



Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

9 Aibreán 2025
9 April 2025

Fógra/Notice

Cruinnithe Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe Galway City Council Meeting

Do Gach Ball de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe:

A Chara,

Tionólfar Gnáthchruinniú de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe ar an **Luain, 14 Aibreán 2025 ar a 3.00in sa Seomra na Comhairle, Halla na Cathrach, Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe agus ar líne ar MS Teams**. Tá cóip de Chlár an Chruinnithe seo ar fáil ag an bhFáiltiú ar mhaithe le hiniúchadh.

Tá clár an chruinnithe leagtha amach faoi seo.

A Plenary Meeting of Galway City Council will be held on **Monday, 14th April 2025 at 3.00pm in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Galway City Council and online via MS Teams**. A copy of the agenda for this meeting is available at Reception for inspection.

The agenda for the meeting is set out hereunder. Members are requested to send queries regarding Matters Arising relating to Item 2(a) in writing, in advance of the meeting, to the undersigned.

Ailish Rohan,
Riarthóir na gCruinnithe / Meetings Administrator

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Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh,
H91 X4K8

City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8



Clár/Agenda Plenary Meeting - Monday 14th April 2025
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- 1. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest** (Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended).
- 2. Confirmation of Minutes**
 - (a) March Plenary Council meeting held on 10th March 2025.
- 3. Business Prescribed by Statute**
 - (a) To agree a time and date for the Annual Council Meeting 2025 – Proposed date Friday 20th June in the Council Chamber, City Hall.
 - (b) Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board – Appointment of One (1) Members (for the lifetime of the Council) - Resignation of Cllr J. Forde

(Group system of appointment applies. At least 40 per cent of the members elected shall be women and at least 40 per cent shall be men, per S.I. No. 142 of 2019 Education and Training Boards Act 2013 (Local Authority Members) Regulations 2019) as amended.
 - (c) Appointment of One (1) Member to Civic Naming & Commemorative Committee from the West Ward - to replace Cllr M.J. Crowe
 - (d) Declaration of Public Road/Taking in Charge of Church Lane, Knocknacarra, Galway.
 - (e) Draft Annual Financial Statement 2024 (subject to Audit).
 - I. Approval of Annual Financial Statements (Unaudited) for year ended 31st December 2024.
 - II. Approval of Transfers To/From Reserves as detailed in Note 14 of the Accounts.
 - III. Approval of Over/Under Expenditure by Division as detailed in Note 16 of the Accounts.
- 4. Reports of Committee Meetings**
 - (a) Notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 7th April 2025.
- Recommendation regarding membership on EU Councillors Network

5. Consideration of Reports of Officials

- (a) Monthly Management Report for April 2025 and Quarterly Report for Q1, 2025.
- (b) Christmas Park and Ride report for 2023 - Recommendation from Corporate Policy Group for consideration.

6. Notice of Motions

NOM 18/2025, submitted by Cllr. F. Fahy on 07/04/2025

I propose that the playground on Henry Street be named after Mary Byrne, R.I.P, who was Galway's first female Mayor and a resident of Henry Street to acknowledge her huge contribution to Galway.

NOM 21/2025, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 07/04/2025

Pilot of Accessible Parking Bay Text Alert Scheme: I propose the following motion for consideration by the Chief Executive, Directors and Council Members: That Galway City Council supports the Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland's (DDAI) campaign to combat the abuse of accessible parking bays and commits to implementing a pilot of the Accessible Parking Bay Text Alert Scheme in Galway City. This scheme would allow members of the public to easily report the misuse of accessible parking spaces via a simple text message, supporting better enforcement and protection of parking bays for those who genuinely need them. The pilot could be trialled in key locations across the city where misuse has been identified, with a view to expansion following review and stakeholder consultation.

NOM 22/2025, submitted by Cllr. N. McNelis on 06/04/2025

This Council calls on the Minister for Health and The Minister of State for Mental Health to urgently address those presenting as suicidal not to have to go through A & E. This council calls for a separate general admission unit for those experiencing a mental health emergency. The mental health records should be immediately referenced, while also securing and monitoring them when someone says they want to end their lives.

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NOM 23/2025, submitted by Cllr. E. Seoigthe on 07/04/2025

That this Council requests a full report from the Chief Executive detailing the purchase of Crown Square including:

1. The rationale for the purchase and how it aligns with the Council's Development Plan and strategic objectives.
2. The total purchase price, source of funding, and any additional financial commitments associated with the acquisition.
3. A breakdown of the due diligence process undertaken, including property valuation, structural surveys, legal title checks, and planning compliance.
4. Details of the procurement or selection process, including whether alternative properties were considered and if a competitive process was followed.
5. Any future plans for the property, associated costs, and the expected timeline for its use.
6. Confirmation of compliance with Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and other relevant legislative provisions.

Furthermore, this Council calls for a review of the governance procedures surrounding property acquisitions to ensure full transparency, value for money, and accountability in all future purchases.

7. Questions

Q8/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. Forde on 05/03/2025

I would like to raise a question at the March meeting regarding the status of outside dining for commercial ratepayers in Woodquay for 2025. Last year, businesses such as McGinn's and the Italian restaurant were denied permission for outdoor dining. However, during discussions on the commercial rate increase, I highlighted the importance of reconsidering this decision. With commercial rates now increased, it is crucial that businesses in Wood Quay receive fair treatment, especially compared to those in the West, where outdoor dining is permitted from May to September. The businesses in Woodquay are requesting approval for a much shorter period - only from July to the end of August.

Q9/2025, submitted by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty on 26/03/2025

Please give a breakdown of all the properties that the City Council is currently renting for office space or other purposes; their location and use; how many

staff are working in those offices/spaces (listed for each space rented); the yearly rents paid on those properties and the current status of the leases (start and finish month/year). Also, will Crown Square accommodate all of the office staff currently working in those rented properties including the staff in City Hall.

Q11/2025, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 07/04/2025

At the January Council meeting, I raised the need for access to the email addresses of Residents' Associations in Galway City. Previously, this information was available via a link on the old website, but it has since been removed. Given that restoring access would facilitate better engagement, empowerment, and information sharing for communities, as well as assist the Council in disseminating information on funding, grants, planning, and consultations, can the Council take steps to reinstate this access? Furthermore, can this process begin while we continue recruiting the Community Development Officers, under whose remit this would eventually fall?

Q12/2025, submitted by Cllr. N. McNelis on 06/04/2025

Chief Executive, could you please let me know how many planning applications have been received by Galway City Council for retention of use for short term letting of residential properties and how many offices / commercial units for change of use to short term letting have been received in last 3 years. Can you please give numbers for how many have received permission for same. Will Chief Executive outline the planning process for short term lets and why as reported in local media that Galway City has hundreds of properties advertised online with no planning, In the middle of a housing crisis has this local authority enough resources to tackle unauthorised short term letting with staffing and current planning laws.

Q13/2025, submitted by Cllr. A. Curran on 06/03/2025

Can the council provide an updated report on the recorded speed data from the 19 driver feedback signs in the city, to include the following data in tabular format:

- Number of records
- Volume per Hour
- Mean Speed
- Median Speed

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- Mean Speed by Hour
- Median Speed by Hour
- 85th Percentile Speed

8. Correspondence

- (a) Correspondence received on 11/03/2025 from Clare County Council – motion passed regarding funding for Early Year Educators.
- (b) Response to NOM09/2025, from Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, received on 13/03/2025.

9. Items for Councillors Information

None

10. Conferences & Training

	Provider	Details	Date & Location
(a)	AILG	March Training Module: "Embracing Equality - Cultivating Inclusive Local Communities"	Saturday 22nd March 2025 10.00am – 1.00pm Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit, Galway
(b)		QFA – Certificate in Professional Financial Advice (Cllr. Alan Cheevers)	
(c)	AILG	OPR Planning Training Webinar for Elected Members - Community Benefit Funds and Renewables	Friday, 28th of March 2025

11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

12. Other Business set forth in the notice convening the meeting

13. Any Other Business