

Chapter 48. Drumcliff Village Plan

The Settlement Strategy for County Sligo designates Drumcliff as a **village sustaining rural communities**. It currently (2023) has strictly limited infrastructural capacity for small-scale development. The village is included in the area covered by the Sligo Local Transport Plan, which contains specific provisions relating to active travel measures.

48.1 Village profile

Drumcliff is located approximately 6 km north of Sligo Town, along the N-15 (Sligo-Donegal Road). Drumcliff River flows through the village into Drumcliff Bay, which is part of Sligo Bay SAC.

The village plays a prominent tourism role in the county, due to its W.B. Yeats connection, along with its attractive rural setting and archaeological heritage.

Drumcliff village assets		
Population [to be updated with 2022 Census figures]	2022 Census	No census data available for the village
	2016 Census	No census data available for the village
	% change	n/a
Housing stock [as above]	2016 Census	No census data available for the village
Service infrastructure	Water supply	Provided through two group water schemes (Drumcliff/Castletown and Drum East).
	Wastewater treatment	75 PE with spare capacity of approx. 20 PE
	Road network	Located along the N-15
Social infrastructure	Schools	None
	Churches	One church
	Sports facilities	None
	Other assets	HSE Primary Healthcare Centre
Sustainable transport	Train	Not available in the area
	Bus	Served by Bus Eireann routes 464, 474, 480, 483 and by TFI Local Link
	Active travel	No current proposals

Drumcliff village assets		
Architectural heritage	Protected Structures	3, including the notable St. Columba’s Church
Natural heritage and environment	Natura 2000 sites nearby	Cummeen Strand/Drumcliff Bay (Sligo Bay) SAC/pNHA.
	Natural amenities	Drumcliff River and Sligo Bay
	Flood risk	Present. Flood Zones A and B are mapped in Appendix 1 of the SFRA

48.2 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.

48.2.1 Natural heritage and open space

- A. Pursue the development of the open space on the lands to the west of the bridge, along the banks of the Drumcliff River, including the provision of picnic and fishing facilities, subject to Habitats Directive Assessment.

48.2.2 Built heritage

- A. Prepare and implement a Conservation Plan for the monastic site at Drumcliff in partnership with relevant stakeholders and the local community, subject to the availability of resources.

48.2.3 Transport

- A. Realign and upgrade the junction of the N-15 and the Carney Road, particularly in conjunction with the development of adjoining lands.
- B. Seek the provision of a segregated cycle route from the village to Sligo Town.
- C. Improve public transport and active travel infrastructure within the village in conjunction with the TII and the NTA. **[PA-203]**

48.2.4 Village centre

- A. Ensure that any development proposal on the site zoned RV (Rural Village) at the junction of the N-15 and the Carney Road fronts both public roads and establishes a focal point for the village.

48.2.5 Tourism

- A. Facilitate small-scale, tourism-related enterprises in the area zoned TOU (tourism-related uses) and on lands zoned GB (Green Belt) in the vicinity of St. Columba’s Church and car park. Any such proposals should be consistent with a conservation plan for the area (to be prepared by Sligo County Council in partnership with the local community) and should be designed to a high standard.