Minutes of Galway City Council Plenary Meeting held in the Council Chamber, City Hall and Online via MS Teams on Monday, 9 February 2026 at 3.00p.m.	
Presiding:	Mayor M. Cubbard.
Elected Members Present:	Councillors: A. Cheevers, M.J. Crowe, A. Curran, S. Forde, E. Hoare, P. Keane, D. Lyons, J. McDonagh, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, T. O'Flaherty, H. Ogbu, E. Seoighthe.
Elected Members Online:	Councillors: A. Burke, J. Forde, C. Higgins.
Elected Members Apologies:	Cllr. F. Fahy.
Executive Present:	Chief Executive: L. Cleary, Director of Services: P. Philbin, P. Greene, H. Kilroy, D. Pender, A/DoS: E. Fanning. Senior Planner: E. Lynch, Senior Executive Officer: A. Rohan, Administrative Officer: M. Duddy, Clerical Officer: C. Cormican.

The Meeting commenced with a statement of intent to conduct the business of the meeting in line with Standing Orders followed by a moment of silent reflection.

1. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**
   (Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended).

No disclosures raised.

2. **Confirmation of Minutes**

(a) January Plenary Council meeting held on 12 January 2026.

On a point of accuracy Cllr. D. Lyons requested that the minutes reflect his call for an audit to be included with his contribution relating to the lack of bus shelters and adequate lighting.

A synopsis of matters arising included:

Cllr. T. O' Flaherty proposed that item 5(a) Parking Payment Report be postponed to the May Plenary meeting and be placed as first item on the agenda. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons.

Cllr. N. McNelis proposed that the item be deferred for six months to allow additional data to be gathered, which would support more informed decision making.
A discussion followed.

Mr. P. Greene provided an update on the current status and addressed queries raised.

In line with Standing Orders, the amendment was considered first. A Roll Call vote was requested by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty, this was seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons and supported by Cllr. A. Curran.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis		**Seconded By:** Cllr. H. Ogbu		
To defer consideration of 5(b) Parking Payment Report for 6 months. **In Favour:** Cllrs: A. Cheevers; M. Cubbard; J. Forde; S. Forde; E. Hoare; P. Keane; J. McDonagh; D. McDonnell; N. McNelis & H. Ogbu **Against:** Cllrs: A. Curran; D. Lyons; T. O'Flaherty & E. Seoighthe				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 10	**Against:** 4	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was carried				

In line with Standing Orders, when an amendment shall be affirmed, by a majority of Councillors present, the original Motion disappears and the amendment becomes the original Motion. The original motion was put to Council.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis		**Seconded By:** Cllr. H. Ogbu		
To defer consideration of 5(b) Parking Payment Report for 6 months. **In Favour:** Cllrs: A. Cheevers; M. Cubbard; J. Forde; S. Forde; E. Hoare; P. Keane; J. McDonagh; D. McDonnell; N. McNelis & H. Ogbu **Against:** Cllrs: A. Curran; D. Lyons; T. O'Flaherty & E. Seoighthe				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 10	**Against:** 4	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was carried				

Cllr. A. Curran proposed that a workshop on parking be held at a time convenient for all Members. This was Proposed by Cllr. A. Curran and Seconded by Cllr. E. Seoighthe. The Mayor called for a vote:

Proposed By: Cllr. A. Curran		**Seconded By:** Cllr. E. Seoighthe		
That this Council organises a workshop for elected members to make their views heard, facilitate submissions from the public and other stakeholders, to look holistically at the provision of parking services in the city to create a comprehensive parking strategy for Galway.				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was carried.				

Elected Members congratulated Mr. P. Greene and the team on the launch of the 'Parking Made Easy for Visitors' Resources.

Cllr. D. McDonnell queried comments noted in the minutes by Cllrs. A. Curran and Cllr. S. Forde regarding the Grants Committee. A discussion followed.

Elected Members requested an update on Crown Square, Thomas Hynes Road, digital timetables and lighting at bus stops, responses received from the NTA, use of CCTV, a budget for a business forum, BusConnects and bus corridors.

The Executive responded to queries raised.

Elected Members requested an update on proposal for Pálás and highlighted the need for nominated companies to be financially sustainable.

Ms. P. Philbin addressed queries raised and advised that a presentation will be made in March on the matter.

Cllr. D. Lyons queried if he would receive a response to Notice of Motion 74/2025. The Chief Executive advised that a written response would issue.

Elected Members raised queries relating to works at the Ballybane/Castlepark Road, highlighting the need for better engagement with the community.

Mr. D. Pender addressed queries raised and agreed to forward on particulars of Active Travel projects over the next three to five years.

Elected Members requested an update on the proposed aquatic centre under the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF). Ms. H. Kilroy briefed Members advising of a gap in funding and requested leeway to negotiate with the Department on funding advising that a final decision will be brought before full Council.

The Mayor called for a vote on the proposed motion:

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons			**Seconded By:** Cllr. D. McDonnell	
To give the Director of Services, Corporate Development Directorate leeway to negotiate with the Department on a funding proposal.				
Present: 13	**In Favour:** 13	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 5
Result: The Motion was carried.				

Cllr. J. McDonagh requested an update on lands in Shantalla and talks between the HSE, Galway City Council and residents.
The Chief Executive stated that negotiations are at an advance stage and advised that the HSE would like to support the community.

The Mayor highlighted the need for teen spaces in the city that did not involve sport and suggested it be considered in the regeneration of City Hall.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis	**Seconded By:** Cllr. A. Curran
Resolved to adopt the Minutes of the Plenary Meeting held on 12 January 2026.	
The minutes were agreed and adopted.	

3. Business Prescribed by Statute

(a) Section 50 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended Local Government Reform Act, 2014), Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 – to consider for adoption.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons		**Seconded By:** Cllr. N. McNelis		
Resolved to adopt under Section 50 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended Local Government Reform Act, 2014), Draft Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026				
Present: 13	**In Favour:** 13	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 5
Result: This Annual Service Delivery Plan was adopted.				

(b) Under Part XVI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 16 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) Saint Patrick's Day Parade Event Licence 2026 – to consider for adoption.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons		**Seconded By:** Cllr. T. O'Flaherty		
Resolved to adopt under Part XVI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 16 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) Saint Patrick's Day Parade Event Licence 2026				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was adopted.				

(c) Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Galway City and County Council Joint Retail Strategy – to consider for adoption.

Cllr. N. McNelis requested that a Special Meeting be held specific to support and safeguard the future of retail in the city.

Cllr. E. Hoare sought clarity in relation to vacant properties, including whether sufficient finances are available to address the issue.

Cllr. A. Cheevers requested an update on the Augustine Hill project and raised concern about the increasing number of vape shops in the City. He asked how this may be restricted, suggesting the possibility of introducing a byelaw to protect retail offerings and improve the experience for visitors and tourists.

Cllr. D. Lyons asked how the Council can attract more businesses into the City.

Cllr. M. J. Crowe referred to his previously submitted Notice of Motion on vape shops and sought an update on the response.

In response Mr. E. Lynch outlined the work underway on the Joint City and County initiative, noting an oversupply of certain retail types, an update on the Augustine Hill site, and the need to identify suitable funding streams. He advised that, in terms of land use, there are currently no legal restrictions specifically limiting use.

Mr. Lynch highlighted ongoing work with the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) in promoting local producers and noted success of the Shopfront Enhancement Scheme and the intention to continue targeted efforts.

Ms. P. Philbin provided an update to Councillors on the Corrib Great Southern site, noting that preliminary sketches have been prepared and discussed with Planning.

Ms. H. Kilroy outlined the position in relation to the Rates Waiver Scheme and the new legislation where Local Authorities may apply a waiver in accordance with an adopted policy and subject to approval at the Budget meeting.

The Mayor called for a vote on the following Motions:

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis			**Seconded By:** Mayor M. Cubbard	
Request that a Special Meeting be held specific to support and safeguard the future of retail in the city.				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was agreed.				

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons			**Seconded By:** Cllr. N. McNelis	
Resolved to adopt Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Galway City and County Council Joint Retail Strategy				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was adopted.				

(d) Section 13 of the Planning and Development 2000 (as amended) Variation No. 1 of Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029 – to consider for adoption.

Cllr. D. McDonnell queried if Variation No. 2 was affected by any decision on this agenda item.

Cllr. E. Hoare questioned the net impact across all variations on housing delivery, what is planned for regenerations projects and when consultation opens for Variation No. 3.

Cllr. S. Forde requested the benefits for and against of recommending.

Mr. E. Lynch responded to queries and outlined the purpose to rezone from current zoned R2 low density residential to rezone as agriculture on the wish expressed to continue to farm the land. Mr. Lynch confirmed that the proposal affects only these lands. He advised that the lands have been considered and are not required for the current Development Plan, and that no other landowners are impacted.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis			**Seconded By:** Cllr. E. Seoighthe	
Resolve to adopt Section 13 of the Planning and Development 2000 (as amended) Variation No. 1 of Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029.				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was approved and adopted.				

(e) Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2001 to agree a date for the Annual Meeting. Proposed Date: Friday 19 June 2026 at 4p.m.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis		**Seconded By:** Cllr. D. McDonnell		
Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2001 agreed date for the Annual Meeting, Friday 19 June 2026 at 4p.m.				
Present: 14	**In Favour:** 14	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 4
Result: This Motion was approved.				

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45p.m. and resumed at 5p.m.

4. Reports of Committee Meetings

(a) Draft notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 3 February 2026 - for noting.

(i) **Recommendation** – Local Government Act, 2001 Section 142 Training and Development Programme for Elected Members – to consider for adoption.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons		**Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis**		
Resolved to adopt under Local Government Act, 2001 Section 142 Training and Development Programme for Elected Members.				
Present: 9	**In Favour:** 9	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 9
Result: This Motion was adopted.				

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons		**Seconded By:** Cllr. N. McNelis		
To note the draft notes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 3 February 2026				
Present: 9	**In Favour:** 9	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 9
Result: This Motion was adopted				

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

Cllr. J. McDonagh sought assurance from the Chief Executive that no vote would be brought before the full Council without prior discussion with Shantalla residents. The Chief Executive gave his commitment.

5. Consideration of Reports of Officials

(a) Monthly Management Report for February 2026 - for noting.

Cllr. N. McNelis congratulated the Town Hall Theatre on 30 years in operation. He noted a reduction in housing figures but queried what supports are available for people who do not meet eligibility criteria for social housing given the increase in notices to quit.

Cllr. A. Cheevers expressed concern regarding any sub-letting of council properties. In response Ms. E. Fanning addressed sub-letting and welcomed the allocation of an additional Housing Estate Liaison Officer (HELO) to support this work.

In response to Cllr. D. McDonnell, Mr. D. Pender clarified that independent valuations are carried out using reputable Property Management company, and that challenges can arise when access to properties is not possible.

Cllr. S. Forde asked what due diligence is undertaken when individuals present seeking homeless assistance and referenced concerns about rent arrears arrangements, including low weekly repayments.

Regarding the Land Development Agency (LDA) Cllr. P. Keane sought an update on the meeting held with Department officials and asked what pathways are available to progress the Dyke Road and Sandy Road sites.

Members called for update on the Docks and HSA engagements. Cllr. A. Curran requested that background documentation on the LDA be circulated to Members for clarity.

Ms. P. Philbin responded to queries on the LDA and stressed that formal engagement with the HSA is necessary.

The Chief Executive highlighted that there is no deviation from the agreed delivery timelines. He outlined two options: continue negotiations with the LDA to secure best value or developing an internal business case for Galway City Council to procure and deliver the project directly. The Chief Executive committed to pursuing the option that ensures the best value, fastest delivery and appropriate tenure mix of housing.

A discussion followed regarding derelict sites and Councillors sought clarification on the process when an owner commits to addressing dereliction, uncollected levies, valuations and derelict site taxes.

Mr. Pender addressed members queries on derelict sites and confirmed the policy adopted by Council is applied consistently. Requests for deviation from the policy have been refused. It was confirmed that any levy imposed in 2025 will continue to stand.

Cllr. N. McNelis raised the issue of supports needed in the West-End and Claddagh ahead of flooding events. Members expressed concern about the projected 2030 delivery date for Coirib go Cósta Flood Relief scheme. Mayor Cubbard proposed inviting the Minister to walk the Claddagh and Salthill areas, this proposal was seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell.

Cllr. D. Lyons queried whether the Cappagh Road project remains on schedule..

Cllr. E. Hoare referenced the Multi-Modal Transport Report and emphasised that its proposed funding models are essential to unlocking future housing development. He stressed the need to prioritise the work and maintain engagement with the Minister regarding the Youth Centre proposal. He also asked whether smaller traffic-calming measures could be considered along Bóthar Stiofáin and reminded of commitments made for an onsite meeting at Palmyra Avenue.

Cllr. D. Lyons questioned the scope of any new needs study being undertaken by the Urban and Community Development Officer and University of Galway. He noted previous work completed by Urban LAB and asked whether a budget is in place and what activities are planned.

Mr. D. Pender responded to matters raised

Cllr. S. Forde referenced that no invitation was extended to Members for the opening of Dexcom Stadium. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty commended the Dexcom Stadium for bringing increased footfall and positive economic activity to the city.

Mr. P. Greene provided an update on the dog pound activity to Cllr. Crowe and will revert on reclaimed term. Mr. Greene committed to follow-up on site meeting at Palmyra Avenue.

The Mayor proceeded to take the motion submitted by Cllr. P. Keane.

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Keane		**Seconded by:** Cllr. N. McNelis		
In the interests of delivering on our Housing Obligations, and in light of unnecessary and undue delay in the delivery of the Project by the Land Development Agency, that this Council directs the Chief Executive to explore options available to this Local Authority to develop itself the Dyke Road Property owned by this Local Authority in accordance with the Planning Permission granted by an Comisiún Pleanála.				
Present: 16	**In Favour:** 16	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 2
Result: The motion was carried.				

The Mayor then called for a vote on the following motions:

Proposed By: Mayor M. Cubbard			**Seconded By:** Cllr. D. McDonnell	
To invite the Minister to Galway city to discuss the delivery of flood defences.				
Present: 16	**In Favour:** 16	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 2
Result: The motion was carried.				

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By:** Cllr. D. McDonnell
Resolved to note the Monthly Management Report for February 2026.	
Result: The report was noted.	

(b) Parking Payments Report – for noting.

The matter was discussed under Agenda Item 2(a).

6. Notice of Motions

NOM 33/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. McDonagh on 02/06/2025
That this Council affirms its commitment to transparency and public engagement and hereby 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 first conducting a full and proper consultation process with the local residents and relevant community.

Notice of Motion 33/2025 to remain as a Standing Item for the next meeting.

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.

Notice of Motion 58/2025 to remain as Standing Item for next meeting.

NOM 63/2025, submitted by Cllr. E. Seoighthe 31/10/2025
This Council expresses its dismay at and opposition to the government's intention to abolish the Triple Lock, which governs the deployment of Irish Defence Forces personnel overseas. The Triple Lock has ensured that Ireland's participation in overseas missions (with more than 12 defence personnel) would always require approval from: 1. the Cabinet 2. Dáil Éireann and 3. that the mission they are being deployed on would have a UN mandate either from the Security Council or the General Assembly. In 2001, the Irish people rejected the Nice Treaty over concerns that it would drag Ireland into EU military structures that would threaten our neutrality. To get the electorate to approve the EU Treaty, the government with the agreement of the other EU Member States, through a "solemn declaration" introduced the Triple Lock. This Declaration was reiterated following initial rejection of the subsequent Lisbon Treaty. Therefore, this Council rejects government's plans to abolish or amend the Triple Lock, considering the proposal signifies a breach of trust with the Irish electorate and a serious diminution of Irish neutrality.

Cllr. E. Seoighthe addressed the motion, and Cllr. J. McDonagh then contributed, expressing support for the motion.

Cllr. P. Keane thanked Cllr. Seoighthe for clarification and expressed his views.

Proposed By: Cllr. E. Seoighthe		**Seconded By:** Cllr. A. Burke		
Present: 16	**In Favour:** 9	**Against:** 6	**Abstain:** 1	**Absent:** 2
The motion was carried.				

NoM 06/2026, submitted by Cllr. A. Curran on 28/01/2026
That in advance of a review of the Traveller Accommodation Program, approved by this council in 2024, this council will work to identify new sites not included in the program, and consider why previous sites identified in the previous TAP were excluded from the current program.

Cllr. A. Curran requested a review of Traveller Accommodation, including the rationale for the exclusion of specific sites. Ms. E. Fanning advised a response is currently being drafted.

Cllr. D. Lyons proposed that the motion remain on the Agenda pending reply, as agreed by Cllr. A. Curran.

Proposed By: Cllr. A. Curran	**Seconded By:** Cllr. E. Seoighthe

NoM 07/2026, submitted by Cllr. A. Curran on 28/01/2026
That in light of the increase in road traffic fatalities and incidents in 2025, representing a failure of national road safety leadership, that this council will write to the Minister for Transport calling for the following:

• That this council calls on the government to reverse a decision to retain a 50km/h default speed limit in urban and built-up areas and instead proceed with the immediate national implementation of a 30 km/h default, allowing councils to make exceptions as necessary, as recommended by the 2023 Speed Limit Review and legislated for in the Road Traffic Act 2024 • That funding will be issued to Galway City Council to pilot the installation of red-light cameras at key junctions on publication of the National Safety Camera Strategy later this year, and that any fines collected would be retained by Galway City Council to help offset costs of other road safety improvements. • That this council has no confidence in the RSA and that the recommendations of the Indecon Report 2024 should be implemented immediately. Upon adoption, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities.

Cllr. A. Curran addressed the motion and agreed to remove the first part of the motion based on the response received through the Strategic Policy Committee. Cllr. A. Cheevers in support referred to serious health and safety concerns with e-scooter users not using high-vis and stated responsibility of the public in this regard.

Mr. P. Greene briefed Members on proposed speed limit changes effective March 2027 nationally and noted that a National Safety camera strategy is awaited.

Members indicated agreement with part of the motion and proposed a minor amendment to the final sentence.

Cllr. A. Curran agreed to amend the motion to include a re-evaluation of the role of the RSA.

NoM 07/2026, amended by Cllr. A. Curran on 09/02/2026				
That in light of the increase in road traffic fatalities and incidents in 2025, representing a failure of national road safety leadership, that this council will write to the Minister for Transport calling for the following: • That funding will be issued to Galway City Council to pilot the installation of red-light cameras at key junctions on publication of the National Safety Camera Strategy later this year, and that any fines collected would be retained by Galway City Council to help offset costs of other road safety improvements. • That this council calls for a re-evaluation of the role of the RSA and that the recommendations of the Indecon Report 2024 should be implemented immediately. Upon adoption, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities.				
Proposed By: Cllr. A. Curran		**Seconded By:** Cllr. E. Seoighthe		
Present: 15	**In Favour:** 15	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 3
The motion was carried.				

NoM 08/2026, submitted by Cllr. N. McNelis on 29/01/2026
That the council examines the feasibility of establishing a Vulnerable Persons Register for Galway City, on an opt-in basis and in compliance with GDPR (Data Protection), to support emergency planning and coordinated responses during extreme weather events or other emergencies, in collaboration with relevant statutory and community agencies.

Cllr. N. McNelis outlined benefits of the register during major emergencies.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis		**Seconded By:** Cllr. D. McDonnell		
Present: 15	**In Favour:** 15	**Against:** 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 3
The motion was carried.				

7. Questions

Q17/2025, submitted by Cllr. J. McDonagh on 02/06/2025
Can the Chief Executive detail what consultations, if any, have taken place between Galway City Council and the HSE regarding (a) the proposed helipad in Shantalla Park, and (b) any potential disposal or transfer of lands within Shantalla Park? Furthermore, can all relevant correspondence, meeting notes, and records of communication between the Council and the HSE on this matter, from January 2025 to the present, be provided to elected members?

Question 17/2025 agreed to remain on Agenda.

Q1/2026, submitted by Cllr. P. Keane on 19/01/2026
To ask the Planning Department of Galway City Council to provide details of housing delivery activity within the administrative area of the city for the 12-month period ending 31 December 2025, and to set out the corresponding figures for the 12-month period ending 31 December 2024, including: a) the number of dwelling units granted planning permission in each period; b) the number of Commencement Notices filed in each period; and c) the number of BCMS Certificates issued in each period; and to indicate the year-on-year change under each heading.

The meeting was informed that a response has issued to Cllr. P. Keane's question.

The Mayor requested an extension of time. The proposal was made by Cllr. N. McNelis and seconded by Cllr. M.J. Crowe and agreed.

8. Correspondence:

(a) **Sligo County Council,** Dated 15 January 2026.
Resolution: Investor Court System (ICS).
(b) **Clare County Council,** Dated 15 January 2026.
Resolution: Housing Aid for Older Peoples Grant.
(c) **Clare County Council**, Dated 15 January 2026.

Resolution: Oppose GAA fee for children.

(d) **Offaly County Council**, Dated 22 January 2026.
Resolution: Oppose Mercosur Trade Agreement.

(e) **Tipperary County Council,** Dated 22 January 2026.
Resolution: E-Scooter/E-Bike Visibility.

(f) **Correspondence - Michael D. Higgins**, Dated 26 January 2026.

(g) **Correspondence - Presidency of the Council of the European Union,** Dated 16 January 2026, Ms. H. McEntee TD Minister for Foreign Affair, Mr. T. Byrne TD Minister of State for European Affairs.

(h) **Correspondence** – Galway Cultural Company, Dated 28 January 2026.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By:** Cllr. J. McDonagh
Correspondence was noted.	

9. Items for Councillors Information

None

10. Conferences & Training

	Provider	Details	Date	Location
(a)	AILG	Conflict of Interest	9 February 2026 11-1p.m.	City Hall and online
(b)	EU Local Councillors Network	Webinar on the EU Affordable Housing Plan	12 February at 2:30p.m.	Online
(c)	AILG	From Policy to Practice; What Local Authorities in Ireland Can Offer to Support Disabled People and an Ageing Population	19 Feb. 2026	Fairways Hotel, Dundalk.
Cllr. N. McNelis approved to attend.				
(d)	Northern & Western Regional Assembly	Association of Irish Regions (AIR) Training Seminar.	25 - 26 Feb. 2026	Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana, Co. Donegal.
Cllr. J. McDonagh, Cllr. D. McDonnell and Cllr. N. McNelis, approved to attend.				
(e)	Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge.	Cúrsa Gaeilge le Cruinniú an Chomhairle as Gaeilge.	4 - 5 March 2026	Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, An Cheathrú Rua.

(f)	Celtic Conferences	"The Evolving Role of AI in Public Relations"	6 - 8 March 2026	Four Season's Hotel, Co. Louth
(g)	AILG	"Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025-2030"	21 March 2026	Radisson Blu Sligo
(h)	AILG	AILG Annual Conference	22-23 April 2026	Hotel Minella, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
(i)	Invitation to Drogheda Civic Trust Summer School 2026 (Louth Co. Co.)	Shared Horizons: Building the Future Together	8-10 May 2026	St. Peter's Church of Ireland Hall, Peter Street, Drogheda.

Retrospective approval was granted for: Cllr. N. McNelis and Cllr. E. Hoare to attend the LAMA Spring Seminar held 28 and 29 January 2026 in the Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway. Cllr. E. Hoare retrospective approved granted to attend Irish Classes with Abair Amach É Irish Classes in Aras na nGaeilge – Bunrang.

Proposed by Cllr. N. McNelis and Seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell, the Members approved for the Mayor to lead a delegation to Seattle and Boston for Saint Patricks Day.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By:** Cllr. J. McDonagh
Conferences and Training approved.	

11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

Cllr. N. McNelis informed the meeting of the recent passing of Ms. Dello Collier and acknowledged her contributions.

The members observed a minute's silence for a recent bereavement of Mayor Mike Cubbard, Cllr. H. Ogbu's nephew and for Ms. Helen Coleman, Planning Department on recent bereavement of her mother.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By**: Cllr. T. O'Flaherty
John Mangan R.I.P. James Reilly R.I.P. John Hickey R.I.P. Dello Collier R.I.P. Christina Coleman R.I.P.	Teresa Rose Cunnane R.I.P. Phil (Philomena) Cullinane R.I.P. Paula Flanagan R.I.P. Maire Tschabold R.I.P.
Resolved to extend the sympathy of the Council to the bereaved.	

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

None

13. Any Other Business

Cllr. D. McDonnell raised a query regarding the display timelines for variations to the Development Plan and proposed for a public meeting to be held on Development Plan Variation No. 3. This was Seconded by Cllr. N. McNelis.

The meeting concluded at 6:34pm.

Minutes, Confirmed & Signed

Mayor of Galway

Minutes, Confirmed & Signed

Mayor of Galway