Minutes of Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) Meeting – Monday June 15th, 2026

In Attendance:

Mr. Niall Crowley, Independent Chairperson
Cllr. Eibhlín Seoighthe, Galway City Council
Cllr. Helen Ogbu, Galway City Council
Cllr. John McDonagh, Galway City Council
Cllr. Alan Cheevers, Galway City Council
Ms. Nora Corcoran, Galway Traveller Movement

Officials:

Ms. Sharon Carroll, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Services & Integration
Mr. Colm Shaughnessy, Executive Engineer, Housing Services & Integration
Mr. Colm O'Riordan, Senior Engineer, Housing Services & Integration
Ms. Eithne Murphy, Senior Engineer, Housing Services & Integration
Ms. Catherine Fahy, Senior Social Worker, Housing Services & Integration
Ms. Edel Killarney, Traveller Accommodation Officer, Housing Services
Mr. David Finan, Assistant Staff Officer, Housing Services & Integration

Apologies:

Joanna Corcoran, Galway Traveller Movement
Margaret O'Riada, Galway Traveller Movement
Angela Delaney, Traveller Representative
Lieze Fanning, Galway City Council
Ian McDoangh, Traveller Representative

1. **Minutes of the Meeting of March 26th, 2026.**

The Minutes of the March meeting were agreed.

The adoption of the amended Minutes was agreed by all present.

2. **Matters Arising.**

Intercultural training will be possible towards the end of the year and will follow departmental guidelines issued recently for the training.

GTM will meet Tanya Lawlor, Traveller Mediation Services in relation to Equality and Mainstreaming training on July 13th and intend to roll out the training later this year. It was recommended that all training should include practical workshops and be co-designed with Traveller input in line with department guidelines.

3.Traveller Accommodation Report.

The reporting template for the Traveller Accommodation Programme was circulated to members who confirmed they found it satisfactory. A request was made to circulate the template further in advance of the LTACC meeting so there is ample time for all members

to examine it.

The Traveller Accommodation Report for Quarter 2 was presented at the meeting.

In summary:
There were four allocations to standard Local Authority Housing.
There were four adaptations to homes of Traveller families.
Six unauthorized encampments were reported and two were removed during Quarter 2.
Estimated overcrowding figures are 13 at Traveller Specific Accommodation and 6 at Standard Local Authority Homes.
Estimated figures for sharing accommodation are 22 at Halting Sites; 8 at Group Housing; 31 at Standard Local Authority Homes.
Eight applications were received for the Caravan Loan Scheme. Five applicants were prioritised for loans.
€320,000 was secured to administer the scheme but a portion of the funding must be used to cover a 2025 loan.
Two applications for funding to the DHLGH Dormant Accounts Fund were successful.
€5,500 was secured for Fire Training at Halting Sites.
€7,000 was secured to implement the findings of the Feasibility Report on Tenant Participation Pilot Project at Traveller Specific Group Housing at Bóithrín na Saoirse.
A survey to track Traveller Experience of RAS & HAP private rental schemes is being drafted. The GTM were invited to participate in the survey process.
The Annual Review of the TAP under Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty is in the final stages of completion.

Observations raised included the lack of targets for new halting sites, refurbishing existing halting sites and projected accommodation needs. It was noted that targets are set in TAP and were approved by Council.

Cllr. Cheevers apologised for missing the previous meetings and raised queries regarding the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)and the Fana Glas scheme.

It was noted that as part of the current TAP, the need for extra transient sites is being tracked and this would be added to the template going forward.

Cllr. Ogbu requested clarification on the difference between a Traveller halting site and group housing. In the response, it was noted that there are 6 Traveller specific group housing developments around Galway city.

The Traveller identifier is what is used to assess the accommodation needs of Travellers. The GTM advised that sometimes applicants are reluctant to use it, as they think that it may lead to discrimination in the private rental market – applicants must be encouraged to use it.

The lack of supply and high rents were reasons outlined for the low HAP and RAS accommodation figures.

It was highlighted that a lot of work is ongoing to progress Traveller accommodation. The current figure of applicants on the housing list was mentioned – 4,215; 164 identified as Travellers.
Targets will be examined as part of the Mid Term Review.

As regards the Fana Glas development, updates will be provided at the next meeting.

A discussion took place regarding HAP and the limitations of the scheme in relation to Traveller accommodation. The idea of a HAP awareness campaign was proposed. It was suggested that IHREC may help support the campaign.

The amount of money that has been spent on the removal of knotweed was questioned, and a suggestion to replace the zeros on the report sheet with hyphens was made.

4.Estate Management and Maintenance Update:

A conditions survey has been carried out on all Traveller specific sites, and a report has been submitted to the Traveller Accommodation Unit
The actions taken will depend on the amount of funding that will be available.
80% of the Periodic Inspections on the sites have been done and new ones are ready to commence.
There were 23 PIR's carried out on estates.
Works continue on the heating systems on the Transient site, and stoves are being serviced on the Tuam Road site. Contractors have been contacted to address the dampness issues.

All fire inspections have been carried out, and fire safety packs have been distributed on the Transient site.
There is still no access for jetting works at the Cul Tra site.
There has been extensive jetting on the Tuam Road and Carrowbrowne sites. Weekly inspections at playgrounds are being carried out and over €6,500 has been spent on bait and pest management.

5. Capital Update:

The capital subgroup met on May 18th and there were no major updates to be highlighted.
The removal of the knotweed would be included in the tender by Respond.
It is hoped to have both the Keeraun and Doughiska sites completed by 2029.

6. Traveller Homelessness:

Quarter 2 Report
There are currently 11 single adults in Homeless services.
There are 5 single parent families and 14 two parent families in services now.
There have been 5 allocations to homeless families.
It was agreed that a stakeholder workshop would be invaluable.

7. LTACC Linkages:

There is an overlap between some members of the SPC committee and the LTACC and there is an opportunity for cooperation between both committees.
It was agreed to bring this up at the next SPC meeting.

8. Steps to strengthen ethnic identifier uptake:

A working group was established to explore how to increase the use of the Traveller

Identifier. One meeting took place to date and was attended by personnel from the GTM, Housing Agency and Council's Traveller Accommodation unit.
Further meetings are due to be held, and an update will be provided on the groups progress later in the year.

AOB:

A request was made to place the Carrowbrowne Transient Site Scoping Exercise and Cúl Trá Site Accommodation issues as individual items on future meeting agendas.
It was agreed to have the minutes circulated to members by June 29th, 2026, and to send the draft agenda to the GTM at least two weeks in advance of the next meeting.
Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 6th October 2026, 10:30 AM -12:30 PM.