

SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON DRAFT GALWAY CITY COUNCIL (STREET PERFORMANCE AND BUSKING) BYE-LAWS 2019

Report dated 17 April 2019

Number of Submission Received.

On-line	Email	Letter	TOTAL
254	5	3	262

Summary of Opinions [Agree/Partially agree/Disagree] for Each Section of the Draft Bye-Laws.

5. *A person under 16 years of age can only perform in circumstances where a legal guardian is present during the performance.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
70	17	70	105	262

6. *A Street Performer shall not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 11:00pm during the months of APRIL to OCTOBER, and not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 10:00pm during the months of NOVEMBER to MARCH, SAVE AND EXCEPT as to Silent Acts such as Human Statutes, Pavement Artists, Balloon Modelers which body of performers shall be excluded from the time limits and proximity rules as long as using such pitches is wholly consistent to their particular art form provided for hereinafter*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
42	23	100	97	262

7. *A Street Performer is only permitted to perform for a maximum of 2 hours in a public place. A Street Performer shall not be entitled to charge a fee to members of the public, other than gifts or donations by the public to acknowledge their performance. Once the period of 2 hours has lapsed the Street Performer must relocate to a different place not within 35 meters of the previous place.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
69	26	69	98	262

8. *A Street Performer shall not act, say, do or sing anything that is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to any member of the Public, any Business Owner or Occupier, the Council, authorised persons and / or any member of an Garda Síochána.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
54	26	89	93	262

9. *A Street Performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises and a Street Performer must immediately cease a performance in circumstance where a crowd have gathered thereby stopping the movement of Pedestrians.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
53	34	84	91	262

10. *A Street Performer shall not reserve a location / area while not performing thereby preventing its use by another Street Performer.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
94	16	44	108	262

11. *Circle Acts as defined in these Bye-Laws shall be prohibited from performing on the Protected Street Scape up to 18:00 hours daily SAVE AND EXCEPT as directed by the provisions of any derogation granted under these Bye-Laws.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
36	12	119	95	262

12. *Amplification and Backing Tracks as defined in these Bye-Laws shall be prohibited on the Protected Street Scape up to 18:00 hours and the use of Drum Kits is expressly prohibited on the Protected Street Scape SAVE AND EXCEPT as directed by the provisions of any derogation granted under these Bye-Laws.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
31	19	144	68	262

13. *The Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her and by Executive Order and in consultation with Members of Galway City Council, in circumstances of a major event or festival issue a derogation from any provision of these Bye-Laws.*

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
48	23	70	121	262

Sections 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (listed overleaf)¹

Agree	Partially Agree	Disagree	No Opinion expressed	TOTAL
31	16	116	99	262

¹ Sections 14 to 19 were considered as a whole for the purposes of making submissions.

14. *Where a Bye-Law is contravened an Authorised Person may serve a Fixed Charge Notice in respect of the contravention. The Notice shall be in the specified form as directed by the Council setting out the name, address, the general nature of the contravention alleged to have been committed, it's location and the date of the offence. The Notice shall state that if the fixed payment of €75 or €150 is paid to the Council within 28 or 56 days respectively, that no legal proceedings will be instituted against the person in respect of the alleged offence. The Notice shall contain a statement to the affect that the alleged offender is entitled to disregard the Notice and defend a prosecution of the alleged contravention in Court. For the purpose of these Bye- Laws the amount of the Fixed Charge Notice shall be €75.00 for a period of 28 days after the date of issue of the Fixed Charge Notice,, then the amount increases to €150.00 for a further period of 28 days, failing payment within 56 days after the date of issue of the Fixed Charge Notice summary proceedings will be issued against the accused.*
15. *Any person who contravenes any of these Bye-Laws shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €1500.*
16. *A person who obstructs or impedes or refuses to comply with a request of an authorised person acting in the exercise of the functions conferred on an authorised person by the Act or a member of An Garda Síochána shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €1500.*
17. *Where an authorised person or a member of An Garda Síochána is of the opinion that a person is committing or has committed an offence under either of the two preceding byelaws the authorised person or member of An Garda Síochána may demand the name and address of such a person and if that demand is refused or the person gives a name and address which is false or misleading, that person shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €1500.*
18. *Pursuant to Section 204 (3) (d) of the Act where a member of An Garda Síochána is of the opinion that a person is committing or has committed an offence under the preceding three bye-laws, that member may arrest the person without warrant.*
19. *A person who has been served with a Fixed Payment Notice pursuant to these Bye-Laws may appeal a decision to serve the said Notice within 21 days of the date of the Fixed Charge Notice to the Administrative Officer in charge of Galway City Council's Environmental Department. A decision on the appeal will be notified within 21 days of receipt of appeal. Where the decision on appeal is to affirm the Fixed Payment Notice, the Council will allow a further period of 28 days for payment. No further appeal will be accepted.*

Written Submissions on Each Section of the Draft Bye-Laws

Individual Submissions relevant to each Section of the Draft Bye-Laws are presented in the Attached Appendices.

APPENDICES

- A. Submissions received on Section 5 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- B. Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- C. Submissions received on Section 7 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- D. Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws

- E. Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- F. Submissions received on Section 10 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- G. Submissions received on Section 11 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- H. Submissions received on Section 12 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- I. Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws
- J. Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

APPENDIX A - Submissions received on Section 5 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 5 of the Draft Bye- Laws. A person under 16 years of age can only perform in circumstances where a legal guardian is present during the performance.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
3	How will this be enforced? What about a child wanting to play on a weekend? No 16 Yp that I know wants their parent hanging around. This will ruin the entire idea of giving Yong people the chance to hone their craft. Daft.
6	no 15 year old would bring his/her legal guardian/parent... how about he/she shall be accompanied by a legal adult.
7	Disagree. I think kids under 12 shouldn't be able to busk at all because it runs the risk of open air child labour for profiteering parents. 13 to 16? More power to them, being independent and earning pocket money, fair play. That's beside the point. Scrap the bye law.
8	Minors should not be left unattended.
14	Lower that to age 14, to encourage younger musicians and performers. Set a curfew
15	If put in effect, this removes vital practice in both musical and public performance in minors under the age of 16a secondary reason is that a guardian cannot watch over their children all day everyday, as they have work obligations
18	What an arbitrary idea.
23	Children should have the right to express themselves creatively in a public place.
27	I think you need to encourage kids, not discourage them from this. How to you expect a kid to have a guardian. Most kids do this after school. Parents working.
30	Youths of 16 are perfectly able to busk unsupervised, maybe consider lowering the age to 12/13
32	While The Galway Buskers' Community is agrees that children must be protected, we find this age restriction arbitrary. Why under 16 and not under 18? This bye-law will have an unfair and restrictive effect upon children's tradional music groups and community chiors, orchestras and more, if all legal guardians of all children must be present at all times. We believe that this bye-law was ill-thought out and should be struck from the document.
33	I feel 16 is too high of a cap, especially for local Galway teens. If a minimum age is required, it should be lower - but having no minimum age is the most ideal.
48	Anyone should be allowed busk
55	Why is this age 16 not 18? For a choir does every parent have to be there or just one named adult. This is unclear and restrictive.
62	Impractical. Parents/Guardians may not support their children. Cut-off age arbitrary.
71	These street musicians are the reason people flock to Galway. You would be very regretful of the loss of tourism and charm they bring to this area
74	It's not under 16's that are the problem. It's the adults who are drinking alcohol, blocking doorways and playing far too loud.
75	I agree with this statement in the interest of safety and security for the performer
76	To protect the underage performer
78	Street performance should be inclusive and open to all age groups
82	I think it's great kids can come along and give performance a go. I wouldn't want to see it regulated out of existence due to the need for a parent to be there.

APPENDIX A - Submissions received on Section 5 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
94	Sometimes street performers are approached by drunk people who sometimes are abusive or obnoxious or both. In this case someone should be there to protect the child from these situations.
99	Galway is a wonderful place for young musicians to gain experience and confidence performing. A guardian should be present to keep children safe but if in a group performing, one adult present should be enough for the group.
105	Written consent on official document should suffice.
106	Whilst agreeing with the ensured safety of minors performing, this bylaw will impede and cause further problems when it comes to school groups, choirs, etc.
109	This is ageist. Mozart wrote his first concerto and was performing at the age of 3. Who is the Council to decide or limit a musician's ability to share their gift?
111	Restricting the opportunities for young people to perform on the streets While we appreciate the need to ensure safety of children and young people in all aspects of the proposed byelaws, we are concerned of the proposed restrictions to young performers and organisations involving young people in performances. We believe that involvement of children and young people in street performance should be encouraged and supported rather than restricted. We think that organisations involving young people in street performance should require one permit only rather than individual permits for each participating young person. The organisation in question should follow their own policies and procedures in relation to supervision ratios for the groups and having necessary consents from parents in place. Many of the best street performers have started performing at a young age (below 16 years). We would like to see that this is still possible, also these restrictions would hugely affect young people from families who can not pay said permit fees or have their parents present at all times.
112	Let the kids have fun and preform. Legal guardians mightn't have the time to be present.
115	I've been busking alone since I was 14 in a rougher town than Galway. It built my confidence and personality. Galway is a very safe town and teenager are safe to busk there.
120	I feel that street performance is a beautiful and inspiring form of self-expression and connection. Is it not something that should be encouraged, especially in youths? During lunch hours and after school, there are always teens, tweens and little ones moving in groups around the cityscape without legal gaurdians. Rather than pushing them towards anti-social behaviour, street performance can give them a sense of belonging and a voice as well as encouraging their peers. Not all legal guardians would have the time or energy to be present and that shouldn't dictate a motivated and proactive youth from pursuing and developing this particular passion.
126	It makes sense and will stop people from putting underaged children to work in the streets
130	Kids need parents !! We are from Castleblayney , Co Monaghan, I bring my daughter age 12 busking once every month or 2 to Galway and she absolutely loves it. I wouldn't dare leave her side for a second.

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143	The possibility of an abuse from someone who's intent is to exploit the minor, should be the only situation to take care of.
146	Street performers are given loose cash. A young or small person can become easy prey to those looking for people with money who can't defend themselves.
151	The requirement for a permit for those under 16 is ill-conceived and unnecessary. Firstly, 16 is an arbitrary age which does not represent any legal change in status from child to adult. Secondly, there is no evidence from the ISPC, Youth Work Ireland Galway or the Gardaí that this is necessary. GCCN's representatives at the Joint Policing Committee asked for clarification from Chief Superintendent Tom Curly regarding child protection issues with busking and were told that the Gardaí have no such concerns. GCCN therefore suggests its removal.
154	One guardian of one child is enough in the case of bands. Not every parent needed.
159	There is no evidence from the ISPC, Youth Work Ireland Galway or the Gardaí that this is necessary. I am a community rep on the Joint Policing Committee where we asked for clarification from Chief Superintendent Tom Curly regarding child protection issues with busking and we were told that the Gardaí have no such concerns.
162	Legislation that cannot effectively be enforced. Unclear. Open to mis interpretation and misapplication ...
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
172	I think it's an important part of becoming a musician to perform in front of crowds, without te support of a guardian there.
174	I think under 12s should be accompanied by a legal guardian at all times. Over 12s and under 16s should be accompanied by a guardian after 8pm.
182	I supervise my kids while busking but from a close distance away.
183	This takes away the freedom of the child and the parent. It is up to the child and parent to decide whether or not the parent will be present during the child's performance. I myself started busking as a child and I personally would have felt uncomfortable had my parent been there the whole time during my street performances. It was something I needed to do for myself, by myself. Busking alone from a young age helped me grow into the independent , confident adult that I am today. Therefore I oppose this drafted byelaw.
185	It is unfair for a person under 16 to not be able to perform just because of their age. I believe teenagers (and maybe even younger children) are responsible enough to be out on the street without a legal guardian present. This bye law could be extremely limiting, especially when considering the specific language of "legal guardian." If a child's legal guardian is working, has other responsibilities or plans, is otherwise pre-occupied, or does not support their child's art, this child no longer has a chance to share their art on the street. It is unfair to them to not be able to perform simply because they are not yet 16 years old and their legal guardian is unavailable, unable, or does not wish to accompany them.
199	Not necessary at all

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
202	Some are great performance and they add highlight the city. Under 16 accompanied by parent yes. Two hours relocate might be a good introduction but town so small. If you corner off section so display performance can give all at different times. As so many acts they good and lifts the city and tourists alike. Lower the amplifier maybe so it doesn't annoy. But the performance of many of them are brilliant.
207	If children aged 15 can do up to 8 hours of work (which would be in a setting where their guardian is not present) it seems to me that 15 year olds and up should be able to busk for at least the same hours they could have a job for.
215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	Art is not age restrictive
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
229	It's a wonderful part of the Galway performers community that 'persons' under the age of 16 come out to entertain the public. It's sweet and tourists especially love it.
231	If they're confident enough to sing in front of that many people in public then they should have the right and who are we to restrict the potential musical development of our youth. Many of our young children go to town during their lunch break at school or are away for the day in town during the weekend without adult supervision, if you enforce this then shouldn't all under 16 children not be in town without adult supervision??
243	My daughter gained a lot of confidence and belief in herself by overcoming the fear of performing by busking on Shop Street. There are few non-bar venues for teenagers to perform in.
245	Not necessary
246	Where it is a group of children, say a choir or troupe, two guardians per group, minimum
252	This prohibits youth services, school groups, youth choirs, bands with members U16 etc. Youth Work Ireland runs the Irish Youth Music Awards programme and we take part every year. Busking in an integral part of this programme. Young musicians hone their performance style out when busking, test out material and connect with other musicians.
262	Do they really need their legal guardian, as in their Mum or Dad? What if my son's school band were to play, do all the parents need to attend?

APPENDIX B - Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 11:00pm during the months of APRIL to OCTOBER, and not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 10:00pm during the months of NOVEMBER to MARCH, SAVE AND EXCEPT as to Silent Acts such as Human Statutes, Pavement Artists, Balloon Modelers which body of performers shall be excluded from the time limits and proximity rules as long as using such pitches is wholly consistent to their particular art form provided for hereinafter.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	Have it until midnight all year around. A sharp finish same as pubs
3	Why do street performers have to be quiet when the pubs are so loud? This doesn't make sense at all.
7	Noise pollution laws are already in effect and enforced by the Guards. Writing, reading and proposing this bye-law is a massively frivolous waste of time (and ergo tax-payer's money), as well as a waste of paper and ink. Scrap this bye-law proposal.
9	Tourist love galways charm remove the street preformers removes the character
10	Some shows are not loud but require darkness such as certain LED and fire shows
11	Stop trying to ruin Galway. Our main industry is tourism. People come from all over the world to get the craic. Not to see some eerie empty streets full of old people and silence. You're driving away the younger generation even more. If people live on shopstreet, it's not the buskers who're going to wake them its the loud drunks at 2am
14	Buskers, musicians shouldn't have time limits set on them! Thats just ridiculous
15	Street performers self regulate I have never seen a performer perform before 10 am, nor after 11pm as in both times, Galways streets are sparsely populated at these times
17	Busking is part of the culture and draw of Galway, and it contributes to the nightlife which sets us aside from the rest of the country and draws Irish and international tourists to the city. To set a limit on busking hours at night is to take away one of the most positive aspects of Galway nightlife. I believe busking creates a positive atmosphere which has a positive effect on punters and inconveniences nobody.
23	This is a restrictive practice and does not belong in Galway city.
28	I think they offer a fantastic sight & sound to our city and they should be allowed to perform their craft as they wish
29	For a lot of buskers the late night busk is there real bread and butter are theres nothing better than a sing song on shop street after leaving the pub
32	This is a bye-law that is already, in part at least, active, and yet is not practical to enforce, especially on weekends and during in summer and festival months, to require buskers to stop performing hours before the pubs (who are oftentimes much louder than the buskers) close. We recommend extending the allowed busking times on weekends and during summer months from 10 am to midnight.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
34	Buskers should be allowed play until 11pm all year around.
35	I would agree with time starting but time finish should be pushed out to 2.30am and 3am on bank holls ECT...
48	Busking should be allowed all year round
55	The morning start time is reasonable. The stop time should be later in line with noise from pubs and should be at least 11.30pm ALL YEAR. This time limit is currently in law but not enforced. Out of town buskers who don't know play later than this all the time as 'It is OK with Guards'. Make the time later and enforce it.
62	You can't put a curfew on culture.
63	Shop Street is a commercial street and therefore who cares if they perform before or after these times. It always puts a smile on my face..
64	Let Galway buskers have a say in this
75	I agree this is statement as its important that performers are considerate of residents in the area outside of these times
76	To consider residents in the area
77	I agree with the times but ive worked on shop street for 12 years and had many buskers singing outside my place of work and are singing far too loud it actually causes alot of our customers to complain and leave our store due to the noise even if its between those times its still very annoying.
78	Buskers and performers add to the unique atmosphere of Galway City and shouldn't be limited.
79	Dedicated street performance locations should be incorporated into the Public Realm strategy.
82	Why not, it's part of the life of the place!
91	Depends on circumstances
93	Not early enough to start and too early to finish. The noise from the bars and restaurants is ok but street isnt. The street life is galway. How much residential properties are on the street afterall? Should be until 12 at weekends anyway all year.
95	From working on on shop street and quay street for nearly 10 years, the noise level and repetitiveness has made it almost unbearable at times.
98	This motion is restrictive and is in contravention of the nightlife and entertainment facets of Galways culture that attract and maintain the city. If enforced I expect all Galway city promotional material to reflect the restrictions and indeed make reference to the councils involvement in such. Media briefings should reflect this also.

Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
<p>A Street Performer shall not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 11:00pm during the months of APRIL to OCTOBER, and not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 10:00pm during the months of NOVEMBER to MARCH, SAVE AND EXCEPT as to Silent Acts such as Human Statutes, Pavement Artists, Balloon Modelers which body of performers shall be excluded from the time limits and proximity rules as long as using such pitches is wholly consistent to their particular art form provided for hereinafter.</p>	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
99	10am is far too late to begin performing. A curfew of 11pm is reasonable but allow them to start when the shops open.
106	This procedure is already in place and adhered to voluntarily by the members of the buskers community. It would be beneficial to extend busking hours until midnight on weekends and during summer festivals (arts, etc) to help the community.
107	10am seems a reasonable start time. If nothing else, there's far too much traffic on the pedestrian zone for busking to even take place. But the end times and the dates seem both random and arbitrary. Galway City centre is a lively hub of activity most of the year and well into the wee hours of the morning.
109	<p>I am not a Galweigan, but a Nordie who lived in your Beautiful City for a few years. It was quite simply the experience of a lifetime.</p> <p>The city itself spectacular.</p> <p>The people's warmth, generosity of spirit, the language alive.</p> <p>Galway is unlike any other city in Ireland.</p> <p>Part of that dynamic is intrinsically linked to the musicians that share their music on Shop St and through the city streets.</p> <p>As a visitor my abiding memory and lasting memory is one of music to be heard everywhere.</p> <p>I don't think this is an unique experience onto myself, this is one shared by many.</p> <p>In general, these performers have generous hearts, kind souls and share their talents and gifts with all who pass through the city and remained affected by Galway.</p> <p>The two cannot be separated.</p> <p>In your attempt to introduce these bye laws, you risk upsetting the natural equilibrium and flow and creative spirit that is Galway.</p> <p>You will lessen a visitors experience to your beautiful city and stifle creative talent which is seeking to emerge.</p> <p>No benefit is evident in your thinking on this.</p> <p>Look at the dynamic in Dublin which introduce similar laws against the busking community in 2014.</p> <p>This hasn't helped the creative spirit there, it will only cause harm in Galway and to visitors.</p> <p>Think twice before enacting this please. Joey Lyttle</p>
112	We need the music late at night. It makes the city's night beautiful.
114	The months of November to March should have the same time restrictions as the rest of the year. 11pm is a suitable enough time.
119	After 10/11 pm street performers keep the city buzz going as people go to socialize.. regarding the noise level of the music.. crowds on the streets and lively bars create the same level of noise, good busking turns the 'noise' into music
120	This bye law is already in place however, during summer months, when bar music and street noise last well beyond 11pm, street performers should be allowed to be a part of this.

APPENDIX B - Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
124	There are buskers out at night that aren't louder than the people talking, I don't see a problem with busking after 11 at reasonable volumes.
126	It always worked like that
130	Don't change, Galway will lose its warm vibe.
136	And no amps from 10am - 11pm
143	This rule should be more specific for those who play or act at a reasonable sound volume, like acoustic unplugged players ecc..This especially since the City has been famous for decades and business has taken advantage of the peculiar street music scene down there.
146	Assuming the time restrictions are intended to provide quiet time necessary for the public's rest prior to the next day's work; no provision is made for relaxing those restrictions on nights which do not come before a normal workday.
150	I don't think there should be restrictions on performers as long as they don't break sound pollution levels
154	Let them perform whenever they want. Charge a registration fee for buskers, create nice spaces for them, don't give them a curfew. The complaining businesses are mostly closed those times anyway.
155	It shouldn't matter what month it is, the times should be the same for every month. Not sure why there would be a difference?
159	GALWAY BUSKERS' COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT 1. In accordance with existing Galway City Bye Laws, Street Performance shall only be permitted between the hours of 9 AM and 10 PM during winter months (Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. March); and between the hours of 9 AM and 11 PM during spring/summer/autumn months (April, May, June, July, August, Sept. and Oct).
160	During the summer months there is nothing better than being able to enjoy the music and entertainment in the street, it is still light out at 11pm. Last summer if it were not for the street entertainment, I would have went home early, the pubs were jammed and only for the music outside, could you enjoy the hot, balmy summer! The music filling the air is the essence of Galway City, the tourists were so happy to dance and sing along with the locals. To prevent this, is to stop the beating heart of culture in Galway City. Don't you see they make Galway City somewhere like nowhere else...
162	Unnecessary legislation that cannot effectively be enforced. Unclear. Open to mis interpretation [public place?].
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.

Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
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Ref Nr	Written Submission
167	I hesitantly accept the portion of draft bylaw 6 which suggests restricting performance time for November to March. I do believe however that this draft bylaw should be amended to allow for a limited number of performers after 11pm, from November to March, and especially from April to October, so that small groups could play at an acceptable level, with no more than two performers, for example. I feel this happens naturally at the moment regardless, I would often be walking through the city after 11pm and the only busker to be seen is the man who often plays his guitar outside River Island, whose playing brightens the street often through gloomy cold nights and is distant enough from local residents so as to not disturb them.
172	Many buskers play for the 2am crowd leaving the clubs. If they play without amplifiers and aren't belching their songs, they are quieter than the drunks walking up and down shop street.
183	10pm is too early. Buskers performing at later times should just play quieter than they would during the day, which is what they naturally do anyway as the streets are much quieter at night. There are still people on the streets after 10pm, why shouldn't buskers be allowed to play for them? Disagree.
185	A huge part of the culture of Galway is the fact that you could walk down shop street at any hour of the day and hear music fading in and out as you pass through performances happening right next to you. It is a unique and beautiful thing that I could go to a café at 8 in the morning and watch performances happening, and then leave the pubs at midnight and still be able to hear music going in the streets. It is part of the huge draw of Galway and it's not something I've experienced anywhere else. Limiting the hours at which performers can be on the streets would be a huge negative impact on the culture and energy of Galway. Another reason I disagree with this bye law is the fact that the artists who perform on the street may rely on the money they make from passerby's for their livelihoods. To cut down the hours in which they could potentially be making money is unfair and unnecessary. The crowd of people that could be out and about before 10am and after 10 and 11pm could make up a large portion of funds that performers could get for the day. It is extremely limiting to them and their income if you bar them from performing during certain hours.
187	No need for such restrictions. Late evening artists add to Galway's atmosphere, something I have experienced previously as a tourist and now as a resident.
189	11:00 in the summer is too early to finish. Midnight at the earliest is acceptable but not ideal. Galway is known across the world for its rich culture and night life. To restrict this would be damaging to the city's reputation and particularly in the year before Galway 2020, is quite frankly ridiculous.

APPENDIX B - Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 6 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 11:00pm during the months of APRIL to OCTOBER, and not perform in a public place either before 10:00am or after 10:00pm during the months of NOVEMBER to MARCH, SAVE AND EXCEPT as to Silent Acts such as Human Statutes, Pavement Artists, Balloon Modelers which body of performers shall be excluded from the time limits and proximity rules as long as using such pitches is wholly consistent to their particular art form provided for hereinafter.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
200	-Many buskers rely on the late hours to make their living, cutting this off would mean losing talented artists, who would move to another city. -Music and art has a tremendous power to alter the mood of a place. Late at night, when the pubs and clubs close can be a dangerous time, as fighting may break out. As one example, soothing music relaxes the atmosphere which can otherwise spiral into one of fear and violence.
207	Ireland likes quiet mornings. I respect that. The majority of Buskers sleeping well past 10. I rarely, if ever, saw buskers before 9:30, and more rare than that were they actually playing music yet. Perhaps something has radically changed since last I was there, but as a world traveler and musician I would like to say that Galway is the most respectful and vibrant busking scene I have ever had the honor of being a part of.
212	Street performers should be allowed to play much later than 11pm - they contribute so much to the atmosphere of Galway
215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	I want to see music on the streets of my city - not just retail. I have benn bringing my kids to Galway every Saturday for the last six years, and without the talented musicians, we will have no reason to go into town. It amazes me that the council and business community are missing a major trick here - the high street is dying across this country, and shop street is unique in that it has a vibrant atmosphere as a result of the buskers and them alone - retailers are doing nothing in this regard. Without the buskers - shop street will suffer greatly. Please don't kill the goose that laid the golden egg. PLEASE REPRESENT YOUR PEOPLE GCC, NOT YOUR BUSINESS FRIENDS. I'm looking forward to the local elections this year.
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
221	What about within an hour of closing time for pubs until the proposed morning time
225	Buskers forget people and their families (young children, the elderly, those on shift work in high pressure jobs, and those that are ill) still live and work in these areas.
229	Street performers only perform after 2300 in places where there are a lot of people and after this time the only place that is sensible to do so is where the bars and pubs are around Shop Street.. So disturbance in these areas is very minimal and actually increases the nightlife of the city. It's amazing to go for a night out and find a great band playing for free (relatively) in the open air.
231	The morning doesn't really apply due to the access of cars and lorry suppliers during the mornings. I think the cut off point should be closer to midnight, or after 11pm no loud amps. These people playing that late are no way near as loud as some of the drunks wandering the street at that time or later on.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
242	During the months that festivals and festivities are taking place on shop street, and surrounding areas, the buskers should be able to play within an hour longer. This adds to the progress and atmosphere of galway as an art accepting space.
243	How can this be enforced and who is going to pay for it? Seems arbitrary and who will hear the "noisy" buskers over the trucks allowed down the pavements in the morning?
245	This is around festive seasons and winter dark depressing season where the music activity and joy is very much appreciated by the public
247	These Busking Bye laws are too limiting. It is extremely difficult for most buskers to sing loud enough for to be heard without an amplifier so this proposed bye-law coupled with the no amplifiers until 6pm leaves buskers with a 4-5 hour window to busk. With the amount of buskers in Galway there will be competition for room to busk. New buskers will feel discouraged to try and get a spot against full time buskers. Galway is the European Capital of Culture next year and these Bye-Laws are going to destroy Galway culture and Galway citys atmosphere. Some buskers make a day to day living from busking and buskers harm nobody. I think some of these restrictions are unfair and if it was put to the public busking would carry on without change.
255	Personally I would have proposed 11:00 a.m. as the earliest time for making noise; the telescopic street bollards close out traffic in the pedestrianised area at 10:00 a.m. but it take traffic inside the area a while to clear out at the other end.
262	It is not clear to me on reading this what is meant by "as long as using such pitches is wholly consistent to their particular art form provided for hereinafter".

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
256	<p>I would like to reject the introductions of Bye-Laws for Street Performance and Busking Bye-Laws.</p> <p>I commend the work the Galway Busking Community have taken to bring forward a Constructive Code of Conduct document and the work they have done thus far in a collaborative manner, engaging with businesses and the public to bring a workable solution.</p> <p>I feel they have not been heard properly and dismissed even and this is shameful on a community that does so much for the Culture of Galway.</p> <p>I find the busking Bye-Laws to be restrictive and in some cases unworkable. You cannot restrict the voice of an individual/group because you don't like what they are saying/singing, or someone takes offence with what they are saying /singing. Laws are already there to deal with many of the Bye -Laws issues such as Criminal Justice (Public Order) Acts 1994, Noise Pollution, Noise Regulations 1994, Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 Laws. There is absolutely no reason why a guard cannot move on someone who is regarded as a nuisance of causing trouble. From my own experience of busking, the guards have moved people on no problem in the past when crowds get too big or if residents complained late at night, the music is stopped. Why is it different now, the laws if anything have been strengthened? There seems to a concerted effort by some to destroy busking in this city and that is ultimately shameful and destructive for a city that thrives on its culture.</p> <p>Music is subjective and what one person may class as a nuisance another may find amazing.</p> <p>Many people learn the craft of performance on the street before they ever set foot on a stage , one where I began myself and it was a great teacher when there are those who cant afford stage schools or performance schools, outlets like this are vital for our young people to express themselves in a positive and constructive way. The Buskers have brought forward many ways to deal with issues that arise and in the interest of good community negotiations, it is unfair not to entertain the many buskers who comply with this recent and updated Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Galway will lose its buskers if they are put in to restrictive practices, new performers will not come to the city, business will lose out if these ill thought out drafts byelaws are enacted upon.</p> <p>I hope that you will go back to the drawing board and work with the community of buskers rather than against them. A city of culture that kills it music, performance is no longer a city of culture.</p>

APPENDIX C - Submissions received on Section 7 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 7 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer is only permitted to perform for a maximum of 2 hours in a public place. A Street Performer shall not be entitled to charge a fee to members of the public, other than gifts or donations by the public to acknowledge their performance. Once the period of 2 hours has lapsed the Street Performer must relocate to a different place not within 35 meters of the previous place	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	Not sure about that distance but 2 hours is good
3	This is fine, and as far as I know, one thing the buskers do themselves voluntarily.
7	This is already a locally accepted and held practice by the busking community in Galway and there is no need for any of this unnecessary litigiousness, scrap the lot.,
9	Street performers often attract people to a spot through people having it on social media creating footfall in surrounding shops .
11	That's what buskers do anyways. Do you think they force people to play?? Most people get fired after 2 hours anyways, and they all respect each others space.
14	Creating a 2 hour limit is also silly, how on earth are you going to regulate it? As a former busker, I've noticed that buskers tend to co-operate together, swap pitches, and mind pitches for each other. I don't think there is a need for external regulation.
15	Street performers don't demand fees it has always been based upon donations, limiting the time allotted to two hours will create a placid and dismal Galway, it will effect tourism profits as any street ambience will dissappear with said performers
16	2 hours is not enough time for a full-time street performer to make good use of a space. Some performers, such as human statues, have to take short breaks after an hour - this prevents them from using 2 hours to a useful extent, and also blurs the line in how much time they have actually performed for. It also creates a much more competitive atmosphere for the performers, and may cause conflict between performers who want to move into another performer's(s) space after such time - many street performers have disruptive conflicts in deciding who should use a desired space.
17	Because busking is so integral to the culture of musicianship in Galway we have many high quality professional buskers who work their pitch as a job. The quality of these performers is remarkably high in Galway, and their livelihoods should be preserved. Walking Shop Street in June is a festival of music and colour, a living vibrant city made possible by professional musicians earning a living by music on the streets. To take that away is to dress the town in grey.
23	This is a restrictive practice negatively impacting on people's rights to earn a living.
30	A great idea to prevent space-hogging but how could this possibly be enforced?
31	Galway is a out doors city Streets performers add to the atmosphere
32	This bye-law is unnecessary, as the Galway Buskers' Community already lists the same time restriction in our Buskers' Guide to Galway and Code of Conduct, which we voluntarily adhere to and self-police. We also ask who will enforce this bye-law? Will there be someone employed by the council to stand and time buskers' performances?
35	A street performer should be allowed to ask for money...
48	Should be allowed perform as long as they wish

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55	This is reasonable, but how is this going to be enforced? Will there be timing wardens at each pitch?
62	Consult with the buskers on this, they have their own guidelines.
64	Let Galway buskers have a say in this
72	2 hours is still a bit long
74	However this could use some clarification as there are some performers who play with several acts and so end up playing for over two hours as they join different street acts.
75	I agree that performers should only be allowed to perform for a max of 2 hours as it can be very frustrating to listen to an act for many hours when working in their vicinity.
76	I think 2 hours is enough to have to listen to one performer as it is very difficult to work and listen to Buskers at the same time. It does not make working in the City Centre enjoyable.
77	The buskers do not comply with the 2 hours rule. Ive heard buskers fighting even physically over their spot and telling each other to move on.
78	Two hours is too short a time for some performers who make a living from their art.
82	For some people this is their livelihood. Tourists come to see the acts and bring so many people to the city. I see no reason to restrict it particularly at night.
91	No time limits on performances
93	Booking system would be a good idea and is accountable. The number of places should be agreed with buskers and not just limited to council choices.
94	Yes. This has always been the buskers code as long as I have been busking. It's fair and gives performers a chance to busk
95	Again the repetitiveness and noise level makes working on Galway streets unbearable.
99	This does not seem reasonable for a city of Galway's size. There is a very limited number of pitches and two hours is a short time to make a living if you're splitting the earnings between the members of a band.
106	Again, this bylaw is unnecessary as the buskers community already have this system voluntarily in place and through communication and respect of each other.
112	Yeah I agree because it gives other performers a chance to use the location.
114	There should be a time limit on when it is acceptable to return. Meaning unless another busker has taken the spot, you may return to that pitch after 30 mins.
115	Galway buskers follow the code of conduct between buskers and playing for two hours is part of that code. But I think if no one wants the spot after and a busker is playing different material there is no reason he/she shouldn't be allowed to stay longer
120	I disagree that money should be spent on regulating a system that is already in place. The code of conduct of the Galway Busker Community recognizes the importance of the 2 hour rule and adheres to it as well as not actively asking for money.
121	If there's no que for a certain busking spot after passing of 2 hours then there's no reason why a street performer should relocate.

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124	If there's no one else looking to use the spot they shouldn't have to move.
126	I agree and it's missing an important part related to setlist and variety of songs, repetition should be only allowed if the public/crowd asks for it
130	I think 2 hours should be enough in total
143	Not really against this but still the artist and buskers community should be leading and taking care of this issues just when a real issue comes in act, instead of a restrictive and rigid Law.
146	This places an undue restriction upon harpers. A full-size harp is difficult to move, and it takes time to develop a giving mood in the public. When a harper (and I am one) first begins to play he or she is a curiosity; and perhaps one or two people will stay to listen. More people are attracted not by the harper, but by people wanting to find out what is going on. This means that the time during which a harper can actually collect income suitable to compensate for the time is unduly limited if the harper must pick up everything and move on two hours after setting up. A limit of 4 hours is more reasonable.
159	GALWAY BUSKERS' COMMUNITY CODE OF CONDUCT 2. The maximum performance time in any one spot (pitch) shall be two hours. After two hours, a street performer must move to another available pitch if they wish to continue performing, in consideration of local business staff, residents and other buskers. It is important to note that dispensation may be given to certain acts on an individual and responsible basis.
160	35 meters is too far considering the amount of streets you can't perform on...
162	This self regulates at present. No justification.
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
167	I myself have lived on Shop Street, above the Fujifilm shop where Shop Street meets Mainguard Street, and in terms of street noise the main annoyance I found was buskers staying at the same spot for extended hours playing the same music, I feel the bylaws address this issue already by implementing a maximum stay of 2 hours, which I feel is fair.
169	For many buskers, the coin they make performing is their main source of income. Limiting their work to 2-hours would be the equivalent of cutting a salary by 75%. More specifically, there are "peak hours" in which buskers make the most money. This is based on factors such as weather, city events, day of the week, etc. A two-hour "peak" window would cause the demand and competition for a performance area to dwindle, thus causing artists to seek other cities to perform in, thus draining the city of Galway of much of its art, which it is contradictory to the city's recognition for culture in 2020.
172	They have their own code of conduct and already do this.
173	i disagree with setting a time limit on a performance, due to the common occurrence in public engagement. from personal experience, this creates a positive

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
	and contagious atmosphere. on countless occasions, this stops people in their tracks to listen to the music, stopping people in their all-too-often busy days. just being there and enjoying the music creates a space of awareness and peacefulness, which is proven to promote mental health. By setting a time limit, these crowds are less likely to congregate and ignite this mood. Furthermore, this time limit would discourage acts from taking breaks in order to make the most of their time slot. Instead, i suggest either allowing for a longer time slot or proposing a fair usage policy.. just seems fairer for a creative act like music, art etc. in a world where there are already too many limits and restrictions. I hope you see the light, freedom and flight!
174	Street performers should be allowed to stay longer than 2 hours if it is their livelihood. I have noticed that some very fine buskers have left Galway (see the busker here - https://experienceluxury.co/explore-galway-ireland/ and I haven't seen the man with the banjo who used to play opposite Easons for a long time) in the last few months. Perhaps you should look at websites and blogs which talk about how amazing Galway is as a tourist destination - they all cite street performers as a reason for visiting. I know that my daughters love to hear the buskers on Shop Street and were not interested in walking down that street last Saturday (Silent Busking).
183	This drafted byelaw is already included in our buskers 'code of conduct.' Every busker in Galway follows this rule. And new buskers who aren't yet aware of this rule are soon informed of it's existence by fellow buskers. There is no need for it to be a byelaw.
187	This agreement is already in place as agreed by the busking community. As are other voluntary restrictions which I believe to be sufficient for regulatory purposes.
189	Two hours is too short 3 would be acceptable but again not ideal. Any entertainment can take a while to warm up and by the time they have an audience to pack up and leave abruptly would be draconian and detrimental to the artist's work and to the audience enjoyment. This is not what Galway is about.
191	Do you realise what an amazing tourist attraction your buskers are??? The highlight of my trip to Ireland from Australia last year was the Galway Buskers, I have told EVERYONE that that have to visit Galway especially for this amazing experience. Please don't put time limits on the collection of incredible performers you have, their joy and energy and skills are one of those special lifetime experiences that I still rave about today.
200	There must be provision for leaving and then returning to that spot later in the day
202	It depends as lot attract visitors as well. Live performance people donate also it could be a living for some. A lot are elderly ie Gentleman who is local. That's his gig at all times. Lot them are good.
207	From the time I spent busking in Galway this was already done. From the many people I know busking in Galway, this is still practiced. I do not think we need bylaws to tell us these things.

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215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away.This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	This makes sense and is already enforced by the buskers themselves
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
229	I partially agree with this only on the basis that the busking community already implement this unwritten rule by themselves and more often than not have great respect and consideration for other performers who wish to play.
243	How can this be enforced and who is going to pay for it?
246	A hundred metres.
248	This maximum is essential as some of the acts are of a very poor quality and we receive complaints from our paying customers, as they try to enjoy a meal or cup of coffee. We also employ over seventy people and having poor quality performances that last for an hour let alone 2 hours can be more than annoying. They are not in a position to move out of earshot!
252	The Voluntary Code operated by the Buskers already addresses this point.
262	What does that mean about charging a fee? Are artist's prohibited from selling their CDs? Also I refer back to my comment before about ballon artists.

APPENDIX D - Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws. A Street Performer shall not act, say, do or sing anything that is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to any member of the Public , any Business Owner or Occupier, the Council, authorised persons and / or any member of an Garda Síochána.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	This is open to abuse and interpretation
3	This is completely up to opinion, and unconstitutional.
6	it is in violation with the Irish Contitution
7	Ridiculous proposal verging on censorship and way too easy to abuse. How do you define alarm, distress or offence? What is this, Fahrenheit 451? Are the council going to start burning books next? Just stop it, this is silly. Burn this superfluous bye-law proposal.
8	As long as this is not abused, and certain songs/types of music are seen as "likely to cause distress or offence" to any member of the public and the performer is told to move on. Art/music is entirely subjective and is a matter of personal liking and that one man's taste is no better or worse than another's. Foul language and abuse from a street performer towards anyone should certainly be not allowed.
9	There's this thing called freedom of speech
10	That's too wide a scope as offense can be claimed for anything and it also restricts political speech in a public area and can be abused by the gardai if they want.
11	This cuts out half of street art including juggling, fire acts, dancing acts. Some people might even get shocked by a dancing puppet so watch out!
14	We revoked the Blasphemy Laws in the last referendum. There are already laws to deal with assault, etc
15	Criticism and satirical works are a cornerstone of free expression, are you going to set up a detainment ward for performers who offend business owners and Gardai too? Offense is subjective there is no way to accommodate everyone's feelings otherwise you might as well ban speech and literature, on the off chance it might offend someone.
17	Freedom of speech within reason should apply here. Protest songs are valid, and songs which might criticise authority should not be censored. Obscenity of course is not acceptable in public spaces during the day. The vast majority of buskers are in good taste day and night.
18	No causing of alarm or distress sure, but prohibiting the offending of anyone is censorship, and is way too vague a restriction.
23	This is censorship, if people are offended they can leave. We all have a right to express an opinion, this is how change occurs.
24	You can't tell people what they can and cannot say, freedom of speech and expression is a human right. Especially when it comes to the performing arts, which is traditionally a space where artist can explore more extreme lines of thought than in conventional public speaking, it is experimental in its nature.
32	We strongly suggest that this point be struck out completely, as it is probable that it infringes upon Article 40.6.1 of the Irish Constitution, limiting as it does the freedom of expression.

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33	This is too vague, and could be abused by those who are against the busker personally or as a whole. It would need to outline more specifically so it cannot be used to inhibit freedom of speech or creativity, and instead targets use of hate speech or discriminatory behaviour towards women and/or those of minority status.
34	I only partially agree to this as who is to say what could cause alarm, distress or offense to people? If there was a list of these things that would cause offense and the public were allowed input on that then I would be more in favour. One example there might be is, religious groups signing religious songs with abortion pictures and I would find this offensive but others might not (I find them offensive personally). Another example might be sword swallowing and body manipulation might be offensive for some people and not others. This needs more thought and research. And is this not already enshrined in law anyway?
35	this should be defined more... eat offends 1 might not offended another..
55	Surely this goes against the Constitution of Ireland in terms of free speech/expression? Common sense is key. Not using bad language around children etc. But this is open to awful abuse. What if a shop owner doesn't like traditional music...etc.
62	Against freedom of expression and contrary to national law
63	That is a very broad statement to make. Traditional Irish songs could be taken as offensive/inciting depending on who's listeninh
64	Any member of the public??? Ridiculous. Some people get offended at nothing. Not reasonable. We already have enough legislation on slander, etc in place. Scrap this
70	Freedom of speech
74	There should also be a mention of street performers who are consuming alcohol and smoking drugs. As well as their group of friends who while not busking are doing likewise.
75	We all should be allowed to freely use the city for our enjoyment.
76	We all should be able to go about our business without harm
77	We have had buskers swearing down thei microphone on quay street outside our store, we have rang the gardai numerous times about this and the gardai said they couldnt do anything as its freedom of speech
78	Any member of the public!? People can take offense at anything. One could have an issue with the inappropriate lyrics of Blurred Lines but it doesn't prevent any radio station from repeatedly playing that song. Freedom of speech is necessary, whether it offends people or not.
80	No need for this
82	Too broad. Who says what is likely to cause offence? This can only work if it is specific about what could cause offence.
83	How is this possible to enforce? Article 40.6.1 of the Irish Constitution clearly protects "The right of the citizens to express freely their convictions and opinions." How does Galway council plan on getting around this?
86	Too vague and why is it needed when we have laws against hate speech etc. already.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
87	Is this not completely against freedom of speech!
93	Who is going to police this. Ridiculous, so business owners and the council have the right to calling "distress" if they don't like something or take offense. Sounds like the poor busker might get ganged up upon. If it's against the law, move em on. Otherwise it's silly, potentially unfair and not enforceable.
95	Some of the buskers are clearly under the influence and can get aggressive if told to move on.
96	This is a breach of free speech (a human right)
98	Impinging on freedom of speech and expression. The laws of Ireland relating to offensive behaviour etc should and will stand and performers can be dealt with under these public order laws. It is not appropriate for the council to enact such a regulation unless they wish to undertake an exercise to provide clear and expressive guidance on what is and isn't offensive. This is likely to face exploitation. Garda presence is strong in busking areas and Gardaí are trained and designated to deal with such issues, not the lay members of the council.
99	This is normal conduct and the buskers of Galway already abide by this. In the case of exceptions the matter ought to be judged on the individual without considering them as a representative of the busking community, which is peaceful and reasonable.
106	Bylaw should be scrapped as this is an infringement of freedom of speech.
107	This is a terribly vague and subjective regulation as to be both meaningless and an open invitation for any one individual to shut down and punish any busker for any reason. It's a massive loophole that lets the politicians and business owners who want to curtail one of Galway's greatest cultural and tourist contributions to call the Guards on any busker they want for any reason. This regulation is so bad, so poorly written (I fear intentionally) that there should be no attempt to rewrite it; but it should be stricken completely. Please get rid of this bye-law. The rest are at least negotiable. This one would kill off busking completely.
112	Grow up and stop getting offended so easily.
113	How will this be enforced? What one person defines as offensive varies on the perception and context from one person to the next.
114	Completely subjective. It is impossible to know what will offend someone else and as such. It is impossible for a busker to prevent this. Someone with kids may say that half the songs on today's radio are offensive / unsuitable for their children.
116	As drafted it stands to be vague without defining offensive.
120	There should not be a bye-law that discriminates between a street performer and a member of the public who is behaving in an aggressive or volatile way. Like any member of the public, performers are within their rights to freely express ideas, thoughts and experiences in action or song. The public of Galway do not financially support or encourage insulting, rude behaviour from performers and therefore it cannot thrive.
121	That's a very broad and unclear description which is potentially contrary to Freedom of speech. How do you define alarming or distressing behavior? Where's the line you draw for that? For each person those definitions are different. How will you determine who's right?
124	Seems vaguely worded and bordering on censorship

APPENDIX D - Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not act, say, do or sing anything that is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to any member of the Public , any Business Owner or Occupier, the Council, authorised persons and / or any member of an Garda Síochána.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
126	What happened to free of speech? And who decides what is good or bad? For example, someone singing religious songs could be offensive for an atheist and viceversa. But that's not a reason to stop any of them
143	Freedom of speech and expression makes this rule unacceptable. Also I don't think it would be necessary at all. People will solve their problems together and it will always be the best way. Police should take care of more dangerous behaviours.
145	This subsection is open to arbitrary enforcement. Artistic performances can often be provocative in nature and the ability to perform without fear of censorship is a right that needs to be preserved. Surely existing laws should cover any potential issues surrounding offensive content?
146	As Street Performer has no way of knowing what will cause offence to any member of the Public. "Any" must mean that if even one person is offended than the performer is liable for a fine; "the Public" includes anyone who happens to be there and tourists come from all over the world and bring with them their individual cultural tempora and mores. This is an edict with which it is impossible to comply. Besides, are you trying to make Galway into fucking Disneyland? Allow a little salt into the mix; it won't kill you. You can always make the licensing revocable upon the police receiving too many complaints, that will allow the public to set their own standards.
151	The inclusion of this clause is unsafe and has the potential to contravene the democratic right to freedom of speech. The interpretation of offence is entirely left to the personal interpretation of a wide range of individuals without any safety for the position of the busker or street performer. GCCN suggests its removal.
153	The performer should not be allowed to cause a disruption to businesses which is a frequent occurrence.
154	This is a subjective comment, so much so that anyone can complain about anything. It makes no sense. Use specific language, your the council. You should understand how important specific language is.
155	This directly contravenes Article 40.6.1 of the Irish Constitution – "The right of the citizens to express freely their convictions and opinions."
159	Define "likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to any member of the Public , any Business Owner or Occupier, the Council, authorised persons and / or any member of an Garda Síochána." ????
160	If the artist portrays the correct words of a song and it is after the watershed, then nobody should be offended... It is beginning to feel like a dictatorship and not an artistic cultural city...
162	More poor legislation that cannot effectively be enforced. Unclear. Open to mis interpretation and misapplication ...
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.

Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws. A Street Performer shall not act, say, do or sing anything that is likely to cause alarm, distress or offence to any member of the Public , any Business Owner or Occupier, the Council, authorised persons and / or any member of an Garda Síochána.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
167	I disagree as I feel that this would be difficult to police and could affect freedom of speech. I would suggest adjusting the wording so that it reads "A Street Performer shall not act, say, do or sing anything that is INTENDED to cause alarm etc.. I feel that by adding the word 'intended' instead of 'likely' we are addressing the serious concern of any busker potentially harassing local businesses or others, but we aren't creating a situation where a person could be unduly stopped from performing works of satire or political commentary for example.
168	please restrict use of audio machines that increase volume and are distraction to shoppers or offices in area
172	The majority of buskers are very respectful to the public, especially knowing that there are children around.
174	I think that street performers should be allowed to sing/act/say anything within reason. The statement above seems to imply that a performer can be moved on if one person is offended by a performer. Does this mean that a business owner can move on a performer just for performing in front of their business?
182	No one wishes to cause offence but surely common sense and manners should apply here. Is the council's intention to ban certain material??
183	This is ridiculous. This is taking away a busker's right to the freedom of speech. Some people may find the lyrics of Bob Dylan offensive, does that mean a ban on busking Bob Dylan songs? I completely disagree with the byelaw and think who ever came up with it ought to feel a bit embarrassed.
187	How is this defined? This could be used by people unhappy with buskers when current laws cover all eventualities. Utterly unnecessary.
200	This point is dangerously loose, and possibly in contravention of the right to free speech. On being disallowed to causing " alarm": What if in the case of emergency, the performer needs to raise alarm for the safety of a person or their belongings. For example if the busker spots a pickpocketing or a theft, and the most expedient and effective way to draw attention to this is by raising an alarm about it. The same would apply for spotting a immediately dangerous event such as a fire. On being disallowed to say anything that is likely to cause offence: Whether or not offence is given, it can still be taken. A racist can take offence to merely seeing a non-native. The wording here is unclear as to the protections of the busker against what constitutes 'offence' and thus creates a big risk to the busker.
207	Again, as musicians singing in public we are aware that there are children present and human decency applies. I feel as though this entire bylaw thing is making mountains out of molehills. The arts and culture of Galway would not be nearly what it is without the busking culture. It carries far beyond that as well. I met my husband busking on Shop Street, if it were not for that chance encounter I would not be traveling the world with my sweetheart exploring our collaboration through music and bringing our passion for music with us wherever we go. Check out a recent live video here: https://youtu.be/8SzAk4rf5Oo I feel very passionately about the street music scene in Galway because I owe so much to it!
208	crazy some of the behaviour from them

Submissions received on Section 8 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
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Ref Nr	Written Submission
215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away.This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	Too open to interpretation. Not good law, unless you define offence.
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
229	Again I only partially agree because the majority of street performers are very respectful of everyone on the streets and the business around them and have a good relationship with the public.
231	This by law needs to be elaborated as many people have many different definitions of alarm, distress and offense. Obviously acts should not be racist, cause physical harm to passers by, things along the themes of these. But I can imagine some business owners may take alarm to certain buskers just setting up and playing. Example must be given before you can install a by law such as this as the terms are too vague.
233	Contraviens freedom of expression. Too hard to discern what may be considered offensive to one person vs another. Leads to censoring
239	Who will decide what is offensive? This was a year of people being offended by songs such as "Fairy tail of new york" , will musicians be allowed to sing songs such as this?
240	This is too subjective, people take offence sometimes for reasons that can't be understood
242	And the safety of the performer should be included in this both from the public and business owners.
243	Legislating for offence is like making stupidity illegal.
247	I don't think this bye-law is necessary as it goes without saying that everyone should treat each other with respect but why should a busker be fined and a member of the public not fined.
252	Obviously people need to be respectful of the public and business owners but this is too open to interpretation and is more heavily weighted in favour of the easily offended and outraged
253	To 'cause alarm, distress or offence' is highly subjective. What one finds humorous, another will be offended at. What one says in a song of protest could cause alarm. Many of our traditional songs are filled with innuendo, or were written as a call to arms against a system which was oppressive. Many songs today are also written to call out current injustices in the world. Everyone has a right to sing these songs and say these things. If people don't like them, they won't pay the performer and the performer will stop singing/saying them. The only performance that should be stopped for a reason along these lines, is one that directly breaks current laws, like indecent exposure or inciting people to violence. This bye-law is not needed to stop these extreme types of performance, and will only serve to restrict freedom of expression which makes art and song such rich and rewarding mediums.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises and a Street Performer must immediately cease a performance in circumstance where a crowd have gathered thereby stopping the movement of Pedestrians.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	How can a street theatre piece do a show?
3	How are they supposed to make their living if they have to stop every time they get a crowd? This is daft.
6	a performer is not responsible for a person that walks by, that person that decides to stop, is responsible for "blocking" the way.... however, if a performer 'notices' this happening, it is in both his and the public interest that he urges the people to 'not-block' the streets and/or entrances/exits of any premisses, so in between songs/tunes/acts he/she should encourage the public to behave accordingly.
7	This is absolute nonsense. If a performer is performing well a crowd will form to listen, so really this would just lead to a rise in bad buskers. In those crowds are the tourists and natives and every one of them would be put out if the entertainer had to stop because the audience appreciated the show. Besides, pedestrians can make it down shop street past a crowd. It might not be the fastest thing, to move past a crowd, but it's not a huge problem worth making a bye-law over. It's certainly not a big enough issue to propose this bass backwards bye-law.
8	Circle performers such as dancers often block up the street as they set up tape in a large area and possess the entirety of the walkway. I agree this should not be allowed as it causes annoyance however it should be permitted/encouraged that these acts relocate to another designated space with ample footfall/passers by.
9	This is called atmosphere acts don't last long enough to disturb most business
10	I agree with the obstruction but I don't agree with stopping if a crowd forms. By nature of performance that is of good quality crowds will form and many people will want to watch this shouldn't be stopped just managed under the buskers own code of conduct
11	"sorry guys, I know you're all enjoying this, but one too many people has just stopped to watch me. You sir, can you kindly leave so we can all get back to my legally attended performance"?
14	There should be a limit, ie 2 meter half circle from the doors. However, buskers may not realise that a substantial crowd has gathered during a performance. its just not feasible to expect them to stop their performance! I've noticed that buskers do tend to ask their viewers to "pull in" or suchlike. Buskers are not responsible for the actions of other private citizens, however, they should not be legally obliged to be responsible for the behaviour of other people! Perhaps just ask buskers to ask their crowd to be mindful of other people in the public space.
15	The business can ask the performer to move, and the advantage of a city is that there is more than one route to where you wish to go, also what if a crowd forms without the performers intention?
16	While stopping the movement of pedestrians is a concern, if a street performer draws a crowd through their performance, it is unfair to ask them to cease performance completely if they are not actively trying to create a crowd. If a musician draws interest, it does not make sense to tell them to cease performing to cause pedestrians to disperse - if they are not asking pedestrians to stop, they are not responsible for those who do.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
17	Naturally performers know not to obstruct shop entrances. They are respectful of business, as they are conducting their own business. This article is about the gathering of crowds on Shop Street. A crowd is a group of entertained, engaged, happy people, and not something we should be attempting to break up. As someone who has worked in hospitality in Galway, I can't tell you how many tourists I've met who come for a night, fall in love with the vibrant atmosphere of music and dance and decide to extend their stay. Music and busking is an essential quality of Galway City and should not be exchanged for an empty Shop Street. It would be detrimental to Galway's pubs, restaurants, shops, hostels and hotels.
18	Performers shouldn't be responsible for pedestrian traffic
23	This is an attack on the very nature of performance. Crowds gather because people are engaged and wish to watch,!
24	This is part of Galway's city character, and whenever I have foreign friends visiting they love this part of Galway culture.
30	Circle acts are part of the cultural fabric of Galway. Banning these or forcing them into less trafficked areas would negatively impact the atmosphere of the city.
32	We strongly suggest that the above be changed, as having to immediately cease a performance once any sort of crowd gathers will not only greatly diminish the performer's ability to earn a living, it also will potentially disappoint the many tourists that come to Galway specifically due to our city's famed street performers. Furthermore, this bye-law is also already covered by our own Code of Conduct, in a point which reads: 'Street Performers shall, to the best of their ability, manage any crowd or audience that gathers to watch their show, endeavoring to ensure that the street is passible, and shops are accessible during their performance. If a crowd gathers that is unmanageable, a performer shall stop their performance temporarily, to allow for the crowd to disperse.'
34	A system they have in New Orleans is that if a performer or tourist guide does not keep the crowd say off the streets or away from entrances (reasonable distance) they get fined. This would be a far better system now that every busker needs a licence now! You also need to define what exactly is obstruction, especially with regard to access and egress i.e. 2 foot circumference of doorways etc. More work , research and definitions needed here.
55	This is incredibly vague. People stop all the time on guided walking tours, with maps, with buggies, to chat to friends. If people cannot stop to listen to a song, or to allow their child to dance in a puddle, or throw a coin in you will destroy street culture in Galway. JUST in time for 2020 and the world media stage...
62	Unenforceable and would ban many buskers
64	This is part of the atmosphere in Galway. Destroying the busking culture just as we are coming up to city of culture 2020 is totally mad. Who thought it would be a good idea to destroy the reason why Galway won the bid in the first place??
73	This is a big problem, and this is a good point
74	It should be made clear that some areas of Galway city are more suitable for larger performances, as shop street is quite wide where as high street very narrow so an act performing on high street is more likely to cause an obstruction. There for acts comprising of more than 2-3 performers should be restricted to larger areas of Galway.
75	I absolutely agree with this statement as there are many days that I am unable to get down Shop Street from the top of Williamgate Street, as circle acts are performing. I will avoid the area when these acts are in place as its is too difficult to pass, which is a loss of business to the city retailers and also prohibits me having a good experience of Galway City. When these acts attract large crowds, it is extremely difficult for people with buggies or wheelchair users to get past causing a safety issue.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises and a Street Performer must immediately cease a performance in circumstance where a crowd have gathered thereby stopping the movement of Pedestrians.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
76	I totally agree as the large crowds gathered around performers can make it very difficult to pass and it can also be dangerous for wheelchair users to get past and we should all be able to walk down the street. These acts should book a venue and pay or use the likes of Eyre Square or The Spanish Arch. Maybe have an area designated for them there.
78	A performance should not be cut short when the public are taking an interest and enjoying it.
79	Dedicated street performance locations should be incorporated into the Public Realm strategy with temporary locations agreed in the interim.
81	If a busker is doing well they will gather a crowd. It's unfair to make them essentially cease trading at a point that their 'trade' is succeeding. As a visitor to Galway, the buskers performing across the city was the thing that we went home and told everyone about - in our opinion it's Galway's biggest attraction and should absolutely be supported rather than hindered. At most buskers should be supported in creating a system that allows pathways behind their crowd, whether that's encouraging people to move closer or setting up barriers around their performance area for people to stand inside.
82	I think not obstructing doorways is fair enough but how on earth could you tell a performer to stop once they gather a crowd? That's like saying a shop must close as soon as they get some customers. Unworkable.
83	This is fine, but ONLY if you mean crowds that it is impossible to walk around. I think this should be clearer.
84	This is completely without the considerations of those pedestrians who are there enjoying the entertainment and contributing towards the ambiance and enjoyment of the city
93	Draw lines, have performance areas set and if a warden perhaps to stop performances and move people on if in the way.
94	It is not in the street performers control of gathering crowds. It's unfair for them to stop performing in front of a crowd who are enjoying their music if they are simply entertaining. They will also make more money from larger crowds.
98	Part of the atmosphere of Galway is related to the "heaving and bustling streets".
99	The only acts causing a problem here are large and loud bands which act as renegade buskers anyway. Target these bands who are few, not every busker, most of which do not cause any problems of this kind.
106	If an act is talented and attracting a crowd, they should stop?! Ridiculous. It is again agreed in the busking community that once they draw a large crowd, to encourage the crowd to pull in towards them.
111	It is unreasonable to assume that if a crowd gathers for a particular act that the artist will immediately stop performing. The reason a crowd gathers is because the very act that they have gathered for is worth stopping to watch. Therefore, it would not only be unfair to the artist, but it would be unfair to the audience to expect that an artist can, would or should stop performing.
112	I think the performer shouldn't purposely block a path or entrance but it's not the performer's fault if they attract a big crowd. Anyways if the performer is attracting a big crowd it shows his/hers talent.
113	But most buskers mostly follow this rule and keep the a path clear and shop-fronts open. In 6 years in Galway, I have never seen a busker blocking an entrance to a shop. The issue is the audience, or the performer.
114	As long as the crowd does not prevent a total blockage of the street then they should be allowed to continue. It should be mentioned that buskers should encourage people to move closer in the event of too large a crowd forming.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
115	This limits talent, busking is a big culture in Galway and crowds so stop to watch talented buskers. When a crowd gathers all the Galway buskers know to move them closer as not to obstruct the walkway or shop entrances
119	A performer may simply ask the crowd to move closer to avoid blocking entry points/ passage ways.
120	I disagree that money should be spent on regulating a system that is already in place. The code of conduct of the Galway Buskers Community recognizes the importance of being considerate of locals and surrounding business' and is constantly aware of these factors during their set and take necessary steps to keep walkways clear. The use of the phrase 'immediately cease' shows how little the drafting committee value of street performance in Galway.
121	Extremely limiting.
124	The performer can get the crowd to move in closer, but to stop the act entirely seems too far.
126	I dont think this point makes any sense as it is, i've been busking 4 years in Galway (not all the time, i have a job) and i saw most buskers doing all they can to control the crowd and dont cause any problem to any shops.
133	performers shouldn't block access and egress from any premises . . but if a large crowd gathers, it will disperse as the performance ends, it is not appropriate for a performer to stop mid performance to move people along. They will move at the end of the song or performance.
143	Again, people will always make up the right situation in place and time where an issue takes place. I've been in Galway for years and I'm running away from Rome, Italy, where street performers have really hard time to get a place and Rome could be a wonderful stage for players and also a chance for business to have more customers but the lack of vision and sensibility of the many city councils here, have made Rome, one of the most beautiful cities in the world, a real DESERT for street art. And this is a shame. I'm about to move in Ireland possibly next year as a musician for this very reason. Please don't ruin your wonderful little music town!
146	That's reasonable and similar regulations appear throughout the world. But as long as I've got your attention you really missed an opportunity here; one which I hope you'll amend before these regulations become law: NO PERFORMANCE MAY BE AMPLIFIED OR CREATED THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS. This would prevent the horrible bastardization of Galway's streets into painfully-loud noise districts. Restrict performances to what can be produced by acoustic instruments or the unamplified human voice. It's more real, it's traditional, and it takes actual training to create; displaying skill rather than the ability to push a button. Here in the States we have "Street Performers" who can actually do nothing themselves; they only push buttons on sampling machines. Keep Galway for the harp, and the fiddle, and the guitar, and the bodhrán. I'm more likely to bring my harp if you do.
153	Obstruction to access business premises is an all too regular occurrence.
154	This just wont work. You will stamp.out the culture of performance. Allow the buskers to make their own rules.
155	It's unclear whether that means all crowds, or just crowds that pedestrians can't walk around.
159	4. Street Performers shall keep entrances and fire and emergency exits of any business or residence clear and accessible, to the best of their ability. 5. Street Performers shall, to the best of their ability, manage any crowd or audience that gathers to watch their show; endeavouring to ensure that the street is passible and their performance causes no obstructions, as per point four.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
160	That is what makes Shop Street, Shop Street.... God would you prefer the streets were empty... At least the Buskers give the illusion that Galway is a vibrant, thriving city...
162	Mixing 2 differing requirements the first can partially be justified the second is indefinable for 'enforcers'...
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
167	It is fair to ask buskers to be diligent towards the daily effects their performances could have on surrounding businesses & pedestrians, and where reasonable to pause performance and enforce some crowd management to allow for passage to local businesses. I think reason needs to prevail in enforcing this restriction, if implemented, and it should be acknowledged that if a crowd gathers mid-performance the performers can't be expected to immediately stop what they are doing & pack up.
168	please dont obstruct other oedestrians
172	If they stop right as they gather a crowd they will ruin the mood and lose their profits.
174	During busy times in the city, Shop Street and adjoining areas become congested. Therefore if a crowd gathers, it is not the fault of the street performer. During the Arts Festival, etc, these areas become congested because people come to Galway not just for the pubs, festivals and shopping, they are interested in the street performers who are the lifeblood of Shop Street. Obviously a performance should be ceased if there is a safety issue but this is simply not the case during most music performances.
182	Again common sense and manners should suffice.
183	The whole point of busking is that passerbys stop to listen to the busker express themselves on the street. To cease performing once interest has been gained in the busker's performance defeats the entire purpose of busking. Buskers who get large crowds always ask their crowds to gather closer to let passerbys pass by. This is another ridiculous drafted bye law. It's like asking a shopkeeper to remove the items for sale from the shelf as soon as he has a customer interested in buying them...
187	See above. The intent seems to be to harass buskers. There are agreements in place in the busking community to cover this and I have never seen an infraction.
190	When a street performer has a crowd it means they are doing something that is enjoyed by not just some but many. That is thr kind of street performance everyone wants to see and should be protected. Amyways this definition of crowd is more than vague
200	<p>This is the point that raises the most alarm bells.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A crowd forming is a clear sign that a performer is very good. - Circle acts require that a crowd forms, they perform to that crowd, and at the end, accept donations. Without a crowd, circle acts will not bring their talents to Galway, and will not contribute their art to the cultural web. - Any crowd I have passed on Shop street have delayed my passage by no more than 30 seconds. I can see why this frustration would cause some to complain about crowds. On the emotional level, please consider that one person's negative emotion against the hundred who are experiencing positive emotions. On a practical level, consider how a 30 second delay compares to the enjoyment of the city by its inhabitants and tourists. <p>If this point is brought in to law, the result will be that by definition Galway rejects having buskers of the highest quality and will be subject to the poor quality and mediocre buskers.</p>
202	Normally one gets through as performance only lasts 15/20min. Town would be very quiet without any performance.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
207	Pedestrians can get through any crowd I have ever seen. I was in Mexico City on Day of the Dead a few years ago. I had never seen a crowd like that before. Still, when people wanted to get from point A to point B they got there. This is not a real issue. If it takes you a minute longer to get to point A to point B because you had to wind yourself through a crowd next to music worth listening to...you'll still get where you're heading.
208	the blocking of doors is shocking
211	If you don't like the true atmosphere and holistics of Galway City, go somewhere else? Buskers are and always have been such a huge part of Galway, it is always something that makes me choose Galway over any other city!
212	If the street performers are good enough to attract a large crowd, I don't see any problem. They are very much part of the atmosphere that is Galway and make a huge contribution to the city's life
215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away.This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	This should be worded as the performers are responsible for ensuring that they do not obstruct the public
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
222	On too many occasions have buskers/ bands showed disregard for Shop entrances which can completely obstruct pedestrian access.
225	Supposedly the "code" set out by buskers in 2017 said they would do their utmost to manage crowds stopping and blocking an already congestion, difficult to pass public thorough fare. To the best of my knowledge this has not been done or enforced. I walk through these streets daily, and it is dangerous trying to push through crowds, even more difficult if I have a small child or my elderly parents with mobility issues. There is plenty space at Eyre square and the Spanish Arch, or the many city centre park areas for these large groups to congregate. It is not fair on the citizens of Galway to make the streets impassible, to the point of dangerous for the people who live and work here every day. Not to mention the ignorance and disrespect of the Summer Buskers who are not even from Ireland let alone Galway and truly do not care in any way for crowd management or safety of Galway streets.
229	There should be a choice to 'strongly disagree' for this one especially. First of all it is COMPLETELY ridiculous for street performers to stop just because a crowd gathers. This is exactly the point of performing for the public and busking. The only reason this is a problem is because the people watching are trying to stand back out of the way of pedestrians wishing to continue walking, and the people who wish to keep walking do not want to walk in front of the crowd. The solution is for this is SIMPLY that performers must take responsibility for the crowd and encourage this crowd to move in closer to the performers to allow more space for pedestrians. This is purely based on money and greedy shop owners who have this as their only priority. The shops and business do not get less trade. Standing for twenty minutes watching performers and you will see plenty of people still going into shops. These business need to realise that the street performers of galway ARE WHAT MAKE THE CITY SO SPECIAL! Without them the city would not be as interesting or as vibrant and tourism would suffer, therefore so would business.
231	I can understand the magic or dancing acts, but when a crowd gathers for a musical act the musical act didn't ask people to make a circle or block pathways, it just happened. It is not the fault of the busker if many people enjoy the music and want to listen and the streets of Galway are so small. Is the busker meant to usher people along continuously?
239	As in Dublin, the busker can help control the crowds. Inviting them closer etc ..let common sense prevail and don't take away from the atmosphere provided by artists.

APPENDIX E - Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises and a Street Performer must immediately cease a performance in circumstance where a crowd have gathered thereby stopping the movement of Pedestrians.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
240	That means the really good performers can't perform. It's lovely to see a crowd gather for exceptional performers and it generates a fabulous atmosphere.
243	What is the exact number that makes it different between people and a "crowd" of people. I find if you just walk through the crowd or stop and smell the roses, life goes on.
245	A crowd gathering should not be a problem as it is part of a performance , as long as people may still pass through that crowd and access shops
247	Yes a street performer should not block access to a premises but if a performer is doing a good job and a crowd gather i don't think its fair to make them stop there performance. Buskers often ask crowds to move closer to them so that crowds can pass by. If the general public decide to stop and watch a performer It's not fair to put their decision on the busker. It is unreasonable to fine a busker because other people that he/she does not know have stopped to listen to him. These proposed Bye-laws are going to kill shop streets atmosphere. Many people go into the city center just to soak up the atmosphere and watch buskers.
248	When large crowds form it prevents free movement on the street and is an issue for elderly people and people with disabilities. If they act is good enough to form a large crowd then clearly they are good enough to perform in Eyre Square or the Spanish Arch where there is more room. The same time limits should apply there also.
252	Busking draws an audience and the better the performer the bigger the 'crowd'. It is important that streets can be navigated by pedestrians but it is incumbent on the audience to be courteous and conscious of not blocking passers-by. Whole sections of the streets are blocked off during race week and festivals to facilitate street drinking....why one law for buskers and another for businesses?
259	Large group performances who attract large audiences known as circle acts, cause major disruption to bricks and mortar businesses who carry out their trade in the city centre. I attach photographs to my submission which show entrances to businesses obstructed by audiences listening to buskers. This is a regular occurrence on Shop Street. These large circle acts cause disruption to trade. Shop Street is not a suitable location for such large scale acts. Suitable locations in the city centre, such as Eyre Square should be designated for such large scale performances.

Submissions received on Section 9 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
A Street Performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises and a Street Performer must immediately cease a performance in circumstance where a crowd have gathered thereby stopping the movement of Pedestrians.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
262	<p>This needs a total rethink. As stands what it says to anyone who loves music is, if you are good you have to stop performing. This runs completely counter to the purpose of the bye-laws. At least this should be split into two distinct sections. The first section can be salvaged, but the second requires further thought.</p> <p>The first section, "a street performer shall not obstruct the Public's access to and egress from any premises". I don't think anyone would argue with that, and it should be a stand alone provision.</p> <p>The second half of the sentence doesn't make any sense. Why is the terminology changed from 'access to and egress from' to 'the movement of Pedestrians'. I think the terminology leaves the bye-law wide open to criticism. No performer is ever going to want to stop when they have a big crowd. No crowd is ever going to want the performance to stop when they are enjoying it. This is an issue about public safety and about business owners/rate payers/landlords being adversely affected. No music festival producer would put safety in the hands of the musicians. It is non sensical. The issue is not about the performers, the issue is about the crowds. It is the crowds that need to be controlled, and that is where the discussion should be focused. How to control the crowds. Galway City has zero difficulty doing this each year with the Macnas Parade. This has to be rethought.</p> <p>As it stands, circle acts are banned before 6pm anyway. Most shops are closed or closing by that time. So you're talking mostly about movement of pedestrians and less about access to shops. Surely this can be achieved with fencing off designated walkways or other initiative.</p> <p>If a performer, that is not considered a circle act, is performing during the day when businesses are open, and a large crowd is drawn, then you have an issue of safety and of access to shops. I HAVE A VERY NOVEL IDEA TO SOLVE THIS BY GETTING BUSINESSES AND PERFORMERS TO WORK TOGETHER.</p>

APPENDIX F - Submissions received on Section 10 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 10 of the Draft Bye- Laws. A Street Performer shall not reserve a location / area while not performing thereby preventing its use by another Street Performer.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	I think the buskers already have a system that addresses this
3	This is something the buskers already work out between themselves.
6	a performer should be able to "reserve" the next "slot" as long as he/she/they do not leave till that slot/spot becomes available (wait on the spot till it is "your"turn)
7	The local busking community have a solid system of booking spots that's agreed upon and works for everybody. This doesn't need to be legislated. This is a waste of everybody's time and I do not understand why you, the council, are still trying to pass this absurd bye-law in the face of overwhelming opposition. The majority of people are opposed to this; listen to the people that you are supposed to represent, move on and please put your time to better use, like working on solutions to the local homeless problem or working to organise a public art/mural program.
9	They don't rent it so it's not there's
14	Again, buskers usually sort this out amongst themselves democratically
15	Performers should sort out any claims to areas amongst themselves, they do need the councils oversight
16	While this is good for allowing new performers to use any space desired, it can create awkward situations - as stated above, human statues take short breaks after an hour or so, meaning temporarily leaving a space to rest somewhere out of view. This bye-law would mean that during a break, a human statue's space can be taken, creating a conflict with an incoming street performer.
30	This makes a lot of sense.
32	This bye-law attempts to interfere with our community's own recognised queueing system. It is unnesseasry, and again, who will the council pay to enforce this bye-law?
46	Let them do what they want it's awesome
55	This is unclear. The current code of conduct with the buskers for example, says that a person can only request to play next from the person playing. They are not preventing anyone's use by asking can they go next. Quite the opposite, they are preventing a big pile of instruments and musicians who would be forced to descend and scabble for the spot when the person playing finishes. Terrible idea if so.
62	This is completely against how the busking community has operate itself.
64	Let Galway buskers govern themselves
73	This queue system is a big problem
74	Who will enforce this? As busker self regulation has often lead to aggressive behavior between performers.
75	If performer want an audience why not book a venue and play from there.
76	Why should they be able to reserve a location as the street should be freely accessible for everyone
77	Buskers actually fight over their spot on shop street especially the busier spots like outside holland and barrett. Ive rang the gardai loads of times because buskers were physically fighting over their spot
78	I'm sure the Galway busking community have something similar written in their Code of Conduct.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
82	This is fair enough.
91	It's generally assumed one artist will be somewhere at a certain. An unspoken rule.
93	Temporary ban if they dont turn up without good reason. Only two hours afterall.
94	Street performers should only reserve areas from someone who is performing in the spot at that time by asking "Can I have this spot after you?"
95	They have it all rigged up amongst themselves, so allowing new buskers might relieve the monotony for those working on the street.
99	Galway buskers have already established a code of conduct which covers this and so it is not necessary for the council to regulate.
106	This too should be scrapped as its a waste of time and it ignores the system in place of a queueing system that is successfully carried out by the busking community.
112	Yeah I agree because the location is a public place.
113	Do you mean a performer cannot leave their equipment in an open spot? Or that when one performer is there another cannot book the area from them? This is worded terribly vague.
120	I disagree that money should be spent on regulating a system that is already in place!! Once again, the code of conduct of the Galway Buskers Community has a system in place for the way locations are used
121	That's not going to work. There's already a functioning spot booking system established by the busking community.
124	They should work that out themselves.
126	There is a sistem already working perfectly, where the first person asking for the spot to the performing artist gets it. And apart from that, all buskers know each other and try to be polite and respectful with that
143	simple common sense has always provided to solve this issue 90% of times.
146	Of course. Why should you get to reserve a space if you're not enhancing anyone's day with it?
159	3. Street performers shall respectfully adhere to a queuing system for spots (pitches). This means if busker 'B' wishes to play in an occupied pitch, they will approach busker 'A' (respectfully), and ask when they are finished (the max. time being 2 hours). Busker 'B' will then come back at the agreed time, or wait if it is a short time. If someone else, (Busker 'C') has already asked busker 'A' go next, then Busker B will come back when Buskers C is performing, and ask if they may go after them, and so on. If a performer needs to leave early, then it would be a courtesy to let the next performer know. If a spot is left empty, it is free to play in, regardless of any prior arrangements made.
162	This aready self regulates
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
169	This is an unwritten rule of buskers. There is always an invisible que. If this is not understood, the busker should not be busking in Galway in the first place.
174	I think it is important to support Galway's Street Performers who are trying to earn a living.
183	This is already in the buskers code of conduct. Once again, no need for the byelaw.
187	An agreement is already in place. And working very well.

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200	Buskers have an international reputation for being self-organised. It is not for a council to micromange how places are distributed. This point does not account for the many factors at play.
207	This is to be worked out between street performers. It does not make any sense for a non street performer to decree the inner workings of spot reservation or lack there of. How loud one can be, how long they can stay in one spot (things that effect the businesses they are in front of and housing they are near) ok, I can see why an outside force would have a say. However, this seems both impossible for an outside force to keep tabs on, and strange for an outside source to even insist upon trying to keep tabs on.
215	There should be focus on protecting the lives that could be lost on the river flowing out of our city, not focus on taking a very big part of Galways UNIQUE culture away. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	Makes sense
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
229	The members of the busking community in Galway have great respect for each other and will more often than not cooperate and be considerate of ANY other performers. They police these things themselves and it has worked smoothly for years.
231	The busking community is a COMMUNITY, which I believe is very fair to one another. They talk and communicate about which spots are available and this by law is impossible to implement. It should be left on the shoulders of the buskers to be fair amongst each other in their distribution of selected spots and for the majority they are, I find this a pointless by law that was brought up in discussion in the council.
233	The self regulating busking code of conduct has been working excellent ly in terms of a queueing system which as a busker is badly needed to have a sense of fairness
243	How can this be enforced and who is going to pay for it?
247	Buskers don't do this currently anyway

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	No children's theatre?
3	What about street theatre? Children's shows?
6	here i TOTALLY disagree, most "circle"acts need proper daylight and banning them during those periods of time is beyond comprehension, even discrimination is a word that comes to mind, I think the issue that is likely to have caused this point to arise, is already covered in the earlier point about blocking the streets/entrances etc etc
7	UNNECESSARY BYE-LAW PROPOSALS
15	How would you define Circle Acts outside of the Bye-Laws? This is just the crowd question yet again
16	Shutting down these performers completely is unfair and unreasonable - while they can be potentially disruptive, it is too restrictive to disallow their performances.
17	The variety of performers in Galway is a draw for many, and circle acts provide entertainment for all age groups. They are as important as any, and come from all over the world to perform here.
30	See my earlier comment about circle acts
32	We submit that banning ANY circle act from performing anywhere before 6 PM, unfairly discriminates against a particular type of performance. This bye-law would especially be damaging to children's shows and street theatre.
34	Your previous point about access and egress should solve this issue. There is no need to ban circle groups if they a properly managed. They are an integral part of the arts festival etc fringe work.
55	Strongly disagree. No street theatre for children anymore (at least those out before 6). No puppet shows, as Pat Bracken used to make. Are the exceptions going to be for the Corporate Financed events where there is a double standard? What about Parades? Macnas?
72	100% should already be in place
75	I believe that Circle Acts should be moved to designated areas eg Eyre Square as it will allow free movement from Williamgate Street to The Spanish Arch and it would also give these performers more space to entertain.
76	If they want a big space let these acts go to Eyre Sq or Spanish Arch or book a venue and play from there.
78	Circle Acts? Do you not think you've already made enough of a mess of this without spelling errors?
80	Part 11 and 12 are essential for retail trade to survive in the city centre
83	a) Why don't you make an exception on the weekend? b) You are deleting 2/3 of the working hours for street performers in Galway. That's absolutely crazy. c) Why not do a decibel limit instead?
90	very confusingly worded.
91	I disagree because the person who drafted this excerpt tried to get fancy with words to try to confuse people. Boo to excerpt 11

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93	Make performance areas with designated yellow boxes for people to move through like the roads.
98	This is open to exploitation by factors within the Galway city business community that have an expressed desire to curtail and infringe on busking.
105	I believe these time restrictions to be unfair
106	This will limit and restrict acts suitable for children etc, and have a direct effect on some performers earning a living at their prime time.
111	<p>Galway, is renowned for being the home to one of the most vibrant street arts scenes in Ireland, Europe and the world. Thus making it a major tourist attraction and amenity for the Wild Atlantic Way and Fáilte Ireland. All our local retailers, business people, industries and artists benefit from this, not to mention the essential role that arts and culture play in the wellbeing of the citizens of Galway. The potential bye-laws must recognize street performers as stakeholders and positive contributors to the vibrancy and wellbeing of Galway City.</p> <p>We understand the concerns which the bye laws intend to address and are very aware of some of the main issues such as excessive audio volume, acts claiming quasi-ownership of busking pitches, blockages to shops and thoroughfares and aggressive solicitation of donations. We have reviewed and consulted with the members of the Galway Busking Community in relation to the approach taken in these draft bye laws to manage some of these issues.</p> <p>Restrictions on Circle Acts</p> <p>Galway Community Circus is one of the leading organisations for development and participation in circus arts in Ireland and a key youth and social circus organisation internationally, therefore this aspect of the draft byelaws is particularly close to our heart.</p> <p>Circle acts are very aware of their spatial requirements and the importance of location for the delivery of a strong performance with good audience interaction and response. Currently artists performing circle acts in Galway are very restricted in terms of suitable locations. It is our opinion that Galway City Council include this as a matter for consideration in terms of future town planning and improvement works in light of your successful bid as a European Capital of Culture for 2020. Meanwhile, it could be an idea to highlight as Dublin City Council does in their byelaws, the precise locations where a circle act may perform, rather than where it may not.</p> <p>It is unreasonable to assume that if a crowd gathers for a particular act that the artist will immediately stop performing. The reason a crowd gathers is because the very act that they have gathered for is worth stopping to watch. Therefore, it would not only be unfair to the artist, but it would be unfair to the audience to expect that an artist can, would or should stop performing.</p> <p>Each year Galway Community Circus employs over 30 circus artists from Brazil, Australia, France, US, Spain, UK, Ireland and more. Some of these incredible</p>

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	<p>professionals would not be able to live in Galway and share their talent with our members if they can't perform their circus shows on the streets. It is unclear how international visiting performers will access the proposed permits. We recommend that provision is included for this herein.</p> <p>Further to this, we propose that the bye-laws designate Galway City Council Arts Office to oversee any issues of permits and be involved in dispute resolution. We also feel that there is an opportunity here to establish a specific award scheme which values and rewards artists who contribute in a positive way to the fabric of Galway cities culture and atmosphere, thereby demonstrating the value Galway City Council places on street performance and simultaneously celebrating the artists contributions to the city. We have no doubt that Galway City Council will continue to provide, maintain and uphold its duty of care to preserving, maintaining and nourishing this extraordinary cultural asset for its people, communities, visitors, environment and streetscapes.</p>
113	The definition of a circle act is vague. The council have not given a clear wording on what defines a circle act.
114	As long as buskers are not preventing pedestrian traffic flow and not preventing access to businesses then I see no reason for this. It is unnecessary given points that have already been made in these bye laws.
115	A lot of the the buskers need amplifiers, this does not necessarily mean they will be louder but for instruments such as a bass guitar/electric guitar/ fiddle etc. They will not be heard without amplification
120	Circle acts are just as diverse as the other forms of street performance. They bring their own qualities and shouldnt be discrimated against. Save and Except is all well and good but if you want to show off the quality of charisma of Galways Circle Acts during festivals you should be willing to support them in the off-season too. These are people honing their skills and making a living from their art not a simple Jack In The Box for the Galway festival season.
124	Come on, during the summer that's some of the biggest draws to the city centre. Performers come from all over, it'd be an absolute shame to lose that.
126	I don't agree with complete bans, doesn't make any sense. It just needs regulation
136	A massive danger I own a shop and I can not put Street signage out yet they can throw fire
146	I don't see why not.
151	This should be replaced with a specification that circle acts should perform only in areas where there is adequate space to ensure the safety of their audience.
153	Circle acts are the prime source of obstruction to business premises.
154	So youre restricting performamnce time to 5 hours essentially. Seems you get specific language in this instance. This is unfair. Youll kill the culture.
155	This rule makes absolutely no sense to me and can't figure out why there would be such a rule.
159	Completely unpoliceable.
160	6pm??? Oh but why are the council intent on harming the soul of the City... It is a young city but for how long?
162	Unjustified and unnecessary by law.

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
167	I disagree as this would inhibit the variety of acts we see and welcome to Galway. Imagine the year of Galway 2020 being bereft of street theatre, and the cultural warmth that brings people back time and time again to the future 'Capital of Culture'.
172	Circle acts are as much part of the busking performers as are the street performing musicians.
178	The fact that these acts sometimes partly block the road is such a small price to pay for the vibrancy and joy of a walk through these areas that makes Galway such a wonderful city to live in.
183	This would prevent Emma the dancer, one of Galway's most loved buskers from earning her living. It would prevent her from bringing joy to the lives of those who see her perform. Circle acts have as much right as any other busker to perform during the day. They bring diversity to the community of buskers , so that it's not just musicians. Magicians , jugglers , they all bring different energies to the streets.
187	This seems designed to inhibit artistic display on our streets.
189	This makes no sense, circle acts by definition bring more crowds and to halt them after shopping hours when the streets are less busy with citizens with a particular purpose, shopping, errands etc. is counter-productive.
190	Circle acts always did the most to controp their crowds therecor this point does nothing but hurt the variety of street acts
191	PLEASE don't stop the daytime pleasure these talented acts provide during daylight hours, think of all the people who aren't night owls. . .
192	<p>I am very concerned about the proposal to ban "circle shows" during the day. These are the heart and soul of Galway. The top comments on Lonely Planet, Tripadvisor and other tourism websites mention Galway's street performers. They are what make Galway special. A recent video of Irish dancer Emma O'Sullivan on shop street was viewed over 10 million times on Facebook, as well has hundreds similar videos of kids dancing with Emma O'Sullivan that have been viewed and shared around the world. You can't buy that type of advertising. The proposed bye-laws would ban Emma O'Sullivan (dance, audience participation, amp), this is madness! She is one of the highlights for tourists visiting Galway, she uses a small speaker that is at a reasonable volume level.</p> <p>Neither Eyre Square nor The Spanish Arch would be suitable for this type of act. Banning this type of act before 18:00 means that children won't get to experience the best thing about Galway.</p> <p>A small number of buskers are too loud. This is real problem and everyone agrees. I believe a bye - law is necessary to prevent this. Set a dB limit (eg 80 or 90 dB). This can be measured on any phone using a free app. This solves the problem and allows Galway to keep it's culture, the number one tourist attraction that we have.</p>

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200	<p>Circle acts are already restricted to locations on Shop Street to perform, as a matter of functionality. Restricting further their time will repel most Circle acts from Galway, given their projected earnings will drop more than 50%. a 50% drop in earnings to an artist is significant enough to force them elsewhere. I know this because I am this person.</p> <p>It is my understanding through following this process, sitting in on SPC meetings, and talking to councillors that you believe that Eyre Square & Spanish Arch are viable alternatives for Circle Acts. They really are not. As I outlined in an email to Cllr Cathal O Conchuir, 31/5/2017:</p> <p>"Eyre Square and Spanish Arch. These are not suitable for busking street theatre shows. Maybe large music acts, but I can't speak for them. I can see why you would think that looking at it from your desk, but experience on the street differs, as I will explain. Street theatre needs footfall. Spanish Arch does not get that, outside of some special event. EyreSquare has footfall, but it is has a railing on a step in between the footfall and performance space, thus making the gathering of a crowd very difficult. This can be done, but with a lot of effort, and certainly not by a beginner, and when it is done, the show is not even very good. The difficulty of the pitch compared with the outcome will repel good and great street theatre acts from Galway, and Galway will miss out. It could be a good pitch, but would need redesigned.</p> <p>I repeat, Eyre Square and Spanish Arch, are not acceptable alternatives for street theatre."</p> <p>Also: I object to the wording 'Protected Street Scape'. This implies that busking is something that needs protecting against, which is an assumption that disregards that busking on the whole is a joyous contributor to society.</p>
207	<p>This is worded strangely, are you saying that before 6pm there may be no circle acts? The top of Shop Street is wide enough for circle acts, and I have seen such great performances there. Also where the road splits by the Kings Head can be a great spot for this as well. I have seen hundreds of people's lives enriched by these acts. Perhaps limited circle acts to less than 2 hours (though I've never seen one exceed 45 minutes, so again, don't think it's a real problem) or limited the places they can do them (i.e. the top of shop street and by the kings head, but again, I haven't seen them try in more narrow areas, as that would not be successful for them either)</p>
208	no need pre 6pm for circle acts
215	Focus should be on PROTECTING lives in and around the river flowing out of our city. You are taking Galways culture and character away for absolutely no reason. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	It is probably time to cease holding the arts festival in Galway if you are going to prevent the non musical acts
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.

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225	Circle acts should never be allowed, except in Eyre square, Spanish Arch or park areas that allow for large crowds to gather and loiter. Health and safety protocols should be adhered to, and they make the streets impassible. Their crowds are not managed or controlled and it impossible to safely navigate the streets.
229	Again this is purely because of shop owners that hear the performer repeat the same act several times in the time the performer is in a certain area. To which I say, it's time that these people developed a little patients and respect for these performers and what they do. It's easy to be working in a shop complaining about these things and not understand that these performers do this to earn a living. Grow up, get on with you work and you business and get over it. IT'S NOT BIG DEAL! And again it makes Galway the vibrant and cultural city that it is.
236	This effectively bans everything according to your wording - quote 'requires the audience to stop, watch and or participate' In order to enjoy a busker whether it be a musician, a puppeteer, a human statute THE PEOPLE HAVE TO STOP TO ENJOY IT!!!! Your wording is ridiculous and vague. It does not make any sense. It makes you look stupid and backs up my thoughts that the council do not understand what busking and street performance is. Galway is known all over the world as a cultural hub and its busking culture is a massive part of this. Galway is a town that relies heavily on tourism. People visit and love Galway because of the unique atmosphere on the streets. The vast majority of people from Galway do not agree with these by laws. Please listen to the people and not a handful of powerful business people.
237	What make Galway so worth the visit as a tourist is the actual busking scene that is available all year and all day round. Limiting the busking in the day will kill that atmosphere that makes Galway so attractive.
240	Too restrictive
241	Circle acts should be allowed to preform on the streets during daytime hours.
243	How can this be enforced and who is going to pay for it?
245	This should not be a problem if it is in designated suitable areas these are some of the best performances and a great ! Edition to Galway's arts culture
246	But limit the time.. Say half hour. Then move on.
252	Again, the Voluntary Code addresses this
259	Large group performances who attract large audiences known as circle acts, cause major disruption to bricks and mortar businesses who carry out their trade in the city centre. I attach photographs to my submission which show entrances to businesses obstructed by audiences listening to buskers. This is a regular occurrence on Shop Street. These large circle acts cause disruption to trade. Shop Street is not a suitable location for such large scale acts. Suitable locations in the city centre, such as Eyre Square should be designated for such large scale performances.
262	The way the time is written could be slightly clearer: "Circle Acts as defined in these Bye-laws shall be prohibited from performing on the Protected Street Scape before 18:00, and they must finish by the time mentioned in section 6."

APPENDIX H - Submissions received on Section 12 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 12 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Amplification and Backing Tracks as defined in these Bye-Laws shall be prohibited on the Protected Street Scape up to 18:00 hours and the use of Drum Kits is expressly prohibited on the Protected Street Scape SAVE AND EXCEPT as directed by the provisions of any derogation granted under these Bye-Laws	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	It's volume not amps. Get decibels measured
3	Volume has nothing to do with amplification. What will you do about trumpets? Bagpipes? Accordions? Conga lines?
6	a lot of acts would be unable without amplification/backtracks, once again I am thinking about using the word discrimination here as a suggestion I would say, give a maximum decibel-level that backing-tracks/amplified material is allowed to create.
7	Strongly disagree, this might be the worst proposal here, amplification is necessary for lots of instruments and music sounds BETTER to the public with percussion.
8	I believe that ABUSE of amplification should be prohibited- or a level of volume should be put in place. Alot of musicians need amplifications and drum kits, and as long as they are not in breach of "the peace", and are at a respectful volume I see no reason for amplification to be entirely prohibited.
9	Should be allowed within reason
10	Restricting amps is an out of date method showing lack of understanding of music. A decibel limit would be more fitting as some individuals use amps and are much quieter than a band using no amplification.
11	Better cut acoustic guitars while you're at it, they're awful loud. Many of the buskers rely on their amps to even be heard over the shoppers.
14	Decibel level perhaps, if it is extremely loud, or extremely late, well, its already breaking the law, no need for a new law on this.
15	You are going full authoritarian with your proposals, what if a performers act is vocals only? Do they vocalise without backing tracks? And what if drum kits are essential to a performer or group of performers act?
17	Amplification is vital for many styles of music, especially in groups and ensembles. A highly skilled electric guitarist playing solo may require a backing track in order to express his or herself best. Circus acts require recorded music to engage the crowd. Such acts and music make Galway what it is. Please don't get rid of such a vital lifeline for Irish arts and tourism.
26	Idiotic
29	I agree that they should ban the use of backing tracks as that is just karaoke in the street... but to ban all drums is ridiculous
30	This should be reworded to allow for sensible usage of amplification. Some acts cannot project their instruments or voices and require mild amplification to be heard. These acts are very different from those who set their speakers to carry down the entire street, and both cases should be treated separately.

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32	<p>We submit that a decibel limit of a maximum of 80 decibels, measured from a distance of 5 meters be enforced rather than a ban on any amplification or type of instrument. This is what we state in our own Code of Conduct, and is the only fair way to regulate sound, as it is successfully done in other cities (including Dublin). It is a fact that many instruments are very loud without amplification, and that softer instruments and voices need amplification simply to be heard.</p> <p>We also submit that there are many applications for smartphones, which will give a general decibel reading for the purposes of regulation. We also submit that singling out drum kits to be banned unfairly discriminates against a type of instrument/performance that is often much softer than other instruments. What about pipes? Brass? Accordians?</p> <p>We also submit that banning all amplification until 6 pm, yet only allowing busking until 10 pm in winter and 11 pm in summer leaves 4 or 5 hours for buskers who need amplification for their instruments or act to split over three or four viable spots that time of the evening, and then to have to share those spots for that short window of time with up to 30 other buskers. This is outrageously discriminatory, in that it seriously impedes our buskers' ability to make a living.</p>
34	<p>This is not appropriate at all. You could have a bye law instead that said acts can not go above a certain decibel - sound meters can be issued to community wardens and then the buskers licence can be taken away if they do go over the decibel level more than once and/or fine them - the warden would need to take a picture/video recording of the sound meter reaching this sound level and that it was the buskers in question that reached this level.</p>
55	<p>Amps are part of instrumentation. Loudness does not equal amps. Put a singer songwriter with a small amp next to a Piper, a Cahon player or a Sax player and you tell me who is louder. This should be about excessive volume, and NOT banning amps. You are banning certain types of music, and limiting those with softer styles (particularly women). IF you want shouty singers all day this will encourage that and remove variety.</p>
62	<p>This would stop so many different types of performances.</p>
68	<p>Some acts, by their nature, needs amps to be heard and if the sound volume is kept under a reasonable level don't cause undue distress to shops and businesses. Somebody with an accordion, brass instrument and such like can be even louder than somebody with an amp. I think that a maximum sound level is a fairer solution.</p>
74	<p>Clearer definition of drum kit needed as performers offer use box drums to get around this bylaws. Also the use of electric guitars should be discouraged, as they are equally as loud.</p>
75	<p>I strongly believe that amplification and Backing Tracks should be prohibited until 18:00 and Drum Kits prohibited as the noise pollution is too much to take.</p>
76	<p>The noise from these amps and backing tracks are terrible</p>

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77	<p>I dont think buskers should be allowed have any amplification on the streets. Working in retail, the noise from the buskers actually looses us customers as its too loud in the shop, we cant hear the customer or hear anyone on the phone if the phone rings. Its just too loud in the shop tohear ourselves think and buskers are playing outside all day from 9-6pm i go home with a pounding headache. My manager was even attacked by a busker 2 years ago when she went outside and asked him to turn the music down, he punched her 3 times in the head and the gardai said she had provoked him by trying to take his microphone and he was allowed to still sing outside our store</p>
78	<p>It's next to impossible to hear performers without amps on a busy day in Galway. Backing tracks are necessary for solo performers. A band needs a drum to keep the beat.</p>
79	<p>Amplification is difficult to regulate and unfortunetely should be prohibited. Traders have requested buskers to turn down / off their amplification only to be met with resistance and confrontation on occasions.</p>
80	<p>Part 11 and 12 are essential for retail trade to survive in the city centre</p>
83	<p>a) Why don't you make an exception on the weekend? b) You are deleting 2/3 of the working hours for street performers in Galway. That's absolutely crazy. c) Why not do a decibel limit instead?</p>
84	<p>Amplification is part of the entertainment especially for those like me who are hard of hearing and while some maybe of disproportionate volume it's my belief that a restriction on the decibels amplified would be of far more benefit for all.</p>
86	<p>The measure should be decibels not amplification.</p>
91	<p>Restrictions only after 10 PM and before 9 AM. And think about Entry 11 again. Shame on you.</p>
93	<p>Ridiculous. No reason for this. A limited decibel level should be a better solution as some acts need backing music to perform.</p>
95	<p>Absolutely agree. This is the main reason the people who work in businesses on the street have raised this issue. The noise level from the amps is totally unreasonable, and are only a recent addition. It know seems to be a shouting match between the buskers. Makes work a nightmare.</p>
99	<p>Absolutely disagree on the restrictions to amps. Many quiet buskers simply require them to earn a living and by and large most buskers are not too loud even with amplification. Restricting amplification will be a huge handicap to many buskers who don't deserve it and as a result Galway will be much worse off as a city. The only acts causing a problem are the big name bands who take over half of Shop St with eight large amplifiers and draw huge crowds. Deal with these directly and everyone will be happier. Leave the small buskers with amps alone, they add an invaluable ambience to the streets of Galway. Drumkits should not be restricted if reasonable. Many wonderful bands in Galway have them and people love them.</p>

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104	<p>This unfairly gives a huge disadvantage to many talented singers who need some amplification to be heard.</p> <p>I think this whole issue of instituting bylaws is a terrible use of city time. I am in the tourism business and every single person we guide remarks about how much they love Galway's vibrant street culture which will be significantly dampened by these new laws.</p>
105	I believe amplification and back tracks should be allowed
106	Rather than banning all amplified acts, there would be more use in having a decibel limit to the performance. Some acts NEED amplification and enforcing this law will put a lot of performers out of work or severely effect their income.
107	Seeing as several businesses along Galway's pedestrian zone blast music from speakers pointed at said pedestrian zone, this seems like a purely punitive regulation directed against buskers. It unfairly limits the types of busking that can take place.
113	<p>I understand the use of loud volume on the street and the headache that causes, but there are only 2 or 3 buskers who do not care nor will follow this rule. As a member of the community, I have had run-ins with these characters and they will not follow the rules of the community.</p> <p>Also, most buskers who use amps (and most use them with sense) cannot be hear without one. This is greatly affect some performers available to stand out on the street.</p>
114	Amplification should be monitored and there should be an acceptable limit on how high it can go ie. No more than X decibels. But this law prevents dancing as a form of busking.
115	A lot of the Galway buskers especially dancers need backing tracks to perform, they generally don't play them to loud and when they do a fellow busker will usually point it out. I've never seen this causing tensions
116	I understand the need to remove drums, backing tracks I understand because it's not live performance, amplification however should be regulated by volume instead of prohibited, for example a flaminco style guitar is too low to be heard while an unamplified saxophone is loud enough to be heard without amplification, so again it is an issue of volume and not amplification.
119	Acoustic street performers cannot be heard clearly on the busy streets of Galway during the day.. there is no reason to ban amplification at these times.
120	This bye-law is lazy and hugely detrimental to the streetscape of Galway. Quality and sound levels are not purely based on amplification. There are loud voices and soft voices, loud intruments amped and unamped. Some street performers use amplification to create loops and texturised their creations. It is a nonsensical bye-law. Moreover, some amplified performers appeal more to families and the daily motion rather than the hype of the Galway night-life. This bye-law pushes all amplified performers into the dark with a sparse amount of time and space to play. Respect and encourage Galway performers.
121	Establish volume limits instead.

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124	The problem isn't instrumentation or backing tracks, it's about volume, can you not make it about decibel levels?
126	Whoever thought this point doesn't have any idea about sound or music instruments. Amplification is not a problem, and it's actually necessary for some instruments to be heard. For example any bagpipe or brass are louder than a drumkit, than a banjo, and even an electric guitar with backing track. What the streets needs is a loudness regulation, made very easy with a decibel meter, and depending on time and distance from shops
130	Please don't remove amps or basic backing tracks ! Mia 12 year old uses soft Piano backing tracks, (not full band) without them she couldn't busk. She's all excited to go this summer again. I think basic backing tracks should be accepted as they are soft. Anything that resembles a full band maybe should be after 6 or off shop street. Please please watch this, Mia never disturbs anyone & gets nothing only super compliments . Because of her been seen in Galway , Mia got on the Late Late toy show, she had 3 x movie castings & we have been contacted by The Ellen show, The Voice Uk, Britain's got talent & AGT. All of this was because of just one day in particular when she busked & it was put on Instagram and got 700,000 views in a week on Musicfications page.
133	there needs to be a limit to volume of amplification. . but I don't know how that can be policed.
136	I pay IMRO licence and have to turn down music as it's so loud I've had to close window in hot summer days so we can hear each other Some performance are no very good singers
140	I would agree as a person working on High Street partially with this I would like to see amp's used in certain areas and at a certain decibel level, however I understand this would be difficult to police so maybe it is better to ban them completely
142	The prohibition of amplification will severely limit the ability of solo vocalists to sing. Strongly in disagreement w this rule
145	Is the ban on drum kits or all percussion?
146	Nope. As I said higher up the page, ban them completely. Come on, let's step back and look at Galway from a historical point of view: walks, historic districts, waterfront, fiddle, harp...LED ZEPPELIN BACKING TRACKS! What in the above doesn't belong? No. If you need electricity to produce it, produce it somewhere else.
148	As a trader on William St since 1980, amplification noise has been our greatest obstacle to trading. We are not against busking. We are against amplification.
149	We should think about reasonable rules... It's to much louder a saxophone or a Allen pipe than a guitar with amplification or a dancer with a backing track. Please note that buskers are very important in your tourism rates!! IF YOU ARE THE CAPITAL CULTURE '20 IS BECAUSE WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN ALL THIS TIME!! DON'T CHANGE EVERYTHING NOW JUST ONE YEAR BEFORE THAT!! It will have a very bad consequences... cheers
150	As long as they aren't breaking sound pollution levels I think they should be allowed to have backing tracks & amplifications.

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151	The reference to amplification is ill-conceived. GCCN suggests replacing this with the approach suggested by the acoustic engineer in his report to Galway City Council; namely, that sound from busking must not be heard at a distance greater than 35 metres. Furthermore, GCCN believes that drumming is a key feature of street music in Galway. The outright banning of drumkits should be removed. The use of drumkits should be controlled by ensuring that noise from drumkits remains within the 35 metre limit.
153	The noise from amplification is a huge irritation to employees in certain businesses. In certain cases, it is virtually impossible to speak and be heard above the loud noise. It is an employers duty to provide a safe working environment for employees.
154	Percussion is essential to music. These by laws are ridiculous, holy cow. You are interested in only one thing and you think people are too stupid to notice that what you want is busking stamped out.
155	Amplification should be allowed up to a certain decibel level. Sometimes a very loud performer using his voice can actually be louder than someone using an amp at a reasonable level.
156	Excess noise level for workers
159	6. Regarding audio acts (i.e. music and vocals, whether acoustic or amplified, or acts with backing tracks), sound shall be kept at a level that shall not extend further than 35m away, with consideration given to the specific location and time (i.e. be quieter on smaller and/or less populated streets, and quiet times of day).
160	As long as they are within a reasonable range, you try standing in front of a crowd without amplification and backing tracks.... You should be ashamed for proposing such suggestions, I am horrified that GCC is cutting Galways nose off despite its face, for who's benefit... Trip advisor named it the place to go this year, I wonder how long it will remain in those kind of ratings if you make just like any other city. The tribes have been hushed, silenced and no will hear their call!
162	Volume is the issue not amplification.
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
166	Simple backing tracks is fine if the person is respecting others (maybe no drums in day time)
167	I'm concerned that implementing a blanket-ban on amplification and on backing tracks up to 6pm would severely affect the heart of the city. I have observed the city's buskers for some time now in light of the proposed bylaws and it seems to me that many of our most talented buskers, who bring huge moral and cultural benefits to the city, would be adversely affected by such restrictions. Emma O'Sullivan, possibly our most well-known busker has said she would no longer be able to continue busking here if the bylaws were implemented as drafted as she would no longer be able to use a backing track.
168	please disallow use of amplification, it takes from the talent of performer
172	Without backing tracks the dancers will also disappear.

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173	i think drum kits are a valued piece of any bands equipment and banning them would so restrict styles of music. instead i suggest being more specific in "drum kits".
178	Amplification and backing tracks fair enough. Drum kits is worryingly vague. What counts as a drum kit? A bodhrán? Double djembe? A cajon box? More than three drums? More than six? Zero drums would be terrible.
183	I disagree with this one most of all. That would leave 4-5 hours every evening for most buskers to perform. With 2 hour slots , that's only 2 buskers every evening. Galway has over 30 buskers. There's not enough time for all of them to perform during this tiny space of time. Some buskers can only busk with their amplification during the day. For them evening busking doesn't work. And amplification is necessary for certain buskers. For guitarists , for those who sing with quiet , soft voices that would go unheard without amplification. Completely disagree with this one.
187	Much of the best music comes from these amplified artists and is not of an intimidating decibel-level.
189	Again as above, (point 11.) this is counter-productive.
190	Are you not realizing that several instruments and acts can be only played with ampifiers? Are you not realizing that several instrument cause way more noise than most of the amplified instruments? This would eliminate puppeteers, electric instruments (such as pianos, guitars, basses, etc)... You're going to let loud bagpipes and brass bands to play, but not reasonably amplified, quieter acts?
191	Strongly disagree. Have you wandered down Sop St recently and taken the time as a normal person to stop and listen? These artists can lift your mood and energy just by stopping and listening for a few minutes. Rhythm and sound (as opposed to noise. . .) is how this feel good energy is passed on. Please don't destroy an uplifting experience
198	<p>I understand and appreciate the hours of restriction proposed in this bye-law, however, I respectfully disagree that drum kits should be expressly prohibited on the Protected Street Scape. Drums are an integral part of music and to prohibit their use is unreasonable. I also disagree that amplification and backing tracks should be limited. These are mediums and tools used in performance and should not be treated differently or be discriminated against from other musical mediums and instruments. Completely prohibiting drum kits for example, could completely eliminate a musician's ability to perform.</p> <p>Galway is internationally known and celebrated as a city of music. The busking atmosphere in the downtown is special and completely unique to Galway; it draws many tourists to the city. It is often written about in tourism journals, articles, and discussed on radio stations. Performances recorded on phones are shared widely on social media which reach a wide demographic which draw people to your city because they want to experience firsthand the incredible brilliance of buskers in Galway. I would recommend that council consider the broader implications, such as the impact on tourism, that this bye-law may have, if adopted.</p>

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200	<p>To be sustainable, many buskers rely on amplification. The repeated strain of using the vocal chords intensively on a daily basis (the amount required for busking to be more than a casual activity) is unsustainable. Without proper amplification a great many buskers will not be able to maintain offering their gifts to Galway's streets. I know the SPC hired a consultant to find out the optimal amp size, but frankly, the outcomes of the restriction will be opposite to what you intend.</p> <p>A weak amplifier with the volume raised high enough to be heard will sound terrible (causing more complaints) and will really negatively impact the enjoyment of the art being presented. A more powerful amp's volume can be reduced to an acceptable level, without sacrificing quality.</p> <p>This point if brought in will severely degrade the soundscape on the street.</p>
206	<p>I really do not understand the logic in these decisions. I have been coming to Galway every year for the last 24 years and its not because of NEXT, TOPSHOP or any other business, I can get them here a lot closer to home. I come because it's Galway and what it holds. Galway is so well known for its culture, music, atmosphere all over the world. You receive millions of tourists each year because of that fact alone, You remove this then you remove what Galway is and stands for. You can not ask a drummer not to play and say its ok for a singer to sing. In most cases this is their lively hood and you are taking that away with a few words on a piece of paper. Its disgraceful that you restrict such diverse talent and you push them away. Do not make Galway like every other city/town in Ireland, keep it's originality, keep its atmosphere, keep it's name of being the biggest cultural place to go in Ireland. Your protecting the multi millions pound shops without seeing the damage you will inevitably do, to their turnover, to your tax budget and to your town. Take away the purpose of going there and you will see a change in Galway. Less people, less income, shop closures, increase in homelessness, increase in crime. This is a huge mistake for all concerned and for Galway on a whole. I for one would not travel 5 hours to see the same commercial towns that are already all over Ireland. This is a massive error in judgement and one that you will pay a huge price for.</p>
207	<p>I understand the desire to keep things on the quiet side...but I have a loud voice. I don't need amplification to be louder than someone with a soft voice who is using amplification. I do not think the issue is backing track or amplification, but some sort of rule where the amps can only produce X amount of noise would be different. Think also: instruments that are very quiet acoustically; electric guitar, mandolin, many violins, even many acoustic guitars.</p>
208	the level is terrible
211	Stop trying to destroy the pros of Galway!!!
215	Focus should be on PROTECTING lives in and around the river flowing out of our city. You are taking Galways culture and character away for absolutely no reason. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	Totally disagree that drums are banned.
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.

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222	<p>We have a serious issue in Eason with the noise levels when bands are set up directly outside our shop front.</p> <p>We cannot hear customers on the phone at customer service as a result we have to transfer calls to another area of the store. Colleagues are subjected to drums and electric guitars being played way too loud with no consideration what so ever.</p> <p>On a daily basis we ask for the bands to turn it down and they never do.</p> <p>We have customers comment how do we put up with this? Well we haven't a choice.</p> <p>The amps and drums in particular need to go. Bands such as Key West think they are playing an open air concert.</p> <p>We cannot play our in store radio which would have promotional adverts for our customers as there would be literally too much noise and you would not be able to focus on conversations with customers.</p>
225	<p>Volume levels and decibel levels should be adhered to, NOT amplification or backing tracks specifically. Amplification can be at a low level and be very effective to the quality of the performance, as can a drum kit. Many performers exceed what would be considered a respectful and decent volume level, and become a disturbance to not only those trying to get into businesses, appointments or shops in the area but has a damaging effect on those who are stuck working in these places all day long.</p>
229	<p>This is completely ridiculous. How can you expect a singer to perform without a backing track? How can you expect a band to play without their drummer? How can you expect the public to hear the music or voices clearly and enjoy the sound of it without these things? A band playing music will be unable to balance the vocals and all the instruments without these things. It will rip the heart out of the community and will completely change the vibrancy of the city.</p>
231	<p>I feel that if buskers went to the trouble of actually bringing amps or drums (as they are heavy and awkward pieces of equipment to carry) they should be allowed to play them. Obviously extremely loud amps (sorry I don't know the level of wattage for amps) should not be used, but amps to potentially raise their voices over the instruments or if it is just instrumental should be fine. And why would we take away the potential of a great voice if they can't play an instrument.</p>
232	<p>to ban backing tracks means to ban the people who can't play an instrument.</p>
233	<p>I sing Jazz using backing tracks and a small amp and microphone. This basically puts me out of business until after 6pm at which time bigger acts and bands will all be trying to use the same spots over only a four hour period and if I do manage to secure a spot I will be drowned out. Also it's volume not amps that's the real issue.</p> <p>An agreed decibel level would be a much better solution. Free decibel metres are available as an app that can be downloaded to any phone and would allow Buskers shop keepers guards and members of the public to monitor noise levels and adjust.</p> <p>In terms of noise banjos saxophone and bagpipes are horrendously noisy and would be allowed unrestricted. This would just lead to lots of noisy unamplified instruments to continue and even increase unregulated.</p>

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236	<p>Like my point above this by law will effectively kill the busking culture in galway. You will have boring, silent, empty streets if you proceed with this. Why not regulate The loudness of the music??? It's easy to do nowadays with various apps etc. I believe the buskers themselves do this already. I also have seen they have a very strict code of conduct in place already.</p> <p>Example of what this crazy, lazy, short sighted law will do - The girl that does Irish dancing outside evergreen will be no more but a guy with bag pipes will be allowed. How do you think this is right??</p> <p>I want to point out that the quality of buskers and street performance in Galway is very high. A lot of the buskers that perform in Galway travel around Europe to different city's at different times of the year. With these by-laws (the two I have questioned) these high quality performers will NOT come to Galway. They will choose another city in Europe. I was in Lisbon recently and came across The Irish dancing girl performing there. These buskers are not just sitting around Galway all the time. They will exclude Galway with this law and the quality of busking will drop dramatically. Galway will turn into La Rambela in Baraclona - one human statue after another all the way down the street. Maybe this is what the shop owners want!!</p> <p>Again I plead with you to engage with the busking community (which I hear that you have not really done) Do not let a handful of businesses destroy what the people of Galway love.</p>
237	<p>Same in here, if you are leaving in the city, yo can see that what generates the most attraction to pedestrians passing by, either tourist or locals are the full band having a set. How would you diminish someone performance like this by not having any drums ? and for singers with amazing voices not a backing track.</p>
240	Too restrictive
241	A volume limit should be set rather than banning amplification.
243	<p>I hate backing tracks too and they should totally be banned! It's hard to think that Muse have been so successful but I guess the big light shows they put on distract everyone from the backing tracks. It will also stop the likes of Milli Vanilli being a scourge on the city.</p>
245	Backing tracks and amps should be allowed at resnable sound levels
246	Where the music is part of a dance act, it must be low decibel.
247	<p>I strongly disagree with this. As said previously these laws are too restricting and will lead to conflict and competition for spots. It is very hard to sing loud enough without an amp and it can damage peoples voices. Some people live day to day on the money they make busking and these bye-laws are completely unfair and unreasonable. Most people love the music on shop street and just because some shop owners dislike it doesn't mean its OK to destroy Galway's prized atmosphere.</p>
252	We agree there should be some limits to amplification but again this is addressed by the Voluntary Code
253	Electronic drumkits, or drumkits that have been padded to reduce volume should be acceptable.

Submissions received on Section 12 of the Draft Bye- Laws. Amplification and Backing Tracks as defined in these Bye-Laws shall be prohibited on the Protected Street Scape up to 18:00 hours and the use of Drum Kits is expressly prohibited on the Protected Street Scape SAVE AND EXCEPT as directed by the provisions of any derogation granted under these Bye-Laws	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
256	<p>I understand there's a plan to ban or severely regulate buskers in Galway. My understanding is that this would effectively ban Emma O'Sullivan from dancing on the corner where she has for ages drawing attention to Galway on a global scale. (She's there more than two hours and uses amplification for music).</p> <p>I'll have you know that the ONLY reason I know of Galway's existence and know anything about Galway at all is because of her dancing on that corner and building a fan base of it. I can't imagine anyone being "offended" by her work nor bothered in any way. Even working in the direct immediate vicinity. (Claddagh jewellers and Tig Choili are places that appear support her very much)</p> <p>Your ban seems to stem from a business community that forgets who their customers are and what makes Galway stand out on the world stage. For a community that is supposedly trying to stand in culture in a major promotion....it sure seems to be working hard to kill it.</p> <p>If you ban Emma, you will most certainly never see me spend a dime in Galway. If she and her kind are allowed to flourish, you'll remain in my travel plans (or possibly living and working plans if I like it enough and opportunity arises).</p> <p>Sometimes councils need to give their head a shake and realize the good that exists and doesn't cost them a dime to get world exposure...instead of spending a fortune to shoot themselves in the foot.</p>
259	<p>Noise pollution is also a huge concern for Businesses trading adjacent to performing acts. It is a simple truth that if you stand in Easons while large scale amplified performances are taking place across the street from their entrance, you cannot hold a conversation in front part of the store. In my business, I receive regular complaints from customers and employees about the high level of amplification from Street performers. As a business, we have a duty of care to both customers and employees to offer a safe and comfortable shopping and working environment. Loud, amplified performances inhibits us from providing such an environment to both our customers and employees.</p>
262	<p>Same comment as above, and I think the drum kit part should be moved to a new stand alone section. Aside from that, the drum kit section lacks clarity. Drum kit is not defined. If a group only has one drum, is that still a drum kit? What if a group is banging on pots and pans, is that a drum kit? What about a group using loud percussion instruments, they are not drums, but they are still percussive and loud. Also, a drum is the oldest instrument (after the voice) in the world. It is heinous to ban them. It shows a total disregard for musical expression. This is again the worst possible kind of x-factor musical selection.</p>

APPENDIX I - Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye-Laws

Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws. The Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her and by Executive Order and in consultation with Members of Galway City Council, in circumstances of a major event or festival issue a derogation from any provision of these Bye-Laws	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
1	Open to abuse by Merchants
3	I disagree wholeheartedly with laws that are can be derogate from if someone is rich enough or connected enough to be given a dispensation. This is too easily abused.
6	thgis point IS and this time I am actually going to use the words; PURE DISCRIMINATION..... buskers are not allowed to do what a event or festival IS allowed?????? buskers in my opinion are a CONTINUOUS EVENT/FESTIVAL and should not be treated different then any other event/festival
7	It shouldn't be necessary. Besides, the CEO of where? Who are you granting this authority to? Really it doesn't matter, it shouldn't matter, please cease this nonsense, scrap the bill.
9	Again taking away from the reason Galway is popular tourist spot for ATMOSPHERE
14	Completely unfair, allowing commercial interests only to take over the streets
15	This should not be the government's pervue, as performers have and will continue to self regulate, there is nothing stopping performers asking permission from festival organisers directly, they do not need the councils permission and never should
17	I approve of the idea of derogations for festivals and events, however I believe the bye-laws proposed should not come into effect and so such derogations should not be necessary.
30	This would cause intense competition for lucrative spaces during the few times this can occur
32	This point seems to indicate that these bye-laws will be discretionary, and that our grassroots artistic community could and possibly would be unfairly discriminated against in favor of more coprporate-driven 'festivals and events'. We submit that discretionary laws can very quickly become discriminatory laws, and as such this point should be struck out.
55	This is completely unfair. The streets are for the people and used by the people. To buy off the laws just tells me even more that these laws should be withdrawn and revised as you are *already* seeing the flaws in creative execution yourselves, and writing in a clause to deal with it when someone with money comes along wanting to sponsor a creative event. This is very obvious to most who read these laws. Please don't make this mistake.
62	If it doesn't suit the Council how could it suit buskers who use this as a livelihood?
64	Don't need the laws in the first place. Galway city council seems to want to destroy what makes Galway such a vibrant city. Shame on you all.
68	So long as it is not abused and we don't end up in full time derogation!
75	If there is a major event, I think its beneficial to issue a derogation from the provision of these Bye-Laws, however it should be monitored carefully on health and safety grounds.
76	Only for special occassions
90	very confusingly worded
91	Once again somebody is trying to be fancy with double talk. Refer to article 11 again.

APPENDIX I - Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws

<p style="text-align: center;">Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws. The Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her and by Executive Order and in consultation with Members of Galway City Council, in circumstances of a major event or festival issue a derogation from any provision of these Bye-Laws</p>	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
93	As long as the officer is elected impartially.
98	This will therefore allow Galway to use the performance and personal expression of the busking community for their own means, such as for Galway 2020 and festivals without allowing and encouraging the creation of a functional and successful music community. It seeks to enforce a double standard that is at the heart of these by laws. If you expect the New York Times and Rough guide to dedicate the space once used to describe and praise the busking community on such council sanctioned endeavours as the Museum and food fairs then I believe the council is misguided on the place Galways attractions hold in the global tourist market. Without the vibrancy of the street performers and musical and entertainment talent on show I believe the council expects to retain its current place, however, a brief perusal of the literature on galway only highlights the necessity of the busking community in retaining such standards and the pursuant drop in tourists good graces should these by laws be enacted.
106	This is ridding the arts community in galway of their independence and playing them as puppets for events and festivals for the outer public eye. Typical of the council to be delighted that the EU and abroad can commend us and see our bountiful art groups but only when it suits the suits.
120	Salt in the wound with this bye-law. How about supporting the culture, spontaneity and creativity that can be found on the streetscape FOR FREE of Galway all year round rather than show them off when you need them and push them back into the corners when all the tourists are gone home. Street performers are an important community in Galway and deserve to be supported by the GCC. If you are not going to show support to grassroots artist in a financial sense, at the very least don't try to take away our artistic freedom in our artsy streets.
121	You're not acting in the interest of community but rather in the interest of shop owners. No respect and understanding of art and artists.
124	If you pass these laws of course, I hope you don't though. Galway's in those travel guides for the culture and life in the city not for it's shops.
146	Of course. You can't have your hands tied for all time in case you've made a mistake.
156	I believe this to be a good idea. Especially now that 2020 is on our door step.
160	When it suits the powers that will be, it won't be authentic and you cannot switch culture on and off like the lights at Christmas. The homegrown talent such as Ed Sheeran cutting his teeth on the street corner, will fade from the memories of Galway as will the fantastic reviews the tourists spread... I should know, I have brought so many people here for the Buskers, and so proud I was when they spoke so admirably about them... Don't make if a thing of the past!
162	Regulation for the sake of it. No valid justification for by laws that then need derogation decisions.
163	Let them perform when and wherever they want. Thought we were meant to be a City of culture!!! Shame on Galway City Council sort out traffic and rubbish issues and leave the buskers alone.
167	In circumstances of a major event or festival, and also within reason where the performer can be seen to have proven their compliance with the Busker's own Code of Conduct.

APPENDIX I - Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws. The Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her and by Executive Order and in consultation with Members of Galway City Council, in circumstances of a major event or festival issue a derogation from any provision of these Bye-Laws	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
174	I believe that there should be more consultation with buskers as these bye laws are vague and unfair.
187	Too vague. And given the draconian nature of some of these bye-laws I have no faith in the just implementation of them.
192	The fact that this derogation is included is proof that the bye-laws are excessive in the first place.
207	I am in Chiapas Mexico right now where the busking laws have recently become stricter. However, on some days, if someone has enough money and goes through the paperwork, they can have pretty much free reign to the streets. The people who pay the money then are using amplification and the other buskers (who are not aloud to amplify, but are also trying to make their money this way, are drowned out) it makes for a very biased, money based, power based, structure where some people (with money) get preferential treatment. This is not right. Busking is not supposed to be about who has the money. It is about sharing music with the populous and making enough to get by. If I were someone who relies on busking to make ends meet, and then suddenly on a festival day when the Chief Executive Officer decides to be lax with whoever he/she pleases thus pushing me aside...this could be detrimental to my daily life.
215	Focus should be on PROTECTING lives in and around the river flowing out of our city. You are taking Galways culture and character away for absolutely no reason. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	I disagree with this bye law
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
225	The CEO should also make sure there is safe and secure passage for those who need to pass the streets. The last parade in Galway was so badly managed by staff that I had to request the assistance from a Garda to get to my home. No one had considered the people who were finishing work or needed to get into their homes in these areas and we were blocked in behind an unsafe level of crowds, trapped behind barriers.
229	Basically creating a pointless system of bureaucracy. This is totally unnecessary and gives all the power and control of the vibrant busking community into the hands of high ranking officials who have no interest in the busking community and are being heavily influenced by the business and commerce. It's wrong!
242	A standard set of operational rules should be in place for these times. such as the arts festival, halloween, st patricks day. Any time there will be later opening hours for certain premises that would bring people out on to the street.
243	Doesn't the Chief Executive Officer have better things to be doing with their time?
245	There should be a fair appeals option also in place
247	These Bye- Laws are unreasonable from the outset and should not be enforced. Make it a public vote. But if these unjust bye-laws are enforced then yes there should be the option of exemption from them.

APPENDIX I - Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Section 13 of the Draft Bye- Laws. The Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her and by Executive Order and in consultation with Members of Galway City Council, in circumstances of a major event or festival issue a derogation from any provision of these Bye-Laws	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
255	<p>Section 13 – The “Chief Executive Officer” - the LG Act 2001, Section 144 as applied LG (Reform) Act 2014, states that the title is “Chief Executive”. I’ve come across this regularly, the private sectors have CEO, but not GCC.</p> <p>Section 13 – Circ 15/2014 stated that the executive orders were to be titled “Chief Executive Order”.</p>
262	<p>This section flies right in the face of safety. Essentially it is saying that during peak times, the rules can be suspended. Presumably the rules then are not brought in for safety concerns, but rather to satisfy rate payers. The key is to find ways to unite rate payers with performers.</p> <p>Also, "the Chief Executive Officer may on application to him / her...", my question is by whom, and how?</p>

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
3	There is no system of warning written here. Again I ask who will enforce these bye laws? How will street performers know about them? Who pays for all of this? Leave the buskers alone, they aren't doing anything wrong, they are a huge draw to our city and are what sets our city apart from other towns.
6	people should be given a notice about what they are doing wrong, and be given the chance to adjust their mistake.... a lot of buskers (especially during the summer months) come to Galway for only a weekend or a few days, and are not aware about all these "bully-discriminating-crazy-bye-laws" that the majority of the public are not happy about in the first place.... I have not seen anything about busking-bye-laws in ANY of the political statements prior to the local elections, so how do city-councilors even THINK that they are representing the people of Galway, is beyond my comprehension.
7	<p>The idea of fees for performing music on the street is flat out absurd, never mind the down-right extortionate sums outlined above. I strongly disagree with the notion of profiteering off the artists, off the people who are playing music. You are suggesting fining fellow human beings ridiculous sums of money and threatening arrests for singing songs. This is honestly ridiculous and I can't believe what I'm reading. Arresting people for music. Can you imagine -</p> <p>- "So, what're you in for?"</p> <p>- "Well, I broke into somebody's house and was in the middle of stealing their television when he came home so I stabbed him and ran off. What about yourself?"</p> <p>- "Ah sure you know, sure I was singing Danny Boy outside Easons" These suggestions are absolutely preposterous.</p> <p>Ireland has a long standing tradition of music, dance and performance. We as a nation are famous the world over for entertainment and, to quote the Connaught Tribune, "Another survey by the tourism body found that more than half of all American visitors here said they came to "experience the local music and entertainment scene". Busking and street performance is an integral part of that music and entertainment scene. To quote Georgia Ryan, from Claddagh and Celtic, when she was on "Today with Seán Ó Rourke" on RTÉ Radio 1; 'Whenever any of the tourists come in from all over the world, they always compliment how lively the buskers make the place feel.' and she's not wrong. As the Council, I believe you have a duty to promote tourism and this bye-law is not how you go about it - by fining and imprisoning those people that contribute to the city's international fame?</p> <p>Tourists bring lots of money to the city annually - money that is spent in shops, bars and restaurants, and on every euro spent in a shop or for every pint bought there's tax paid on that. These taxes go towards the salaries of the council, and I cannot believe that the council are suggesting such ridiculous fines for breaking such restrictive, nonsensical and worst, unnecessary rules against people and practices that account for - a tiny fraction of the money spent in local shops and bars that DRIVES THE LOCAL ECONOMY - a negligible sum compared to the salaries of the council that, through tourism and thereafter tax, the buskers inadvertently contribute to.</p> <p>These fines are absurd, The threat of arrest for singing a song is ridiculous and it doesn't matter how you look at it, that's the reality of the possibilities that this bye-law will provide the legal framework for. I propose, alternatively, encourage the buskers and street performers that help drive the local economy and make Galway a great place to live. Please remember the last time this was proposed and how the majority of people were opposed to it - These are the people you have been elected to represent. I implore you - scrap every bit of this bye-law.</p>
9	Too dear there buskers not in steady incomes

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
10	Fees of €75.00 are extortionate and also very high considering your targets are people who survive off the money they earn providing entertainment and culture to our city and the difference of €75.00 could mean not being able to eat properly or pay rent.
11	Absolute joke. Galway City Council are absolutely ruining Galway City. You're a shameful nepotistic, cronyist bunch who are doing nothing good for Galway and you're all getting rich in the process. Also this whole draft is full of spelling errors
14	Fees are exorbitant, no busker has that kind of money. If buskers are asked to move on by Gardaí, they usually do. Again, there are already laws covering any public order or nuisance issues that may arise from busking, or other activities within public spaces
15	I vehemently disagree with the above, firstly this like a arbitrary tax, not a fine, court proceedings require solicitors, which are far more expensive then the "fine" itself, making any appeal redundant, the further 1500€ fine is blatanty an affront to civilian privacy, as the Guardai can just decide that someone is breaking the Bye-Laws, as you have stated, so if someone refuses to comply, refuses to give their name and address they will be charged upwards of 4000€ accumulatively, if they appeal they also have solicitors fees to take into account as well, essentially you want to financially crush Street performers
16	€75 is an expensive starting point - it should be a maximum of €50 for a first offence.
17	1500 euro. You are joking. I'm disgusted with the council. Street performers work seasonally and it is far from as highly paid as a council seat might be. Rent alone in this city is extortionate. Such fines would be equivalent to banishment for some of our most talented young people, of a generation already being forced out of the country due to poor governance. This is completely out of touch with the reality of life on or below minimum wage as many street performers often are. These bye-laws are being brought to bear to pitch out the heart of Galway and create a sanitised, commercialized Paddy Wagon city centre that can only destroy the joy and arts that grew up in the community here. If you value your city of culture, you'll respect your city's culture. Bye-laws out.

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
32	<p>We submit that all of the points within this section are unfair and discriminatory, because there is no system of warning in place, and no statement as to how or where these bye-laws will be promoted or displayed. How will visiting buskers know what the bye-laws are? Who will ensure that buskers are being treated fairly? Will there be signs erected at every busking spot? Who will choose the busking spots if not the buskers themselves? And who will pay for all of this?</p> <p>The Galway Buskers' Community reiterate that the above bye-laws, in part as well as as a whole, are vague, discriminatory, open to misinterpretation and abuse, and are absolutely unenforceable.</p> <p>We request again, that instead of bye-laws, the Galway City Council support our own community's Code of Conduct, which was written after consultation with shops and residences as well as buskers, which is available freely in supporting shops as part of our Buskers' Guide to Galway, which includes a map of suggested busking spots, tips for friendly busking, and to which nearly 100% of buskers already adhere.</p> <p>Our Code of Conduct is voluntarily regulated by buskers themselves, and costs the city nothing, whereas the proposed busking bye-laws will be costly to enforce, were not written in consultation with all parties involved, and will cause needless animosity between the busking community and the Galway City Council.</p>
34	It is no longer good enough for a fine to be issued without time and date stamped evidence - any fines occurring under bye laws like this need to be recorded by video or picture or both and have the time and date stamped on them. There is far too many paper based fines being issued without proper evidence of the act occurring.
55	This is unfair for a multitude of reasons including due notifications of bye laws (where are they), no warning system, and impossible to 'enforce' fairly.
62	This would stop most buskers in Galway.
63	Busking is part and parcel of this city. If you start fining performers and dissuading them the atmosphere is going to dim and less tourists will come. The shop street buskers are a big draw card for Galway and I believe they should stay.
64	Appalling treatment of artists.
72	100%
74	However the need for more than just Garda to be able to informer these bylaws as often it can take well over an hour for Garda to respond to complaints, by which point the performer may have moved on.
76	People should be fined if the break the Law and there should be proper policing of these Laws
78	Performers should not be penalised for trying to make a living, doing what they love
82	Far too heavy handed and will take all the life out of the place.
91	Once again..being fancy with jargon to confuse the issue. Articles 14-19 are the same double talk as article 11.
93	As long as it is fair

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
95	It's only fair that they follow the by law's.
98	I wish the council every good luck in attracting new talent, such as the much adored Ed Sheeran, to the streets of Galway should they enact such threatening by laws. Eroding the culture and good name of the city on the back of the intransigence of business owners who have failed to see the financial gain possible when working productively with buskers, it's a shame local government has come to such a state of affairs.
99	Don't fine people simply for having an amp or busking at 9:30am.
104	This is such a waste of time and money. Do the guards really have time to enforce this?
112	Theyre performers not criminals.
116	To me 1500 is an extravagant amount of money to fine someone playing music on the street to earn money to live.
120	These bye-laws and threats are disgraceful. Instead of attacking performers who are having a positive impact of the streetscape maybe try to tackle public drunkenness and anti-social behaviour.
124	Absolute joke. Pathway to gentrifying the city. Please stop this?
126	People in the streets plays for some euros or for fun, can u explain how are they supposed to pay that fines? No one in the street is gonna have that money
130	Everyone should have a permit € 100 or €200 per year, this will cut out a lot of messers. Even if the permit was €500 I would still pay because my daughter has gained more confidence in one weekend in Galway than she would in a live time with a music teacher.
136	Yes I have to pay fines if I don't obey the rules of the street
143	this system could generate a significant damage to good buskers, businesses and in generale the whole Galway city. Freedom and reason are always the best way to keep everything alive: people, businesses and Cities. I've been playing in front of every shop in town and every shop owner has been kind and happy to have me there! consider this! In Galway I can breathe freedom and this is the best flag for a place. Rome is full of laws and everything isn't working, it is a mess. Don't copy that! Thank you!
146	Assuming you repair the mistakes to the laws these measures are to enforce, there is nothing unreasonable in the way you intend to enforce them.
149	This is totally crazy... please be reasonable...
150	Seriously are convictions really necessary?
154	I disagree with your by laws and punishments wholly. You are acting in the long term disinterests of business, tourism and culture
155	Way too high fees for people that are trying to do good in this world by making people smile and laugh.
160	Another TAX, jesus we were better off when the English were landlords...
162	There is no justification for seeking enforcement of poorly structured and unnecessary regulation.
166	Permit is a must !!

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
169	To be charged for art is to be charged for breath.
172	There will be more Garda patrolling shop street when they could be needed as where. The majority of buskers also don't have that kind of money to pay the potential fees they could get.
174	The penalties are harsh and unfair.
182	Absolutely excessive fines on precieved infringements that would be open to interpretation and highly subjective.
183	Seeing as I don't agree with any of the previous byelaws , I also believe these punishments to be unnecessary and ridiculous. Hey council , why not focus on finding homes for the homeless on shopstreet , or putting a stop to all the organised begging that goes on in broad daylight instead of trying to prohibit those who bring life and soul to the city from doing what they love to do.
185	People should not be fined for practicing their art in public, especially at an amount upwards of €1500. These artists may only be living off of the money they obtain from their performances, it is absolutely unnecessary to fine them that amount just because they want to stay out past 10pm or perform for more than 2 hours straight.
187	Draconian and intimidatory. Against the spirit of natural justice.
191	No no no no no no It's ok to be responsible council, but please don't kill off the such a wonderful icon of your city just to be beauracratically 'right', please be human and don't kill this off. Thank you for for considering my strong opinion.
192	We already have public order laws. Gardai already have powers if someone is disturbing the peace. These bye laws are excessive. Set a reasonable dB limit.
193	I intend to only vote for those opposing the bye-laws in the coming local elections. Following the vote those councillors opposing these unnecessary laws shall get the support of the youth of Galway who overwhelmingly support the buskers. Many of whom make a living from their art on the street.
206	I really do not understand the logic in these decisions. I have been coming to Galway every year for the last 24 years and its not because of NEXT, TOPSHOP or any other business, I can get them here a lot closer to home. I come because it's Galway and what it holds. Galway is so well known for its culture, music, atmosphere all over the world. You receive millions of tourists each year because of that fact alone, You remove this then you remove what Galway is and stands for. You can not ask a drummer not to play and say its ok for a singer to sing. In most cases this is their lively hood and you are taking that away with a few words on a piece of paper. Its disgraceful that you restrict such diverse talent and you push them away. Do not make Galway like every other city/town in Ireland, keep it's originality, keep its atmosphere, keep it's name of being the biggest cultural place to go in Ireland. Your protecting the multi millions pound shops without seeing the damage you will inevitably do, to their turnover, to your tax budget and to your town. Take away the purpose of going there and you will see a change in Galway. Less people, less income,shop closures, increase in homelessness, increase in crime. This is a huge mistake for all concerned and for Galway on a whole. I for one would not travel 5 hours to see the same commercial towns that are already all over Ireland. This is a massive error in judgement and one that you will pay a huge price for.

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

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Ref Nr	Written Submission
207	With some of these bylaws, like the spot-reservation one, how will an outside force be able to determine beyond the shadow of a doubt that a transgression has occurred? The idea that not having an address s cause for a 1500 fine is absurd. How is someone who isn't able to afford an address supposed to gain access to the comfort of an address if they are set back 1500? There are many people who if they were fined 1500 right now they would become homeless, if they weren't already. Again, I understand general noise complaints, as most towns have a decibel limit for public spaces, or for certain things like ice cream truck announcements, and amplification, and the use of megaphones etc. But bringing in an outside force to determine whether or not some of these particular "bylaws" have been transgressed and then fining them because an authorised person or An Garda Siochana is "of the opinion that has committed or is committing an offence" seems unreasonable and fear mongering more than anything.
215	Focus should be on PROTECTING lives in and around the river flowing out of our city. You are taking Galways culture and character away for absolutely no reason. This brings money and tourism into our city and you want to repel it, why?
217	GCC are planning to fine people for playing music and performing arts.....why?????
218	none of proposed these by-laws are necessary, the buskers in Galway already have a system that works. The effort that has been put into drafting these laws could be re-directed into something that is actually worth the time.
225	I would need more information on the "Notice" being served. Your wording on points 14-19 is self serving and vague.
229	These performers do this to earn a living! It's crazy and fascist to think that they can be fined or arrested for bringing music and performance to the streets. This is a major part of the charm an vibrancy of the city. Arresting people for making the city better and more alive and attracting people from all of the world. Ridiculous!
231	Buskers and street acts already struggle to make money and rely on the generosity of the people. Surely if these bye laws are introduced a warning system could be put in place before instant fines. I can understand a fine if the performer is racist, abusive both physically or verbally, etc
233	Ridiculous!!!! Will force Buskers outid Galway and affect tourists experience of the city negatively
241	Who will enforce these bye laws... will it be a full time paid position that will cost the city annually? Why not invest that money in the busking community instead?
242	There needs to be a equal amount of protection not just for the business's but also the busker. If a person believes a busker has contravened these bye laws then the busker should be given the chance to put forward any evidence that may show they have not.
243	It will cost more to implement than to leave it alone. Please stop this waste of time, money and resources going after buskers. It's part of what makes Galway City one of the most special parts of the world to live in. You might as well go down the Claddagh and get rid of the swans too, or rename Lynch's castle as *gasp* it's link to lynching and knock all those old poorly insulated buildings like the Spanish Arch.
245	The amount of fine is very high considering the offence and that buskers are generally struggling musicians in out society and do not have allot of money therefore and this should be taken into account a resnable fee E30 to e40. Arrest is very extreme in the circumstance if this offence and should not be implemented unless the person commits a more severe crime at the time of busking or being questioned by an Garda
247	If the Bye-laws were reasonable then maybe fines would be appropriate for a breach but currently I can't see how these Bye-laws are fair.

APPENDIX J - Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws

Submissions received on Sections 14 to 19 of the Draft Bye- Laws.	
Ref Nr	Written Submission
252	Fundamentally disagree with the introduction of the Bye Laws
255	<p>Section 14 – (Very long and a bit confusing ...)</p> <p>Section 17 – allows an Authorised Person to demand the name and address of buskers, where S15 or S16 are breached. How are FCN to be issued, do they have the name and address recorded, and how does the Authorised Person get the name?</p>
262	<p>Section 14</p> <p>The second sentence has a typo. It should read: "setting out the name and address OF THE PERFORMER, and the general nature.....". Secondly it is wildly unfair to the performers and to the authorised persons that these Fixed Charge Notices should set out "the general nature of the contravention". Surely there needs to be a specific contravention. It seems as stands these can be abbreviated as: Time, Duration, Movement, Amplification, Cause offence, Obstruction, Reservation, Drum Kit.</p> <p>Also this section, together with section 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 cumulatively make it wholly unclear whether each and every person within a performing group can be separately issued with a Fixed Charge Notice, and potentially have proceedings brought upon them. This seems uniquely unfair: (a) simply because it is so unclear; (b) because this is essentially biased against larger groups; (c) because at any given moment some performers of a group may or may not be actively participating. There are so many ways to misconstrue and misinterpret and miss-apply these provisions in terms of who is to be given the notice, proceeded against.</p> <p>Section 18</p> <p>This needs to be clarified to read: "...has committed an offence under ANY OF the preceding.....".</p> <p>Also for fairness to the performers, I think s.204(4) of the Local Government Act 2001 should also be quoted in the bye-laws, together with an illustration of what such form such evidence of appointment as an authorised person should take.</p>