

1 Deireadh Fómhair, 2025.
1 October, 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, 6 Deireadh Fómhair 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, 6 October 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) and 2(b) in writing, in advance of the meeting, to the undersigned.



Ailish Rohan,
Riarthóir na gCruinnithe / Meetings Administrator.

www.GalwayCity.ie

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:

+353 (0)91 536400

Rphost: SeirbhísDoChustaiméiri@GalwayCity.ie

Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie

Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie

Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

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 6 October 2025.

1. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

(a) September Plenary Council meeting held on 8 September 2025.

(b) Special Meeting held on 15 September 2025.

3. Business Prescribed by Statute

(a) Planning & Development Act 2000, (as amended) Part 8 of Planning & Development Regulations 2001, Western Distributor Road Active Travel Scheme. **Document attached.**

(b) Raising of a Loan under the Capital Assistance Scheme for Acquisition / Refurbishment works of properties by Approved Housing Bodies. **Document attached**

(c) Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act, 2000, for consideration at the October Plenary Meeting on 6 October 2025, the Disposal of Land at Cúl Gharraí, Ragoon, Galway to Peter Triest Housing Association. **Document attached**

4. Reports of Committee Meetings

(a) Notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 29 September 2025. **Document attached.**

Recommendation:

- (i). To hold the March Council Plenary Meeting as Gaeilge
- (ii). To name the Laurel Park Pitches after Tommy Keane

(b) Update on Potential Section 183 Lands adjacent to University Hospital.

5. Consideration of Reports of Officials

- (a) Monthly Management Report for October 2025 and Quarterly Report.
Report attached.
- (b) Review Workshop on 5 Year Plan of Strategic Priorities **for noting.**
Document Attached.
- (c) Linking University Car Parks to existing city bus services for approval.
Report issued September.
- (d) Customer Service Action Plan and Charter 2025-2029, for approval.
Report attached.
- (e) Galway City Invasive Species Strategy 2025-2030, for approval.
Report attached.
- (f) Galway City Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030, for approval.
Report attached.
- (g) Heritage and Conservation Mutton Island Lighthouse, for noting.
- (h) Heritage and Conservation Menlo Castle, for noting.

6. Notice of Motions

NOM 10/2025, submitted by Cllr. D. Lyons on 02/03/2025

In future in order to avoid what has emerged on the Upper Clybaun Road where two housing developments opposite each other are under construction with hoardings erected on either side of the road, giving only a 5m clear road space, no pedestrian facilities, very poor sight lines and no public lighting, I request Galway City Council would introduce a Condition which would be applied to every Planning Decision, to compel Developers to complete the public roadside footpaths, within a dedicated time of the Development commencing.

Response issued 17 September 2025

www.GalwayCity.ie

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:
+353 (0)91 536400
Rphost: SeirbhisDoChustaimoiri@GalwayCity.ie
Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie
Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie
Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

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



NOM 33/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. McDonagh on 02/06/2025

That this Council affirms its commitment to transparency and public engagement and hereby resolves that no decision will be made to dispose of, sell, or otherwise transfer any part of Shantalla Park — including lands associated with the proposed helipad — without first conducting a full and proper consultation process with the local residents and relevant community.

NOM 44/2025, submitted by Cllr. D. Lyons on 04/07/2025

The existing fire station on Fr. Griffin Road is in need of urgent replacement. In consultation with the Chief Executive of Galway County Council and the Chief Fire Officer of Galway City and County Fire Service can the Chief Executive give an update and time frame on the provision of a new site and fire station in Galway City for the Galway City and County Fire Service.

NOM 45/2025, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 06/07/2025

Utility Reinstatement Standards and Oversight

That Galway City Council outlines the current measures in place to ensure quality control and proper reinstatement of footpaths and roads following works carried out by utility providers such as Irish Water, ESB, and others.

Given ongoing concerns about substandard reinstatement works in many areas resulting in long-term damage, safety issues, and additional costs to the Council, I call for the consideration of recruiting a new staff who will be assigned to the Licensing & Technical team to monitor and inspect utility works both prior to commencement and post-completion. This would help ensure compliance with agreed reinstatement standards and reduce the financial and operational burden on the local authority.

NOM 52/2025, submitted by Cllr. A. Cheevers on 26/08/2025

That Galway City Council calls on the Government to reinstate the 9% VAT rate for food-led businesses from 1 January 2026 as part of Budget 2026, to protect jobs, prevent further closures. With 99.6% of businesses in the sector being SMEs, failure to reinstate the 9% VAT rate will result in the closure of many small businesses in our communities.

NOM 53/2025, submitted by Cllr. D. Lyons on 29/08/2025

In recent years there is strong evidence that there is a major change for people who pass away who are now being cremated instead of the usual burial in cemeteries/graveyards. I understand that in the City, 30% of people who pass away are now being cremated. I believe in future that this percentage will increase.

I am requesting Galway City Council to examine the possibility of providing Columbarium Walls in designated areas in communities rather than in cemeteries.

NOM 55/2025, submitted by Cllr. S. Forde on 01/09/2025

That Galway City Council recognises the urgent and growing public safety hazard posed by the unregulated use of high powered e-scooters and e-bikes on footpaths, pedestrian areas, and shared public spaces across the city. The increasing number of collisions, near misses and injuries highlights the need for immediate intervention. Accordingly, this Council agrees:

1. To write to the Minister for Transport requesting the urgent introduction of national regulations requiring licensing, registration, and insurance for high powered e-scooters and e-bikes, in line with other motorised vehicles, to ensure accountability and public safety.
2. To engage with local Gardaí to coordinate a targeted enforcement blitz in high risk areas, including Galway City Centre and Parkmore, where pedestrian safety concerns are most acute.

This motion seeks to ensure Galway City remains a safe and accessible city for pedestrians, cyclists, and all road users, while also calling for national legislation to provide clear guidance and enforcement.

Response issued 02/09/2025

NOM 57/2025, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 01/09/2025

That Galway City Council explore the feasibility of establishing a structured workplace internship programme for young people from Galway, aged 18 and over, within the local authority.

The programme would aim to:

- Provide participants with valuable first-hand experience of local government operations, community services, and policy development.
- Offer meaningful and challenging work opportunities during the summer months.
- Encourage future careers in public service and strengthen civic engagement among young people.
- Provide additional support to Council staff during periods of annual leave or reduced capacity.

www.GalwayCity.ie

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:

+353 (0)91 536400

Rphost: SeirbhisDoChustaimeiri@GalwayCity.ie

Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie

Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie

Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

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

- Enhance public awareness of the Council's work and its impact on the community, as seen through the perspective of young participants.

This initiative would serve to build stronger connections between Galway City Council and the next generation of leaders, while contributing to service delivery and community engagement.

Response issued 1 October 2025

NOM 58/2025, submitted by Cllr. C. Higgins on 01/09/2025

That Galway City Council commit to:

1. That the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) meets with the Galway City water sports groups to begin meaningful consultation.
2. That Galway City Council develops a Beach Management and Zoning plan **(that fully meets Criterion 30 of the Blue Flag beach criteria document)** for all Galway City Beaches.
3. That Galway City Council engages with all stakeholders to develop Zoning plans and maps for all Galway City Beaches **(consistent with Criterion 5 and Criterion 30 of the Blue Flag beach criteria document)** that allows for dedicated launch zones, improved access routes to the water, and provides for safe, inclusive use of our beaches for swimmers, watersports and beach users.

Blue Flag Criterion 30. There must be management of different users and uses of the beach so as to prevent conflicts and accidents.

Beaches that support multiple activities must have management plans to prevent accidents and conflicts. This must include zoning for swimmers, surfers, windsurfers and motor craft. At the same time, recreational use of the beach must be managed without a negative impact on the natural environment or the biodiversity of the beach, and with consideration for aesthetic issues.

Swimmers should be protected from all sea craft (motor, sail or pedal). Where necessary, zoning through the use of buoys, beacons or signs must be in place. The same must be done for surfing areas. Distinctions should be made between motor, paddle or sail craft. The use of these various activities must be separated.

Blue Flag Criterion 5. A map of the beach indicating different facilities must be displayed.

A map showing the boundaries of the Blue Flag beach area and the location of key facilities and services must be posted on the Blue Flag information board. The required map elements should show the location of: zoning (swimming, surfing, sailing, boating, etc.)

NOM 60/2025, submitted by Cllr. E. Seoighthe on 29/09/2025

That Galway City Council will write to the National Transport Authority and the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage to establish where the URDF funding stands at for the Galway to Clifden pedestrian bridge and when we can expect start date for same.

NOM 61/2025, submitted by Cllr. C. Higgins on 29/09/2025

Extension of Free Fares for Under-9s to Commercial Bus Operators

That Galway City Council supports the immediate inclusion of Commercial Bus Operators (CBOs) in the Child Leap Card Scheme, which provides free bus travel for children under nine.

Council notes:

CBOs are an essential part of Ireland's public transport network, already delivering the Young Adult Leap Card and the Department of Social Protection's Travel Pass.

Their exclusion from the under-9 scheme creates unfairness, particularly for rural families who depend on them, and risks a two-tier bus system.

Extending the scheme would cost just €1 million, a modest sum that would support families during the cost-of-living crisis and encourage sustainable travel habits among children.

Therefore, Galway City Council calls on the Minister for Transport and the National Transport Authority to:

1. Urgently include CBOs in the Child Leap Card Scheme.
2. Ensure a fair and consistent transport policy that treats all children equally, regardless of geography or bus service used.

Recommendation:

That this motion be circulated to all city and county councils for endorsement and forwarded to the Minister for Transport for urgent consideration.

www.GalwayCity.ie

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:

+353 (0)91 536400

Rphost: SeirbhisDoChustaimeiri@GalwayCity.ie

Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie

Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie

Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

**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

7. Questions

Q17/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. McDonagh on 02/06/2025

Can the Chief Executive detail what consultations, if any, have taken place between Galway City Council and the HSE regarding (a) the proposed helipad in Shantalla Park, and (b) any potential disposal or transfer of lands within Shantalla Park? Furthermore, can all relevant correspondence, meeting notes, and records of communication between the Council and the HSE on this matter, from January 2025 to the present, be provided to elected members?

Q19/2025, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 06/07/2025

Safety Concerns Related to E-Bike and E-Scooter Use on Shared Walkways
Can the Chief Executive advise if Galway City Council will consider installing signage and implementing other safety measures to address the increasing use of e-bikes and e-scooters on shared pedestrian walkways, such as the Railway Line Walk, which is particularly narrow in some areas?
In light of public concerns and safety risks especially for older people, children, and individuals with mobility challenges, can the Council explore options for signage, awareness campaigns, and potential collaboration with An Garda Síochána and Iarnród Éireann, to support enforcement and safer usage?

Q20/2025, submitted by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty on 29/08/2025

Please clarify the following in relation to parking in Galway City:
How many Pay & Display parking machines are there in the city and how many of them are out of order?
How much income has Galway City Council lost as a result of difficulties with the Pay & Display parking meters since January 2025 (with details of income for 2025 year to date, 2024 Jan-Aug inclusive and 2023 Jan-Aug inclusive)?
To what extent is the Council aware of instances where the parking app has not worked, is this an ongoing problem and how widespread is it (temporary glitches, out for hours, out for days)?
How many parking fines have been issued in relation to parking in areas covered by parking meters (with figures for the corresponding periods in 2024 and 2023)?
How many of these have been paid? How many court proceedings have been issued in any case of non-payment of fines this year (with corresponding figures for 2024 and 2023)?
If a motorist receives a parking fine currently, would this stand up in court taking into account the fact that the machines are cashless and cardless?
What is the current projected total income from parking meters in 2025, and what was the corresponding income in '24 and '23?

Q21/2025, submitted by Cllr. N. McNelis on 01/09/2025

Following on from reports in local media this week can Galway City Give an update on Mutton Island Treatment plant. Has Uisce Éireann informed Galway City Council about its concerns and future plans. Are time scales available and what if any threats exist to storm proofing existing site.
What impact does this have on possible future developments for housing.

Q23/2025, submitted by Cllr. E. Hoare on 18/09/2025

I refer to the Ceannt Station redevelopment project which commenced in 2024. The €70m redevelopment is being funded by the Department of Housing's Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) and the National Transport Authority. This project is being carried out by BAM Ireland and it is planned to be completed by Q2 2026.

Galway City Council successfully applied for URDF Funding for this project. Can we please confirm the following with either or both of the funding partners:

1. When is this project expected to be concluded and new station operational?
2. Is the project being delivered within the initial budget? If not, what is the new revised costings for the project?
3. Have there been any disputes in relation to the project with the contractor?

8. Correspondence

- (a) Sligo County Council Resolution:
To consider support Town and City Gift Card rollout
- (b) Carlow County Council Resolution:
Opposition to increase in college fees and to maintain grants
- (c) Department of Housing Response to Notice of Motion
Capital Acquisitions Scheme (Cllr. N. McNelis).
- (d) Kerry County Council Resolution:
Call for introduction of a ban on vaping in all workplaces.
- (e) Limerick City and County Council Resolution:
Removal of Vat\Tax Relief\Extension on Counselling & Psychotherapy Services

9. Items for Councillors Information

- (a) Letter from National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) regarding
Local Authority Performance Indicator Report 2024.

www.GalwayCity.ie

Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:
+353 (0)91 536400
Rphost: SeirbhísDoChustaiméiri@GalwayCity.ie
Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie
Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie
Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

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

10. Conference, Training and other events

	Provider	Details	Date	Location
(a)	Gaelchultúr	Cúrsa Gaeilge do Chomhairleoirí Tofa – Irish Language for Elected Councillors	3 Mar. 2025	Online. Retrospective approval for Cllr. E. Seoighthe
(b)	UCD Prof. Academy	Diploma in Digital Media Design	18 Nov. 2025 (12 Wk)	University College Dublin. Approval for Cllr. C. Higgins
(c)	Celtic Conferences	The Evolving Role of AI in Public Relations	7-9 Nov. 2025	O'Donovan's Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.
(d)	AILG	Briefing on Updated Planning Legislation & Guidelines	15 Nov. 2025	Radisson Blu Athlone.
(e)	AILG	Local Authority Finance and Budget Process	9 Oct. 2025	Arklow Bay Hotel, Wicklow.
(f)	AILG	The European Accessibility Act – What Councillors Need to Know	21 Nov. 2025	Online
(g)	AILG	Supporting Councillors: Responding to Mental Health, Suicide, and Addiction Issues		Rescheduled Q1 2026.

11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

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

13. Any Other Business