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Introduction

3.1 This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) provides supporting information to accompany a planning application to Wexford County Council submitted by Anthony D'Arcy Ltd. (referenced as ADL within the EIAR), in respect of a proposed development at their existing sand and gravel pit at Ballymacoonoge & Glentire townlands. The proposed planning application area spans across Ballynamonabeg, Ballymacoonoge and Glentire townlands, Ballaghkeen, Co. Wexford (hereafter referred to as the 'application site'). The overall Sand & Gravel Pit site is familiarly known as and referred to as "The Ballagh".

3.2 The proposed development being applied for under this planning application is shown in plan on EIAR **Figure 2-2**, and in cross section on EIAR **Figure 2-3**, and will consist of:

- Continued use of the existing sand & gravel pit for completion of extraction and restoration (c. 4 hectares) under planning permission ref. 20191259);
- Extension to the existing sand & gravel pit over an extraction area of c. 11 hectares;
- Extraction to final level two metres above the groundwater table;
- Screening berms and operational landscaping;
- Continued processing of sand & gravel using permitted mobile screening plant located on the pit floor;
- Continuance of use of the existing permitted access and internal access road to / from the R744 regional road;
- Continuance of use of existing permitted ancillary facilities: Office, portaloo, storage container, wheelwash and fuel storage;
- Phased and final restoration of the lands to agricultural use;
- Proposed duration c. 18 years plus 2 years for final restoration, total permission duration of 20 years;
- Within an overall planning application area of c. 23.2 hectares.

3.3 The current planning application is for extraction of sand and gravel on lands that adjoin the existing sand and gravel pit. The development is in an area favourable to extraction activities due to, inter alia:

- Presence of the sand and gravel resource – refer to EIAR Chapter 6;
- Located with direct access to the regional roads network – refer to EIAR Chapter 14;
- General natural topographic screening of the proposed extraction area;
- Best practice industry standard extraction, processing methods, environmental management measures and restoration practice will continue to be used and implemented in line with the Anthony D'Arcy Ltd. existing operational track record at the existing sand & gravel pit.

3.4 In the consideration of alternatives below, the need for the development, the do-nothing alternative and the issues of alternative sources of aggregates and alternative site locations have been addressed.

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Need for the Development

Project Ireland 2040

3.5 Project Ireland 2040 was published in February 2018 and is the overarching policy and planning framework for the social, economic and cultural development of the country. It includes the National Development Plan: a ten-year strategy for public capital investment to 2027 and the 20-year National Planning Framework.

3.6 The National Planning Framework First Revision was published in April 2025 and provides a high-level strategic plan for influencing future growth and development up to the year 2040. The framework is intended to guide public and private investment, to protect and enhance the environment and create and promote opportunities.

3.7 The National Planning Framework First Revision states that:

> *"Extractive industries are important for the supply of aggregates and construction materials and minerals to a variety of sectors, for both domestic requirements and for export. The planning process will play a key role in realising the potential of the extractive industries sector by identifying and protecting important reserves of aggregates and minerals from development that might prejudice their utilisation.*
>
> *Aggregates and minerals extraction will continue to be enabled where this is compatible with the protection of the environment in terms of noise, air and water quality, natural and cultural heritage, the quality of life of residents in the vicinity, and provides for appropriate site rehabilitation particularly with respect to opportunities that may be provided for enhancement or restoration of nature in line with EU policies, such as the Nature Restoration Law, the EU Green Deal and EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020, and legislative instruments.*
>
> *Critical raw materials are of high economic importance for Europe while being also highly vulnerable to supply disruptions. Critical raw materials are confronted with a growing global demand, driven by the decarbonisation of economies. The Critical Raw Materials Act, one of the three key legislative initiatives of the EU Green Deal and provides for a set of Actions to ensure the EU's access to a secure, diversified, affordable and sustainable supply of critical raw materials."*

3.8 The extractive industries are considered important not just as a source of supply to a variety of sectors both domestic and for export, but extractive industries supply aggregates that are an essential requirement for Irelands future. Project 2040 will not happen without a secure supply of aggregates.

Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028

3.9 The Wexford County Development Plan (WCDP) 2022-2028 is the statutory plan detailing the development objectives/policies of the authority, covering the application area. The plan was originally adopted on 13th June 2022 and came into effect on 25th July 2022. The aim of the plan is to provide a positive vision for Wexford which will enable the county to continue to make a significant contribution to national economic recovery by promoting sustainable development and facilitating stable economic growth thus delivering long term benefits for the citizens of the county.

3.10 Several references are made within the Plan to the importance of and the contributions made by the extractive industry:

3.11 In Volume 1 of the WCDP, Section 6.7.6 relates to the Rural Economy. In this section, it is stated that:

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> *"Rural economic development incorporates a broad range of sectors and land uses including agriculture, forestry, energy production, extractive industry and maritime activities."*

3.12 Section 6.7.6.5 of Volume 1 covers the topic of 'Aggregate Resources and Extractive Industry'. Whilst recognising the need for and importance of extractive industries in terms of supply of sand states, it is also recognised that there is the potential for conflict in the operation of these industries with wider environmental issues which needs careful consideration:

> *"Quarrying and mineral extraction is a valuable resource to the county in terms of construction, employment and revenue. Wexford sand is much sought after for equestrian and sporting facilities. However, these considerations must be balanced against the significant impacts quarrying can have in terms of noise, dust, vibration, visual intrusion, on ground and surface waters, traffic generation and on the county's natural and built heritage (including archaeological)."*

3.13 In relation to the extractive industry, Section 6.7.6.5 also states that:

> *"There should be an emphasis on extraction in locations which avoid impacts rather than locations where significant mitigation and restoration is required."*

3.14 The extractive industries are considered an essential source of supply to meet the demands for high quality sand found in Wexford and to contribute to the economic development needs of the county. The proposed continued use and extension of an existing quarry, as opposed to the development of a quarry at a greenfield site, is in keeping with the WCDP advice to utilise locations which minimise impact.

Replenishment of Aggregate Reserves

3.15 Supply and demand data for individual quarries is not publicly available as it is commercially sensitive information. However, recent independent analysis carried out for and published by the Irish Concrete Federation (ICF) – "Essential Aggregates: An Evidence-Based Assessment to Inform Ireland's Planning Policy" May 2025, includes an assessment of the current replenishment rates of authorised aggregate reserves in Ireland. Its key findings include:

> *"Over the past eight years (2017-2024) the 'replenishment' of aggregate reserves has been running behind annual consumption. On average, only 61% of the annual consumption has been replenished by means of new planning authorisations."*

> *"At current levels of land area authorisation, the replenishment rate of authorised aggregates will fall to 52% over the 2025 – 2040 period as demand for aggregates increases due to Ireland's growing population"* and the requirements of strategic national plans such as Project Ireland 2040.

3.16 This clearly confirms that the aggregate replenishment rates are falling significantly below the market demand and there is a need for significant aggregate replenishment by means of new planning permissions for extension to existing quarries or new greenfield quarry development.

3.17 On this basis, there is clear need to replenish and provide for long term aggregate reserves such as the proven sand reserves at the existing site, through the granting of permission for the proposed development.

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Specialist Sand

3.18 Specialist sand such as is found at the existing pit and the application site is a valuable and highly prized resource. The sand is a high value finely sorted specialist sand which has a use in golf courses, sports pitches and equestrian facilities. This particular type of sand is unique to Ireland and is restricted to limited locations across the country. The nearest alternative sand deposits containing the same type of high quality sands are located in England.

3.19 The existing site is located in an area favourable to extraction activities, due to, *inter alia*:

- extension area is adjacent to existing and permitted extractive site and will effectively be operated within the same confines of planning permission 20191259, albeit over a partially different extraction area to that originally permitted;
- previous history of sand extraction at this site and in the general geographic location;
- application site is a proven source of high-quality sand;
- ongoing and continued demand for high quality specialist sand;
- within an appropriate topographic setting i.e. well screened from surrounding areas;
- direct access to the regional and national roads network;
- the proposed development will be carried out by a long established and experienced operator in the extractive industry with a proven track record in county Wexford.

3.20 Appendix 3-A provides evidence from the Applicant's customers confirming the need for and importance of maintaining the long-term security of supply of the specialist sand products.

Do Nothing Alternative

3.21 If the proposed development does not take place, the extraction extension lands would remain in use for agricultural, and there would be a loss of a proven and valuable specialist sand supply within the lands. The existing pit would continue to operate under the confines of planning permission P. Ref. 20191259, with extraction ceasing by the expiry date in 2030.

Alternative Sources of Aggregates / Specialist Sands

3.22 In the medium term (15 to 25 years) there are no real alternatives to the current land-based sources of construction aggregates.

3.23 The volume of C&D waste suitable for recycling into secondary aggregates is very low in comparison to the overall demand for aggregates. The demographic spread of the population results in only the large urban centres potentially being capable of generating sufficient volumes of construction and demolition (C&D) waste to justify a commercial operation producing secondary aggregates going forward. Furthermore, secondary aggregates cannot fulfil / replicate the properties and specification requirements of high quality natural sands.

3.24 In the longer term (>25 years), there may be some scope for extraction of aggregates / specialist sand from marine sources.

3.25 In the absence of significant volumes of aggregates / specialist sand from recycled / secondary and marine sources, land-based deposits (such as the sand & gravel located at Ballaghkeen) will continue to be the main source of construction aggregates and specialist sands in Ireland, including Wexford and the surrounding region.

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Alternative Locations

3.26 The current planning application is for extraction and processing of sand & gravel on lands adjoining an existing sand & gravel pit at Ballymacoonoge and Glentire townlands. The proposed application area spans across Ballynamonabeg, Ballymacoonoge and Glentire townlands, Ballaghkeen, Co. Wexford.

3.27 The alternatives available to the Applicant relate to:

- Continue / increase extraction from the existing sand pit;

or

- Development of a new replacement 'greenfield' sand & gravel pit on an alternative site.

3.28 At the current time, there is no suitable alternative sand & gravel location available to the applicant in Wexford.

3.29 Notwithstanding the above, proposed development would be beneficial in planning terms by:

- Optimising the extraction and use of the strategically important high-grade sand deposits at the Ballagh;
- Development of a sand and gravel pit in an existing sand & gravel resource area with direct access to the regional road network where the environmental effects of working the resource can be managed to an acceptable level.

3.30 This development is not comparable to a factory or other commercial enterprise that can be located at many potential locations. It is a resource-based development and therefore the aggregates can only be worked (extracted) where they are present in-situ.

3.31 It is further recognised within paragraph 4.13 of the *Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment*[1] published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in August 2018:

> *"For example, some projects may be site specific so the consideration of alternative sites may not be relevant."*

3.32 Aggregates can only be worked where they exist and where the environmental effects of working them can be minimised. However, this is not the only prerequisite which determines a suitable location for an aggregates site. Others include a willing vendor, distance from market, required quality and quantity to justify capital investments, etc. It is usually the case that a number of these prerequisites are not met, and the alternative is discounted.

3.33 The provision of aggregates is essential to meet the needs of society. As reserves of sand, gravel and rock are finite resources and eventually become exhausted at their location, it is therefore necessary for quarry operators to continually seek out new greenfield sites in tandem with maximising or extending extraction at existing established sites. Both options are essential and required to replace existing supplies that are being worked out and to provide a security of supply of aggregates and building materials to the construction sector.

3.34 At the current time, the application site is considered the most suitable replacement sand and gravel location available to the applicant, given its proximity to the existing extraction and processing operations.

[1] Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 'Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment' (2018), available at: https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/guidelines-for-planning-authorities-and-an-bord-pleanala-on-carrying-out-environmental.pdf

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3.35 The existing site at the Ballagh is an established pit in a relatively remote location and has a road network providing access to and from it that has proven to be suitable for this type of development previously.

3.36 Notwithstanding the continual search for suitable development sites, the lands at the Ballagh application site are proven to contain an economically viable volume of quality sand and gravel reserves. The site is deemed appropriate for the following reasons:

- suitability of the economic sand and gravel reserve;
- extent of the lands over which the applicant has an interest in, and which are available for development;
- access and road infrastructure at the existing pit with proximity to the national road network and key transport corridors, namely the R744 regional road;
- low environmental impact: topography assists with screening of the development (no significant visual intrusion), no recorded monuments within the application area; and not within a designated ecological or landscape area;

3.37 On the basis of the above, it is considered that the proposed extension development of the existing pit, subject to implementation of best environmental management practice and compliance with appropriate planning controls (i.e. planning conditions and standard emission limit values for the sector) can be carried out without any significant environmental impacts on the surrounding area.

Alternative Designs / Layouts

3.38 Alternative designs, including alternative layouts within the site were considered with particular attention being paid to the location of the processing plant and ancillary facilities in general being located away from the public road and nearest residences where possible, along with the direction of working within the extraction extension area.

3.39 The layout of the proposed extraction extension has been optimised to use the existing access; to take advantage of natural screening provided by the existing topography and hedgerows; and to provide a minimum separation distance of 100 metres to the nearest dwellings.

Residence Consideration

3.40 The proposed extraction scheme will be worked at a minimum distance of 100 metres from the closest residential properties located to the north, east and south of the application site. This, along with the natural topography and intervening dense hedgerows along the application site boundary will provide dust, acoustic and visual screening. Furthermore, the proposed working hours (as per condition 11 of the existing pit planning permission ref. 20191259) will ensure no site operations will take place on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays.

Archaeological Consideration

3.41 The proposed layout has also been designed to avoid two archaeological features identified during the archaeological survey and testing programme (refer to EIAR chapter 12 Cultural Heritage).

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Landscape & Visual Consideration

3.42 The proposed pit will be worked in phases (firstly in a southeasterly direction, then a south-westerly and finally in a southeasterly direction) in order to minimise the land disturbance at any one time. Established hedgerows along the perimeter of the application site will further afford visual screening of the site from the nearest residences. There is no requirement for any additional processing plant, or buildings as part of this planning application.

3.43 Perimeter mature hedgerows around the boundaries will be permanently retained. A segment of internal hedgerow separating the existing and extension pit areas will be removed to facilitate extraction but will be reinstated during the restoration phase.

Alternative Processes

3.44 Anthony D'Arcy Ltd. are a company with expertise and experience in the field of sand & gravel extraction and processing.

3.45 The company use industry standard and best practice techniques for sand & gravel extraction and processing. The mobile screening plant will be located on the pit floor in line with best practice for the sector. Alternative processes are not considered relevant in this instance.

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APPENDIX 3-A

Letters from Customers – Need & Importance of Maintaining Long Term Secure Supply of Sand

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Lr James St Claremorris Co Mayo F12 R7X4 vat number 3671483AH
IBAN IE94AIBK93744423150003

To whom it Concerns,
Killeen Sportsgrounds have been using Darcy's Sands top dressing sand on our pitches for 25 year's. Its availability is vital for the maintenance and construction of the pitches all over the west of Ireland.
Darcy's sand is used to maintain Mc Hale park Castlebar, Pearse Stadium Galway, Terryland Park Galway, Dubarry Park Athlone together with dozens of club pitches throughout the West.
It is essential that we have a constant supply of top quality sand from the Ballagh Pit in Wexford for years to come.

Kind Regards,
Peter Killeen
Killeen Sports Grounds Ltd

To whom it concerns

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

Darcy sands have supplied the construction sand for the development of Aviva Stadium pitch, it is very important we have a continuous supply of the U.S.G.A maintenance sand from Ballagh pk in Co Wexford for many years to come.

Regards,

Majella Smyth | Head Groundsman Aviva Stadium
Lansdowne Road | Ballsbridge | Dublin 4 | D04 K5F9

majella.smyth@avivastadium.ie
www.avivastadium.ie

AVIVA STADIUM

This email is from New Stadium Limited, trading as Aviva Stadium. This email and any attachments are confidential and may contain privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this email message please telephone us immediately, delete this message from your system and do not read, copy, distribute, disclose or otherwise use this email message and any attachments. Although we believe this email and any attachments to be free of any virus or other defect which may affect your computer, it is the responsibility of the recipient to ensure that it is virus free and we do not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage arising in any way from its use.

Aviva Stadium: Data Classification Code - General (Class 1)

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BELVOIR PARK
GOLF CLUB

To Whom it may concern

Belvoir Park Golf Club have been using Darcy sands for many years on their top-dressing maintenance programme on greens and fairways.

It is essential we have a constant supply of Darcy sands from their quarry in Ballagh, Co Wexford for years to come.

Belvoir Park Golf Club 73-75 Church Road Newtownbreda Belfast BT8 7AN
T 02890 491693 E info@belvoirparkgolfclub.com W www.belvoirparkgolfclub.com

JOHN ORMONDE
WEXFORD SAND LTD

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

21/10/25

To whom it may concern

John Ormonde Wexford Sand Ltd relies heavily on Anthony D'Arcy Ltd, the Ballagh for our sand. We construct and supply specialised mixes which we use D'Arcy Sand for. We have 18 staff members and the importance of having access to D'Arcy Sand the Ballagh for us to complete our contracts on a regular basis cannot be understated.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

John Ormonde

Director

John Ormonde Wexford Sand Ltd.
Ballinamona, The Ballagh Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. Y21 XOX4
T: 353-053 912-7866 E: admin@wexfordsand.ie W: www.wexfordsand.ie

J & K ORMONDE HAULAGE LTD.

GENERAL HAULAGE CONTRACTORS - IRELAND -UK

SAND, GRAVEL & DECORATIVE STONE MERCHANTS

Castle Ellis, The Ballagh, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Y21 XW99, Ireland.
Tel: 053 9136136 - 087 2593997 Email: info@jkormondehaulage.ie

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

Planning Department

Wexford County Council

Newtown Road

Carricklawn

Wexford

Y35 WY93

29/10/2025

RE – Letter of Support for Planning Application

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of J&K Ormonde Haulage Ltd, I am writing to express our full support for the planning application submitted to Wexford County Council by D'Arcy Sands. D'Arcy Sands is our principal customer, and our haulage business is closely tied to their ongoing operations. The viability and future of our company are heavily dependent on the continued success of D'Arcy Sands.

Located in County Wexford, our business employs 13 people and is one of the many small businesses that play an important role in both the local and national economies as part of the SME sector in Ireland. Our success is directly linked to the demand for our transportation services from D'Arcy Sands, who consistently supply high-quality product essential to a range of markets. Their product is a critical component for many sports and tourism activities throughout the country.

J & K ORMONDE HAULAGE LTD.

GENERAL HAULAGE CONTRACTORS - IRELAND -UK

SAND, GRAVEL & DECORATIVE STONE MERCHANTS

Castle Ellis, The Ballagh, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Y21 XW99, Ireland.

Tel: 053 9136136 - 087 2593997 Email: info@jkormondehaulage.ie

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

We respectfully urge Wexford County Council to recognize the substantial positive impact that D'Arcy Sands has on the local economy through direct and indirect employment, as well as their contribution to the national economy by supporting the sports and tourism sectors. Should D'Arcy Sands be unable to continue supplying their product across Ireland, our business would face a significant reduction in activity, and this would also negatively affect other businesses and industries reliant on this product.

Thank you for considering the economic and community benefits provided by D'Arcy Sands. We trust that you will appreciate the importance of their continued operation, not only for our own business but for the wider regional and national context, as the product they supply is essential to sustain many sports and tourism operations.

Yours sincerely,

James Ormonde.

Director, J&K Ormonde Haulage Ltd.

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MJ KEHOE TRANSPORT LTD

The Ba
Ennisc
Co We
Y21
Phone 087 614
VAT Number: IE 31983

Planning Department

Wexford County Council

Newtown Road

Carricklawn

Wexford

735 WY93

RE- Letter of Support for Planning Application.

To Whom it Concerns,

We at MJ Kehoe Transport, write to you to confirm our support for the planning application lodged to Wexford County Council by D'arcy Sands.

We are a haulage company working closely with D'arcy Sands over the years and we rely he on there business to support and grow our business. This will have huge benefit to our busi and local businesses within the area generating employment and stability to the marketpla for many years in the future.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the above phon number.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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IRWINS
QUALITY
AGGREGATES

Quarry Owners, Gravel Merchants and Specialist Aggregate Suppliers

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

Planning Dept

Wexford Co Council

Newtown Rd

Carricklawn

Wexford

3rd November 2025

Ref. Letter of Support for Darcy Sands for Planning Application.

To whom it may concern

I would like to express my support for D'arcy Sands for their current planning application.

We are a longstanding customer of Darcy Sands and we use their sand for supplying rootzone and top dressing sand for golf courses across the North of Ireland. Their sand quality is renowned to be the best in Ireland and is highly sought after for the specialist sports ground market. We also purchase gravel for drainage purposes for golf courses, which, due to its very rounded nature is also highly regarded by golf courses as a drainage medium.

As a key supplier to us we rely heavily on D'arcys and are very keen for them to get their planning permission approved to ensure security of supply for us and our many customers. We would ask Wexford Co. Council to look favourably on this and consider the positive economic benefit that they contribute to and the many business's and sports clubs that benefit from using their products.

Yours faithfully

Alastair Harrison

Commercial Director

Irwins Quality Aggregates

Registered Office:
Irwins Quality Aggregates Limited
5 Diviny Drive, Portadown
Craigavon, N. Ireland BT63 5WE
Tel: Portadown (028) 3833 2421 Fax: 028 3833 3918

Sales & Despatch:
55 Gortgonis Road, Coalisland,
Co. Tyrone, N. Ireland BT71 4QG
Tel: Coalisland (028) 8774 0362 Fax: (028) 8774 7473

Website: www.irwin-aggregates.com
Email: sales@irwin-aggregates.com

V.A.T. Reg. No. GB 156 4257 03
Registered in Northern Ireland No: NI612868

Kelly & Sons of Kilpierce Ltd.

Kilpierce, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Ireland.

Tel: Andrew: +353 (0) 87 2763613 Email: info@silicasand.ie

SPECIALIST SANDS / AGGREGATES

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

30/10/2025

To Whom it may concern,

We at Kelly & Sons Ltd would like to state that the sands,stone and aggregate supplied to us from Darcys Pit in The Ballagh is an integral part of our business, both at present and into the future.

Any interruption in this supply of raw materials would be detrimental our business ,and in turn would make it necessary for us to import a similar amount of raw sands/aggregates from the UK.

This increase in transportation cost would be hugely damaging to our business, as well as massively increasing our carbon footprint .

Kind Regards,

John Kelly

.....

MD Kelly & Sons of Kilpierce Ltd

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

Richard Doyle
Royal Dublin Society
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
0872427113
richard.doyle@rds.ie
24/10/25

Planning Department
Wexford County Council
Newtown Road
Carricklawn
Wexford
735 WY93

Re – Letter of Support for Planning Application.

To Whom it Concerns,

We at the Royal Dublin Society, write to you to confirm our support for the planning application lodged to Wexford County Council by D'Arcy Sands.

We rely on D'Arcy Sands to supply their product for the continued operation of our business, for maintenance and construction upgrades to the RDS Main Arena and for our equestrian projects. To clarify our business is an event venue to facilitate a Sports Arena for the annual International Dublin Horse Show and for Leinster Rugby and we provide employment for approx. 90 people. The success of our business is reliant on the quality of the product that D'Arcy Sands supply us with.

There are limited alternative options available to us to source the same high quality product that D'Arcy Sands supplies. We respectfully request that Wexford County Council consider the positive contribution that this company provides in a wider context to the economy and tourism.

It is highly likely that our business will suffer significant disruption if D'Arcy Sands are unable to supply their product to us.

Best Regards,

Richard Doyle (Head Groundsman)

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

Murphy Precast
Kilcannon, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford
Tel: 053 9236348

Date: October 29, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to express our support for Darcy Sand Ltd in relation to their sand pit located in The Ballagh, Co. Wexford, and their planning application.

Murphy Precast has been sourcing sand from Darcy Sand for several years. The sand supplied is always of a consistently high quality, which enables us to manufacture superior precast products for our customers.

The local supply from The Ballagh is a key factor for our business, helping us to reduce transport distances and minimise our carbon footprint. This aligns with our commitment to operating efficiently and sustainably.

We have always found Darcy Sand to be reliable, professional, and straightforward to deal with, and we value the strong working relationship we have developed over time.

Yours sincerely,

John Murphy
Managing Director
Murphy Precast

Waterville House & Golf Links

Waterville, Co. Kerry, Ireland

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ger O Neill, and I am the links superintendent at Waterville Golf Links in county Kerry. Waterville is repeatedly ranked in the top ten in Ireland, whenever golf course rankings are released.

Here at Waterville golf links, we have been relying greatly on D'Arcy Sands for the supply of USGA spec sand for our golf course for the past eight years. Our sanding program is of vital importance to us in order to produce high-quality playing surfaces that our members and overseas visitors have come to expect. D'Arcy Sands has always exceeded our expectations.

We hope D'Arcy Sands' application is successful, as we look forward to the continuous supply of their high-quality sand that is so important to us in producing a high-quality golf course.

Kind regards

Gerard O'Neill

Golf Course Superintendent

Waterville Golf Links

Waterville Golf Links: 066-9474102 Fax: 066-9474482
Email: info@watervillegolflinks.ie Web: www.watervillegolflinks.ie

DELANEY CONCRETE

Clonroche, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Y21F258
Tel: 053-9244766 www.delaneyconcrete.ie

RECEIVED: 29/01/2026

4th November 2025

Re: Support for D'Arcy Sands Quarry Expansion, Ballaghkeen

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to express our strong support for D'Arcy Sands' proposed quarry expansion at Ballaghkeen. Our company, Delaney Concrete LTD. manufactures precast concrete products used in housing and infrastructure across the region and relies heavily on D'Arcy Sands for our aggregates.

Their round stone is particularly suited to self-compacting concrete, allowing excellent flow and finish quality. Their sand is exceptionally consistent in grading, which makes it far easier for us to maintain uniform, high-quality mixes and dependable performance in production. This consistency is vital for meeting specification and quality-assurance requirements.

A secure local supply of these materials is essential to support our growth plans and to meet increasing demand for housing and public works. The quarry's proximity reduces haulage distances, carbon emissions, and costs directly supporting our low-carbon construction goals.

The expansion will help secure a reliable, long-term source of essential construction materials, supporting local manufacturing and housing delivery while aligning with national policy on sustainable aggregate supply.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that this application receives favourable consideration.

Best regards,

Hugh Delaney

Managing Director
Delaney Concrete

Company Reg. No. 263562
VAT No. IE8263562J

Colm Lawlor
Course Manager
Tralee Golf Club
West Barrow
Ardfert
Co. Kerry
0877722390
clawlor@traleegolfclub.com

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Planning Department
Wexford County Council
Newtown Road
Carricklawn
Wexford
735 WY93

Re- Letter of Support for Planning Permission

To Whom it may concern.

On behalf of Tralee Golf Club, I wish to express our support for D'Arcy Sands for their current planning application.
We are a longstanding customer of D'Arcy Sands and rely on their continued support for the operation of our business. Their sand quality is known for being one of the best in Ireland and is highly sought after in the Sports Turf industry across numerous sports stadiums and venues. We use D'Arcy sand across all areas of our golf course and use their specialised Narco mix for quick seed germination on Tees and Fairways.

There are limited alternative options available to us to source the same high-quality product that D'Arcy Sands supplies. We ask that Wexford County Council look favourably on the positive contribution that this company provides to not only Tralee Golf Club but many other Golf Courses and Sports ventures around the country.

There is no doubt Tralee Golf Club would suffer significant disruption to the service we provide many visitors and tourists should D'Arcy Sands be unable to supply us with their top-quality products.

Kind Regards
Colm Lawlor

info@darcysands.ie

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From: Pat@darcysands.ie
Sent: 28 October 2025 10:29
To: info@darcysands.ie
Subject: Fwd: Sand Requirements Ryder Cup 2027

Kind Regards

Patrick Murphy
Darcy Sands
087 2585653

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Alan MacDonnell <amacdonnell@adaremanor.com>
> **Date:** 28 October 2025 at 09:46:12 GMT
> **To:** Pat@darcysands.ie
> **Subject: Sand Requirements Ryder Cup 2027**
>
> Hello Patrick,
>
> Many thanks for sending on the latest data and specifications of sand. It is encouraging to see your sand testing so well.
>
> I thought I would just highlight and bring to your attention the requirements of your highest quality USGA Ballagh Sand in advance of Irelands biggest day in the golf world; The Centenary Ryder Cup 2027 at Adare Manor.
>
> It's a requirement of the event that Adare Manor has firm, fast, high performing, high percolating greens, tees, fairways and roughs for the success of the event. To this end we require assurances over the availability of USGA Sand from your Ballagh pit. As The Golf Course at Adare Manor was constructed with D'Arcy Ballagh Sand it is imperative that we have a consistent supply of 12-15,000 tonnes annually, up to and including at a minimum September 2027 to support our desire to host the 'most memorable Ryder Cup in European history'. A lesser quality sand will not be compatible with our existing root zones and could cause bridging which will regrettably lead so wetter, softer and underperforming surfaces.

D'Arcy Sand and in particular your sand from Ballagh is viewed as being an integral part of the successful hosting of this event.

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I would appreciate if you could give me assurances that the supply chain will remain as is and uninterrupted, D'Arcy Ballagh Sand will be an integral part of the success of The Ryder Cup.

I look forward to getting supply assurances from you.

Regards

Alan

Alan MacDonnell | Golf Course Superintendent

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