



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

**Galway County Council**  
**Monthly Management Report**  
**May 2021**

---

## **Corporate Services**

### **Capital Play and Recreation Grant Scheme 2021**

Galway County Council's application under the Capital Play and Recreation Grant Scheme 2021 has been successful and a capital grant has been awarded as follows:

- **€6,637** has been awarded for the refurbishment of the playground at Gort Road, Loughrea.
- **€3,517** has been awarded for the refurbishment of St. Michael's Playground, Ballinasloe.
- **€5,714** has been awarded for the refurbishment of the playground at the Palace Grounds, Tuam.

The refurbishment of the 3 playgrounds will include the provision of communication boards on a pilot basis as an inclusive play initiative.

## **Economic Rural & Community Development**

### **COVID 19 Stability Fund (for information for Community and Voluntary Group - Direct Application to POBAL)**

The fund is targeted at organisations which deliver critical services to vulnerable people within their community, but which now face closure or a loss of service due to the impact of the pandemic.

- €10 million Covid Stability Fund to support community and voluntary groups, charities and social enterprises
- Supports for organisations which deliver critical services to the vulnerable
- Community centres providing social services can also apply for funding
- Fund to prioritise groups who have not received support since onset of pandemic

Examples of the organisations that can apply include those that provide:

- Family supports and supports for the elderly
- Domestic Abuse and addiction services
- Mental health and disability supports
- Education supports in disadvantaged communities
- Community centres that provide social services

The application website is open to provide the information required to support a strong and comprehensive application to the 2021 fund. Learning from the 2020 application process, the 2021 process is designed with a period of preparation factored in. This will allow organisations to gather the necessary information, prepare to input accurate information

onto the funding application form and to request guidance on any points they are unsure about.

The application portal will go live on 20 May with an application window until 3pm on 27 May 2021.

All of the application details can be found at <https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/covid-19-cv-stability-fund-2021/>

GCC contact is [communitygrants@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:communitygrants@galwaycoco.ie)

### **Community Enhancement Programme (CEP)**

The 2021 Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) will provide small grants designed to assist in the re-opening of facilities such as community centres, men's and women's sheds, parish halls and youth centres.

The grants will range from a few hundred euro up to €10,000, however, exceptions will be made depending on the application.

The funding is to help groups and clubs get back on their feet and may be used to carry out necessary renovations and repairs or to purchase equipment such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies, training equipment and so on.

The Community Enhancement Programme, which to date has supported over 8,000 projects, places a focus on supporting groups in disadvantaged areas.

The key theme of this year's programme is supporting groups as they re-open facilities which have been closed due to Covid-19.

The following provides a non-exhaustive list of projects that could receive funding under the programme:

- Development/renovation of community centres
- Once off maintenance of premises.
- Community amenities
- Development of youth clubs or facilities
- Development of sports/recreation facilities
- Improvements to town parks and common areas and spaces
- CCTV equipment
- Public realm improvements
- Streetscaping
- Development of play/recreation spaces
- Energy efficiency type projects
- Purchase of equipment
- Adaptations or equipment needed as a result of COVID-19

GCC contact is [communitygrants@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:communitygrants@galwaycoco.ie)

## CLÁR

The CLÁR programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) provides funding for small scale infrastructural projects in designated rural areas that have suffered significant levels of population decline (Measure 1 – Safety Measures at Schools or Community Facilities/Measure 2 – Outdoor Community Recreation Facilities Outdoor Community Recreation Facilities including seating areas, pavilion style structures, playgrounds and Multi-Use Games Areas including Skateboard Parks/Measure 3A – Community Gardens, Allotments & Sensory Gardens)

12 projects were submitted from Galway County by the closing date of May 7<sup>th</sup> 2021.

GCC contact is [clar@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:clar@galwaycoco.ie)

## Town & Village Renewal Scheme

Expressions of Interest should be submitted by completing the Galway County Council EO Form. (circulated previously to Members and available by contacting ERCD, [tandv@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:tandv@galwaycoco.ie) or on [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie) Community and Enterprise)

A Briefing will held for Members of the County Council on Thursday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am with staff from the Economic. Community and Rural Development Section, with an Invite Issuing by Email to Members. A further briefing will take place that evening for community organisations registered with the Galway Public Participation Network.

Each Local Authority is invited to submit up to 8 applications of varying scale under the 2021 Scheme as follows:

- 4 applications funding €20,000 to €100,000
- 2 applications funding €20,000 to €250,000
- 1 application funding €20,000 to €500,000
- 1 application funding up to €50,000 (New Project Development Measure)

The measures that will be supported by the 2021 Town and Village Renewal Scheme include:

Tackling dereliction in town centres

- Turning vacant properties into remote working and community spaces
- Supporting Local Authorities to run innovative marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers to their county
- Investing in green spaces, parks and recreational amenities
- Upgrading and improving shop fronts & streetscapes on Main Streets
- Projects that support and enhance the night time economy and add vibrancy to town centres

GCC contact is [tandv@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:tandv@galwaycoco.ie)

## Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure

Measure 1: Development of trails/walkways (Small Scale Repair/Development/Promotion and Marketing).

Grant Amounts: Up to €20,000. Deadline for 5pm 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

Eligible Applicants: Local Authorities (max. 7 and Local Development Companies max. 3)

Measure 2: Development of trails/walkways (Medium Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Trail/Amenity Development; Strategic Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail/Amenity Development)

Grant Amounts: Up to €200,000. Deadline for 5pm 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

Max. 3 applications may be submitted by each Local Authority.

Measure 3: Strategic Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail/Amenity Development .

Grant Amounts: Up to €500,000. Deadline for 5pm 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

Local Authorities and State Bodies will be confined to 1 application each under this Measure.

Project Development Measure: Development Costs for Strategic Large Scale Projects.

Grant Amounts: Up to €500,000. Deadline for 5pm 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

Eligible Applicants: Local Authorities

GCC contact is [OutdoorRecreation@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:OutdoorRecreation@galwaycoco.ie)

## Regeneration

The Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) supports the regeneration and development of rural town, villages and outlying areas with populations of under 10,000 through investment in coordinated and integrated community projects. Application calls are category 1 (capital development) or category 2 (project development and enabling initiatives). A number of RRDF projects are ongoing including Athenry, Tuam, Loughrea, Dunmore, Clifden and Portumna. The next call is a **category 2** call which relates to project development and enabling initiatives with a deadline of July 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 for completed applications. Category 2 proposals should address the detailed development of projects which would enable them to reach Category 1 readiness. Such work might encompass detailed design, preparation for the planning and/or procurement processes etc. Proposals may also cover expenditure on enabling initiatives, such as property or land purchase necessary to deliver major regeneration work in a town or village, provided the proposals are prepared subject to a

regeneration plan for the area concerned. Proposals can also include provision for the contracting of external assistance in relation to the above or the time of existing staff, subject to procurement requirements. The regeneration team are looking at a number of locations where potential regeneration projects may suit the requirements and objectives of this next call.

The Pilot Streetscape Enhancement Scheme for Athenry and Ballinasloe is ongoing. The grant scheme is open to both residential and commercial property owners where successful applications can be awarded 50% of the cost of qualifying works up to the maximum value of €4,000 per building. The aim of the streetscape enhancement scheme is to encourage investment in and to improve the character and visual appearance of the town centres as part of a wider regeneration programme, and to help instil pride and confidence in local towns. Priority will be given to full façade applications i.e. shop fronts and overhead, as well as applications submitted on a full street basis or for 5 or more adjacent buildings on one street.

GCC contact is [regeneration@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:regeneration@galwaycoco.ie)

### **Outdoor Dining Initiatives**

A number of schemes to support the business and tourism sector in developing the outdoor dining offering of our towns and villages as well as the potential for the development of key public spaces have recently been announced by Fáilte Ireland and the Local Authority is charged with facilitating the roll out of these initiatives in their geographical area. The schemes are broken down as follows;

#### Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality (direct support to businesses)

Applicants can apply to the Local Authority for a grant of up to €4,000 (for up to 75% of the ex-VAT cost of equipment purchased/installed). The types of eligible expenditure includes;

- Tables
- Chairs
- Umbrellas
- Electric heaters
- Screens/windbreaks
- Plant stands
- Wooden Platforms

Screens/windbreakers must be agreed with Galway County Council and will be subject to certain conditions; The scheme is currently for applications. Applicants can apply on [www.galway.ie/en/services/communityenterpriseeconomicdevelopment/grantschemes/outdoorseatingaccessoriesgrantscheme](http://www.galway.ie/en/services/communityenterpriseeconomicdevelopment/grantschemes/outdoorseatingaccessoriesgrantscheme)

The scheme will close on the 30/9/2021. Eligible expenditure must be incurred between 1st April 2020 and 30th September 2021 and payment will be made by Local Authorities to approved applicants on submission of receipts and photography of furniture in situ.

## Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme 2021 – Local Authority Weatherproofing & Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme

The Local Authority Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme is a new capital investment scheme for Local Authorities. The focus of this scheme is to upgrade and enhance streets and public spaces and implement weather proofing solutions which will facilitate year-round outdoor dining in key tourism centres. It will focus on city and town centres that present the greatest opportunity to generate tourism impact and an optimum number of year-round outdoor dining spaces. Each Local Authority can apply for up to €200,000 under the Scheme.

## Urban Animation Scheme – Local Authority Animation Capital Investment Scheme).

This Scheme aims to support local authorities in ambitious, creative, innovative and sustainable public realm projects that are inspired by the unique identity of place and integrated into a long-term vision to re-imagine and transform the destination. Proposed projects should be located in a permanently pedestrianised, or partially pedestrianised space/street/zone. Applications by the Local Authority must be of the scale with a minimum value of €250,000. There is no maximum value but the national fund available is €5m and it is anticipated that in that 10 projects will be funded in key tourism destinations that meet specified criteria.

GCC contact is [outdoorspaces@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:outdoorspaces@galwaycoco.ie)

## **Re-imagining our Outdoor Public Spaces**

Under this pilot scheme, local authorities are therefore invited to propose capital projects for outdoor spaces which are flexible, innovative and facilitate year-round use. Ideally projects should respond to the challenges associated with COVID-19 and support the recovery of the creative, cultural, entertainment and events sector as well as being future-proofed from a health and safety perspective. Each local authority can apply for up to €250,000 for a single project under the scheme and would itself provide match funding of 10%. Funding in kind will not be acceptable.

GCC contact is [artsoffice@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:artsoffice@galwaycoco.ie)

## **Other work within the section with key dates**

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Next meeting is June 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 9.30am

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Next meeting is June 30<sup>th</sup> @ 10am

Community & Cultural Development SPC Next meeting is late June 2<sup>nd</sup> (TBC)

## **Libraries**

Present situation in the Library Service

All 29 Galway Libraries are open since Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May. The public will be able to avail of the following services

- Browsing book shelves
- Returning items
- Printing
- Scanning
- Photocopying

There will be a limit on the numbers allowed in at any one time and the amount of time one can spend within to ensure social distancing. (20 mins max). Face coverings must be worn, and hand sanitizer will be provided at each library entrance.

The Mobile Library Service is also operational since that date providing a full schedule of stops. The Schools Service has continued to provide a service to Schools since their reopening earlier this year.

All Online Services continue and all library events continue to be provided online for the moment.

We await further easing of restrictions which would allow public pc access and access to study spaces but no date as yet as to when that might happen.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE**

### **Céibh Inis Oírr**

The Minister of Community and Rural Affairs has approved the Business Case for the redevelopment of Céibh Inis Oírr. The estimated cost of the project is €15million. This will provide long awaited protection to the pier structure and mitigate serious health and safety issues. The proposed redevelopment will provide scope for the additional traffic which has arisen at the pier and encourage further growth of the tourist industry to the island. The council will now finalise tender documents, progress completion of foreshore license and CPO.

### **Fishery, Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme**

The following grant approval has been offered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (and accepted) for minor works under the harbour and development scheme:



<b>Project</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Max 75% grant</b>
<b><i>Inishbofin</i></b> Harbour minor works	€138,984	€104,238
<b><i>Cleggan</i></b> minor works and repair of crane	€90,800	€68,100
<b><u>Safety Bundle 1</u></b> Aughrusmor, Árd Mór, Kilkieran, Aibhnin, Maumeen, Caladh Feenish, Trawbaun	€75,000	€56,250
<b><i>Derryinver</i></b> minor works	€50,000	€37,500
<b><i>An t-Oileán Mór</i></b> minor works	€22,000	€16,500
<b><u>Safety Bundle 2</u></b> Rinville, Blackweir, Killeenaran, Tarrea, Kinvara, Parkmore, Newtown Lynch	€50,000	€37,500
<b><i>Garafin</i></b> minor works	€34,000	€25,500

Strict conditions are attached to availing of the grant. Only works that can be commenced, completed and paid for within the specified dates are eligible. Non construction costs are not covered by the programme. Evidence of completion is required in advance of full draw down by 12 November 2021.

### **South Galway Flood relief scheme**

The feasibility report is complete and published. Public Consultation on options commenced in February 2021, remotely via website. With the easing of public health related restrictions, it is now possible to engage in consultation with landowners on site and this will begin by the end of May 2021. Following consultation with the OPW and Minister the Public Consultation period has been extended and this will be advertised in local newspapers and on local radio. Closing date for the completion of the public consultation process is Sat 26<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Local Improvement Schemes**

GCC has received notification of the announcement of funding of the 2021 LIS Scheme by DRCD on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021 with GCC receiving an allocation of €876,959.

The terms and conditions of the scheme are broadly similar to other years with one significant change – It is no longer a requirement that roads accessing agricultural holdings must be open to the public.

Evaluations & costing of Schemes are currently being processed by our MD staff. On completion of same, a Priority list and supplementary list will be submitted to the Department

by the specified date – 11<sup>th</sup> June for approval. A formal Letter of Offer will be then issued from DRCD outlining approval of the priority list of roads.

Once the offer is formally accepted, funding can be distributed to carry out the works to the priority list of schemes.

### **N59 Moycullen By-Pass**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> April Galway County Council invited the five shortlisted tenderers to participate in Stage 2 of the tendering process for the N59 Moycullen Bypass. The return date for the tender submission is the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2021.

The tender assessment and award process is expected to be completed before the end of July with construction commencing in October or November.

### **Athlone to Galway Greenway**

There were over 11,000 submissions during Public Consultation Nr 2 from the public and communities along the various route options and in general these submissions were very positive. Also, additional letters, including a landowner engagement newsletter, were sent at the end of April, start May to 8,500 landowners within the various consultation areas along the 5 route corridor options. To date over 500 responses from landowners by telephone and 100 emails have been received.

The Project Liaison Officer team have commenced communications with these landowners and are now in a position to have face to face meetings, outdoors, whilst at all times assuring compliance with current government guidelines in relation to COVID 19. These meetings will facilitate the project team in developing an overview of the consultation areas and route corridors options where landowners are amenable to engaging in the process and project going forward.

### **NTA Active Travel**

At the start of the month GCC received confirmation from the NTA of authorisation of funding for additional resources to manage the NTA's Active Travel Programme. The primary aim of this funding is to support the development of high-quality cycling and walking infrastructure across the county. Following representation by the council regarding the adequacy of resources proposed for the programme, the National transport Authority has recently confirmed an allocation of 4 staff initial for the programme. This is a welcome improvement on the 2 posts originally notified. Arrangements to obtain the necessary sanctions to facilitate recruitment are already under way.

The NTA has acknowledged that there may be a need for additional staff beyond the posts currently authorised but has encouraged Local Authorities to proceed initially with the authorised posts and notify the NTA of the basis of any future further requirements.

## HOUSING DIRECTORATE

Galway County Council has been allocated the Disabled Persons Grant Scheme and Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme 2021 of €1,066,66 (€959,99 Dept & €106,667 own contribution) for 82 DPGs and 6 extensions. This is for Council owned properties. This amounts to over €650k more than in 2020.

The Housing Grants (Adaptation/Older People/Mobility Grants) for private houses amounts to €2,920,479.

To date for 2021:

<b>Name</b>	<b>No of grants paid</b>	<b>Paid at 25/02/2021</b>
HAG	17	€244,188.00
MAG	30	€116,233.50
HAOP	57	€315,517.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>€675,938.50</b>

312 have been approved and in workflow (contractors carrying out works etc)

389 applications were submitted but await further information (no quotes/income details etc.) We have not 'closed' any applications as 'unsuccessful' on further information grounds hence the large number.

184 applications received and at start of workflow.

### **Housing Build – Cluain Ortha, Craughwell**

Project Development & Part 8 planning 2017/18

Dept Approval/Tender/Temporary site development 2019

Build Programme 2020

Handover 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.



The project team from Housing Maintenance & Estate Management developed and managed the project with C&N Construction. This process involved development of a temporary site and demolishing full previous halting site. The engagement of residents and management of the capital programme all took place during the covid 19 period, and the project was delivered on time and budget (approx. 2m) for 8 new houses and 2 serviced bays. The temporary site was removed, and the tenancies began on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2021 with full occupancy completed in 4 working days.

## Energy Retrofit

A socially distanced meeting was held between the residents of Cloughbrack Estate/NUIG & the Housing Maintenance team to discuss the Energy Retrofit programme; this discussed issues regarding costs, ongoing maintenance, savings, energy consumption etc.

A second meeting for Shannon Park is also to be developed for the programme.

## PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT, & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Please be advised that the Draft County Development Plan has now been published with a ten-week public consultation running from 20 May.

Members are reminded that this two-year process is due to be completed with the adoption of the final County Development Plan in May 2022.

Submissions or observations from members of the public are invited during this ten-week period.

The Draft Plan is available for viewing on <https://consult.galway.ie/> and also during public opening hours **as restrictions permit** in libraries across the County and in the Planning Section, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae.

Written submissions/observations can now be made up until **4PM on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021**.

Submissions/Observations can be made as follows:

### **Online**

On the Galway County Development Plan website: <https://consult.galway.ie/>

Or

### **In Writing to:**

Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Planning Department, Prospect Hill, Galway

### Historic Structures Fund and the Re-opening of Irish Language Shop front Stream

Galway County Council has secured **€50,000** for 2 projects under the Historic Structures Fund for 2021. The projects are Cill Einde in An Spideal and Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Colmcille Church Leitirmoir.

In addition Government has announced the reopening of applications to the Irish-language shopfront stream of the Historic Structures Fund 2021. In conjunction with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media a fund of €100,000 has been made available for eligible projects under this stream.

Each Local Authority is invited to submit, by 8 June, one application for eligible essential repairs and small capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of an historic Irish-language shop facade, windows, signage and other associated details to safeguard them and keep them in use. Grants of between €15,000 and €50,000 and covering up to 80% of eligible costs will be awarded under this stream.

The scheme will be advertised through the Forward Planning unit and further information is available by contacting Mairin Doddy, Conservation Officer.

### Ireland's Walled Towns Network and Community Grants Funding

Galway County Council has secured **€67,000** for projects under the Walled Towns Network for Athenry and Loughrea.

In addition **€62,500** has been awarded to community groups across the county for xxx projects for 2021. The Heritage unit of the Planning Department works very closely with community groups in encouraging and assisting applications under the scheme. Successful applications under this tranche of funding are:

Galway County	CH13420	Dunmore Heritage Group c/o Dunmore Tidy Towns	The aim of our project is to develop a publicly accessible Digital Multi-Media StoryMap which will highlight the history and development of Dunmore Town from Medieval Times to the present day.	€6,848
Galway County	CH14852	Glinsk Community Development Society Ltd.	Conservation report for Ballinakill Abbey(Glinsk, Co Galway) GA007 - 035004	€5,000
Galway County	CH14900	South East Galway IRD	Museum Upgrade Project 2021	€14,000

Galway County	CH14944	Attymon Development Group	Attymon 19th Century Goods Shed Roof Project: Phase 1 Conservation repair works	€14,800
Galway County	CH14841	Gurteen & Dogs Bay Conservation	Updating the conservation management plan at Gurteen and Dogs Bay, Roundstone, Connemara	€4,700
Galway County	CH12337	Kilconly St, Andrew's Conservation Group	Repair works to St, Andrews former church building for re-use as a remote working hub.	€15,000
Galway County	CH13596	Skehana & District Heritage Group	Skehana & District old photograph conservation project	€2,153

### **National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) Grant 2020-2021**

Galway County Council has secured **€48,182** in grant funding through the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the following projects:

Wetlands Project to the amount of **€ 12,750**

Barn Owl Survey to the amount of **€7,453**

Yellowhammer Survey to the amount of **€ 2,550**

Biodiversity and Pollinator Awareness project to the amount of **€ 9,220**

Management Plan for Gunnera & Giant knotweed to the amount of **€16,209**

### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021**

Galway County Council was allocated **€94,800** under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme administered by the Department of Housing , Local Government and Heritage for repairs to Protected Structures. Below is an outline of the successful applications.

Former Presbyterian Church, Society Street , Ballinasloe, Co. Galway External joinery repair €5,800.00

The Cottage Whistlebridge, Craughwell, Co. Galway Thatching €2,500.00

St Brendan's Cathedral, Loughrea, Co. Galway Roof repair €8,000.00

Park Cottage, The Mall, Eyrecourt, Galway External joinery repair €2,500.00

The Bay , Woodford, Co. Galway Roof repair €7,000.00

Main Street loughrea, Co. Galway Internal joinery €5,000.00

ESKER Monastery , Co. Galway Roof repairs €5,000.00

Cottage , Cluide Corrandulla, Co. Galway Lime rendering €3,000.00

Moorfield House Eyrecourt, Co. Galway External joinery repair €5,000.00

Church of Immaculate Conception , Oughterard, Co. Galway Roof repair €5,000.00

St Patrick's Church Derrybrien, Co. Galway External joinery repair €5,000.00  
Oranhill, Oranmore, Co. Galway Roof and render repair €5,000.00  
ffrench mausoleum, Monivea, Co. Galway Prevent water ingress an €5,000.00  
St Brendans Church Annaghdown, Co. Galway External joinery repairs €5,000.00  
Clareville House, Oughterard, Co. Galway Repair of external joinery €5,000.00  
Cartron House , Aghrim, Co. Galway Masonry repair €3,000.00  
Kilcummin Parish church, Co. Galway Consolidate masonry €5,000.00  
The Forge , Gort, Co. Galway Roof repair €3,000.00  
Rockmore House, Co. Galway Roof repair €5,000.00  
Lissbeg House, Co. Galway Repair external joinery €5,000.00

### **Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) 2021**

Following the launch of the Anti-Dumping Initiative for 2021 by the Department, the Environment unit made applications for a number of projects across the County in our continued efforts to deal with illegal dumping.

The Council has secured **€129,700** for 12 projects which include a number of clean ups in black spot areas, bulky goods collection, erection of barriers and fencing at particular locations. In addition, we have been successful in securing funding for a number of awareness raising projects and for the implementation of an app for the issuing of litter fines and a web portal to facilitate online payment of same.

### **€5 million Anti Littering Infrastructure/Capital Supports Outdoor Spaces and Covid 19**

The anticipated easing of Covid 19 restrictions and the emphasis on outdoor living is expected to drive higher levels of outdoor dining and domestic tourism. To support anti-littering efforts in that context, the Department is providing at least an additional €5m in supports which will build upon existing programmes. The financial supports will help to address the high level of public interest and concern about litter levels.

Galway County Council is currently preparing an application for funding under the scheme to increase our preparedness for the projected impacts of the re-opening.

**M I S E , L E M E A S ,**

**Mr. Jim Cullen**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Galway County Council**

**20<sup>th</sup> May, 2021**