



All Hewson was one of several objectors Photo: WireImage

# Hewson among objectors to Killiney village apartments plan

GORDON DEEGAN

Activist Ali Hewson and other residents of the wealthy south Dublin suburb of Killiney have opposed plans for a luxury residential scheme in the area.

Hewson was one of 21 parties to lodge submissions with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council concerning Covelto Developments Ltd's plans to build a 32-unit apartment scheme in the heart of Killiney village in the grounds of Monte-bello House.

In her submission, Ms Hewson, who is married to U2 front-man Bono, told the council: "Along with the many residents in the area who have commented on this application, we would also like to express our concern that the development of a large block of apartments on this site, of such a scale, density and design, goes against the natural character of the surrounding area.

"Due to the significant demand that this type of development places on the capacity of existing highly constrained road and drainage infrastructure, an apartment block will have a very negative impact on the residential amenity of the area."

The proposed scheme comprises one three-storey apartment block with 11 one-bed apartments; eight two-bed, three-person apartments; 10 two-bed, four-person apartments; and three three-bed apartments on land at Monte-bello House, Killiney Hill Road.

The planning application came eight months after An Coimisiún Pleanála refused planning permission to Covelto Developments for four "very large" two-storey, four-bedroom, flat-roofed houses on the same site. An Coimisiún Pleanála refused planning permission

in that instance because the scheme "would represent underdevelopment of an accessible site with convenient access to frequent public transport services via Killiney Dart station."

That decision upheld a refusal issued by the council in April, 2025 after Ms Hewson and Morleigh Steinberg, the wife of U2's The Edge, lodged objections. The decision left the door open for Covelto to seek planning for a larger development on the site.

Another Killiney resident, Bill Emmott, an author and former editor of *The Economist*, also lodged an objection.

In his submission, he said that "as a general remark addressed to those reading this who may wish to dismiss objectors as merely the selfish affluent residents of Killiney, please note that the only reason this or its predecessor application has been made is that the developer wishes to exploit the affluence and high land values of Killiney by creating profitably high-priced housing."

Mr Emmott contends that "the developer is the selfish affluent party here."

The scheme was designed by PCOT Architects, and a design statement lodged with the application stated that the design goal was "to create a high-quality residential development that incorporates sustainable design to ensure the development can be delivered in a manner that protects the local neighbourhood and, at the same time, contributes positively to the local context."

The statement said the proposed scheme "offers future residents a unique location in the heart of Killiney next to Monte-bello House in a high-quality modern development". A decision on the application is due next month.

## Delays of up to 18 months for HIV prevention drug PrEP

EILISH O'REGAN

People are waiting up to 18 months for access to a HIV prevention drug in parts of Ireland, it has emerged.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication is taken by HIV-negative people to reduce the chance of getting the virus. It has been shown to reduce the risk of infection by up to 92pc.

The HSE provides certain groups with the drug for free. It can also be bought through pharmacies with a prescription.

Figures provided to Independent Ireland TD Ken O'Flynn by the HSE show waiting times across the country vary from two weeks in Letterkenny University Hospital, Co Donegal, to between a year and 18 months at Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise.

There are delays in Mullingar, Co Westmeath, of between a year and 14 months, and 180 people are on a waiting list at the Mater, Dublin which is closed to self-referrals. In Limerick and Clare, 114 people are waiting. Clinics in those counties are also closed

to self-referrals, but take urgent cases. The west and north-west have the quickest access, with a wait of four weeks in Sligo and three months in University Hospital Galway.

In its response to Mr O'Flynn, the HSE said there is no national waiting list or central referral pathway for PrEP.

While many services have waiting lists for self-referrals, they are able to provide urgent appointments to individuals within a month. These individuals are not included on waiting lists.

Urgent referrals may include someone transitioning from post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to PrEP, or individuals identified as high risk when attending a sexual health service.

Some services triage those on their waiting list and prioritise seeing those at higher risk of HIV. Free PrEP medication is available through approved private and GP providers, though users pay for consultations and tests. There are no interim arrangements in place for individuals who are unable to access PrEP.

### NOTICE PURSUANT TO: SECTION 177AE OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED) AND THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)

#### IDA BELVIEW INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, BELVIEW, SLIEVERUE, COUNTY KILKENNY NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA FOR APPROVAL



Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh  
Kilkenny County Council

Notice is hereby given that Kilkenny County Council intends to seek the approval of An Coimisiún Pleanála under Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) to construct IDA Belview Infrastructure Development, Belview, Slieverue, County Kilkenny.

The proposed development will provide access to the IDA Ireland land bank at Kilmurry and Gorteens, Belview, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny to facilitate IDA development as well as provide active travel modes for the area. The subject site is located in South Kilkenny approximately 3 km east of Waterford and north of IDA Science and Technology Business Park.

The proposal will provide an upgrade of local road L3412 from the existing eastern IDA Ireland roundabout and will tie back into the existing L3412 to the west at Kilmurry via a new roundabout. The upgrade will be taken online on the existing road and offline on adjoining land.

The development forms part of the wider L3412 upgrade connecting Abbeylands/Ferrybank to Belview Port and will integrate with future infrastructure improvements which will be progressed separately and will incorporate Active Travel facilities in accordance with Settlement Strategy Variation No. 6 of the County Development Plan 2021-2027.

**A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared as part of the application for approval in respect of the proposed development.**

An Coimisiún Pleanála may give approval to the application for development with or without conditions or may refuse the application for development.

A copy of the plans and particulars of the proposed development and the Natura Impact Statement will be available for inspection between Wednesday 24th June 2026 and Wednesday 5th August 2026 (inclusive of both dates) at the following locations:

- The consultation website of Kilkenny County Council at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/en>
- The Planning Section of Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny City, R95 A39T between the hours 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 4pm Monday to Friday (Excluding Public Holidays).
- Piltown Municipal District Offices, Kilkenny County Council, Ferrybank Shopping Centre, Ferrybank, Co. Kilkenny, X91DE42; from 9am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm Monday to Friday (Excluding Public Holidays).
- The offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 between the hours 9:15am and 5:30pm Monday to Friday (Excluding Public Holidays).

The Natura Impact Statement and Particulars of the proposed development may be inspected free of charge at the locations above or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making a copy).

- Any submissions and observations on the proposed development in relation to –
- i. the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned,
  - ii. the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
  - iii. the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site, if carried out,
- may be made in writing to An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin, D01 V902.

Any submission/observation must be received by An Coimisiún Pleanála not later than on or before 5.30pm on Wednesday 5th August 2026.

A person may question the validity of any such decision by An Coimisiún Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986) in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended).

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Publications – Judicial Review Notice on the Board's website [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) or on the Citizens Information website [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

Dated this Wednesday 17th June 2026.

Mary J Mullholland, Director of Services,  
Kilkenny County Council.