PD/DP. 11/27

Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

Halla na Cathrach
Bóthar an Choláiste
Gaillimh

City Hall
College Road
Galway

Ár dTag / Our Ref: Do Thag / Your Ref:

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Our Ref:- JO'N/CB/04/09

GALWAY CITY COUNCIL
24 APR 2009
PLANNING SECTION

16th April 2009

Caroline Phelan,
Senior Planner,
Planning Department.

Re: Preparation of new Galway City Development Plan 2011 – 2017.

Dear Caroline,

With regard to the commencement of the process of preparing the new City Development Plan, I would make the following submission at this point in relation to housing.

(1) As previously discussed, there is a need to revise the provisions regarding the1:1 ratio between social and affordable housing for house purchase under Part V. The requirements for additional social housing, together with the impact of changing market conditions on the viability of affordable housing, needs to be reflected in the provision of the Development Plan.
(2) The policies regarding provisions of community facilities at local level should be reviewed, preferably at cross-departmental level within the Council. There is some evidence in the Westside of the city of provision of community buildings and creches in situations where neither the demand for the facilities, nor the local capacity to provide services, was present. In fairness this is not necessarily the fault of the planning authority, but it does require close examination in terms of ensuring that whatever is included in the Development Plan can be implemented.
(3) In the course of implementing our Housing Capital Programme, we have been made aware of concerns at Departmental level regarding what is perceived as low residential densities in the City. This may well be an issue for discussion with the Department at meeting on the 12th May,

Yours sincerely,

Joe O'Neill,
Director of Services,
Corporate Services and Housing.