

Galway City Local Community Safety LCSP Meeting 26th November 2025.

Galway City Local Community Safety LCSP	
Date:	21 st January 2026
Time:	11:00 am – 2:30 pm
Venue:	Galway Chamber, Merchants Rd, Galway

Attendance	Cllr. Alan Cheevers, Cllr. Eibhlín Seoighthe, Supt. Finbarr Philpott, John Donnellan, Cllr Níall McNelis, Shannon Glynn, Tommy Flaherty, Eavan Schmidt Bleek, Michéal Durkin, Cathy Connolly, Donal Lynch, Nichola Tierney, David Greeley, Islammiyah Saudique-Kadejo, Karen Ronan, Michael Patrick Swan
Quorum:	Yes
Apologies:	Cllr. Eddie Hoare, Linda Sice Brogan, John Callanan, Cameron Keighron, Cllr. Josie Forde, Cllr. Mike Cubbard, Derek Pender, Margaret O’Riada, Gillian McNamee, Irene Murphy.
1. Welcome & Introductions	
The Chairperson welcomed all attendees and introduced new member Supt. Finbarr Philpott to the Partnership.	
2. Confirmation of Minutes	
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, having been proposed by Nicola Tierney and seconded by Michéal Durkin.	
3. Matters Arising	
The schedule of meetings for 2026 was agreed by all members, with dates confirmed for 8 April, 8 July, 18 September, 14 October, and 9 December. The update to the Terms of Reference was postponed until the next meeting. An update to Oireachtas members has been provided, and details for the closed meeting on 18 September will be circulated to them.	
4. Declaration of Interest	
No declarations of interest were presented at the meeting	

5. Presentations

Galway City Council – Nighttime Economy

The Nighttime Advisor delivered a detailed overview of their role and the initiatives developed over the past two years. Members engaged in a wide-ranging discussion covering the audit of city signage, the Galway City Map that alerts next of kin, the use of leaflets to distribute emergency contact information, the introduction of notice boards, the late-night bus service, the wayfinding plan, and the launch of awareness and prevention campaigns. The presentation highlighted the ongoing commitment to enhancing nighttime safety across the city.

The coordinator will work with WRDATF to support updating the Galway City app and will also assist the Nighttime Economy Advisor with the Purple Flag application. Engagement will take place with the UCDOs regarding notice boards in the city, and the coordinator will continue working with the various subgroups to help them become fully operational.

WRDATF – Drug-Related Intimidation

A support worker from WRDATF and a Detective Inspector outlined the services available to individuals and families experiencing drug-related intimidation. They described the Drive Project and its online resources, and a discussion followed on the importance of prevention-focused campaigns rather than reactive responses. Planet Youth was also discussed as the local implementation of the Icelandic Prevention Model, an internationally recognised, data-driven approach to preventing youth substance use. The presentation reinforced the value of evidence-based prevention.

6. Community Safety Coordinator Update

The Coordinator introduced the 2026 work plan, which includes a Community Safety Event and Clinic each quarter. A general community safety clinic will take place on the east side of the city in Q1, and all members are invited to attend and participate. A Community Safety Expo is planned for Q4 2026 in partnership with the Galway County LCSP. The Cycle Safety initiative held in December was reviewed and noted as very positive, with agreement to repeat it in 2026. Media training was offered to members, with four names submitted. An invitation is to issue to all members not in attendance. A discussion took place regarding the need for a disability representative on the Partnership, and members were asked to share key dates to support the development of a calendar of events. These updates reflect a proactive approach to community engagement and programme planning.

8. Members Interest Items

The Chair advised that no items had been formally submitted in line with standing orders. However, on this occasion, members were invited to raise matters for discussion. Going forward, items must be submitted in writing to the Chairperson via the LCSP team at least seven days before a meeting.

A discussion took place on road safety, including the need for a standalone agenda item and the introduction of red-light cameras to address dangerous driving. The Chair confirmed he would raise this with the Chief Executive. Concerns were also raised regarding illegal dumping. Members discussed suicide prevention and how the Partnership could support this work, including safety considerations for older adults. A proposal emerged to establish a mental health subgroup, and the idea of a mental health clinic was suggested. The coordinator committed to conducting a scoping exercise and will seek support from the committee. Members also highlighted concerns about the high legislative threshold for mental-health assessments and the need to bring this to the Minister's attention. The Superintendent referenced the CAST pilot programme in Limerick as a strong initiative. A query was raised regarding the availability of defibrillators in Garda vehicles, and the Superintendent confirmed that only ACU and first-responder cars are equipped. The Chair noted that of 32 libraries, only four have external defibrillators.

The Chairperson and Community Safety Staff will meet Minister Jim O'Callaghan and the National Officer for Community Safety in February. Members were invited to submit questions for this meeting, including issues relating to a youth space delegation, stronger laws on illegal dumping, LCSP use of social media, legislation on online abuse, legislation on mental health, and GDPR. This section demonstrated active member-led priorities and collaborative problem-solving.

8. National Community Safety Plan

A Steering Committee will be formed to begin engagement and consultation on the development of the Community Safety Plan. A follow-up email will confirm the date of the first meeting. This marks an important step in progressing statutory planning requirements.

9. AOB

It was suggested that the Partnership undertake disclosure training, to be organised by GRCC. The LCSP team will share the media report once finalised. The next meeting will take place on 8 April and will include presentations from the HSE on Adult Safeguarding and from GRCC on consent. These closing

items reflect ongoing capacity-building efforts within the Partnership.

Next Meeting

Date:	8 th April 2026
Time:	11:00am – 2:30pm
Venue:	Tusla, Newcastle, Galway
Prepared by	Name
Chelsea McConn Joyce	Kelly Slattery
Local Community Safety LCSP Administrator	Local Community Safety LCSP Coordinator

Adopted by Galway City Local Community Safety LCSP	08/04/26
Chairperson Signature	

MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE LOG

NAME SURNAME	Representative Body	In Attendance Yes/No
Cllr. Alan Cheevers	Galway City East Electoral Area	Yes
Cllr. Helen Ogbu	Galway City East Electoral Area	No
Cllr. John McDonagh	Galway City Central Electoral Area	No
Cllr. Eibhlín Seoighthe	Galway City Central Electoral Area	Yes
Cllr. Eddie Hoare	Galway City Central Electoral Area	No
Cllr. Josie Forde	Galway City Central Electoral Area	No
Cllr. Mike Cubbard	Galway City Central Electoral Area	No
Supt. Finbarr Philpott	An Garda Síochána	Yes
Derek Pender	Galway City Council	No
Shannon Glynn	Health Service Executive	Yes
Cllr Níall McNelis	Preferred candidate in the Galway City safety partnership Chair Expression of Interest campaign	Yes
John Donnellan	TUSLA	Yes
Eavan Schmidt Bleek	Galway City Older Peoples Council	Yes

Michéal Durkin	Western Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force	Yes
Linda Sice Brogan	Galway City Partnership	No
Cathy Connolly	Galway Rape Crisis Centre	Yes
Margaret O'Riada	Galway Traveller Movement	No
Gillian McNamee	Cope Galway	No
Donal Lynch	Resident	Yes
Nichola Tierney	Resident	Yes
David Greeley	Resident	Yes
Tommy Flaherty	Galway City Community Network (PPN)	No
Islammiyah Saudique-Kadejo	Amdalah Africa Foundation	Yes
Irene Murphy	Youth Work Ireland Galway	No
Karen Ronan	Galway Chamber	Yes
John Callanan	Galway City Vintners Association	Yes
Cameron Keighron	Amach LGBTQI+	No
Michael Patrick Swan	Water Safety Advocate	Yes

Total Membership	28/30 filled	2 Vacancy
Total Attendance	16	12 Apologies
% of Members in Attendance	57%	16/28

Also in attendance:

Kelly Slattery, Community Safety Coordinator (Galway City Council)
 Chelsea McConn Joyce, Community Safety Administrator (Galway City Council)
 Kate Howard, Nighttime Economy Officer (Galway City Council)

