

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.

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,

Maggie O' Kane, Asch Ni Fhinn, Brendi Ni Dheaghaidh, Summayyah Popoola

19, Ashford Court, Grange, Douglas, Cork T12C6XW - Maggie O' Kane