



Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

3 Meitheamh 2026
3 June 2026

Fógra/Notice

Cruinnithe Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe Galway City Council Meeting

Do Gach Ball de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe:

A Chara,

Tionólfar Gnáthchruinniú de Chomhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe ar an **Luain, 8 Meitheamh 2026 ar a 3.00i.n. sa 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.

Tá clár an chruinnithe leagtha amach faoi seo.

A Plenary Meeting of Galway City Council will be held on **Monday, 8 June 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. Members are requested to send queries regarding Matters Arising relating to Item 2(a) and 2(b) in writing, in advance of the meeting, to the undersigned.

Ailish Rohan,
Riarthóir na gCruinnithe / Meetings Administrator.



Clár/Agenda

Plenary Meeting - Monday 8 June 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

(a) Minutes of May Plenary Council meeting held on 11 May 2026.

(b) Minutes of Special Council meeting held on 5 June 2026.

3. Business Prescribed by Statute

(a) Section 44 of the Local Government Act 2001, Schedule 10 to hold Plenary Meeting 13 July 2026 at 3p.m. in the Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Galway City, Old Dublin Road, Galway, H91 T8NW - to consider for approval.

(b) Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) Draft Galway City Council Annual Report 2025 – to consider for adoption.

(c) Section 13 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 – Proposed Litter Management Plan 2025 to 2027 – to consider for approval.

(d) Section 179, Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part 8 Cappagh Social and Affordable housing scheme – to consider for approval.

(e) Appointment of external Audit Committee member

4. Reports of Committee Meetings

(a) Draft notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 2 June 2026 - for noting.

Recommendation: To hold the September Council plenary meeting on Monday 7 June 2026 at 3pm due to European Alliance Group Conference in Galway on Monday 14 September 2026.

Recommendation: Expressions of Interest to be sought by Galway City Council for non-residential units as part of Ballyburke Development

(b) Potential Section 183 Lands adjacent to University Hospital - Standing Item.

5. Consideration of Reports of Officials

- (a) Monthly Management Report for June 2026 - for noting
- (b) Draft Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026 – approval to proceed to public consultation.
- (c) Local Authority Allocation Report to Elected Members Circular Housing 20/2026 – for noting.

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



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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. Seoigthe 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 29/2026, submitted by Cllr. C. Higgins on 07/05/2026

Shingles Vaccination for Older Adults

That Galway City Council recognises the significant health risks posed by shingles (herpes zoster), particularly for older adults, including the debilitating condition of post-herpetic neuralgia (PHN), which can result in chronic pain, reduced mobility, and loss of independence.

That this Council further acknowledges the recommendation of the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) in 2024 that the recombinant zoster vaccine (Shingrix) be administered to all adults aged 65 years and over.

That Galway City Council notes with concern that the current cost of the shingles vaccine, estimated at €480–€500, presents a substantial financial barrier for many older people, effectively limiting access to this important preventative healthcare measure.

That this motion is brought on foot of engagement with the Knocknacarra Active Retirement Group and in support of the wider campaign led by Active Retirement Ireland, representing over 24,000 older people nationwide, advocating for equitable access to the shingles vaccine.

Therefore, Galway City Council calls on: The Minister for Health, The Department of Health, The Health Service Executive (HSE) to:



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Introduce the shingles vaccine free of charge for all adults aged 65 years and over as part of the National Immunisation Programme from 2026.
Remove financial barriers to ensure equitable access for all older people, regardless of income.

Recognise the long-term benefits of prevention, including reduced GP visits, lower hospital admissions, and support for independent living and healthy ageing.

Align Ireland with international best practice, where countries such as the UK, Germany, France, Spain, Canada, Australia, and the United States already provide this vaccine at low or no cost.

That a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Minister for Health, the Department of Health, the HSE and all Council's.

NOM 30/2026, submitted by Cllr. A. Cheevers on 11/05/2026

That Galway City Council:-

Recognising:-

- The critical importance of University Hospital Galway (UHG) as the primary Model 4 hospital serving the West and North-West of Ireland;
- The sustained and increasing pressure on UHG, including capacity constraints, overcrowding, and infrastructure deficits;
- The central role of UHG in delivering acute and specialist care to a rapidly growing population along the western seaboard;
- The inclusion of the redevelopment and expansion of UHG within the National Development Plan as a project of strategic national significance;
- The urgent need to modernise and expand the Model 4 campus to ensure safe, timely, and high-quality patient care;
- The Government's ongoing development of Critical Infrastructure Legislation aimed at accelerating the delivery of essential national projects;
- That Galway City Council further recognises the growing mental health crisis across Galway and the wider Western Region, including the increasing demand for urgent psychiatric and psychological supports, and notes the absence of a dedicated Mental Health Emergency Department / Mental Health A&E facility within the region to provide immediate crisis intervention and specialist care.



Calls on the Government and in particular the Ministers for Health & Public Expenditure to: -

1. Designate the redevelopment and expansion of University Hospital Galway as a **Critical Infrastructure Project** under the forthcoming Critical Infrastructure Legislative framework;
2. Recognise the urgent and exceptional need for investment in the Model 4 campus at UHG, given its regional importance and the persistent challenges facing healthcare delivery in the West;
3. Prioritise and expedite all necessary planning, approval, and funding processes to ensure the timely delivery of this redevelopment;
4. Ensure that the scale and scope of the project fully reflects the requirement to provide Model 4 acute care capacity for the western seaboard, now and into the future;
5. Provide a clear timeline and delivery pathway for the redevelopment, aligned with commitments under the National Development Plan.

And Galway City Council further calls on: -

- The Minister for Health;
 - The Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform;
 - The Minister responsible for the proposed Critical Infrastructure legislation;
- to engage directly with Galway City Council and all Regional Stakeholders to include the HSE West and the Saolta Hospital Group to advance this project as a matter of priority and urgency.

Rationale: -

University Hospital Galway is operating under sustained capacity pressures that are no longer tenable. As the only Model 4 Hospital serving a vast geographic region, its redevelopment is essential not only for Galway City but for the wider Western Region. The proposed Critical Infrastructure Legislation presents a timely opportunity to remove delays and barriers that have historically impeded the delivery of large-scale public health projects. Designating the UHG redevelopment under this framework would reflect its national importance and ensure that Communities within Galway City, County and the Region receive equitable access to high-quality acute healthcare.

The Council therefore supports the inclusion of a dedicated Mental Health A&E and the development of a modern, integrated, world-class Mental Health Department and acute mental health infrastructure as part of the future expansion and development of the University Hospital Galway campus.



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.

Q05/2026, submitted by Cllr Alan 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 Michael 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?

8. Correspondence

- (a) **Galway County Council**, Dated: 11 May 2026
Resolution: Healthcare capacity West and North-West Region.
- (b) **Clare County Council**, Dated: 12 May 2026
Resolution: Cost of Living Package.
- (c) **Waterford City and County Council**, Dated: 15 May 2026
Resolution: Rights of people with disabilities.
- (d) **Longford County Council**, Dated: 15 May 2026
Resolution: Retain the Just Transition Tourism Activators
- (e) **West Ireland Airport Knock Annual Review 2025**
- (f) **Galway County Council**, Dated: 28 May 2026
Resolution: Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA)
- (g) **National Transport Authority**, Dated: 08 May 2026
Response: Meeting request regarding Western Distributor Road

9. Items for Councillors Information

10. Conferences & Training

	Provider	Details	Date	Location
(a)	AILG	AILG Annual Conference	22-23 April 2026	Hotel Minella, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. Retrospective approval Cllr. A. Cheevers
(b)	AILG	OPR-AILG Councillor Planning Training	20 June 2026	Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone.
(c)	AILG	Elected Member Training Programme	April – December 2026	

11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

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

13. Any Other Business