

**Tuairisc/Reporting Template for Galway City  
Community Network (GCCN) Reps**

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**Galway City Community Network**  
Lionra Pobail Chathair Na Gaillimhe

Cruinniú /Name of Meeting	Planning SPC:
Ionadaí FPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) Name of GCCF Rep (note-taker)	Shane Foran
Dáta & Suite Date & Location of Meeting:	6th February 2018 Location Council Chamber City Hall
I láthair/ Attendance	<p>Present -----</p> <p>Council</p> <p>    Cllr. Ollie Crowe (Chair)     Cllr. Billy Cameron     Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty     Cllr. Donal Lyons     Cllr. Niall McNelis</p> <p>Community</p> <p>    Derrick Hambleton GCCN     Shane Foran GCCN</p> <p>In Attendance:</p> <p>    Ms. Eileen Ruane, A/Director of Services     Ms. Caroline Phelan, Senior Planner     Ms. Helen Coleman, Senior Executive Planner     Mr. Liam Blake, Senior Executive Planner     Ms. Diane Egan, Executive Planner     Ms. Norann Keane, Senior Staff Officer     Ms. Elaine Coffey, Clerical Officer</p>

Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:

### **North Western Regional Assembly**

Cllr Niall McNelis Sits on the North West regional assembly and there was discussion regarding the reporting process back to the council of matters considered at the assembly.

### **Ardaun**

Diane Egan for the council gave a report on the Ardaun Local Area Plan process. Shane Foran pointed out that the council was talking about removing the Kirwan Roundabout on grounds including pedestrian and cyclist safety and that a similar roundabout would now be the main means of access to the Ardaun development and that there was an apparent conflict between these positions. There was agreement from some of the councillors regarding the issue of the roundabout and safety. Cllr Donal Lyons agreed that safety for cyclist and pedestrians was a reason why the consultants had stated that the roundabout needed to be removed. Cllr Billy Cameron indicated that the Galway Clinic roundabout is not part of the N6 multimodal corridor proposals. Cllr Terry Flaherty indicated she had been raising the issue of the clinic roundabout for some time and had received letters of concern from staff at the clinic. Shane Foran asked Diane Egan to confirm for the record that the current plans do not provide for any changes to the roundabout. In her response Ms Egan failed repeatedly to address or acknowledge the issue but instead referred to a new avenue that is to be constructed linking the Ardaun lands to the roundabout. Derrick Hambleton expressed concerns that the Ardaun proposals would not happen in the same way that Knocknacarra. This then provoked some discussion regarding the nature of Knocknacarra as a suburb of the city. Caroline Phelan for the council offered that the council could not put in absolute requirements regarding roads when there were other stakeholders such as TII.

### **New Standards for Apartments**

There was a presentation on the new Apartment Standards being drafted by the government. Main points are that the proportion of one bed and studio apartments is increased, there is a less conservative attitude to infill urban development, reduced number of dual aspect apartments (having windows on two sides of the building) One important issue that came out of this was that these will supersede any provisions in the city development plan. This then led to discussion regarding the amount of property that is being used for AirBnB lettings around the city center and the knock on effects on supply for long term let. Shane Foran raised questions regarding storage for property at ground level.

### **Planning infringements**

A report was circulated regarding planning applications. There were 28 appeals on An Bord Pleanála, 202 planning complaints were received and 127 warning notices issued. There was discussion around the process for seeking retention of unauthorised structures or works. Councillors expressed frustration with the attitude of some to planning policy. Derrick Hambleton raised concerns regarding developers seeking retention for unauthorised changes to protected buildings.

### **Galway Harbour**

The meeting was informed that consultants had been appointed (LHM Casey McGrath) to do due diligence on proposals to move the harbour under the control of Galway City Council

### **Headford Road**

In response to questions on the Headford road proposals (Black box site) Caroline Phelan indicated that the development model is being finalised and the procurement model is being worked through.

### **Satellite Dishes**

There was discussion regarding non-compliant satellite dishes installed on the front of buildings. There is a limit of seven years so dishes older than that are exempt which is one challenge for inspections. Letters have been sent by the council to the operators. Comment Shane: My notes don't record that there was any reply. Concern was expressed about the nature of the complaints process because if a Councillor complains then this is public information.

Socruithe déanta/ Key Decisions Made:

Gníomhaíochtaí  
Action(s) required from GCCN:

Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile  
Date of next meeting:

**Dates for meetings**

Tuesday 1st May 9:30am  
Tuesday 4th September at 9:30am  
Tuesday 4th December at 9:30am

Moltaí breise /Any Other Comments: