

Chapter 42. Castlebaldwin Village Plan

The Settlement Strategy for County Sligo designates Castlebaldwin as a **village sustaining rural communities**. In 2024, its potential for growth was limited by the restricted capacity of its wastewater treatment plant.

42.1 Village profile

The village of Castlebaldwin is located approximately 20 km south-east of Sligo Town, along the L-37000 (Old N-4). The new **N-4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin** realigned route, to the east of the village, was officially opened in 2021 [PA-195]. Castlebaldwin stretches across the boundary between the electoral divisions (EDs) of Templevanny and Lakeview (mostly in Lakeview).

Castlebaldwin village assets		
Population	2022 Census	291 persons in the statistical Small Area including Castlebaldwin;
	2016 Census	236 persons in the Small Area; 432 persons in Lakeview and 226 persons in Templevanny
	2011 Census	259 persons in the Small Area; 474 persons in Lakeview and 245 persons in Templevanny
	2011-2022	+ 12.3% in the Small Area
Housing stock	2022 Census	124 dwellings, of which 2 holiday homes and 16 vacant (Small Area)
	2016 Census	107 dwellings, of which 2 holiday homes and 15 vacant (Small Area)
Service infrastructure	Water supply	Sourced from Lough Arrow via the privately-owned Castlebadwin Group Water Scheme
	Wastewater treatment	100 PE with no spare capacity. The village has been nominated for inclusion in Uisce Éireann’s <i>Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme</i> for an upgrade or provision of a new WWTP. A strategic assessment has been carried out on the existing WWTP.
	Road network	Located along the L-37000 (Old N-4), adjacent to the realigned N-4
Social infrastructure	Schools	One primary school
	Churches	Church located to the north-east of the village
	Sports facilities	None

Castlebaldwin village assets		
	Other assets	Ballyrush community childcare is located to the north-east of the village.
Sustainable transport	Train	Not available in the area
	Bus	Served by Bus Eireann routes 23 and 471 and by the Local link
	Active travel	No current proposals
Architectural heritage	Protected Structures	One: a former national school
Natural heritage and environment	Natura 2000 sites nearby	None
	Natural amenities	Cleavry Lough and wetland, the Beara-Breifne Way
	Flood risk	None

42.2 Village-specific objectives

Note: These objectives must be considered in conjunction with the urban development policies for towns and villages contained in **Chapter 10 Urban development principles** (Vol. 2) and the general development policies and objectives set out in Volume 3 of this Plan.

42.2.1 Natural heritage and open space

- A.** Facilitate the protection and enhancement of the wetland site around Cleavry Lough, to the north-west of the village.
- B.** Retain and enhance the existing public open spaces to the north of the junction of the Old Dublin Road (L-37000) and the link road to the new N-4.

42.2.2 Transport and circulation

- A.** Maintain and protect the route of the Beara-Breifne Way.
- B.** Implement the remedial works scheme - part of the N-4 realignment scheme. This will involve the provision of new/upgraded footpaths, drainage, cycle lanes and resurfacing of the L-37000 (Old N-4).

42.2.3 Village centre

- A.** Development on the lands zoned RV at the junction of the old N-4 in the middle of the village should integrate with the scale of existing development and should be designed to reflect the prominent nature of the site.

42.2.4 Wastewater treatment

- A.** Pursue, in co-operation with Irish Water, the provision of a new wastewater treatment plant or an upgrade of the existing facility. In the interim, applications for connection will be assessed on an individual basis by Uisce Éireann considering their specific load requirements. Minor developer-funded improvements may be required to the existing WWTP.