

Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Galway City Council held in the Council Chamber, City Hall and Online via MS Teams on Friday 21st June 2024 at 4.00p.m.	
Presiding	Cllr E. Hoare, Mayor of the City of Galway Cllr P. Keane, Newly Elected Mayor of Galway City
Present (Elected Members)	Councillors: A. Burke, A. Cheevers, J. Connolly, M. Cubbard, A. Curran, F. Fahy, J. Forde, S. Forde, C. Higgins, D. Lyons, J. McDonagh, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, T. O'Flaherty, H. Ogbu, E. Seoighthe
Present (Executive)	Mr L. Cleary, Chief Executive Ms P. Philbin, Director of Services Mr D. Pender, Director of Services Ms S. Connolly, Senior Engineer Ms H. Martyn, A/Senior Executive Officer Ms A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Ms A. Kenny, Administrative Officer

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator commenced the meeting with a statement of intent to conduct the business of the meeting in line with Standing Orders followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Mayor E. Hoare proposed to take the agenda as outlined and to suspend standing orders to allow for filming of the meeting. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons and agreed.

1. Return of Persons Elected

Mayor E. Hoare referred Members to agenda item 1 and invited Ms. A. Rohan, Meeting Administrator to read out the Return of Persons Elected for each Local Electoral Area. Ms. A. Rohan read the Return of Persons Elected for the Centra, East and West Local Electoral Areas of Galway City Council.

Galway City Central Local Electoral Area

<u>Ainm an Iarrthóra</u> Name of candidate	<u>Páirtí</u> Party	<u>Slí Bheatha</u> Occupation	<u>Seoladh</u> Address	<u>Moltóir</u> Proposer	<u>Seoladh an Mholtóra</u> Proposer's Address
CUBBARD, MIKE	Non-Party	Fundraising Coordinator	Camillaun Park, Newcastle, Galway	Self	
HOARE, EDDIE	Fine Gael	Councillor/Chartered Accountant	Circular Road, Bushy Park, Galway	Self	
FAHY, FRANK	Fine Gael	Councillor	Monument Road, Menlo, Galway	Self	
SEOIGHTHE, EIBHLÍN	Social Democrats	Community Organiser & Parent	Shantalla Road, Shantalla, Galway	Susan Carolan	Shantalla Road, Galway
FORDE, JOSIE	Fianna Fáil	Office Manager	Corrib Park, Newcastle, Galway	Self	90 Ardilaun Road, Newcastle, Galway
MCDONAGH, JOHN	The Labour Party	Bus Driver	O'Flaherty Road, Shantalla, Galway	Niall Kelly	

Galway City East Local Electoral Area

<u>Ainm an Iarrthóra</u> Name of candidate	<u>Páirtí</u> Party	<u>Slí Bheatha</u> Occupation	<u>Seoladh</u> Address	<u>Moltóir</u> Proposer	<u>Seoladh an Mholtóra</u> Proposer's Address
MCDONNELL, DECLAN	Non-Party	Public Representative	4 Tara Grove, Wellpark, Galway	Robert Connolly	Castlepark, Ballybane, Galway
CHEEVERS, ALAN	Fianna Fáil	Business Consultant	129 Roscam, Galway	Self	
O'FLAHERTY, TERRY	Non-Party	City Councillor	Seagrove, Renmore, Galway	Self	
OGBU, HELEN	The Labour Party	Community Development/ Administration	Claonadh, Galway	Brice Kiki	Árd Álainn, Ballybane, Galway
BURKE, AISLING	Sinn Féin	Disability Centre Manager	Sliabh Bán, Ballybane, Galway	Mairéad Farrell	Wolfe Tone Avenue, Mervue, Galway
FORDE, SHANE	Fine Gael	Supplies Officer	Michael Collins Road, Mervue, Galway	Self	

Galway City West Local Electoral Area

Ainm an Iarrthóra Name of candidate	Páirtí Party	Sli Bheatha Occupation	Seoladh Address	Moltóir Proposer	Seoladh an Mholtóra Proposer's Address
LYONS, DONAL	Non-Party	Public Representative	23 Knocknacarra Park, Knocknacarra, Galway	Self	St. Mary's Avenue, Galway
HIGGINS, CLODAGH	Fine Gael	Psychologist/Councillor	Kings Hill, Upper Salthill Road, Galway	Self	
CURRAN, ALAN	Social Democrats	Teacher	Clybaun Road, Knocknacarra, Galway	Justine Delaney	
CONNOLLY, JOHN	Fianna Fáil	Primary School Principal	12 Gort na Bró, Millers Lane, Western Distributor Road, Rahoon, Galway	Self	
MCNELIS, NÍALL	The Labour Party	Self Employed	Clybaun Road, Knocknacarra, Galway	Self	
KEANE, PETER	Fianna Fáil	Solicitor	29 The Nurseries, Taylors Hill, Galway	Self	

Mayor E. Hoare thanked Members and the executive for their support over the last year during his term as Mayor.

2. Election of Mayor

Mayor E. Hoare referred Members to agenda item 2 and invited proposals.

Cllr J Connolly Proposed Cllr Peter Keane as the new Mayor of Galway City Council. This was Seconded by Cllr A. Cheevers. As there were no further proposals, Mayor E. Hoare called for a show of hands in favour of this proposal.

Proposed By: Cllr. J. Connolly	Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers
Election of Mayor of Galway City Council	
I propose that Cllr Peter Keane be elected as the next Mayor of Galway City Council.	
In favour: 18	Against: 0
Abstain: 0	Absent: 0
Cllr. Peter Keane was elected as the next Mayor of Galway City Council unanimously.	

3. Election of Deputy Mayor

Mayor P. Keane took the Chair and referred Members to agenda item 3 and invited proposals.

Cllr M. Cubbard Proposed Cllr N. McNelis for Deputy Mayor. This was Seconded by Cllr J. McDonagh.

Cllr A. Curran proposed Cllr Eibhlín Seoighthe for Deputy Mayor. This was Seconded by Cllr T. O'Flaherty.

As there were two nominations, the Meetings Administrator proceeded to record a poll whereby Members stated the name of the person they wished to be elected.

Proposed By: Cllr M. Cubbard	Seconded By: Cllr J. McDonagh
Election of Deputy Mayor of Galway City Council	
I propose that Cllr Níall McNelis be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Galway City Council.	
Proposed By: Cllr A. Curran	Seconded By: Cllr T. O'Flaherty
Election of Deputy Mayor of Galway City Council	
I propose that Cllr Eibhlín Seoighthe be elected as the Deputy Mayor of Galway City Council.	
In Favour of Cllr. N. McNelis:	
Cllrs. A. Burke, A. Cheevers, J. Connolly, M. Cubbard, J. Forde, P. Keane, J. McDonagh, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, H. Ogbu.	
In Favour of Cllr. E. Seoighthe:	
Cllrs. A. Curran, F. Fahy, S. Forde, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, E. Seoighthe.	
Total votes for Cllr. N. McNelis: 10	
Total votes for Cllr. E. Seoighthe: 8	
Cllr. N. McNelis was elected as Deputy Mayor	

4. Appointment of Committees and Representatives on Other Bodies

(a) Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)

Appointment of Three (3) members (for the lifetime of the Council)
(Group system of appointment applies)

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed.

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group, consisting of Cllrs. F. Fahy, E. Hoare, S. Forde, D. Lyons, A. Curran & C. Higgins.

The group Proposed to nominate Cllr. T. O'Flaherty. This was agreed.

Cllr. M. Cubbard Proposed that the remaining 2 nominations be filled by Cllr. D. McDonnell and Cllr. A. Cheevers. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. T. O'Flaherty, Cllr. D. McDonnell and Cllr. A. Cheevers be appointed to the Association of Irish Local Government.

(b) Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NRWA)

Appointment of Two (2) Members (for the lifetime of the Council being members of the Northern and Western Regional Assembly. (Group system of appointment applies).

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed. No groups were formed.

Cllr. J. Forde nominated Cllr. A. Burke. This was Seconded by Cllr. M. Cubbard and agreed.

Cllr. J. McDonagh nominated Cllr. N. McNelis. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. A. Burke and Cllr. N. McNelis be appointed to the Northern and Western Regional Assembly.

(c) Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board (GRETb)

Appointment of Three (3) Members (for the lifetime of the Council).
(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.

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed.

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group, consisting of Cllrs. D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, F. Fahy, A. Curran. E. Hoare and C. Higgins.

The group Proposed to nominate Cllr. Eibhlín Seoighthe. This was agreed.

Cllr. J. McDonagh nominated Cllr. H. Ogbu and Cllr. J. Forde. This was Seconded by Cllr. A. Cheevers and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. E. Seoighthe, Cllr. H. Ogbu and Cllr. J. Forde be appointed to the Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board.

Cllr. D. Lyons queried the gender balance requirements on the GRETb and requested clarification on this. Cllr. E. Hoare asked if clarification could be sought in writing and circulated to Members.

Following discussion, Cllr. D. McDonnell Proposed to proceed with the nominations made and that same can be amended by resolution if necessary once clarification is received from the ETB. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly and agreed.

(d) Galway City Council Audit Committee

Appointment of two (2) Elected Members (for the lifetime of the Council)
(Group system of appointment applies)

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed. No groups were formed.

Cllr. D. McDonnell nominated Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr. P. Keane. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr. P. Keane be appointed to the Galway City Council Audit Committee.

(e) Galway/Salthill Fáilte Company CLG

Appointment of Eight (8) members to the Company Board. Five (5) of which will be Members of Galway City Council and three (3) non-members for the life of the Council. (Non-Group - Appointment by Vote)

Cllr. J. Forde nominated Cllr. D. McDonnell. This was Seconded by Cllr. John Connolly and agreed.

Cllr. M. Cubbard nominated Cllr. A. Burke. This was Seconded by Cllr. A. Cheevers and agreed.

Cllr. J. McDonagh nominated Cllr. N. McNelis. This was Seconded by Mayor P. Keane and agreed.

Cllr. J. Connolly nominated Mayor P. Keane. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane nominated Cllr. J. Forde. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane Proposed to nominate 3 non-members: Tom O'Connor, Dan Murphy and David Burke. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. D. McDonnell, Cllr. A. Burke, Cllr. N. McNelis, Mayor P. Keane and Cllr. Josie Forde be appointed to the Galway/Salthill Fáilte Company CLG and that Tom O'Connor, Dan Murphy and David Burke be the 3 non-members appointed to this group.

(f) Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd (IPB)

Appointment of One (1) Member (for a period of one year).
(Non-Group - Appointment by Vote)

Cllr. F. Fahy nominated Cllr. E. Hoare. This was Seconded by Cllr. C. Higgins and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. E. Hoare be appointed to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

(g) Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)

Appointment of One (1) Member (for the lifetime of the Council)
(Non-Group - Appointment by Vote)

Cllr. J McDonagh nominated Cllr. N. McNelis. This was Seconded by Cllr. H. Ogbu and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. N. McNelis be appointed to the Local Authority Members Association.

(h) Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Appointment of Two (2) Members (for the lifetime of the Council
(Group system of appointment applies)

Cllr. A. Burke nominated Cllr. J. Forde. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly and agreed.

Cllr. N. McNelis nominated Cllr. H. Ogbu. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. J. Forde and Cllr. H. Ogbu be appointed to the Local Community Development Committee.

(i) Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)

Appointment of Six (6) Members (for a minimum period of three years)
(Group system of appointment applies)

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed.

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form two groups as follows:

Group 1 consisted of: Cllrs. F. Fahy, E. Hoare & S. Forde.

Group 1 nominated Cllr. E. Seoighthe. This was agreed.

Group 2 consisted of: Cllrs. Donal Lyons, T. O'Flaherty & C. Higgins.

Group 2 nominated Cllr. A. Curran. This was agreed.

Cllr. D. McDonnell nominated Cllr. H. Ogbu, Cllr. A. Cheevers, Cllr. A. Burke and Cllr. J. Connolly. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Ford and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. E. Seoighthe, Cllr. A. Curran, Cllr. H. Ogbu, Cllr. A. Cheevers, Cllr. A. Burke and Cllr. J. Connolly be appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

(j) Lough Corrib Navigation Trustees

Appointment of Five (5) Persons for the lifetime of the Council, three (3) of which will be Members of Galway City Council and two (2) non-members.
(Group System of appointment applies.)

Mayor P. Keane proposed to take as two standalone appointments for Elected Members and Non-Members and asked if any groups would be formed.

Nomination of 3 Elected Members:

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group consisting of: Cllrs. E. Hoare, S. Forde, D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, A. Curran & C. Higgins.

The group nominated Cllr. F. Fahy. This was agreed.

Cllr. A. Cheevers nominated Cllr. J. Connolly and Cllr. J. McDonagh. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

Nomination of 2 Non-Members

Cllr. J. McDonagh nominated Mr. Mark Lohan and Mr. Gary Creavin. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed the following appointments to the Lough Corrib Navigation Trust:

- Elected Members: Cllr. F. Fahy, Cllr. J. Connolly and Cllr. J. McDonagh.
- Non-Members: Mr. Mark Lohan and Mr. Gary Creavin.

(k) Regional Health Forum West

Appointment of Three (3) Members (for the lifetime of the Council)
(Group system of appointment applies)

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed.
Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group consisting of: Cllrs. D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, A Curran, E. Seoighthe, F. Fahy & C. Higgins.

The group nominated Cllr. S. Forde. This was agreed.

Cllr. J. Forde nominated Cllr. A. Burke and Cllr. J. Connolly. This was Seconded by Cllr. A. Cheevers and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. S. Forde, Cllr. A. Burke and Cllr. J. Connolly be appointed to the Regional Health Forum West.

(l) Galway Sports Partnership: Steering Group Member

Appointment of One (1) Steering Group Member. This member will represent Galway City Council in the position of Chairperson / Vice-chairperson in rotation with Galway County Council's elected representative. (Non-Group - Appointment by Vote)

Cllr. D. McDonnell nominated Cllr. M. Cubbard. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. M. Cubbard be appointed to the Galway Sports Partnership.

(m) Grants Committee

Appointment of 7 Committee Members. (2 Committee Members from each Ward)
Appointment of One (1) Chairperson (Total 7 members).
(Group system of appointment applies).

Mr. L. Cleary, Chief Executive, gave a briefing on this item as this is a new committee.

Cllr. E. Hoare proposed that Members be appointed to this new Committee after a Terms of Reference are circulated to better inform Members.

Mayor P. Keane agreed with Cllr. E. Hoare's proposal and further proposed that Members proceed to Elect a Chair.

Cllr. M. Cubbard nominated Cllr. D. McDonnell as Chair of this Committee. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. D. McDonnell be appointed Chair of the Grants Committee and deferred the appointment of Members until the Terms of Reference have been agreed.

(n) Civic Commemoration Committee

Appointment of Three (3) Members - one from each Electoral Area for the full term of the Council and the Mayor of the City of Galway.

Mayor P. Keane asked if any groups would be formed.

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group consisting of: Cllrs. F. Fahy, E. Hoare, A. Curran, D. Lyons & C. Higgins.

The group nominated Cllr. T. O'Flaherty. This was agreed.

Cllr. A. Cheevers nominated Cllr. J. Connolly. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde and agreed.

Cllr. A. Burke nominated Cllr. J. McDonagh. This was Seconded by Cllr. N. McNelis and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane nominated Cllr. J. Connolly. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. T. O'Flaherty, Cllr. J. McDonagh and Cllr. J. Connolly be appointed to the Civic Commemoration Committee.

(o) Advisory Group of Ballinfoile-Castlegar Neighbourhood Centre

Appointment of Two (2) Members (Gender balance required) for the lifetime of the Council. (Group system of appointment applies)

Cllr. D McDonnell nominated Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr H. Ogbu. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr. H. Ogbu be appointed to the Advisory Group of the Ballinfoile-Castlegar Neighbourhood Centre.

Cllr. F. Fahy referred to the Galway City Trust group and why it is not on the list of committees and asked for clarification on this matter.

Ms. A. Rohan advised that she revert to Members with clarification on this matter.

Cllr. E. Hoare queried nomination of Members onto the Joint Policing Committee.

Mr. L. Cleary advised Members that the Department will be circulating a briefing note on the new Community Safety Partnerships to all Elected Members early next week. He also agreed to provide an update on this matter for the next meeting.

5. Appointment of Chairpersons to Five (5) Strategic Policy Committees

The allocation of SPC Chairs should reflect equitably the spread of elected representation on the Council. However, where agreement in this regard is not possible the group of SPC Chairs to be appointed should be treated for appointment purposes as if it constituted a separate committee, i.e. group system applying.

Councillors are also advised that if they choose to proceed with appointments at this meeting, they could select five (5) Councillors as Chairpersons without selecting the SPCs to which they would be appointed, which could be decided at a later date when the SPC scheme is completed.

Ms. A. Rohan briefed Members on the new SPC guidelines and the proposal to form 6 SPCs. Councillors discussed the matter and were in agreement with the proposal to form 6 SPCs.

Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form 2 groups as follows:

Group 1 consisted of Cllrs. F. Fahy, E. Hoare, S. Forde and C. Higgins and nominated Cllr. D. Lyons. This was agreed.

Group 2 consisted of Cllrs. D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, A. Curran and E. Seoighthe and nominated Cllr. C. Higgins. This was agreed.

Cllr. A. Burke nominated Cllr. J. Connolly, Cllr. N. McNelis, Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr. D. McDonnell. This was Seconded by Cllr. H. Ogbu and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. D. Lyons, Cllr. C. Higgins, Cllr. J. Connolly, Cllr. N. McNelis, Cllr. M. Cubbard and Cllr. D. McDonnell be appointed Chairs of the 6 SPCs.

6. To Consider Appointment of Procedures Committee of City Council

The Procedures Committee should consist of a representative of each political grouping and the Committee is chaired by the Mayor ex officio.

Cllr. D. Lyons proposed that the number of independents on the Procedures Committee be increased. This was Seconded by Cllr. M Cubbard.

Cllr J Connolly queried why no members are nominated to the Galway City Partnership. It was agreed that this matter would be examined and a response to issue once received.

7. Approving to Standing Orders Galway City Council

Mayor P. Keane proposed that the Standing Orders be approved. This was agreed.

8. Training for Councillors 11th or 13th July, 2024

Proposed By: Cllr. E. Hoare	Seconded By: Cllr. C. Higgins
Motion for consideration: "That Galway City Council nominates all Elected Members to attend one of the training seminars being organised by the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) for all elected members".	
Thursday 11th July, 2024 from 9:30am - 1:00pm Regional Assembly Area: Eastern & Midland/ Northern & Western Location: Mullingar Park Hotel	
Saturday 13th July, 2024 from 9:30am - 1:00pm Regional Assembly Area: Southern/ Out of Region option for Eastern & Midland/ Northern & Western Location: Radisson Blu Hotel Cork	
The above training was agreed for Members.	

9. To Fix Dates for Meetings of Galway City Council

Proposed By: Cllr. D. McDonnell	Seconded By: Cllr. M. Cubbard
9. The practice has been that Ordinary Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, except for the month of August.	
July Ordinary meeting:	Monday 8th July 2024
August:	No meeting
September Ordinary meeting:	Monday 9th September 2024
October Ordinary meeting:	Monday 14th October 2024
November Ordinary meeting:	Monday 11th November 2024
December Ordinary meeting:	Monday 9th December 2024
January Ordinary meeting:	Monday 13 th January 2025
February Ordinary meeting:	Monday 10 th February 2025
March Ordinary meeting:	Monday 10 th March 2025
April Ordinary meeting:	Monday 14 th April 2025

May Ordinary meeting:	Monday 12 th May 2025
June Ordinary meeting:	Monday 9 th June 2025
The dates for the ordinary meetings were approved and agreed with a meeting start time of 3:00pm.	

The meeting concluded at 17:54.