically providing that: "No measure shall be taken to curtail or impede the investigation." (Article 13(1))

I strongly urge you to abandon current plans for development of the site at Bessborough in light of the very serious legal issues highlighted above, in addition to the profound effect such a development would have on former detainees of the Bessborough mother and baby institution, their families, and the broader community. It is crucial to engage with survivors and their families to ensure that any decisions made reflect sensitivity and a commitment to human rights. In particular, I wish to direct your attention to the work of groups such as Justice for Magdalenes Research and Open Heart City regarding the former Magdalene Laundry at Sean MacDermott Street in Dublin, and the development of a National Centre for Research and Remembrance there.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Harney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Mary Harney, Visiting Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Irish Centre for Human Rights, School of Law, University of Galway

Fwd: Bessboro Observation

1 message

Aidan Crowley <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 2:39 PM



An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Aidan Crowley

Objection to Bessborough Development (Ref. 25/44442)

fiona deegan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:00 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a person directly affected by Ireland's history of forced family separation and institutionalisation to formally object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Home at Bessborough. I make this submission in support of the concerns raised by the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group.

My objection is grounded in the fact that the burial locations of many of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough remain unknown. For decades, families have endured the ongoing trauma of not knowing where their loved ones are laid to rest. There continues to be significant uncertainty regarding the use of the lands at Bessborough, and a comprehensive, independent investigation is required to identify all burial sites.

The State has a clear responsibility to ensure that these remains are located, properly identified where possible, and afforded dignity and protection. Until such time as this process is complete, the lands in question should be preserved as a site of remembrance and conscience.

In these circumstances, it is wholly inappropriate to consider any form of residential development on land that may contain unmarked graves of women and children who were denied dignity in both life and death.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours faithfully,

Fiona Deegan

Bessborough Development

1 message

Christina Langendorf <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:17 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Christina Langendorf

Gesendet von mein iPhone

Bessborough Development

1 message

Kerry Mears <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Sent from my iPad

bessborough@clannproject.org

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry Mears

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Mary McDonnell <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:22 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary McDonnell

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Susan Smith <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:44 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as an adopted person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Smith

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

johnobeirne1 <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:50 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

John O'Beirne
Sent from my Galaxy

(no subject)

1 message

Derena Kovacs <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:01 PM

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Derena Wallace

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Tara ann Byrne <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:24 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council
Planning Ref. 25/44442)

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Ann Bolger

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Siobhan Keane <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:33 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Siobhán Keane

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

AI <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:40 PM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough.

This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried.

For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations.

The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave.

For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours Sincerely,
Alison Corboy

Fwd: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

1 message

rachel robinson <[REDACTED]>
To: Bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Email to :

bessborough@clannproject.org

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Robinson

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mail Delivery Subsystem** <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
Date: Wed 15 Apr 2026, 19:17
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
To: <[REDACTED]>



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to **bessborough@clannproject.org** because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

Urgent observation re Bessborough Development

1 message

Helen Baker <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:00 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála

[64 Marlborough Street](#)

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council

Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Baker

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Large scale residential developments

1 message

patti carroll <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:09 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork
To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. I am aware that I or my brother could have easily been among those unknown infants whose bodies were discarded there.

For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Carroll

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Lourd McCabe-Brockmann <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:46 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Lourd McCabe-Brockmann

=====
Sent from my phone

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Mary Donovan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:51 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My late mother Margaret Mary Donovan nee Finn gave birth to my twin siblings Ann Veronica and Vincent Joseph Finn who died March 1959. They are on the missing 923 Bessboro babies. How can a development take place when my siblings along with the other 921 are missing burial location. I did get assistance from Eolan Ring and Cork City Council abd 17 graveyards were checked and no location of my siblings buried. No development cannot take place until we find them.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Donovan

Mary Donovan

Objection Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Stephen Moynihan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 9:13 PM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Moynihan

Sent from my iPad

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

JEFF ANGEVINE <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 9:27 PM

To whom it concerns:

As a 'banished baby' and as a friend of two other 'BB's' (one a past resident of Bessborough) I am continually shocked, disappointed and, well, appalled at the government's refusal to face anything approaching real effort to repair the damage done by this system. And the cavalier attitude towards the Bessborough grounds just underscores how little you respect the trauma inflicted upon mothers and children during the Baby-business era.

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Jeffery L Angevine
(nee' Joseph Michael Foley)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Maeve Madden <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 10:37 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Maeve Madden

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Sally Donaldson <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 10:51 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Donaldson

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Peggy Pattiz [REDACTED]

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 11:34 PM

To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Cc: Peggy Pattiz <[REDACTED]>

An Coimisiún Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council

Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Pattiz

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

word smither <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 12:24 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Weber

Born 1 May 1957
Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Thank you, Joe Weber

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Orla Sheils <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 12:26 AM

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Orla Sheils

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Building plans

1 message

Aislynnne <[REDACTED]>
Reply-To: Aislynnne <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 12:34 AM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Aislynnne

[Yahoo Mail: Search, organise, conquer](#)

Observation

1 message

Thérèse Gaughan <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 1:09 AM

It is unconscionable that building could take place on what is likely a burial ground. There is no difference between the women and children likely buried in Bessborough and those buried anywhere else in the country, and yet, they are being disregarded in the eyes of the law and denied basic respect and dignity because they lie within the walls of an institution. These burials are far too recent to require archaeological services - appropriate for ancient burials - not those of people who would be alive today, including young adults, had they made it out of Bessborough. If this were anywhere else, it would involve a forensic and criminal investigation. Building on this land would also set a dangerous precedent in relation to other similar institutions. It would further deny the chance to achieve justice for the living and the dead. Granting planning permission for this site is callous and wrong, needlessly cruel and ignores the loss of so many who are still suffering because of the human rights abuses that took place there. The approach of the state towards Ireland's institutions and the issues surrounding them has been abysmal - please do not compound this by allowing this development to go ahead.

Thérèse Gaughan

Bessborough

1 message

Stephen Kennedy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 11:27 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough, and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burial sites are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely abhorrent to build on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. Would Cork City Council approve of building on St. Finbarr's Cemetery or any other established cemetery? The mothers and babies of Bessborough deserve the same respect as the people buried in cemeteries and graveyards scattered throughout the country. Respect that wasn't afforded to them when they were alive. Let the state have a full investigation, let us find where the bodies are buried. Once this is done, let us then review the position and plan the future of this site at that time. For these reasons, I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Kennedy

Bessborough Development

Theresa Tinggal <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:07 PM

I am sending this email on behalf of Adopted Illegally Ireland.
Many individuals have been impacted by institutions, and it's important to remember that we are united in facing these challenges together.

Yours sincerely

Theresa Tinggal
Adopted Illegally Ireland



Bessborough objection (3).docx
16K

Observation Re Bessborough Development
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation, illegal adoption and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified"

It's deeply troubling that development is being considered on land where mothers and babies were laid to rest. Sites with such history deserve careful thought, respect, and, ideally, preservation as places of remembrance. We've seen in other cases—like the creation of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York—that even highly valuable land can be set aside to honour those who suffered and to provide space for reflection.

I believe this site should be approached with the same level of dignity and consideration, and that meaningful consultation with the community is essential before any decisions are made.

For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Theresa Hiney Tinggal
Adopted Illegally Ireland

Objection to Planning Ref. 25/44442 at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork.

1 message

Mary Hull <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:11 PM

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council

Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely
Mary Walker

Sent from my iPhone

Bessborough development

1 message

Caroline Cas <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:21 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Saunders

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Patricia Poppitt <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:40 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Poppitt (Mrs)

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Arlene <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:42 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Arlene Finnerty

Bessborough Development

1 message

Donna Duffy < >
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:48 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Madonna Duffy



Formerly a child at:
St. Patrick's Mother Baby Home
Dublin, Ireland

Large Scale Residential Development Proposal

1 message

Veronica Letsome <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 3:51 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours faithfully

Veronica Letsome

Re Proposed development

1 message

Desmond Lynch <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Dear Sirs

Havibg being adopted from Nazareth House I tptally understand why this project should not go ahead.

Bessborough should be seen in Ireland as the Nazi concentration camps should beseen in Europe

Lest we forget

Kind regards

Desmond Lynch

Observation Re Bessborough Development

1 message

Michael Mason <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 5:36 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Mason.
Born: 1969, St Patrick's Mother and Baby Home, Dublin 7.

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Roy Owens <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 6:20 PM

Observation Re Bessborough Development

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Roy Owens.

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

Bessborough

1 message

Maria Arbuckle <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 8:20 PM

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Maria Arbuckle

Observation re Bessborough Development

1 message

Ann Murphy <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 11:40 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Murphy

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Mother & baby institutions

1 message

Eve O Riordan <[REDACTED]>
To: info@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 17, 2026 at 12:29 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

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I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

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Yours sincerely,

Eve O' Riordan

bessborough@clannproject.org Observation Re Bessborough Development An Coimisiún Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902 Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork To whom it concerns: I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development. My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessb

Michael Healy <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:06 PM

Thank you,

Michael Healy [REDACTED]

Please note that due to a technical error, the text of this observation was entered into the subject line of the email rather than the body. As a result, the content is unintentionally truncated.

Efforts were made to contact the sender to obtain a revised version of the text; however, no updated response was received prior to the submission deadline. We are including the observation in its original form to ensure the sender's objection is recorded, and we ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to take these circumstances into account when reviewing the submission.

Observation Re Bessborough Development An Coimisiún Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902 Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork To whom it concerns: I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development. My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and

sandra fox <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:32 PM

sandra fox

Please note that due to a technical error, the text of this observation was entered into the subject line of the email rather than the body. As a result, the content is unintentionally truncated.

Efforts were made to contact the sender to obtain a revised version of the text; however, no updated response was received prior to the submission deadline. We are including the observation in its original form to ensure the sender's objection is recorded, and we ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to take these circumstances into account when reviewing the submission.

Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

1 message

Calum Blyth <[REDACTED]>
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Fri, Apr 17, 2026 at 11:53 AM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a person affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

My objection is based on the fact that we still do not know where most of the mothers and infants who died at Bessborough are buried. For years, families have had to live with the pain of not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones. There is significant uncertainty regarding the grounds at Bessborough and a full and proper investigation is needed to find all burial locations. The State has a responsibility to ensure these burials are fully identified and protected so that the land can be preserved as a site of conscience.

It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Calum Blyth

OBSERVATIONS FROM SUPPORTERS

The Farm Bessborough

1 message

James F Jackman <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 7:10 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
[Dublin 1](#)
[D01 V902](#)

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

To whom it concerns:

I am writing to you as a supporter of people affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

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Yours sincerely,

James Jackman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



THE IRISH HEART OF LONDON

50-52 Camden Square, London NW1 9XB

T: 020 7916 2222 E: info@londonirishcentre.org

W: londonirishcentre.org

Patrons: Dermot O'Leary & Ed Sheeran

To whom it may concern,

My name is Sean Kaluarachchi, and along with my manager Katie Doyle, I work in the London Irish Centre as part of the Survivors Integrated Service. In our work we support survivors of institutions in Ireland, and my particular remit is in supporting the survivors and their families of Ireland's mother and baby and county homes.

It has recently come to our attention as a service that Cork City Council have approved the construction of flats over the site of Bessborough House. As you will be aware, this is a site of profound historical and emotional significance, where approximately 900 children are known to have died. Of these, only 64 are recorded as having been formally buried.

In our work, we directly support families who lost children in this institution and others like it. For many, Bessborough house remains a place of deep trauma, loss and unresolved grief. We therefore respectfully urge that full and meaningful consideration is given to the needs, experiences and voices of survivors and their families before any redevelopment proceeds. As it stands, this decision risks being perceived as deeply insensitive, particularly if taken without comprehensive engagement with those most affected and without full recognition of the site's significance.' We ask that Cork City Council reconsider this redevelopment and ensure that any future plans are informed by consultation, transparency and respect for those whose lives are forever connected to this place.

Kind regards,

Sean Kaluarachchi & Katie Doyle
Survivors Integrated Service
London Irish Centre

— 154 —

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

Clare Marvier <
To: bessborough@clannproject.org

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 8:07 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

To whom it concern

I am writing to you as a supporter of people affected by Ireland's system of forced family separation and institutionalisation to object to the proposed development at the former Mother and Baby Institution at Bessborough. This observation is made in support of the position and concerns of the Bessborough Mother and Baby Home Support Group regarding this development.

[Quoted text hidden]
Clare Marvier
Sent from my iPhone

Bessborough

1 message

allison marvier <[REDACTED]>
To: "bessborough@clannproject.org" <bessborough@clannproject.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 7:30 PM

An Coimisiún Pleanála
[64 Marlborough Street](#)
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: Large Scale Residential Development proposal, 'The Farm' (Cork City Council Planning Ref. 25/44442), at Bessborough, Ballinure, Blackrock, Cork

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It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,
Allison Marvier

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

APPENDIX:

**INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY THE CLANN PROJECT TO
MEMBERS OF ONLINE PEER SUPPORT GROUPS**

CLANN: IRELAND'S UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN: GATHERING THE DATA

≡ MENU

⇒ Navigate



PROTECTED: BESSBOROUGH: TEMPLATE TO MAKE AN OBSERVATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

This page provides information to affected people who wish to formally object to the proposed development at Bessborough. We are concerned that the €50 fee and the requirement to use the An Coimisiún Pleanála website might prove too cumbersome for many people. To simplify the process, we have set up a dedicated email address to collate submissions (known as 'observations') from members of our peer support networks. The Clann Project will then gather the emails into a collated group of observations for submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

If you would like to participate, please follow these guidelines:

1. Write your observation (i.e. your reasons for objecting to the proposed development) in an email and send it to us at bessborough@clannproject.org.
2. Please bear in mind that if you sign your name on your submission, this will be published on the website of An Coimisiún Pleanála. We encourage anyone who is happy to sign their name to do so, as this will strengthen your submission. We will not share anyone's email address with An Coimisiún Pleanála.
3. If you would prefer to remain anonymous, please request that we anonymise your details in the final submission to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
4. If you would like a template email, please click [this link](#). When you click the link, your email client will open a pre-composed email to our dedicated email address. If the link does not work for you, the text of the template is available below. We encourage you to amend the template as you see fit.

Important: Please note that by sending us an email, you will be sharing your personal data with the Clann Project, however, we will only use your information for this specific purpose, and we will delete your email after it is sent to An Coimisiún Pleanála..

If you wish to make an observation without the Clann Project's involvement, you can do so by visiting this page on the website of An Coimisiún Pleanála: <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/324153>. To make an observation, click the link on the right hand side of the page (direct link here: <https://online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/lrd/observation?g=324153>) and follow the on-screen instructions.

If the link does not work for you, the text of the template is available below:

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

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It is completely inappropriate to even consider building on land that contains the remains of women and children who were never given a proper burial or marked grave. For these reasons I urge An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

[Insert your name]
