



Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

14 Iúil 2026
14 July 2026

Fógra/Notice

Cruinnithe Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe Galway City Council Meeting

Do Gach Ball de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe:

A Chara,

Reachtófar Cruinniú Speisialta de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe **Dé Luain, an 20 Iúil 2026 ar a 3.00i.n. i Seomra na Comhairle, Halla na Cathrach, Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe agus ar líne ar MS Teams.** Tá cóip de Chlár an Chruinnithe seo ar fáil ag an bhFáiltiú ar mhaithe le hiniúchadh.

A Special Meeting of Galway City Council will be held on **Monday, 20 July 2026 at 3.00p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Galway City Council and online via MS Teams.**

A copy of the agenda for this meeting is available at Reception for inspection.

The agenda for the meeting is set out hereunder.

Ailish Rohan,
Riarthóir na gCruinnithe / Meetings Administrator.



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Clár/Agenda

Special Meeting - Monday 20 July 2026 at 3.00p.m.

1. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

(Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended).

2. Confirmation of Minutes

3. Business Prescribed by Statute

- (e) Section 114, Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
Nomination of one Elected Member from the West Ward to the Galway City Local Community Safety Partnership – to consider for approval.

4. Reports of Committee Meetings

- (a) Draft notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 6 July 2026 - for noting.

(i) Recommendation from Corporate Policy Group:

Invitation to sign the Poitiers-Granada Declaration on the collaboration between Coimbra Group Universities and Cities.

(ii) Recommendation from Corporate Policy Group:

Finance Report to be issued to Full Council for consideration - for noting.

Procedures Committee Minutes meeting held 3 July 2026 - for noting.

(iii) Recommendation from Procedures Committee:

Amendment to Standing Orders:

To note the Monthly Management Report, without debate. Quarterly Report details to be included in the Monthly Management Report.

5. Consideration of Reports of Officials

- (a) Monthly Management Report for July and Quarterly Report Q2 2026 - for noting.
- (b) Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 Mid-Year Review - for noting.
- (c) Traffic Calming Policy - to consider for approval.



6. Notice of Motions

NOM 33/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. McDonagh on 02/06/2025 amend:31/03/2026

That this Council affirms its commitment to transparency and public engagement and resolves that no decision will be made to dispose of, sell, or otherwise transfer any part of Shantalla Park — including lands associated with the proposed helipad — without prior public consultation.

The Council further requests that the Chief Executive provide elected members with details of any consultations with the HSE and all related correspondence and records from January 2025 to present.

NOM 58/2025, submitted by Cllr. C. Higgins on 01/09/2025

That Galway City Council commit to:

1. That the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) meets with the Galway City water sports groups to begin meaningful consultation.
2. That Galway City Council develops a Beach Management and Zoning plan (**that fully meets Criterion 30 of the Blue Flag beach criteria document**) for all Galway City Beaches.
3. That Galway City Council engages with all stakeholders to develop Zoning plans and maps for all Galway City Beaches (**consistent with Criterion 5 and Criterion 30 of the Blue Flag beach criteria document**) that allows for dedicated launch zones, improved access routes to the water, and provides for safe, inclusive use of our beaches for swimmers, watersports and beach users.

Blue Flag Criterion 30. There must be management of different users and uses of the beach so as to prevent conflicts and accidents.

Beaches that support multiple activities must have management plans to prevent accidents and conflicts. This must include zoning for swimmers, surfers, windsurfers and motor craft. At the same time, recreational use of the beach must be managed without a negative impact on the natural environment or the biodiversity of the beach, and with consideration for aesthetic issues.

Swimmers should be protected from all sea craft (motor, sail or pedal). Where necessary, zoning through the use of buoys, beacons or signs must be in place. The same must be done for surfing areas. Distinctions should be made between motor, paddle or sail craft. The use of these various activities must be separated.

Blue Flag Criterion 5. A map of the beach indicating different facilities must be displayed.

A map showing the boundaries of the Blue Flag beach area and the location of key facilities and services must be posted on the Blue Flag information board. The required map elements should show the location of: zoning (swimming, surfing, sailing, boating, etc.)

Response issued 03/10/2025. Request to leave on the agenda.

NOM 17/2026, submitted by Cllr. E. Seoighthe on 24/02/2026

That Galway City Council retire the ceremonial Sword and Mace to the Galway City Museum to ensure their proper preservation and protection, and that they be used for display purposes only going forward. Furthermore, that the Council initiate an open call for artists to create new ceremonial pieces to be used for official and public events, reflecting the culture, values, and identity of contemporary Galway.

NOM 24/2026, submitted by Cllr. S. Forde on 30/03/2026

That this Council write to the Minister for Transport, Darragh O'Brien, requesting that the National Transport Authority (NTA), in conjunction with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), establish a dedicated, ring-fenced fund for the ongoing maintenance of active travel infrastructure, including cycling and pedestrian facilities, with funding allocated to local authorities on a sustainable, multi-annual basis.

NOM 32/2026, submitted by Cllr. E. Hoare on 06/06/2026

That Galway City Council commit to the roll out of beach wheelchair mats on suitable city beaches during the Summer months.

In 2023, the ownership of beach wheelchairs was transferred from Ability West to Galway City Council. It was hoped that this would promote more usage of the wheelchairs. Unfortunately, this hasn't been the case as the wheelchairs are not functional without the wheelchair mats.

Mayo County Council successfully implemented the beach wheelchair mats in Summer 2025 and this was a great success and used by many.

We need to strive to make public spaces more accessible and this is another example where Galway City Council must show leadership.

NOM 33/2026, submitted by Cllr. E. Hoare on 07/06/2026

That this Council write to the Minister of State for Road Transport Seán Canney T.D and the National Transport Authority expressing the support of the Elected Members for the revision of Route 44 under the new Bus Connects proposals for Galway put forward by the Galway City Council Active Travel team in January 2026.

This revised proposal was put forward by the Active Travel in Galway City Council in January 2026 and includes a minor revision of the new Route 44 to include Circular Road. This minor revision as proposed by Galway City Council would provide bus connectivity for all the new residents along Letteragh Road and the residents of Circular Road (c. 1,500 residents).

For clarity the existing proposal would see Route 44 run every 20 minutes from the Gateway Shopping Centre - Western Distributor Road - Clybaun Road Upper - Ragoon Road - - Seamus Quirke Road - Lower Newcastle Road - University Road - Cathedral - City Centre and onto Ballybrit Industrial Estate.



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The revised route would see the bus turn left onto Circular Road Lower, continue up the hill and turn right onto Circular Road and then proceed along Newcastle Road along the N59 as per existing route.

This is now even more important given the recent revision of the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029 to incorporate further development in Letteragh Road and along Circular Road. These future planned developments will ensure that any concerns regarding road width in certain locations will be addressed before the proposed Bus Connects Routes commence.

This item should also be included on the next agenda of Galway City Council and the Galway Oireachtas Members.

NOM 34/2026, submitted by Cllr. E. Hoare on 07/06/2026

That this Council write to the relevant Ministerial Office to explore the potential to allow School Wardens to work after the age of 70 subject to medical certification. At present, there is a severe shortage of school wardens and existing panels are extremely difficult to fill.

In recent months, Bus Éireann in consultation with the Departments of Education and Transport commenced a 2-year trial to allow certain bus drivers to work up to the age of 72 subject to medical certification every 6 months. This trial provides an extension of 2 years and won't impact existing pension arrangements.

This proposal if accepted will help to alleviate the existing challenges in replacing school wardens in schools around the country and will have a positive impact on road safety of school going children.

NOM 35/2026, submitted by Cllr. D. Lyons on 16/06/2026

With planning permission now being granted for a Park & Ride facility on Cappagh Road, I am proposing that no work would be carried out in the meantime on upgrading the pedestrian and cycle infrastructure on the Western Distributor Road so that an urgent meeting be sought (at the earliest opportunity) with representatives of the National Transport Authority with priority be given to funding being allocated and planning sought so that bus lanes could be introduced on the Western Distributor to make the Park & Ride facility a viable option.

NOM 36/2026, submitted by Cllr. A. Curran on 19/06/2026

That this council will issue an invitation to the Minister for Education, Hildegard Naughton, to attend a special meeting on the provision of pre-school, primary and post-primary education in the city.

With our population predicted to rise by over 40,000 by 2040, and with the recent variations of the city development plan, it is imperative that there is sufficient school capacity in our city to meet this increase in demand.

NOM 37/2026, submitted by Cllr. N. McNelis on 02/07/2026

This council calls on the Minister for Finance that the derelict sites levy, being collected by revenue commissioners, will be fully retained in Galway for reinvestment in regeneration of our city by Galway City Council.

NOM 38/2026, submitted by Cllr. E. Seoighthe on 02/07/2026

That this council recognises that the continued presence of a Seveso site in Galway docks is incompatible with the full regeneration potential of the city's waterfront. We resolve to seek funding from the government to facilitate the removal of the Seveso site from the docks.

Furthermore, we call on the Government to introduce or re-establish a relocation support scheme modelled on the reliefs previously provided for in Part 11D of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, including appropriate tax reliefs and other financial supports to facilitate the removal and relocation of Seveso establishments from Galway Docks.

NOM 43/2025, submitted by Cllr. D. Lyons on 4/07/2025

I am requesting Galway City Council to examine the feasibility of installing a pedestrian crossing at the junction of the Cappagh Road and Barna Road to facilitate pedestrians to cross the busy Barna Road.

Raised at Corporate Policy Group meeting 6 July 2026, agreed to refer to West Area Committee.

7. Questions

Q4/2026, submitted by Cllr. H. Ogbu on 01/04/2026

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) Eligibility Clarification

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify the scope of projects eligible for funding under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS), specifically in relation to environmental and community-support initiatives.

In particular, can the Chief Executive confirm whether projects such as the provision of refuse bins or similar environmental measures are deemed ineligible under the scheme, as I have received conflicting information in this regard?

Furthermore, can the Chief Executive:

- Provide a clear outline of the categories of works currently permitted under the LIS
- Clarify whether any discretion exists at local authority level to include environmental or ancillary community-support measures.

This clarification is important, as a number of my proposed LIS projects fall within this remit.

Response issued 09/06/2026



Q05/2026, submitted by Cllr. A. Curran on 01/05/2026

It's my understanding that a specific change of tenancy crew was to be taken on as agreed in November during discussions with the union on the strategic workforce plan. Can you provide an update on why this crew have not been hired? How many apprentices are currently working for the city council housing department? Can you provide the numbers of apprentices in housing over the last 3 years? How many staff are currently employed in maintain the housing stock in the city, and how many are specifically employed in turning over voids? How many private contractors do we currently have under contract in housing maintenance and turning over voids? What is our plan on reducing the number of private contractors employed and increasing the inhouse maintenance team?

Q06/2026, submitted by Cllr. M. J. Crowe on 12/05/2026

Following on from the response received to Q5/2025, can Galway City Council clarify the following:

Has the planning department now carried out an examination of all 'Vape Shops' operating within the City?

1. If the answer to No.1 is yes, during what time periods was this examination done?
2. What, precisely was the outcome of this exercise?
3. What measures have been taken to ensure that compliance will be adhered to by any non-compliant operators?

Response issued 18 June 2026

Q07/2026, submitted by Cllr Níall McNelis on 30/06/2026

Could the Chief Executive and the Director of Services for Housing and Planning provide the following information please?

1. The number of staff of Galway City Council who are currently dedicated to work in tackling vacancy and dereliction in our city and county?
2. The level of resources provided to our council since 2020 annually for dealing with vacancy and dereliction?
3. The number of enforcement cases taken against owners of premises in this regard?
4. The number of premises brought into housing or other uses as a result of these actions?
5. The level of resources which would be necessary, in terms of dedicated staff numbers and other resources, to substantially increase the results in this area?

Q08/2026, submitted by Cllr E. Seoighthe on 03/07/2026

In the minutes of a meeting held on the 11th of September 2017 (See 4 H) that a sum of money had been given to the local authority towards the refurbishment of Lenaboy Castle. Can we be provided information on how that money has been spent and the remaining balance of same?

8. Correspondence

9. Items for Councillors Information

10. Conferences & Training

	Provider	Details	Date	Location
(a)	AILG	Plenary Meeting	28 May 2026	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo Retrospective approval Cllr. D. McDonnell, Cllr. A. Cheevers, Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.
(b)	AILG	Councillor Planning Programme Module 4	20 June 2026	Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone. Retrospective approval Cllr. T. O' Flaherty, Cllr. J. McDonagh, Cllr. D. McDonnell.
(c)	MacGill Summer School 2026 In association with University of Notre Dame	McGill Summer School 2026 www.macgillsummerschool.com	23–25 July 2026	The Highlands Hotel, Glenties, Co. Donegal Request to attend: Cllr. N. McNelis.
(a)	AILG	AILG-NILGA Webinar – Bystander Intervention Training	24 July 2026	Online
	PFH Technology Group	ICT Skills Training	2 Days in July	Murrough, Merlin Park, Galway Cllr. J. McDonagh
(d)	Environment Ireland	Environment Ireland Conference	3 September 2026	Croke Park, Dublin.
(a)	AILG	HA – Vacancy & Dereliction	25 September 10a.m.-11:30a.m.	Webinar Online
(a)	AILG	AILG Autumn Seminar	30 September – 1 October 2026	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

12. Other Business set forth in the notice convening the meeting

13. Any Other Business