



## Housing SPC Meeting – Capital Projects Update September 2023



### LDA Report on Relevant Public Land

The LDA's first Report on Relevant Public Land was published on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and is with Government for their consideration. The full report and further details are available now online at [Public Lands - Ida](#)

This report, which is statutorily required, seeks to identify the potential of state-owned land to deliver affordable and social housing into the future. Relevant public land is defined in the Land Development Agency Act 2021 as land in all cities, towns and urban centres with a population exceeding 10,000 that is owned by the state or state agencies and bodies.

All of the 83 sites identified for this first report are located in the five main cities – Dublin (38), Cork (14), Limerick (6), **Galway (8)** and Waterford (4) – and in five regional centres – Sligo (4), Letterkenny (2), Dundalk (4), Drogheda (1) and Athlone (2).

#### **Identified Areas for Relevant Public Land Assessment Land Owner Schedule**

Class 1: considered to be land with least constraints.

Ballymoneen Road Local Authority LA

Land at Terryland Waterworks Local Authority LA

Class 2: medium to long term term land

Land at Brothers of Charity Services, Old Dublin Road Local Authority LA

Galway City Council HQ Local Authority LA

Class 3: generally large, complex long-term land

Land at Galway Harbour Galway Harbour Company, Local Authority

Land at Merlin Park Health Service Executive

Renmore Barracks The Minister for Defence

	<p><b>Land that incorporate Housing for All proposals Land Owner Schedule</b></p> <p><u>Class 2</u></p> <p>Sandy Quarter Electricity Supply Board, Local Authority</p> <p><b>TOTAL HOUSING POTENTIAL</b></p> <p>Indicative Range: 4,330 - 6,050 homes</p> <p>No. of Lands: 8</p> <p>Galway City Council engaged with the LDA during the development of the report and provided observations and feedback. We will continue to work with the LDA and explore the potential opportunities, following Government consideration.</p>
<p><b>Housing Capital Programme</b></p>	<p>Galway City Council launched an ambitious Housing Delivery Action Plan in July 2022, which will see 2440 social and affordable homes delivered across the city.</p> <p>However, despite a positive pipeline for 2023, Galway City Council are concerned regarding the serious challenges and uncertainty facing Capital delivery which could adversely affect our targets. Some of these issues include, the planning process, staff shortages in the sector, procurement issues, construction cost inflation and price uncertainty.</p> <p>Galway City Council is committed to driving existing methods of delivery and considering all other possible routes for delivery of our social and affordable targets.</p> <p>The status of schemes and anticipated progress through 2023 is outlined below:</p> <p><b>Circular Road:</b> The scheme proposes 5 units of culturally appropriate Traveller accommodation. The scheme will require the decanting of the site during the duration of the works. Part 8 planning approval was received in June 2022. The Stage 3 submission was sent to the DHLGH on 9<sup>TH</sup> September 2022 and approval and approval with a recommended overall budget of €2,127,422.16 was received in November 2022. The scheme has appointed a contractor to deliver the works in September 2023 with 12-15 months delivery programme.</p> <p>The scheme in coloration with relevant stakeholders and the design team to deliver culturally appropriate housing has the following features:</p>

- Traveller association with a nomadic identity and lifestyle.
- Importance of outdoor living and sheds.
- Preference for rear garden space over front gardens.
- Preference for single storey dwelling.
- Strong emphasis on ownership, self-determination, and traveller to traveller management model.
- Removal of the perimeter wall adjoining main road, felt to be exclusionary and hiding the development from public view.
- Significant value placed on light into the home – connection to the outdoors.
- Emphasis on the surrounds of the house.
- Interior open plan preferred.
- Kitchen to the rear with option of opening and cooking outside.

**Garrai Beag, Ballybaan:** This scheme will provide 58 social housing units. Following the Public Procurement procedure for the appointment of a replacement contractor, JJ Rhatigan & Company were identified as the successful Tenderer, and were awarded the contract for the completion of the housing project. Works commenced on site in the first week of September 2023, and with a contract period of 15 months, the scheme is due for completion in December 2024.

**Garrai Caol, Coast Road:** Approval was received to acquire 53 units on the Merlin/Coast Road and contracts were signed in 2020. The handover of phase 1 (27 Units) took place in Q4 of 2022. Construction works continued on site throughout 2023, and Phase 2 (26 units) is nearing completion and due for handover in October 2023.

**An Cliathán, Old Monivea Road:** A scheme to provide 15 dwelling units for older people and families with disability needs has been designed for this site. Part 8 planning was approved in December 2020, and construction commenced in Q1 2022. Works are nearing completion with handover due in Q4 2023.

**Merlin Woods:** DHPLG approval has been secured for a combined affordable/social housing scheme at lands adjacent to Coillte Mhuirinne estate. Service Sites Funding approval has been secured in respect of this site which will provide sufficient funding to facilitate affordable sale. Part 8 planning was approved in late 2021. The Merlin Woods Project is a mixed social and affordable housing project of 103 residential units, 5 commercial units and a

Crèche. Stage 2 approval for the 18 social housing units was received in October 2022 and an application for funding the 85 Affordable Houses was submitted to the DHLGH in December 2022. Funding for the Affordable Housing element has been approved. We are currently working with the DHLGH and relevant stakeholders on the procurement strategy for the scheme. The scheme is projected to be delivered in 2025.

**Merchant's Road Development:** The Merchant's Road proposal comprises a mix of cultural space on the ground floor and residential accommodation on three floors above. Above the ground floor level cultural space, 11 no. social housing units are proposed, to be accessed by stairs and a lift. These units are 3 no. one bedroom and 8 no. two bedroom. This would be considered an appropriate type of development in the City centre location. A combined Stage 1 and 2 proposal for the social housing units was submitted to the Department of Housing in August 2021. Part X planning notices were published in February 2022. This project is still awaiting a decision from An Bord Pleanala. Following approval this development will advance to construction.

**Castlegar Lands and Merlin Lane Lands:** A masterplan for these lands will be explored, depending on sufficient resources to do so.

**Clybaun Road:** The proposal is for a 57 unit housing project comprising of 28 Social and 29 Affordable units. Stage 1 Approval for the 28 social housing units was received in January 2022. The site is currently being designed and assessed in order to lodge a stage 2 application in Q2 2023 with planning to be submitted in Q1 2024

**Bothar Na Choiste:** The proposal is for a mixed social/affordable housing project of 65 units comprising 25 Social and 40 Affordable units. Access to this site is currently being resolved via a CPO. Galway City Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022, made a Confirmation Order confirming, without modification, the Compulsory Purchase Order. Further to this, the above Compulsory Purchase Order has become operative on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022, being 3 weeks from when the decision of Galway City Council to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order was first published. The purpose of the CPO is to facilitate the construction and widening of approximately 0.516Km of public road in the townland of Castlegar, together with all associated ancillary works. Letters of notice to treat are under legal review.

**Ballyburke:** Site investigations have concluded on the northern section of the 'McHale Lands' in Ballyburke and pre-planning assessment is currently under review for 84 social houses. A Stage 2 application was submitted to the DHLGH in Q1 2023 and thereafter planning to be submitted in Q1 2024

**Seamus Quirke Road Day Centre and Temporary Homeless Accommodation:** The proposed development aims to provide a much-needed upgrade in the existing day centre facilities, along with additional resources. It will also accommodate temporary homeless accommodation year-round, with the focus on identifying and progressing routes out of rough sleeping and homelessness on a regular basis while also adapting during the winter months to increase the intake of vulnerable rough sleepers. The Stage 2 Application for the above was submitted to the Department on Friday 22nd July 2022. Stage 2 approval with a recommended budget of €4,215,073 was received in October 2022. Part 8 planning notification was published on the 8th December 2022 and the Part 8 approval for the scheme was received on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This will now be progressed to design stage and delivery with a completion date in Q2/3 2025.

	<p><b>Munster Ave:</b> This project looks at a high-quality urban infill housing in central locations. It will provide passive surveillance to entrance to Fr. Burke Park and Improve/ rationalize immediate edge conditions. The existing house will be renovated with 4 No: new urban 1 Bed units. This is currently at the pre-planning stage.</p>
<b>Approved Housing Bodies</b>	<p>The Council continues to work closely with Approved Housing Bodies in meeting a range of housing needs and to date this collaboration has delivered over 900 homes in the city. It is our intention to ensure that Approved Housing Bodies are utilised and resourced to meet housing need in the city and a number of projects will be advanced under the Capital Assistance Scheme and Capital Advance Leasing Facility initiatives in 2023. The AHB sector will continue to play an increasingly more important role in the provision of housing in the future. Funding to support the AHB's through the CALF scheme is provided for in the budget for over 600 properties.</p> <p>Construction is under way on a number of new build CALF Schemes for delivery in 2023 and beyond. Proposals have been received for another 200 units over a number of future development sites. The Housing Capital Section is working with the AHB's and the Department in assessing the suitability of these Schemes. The Council is also continuing to work with the AHB's on a number of CAS schemes as well as CAS acquisition projects across the City for 2023 including Housing First. An AHB Forum meeting is scheduled for November 2023.</p>

**Schemes to be delivered in 2023:**

Location	No. of Units	Approved Housing Body	Status
Garrai Sheain	9	CHI	Delivery Q4 2023
Barr An Uisce	28	Respond	Delivery Q4 2023
Leana Mór	4	Part V CI	Delivery Q4 2023
Cnocan Glas Letteragh Road	16	uid	Delivery Q4 2023

Garrai Caol - GCC Turnkey	22	GCC	Delivery Q4 2023
Garrai Caol - GCC Turnkey	5	Part V	Delivery Q4 2023
An Cliathan Monivea Road Ballybane	15	GCC	Delivery Q4 2023
Sli na Craoibhe, Clybaun Road	4	Part V	Delivery Q4 2023
105 Upper Salthill	4	Part V	Delivery Q4 2023
Lakeview Hill, Barnacranny, Bushypark	1	Part V	Delivery Q4 2023
<b>Total (Target 219)</b>	<b>181</b>		Delivery Q4 2023
<b>Acquisitions Target for 2023 is 50</b>	50	GCC	41 in conveyancing and to close soon. 14 completed A further 32 EOI to review.