

## **Aighneacht chuig Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe maidir le Plean an Chontae 2022-2028**

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### **Forbairt Eacnamaíocht, Fiontar, Turasóireachta agus Miondíola**

Tá fás soiléir sa Thionscal na Teilifíse agus Scannán le blianta beaga anuas agus chuir Fís Éireann agus geallsealbhóirí tionscail eile in iúl go láidir go bhfuil gá le spás breise stiúideo in Éirinn. Tacaíonn beartas an Rialtais le forbairt an tionscail, go háirithe i gcomhthéacs réigiúnach.

Aithníonn agus tógann Plean Eacnamaíoch agus Pobail Áitiúil Chathair na Gaillimhe 2016 “tábhacht ainmniúchán na Gaillimhe mar chathair Scannán UNESCO. Moladh luacha a fhorbairt maidir le neart Chathair na Gaillimhe do chuideachtaí dúchasacha agus FDI agus oideachas a chur ar eispéiris sa Scannán / Meán Digiteach / Spás Beochana. ”

Áitimid gur cheart do Chomhairle Contae na Gaillimhe plean gníomhaíochta a fhorbairt chun tionscal na scannán agus na teilifíse a chur chun cinn agus chun tacú leis. Is gá beartas poiblí a chalabrá go cúramach chun léiriúcháin soghluaiste idirnáisiúnta a mhealladh agus cinn intíre a fhorbairt. D’fhéadfadh na buntáistí cultúrtha agus eacnamaíocha a bhainfeadh leis a bheith suntasach.

Tá stair láidir ag Gaillimh i dtáirgeadh Teilifíse agus Scannán agus le fiche bliain anuas d’fhás sé mar ionad meán. In 2013, rinne an Dr. Patrick Collins Suirbhé ar an Tionscal Ciosamhairc in NUIG, a fuair amach go bhfuil tionscal scannán agus teilifíse suntasach ag cathair agus contae na Gaillimhe cheana féin ar fiú thart ar € 72m é don gheilleagar áitiúil agus a fhostaíonn os cionn 600 duine go lánaimseartha. .

Mar sin féin níl an méid obair chriticiúil fós ag réigiún na Gaillimhe chun an tionscal a chur ar aghaidh go dtí an chéad leibhéal eile agus chun sciar níos mó fós de chaiteachas léiriúchán na hÉireann a mhealladh. Mar shampla, tá sé de chumas ag sraith teilifíse idirnáisiúnta amháin atá ag rith ar feadh tréimhse fada méid an tionscail atá ann i nGaillimh a dhúbailt.

Is iad na buntáistí féideartha a ghineann léiriúcháin idirnáisiúnta ná:

- acmhainn agus scileanna áitiúla a fhorbairt
- rannchuidiú suntasach a dhéanamh leis an ngeilleagar áitiúil
- próifíl, dea-cháil agus íomhá áite a ardú

Áitimid nár cheart forbairt an bhonneagair sin a theorannú don tionscal Teilifíse agus Scannán ach do thionscail meán eile cosúil le beochan, cluichí ríomhaireachta, VFX agus iar-léiriúchán. Bheadh buntáistí socheacnamaíocha suntasacha agus fadtéarmacha ag Gaillimh do champas tiomnaithe do na tionscail seo.

Chomh maith le deiseanna fostaíochta atá sonrach laistigh den tionscal féin, is é ceann de na buntáistí dearfacha eile aitheanta atá ag tionscal na scannán agus na teilifíse ná Éire a chur chun cinn mar cheann an áit turasóireachta, trí radhairc agus cultúr na hÉireann a thaispeáint do lucht féachana ar fud an domhain.

Dúradh i staidéar a rinne Oxford Economics in 2012 go bhfuil scannáin a léiríonn an RA freagrach as timpeall an 10ú cuid d'ioncam turasóireachta, agus meastar go bhfuil caitheachas de thart ar £ 2.2 billiún in aghaidh na bliana dá bharr sin. Chruthaigh timthriall Lord of the Rings "geilleagar Frodo" don Nua-Shéalainn, bunaithe ar líon méadaithe na dturasóirí. Mar an gcéanna leis an scannán In Bruges (2008), le Colin Farrell agus Brendan Gleeson, a chruthaigh borradh sa turasóireacht don chathair mheánaoiseach.

In 2009, léirigh suirbhé turasóireachta Fáilte Ireland gur thug 18% de na turasóirí uile a thug cuairt ar Éirinn anseo mar thoradh ar Scannáin Éireann a fheiceáil. Is féidir € 369 milliún i gcaiteachas turasóireachta a chur ina leith seo. Chun leas a bhaint as seo, sheol Fáilte Ireland treoir tar líne arna spreagadh ag láithreacha a úsáideann scannánóirí idirnáisiúnta ar chósta thiar na hÉireann.

### **Saol Tuaithe & Turasóireacht**

Ar mhaithe le sláinte agus sábháilteacht an phobail áitiúil, turasóirí agus cuairteoirí cuirimid in iúl gur cheart go gcuirfí san áireamh sa bPlean Contae cosáin siúil agus rothaíochta a chur ar fáil agus a fheabhsú (i) ar na bóithre, agus (ii) le cladach.

Faoi mar atá ráite sa bpáipéar saincheisteanna a d'eisigh an Chomhairle Chontae, tá sé d'aidhm ag an gComhairle Chontae infrastruchtúr a chur ar fáil chun tacaíocht a thabhairt do ghéilleagar an phobail agus chun caighdeán maireachtála an phobail a fheabhsú. D'fhéadfadh cosáin chearta siúil agus rothaíochta (bealach glas agus bealach gorm) é seo a dhéanamh mar go gcabhródh siad go mór le caighdeán maireachtála an phobail, mar go mbeadh sé sábháilte siúl ar na príomhbhóithre agus le cladach. Laghdódh sé an lorg carbóin freisin mar go mbeadh sé sábháilte siúl in áit a bheith ag úsáid carranna agus busanna.

Áitimid go gcuirfeadh soláthar cosáin, conairí siúil agus rotharbhealaí feabhas mór ar chaighdeán maireachtála an phobail. Tá éileamh mór ar fheabhsaithe den sórt sin laistigh den phobal áitiúil.

Chuirfeadh stadanna bus le sábháilteacht coisithe. Tá fadhb mhór ann faoi láthair maidir le líon na rothaithe a úsáideann an R336 go rialta agus atá á gcur féin i mbaol agus tiománaithe i mbaol freisin mar gheall ar an drochbhail atá ar an mbóthar faoi láthair. Níl sé sábháilte agus tá sé mí-oiriúnach do rothaithe.

Áitimid go bhfuil easpa áiseanna sa cheantar faoi láthair inar féidir leat aclaíocht a dhéanamh mar theaghlach nó leat féin go sábháilte. D'fhéadfaí é seo a dhéanamh trí cosáin siúil agus cosáin rothaíochta a ar na príomhbhóithre agus cois na farraige, rud a thabharfadh an deis aclaíocht a dhéanamh go sábháilte.

Tá aclaíocht shábháilte lasmuigh níos tábhachtaí anois ná riamh agus muidne mar shochaí ag troid in aghaidh Covid-19 agus Coronavirus.

Áitimid má sholáthraíonn GCC an bonneagar a leagtar amach san aighneacht seo go gcuideodh sé go mór leis an tionscal turasóireachta níos leithne a thacaíonn agus a chothaíonn go mór leis an ngeilleagar áitiúil sa Ghaeltacht agus a chabhróidh ina dhiaidh sin le caighdeán maireachtála phobal na Gaeltachta a fheabhsú.

### **Bóthar Chois Fharráige R 336**

Faoi láthair is é an R 336 an t-aon phríomhbhóthar sa Ghaeltacht a fhreastalaíonn ar na h-úsáideoirí seo a leanas:

- Daoine atá ag obair soir ó Chonamara
- Daoine atá ag obair in áiteanna atá lonnaithe ar an R336
- Daoine atá ag taisteal ar chúiseanna pearsanta
- Daoine atá ag taisteal ar chúiseanna tráchtála
- Daoine atá ag taisteal atá fostaithe i dtionscal na meán
- Daoine atá ag taisteal mar thurasóirí nó mar chuairoteoirí

Go dtí seo, bhí moill de níos mó ná 20 bliain ar bhealach malartach a sheachadadh nó ar an mbóthar atá ann a fheabhsú chun plódú tráchtála a mhaolú agus seasamh an bhonneagair iompair sa Ghaeltacht a fheabhsú.

Áitimid go bhfuil sé ríthábhachtach do na daoine a chónaíonn siar ó chathair na Gaillimhe go mbogfar ar aghaidh le Seachbhóthar Seachtrach na Gaillimhe chomh tapa agus is féidir. Ag amanna áirithe den lá, tógann sé beagnach chomh fada taisteal ó Indreabhán go Mótarbhealach Bhaile Átha Cliath, agus a dhéanann sé chun an M50 a bhaint amach ar an taobh eile. Tá nascacht bóthair ríthábhachtach do ghnólachtaí sa cheantar.

### **Cead pleanála**

Braitheann inbhuanaitheacht aon phobail ar chumas lánúineacha óga socrú isteach sa cheantar, leanaí a thógáil sa cheantar sin agus cur go dearfach leis an bpobal. Gan athnuachan leanúnach a dhéanamh ar an gcleachtas seo, tá an daonra ag laghdú, agus ní bheidh aon duine fágtha sa deireadh.

Leis an meath tuaithe seo tagann meath ar thionscal, in institiúidí agus i ngrúpaí deonacha a choinníonn rath ar phobal. Dúnann scoileanna, dúnann siopaí, dúnann bialanna, dúnann gnólachtaí eile.

Tá sé ríthábhachtach go dtabharfaí cead pleanála do thithe nua nó chun seanáitribh a athchóiriú agus a leathnú do chainteoirí Gaeilge sa Ghaeltacht. Is iad teaghlaigh óga atá ina gcónaí sa Ghaeltacht bunphrionsabal an phróisis phleanála teanga atá ar bun i láthair na huairé. Seo beartas an Rialtais faoin straitéis 20 bliain don Ghaeilge.

## **Clúdach Fón Póca**

Tá droch-chlúdach fón póca i gCeantar Cois Fharráige faoi láthair. Ba cheart do GCC oibriú le hOibreoirí Teileachumarsáide chun feabhsú an líonra áitiúil a chur chun cinn.

## **Carrana Leictreacha**

Is réiteach féideartha ar shaincheisteanna aeráide iad E-charranna, ach níl aon phointí r-phoiblí siar ó Chathair na Gaillimhe. Má táthar chun úsáid e-charranna a mhéadú, is gá go mbeadh an bonneagar ann chun tacú leis na húsáideoirí, go háirithe i gceantair thuaithe.

## **Submission to Galway County Council in relation to the Galway County Development Plan 2022 – 2028**

### **Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism and Retail**

The Television and Film Industry has seen clear growth in recent years and Vision Ireland and other industry stakeholders have strongly emphasized the need for additional studio space in Ireland. Government policy supports the development of the industry, especially in a regional context.

The Galway City Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 recognizes and builds on the importance of Galway's designation as a UNESCO City of Film. Develop a value proposition on the strength of Galway City for indigenous companies and FDI and educate on Film / Digital Media / Animation Space experiences. "

We argue that Galway County Council should develop an action plan to promote and support the film and television industry. Public policy needs to be carefully calibrated to attract international mobile productions and develop domestic ones. The cultural and economic benefits could be significant.

Galway has a strong history in Television and Film Production and over the past two decades has grown as a media center. In 2013, Drs. Patrick Collins NUIG Audiovisual Industry Survey, which found that Galway city and county already has a significant film and television industry worth approximately € 72m to the local economy and employing over 600 people full time. .

However, the Galway region does not yet have the amount of critical work to take the industry to the next level and to attract an even greater share of Irish production expenditure. For example, one long-running international television series has the potential to double the size of the existing industry in Galway.

The potential benefits of international productions are:

- developing local capacity and skills
- make a significant contribution to the local economy

- raise the profile, reputation and image of a place

We argue that the development of such infrastructure should not be limited to the TV and Film industry but to other media industries such as animation, computer games, VFX and post-production. A dedicated campus for these industries would have significant and long - term socio - economic benefits for Galway.

In addition to industry-specific employment opportunities, one of the other recognized positive benefits of the film and television industry is to promote Ireland as a tourist destination, by showcasing Irish scenery and culture to worldwide audience.

A study by Oxford Economics in 2012 found that films shown by the UK account for around 10 per cent of tourism revenue, which is estimated to result in expenditure of around £ 2.2 billion a year. The Lord of the Rings cycle created a “Frodo economy” for New Zealand, based on increasing tourist numbers. The same goes for the film In Bruges (2008), starring Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson, which created a boom in tourism for the medieval city.

In 2009, a Fáilte Ireland tourism survey showed that seeing Irish Films resulted in 18% of all tourists visiting Ireland here. € 369 million in tourism expenditure can be attributed to this. To take advantage of this, Fáilte Ireland launched a location-inspired online guide used by international filmmakers on the west coast of Ireland.

### **Rural Life & Tourism**

In the interests of the health and safety of the local community, tourists and visitors we submit that the County Plan should include the provision and improvement of walking and cycling paths (i) on the roads, and (ii) on the shore.

As stated in the issues paper issued by the County Council, the County Council aims to provide infrastructure to support the community economy and to improve the quality of life of the community. Proper walking and cycling routes (greenway and blueway) could do this as they would greatly help the quality of life of the community, as it would be safe to walk on the main roads and the shore. It would also reduce the carbon footprint as it would be safer to walk instead of using cars and buses.

We argue that the provision of footpaths, walking trails and cycleways would greatly improve the quality of life of the community. There is a huge demand for such improvements within the local community.

Bus stops would increase pedestrian safety. There is currently a major problem with the number of cyclists who regularly use the R336 and who are putting themselves at risk and also at risk due to the current poor road condition. It is unsafe and unsuitable for cyclists.

We submit that there is currently a lack of facilities in the area where you can safely exercise as a family or on your own. This could be done by walking and cycling paths on the main roads and by the sea, thereby giving the opportunity to exercise safely.

Safe outdoor fitness is more important now than ever as we as a society fight Covid-19 and Coronavirus.

We submit that the infrastructure set out in this submission would be of great assistance to the wider tourism industry which greatly supports and sustains the local economy in the Gaeltacht and which in turn helps to improve the quality of life of the Gaeltacht community.

### **Bóthar Chois Fharráige R 336**

The R 336 is currently the only main road in the Gaeltacht serving the following users:

- People working east of Connemara
- People working in locations located on the R336
- People traveling for personal reasons
- People traveling for commercial purposes
- People employed in the media industry
- People traveling as tourists or visitors

To date, there has been a delay of more than 20 years in delivering an alternative route or improving the existing road to alleviate traffic congestion and improve the existing transport infrastructure in the Gaeltacht.

We submit that it is vital for those living west of Galway city to move forward with the Galway Outer Bypass as quickly as possible. At certain times of the day, it takes almost as long to travel from Inverin to the Dublin Motorway, as it does to reach the M50 on the other side. Road connectivity is vital for businesses in the area.

### **Planning permission**

The sustainability of any community depends on the ability of young couples to settle into the area, raise children in that area and make a positive contribution to the community. Without the constant renewal of this practice, the population is declining, and no one will be left in the end.

This rural decline leads to a decline in industry, institutions and voluntary groups that sustain community prosperity. Schools close, shops close, restaurants close, other businesses close.

It is vital that planning permission be granted for new houses or for the refurbishment and extension of old dwellings for Irish speakers in the Gaeltacht. Young families living in the Gaeltacht are the basic principle of the language planning process that is currently underway. This is the Government's policy under the 20-year strategy for the Irish language.

### **Mobile Phone Cover**

There is currently very poor mobile phone coverage in Cois Fharráige. The EPA should work with Telecommunications Operators to promote the improvement of the local network.

### **E-Cars Charging Points**

E-Cars are a possible solution to climate issues, however there are no public e-charging points west of Galway City along the R336. If there is to be a switch to the use of e-cars, the infrastructure to support the users' needs to be in place, particularly in rural areas.