



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT

FOR 2024

Submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission
in compliance with the Public Spending Code

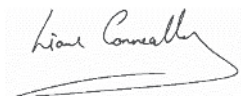
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Certification

This Quality Assurance Report reflects Galway County Council's assessment of compliance with the Public Spending Code. It is based on the best financial, organisational and performance related information available across the various areas of responsibility.



Liam Conneally

Chief Executive

Galway County Council

Date: 30th May 2025

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Introduction

The [Public Spending Code \(PSC\)](#) was developed by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (D/PER) and it applies to both current and capital expenditure and to all public bodies in receipt of public funds. According to D/PER, the PSC brings together, in one place, details of the obligations of those responsible for spending public money. As local authority funding derives from a number of sources, including grants from several Government Departments, it was decided that the Chief Executives of individual local authorities should be responsible for carrying out the quality assurance requirements in Part A04 of the PSC and that their reports should be submitted to the [National Oversight and Audit Commission](#) for incorporation in a composite report for the local government sector.

Galway County Council has completed this Quality Assurance (QA) Report as part of its ongoing compliance with the PSC, which aims to ensure that the State achieves value for money in the use of public funds.

The report presents the results of each of the 5 steps of the QA process, as set out below, and aims to gauge the extent to which the Council is meeting the obligations set out in the Public Spending Code.

The Guidance Note¹ issued to the Local Government Sector by the Finance Committee of the County and City Management Association has been used to complete the QA process in Galway County Council.

Quality Assurance Reporting

The Public Spending Code requires public bodies to establish an internal, independent, quality assurance procedure involving annual reporting on how organisations are meeting their Public Spending Code obligations. This obligation involves a 5-step process as follows:

Step 1 - Draw up inventories of projects/programmes at the different stages of the Project Life Cycle. The person responsible for the Quality Assurance process should be satisfied that they have a full and complete inventory.

Step 2 - The Organisation should publish summary information on its website of all procurements in excess of €10m, related to projects in progress or completed in the year under review. A new project may become a “project in progress” during the year under review if the procurement process is completed and a contract is signed.

Step 3 - Complete the 7 checklists contained in the PSC. Only one of each checklist per Department/Agency/Local Authority is required. Checklists are not required for each project/programme. The QA process for verifying the accuracy of responses on the checklist is based on a sample of projects/programmes and is Step 4 of the process.

Step 4 - Carry out a more in-depth check on a small number of selected projects/programmes.

¹ Public Spending Code (PSC) Quality Assurance Requirements: A Guidance Note for the Local Government Sector, Version 4

Step 5 - Complete a short summary report for the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC). The report, which will be generated as a matter of course through compliance with steps 1-4, should be submitted by the end of May in respect of the previous calendar year.

Step 1: Project/Programme Inventory

The Project Inventory sets out the list of all projects with activity in 2024 and which have a total project life cost of €500,000 or more. As specified in the PSC Quality Assurance Requirements – A Guidance Note for the Local Government Section, Version 4, capital projects which have been listed in previous PSC reports in the Expenditure Being Incurred category remain in this category year on year until the project is complete. The inventory is broken down into capital and current expenditure and consists of three categories:

- Expenditure being considered
- Expenditure being incurred
- Expenditure recently ended

The complete inventory is contained in [Appendix 1](#)

The Inventory contains 130 projects across the three categories and comprises of a total value of €1,207,777,680. The inventory was compiled using the format recommended in the guidance note² from the CCMA. The list contains relevant services from the Council's Annual Financial Statement 2024 in respect of the current expenditure and a list of relevant capital projects/programmes verified by project owners, for capital expenditure.

Step 2: Summary of Procurements in excess of €10 million.

In compliance with the second step of the QA process, there was no procurement in excess of €10 million on the inventory for 2024. Details are published on [Galway County Council's website](#).

Step 3: Checklist Completion

The third step of the Quality Assurance process involves the compilation of a number of checklists, seven in total:

Checklist 1: General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes

Checklist 2: Capital Expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval

Checklist 3: Current expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval

Checklist 4: Incurring Capital Expenditure

Checklist 5: Incurring Current Expenditure

Checklist 6: Capital Expenditure recently completed

Checklist 7: Current expenditure that

- (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe, or
- (ii) was discontinued

The completed checklists for Galway County Council are contained in [Appendix 2](#) and a summary table is contained in [Appendix 3](#).

² PSC Quality Assurance Requirements – A Guidance Note for the Local Government Section, Version 4

Compliance Statement:

The checklists were completed based on checklists returned under each of the 3 categories, where appropriate, explanatory comments are provided, in addition to self-assessed scores.

For both capital and current expenditure, the checklists indicate a satisfactory level of compliance with the requirements of the PSC and there are indications that there is scope for further improvement in certain aspects. No serious issues or concerns were evident during the completion of this step of the QA process.

Checklist 1 indicates a high level of compliance with the PSC in terms of provision and development of appropriate guidelines and awareness in the organisation. In relation to capital expenditure, **Checklist 2** shows a good level of compliance with the code and identifies areas of improvement in terms of establishing and gathering information on performance indicators. **Checklist 3** shows that no new current expenditure programmes were under consideration in 2024. **Checklists 4 and 6** show a satisfactory level of compliance. **Checklist 7** did not apply as there was no current expenditure recently ended.

Step 4: In-Depth Checks

The PSC – QA requirements states that the value of the projects selected for in depth review each year must follow the criteria set out below:

- Revenue Projects: Projects selected must represent a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue Projects on the Project Inventory.
- Capital Projects: Projects selected must represent a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital projects on the Project Inventory.

This minimum is an average over a three year period. The same projects should not be selected more than once in a three year period unless it is a follow up to a serious deficiency discovered previously.

The completed in-depth checks for Galway County Council are contained in

[Appendix 4 - Revenue Project Quality Assurance In-depth Check](#)

[Appendix 5 - Capital Project Quality Assurance In-depth Check](#)

4.1 Current (Revenue) Programme - Summary

Expenditure Type – Being Incurred

Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Galway County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review of a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue Projects on the PSC inventory list, averaged over a three-year period.

Calculation of Audit Sample - QA Report 2024	2024
In-Depth Check - Revenue	
Total Value of Revenue Projects	184,672,737
Total value of REVENUE Projects Audited	6,034,168

Relevant % (Cap Projects Audited / REVENUE Projects Value)	3.27%
% Review 3-year Average	2.79%

For 2024, the Internal Audit Unit selected the following service division for review as part of the in-depth check with respect to current expenditure.

This represents 3.27% of the total value of all current (revenue) projects identified in the inventory list for 2024, with a 2.79% average over a 3-year period.

As part of Budget 2024, the government signed off on a package of €257m for the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) grant as a vital measure for small and medium businesses. Local Authorities, funded through the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, were tasked with the rollout of the grant to qualifying businesses. Eligible businesses will receive a once-off grant payment as a contribution towards the rising costs faced by businesses. The grant is based on the value of the Commercial Rates bill received by an eligible business in 2023.

The ICOB was a once off initiative lead by the LGMA. The lessons learned document is key source of information to assess areas in the implementation of the scheme which could be done better, should a similar scheme be launched again. The scheme was very much timeline driven and the Local Authorities were advised to prioritise the processing of the grant with no additional resources being provided. It is noted that the ICOB2 was restricted to a particular category of business, while the category wasn't a key criterion for the first ICOB grant, however when ICOB2 was introduced, it became a deciding factor with regard eligibility and caused certain difficulties for the applicants and administration of the scheme.

The overall objective to provide financial aid was met, with 1,808 compliant rate account holders in Galway County receiving 3,246 ICOB grants amounting to €6,034,168.

Audit Opinion

On the completion of this in-depth review of the service division D0906 – Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOBs), Internal Audit has formed the opinion that this Revenue Expenditure Programme appears to be **broadly compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

4.2 Capital Programme – Summary

Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Galway County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review of a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital Projects on the PSC inventory list, averaged over a three-year period. The overall estimated lifetime value of Galway County Council's Capital Projects in 2024 was €1,023,104,943. In-depth review was carried out on 8.37% of the value of these projects.

Calculation of Audit Sample - QA Report 2021	2024
In-Depth Check - Capital	
Total Value of Projects - Capital	€1,023,104,943
Total value of CAPITAL Projects Audited	€85,611,673

Relevant % (Cap Projects Audited / CAPITAL Projects Value)	8.37%
% Review 3 year Average	5.50%

Capital Project 1: South Galway/Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme

Expenditure Type: Being Incurred

Project Cost: € 24,000,000

This project involves the assessment and development of a flood relief scheme and other measures to manage the existing flood risk, and the potential for significant increases in this risk due to climate change, ongoing development and other pressures that may arise in the future, in South Galway/Gort Lowlands area. Both engineering and environmental consultants have been appointed to progress the scheme along with specialist expertise from Trinity College Dublin, who undertook Flood Modelling of the Gort Lowlands area. The scheme is being progressed in conjunction with the Office of Public Works (OPW) who acknowledge the difficulties experienced in South Galway due to flooding and agreed in principle to funding the scheme to Stage 1 – Strategic Assessment & Preliminary Business Case. Stage 1 is near completion, which is anticipated to reach Gate 1 approval by September 2025.

Capital Project 2: Clifden Flood Relief Scheme

Expenditure Type: Being Incurred

Project Cost: € 5,300,000

The Office of Public Works (OPW) advised Galway County Council (GCC) that a potential flood relief scheme was recommended for Clifden as part of the National Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP), published in 2018. The FRMP is based on the outputs from the Catchment-Based Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS) for the Western Basin (Unit of Management 32), which includes the Clifden area. The proposed scheme detailed an earthen embankment 0.3-1.2m high and approx. 300m long at Clifden Glen. Combined with a 1.2m high wall/embankment at Low Road approx. 150m long. The need for the project was derived following the publication of the FRMP and CFRAMS, which have both been reviewed at the start of the project. The Scheme Area for this Project is the town of Clifden, including the Clifden Glen Holiday Village. Some areas within Clifden that have a history of flooding include Clifden Glen Holiday Village, Low Road and Riverside. The proposed scheme is currently at Stage 1 of the Infrastructure Guidelines, with the anticipation that Gate 1 approval in principle would be obtained in Q2 2025.

Capital Project 3: Inis Oírr Pier Development

Expenditure Type: Being Considered

Project Cost: € 38,521,658

The proposed project at Inis Oírr is to address the safety risk associated with overtopping resulting in the closure of the pier on occasions. In addition to serving as the main access point to the island for foot passengers, the pier is also used for cargo and potable water deliveries to the island. This leads to severe congestion on occasions, particularly during the summer months when large crowds come to the island. The Inis Oírr Pier Development proposal includes the construction of a 90m long concrete pier and a

seawall, raising of an existing seawall on the concrete pier, internal & external breakwater, dredging & ancillary site work including lighting.

Planning permission was granted in 2007, due to the downturn in the economy the project was deferred for a period and was brought back into the work programme in 2017 whereby a project engineer was appointed and fully funded to progress the project. Engineering consultants were appointed in 2018. The project is currently at Stage III – Post-tender Final Business case of the lifecycle, whereby the final business case has been submitted for Ministerial approval which is anticipated in Q2 2025. The post-tender business case includes a revision of costings which now has the project at a projected lifetime cost in excess of €38.5M. Subject to approval, contract award for works and commencement of construction is expected in Q3, 2025.

Capital Project 4: Turnkey - 22 Units at Lakeview, Glenamaddy
Expenditure Type: Complete

Project Cost: €6,190,000

In 2022 Galway County Council embarked on a public advisement campaign through local newspapers and the Council's media outlets seeking Expression of Interest (EOI) for Turnkey Developments within urban settlement/town/villages and provided a briefing document for interested parties. Applications were received by 31st October 2022. One of the proposals from this EOI was for this project, which was completed in 2024 at Lakeview Glenamaddy. The development comprises of 22 residential units which are situated to the rear of an established residential development also known as Lakeview. The development was approved for planning permission under planning reference 20/493. It comprises of a mixture of 2,3 and 4 bedroom terraced, semi-detached and detached dwellings which range in size from 87sqm to 130sqm. The units were completed late 2023/early 2024 and at year end 31/12/2024, all units were fully occupied, housing a total of 64 tenants, 41 adults and 23 children (under 18).

Records relating to the project are maintained electronically on the Housing internal drive/Document Library. Financial claims to the department have been submitted and are fully recouped. From the Internal Audit's in-depth review, I am satisfied that the necessary data and information was available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date and that it is **broadly compliant** with the requirement of the Public Spending Code.

Capital Project 5: N7/2/346– Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada
Expenditure Type: Being Incurred

Project Cost: €11,600,015

On March 2022, Galway County Council advertised in regional/local newspapers, social media outlets & Galway County Council websites seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for 'Advance Purchase Arrangements of Un-commenced Residential Developments through Turnkey Agreements'. A briefing document was made available for prospective applicants. The closing date for EOI was 31st March 2022. 20 submissions were received by the closing date and were assessed in line with the pass/fail criteria based on Location, Land Zoning Status, Utilities & Services and Affordability Gain. Housing needs assessment for the area was reviewed and given the high demand for the Ballinasloe area, a Capital Appraisal submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage was made on 4th May 2022

A Capital Appraisal proposal for the project was drafted for the acquisition of 34 Turnkey units. The development was a greenfield site in Kilgarve, Ballinasloe, which had planning permission granted by An Bord Pleanála (ABP) in October 2021. It was the first phase of a two-phase development. The submission was made to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government in May 2022, requesting funding approval for the acquisition of 34 units at Kilgarve in Ballinasloe. Departmental approval was received along with budget allocation in June 2022. Three claims were submitted to the Department at year end 31/12/2024, with final account and final claim to be submitted mid 2025.

Audit Opinion

A broad spectrum of capital projects was selected for reviewed by Internal Audit for 2024. Five projects in total were reviewed, as outlined above. All documentation was available in electronic format and records were kept in a relatively structured manner for easy retrieval. The range of documentary evidence reviewed in this in-depth check for each of the five capital projects mentioned above enables Internal Audit to provide the opinion that Galway County Council appears to be **broadly compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

Step 5: Summary Report for NOAC

The Galway County Council has completed the necessary steps in the QA process and has prepared the required inventory showing all relevant expenditure.

There are no new procurements in excess of €10m requiring publishing for 2024. Details are published on [Galway County Council's website](#).

The PSC QA Report for 2023 & previous years has been published on the website. The PSC QA Report for 2024 will also be published on the website in due course.

The checklists and in-depth checks have demonstrated a good level of compliance with the Public Spending Code, with no major issues or concerns being highlighted through the process. The areas in need of development that have been identified in this report and summarised below; will continue to be improved upon, ensuring a continued high compliance with the PSC within the County Council.

- Continuous Training: Identify key staff in each section for further training in relation to the PSC and implement PSC awareness throughout the organisation, in line with the PSC and the Corporate Procurement Plan. More in-depth training to be provided to staff.
- Project Managers are to be briefed on the use of the checklists with an easy to access version to be made available via SharePoint or similar.
- The findings and recommendations of the in-depth evaluation checks performed by Internal Audit will further strengthen the Public Spending Code compliance in the organisation.
- The Council must ensure that Key staff / Project Managers / Procurement Team are in place on a continuous basis to implement PSC guidelines.

- Ensure the Council keeps abreast of PSC initiatives & apply as necessary

Overall, the Quality Assurance exercise has provided reasonable assurance to the Management of the Council that the requirements of the Public Spending Code are being met and therefore **broadly compliant**.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - 2024 Inventory

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)						
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Project/Programme Anticipated	Projected Lifetime Expenditure
Tuam Town Hall	Cat 1 Project (April 2022) - Proposed redevelopment of former Town Hall to provide remote working hub and community spaces.			-	2030	2,000,000
KILCUMMIN FIELD, OUGHTERAID 01119403	20 Turnkey				3 years	7,271,702
KILCUMMIN FIELD, OUGHTERAID 01119201	2 Part V				3 years	608,615
CAP 01021519 Springfield, Ballinasloe	AHB - 4 units			-	3 years	611,060
WESTPORT ROAD, CLIFDEN	Landbank utilisation for Housing				3 years	8,100,000
Moneyduff, Oranmore 01119147	Turnkey - 19 - 27 units				3 years	6,820,000
Bilberry Lane, & Danesfort Loughrea no Job Code	Part Vs 22 units				3 years	25,185,000
Moylough 01119383	Turnkey 33 units plus 40 units				3 years	6,820,000
Apt 1 - 19 Block A & Block B, Clos an Iara, Dominic St, Portumna	Turnkey - 22				3 years	3,415,500
CAP 01021645 - Shannon Road, Portumna 4 units - C41-90000121	Turnkey - 19 Units			675	3 years	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
	Construction 4 units				3 years	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
	9 turnkey plus 5 Part V units			-	3 years	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
Gilligans Bar Tuam	7 units				TBD	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
An Doirin, Ballyquirke, Moycullen	15 units				TBD	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
Loughrea Fire Station 05041069	This project involves the construction of a new fire station in Loughrea.				TBD	Remains as no spend in 2024 - Planning approved
Brigade Mechanics Workshop 05041070	This project will provide facilities for the Brigade Mechanic, currently no facilities provided.			2,214	5 years	planning approved
New Fire Service HQ & Central Fire Station, Galway City	Upgrade the Capital FireService Infrastructure.				3 years	Design Tender done.
Ins1s Orrr Pier Development 02023566	The Business Case for Ins1s Orrr Pier Extension was approved in April 2021 by the Minister (Dept. Community and Rural Development). The procurement process for a works contractor is currently underway with works commencement scheduled for mid year 2024.			208,602	2026	22,000,000
N65 Kilmeen Cross Junction improvement scheme	To prioritise the national road through this junction to enhance and upgrade accessibility between the urban centres of Loughrea and Portumna.				2027	2,200,000
N59 Oughteraid Bridge	An improved road alignment for the N59 over the Owenriff river in the town of Oughteraid.				2026	3,000,000
N59 Kentfield	This is a safety scheme. It is a proposed realignment and widening of the existing N59 road commencing in the townland of Kentfield in the north west of the town of Tuam and extending south to the town of Tuam City 500m - Pedestrians. Application to ADP is being submitted.			111,191	2026	1,000,000
AT N67 South of Ballindereen cycleway	This scheme proposes to provide a dedicated 2.5m wide combined cycle/pedestrian facility of 750m in length from south of Ballindereen village. In order to complete the connectivity for recreational cyclists and pedestrians from Ballindereen to just north of Kinvara.			129	2025	1,600,000
Contemara-Derrygimlagh-Clifden-Kylemore Abbey Greenway	An off road walking & cycling route between Derrygimlagh and Kylemore Abbey.			64,624	TBD	16,000,000
URDF-Call 2-Development at Oranmore Station	Railway Infrastructure Upgrades to include a passing railway loop at existing Oranmore Train Station including additional platform and associated infrastructure.			-	2027	16,664,954
AT N67 Ballindereen to Clarinbridge/Oranmore cycleway	This scheme proposes to provide a dedicated combined cycleway and pedestrian walkway facility of approximately 14km in length from Ballindereen village to Oranmore Village. In order to connect the communities along this route to the public transport links located in Oranmore.			-	TBD	17,000,000
Gal way City Bypass	Construction of approximately 6km of single carriageway from the western side of Beerna as far as Ballymoneen rd and approximately 12km of dual carriageway from Ballymoneen rd to the existing N6 at Coolagh Briarhill.			3,766,700	2031	593,000,000
Totals		-	-	4,154,135		763,267,178
						currently at planning stage

Expenditure being incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)									
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes	
A01 - Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units		8,007,034			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A02 - Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer		957,718			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A03 - Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration		1,034,702			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A04 - Housing Community Development Support		543,654			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A05 - Administration of Homeless Service		2,135,836			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A06 - Support to Housing Capital Prog.		2,868,127			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A07 - RAS and Leasing Programme		7,941,006			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A08 - Housing Loans		1,248,452			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A09 - Housing Grants		1,056,997			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
A12 - HAP Programme		569,526			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B01 - NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement		1,365,663			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B02 - NS Road - Maintenance and Improvement		2,258,122			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B03 - Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement		12,246,820			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement		40,038,856			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B05 - Public Lighting		2,517,705			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B07 - Road Safety Engineering Improvement		597,473			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B09 - Car Parking		1,163,460			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
B10 - Support to Roads Capital Prog		1,150,703			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
C01 - Water Supply		5,406,902			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
C02 - Waste Water Treatment		2,211,112			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
C04 - Public Conveniences		603,556			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
C05 - Admin of Group and Private Installations		5,953,557			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
C06 - Support to Water Capital Programme		1,248,778			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	

Expenditure being incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current) (Continued)									
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes	
D01 - Forward Planning		1,215,932			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D02 - Development Management		3,606,902			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D03 - Enforcement		1,110,407			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D05 - Tourism Development and Promotion		549,261			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D06 - Community and Enterprise Function		5,273,398			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D09 - Economic Development and Promotion		14,043,161			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
D11 - Heritage and Conservation Services		1,585,677			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E02 - Recovery & Recycling Facilities Operations		922,287			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F05 - Litter Management		1,828,322			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E06 - Street Cleaning		1,464,126			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E07 - Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement		597,484			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E09 - Maintenance of Burial Grounds		1,070,024			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E10 - Safety of Structures and Places		1,362,334			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E11 - Operation of Fire Service		16,374,839			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E12 - Fire Prevention		1,163,520			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
E13 - Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution		588,476			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service		6,607,497			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F03 - Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations		1,237,865			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F04 - Community Sport and Recreational Development		760,708			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F05 - Operation of Arts Programme		575,947			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
F06 - Agency & Recoupable Services		1,706,306			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
G01 - Land Drainage Costs		614,406			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
G02 - Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours		1,020,795			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
G04 - Veterinary Service		835,315			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H01 - Profit & Loss Machinery Account		1,306,507			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H03 - Administration of Rates		6,704,599			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H05 - Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses		562,106			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H09 - Local Representation & Civic Leadership		2,092,573			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H10 - Motor Taxation		1,980,076			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	
H11 - Agency & Recoupable Services		2,786,128			Ongoing			Per AFS 2024	

Expenditure being incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current) (Continued)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)
Gort	Cat2 Project - Two projects to develop plans to redesign the Market Square and town centre streets and reinvigorate Canon Quinn Park, a greenspace on the town centre, and to reimagine the centre of Gort to ensure future economic success of the town.			359,255	2026	359,255	1,098,230
RF0091 Regeneration Loughrea	Cat1 Project - Redevelop the historic town hall to deliver a state of the art venue for the theatre and arts, a remote working space for entrepreneurs and a new educational space for the community.			84,655	2025	99,587	2,171,839
RF0117 Portumna Vision 2030	Cat2 Project - Renovation of the Old Courthouse, public realm interventions, the design of a sculpture/public art park & trail, wayfinding and interpretation as well as the regeneration plans for the town centre.			330,771	2025	330,771	1,590,473
RF0148 Portumna Courthouse	Cat1 Project - Redevelop the historic courthouse building and courtyard in Portumna to deliver a state of the art venue for the arts and culture, a remote working space for entrepreneurs and a new meeting and social space for the community.			153,180	2025	153,180	2,835,899
RF0116 Clifden Regeneration	Cat2 Project - The project comprises of enhancing and revitalising the Clifden Public Realm, redesigning the Clifden Harbour Park and public realm interventions along Beach Road Quay as well as the development of a remote working hub.			286,419	2025	356,561	1,056,039
Cappahoosh Trail	Upgrade of 10km way marked trail to a width of 3 meters. Four project sites in total make up this application. The proposed projects will add value to existing trails within the Connemara/Galway area.			381,970	2025	381,970	550,000
(ORIS) - Portumna Blueway Wayfinding	Development of a new multistage shared 2.4km leisure route (Blueway). Information directional and safety signage, sculpture trail, and all other associated ancillary works.			10,000	2025	550,000	550,000
01020338 CAP - Cusackan Rathin, Ardhan	Construct 10 units			1,635,014	2025	1,800,659	3,322,418
01020279 CAP - Baile an Teampaill, Weir Road, Tuam - Ballynoe	Construct 30 units			2,604,596	2025	2,604,596	8,108,497
Housing Grants for Older Persons (HAOP), Mobility Aids (MA Gs) and persons with a disability (HAG)	CONSTRUCTION - 8 UNITS			1,732,552	2025	2,043,922	2,283,182
N7/2/346 - Gort Fada Kilgarve, Ballinasloe, 34 units in total, 13 units finished in 2024), An Chloill Phada, TURNKEY - 01119385	Rolling grant scheme with % funding from Dept each year which has to be matched.			750,000	2025	750,000	Ongoing expenditure - 2024
N7/2/356 An Chloill Fhada, Kilgarve 01119404 TURNKEY	34 units in total (13 finalised in 2024)			11,460,796	2025	11,462,702	Ongoing expenditure - 2024
	30 units in total (12 finalised in 2023)			10,453,560	2025	10,453,560	Expenditure was included in being considered sheet in 2023, An Gort Fada and An Chloill Phada were consolidated in 2023 but have separated for the purposes of this return in 2024
N83 Claregalway Traffic Calming & pavement restoration	Pavement and traffic calming scheme.			216,413	2025	579,955	Expenditure was included in being considered sheet in 2023, turnkey and part y were consolidated in 2023 but have separated for the purposes of this return in 2024
Connemara-Clifden to Recess 06040709	An off road walking & cycling route between Clifden and Recess.			872,386	2026	4,249,095	1,300,000
Connemara Greenway Galway to Oughterard 06040705	An off road walking and cycling route between Galway and Oughterard.			930,387	2028	2,210,000	7,500,000
N63 Lass to Abbey	The scheme is to provide an improved link for regional traffic to the M17 motorway and reduce traffic congestion at the Liss Bridge and community facilities. The proposed road development will assist in the alleviation of the traffic congestion issues in the vicinity of Liss Bridge while improving safety for both motorised and non motorised users.			645,578	2026	1,377,318	25,000,000
N17 Milltown to Gortagunnard Road 02293290 CAP	This project involves the widening and realignment of approximately 3km length of the existing N17 mainline.			1,004,634	2026	1,301,157	19,000,000
Connemara Greenway Recess to Oughterard 06040712	An off road walking and cycling route between Recess and Oughterard.			516,898	In progress	516,898	12,000,000
Active Travel Projects (NTA)	In 2023, Galway County Council secured €3m under the Active Travel fund for works including: footpath improvements, cycle parking, light segregation cycle schemes, low cost junction tightening/pedestrian crossings, low cost permeability measures, safety interventions, bus stops and Local Transport Plans for Athenry, Loughrea & Gort.			2,234,167	2025	9,448,423	17,448,423
CAP-SRLR Athenry Relief Rd				116,203	In progress	380,159	1,200,000
SOUTH GALWAY/GORT LOWLANDS FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME: OPW	Flood relief scheme in conjunction with the OPW			962,073	2030	3,625,270	24,000,000
CAP Clifden Flood Relief Scheme OPW	Flood relief scheme in conjunction with the OPW			435,408	2027	573,399	5,300,000
Totals		184,672,737	-	38,176,915		55,608,438	184,257,918

Projects/Programmes Completed or discontinued in the reference year - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)				
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Completion Date	Final Outturn Expenditure
CAP - TURNKEY CARRAIG WEIR TUAM CO GALWAY - 7 UNITS	7 units	2,240,675	2024	2,275,000
Circular Road & Dublin Road, Tuam01119382 - TURNKEY	10 units	2,910,389	2024	3,251,206
Vicoirs choral, Tuam, Tir an Cor 01119402 TURNKEY	22 units	7,765,185	2024	7,834,472
Oranhill, Oranmore, Tobair Orain 01119196 PART V (4 units in Phase 1 & 4 units in Phase 2)	8 units (4 delivered in 2024)	1,229,822	2024	2,501,143
CAP - TURNKEY CAHEROYAN, ATHENRY, CO GALWAY - 1119302	2 units	775,136	2024	793,336
Bun na Coille, Moycullen 01119431 TURNKEY	1 unit	399,226	2024	405,020
CAP 01021514 Letterfrack Phase 2 - CA16000245 job code 1021514 CLUID	Construct 11 Units	35,341	2024	3,588,273
Lorrogate, Phase 2 Turnkey 01020329	13 units	-	2024	3,297,322
Vicoir's choral, Tir an Choi, Tuam PART V 01119198	5 units	1,331,955	2024	1,471,608
An Choill Fhada, Kilgarve 01119404 PART V	4 units	1,123,827	2024	1,143,733
Bun na Coille, Moycullen 1119205 PART V	7 units	2,204,251	2024	2,218,251
Slabh Carron (CALF project)	9 units	741,000	2024	741,000
CAP Part V - 12 units The Willows, Athenry - 01119149	12 units	1,107,196	2024	2,698,927
Oranhill, Oranmore 01119196 Tobair Orain	Part Vs 8 units	1,229,822	2024	2,501,143
Plas an Chruiceid, Dunmore Road, Tuam	8 units	571,376	2024	571,376
Dunlo Hill, Balinasloe 01119363 (CAP - TURNKEY (Phase 1 and 2 of Chain Eisir Riada)	32 units	875	2024	10,188,155
Lakeview, Glenamaddy 01119101	Turnkey & Part V - 22 units	2,712,625	2024	6,190,000
Rivercrest, Tuam(01021531)	17 units	1,223,750	2024	1,233,750
St Laurence Fields, Cottage Hill Loughrea (CALF)	13 units	1,223,503	2024	1,223,503
Williamstown 01119389 N7/2/348 - TURNKEY	7 units	-	2024	-
Oranhill Oranmore	22 units	-	2024	-
CAP - PART V - 4 UNITS AT KILGARVE, BALLINASLOE CO GALWAY - 01119200	4 units	891,218	2024	906,000
CAP- Athenry Fire Station	This project involves the construction of a new fire station in Athenry on a greenfield site at Prospect, Athenry adjacent to the M6 Mortortway.	1,406,184	2024	2,600,000
N59 Derrynacleigh	Pavement overlay, road lining and draining, milling and reinstatement 3.3km west of Leenaun on N59 for 1.78km.	607,896	2024	657,876
N65 Killimor to Ramore Cross	Pavement overlay, road lining and draining in two sections, 1km north, and 2km north of Mountbellew on N63.	1,422,974	2024	1,553,440
N63 Ballinahowa to Ballinliss	The N63 Ballinahowa to Ballinliss project was broken into 2 schemes, scheme 1 was approximately 1km North of Mountbellew and the second scheme was approximately 2km North of Mountbellew on the N63. The works where approximately 2.6 Km in total. Works carried out new Pavement overlay, Road Lining, Drainage and Accommodation works.	-	2024	1,254,099
N17 Mountpotter to Gardenfield cross	The works are located north of Tuam and is 0.9km long in total, the works include pavement overlay, milling and reinstatement and road reconstruction, road markings, accommodation works and traffic management.	-	2024	-
07014115 CAP - DUNKELLIN RIVER & AGGARD STREAM FLOOD RELIEF	Flood relief scheme in conjunction with the OPW.	56,857	2024	542,738
		20,086		3,660,000
Totals		33,231,167		65,301,371

Appendix 2 – 2024 Checklists

Notes for Checklists as per PSC: When completing the checklists, organisations should consider the following points.

- The scoring mechanism for the checklists is as follows:
 - Scope for significant improvements = a score of 1
 - Compliant but with some improvement necessary = a score of 2
 - Broadly compliant = a score of 3
- For some questions, the scoring mechanism is not always strictly relevant. In these cases, it may be appropriate to mark as N/A and provide the required information in the commentary box as appropriate.

The focus should be on providing descriptive and contextual information to frame the compliance ratings and to address the issues raised for each question. It is also important to provide summary details of key analytical outputs covered in the sample for those questions which address compliance with appraisal / evaluation requirements the annual number of formal evaluations, economic appraisals, project completion reports³ and ex post evaluations. Key analytical outputs undertaken but outside of the sample should also be noted in the report.

^{3 3} Project completion reports (previously called post project reviews) – see Department of Public Expenditure & Reform, Circular 06/2018 available [here](#)

Checklist 1 – To be completed in respect of general obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.

General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 1.1	Does the organisation ensure, on an ongoing basis, that appropriate people within the organisation and its agencies are aware of their requirements under the Public Spending Code (incl. through training)?	2	Yes, relevant senior staff have been notified of their obligations under the PSC, via Project Management training, liaison with Government funding departments and via internal processed concerning business case approval requirements by mgt team. We welcome further roll out of training on the PSC.
Q 1.2	Has internal training on the Public Spending Code been provided to relevant staff?	2	In-house briefing sessions have been provided to relevant staff. Project management training has been rolled out to project managers. Details of PSC training courses and circulars are shared with relevant staff in relation to this. We welcome further training on the PSC.
Q 1.3	Has the Public Spending Code been adapted for the type of project/programme that your organisation is responsible for, i.e., have adapted sectoral guidelines been developed?	3	Yes, governance guidelines have been produced and are available to all staff on the GCC intranet.
Q 1.4	Has the organisation in its role as Approving Authority satisfied itself that agencies that its funds comply with the Public Spending Code?	N/A	No projects relevant to the PSC currently
Q 1.5	Have recommendations from previous QA reports (incl. spot checks) been disseminated, where appropriate, within the organisation and to agencies?	2	Yes, spot check reports, internal audit and QA recommendations have been issued and copied to appropriate staff.
Q 1.6	Have recommendations from previous QA reports been acted upon?	2	Yes, recommendations from previous reviews are in the process of being implemented.
Q 1.7	Has an annual Public Spending Code QA report been submitted to and certified by the Approving Authorities Accounting Officer and published on the Approving Authorities website?	3	Yes
Q 1.8	Was the required sample of projects/programmes subjected to in-depth checking as per step 4 of the QAP?	3	Yes
Q 1.9	Is there a process in place to plan for ex post evaluations?	3	Yes, with large projects (e.g. Roads and Housing projects) post project evaluations are an integral part of the project.
Q 1.10	How many formal evaluations were completed in the year under review? Have they been published in a timely manner?	n/a	This is not applicable in the current year as there were no formal evaluations required by governing bodies.
Q 1.11	Is there a process in place to follow up on the recommendations of previous evaluations?	n/a	The rating is not applicable as there were no formal evaluations in the current year. However, where formal evaluations are required for large scale projects the recommendations are noted and implemented as soon as possible.
Q 1.12	How have the recommendations of reviews and ex post evaluations informed resource allocation decisions?	2	Lesson learned are noted for similar future projects.

Checklist 2 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes that were under consideration in the year under review.

Capital Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 – 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 2.1	Was a strategic assessment report (SAR) completed for all capital projects and programmes over €10m?	n/a	
Q 2.2	Were performance indicators specified for each project/programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date? Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.3	Was a Preliminary and Final Business Case, including appropriate financial and economic appraisal, completed for all capital projects and programmes?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.4	Were the proposal objectives SMART and aligned with Government policy including National Planning Framework, Climate Mitigation Plan etc?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.5	Was an appropriate appraisal method and parameters used in respect of capital projects or capital programmes/grant schemes?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.6	Was a financial appraisal carried out on all proposals and was there appropriate consideration of affordability?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.7	Was the appraisal process commenced at an early enough stage to inform decision making?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.8	Were sufficient options analysed in the business case for each capital proposal?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.9	Was the evidence base for the estimated cost set out in each business case? Was an appropriate methodology used to estimate the cost? Were appropriate budget contingencies put in place?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.10	Was risk considered and a risk mitigation strategy commenced? Was appropriate consideration given to governance and deliverability?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.11	Has the Preliminary Business Case been sent for review by the External Assurance Process and Major Project Advisory Group for projects estimated to cost over €200m?	n/a	The MPAG was set up after the preliminary business case was made (re project over €200m)
Q 2.12	Was a detailed project brief including design brief and procurement strategy prepared for all investment projects?	3	Yes, in co-ordination with sanctioning body standards.
Q 2.13	Were procurement rules (both National and EU) complied with?	3	Yes
Q 2.14	Was the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) properly implemented?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.15	Were State Aid rules checked for all support?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.16	Was approval sought from the Approving Authority at all decision gates?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.17	Was Value for Money assessed and confirmed at each decision gate by Sponsoring Agency and Approving Authority?	3	Yes, where applicable
Q 2.18	Was consent sought from Government through a Memorandum for Government to approve projects estimated to cost over €200m at the appropriate approval gates?	3	Yes, where applicable

Checklist 3 – To be completed in respect of new current expenditure proposals under consideration in the year under review.

Current Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 3.1	Were objectives clearly set out?	N/A	
Q 3.2	Are objectives measurable in quantitative terms?	N/A	
Q 3.3	Was a business case, incorporating financial and economic appraisal, prepared for new current expenditure proposals?	N/A	
Q 3.4	Was an appropriate appraisal method used?	N/A	
Q 3.5	Was an economic appraisal completed for all projects/programmes exceeding €20m or an annual spend of €5m over 4 years?	N/A	
Q 3.6	Did the business case include a section on piloting?	N/A	
Q 3.7	Were pilots undertaken for new current spending proposals involving total expenditure of at least €20m over the proposed duration of the programme and a minimum annual expenditure of €5m?	N/A	
Q 3.8	Have the methodology and data collection requirements for the pilot been agreed at the outset of the scheme?	N/A	
Q 3.9	Was the pilot formally evaluated and submitted for approval to the relevant Vote Section in DPER?	N/A	
Q 3.10	Has an assessment of likely demand for the new scheme/scheme extension been estimated based on empirical evidence?	N/A	
Q 3.11	Was the required approval granted?	N/A	
Q 3.12	Has a sunset clause been set?	N/A	
Q 3.13	If outsourcing was involved were both EU and National procurement rules complied with?	N/A	
Q 3.14	Were performance indicators specified for each new current expenditure proposal or expansion of existing current expenditure programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date?	N/A	
Q 3.15	Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	N/A	

Checklist 4 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grants schemes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

Incurring Capital Expenditure		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 -3	Comment/Action Required
Q 4.1	Was a contract signed and was it in line with the Approval given at each Decision Gate?	3	Yes
Q 4.2	Did management boards/steering committees meet regularly as agreed?	3	Yes, relevant teams within Departments met on a regular basis.
Q 4.3	Were programme co-ordinators appointed to co-ordinate implementation?	3	Yes, capital programmes are managed by programme coordinators at a suitably senior level.
Q 4.4	Were project managers responsible for delivery, appointed and were the project managers at a suitably senior level for the scale of the project?	3	Yes, capital programmes are managed by programme coordinators at a suitably senior level.
Q 4.5	We're monitoring reports prepared regularly, showing implementation against plan, budget, timescales, and quality?	3	Yes, programmes are managed by programme coordinators at a suitably senior level. Progress reports are reviewed by Divisional Mgt Teams, at Steering Committee Meetings and by the most suitable senior levels.
Q 4.6	Did projects/programmes/grant schemes keep within their financial budget and time schedule?	2	No, not in all instances. Where budget over-runs occur, documented explanations are available in progress reports and final reports / sanction from the Approving agency is obtained.
Q 4.7	Did budgets have to be adjusted?	3	Yes, with departmental approval
Q 4.8	Were decisions on changes to budgets / time schedules made promptly?	3	Yes, with departmental approval
Q 4.9	Did circumstances ever warrant questioning the viability of the project/programme/grant scheme and the business case (exceeding budget, lack of progress, changes in the environment, new evidence, etc.)?	3	Yes, and where elements of a project are not financially viable, changes are made to ensure value for money and viability within the Councils Budget process.
Q 4.10	If circumstances did warrant questioning the viability of a project/programme/grant scheme was the project subjected to adequate examination?	3	Yes, and where elements of a project are not financially viable, changes are made to ensure value for money and viability within the Councils Budget process.
Q 4.11	If costs increased or there were other significant changes to the project was approval received from the Approving Authority?	3	Yes, sanctioning authority approved any increases in Budgets.
Q 4.12	Were any projects/programmes/grant schemes terminated because of deviations from the plan, the budget or because circumstances in the environment changed the need for the investment?	3	No

Checklist 5 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

Incurring Current Expenditure		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 -3	Comment/Action Required
Q 5.1	Are there clear objectives for all areas of current expenditure?	3	Yes, as per budget and Corporate Plan.
Q 5.2	Are outputs well defined?	3	Yes, as per National KPI's set out for Local Government.
Q 5.3	Are outputs quantified on a regular basis?	3	Yes
Q 5.4	Is there a method for monitoring efficiency on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes, budget monitoring and performance, supported by audits and FMS reviews on Budget vs Actual expenditure.
Q 5.5	Are outcomes well defined?	3	Yes, as part of the Corporate Plan objectives.
Q 5.6	Are outcomes quantified on a regular basis?	3	Yes
Q 5.7	Are unit costings compiled for performance monitoring?	3	Yes, unit costings complied as required by national indicators (LGMA performance Mgt Indicators).
Q 5.8	Are other data compiled to monitor performance?	3	Yes. All expenditure is evaluated annually across the service levels as part of the budget process and Annual Reports and management reporting.
Q 5.9	Is there a method for monitoring effectiveness on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes. All expenditure is evaluated annually across the service levels as part of the budget process and Annual Reports and management reporting.
Q 5.10	Has the organisation engaged in any other 'evaluation proofing' of programmes/projects?	3	Yes, in conjunction with LGMA

Checklist 6 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes that completed during the year & capital grant schemes discontinued in the year under review.

Capital Expenditure Recently Completed		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 6.1	How many Project Completion Reports were completed in the year under review?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY for GCC.
Q 6.2	Were lessons learned from Project Completion Reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY for GCC.
Q 6.3	How many Project Completion Reports were published in the year under review?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY for GCC.
Q 6.4	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were completed in the year under review?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY or the PY for GCC.
Q 6.5	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were published in the year under review?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY or the PY for GCC.
Q 6.6	Were lessons learned from Ex-Post Evaluation reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY or the PY for GCC.
Q 6.7	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluations carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	N/A	Project Completion Reports are carried out when required by specific funding bodies, there were no such requirements in the CY or the PY for GCC.
Q 6.8	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluation Reports for projects over €50m sent to DPER for dissemination?	N/A	No projects over €50m completed in year of assessment

Checklist 7 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes that reached the end of their planned timeframe during the year or were discontinued.

Current Expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued		Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 7.1	Were reviews carried out of current expenditure programmes that matured during the year or were discontinued?	N/A	
Q 7.2	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were efficient?	N/A	
Q 7.3	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were effective?	N/A	
Q 7.4	Have the conclusions reached been taken into account in related areas of expenditure?	N/A	
Q 7.5	Were any programmes discontinued following a review of a current expenditure programme?	N/A	
Q 7.6	Were reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	N/A	
Q 7.7	Were changes made to the organisation's practices in light of lessons learned from reviews?	N/A	

Appendix 3 – Tabular Summary of 2024 Checklists

Capital Expenditure		Checklist 2			Checklist 4			Checklist 6		
		Expenditure Being Considered			Expenditure Being Incurred			Expenditure Recently Ended		
		Projects	Value	%	Projects	Value	%	Projects	Value	%
A	Housing & Building	12	66,102,224	9%	6	36,657,015	20%	23	65,311,694	86%
B	Road Transportation and Safety	9	672,464,954	88%	10	137,748,423	75%	5	7,668,153	10%
C	Water Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	Development Management	1	2,000,000	0%	7	9,852,480	5%	-	-	-
E	Environmental Services	3	22,700,000	3%	-	-	-	1	2,600,000	3%
F	Recreation and Amenity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G	Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H	Miscellaneous Services	-	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total:		25	763,267,178	100%	23	184,257,918	100%	29	75,579,847	100%
			-			-			-	
Revenue/Current Expenditure		Checklist 3			Checklist 5			Checklist 7		
		Expenditure Being Considered			Expenditure Being Incurred			Expenditure Recently Ended		
		Projects	Value	%	Projects	Value	%	Projects	Value	%
A	Housing & Building	-	-	-	10	26,363,052	14%	-	-	-
B	Road Transportation and Safety	-	-	-	8	61,338,802	33%	-	-	-
C	Water Services	-	-	-	5	15,423,905	8%	-	-	-
D	Development Management	-	-	-	7	27,384,738	15%	-	-	-
E	Environmental Services	-	-	-	9	25,371,412	14%	-	-	-
F	Recreation and Amenity	-	-	-	5	10,888,323	6%	-	-	-
G	Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	-	-	-	3	2,470,516	1%	-	-	-
H	Miscellaneous Services	-	-	-	6	15,431,989	8%	-	-	-
Total:		0	0	0%	53	184,672,737	100%	0	0	0%

Appendix 4 – Revenue Project Quality Assurance In-Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Revenue)

Name	D0906 – Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOBs)
Detail	One-time financial aid to help eligible businesses with increased costs associated with the running of a business. Rate of grant is 50% of 2023 rates bill up to a maximum of €5,000, subject to eligibility criteria.
Responsible Body	Sponsoring Agent – Galway County Council Approving Authority – Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment (DETE)
Current Status	Complete
Start Date	6 th December 2023
End Date	25 th October 2024 – Final processing date of ICOB2
Overall Cost	Job Code 04090656 €6,034,168

During 2024, the revenue expenditure incurred under **D0906 – Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOBs)** amount to **€6,034,168**. This service area is divided into the following Sub-services:

As part of Budget 2024, the government signed off on a package of €257m for the Increases Cost of Business (ICOB) grant as a vital measure for small and medium businesses. Local Authorities, funded through the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, were tasked with the rollout of the grant to qualifying businesses.

Eligible businesses will receive a once-off grant payment as a contribution towards the rising costs faced by businesses. The grant is based on the value of the Commercial Rates bill received by an eligible business in 2023.

For qualifying businesses with a 2023 commercial rates bill of less than €10,000, the ICOB grant will be paid a rate of 50% of the business's Commercial Rate bill for 2023.

For qualifying businesses with a 2023 commercial rate bill of between €10,000 and €30,000, the ICOB grant will be €5,000.

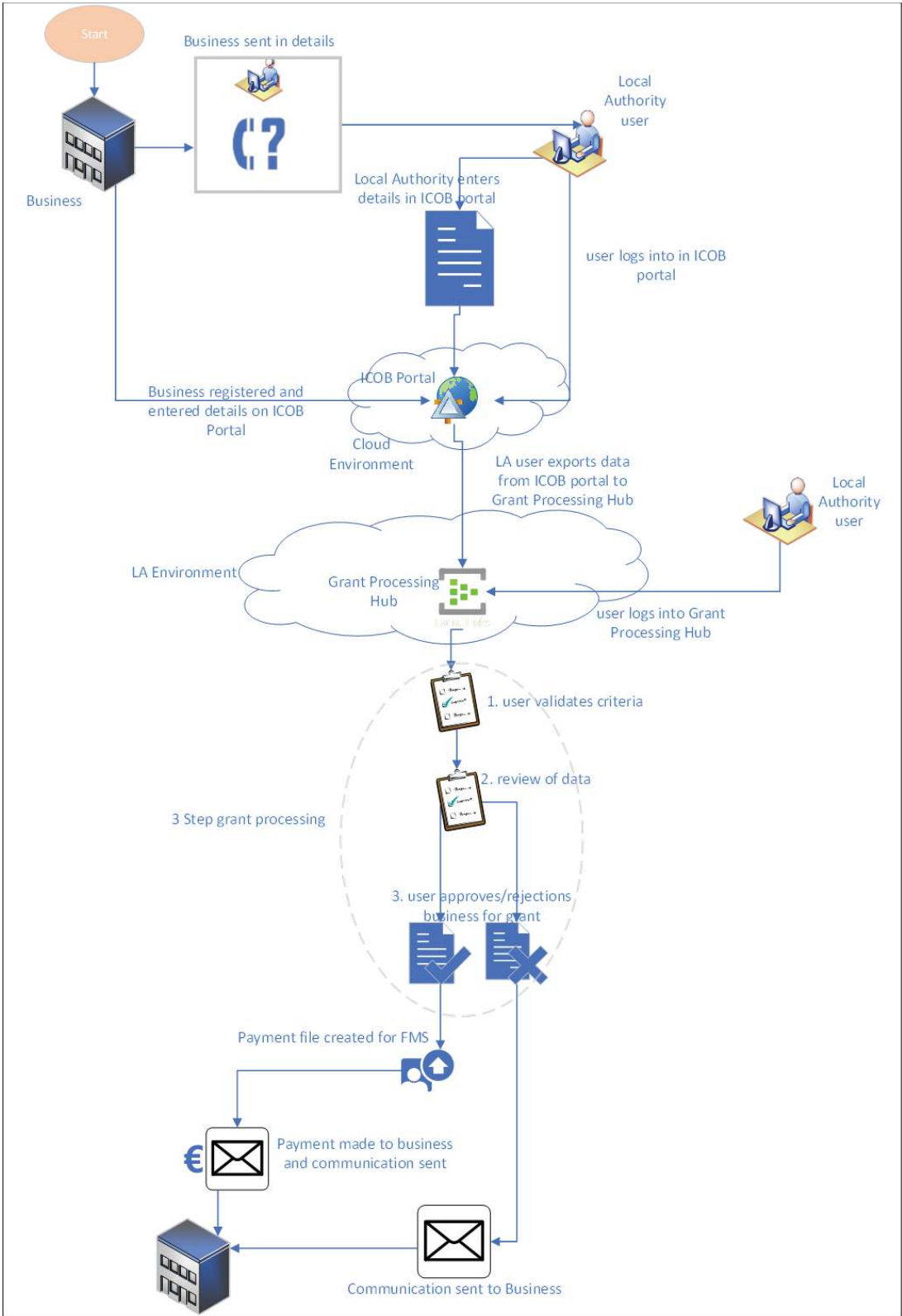
Businesses with a 2023 Commercial Rates bill greater than €30,000 are not eligible to receive an ICOB grant.

The grant was extended in May 2024 whereby businesses in retail and hospitality sectors are entitled to a second payment for approved businesses and double payment for new registrations.

ICOB application process was supported by MyCOCO.ie, whereby businesses registered, completed their self-declaration and uploaded the required supporting documentation. The application was validated against eligibility criteria. Once validated, information was reviewed, and application was approved/rejected. Once approved, payment file upload to financial management system for process and correspondence issued. Where application was rejected, correspondence issued to the relevant business, outlining the refusal and their right of appeal.

1,808 rate account holders received 3,246 ICOB grants amounting to €6,034,168.

ICOB – Workflow Process



Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Internal Audit has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOB)**. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available on the Department of Public Expenditure & Reform website - <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/public-spending-code/DPER-Public-Spending-Code>

Objectives		Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Create awareness – provide information to Ratepayer of the grant through website, social media, direct correspondence etc.		Funding from Dept. of Enterprise, Trade & Employment DETE	Determine a list of qualifying SMEs	Mailshot to rates payers on ICOB's	3,246 Grant payments made
Financial Aid to SME's		Human Resources – LA staff to administer	Generate CID & PIN for eligible SMEs	Issue initial correspondence with CID & PIN	1,808 rate payers benefitted from a share in €6.034m in grant aid
Provide support to applicants on accessing the portal		Software application – MyCoCo / Ascendas Agresso MS7	Customer Service – assist with queries on eligibility, registration, process & payment	Approval of Grants	14 appeals
Process applications in a timely manner		SME's registration & self-declaration	Validation of application	Payment of Grants	
Ensure funding is fully recouped from Approving Authority		Technical Support – LGMA portal	Recoup funding from Approving Authority	Lesson learned	
Minimise appeals			100% processed online via portal, correspondence via email, payments by EFT.		

Objectives:

Eligible businesses would receive a once-off grant payment as a contribution towards the rising costs faced by businesses. The grant is based on the value of the Commercial Rates bill received by an eligible business in 2023.

For qualifying businesses with a 2023 commercial rates bill of less than €10,000, the ICOB grant will be paid a rate of 50% of the business's Commercial Rate bill for 2023.

For qualifying businesses with a 2023 commercial rate bill of between €10,000 and €30,000, the ICOB grant will be €5,000.

Businesses with a 2023 Commercial Rates bill greater than €30,000 are not eligible to receive an ICOB grant.

Inputs:

The LGMA coordinated the scheme on behalf of the Approving Authority, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Local authority staff resources and technical support from Ascendas and MyCoCo were the primary inputs. The knowledge, expertise and familiarity of the local authority (revenue collection) staff of their respective collection areas/clients was crucial to the implementation of this initiative.

Awareness of the grant was done through media campaigns both nationally and local, while dealing with clients was done via email & by using the MyCoCo portal.

Activities:

It was necessary to identify those rateable properties that met the monetary criteria, in order to generate correspondence & PIN no. for those who would be likely to be eligible. Once awareness was created of the grant and the registration process commenced through the MyCoCo portal, LA staff were tasked with assisting clients, validating applications, with a final review, approval and processing of payments.

As the initiative was rolled out very fast, there were some initial technical issues with software being used, but this was rectified with the technical support provided by LGMA portal/Ascendas.

Outputs & Outcomes:

Correspondence issued giving details of the grants and inviting rate payers to apply.

Throughout the process 'Frequently Asked Questions' document was generated and updated to address queries in a consistent manner across all local authorities.

A total of 3,246 grant payment were made amounting to €6.034m being provided to 1,808 rate payers

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Scheme/Programme

The following section tracks the **Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOB)** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.

Period/Year	Description
October 2023	Budget 2024 announced on 10 th October outlining once-off financial aid to SME's
December 2023	Increased Cost of Business Grant launched on 6 th December 2024 by Dept. of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, with initial closing date 1 st May 2024
January 2024	Email from LGMA on the administration of grants
February 2024	Initial Actions details received for administering the grants
March 2024	Roll out details received from LGMA I.T. details for administering the scheme received from Ascendas Template letters provide to LAs Correspondence issued to rates customers.
April 2024	LA's given access to myCoCo portal, additional Webinars held. Supplier set up & payment interface put in place.
	Publications/Communications - Grant details put on Council's website Webinars held for staff on the new Grant Scheme
May 2024	MyCOCO.ie closing date for applications 1 st May
	Closing Date extension – 29 th May 2024
	20/05/24 – Second ICOB Grant announced for two categories of businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospitality - Retail
	Final Closing date for application 29 th May
	Initial Webinar held for ICOB2 on 31/05/2024
June 2024	All ICOBs applications processed & payment system became live
September 2024	Final date for accepting ICOB2 applications – 27/09/2024
October 2024	Final date for processing payment on ICOB2 – 25/10/2024
	Recoupment from DETE
	Returns to the Department

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, planning implementation/post implementation of the scheme.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Circular Fin 05/2024	Accounting Treatment of Increased Cost of Business Scheme (ICOB)
LGMA Portal/Shared Drive - Guidance for Local Authorities in assessing Businesses	Outlines criteria, assessment & FAQ's
Info on MyCoCo	General Information and application portal
ICOB FAQ's – Eligibility Criteria	Frequently Asked Questions document to assist LA in assessment of application & meeting eligibility criteria
Privacy Statement	Privacy statement
Data Processing Agreement	GDPR – agreement between GCC, LGMA & myCoCo
Department Returns	Reporting requirements

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out on the **Increased Cost of Business Grant (ICOB)**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the scheme.

Data Required	Use	Availability Y / N
Data Privacy Statements – MyCoCo, www.icob.ie	Details the website's data collection & use	Y
Data Processing Agreement - signed	Agreement for processing data between data controller (GCC) and data processor (Ascendas)	Y
Procedure Manual for LA	Procedure and workflow process for administering grants	Y
Department Returns & Recoupment	Statistical returns of output and claims for recoupment of funding	Y
Categories of Business eligible to apply	For determining eligibility	Y
Appeals Process	If business grant submission is denied, right of appeal within 7 days of receiving notification	Y

Correspondence samples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notification & PIN sample letter - Approval letter - Rejection letter - Appeals letter 	Y
Advertising campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Newspapers - GCC Publications - Social Media posts 	Y
Post-implementation review & Lessons learned document	Post implementation evaluation/feedback	Y

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the **D0906 – Increased Cost of Business Grant**

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes – each LA has access to the Finance and Business Unit LGMA Shared Services site. Within this, there is a dedicated section for ICOB's. All general information, webinar recordings, templates, FAQs are held within this site. Documentation is held locally on internal H Drive also. The LGMA were the lead on this grant, with all correspondence and software support being facilitated by them.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

The ICOB was a once off initiative lead by the LGMA. If a similar grant was to be announced at a future date, the lessons learned document is key to assess areas in the implementation of the scheme could be done better. The scheme was very much timeline driven and the Local Authorities were advised to prioritise the processing of the grant with no additional resources being provided. It is noted that the ICOB2 was restricted to a particular category of business, while the category wasn't a key criterion for the first ICOB grant, however when ICOB2 was introduced, it became a deciding factor with regard eligibility and caused difficulties for the applicants and administration of the scheme. Changes to processing system mid-implementation also caused some undue pressure on resources. A fully developed system should be in place and a clear policy/guidance agreed on the scheme prior to it being launched.

Audit Opinion

On the completion of this In-depth review of the service division **D0906 – Increased Cost of Business Grant** Internal Audit has formed the opinion that this Revenue Expenditure Programme appears to be **broadly compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

Appendix 5 – Capital Project Quality Assurance In-Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Capital Project 1)

Name	South Galway/Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme	
Detail	This project involves the assessment, design and development of a flood relief scheme and other measures to manage the existing flood risk in South Galway/Gort Lowlands.	
Responsible Body	Galway County Council (Sponsoring Agency), in conjunction with the OPW as the Approving Authority.	
Current Status	Being Incurred	
Start Date	2016	
End Date	Proposed completion - 2030	
Overall Cost	€24,000,000 (estimated)	Job Code:07014120

Project Description

Galway County Council and the OPW having recognised the significant flood risk that exists in South Galway, as evidenced by the flooding in winter 1994/1995, 2009, 2014 & 2015/16 are progressing a flood relief scheme for the affected areas and the required studies for adjacent upstream and downstream areas.

The principle study area for the Commission is the Gort Lowlands area and its highland catchment. The Lowland area has widespread groundwater networks and turlough features. The catchment area in the Slieve Aughty's and the discharge area of Kinvarra Bay in Galway Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC) are also in the commission. The combined areas are situated in South County Galway and cover a land area of approximately 470 sq.km. with a population of approximately 10,000.

The intensity and duration of rainfall experienced in the six flood events of the last thirty years cannot be routed through the network of existing subterranean conduits to Galway Bay. The resultant uncontrolled overflow of the network is a cause of extreme annual concern to the residents and farming communities in the area. Extensive surveys and hydrological studies have concluded that during a 1 in 100-year flood event:

- 50 no. residential properties flood and a further 23 no. are at high flood risk for prolonged durations.
- 65 no. non-residential properties including cultural heritage sites, and 20 no. slatted shed complexes flood for prolonged durations.
- 175 no. residential properties and 46 no. non-residential properties, including dairy farms, are at risk of being cut-off due to prolonged flooding of all road access to 19 no. rural communities throughout the Gort Lowlands area. The community at Rinrush are at risk of being cut-off greater than 3 months during such an event.
- The main roads route through the study area, namely the M18, R458 (the old N18) and the Kiltartan to Kinvara Road (L4506 and L4509) are at risk of closure for over 7, 34 and 99 days respectively. The Limerick-Athenry railway line is currently at risk of flooding at Castletown for a period of over 25 days.

The karst Gort Lowlands catchment, makes this area unique on an international level from an ecology perspective and this is evidenced by the number of designated areas such as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and proposed National Heritage Areas (pNHAs) attributed to the catchment. The complexity of the flow network within the catchment has justified an ongoing collaborative study between Geological Survey Ireland and University of Dublin Trinity College which will greatly assist in the formation of the hydrological and hydraulic analysis of the scheme.

This project involves the assessment and development of a flood relief scheme and other measures to manage the existing flood risk in Gort Lowlands, and the potential for significant increases in this risk due to climate change, ongoing development and other pressures that may arise in the future. To assist in the development and implementation of the Flood Relief Scheme, Galway County Council contracted:

- Ryan Hanley - Engineering Consultants on 7th December 2017
- Mott MacDonald - Environmental Consultants on 6th March 2018

The following is an outline of the most significant challenges faced and the progress made by the consultants to date:

Ryan Hanley:

- Development of a groundwater based hydrological model to replicate the flood flows experienced in South Galway. This was achieved with invaluable assistance and inputs from Trinity College Dublin (TCD), who have been studying the hydrological effects of turloughs in County Galway on turlough habitats since 2003. It took over two years to develop the completed model, transforming the existing TCD ecological model into an extreme flood event model.
- The identification of ecologically acceptable flood reduction levels that satisfy the household protection requirements of the scheme.

- Engagement with over 100 landowners whose lands would be affected by the proposed scheme, over 100 householders that are vulnerable to future flooding events and numerous stakeholders that will be directly impacted by the implementation or non-implementation of the scheme.
- The production of an environmentally acceptable and economically feasible scheme, that now encompasses over 16km of channels and 30 new large structures (culverts / bridges).
- Significant ground investigation contract over the entire proposed works area (16km length)

Mott Mac Donald:

- Production of Appropriate Assessment (AA), Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) reports for a scheme that directly impacts nearly 240 sq.km - these reports are now nearing completion.
- Repeated surveys (breeding birds, wintering birds & bats) throughout a study area of approximately 500 sq.km
- Ecological and botanical surveys – 8 no. directly impacted turloughs and a fen
- Marine ecology, salt marsh surveys and salinity modelling impacts for Kinvara Bay
- Archaeological surveys
- Agronomy surveys over the extents of the proposed scheme

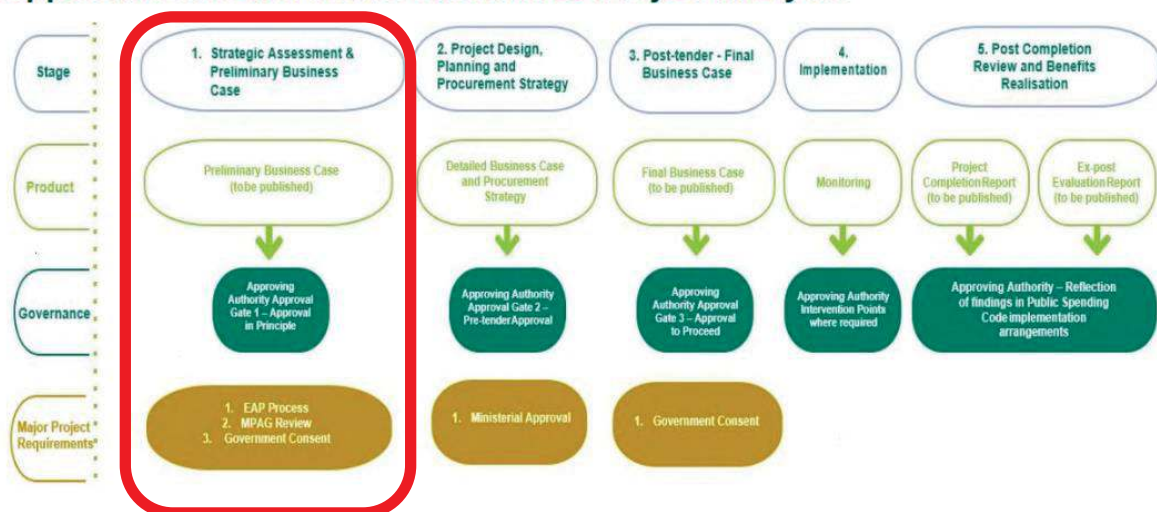
Findings and concerns raised by the environmental consultant during the scheme development have continuously informed and directed the development of the final scheme by the engineering consultants.

Project Lifecycle

The proposed project is currently in Stage I – Strategic Assessment & Preliminary Business Case of the Infrastructure Guidelines Project lifecycle. It is anticipated that the project will reach Gate 1 approval by September 2025.

Sectoral Guidance for Delivery of Flood Relief Schemes

Appendix 2 Infrastructure Guidelines Project lifecycle



Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of the In- Depth check, the **Physical Development Team** completed a programme logic model which gives information on the following

South Galway/Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
FRS Stage I (in progress) Identify the flood risks and solutions in the flood prone areas. Examine feasible flood alleviation measures. Prepare Feasibility Report and preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) Prepare EIAR and NIS. Undertake a Valuation Survey to identify property and landowners that may be affected by the scheme	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage I of the scheme. Funding commitment to be reviewed after preparation of Feasibility Report and preliminary CBA	Appoint Local Authority Project Manager (completed) Engage engineering and environmental consultants (completed) Data Gathering (completed) Surveys (completed) Assessments (near completion) Scheme Design (near completion)	Scheme documentation proposals that are feasible from an engineering perspective, are environmentally acceptable and cost beneficial.	Environmentally acceptable and cost beneficial scheme is identified. Scheme progresses to Stage II.
FRS Stage II (in progress)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage II of the scheme.	Full Benefit Cost Analysis review (outstanding) OPW to review final EIAR and NIS before submitting for planning (pending)	Prepare an environmentally and cost beneficial flood relief scheme documentation for submission to Planning (PDA) or Confirmation (ADA) process.	OPW confirm their commitment to fund the proposed scheme (post review of BCA) and approve the scheme for submission to the relevant planning process.

FRS Stage III (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage III of the scheme.	Finalise scheme documentation for Planning (PDA) or Confirmation (ADA) Complete detailed design. Prepare contract documents and procurement works as required.	Scheme documentation finalised and planning process documentation completed	Scheme is granted planning consent.
FRS Stage IV (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage IV of the scheme. Engage land valuation personnel and acquire access to lands.	Supervise construction of the works Supervise direct labour works (possibly OPW staff) Provide ongoing detailed design updates as required.	Construction works undertaken over a period of 3 years. All environmental planning conditions are adhered to.	Physical works on the scheme are completed. Landowner compensation payments are issued. Project safety file is prepared.
FRS Stage V (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage V of the scheme and on-going maintenance costs.	Commission the works Finalise Flood Risk Management Plans and maps Prepare final account and Report	All required project documentation and outputs are submitted to the relevant bodies (GCC, OPW and GCC Planning Department) in appropriate formats.	Flood risk alleviated for the community of South Galway/Gort Lowlands area – to include flood risk to properties, communities being cut off for prolonged periods, closure of main road routes through the area and the Limerick / Athenry railway line.

Objectives FRS Stage 1 & 2

Engineering:

- Identify and map the existing and potential future flood hazards within the Study Area.
- Identify viable structural and non-structural options and measures for the effective and sustainable management of flood risk in the Gort Lowlands Area.
- Undertake Feasibility Study.
- Prepare a local Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) for the Study Area which will include for the proposed Scheme and other measures for the area that sets out the policies, strategies, measures and actions that should be pursued by the relevant bodies, including Local Authorities, the OPW and other Stakeholders, to achieve the most cost-effective and sustainable management of existing and potential future flood risk within the area.
- Review proposed schemes identified in the Feasibility Study and FRMP in conjunction with the Environment Consultant during the Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- Prepare a preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis for the preferred option.
- Revise the proposed scheme following review by environmental consultant and when iterative process has concluded, prepare final CBA.
- Undertake a Valuation Survey to identify each reputed proprietor, owner and rated or other occupier of lands/property on which works are proposed under the preferred scheme or which may be interfered with during the course of the works including access routes and future maintenance routes.

Objectives FRS Stage 1 & 2

Environmental:

- Undertake Constraints Study
- Screen for Appropriate Assessment
- Undertake Environmental Assessment of Viable Options
- Produce Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- Prepare Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
- Additional Work – additional work may be required during Stages I of the project. Such work might comprise detailed studies, surveys or advice, which cannot be identified in advance of commencement of the Commission (see Section 3.5)

Inputs FRS Stage 1 & 2

- Funding of the scheme design works by the OPW
- Appointment of GCC PM for scheme
- Procurement of Engineering and Environmental consultants
- Creation and ongoing engagement between Steering Group and its members (GCC, OPW, TCD, GSI, Engineering Consultant and Environmental Consultant)

Activities FRS Stage 1 & 2

- Undertake engineering and environmental surveys and studies
- Using collaboration between the engineering and environmental consultants, develop a scheme that is financially feasible and environmentally acceptable
- Engage with all relevant stakeholders (statutory and non-statutory)

Outputs & Outcomes FRS Stage 1 & 2

- Have scheme and associated documentation approved by OPW for submission for planning consent through either

Planning & Development Act, 2000, as amended and the Local Authorities (Works) Act 1949

or

Arterial Drainage Acts 1945 and 1995 as amended

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following tracks the **South Galway/Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme** from conception to current position in terms of major scheme milestones

Period/Year	Description
September 2016	Following the severe flood event of winter 2015/16, GCC sought a partnership with OPW in bringing forward a flood relief scheme for South Galway / Gort Lowlands area
December 2016	GCC appointed an OPW funded Project Manager for the scheme
December 2017	Ryan Hanley, engineering consultants appointed
March 2018	Mott MacDonald, environmental consultants appointed
August 2020	Feasibility Report published, identifying an 'Emerging Feasible Scheme' that was both environmentally and economically feasible.
	Pending Milestones
September 2025	GCC to seek OPW approval to progress to ABP / Exhibition
January 2027	GCC to seek OPW approval to tender for construction
July 2027	GCC to seek OPW approval to enter Contract for Construction
September 2027	Construction works commence
September 2030	Construction works substantially completed
March 2031	Production of Project Completion Report

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to the appraisal, planning and implementation of the scheme

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
GCC letter to OPW (15/09/16) seeking a flood relief scheme for South Galway.	GCC seek partnership with OPW in progressing a scheme for South Galway.
Response letter from OPW (30/09/16)	Response from OPW (30/09/2016) granting approval to initiate a scheme and appointment of technical staff member.
The Department sanction employment of PM for scheme (07/12/16).	Sanction to appoint Project Manager
Engineering Consultants - Tender Documents (Ref 122413), Tender Assessment, Letter of Offer, Appointment appointed to project following open tender	Tender documentation, evaluation & appointment
Environmental Consultants - Tender Documents (Ref 123111), Tender Assessment, Letter of Offer, Appointment appointed to project following open tender	Tender documentation, evaluation & appointment
First Steering Group Meeting, establishment & minutes	19.01.2018 – Introductory meeting of key stakeholders, GCC, OPW & Consultants
Feasibility Report and Preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis, August 2020	Feasibility Report

Section B – Step 4 - Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out on the Scheme. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the Scheme

Data Required	Use	Availability Y / N
GCC proposal letter to OPW	Proposal for partnership on delivering an FRS for South Galway	Y
OPW approval to appoint Project Engineer	Agreement in principle to advancement of a potential scheme and approval in principle of appointment of Project Engineer & funding to undertake Stage I	Y
Steering Group Minutes	Group consists of GCC, OPW, Ryan Hanley, Mott McDonald. Record of meeting between all stakeholders	Y
Progress Reports	Engineering and general environmental reports Included with minutes in folders detailed above. Monthly environmental consultancy progress and financial reports available from September 2021	Y
Procurement – appointment of consultants Tender assessment report & CEO appointment	Engineering Consultants appointment – OJEU RFT122413, Tender Documents, Tender Evaluation assessment, Conditions of Engagement, Letter of acceptance, CE order E2505 21.11.2017 Environmental Consultants appointment – OJEU RFT123111, Tender Documents, Tender Evaluation assessment, Conditions of Engagement, Letter of acceptance, CE order E2599 28.02.2018	Y
Flood event data collections	Photos from site visits, Survey reports, TCD Modelling	Y
Feasibility Study & Prelim CBA	Feasibility & Prelim Cost Benefit Analysis	Y
Financial data, invoices, recoupment claims etc	Financial expenditure & claims	Y

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for **South Galway/Gort Lowlands Flood Relief Scheme** based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes – all supporting documentation is available on GCC H Drive. Records are kept in an orderly manner for easy retrieval. Expenditure to date is €3.5M, with the majority attributed to consultant's fees, surveys undertaken and project managers salary. Claims are submitted to the OPW bi-annually and are done more frequent if high level of expenditure has incurred. Data Audit carried out by viewing documents on internal H Drive. Internal Audit is satisfied that the relevant data and information is available should the project be subjected to a full evaluation.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

No recommendation - Continue to maintain records in an accessible manner, to allow future review either through PSC In-depth check or internal/external audit.

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Capital Project 2)

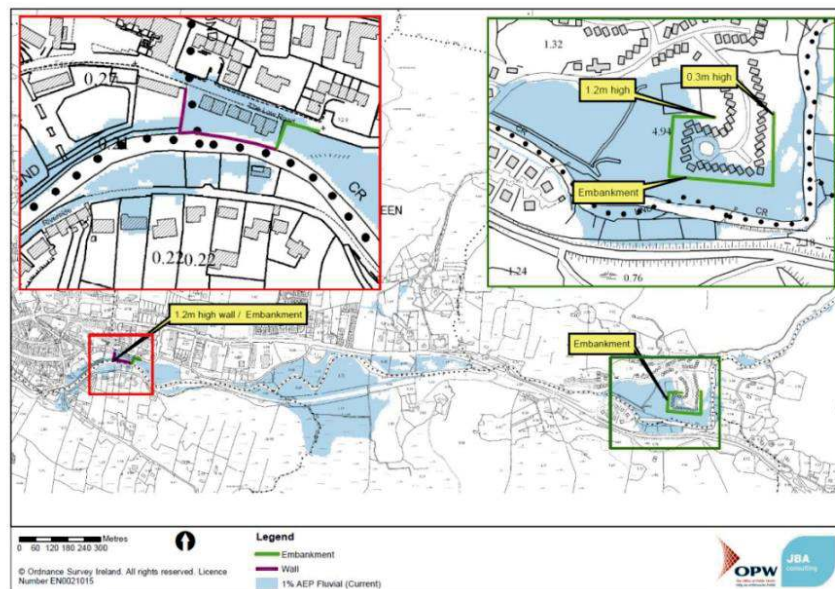
Name	Clifden Flood Relief Scheme
Detail	The scheme includes a proposal to develop a linear flood defence scheme for the town of Clifden, including Clifden Glen Holiday Village.
Responsible Body	Galway County Council (Sponsoring Agency), in conjunction with the OPW as Approving Authority
Current Status	Being Incurred
Start Date	21/09/2019
End Date	Proposed Completion 2028
Overall Cost	€5,300,000 Job Code: 07014122

Project Description

The Office of Public Works (OPW) advised Galway County Council (GCC) that a potential flood relief scheme was recommended for Clifden as part of the National Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP), published in 2018. The FRMP is based on the outputs from the Catchment-Based Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAMS) for the Western Basin (Unit of Management 32), which includes Clifden area.

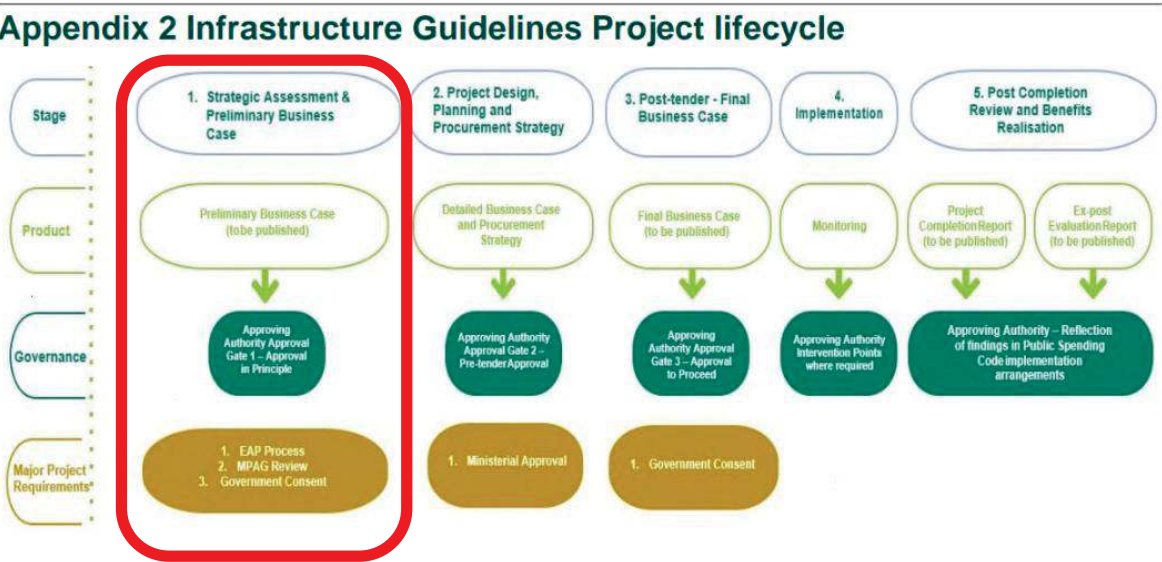
The FRMP was informed by the outcomes of a hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling of the Owenglin River which drains Clifden. The hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling for the FRMP was undertaken by JBA Consulting, and the results were published in March 2015. It included a proposal to develop a linear flood defence scheme for Clifden which would provide a 1% AEP standard of protection. Details of the proposed scheme are presented in Appendix G2 of the FRMP. The proposed scheme detailed an earthen embankment 0.3-1.2m high and approx. 300m long at Clifden Glen. Combined with a 1.2m high wall/embankment at Low Road approx. 150m long. The need for the project was derived following the publication of the FRMP and CFRAMS, which have both been reviewed at the start of the project. The Scheme Area for this Project is the town of Clifden, including the Clifden Glen Holiday Village. Some areas within Clifden that have a history of flooding include Clifden Glen Holiday Village, Low Road and Riverside.

Jacobs Engineering was commissioned by Galway County Council in 2021 to manage flood risk within the areas shown in Figure 1.2 as a minimum, while ensuring the study and scheme areas are inclusive of all flood risk areas. The scheme includes a proposal to develop a linear flood defence scheme which would provide a 1% (1 in 100) AEP standard of protection. This involved the commissioning of survey to inform the baseline and update the existing flood mapping for the area. Jacobs then assess options to find the most advantageous solution to reduce the risk of flooding to the study area.



Project Lifecycle

The proposed project is currently in Stage I – Strategic Assessment & Preliminary Business Case of the Infrastructure Guidelines Project lifecycle. It is anticipated that the project will reach Gate 1 approval by May 2025.



Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, the **Physical Development Team** have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **Clifden Flood Relief Scheme**

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Stage I (in progress) Identify the flood risks and solutions in the flood prone areas. Examine feasible flood alleviation measures. Prepare Feasibility Report and preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA). Prepare EIAR and NIS. Undertake a Valuation Survey to identify property and landowners that may be affected by the scheme.	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage I of the scheme. Funding commitment is currently being reviewed by the OPW.	Appoint Local Authority PM (completed). Engage engineering and environmental consultants (completed) Data Gathering (completed) Surveys (completed) Assessments (completed) Scheme Design (completed)	Scheme documentation proposals that are feasible from an engineering perspective, are environmentally acceptable and cost beneficial.	Environmentally acceptable and cost beneficial scheme is identified. Scheme progresses to Stage II.
Stage II (Planning Pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage II of the scheme.	Full cost benefit assessment (outstanding). OPW to review final EIAR along with business case and NIS ahead of submitting for planning (pending)	Prepare an environmentally and cost beneficial flood relief scheme documentation for submission to Planning (PDA) process.	OPW confirm their commitment to fund the proposed scheme (post review of CBA) and approve the scheme for

				submission to the relevant planning process.
Stage III (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage III of the scheme.	Finalise scheme documentation for Planning & Development Act (PDA). Complete detailed design. Prepare contract documents and procurement works as required.	Scheme documentation finalised and planning process documentation completed	Scheme is granted planning permission.
Stage IV (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage IV of the scheme. Engage land valuation personnel and acquire access to lands.	Supervise construction of the works. Supervise direct labour works (possibly OPW staff). Provide ongoing detailed design updates as required.	Construction works undertaken over a period of 1 year. All environmental planning conditions are adhered to.	Physical works on the scheme are completed. Landowner compensation payments are issued. Project safety file is prepared.
Stage V (pending)	Funding – OPW to commit to funding Stage V of the scheme and on-going maintenance costs.	Commission the works. Finalise Flood Risk Management Plans and maps. Prepare final account and Report	All required project documentation and outputs are submitted to the relevant bodies (GCC, OPW and GCC Planning Department) in appropriate formats.	Flood risk alleviated for the community of Clifden Glen, Low Road and Riverside in Clifden – to include flood risk to properties, communities being cut off for prolonged periods.

Description of Programme Logic Model -

Objectives Stage 1 & 2 Engineering:

1. The identification, appraisal, and design of a Flood Relief Scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable, and that alleviates the risk of flooding to the community of Clifden to the target Standard of Protection (SoP) of 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP), often referred to as a 100-year flood. The identification should include a review of the surface water system on the Low Road to identify the existing flood risk to adjacent properties. The mitigation measures necessary to protect the flood risk to properties along Low Road should be broken down into initial short-term and longer-term measures.
2. To obtain the necessary planning and environmental consents for the Scheme
3. To procure, manage, and oversee the construction of the Scheme.

Objectives Stage 1 & 2 Environmental:

- Undertake Constraints Study
- Screen for Appropriate Assessment
- Undertake Environmental Assessment of Viable Options
- Produce Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- Prepare Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)
- Additional Work – additional work may be required during Stages I of the project. Such work might comprise detailed studies, surveys or advice, which cannot be identified in advance of commencement of the Commission.

Inputs Stage 1 & 2:

- Funding of the scheme design works by the OPW
- Appointment of GCC PM for scheme
- Procurement of Engineering and Environmental consultants
- Creation and ongoing engagement between GCC and OPW along with relevant stakeholders.

Activities Stage 1 & 2:

- Undertake engineering and environmental surveys and studies
- Using collaboration between the client, funding agency and engineering / environmental consultants, develop a scheme that is financially feasible and environmentally acceptable
- Engage with all relevant stakeholders (statutory and non-statutory)

Outputs & Outcomes Stage 1 & 2:

- Have scheme and associated documentation approved by OPW for submission for planning consent through Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended and the Local Authorities (Works) Act 1949.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Scheme/Programme

The following section tracks the **Clifden Flood Relief Scheme** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.

Period/Year	Description
July 2018	GCC sent a letter to the OPW requesting funding for the implementation of a flood relief project in Clifden.
December 2018	OPW letter to GCC approving funding for the implementation of a flood relief scheme for Clifden
September 2019	GCC appointed an OPW funded Project Manager for the scheme
September 2021	Jacobs Engineering Ireland Engineering and Environmental Consultants appointed.
December 2024	Feasibility Report published, identifying an 'Emerging Feasible Scheme' that was both environmentally and economically feasible.
March 2025	GCC informed the OPW that Jacobs have substantially completed stage 1 of the Clifden FRS.
	Pending Milestones
May 2025	GCC to seek clarification from OPW regarding the scheme feasibility and funding and approval to progress to Stage 2 (Planning)
May 2026	GCC to seek OPW approval to tender for construction
February 2027	GCC to seek OPW approval to enter Contract for Construction
April 2027	Construction works commence
January 2028	Construction works substantially completed
September 2028	Production of Project Completion Report

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to the appraisal, planning and implementation of the scheme

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **Clifden Flood Relief Scheme**

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
GCC letter to OPW (5/07/18) seeking a flood relief scheme for South Galway.	
Response from OPW (03/12/2018) granting approval to initiate a scheme and appointment of technical staff member.	Letter correspondence
OPW sanction employment of PM for scheme (06/03/19).	Letter correspondence
Engineering & Environmental Consultants appointed to project following open tender (07/09/21.)	Letter of Acceptance - Jacobs Engineering.
Progress Meeting Minutes	Minutes of meetings
Stage 1 Final Report and Preliminary CBA published January 2024	

Section B – Step 4 - Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **Clifden Flood Relief Scheme**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for Project Name based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes – all supporting documentation is available on GCC internal drive. Records are kept in an orderly manner for easy retrieval. Expenditure to date is €790k, with the majority attributed to consultant's fees, surveys undertaken and project managers salary. All expenditure incurred has been fully recouped from the OPW. Data Audit carried out by viewing documents on internal H Drive. Internal Audit is satisfied that the relevant data and information is available should the project be subjected to a full evaluation.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

No recommendation - Continue to maintain records in an accessible manner, to allow future review either through PSC In-depth check or internal/external audit.

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Capital Project 3)

Name	Inis Óírr Pier Development
Detail	Construction of 90m long concrete pier and seawall, raise existing seawall on concrete pier, internal & external breakwater, dredging & ancillary site work including lighting
Responsible Body	Galway County Council - Sponsoring Agent Dept of Rural & Community Development – Approving Authority
Current Status	Being Considered
Start Date	2007
End Date	August 2028
Overall Cost	€38,521,658 Job Code: 02023566

Project Description

Inis Oírr Pier located on Inis Oírr, Aran Islands suffers from wave “overtopping” and weather-related issues, resulting in a safety risk to pier users and vessels using the facility. The overtopping is caused by the interaction of incoming waves and reflective waves from the rear of the pier which results in a very confused sea state in the vicinity of the pier. The safety risk associated with overtopping requires closure of the pier on occasions. Equally, the harbour is exposed resulting in a wave climate with excessive wave heights within the berthing area. In addition to serving as the main access point to the island for foot passengers, the pier is also used for cargo and potable water deliveries to the island. This leads to severe congestion on occasions, particularly during the summer months when large crowds come to the island.

Statutory approval for the construction of a pier extension and breakwater was obtained from An Bord Pleanála in 2007. The original appraisal concluded that there was sufficient rationale for the State’s intervention to proceed to the detailed appraisal stage. The studies showed that construction of a breakwater on the seaward side of the pier would mitigate against wave overtopping and make berthing safer. The provision of a pier extension will reduce the safety risks associated with excessive wave heights in the harbour and will also provide additional berthage for vessels thereby reducing congestion on the pier.

The existing issues with the pier have been further exacerbated by the increase in storms. Following winter storms in November and February 2020, Galway County Council requested Punch Consulting Engineers to carry out a condition survey on the Inis Oírr pier. This report highlighted the absence of structural protection for the pier to the Northern face of the pier. This has resulted in the pier face being subject to the full energy of storm waves without the protective dissipation of protection such as rock armour, or wave blocks (“x-blocks”). The report noted that cracking had developed on the pier structure. It is the opinion of the consultants that the proposed pier improvement works would substantially address the issue of overtopping and also substantially reduce the external and internal hydraulic loading on the existing structure. They also noted that the most effective use of funding required to address the issue of continuing wave damage to the pier is to carry out the proposed pier improvement works to the existing pier and that this should be done as soon as is practicable.

A reappraisal of the project was carried out in 2021 and identified that Option 4C, which is the option granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála, remains the optimal solution and has established that, for the safety and technical reasons set out above, this option must be constructed in its entirety as a single phase.

The objectives of the proposed development are:

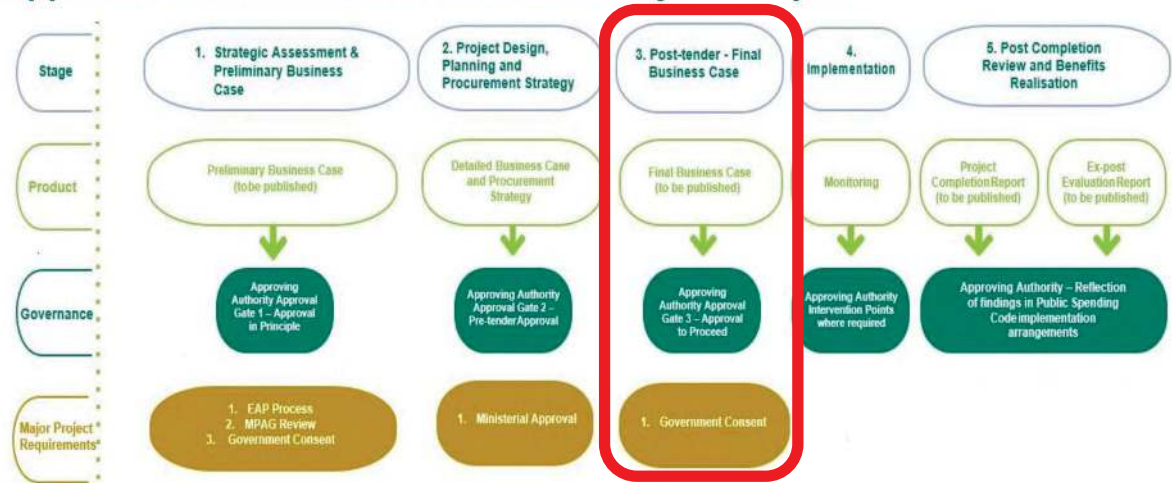
- The provision of full overtopping protection for a 1 in 1 year storm event.
- The improvement of wave climate within the harbour by reducing wave heights to an acceptable standard.
- Provision of increased berthage for vessels, particularly during the summer months when numbers are greatest.
- The provision of pier improvements which deliver on the objectives listed above at the best value for money.

The scope of the proposed project involves:

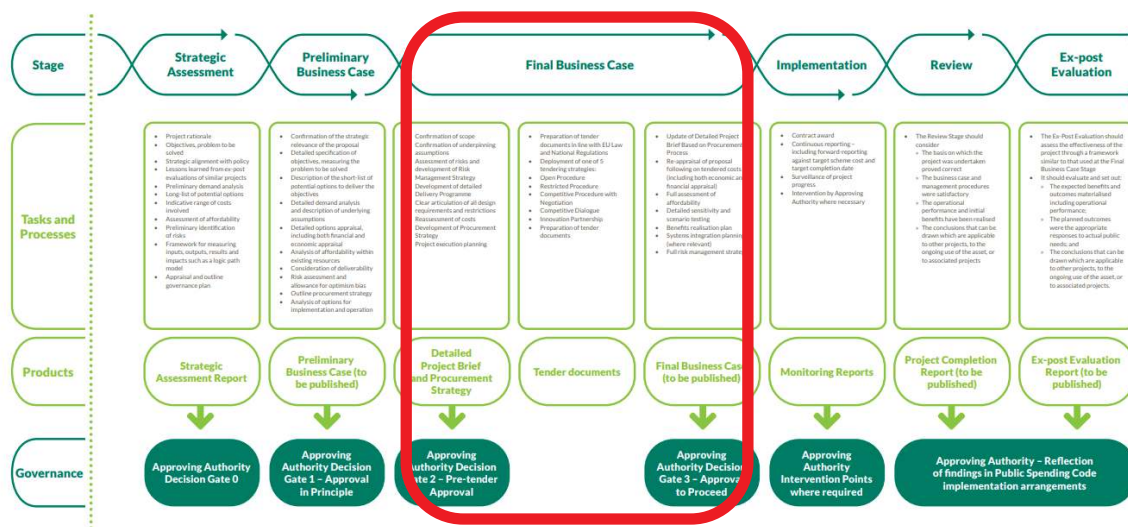
- the construction of a 90m long concrete pier and seawall (30m extension to existing and 60m dogleg extension),
- Raise seawall on the existing concrete pier,
- 160m of external attached rubble mound breakwater with precast concrete primary armour,
- capital dredging of bedrock to improve harbour navigation,
- 25m of internal attached rubble mound breakwater with stone primary armour,
- ancillary site works including floodlighting.

The proposed project is currently in Stage III of the Public Spending Code Project Lifecycle – Post-tender – Final Business Case.

Appendix 2 Infrastructure Guidelines Project lifecycle



Public Spending Code lifecycle and Decision Gates



Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, **Physical Development Unit** have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **Inis Oírr Pier Development**

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Pre-Stage 1 – Historic - Planning for Pier extension at Inis Oírr	<p>Application prepared under Section 226(1) of the Planning & Development Act of 2000.</p> <p>Environmental Impact Statement was prepared and submitted to An Bord Pleanála</p>	<p>The planning application was submitted to An Bord Pleanála on 6th December 2006.</p> <p>The EIS was submitted to ABP and was also made available for public inspection from November 24th 2006 until 16th January 2007.</p>	<p>A number of submissions were made to the Board, but no submissions objected to the principle of the proposed development.</p>	<p>Planning Approved by An Bord Pleanála on 20th July 2007</p> <p>Due to the economic downturn this project was postponed.</p>
<p>Stage 1 Public Spending Code: Strategic Assessment and Preliminary Business Case</p> <p>Confirmation of planning consent</p> <p>Confirm GCC Executive Engineer funding by DRCD</p> <p>Obtain Consultants for progressing Inis Oírr Pier Extension</p> <p>Ground and marine surveys to obtain background information</p>	<p>Re-appraisal of the project following the cancellation of this project due to the economic downturn</p> <p>Correspondence with the Planning Department to confirm planning consent</p> <p>Request for funding for Executive Engineer</p> <p>Procurement documents for consultants for the project prepared</p>	<p>Letter received from the Director of Services for Planning confirming planning consent</p> <p>Correspondence with the Department in relation to funding the position of an Executive Engineer within Galway County Council to progress this project</p> <p>Tender documents for consultant engineer published in 2017</p> <p>Arrange bathymetric surveys to be undertaken</p>	<p>Planning permission confirmed as still valid</p> <p>Funding for the project to be provided by DRCD</p> <p>Tenders received from 6 candidates for consultant engineering services</p> <p>Bathymetric Survey undertaken</p> <p>Ground investigation report received</p> <p>Re-appraisal of the Business case submitted to the Department in May 2019</p>	<p>Funding for Executive Engineer confirmed – to be provided by the DRCD.</p> <p>Consulting Engineers, Punch Consulting, appointed as Employers Representative and appointed as the PSDP for the project.</p> <p>Approval for the Preliminary Business Case and scheme progresses past Decision Gate 1.</p>

Prepare and submit the Preliminary Business Case to the Department	Bathymetric Surveys and ground investigation study to be undertaken – funded by DRCD Multi criteria analysis to be completed to identify the best option Preparation of all information required for the Preliminary Business Case	Obtain consultant to undertake ground investigation report Identify best option to proceed with. Multi criteria analysis carried out Re- appraisal of the Business Case	Preliminary Business Case submitted in March 2021	
Stage II PSC: Pretender – Detailed Project Brief & Procurement Strategy: Confirm funding. Gain approval for publishing tender documents. – obtain approval at Decision Gate II Commence Compulsory Purchase Order Process	Funding – DRCD to commit to funding Stage II of the project. CPO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - landowners to be identified - CPO to be advertised - CPO documents to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála - Confirmation of CPO to be published - Correspondence with landowners throughout the process 	Project Brief and Procurement Strategy Update delivery programme Multicriteria Cost Analysis review Assessment of risks and development of risk management strategy Finalise brief and decide on procurement strategy Obtain Procurement specialist advice Preparation of CPO documents to submit to An Bord Pleanála	Preparation and submission of Project Brief and Procurement Strategy to the Department of Rural and Community Development – Final Document submitted in June 2023 CPO documents compilation and submitted to ABP – submitted in person on 20/12/2022 CPO confirmed on: 21/03/2023 CPO Operative from: 28th April 2023	Approval received from the Department of Rural and Community Development in June 2023 to proceed with the contract and move to tender - Approval to proceed to tender and past Decision Gate II Letter received dated 21st February 2023 from ABP - no objections to the CPO received. CPO confirmed on: 21/03/2023 CPO Operative from: 28th April 2023

		Letters to landowners: CPO, Confirmation of CPO, CPO operative.		
<p>Stage III PSC: Post - Tender – Final Business Case</p> <p>CPO process to be finalised</p>	<p>Procurement documents for Works contractors</p> <p>Procurement of Resident Engineering Staff</p> <p>Obtain approval at Decision Gate III and confirm funding.</p>	<p>Updated bathymetry survey to be undertaken for works tender background information.</p> <p>Procurement documents for works prepared by Punch Consulting</p> <p>Advice sought from Procurement Specialist – Catherine Carmody Consultants</p> <p>Publish 1st stage of Tender on eTenders (SAQ)</p> <p>Publish 2nd stage of Tender on eTenders (Quality & Pricing)</p> <p>Use tendered costs to update final cost analysis.</p> <p>Creation of contract documents for RE tender</p> <p>Create Final Business Case</p>	<p>First stage of Works contract tender published on eTenders (and OJEU) on 28th November 2023</p> <p>Single Party Framework for Design and Build Marine Developments with initial contract for Inis Oírr Pier Improvements</p> <p>eTenders ID 2764358</p> <p>TED Notice: 724967-2023</p> <p>SAQ responses Evaluation document</p> <p>Second stage of Works contract tender and tender documents uploaded to eTenders on 8th April 2024</p> <p>MEAT Evaluation document</p> <p>The Final Business Case and the Tender Assessment document submitted to the secretary general of the Department via the Chief Executive on 18th March 2025.</p>	<p>Most Economically Advantageous Tender identified.</p> <p>Final Business Case approval awaited. Once this has been received the tender award can take place.</p> <p>RE tender assessment to be submitted to DRCD for approval.</p> <p>RE Tender to be awarded</p>

				RE staff tender published on eTenders on 10/03/2025 RE tenders to be assessed – closing date 02/05/2025	
Stage IV PSC - Implementation Pending	Funding – DRCD to commit to funding stage IV of the project. Finalise CPO payments	RE staff to supervise construction of the works on site. Project management Liaise with Employers representative, contractors and RE staff throughout the construction stage. Monitor works Payment of landowner compensation	Construction works undertaken over a period of 2.5 years. Two full summer seasons for the works are required. All environmental planning conditions are adhered to.	Inis Oírr Pier Improvement Works completion for quarter 3 of 2027 (dependent on Ministerial approval date to award the tender) Defect period up to August 2028 Physical works on the scheme are completed. Landowner compensation payments are issued Project safety file is prepared.	
Stage V PSC – Post Completion Review & Benefits Realisation Pending	Funding – DRCD to commit to funding Stage V of the project	Commission the works Prepare final account and report	All required project documentation and outputs are submitted to the relevant bodies in appropriate formats Project Completion Report Ex-post Evaluation Report	Pier extended for increased berthage. Wave overtopping risk reduced with breakwater and increased height of sea wall. Waves within harbour reduced. Pier safety increased for all pier users.	

Objectives Stage I, II & III

- Confirmation of planning consent to be confirmed by the planning department
- Galway County Council Executive Engineer to be funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development to oversee Inis Óírr Pier Improvement Project.
- Obtain Engineering Consultants for progressing Inis Óírr Pier Extension and to act as the Employers Representative.
- Surveys to be undertaken to inform the business case and costs - Ground and marine surveys required.
- Re-appraisal of the business case to be undertaken
- Preparation and submission of the Preliminary Business Case to the Department
- Preparation and Submission of the Project Brief and Procurement Strategy to the Department.
- Gain approval for publishing tender documents for a works contractor.
- Compulsory Purchase Order Process to be commenced.
- Resident Engineering Staff to be appointed.
- Final Business Case to be submitted to the Department.

Inputs Stage I, II & III:

- Creation and ongoing engagement between Steering Group and its members (GCC, DRCD & TCAGSM Engineer)
- Re-appraisal of this project (following the cancellation of this project due to the economic downturn) and correspondence with Planning Department to confirm planning consent still valid.
- Funding for GCC Executive Engineer to be provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development.
- Procurement of Consultant Engineer for the project to act as PSDP and Employers Representative.
- Marine and land surveys to aid cost analysis and as background information.
- Multi criteria analysis to be completed to identify the best option
- Compulsory Purchase Order Process to be commenced, landowners to be identified and contacted and CPO to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála.
- Procurement of Works Contractor via eTenders.
- Procurement of Resident Engineering Staff via eTenders.
- Obtain Ministerial approval for the Final Business Case at Decision Gate III and confirm funding. The Final Business Case and the Tender Assessment Document sent from the Chief Executive of Galway County Council to the Secretary General of the Department of Rural and Community Development. Once approval is received the works contract to be awarded.

Activities Stage I, II & III:

- Correspondence with the Department in relation to funding the position of an Executive Engineer within Galway County Council to progress this project.
- Procurement documents prepared and a competition for obtaining the services of a consultant engineer was published in 2017.
- Bathymetric and ground investigation studies were undertaken to inform costs and reports.
- Multi criteria analysis of all options in EIS carried along with a re- appraisal of the Business Case. The Preliminary Business Case was submitted to the Department in 2021.
- Delivery programme updated by Punch Consulting engineers.
- Multicriteria Cost Analysis reviewed, and assessment of risks and development of risk management strategy and the Project Brief and Procurement Strategy was submitted to the Department in 2023.
- Procurement specialist advice sought on advice from the Procurement Officer in Galway County Council.
- Preparation of CPO documents which were then submitted to An Bord Pleanála. Letters to landowners regarding the CPO were issued including notice of CPO, Confirmation of CPO and CPO operative notice.
- Contract documents for works tender were prepared by Punch Consulting with input from the Procurement Specialist – Catherine Carmody Consultants
- Procurement competition (2 stage tender) for works contractor published on eTenders in 2023 (SAQ), 4 candidates were qualified and then invited to tender – invitation to tender for the works was published in April 2024. The closing date was August 2024.
- Final Business Case prepared with updated costs following tenders received and MEAT identified.
- Procurement competition for Resident Engineering staff published on eTenders in 2025.

Outputs & Outcomes Stage I, II & III:

- Planning permission confirmed as valid and funding for Executive Engineer by DRCD confirmed.
- Consulting Engineers, Punch Consulting were appointed as Employers Representative and as the PSDP for the project in 2018.
- A re-appraisal of the Business case was submitted to the Department in May 2019. The Preliminary Business Case was submitted to the Department in March 2021 and approval was received allowing the project to pass Decision Gate I of the Public Spending Code.
- CPO documents were created and submitted to An Bord Pleanála in person at the ABP offices on 20/12/2022. A letter was received dated 21st February 2023 from ABP stating that no objections to the CPO were received. The CPO was confirmed on: 21/03/2023 and became operative of 28th April 2023.

- Preparation and submission of Project Brief and Procurement Strategy to the Department of Rural and Community Development – Final Document submitted in June 2023. Approval received from Department of Rural and Community Development in June 2023 to proceed with the contract and move to tender - Approval to proceed to tender and past Decision Gate II.
- First stage of the Works contract tender was published on eTenders (and OJEU) on 28th November 2023. The title of the Cft was *Single Party Framework for Design and Build Marine Developments with initial contract for Inis Oírr Pier Improvements*
eTenders ID 2764358
TED Notice: 724967-2023
- Four candidates were invited to tender for the second stage of the contract tender and the tender documents were uploaded to eTenders on 8th April 2024 with a closing date of August 2024.
- Three tender submissions were received, and the Most Economically Advantageous Tender identified. The Tender Assessment Report was completed by Punch Consulting.
- The Final Business Case and the Tender Assessment document were submitted to the Secretary General of the Department via the Chief Executive on 18th March 2025. Final Business Case Ministerial approval is awaited and once this has been received the tender award can take place.
- RE Staff tender published on eTenders on 10/03/2025 with a closing date of 02/05/2025
The RE staff tender assessment to be submitted to DRCD for approval prior to awarding.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the **Inis Oírr Pier Development** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.

Period/Year	Description
July 2007	Planning granted for project
2017	Re-visit project – Project re-appraisal
July 2017	Confirmation from the Department regarding funding Galway County Council Executive Engineer for the project.
March 2018	Punch Consulting Engineers appointed as PSDP and Employers Representative
April 2021	Ministerial approval of the Preliminary Business Case
December 2022	CPO published
June 2023	Project Brief & Procurement Strategy submitted to the Department and approved
November 2023 – August 2024	Tender for Works Contractor
March 2025	GCC seek Ministerial approval of the Final Business Case and for approval to enter into a Contract for Construction

	Pending Milestones
May 2025	Award contract for works
May 2025	Award RE contract
Summer 2025	Construction works commence
August 2027	Construction works substantially completed
August 2028	End of Defects Period
Summer 2028	Production of Project Completion Report

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **Inis Oírr Pier Development**

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Planning Approval Documentation	Planning Approval Documentation Confirmation of validity of planning letter from Planning to the Department:
Steering Group Meetings	Minutes of meetings
Preliminary Business Case	Preliminary Business Case document Ministerial Approval for Business Case received on 30 th April 2021
CPO Documentation	CPO Process, maps, landowners, Schedule advertisement of CPO etc.
Project Brief and Procurement Strategy	Project programme, risk assessment, management strategy, project cost and multi-criteria analysis
Tender Advert	eTenders ID 2764358 TED Notice: 724967-2023
Tender Assessment Report	Report on tender submissions, evaluation & recommendation.
Final Business Case	Submission of Final Business Case and Tender Assessment from GCC CE to Secretary General DRCD 24/03/25
Procurement for RE – Ref 5248455	European Dynamics - View CfT Workspace

Section B – Step 4 - Data Audit

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **Inis Oírr Pier Development**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability Y / N
An Bord Pleanála – planning application for proposed construction of Pier extension at Inis Oírr, Co. Galway. Ref 07.EF2023	Planning Permission	Y
Steering Group Minutes	Minutes of meetings & progress of project	Y
Ministerial Approval to proceed with Business Case	Ministerial Approval	Y
CPO documentation, maps, correspondence, advertisement/publication	CPO process	Y
Final Business Case	Business case outlining strategic objectives, risk assessment, delivery programme, design requirements & projected cost	Y
Report on Tenders – Punch Consultant	Tender evaluation report & proposed recommendations	Y
Procurement Strategy		Y
Chief Executive Order E4174	CE confirmation to proceed with CPO	Y
CfT: Resident Engineering Staff Inis Oírr Pier Improvement Project	European Dynamics - View CfT Workspace	Y
Procurement - Single Party Framework for Design and Build Marine Developments with initial contract for Inis Oírr Pier Improvements	724967-2023 - Competition - TED	Y

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the acquisition of **Inis Oírr Pier Development** based on the findings from the previous section of this report.

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for Project Name based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced.

No recommendations

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Capital Project 4)

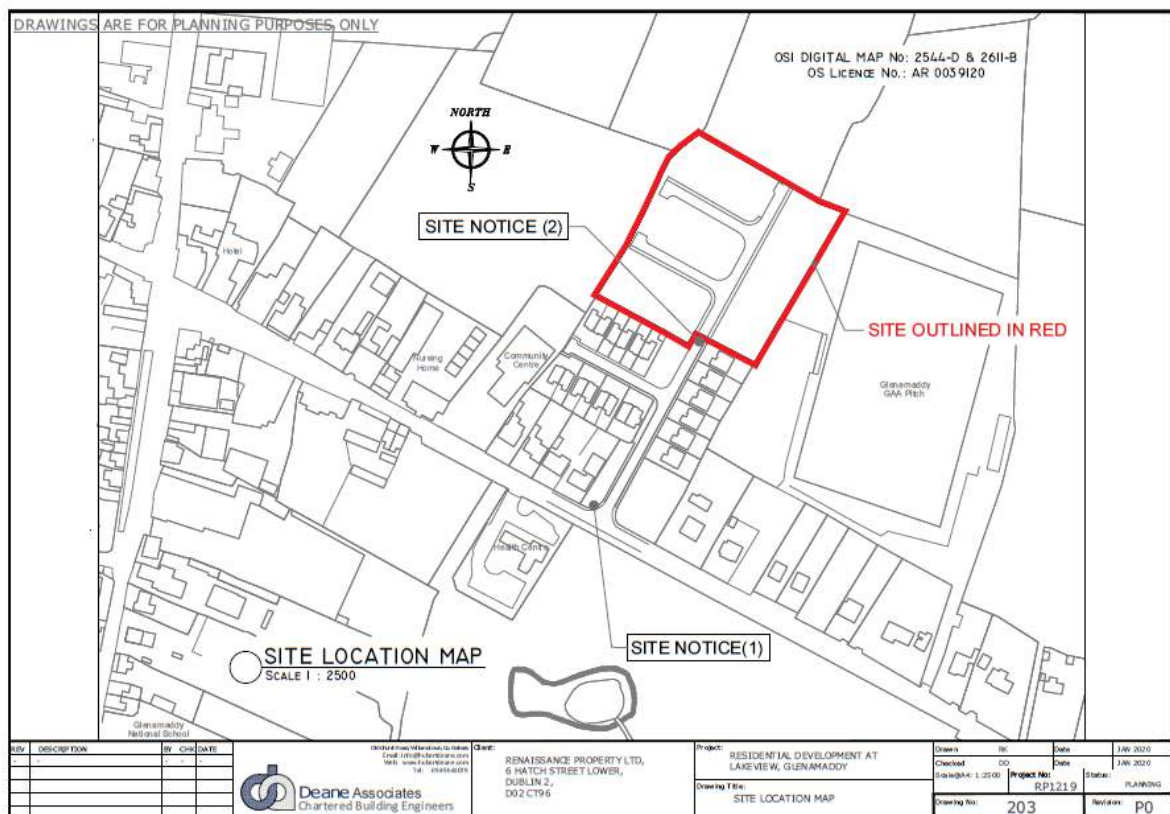
Name	CAP - TURNKEY N7-2-353 LAKEVIEW, GLENAMADDY - 22 UNITS
Detail	Turnkey Development – Acquisition of 22 units located at Lakeview, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway.
Responsible Body	Galway County Council
Current Status	Complete
Start Date	23/09/2022
End Date	31/08/2024
Overall Cost	€6,190,000 Job Code: 01119101

Project Description

In September 2022, Galway Co. Co. invited Expressions of Interest for Provision of 'Turnkey' Housing via Notice to Developers / Builders advert in regional newspapers and via Galway County Councils website. Interested parties were requested to read the Brief and complete an EOI application form for turnkey developments for public housing made available on Galway Co. Co. website. The closing date for receipt of EOI submissions was set for the 23rd of September 2022 but was extended until 31st of October 2022 to facilitate late submissions.

The development comprises of a scheme of 22 residential units which are situated to the rear of an established residential development also know as Lakeview. The development was approved for planning permission under planning reference 20/493. It comprises of a mixture of 2,3 and 4 bedroom terraced, semi-detached and detached dwellings which range in size from 87sqm to 130sqm.

The development is located between Glenamaddy Community Centre and Glenamaddy GAA grounds and is a short walk (600m) to the town centre. The town has a good supply of private sports and recreational facilities, as welcome as educational infrastructure with both primary and secondary school both located within walking distance to the development.





Galway County's Housing Delivery Action Plan encourages the delivery of social housing into towns and villages throughout Galway. Glenamaddy is located within the Ballinasloe Municipal District and in accordance with the 2022-2026 programme for social housing delivery in Ballinasloe, the project complied under category 7 LA Turnkey or Category 11 Required Additional AHB Delivery.

Composition of development

Unit Type	# of Bedrooms	# of units	Square Metres
Mid Terrace, two bed, two storey, town house	2	2	96
Detached, two bed, bungalow	2	4	87
End Terrace, three bed, two storey, town house	3	4	108
Semi-detached, three bed, town house	3	8	110
Semi-detached, four bed, town house	4	4	130
Total Units		22	
Independent Market Valuation			€ 6,350,000
Agreed Total All-In-Cost (Acquisition)			€6,190,000

Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, **Housing Unit** have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **TURNKEY N7-2-353 LAKEVIEW, GLENAMADDY - 22 UNITS**

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
To work toward meetings targets set GCC Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP)	Funding Approval	Public Advertisement in local newspapers & Council media outlets seeking Expression of Interest	22 Units 6 x 2B 12 x 3B 4 x 4B	Availability of supply of social housing units to meet the demand in the area
Reduce Housing List	Local Authority Staff – Technical & Administration	Receipt and evaluation of proposals		New tenancy agreements signed
Provision of 22 units	Development site with F.P.P. and developer willing to work with Local Authority	Capital Appraisal Submission to DHLGH to secure funding for acquisition		Income generation for the Council
		Completion of contract agreements, Chief Executive Orders		Revitalise communities
		Project Oversight		
		Submission of claims & recoupment of funds from DHLGH		

Objectives:

The provision of a supply of social housing in Glenamaddy town where current demand was prioritised following a Housing Needs Assessment. Current demand in this region was 98 applicants when the project was reviewed. The provision of these units will reduce the housing waiting list.

Inputs:

The primary input is funding approvals received from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, totalling €6,190,000. Access to technical and administration staff in the Housing Department to support and manage the projects. Developer willing to engage with the local authority and a suitable site with Full Planning Permission.

Activities:

Public Advertisements in local newspapers and through the Council's media outlets seeking Expression of Interest for Turnkey Developments within urban settlement/town/villages & provision of a briefing document for interested parties. Applications received by 31st October 2022, evaluation panel set up and applications evaluated. Requests for Stage 2 documentation issued. Capital project appraisal submitted to the Department and funding secured prior to progression of the projects. Proposals agreed and contracts signed. Payment of 10% deposit to developer when contracts agreed, with balance payable at handover. All funding then subsequently recouped from the Department. Keys of units provided to the allocations team.

Outputs & Outcomes:

Delivery of the agreed 22 units to meet the social housing demand in an area where a need has been identified. All units are occupied, housing a total of 64 tenants, 41 adults and 23 children (under 18).

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the **TURNKEY N7-2-353 LAKEVIEW, GLENAMADDY - 22 UNITS** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.

Period/Year	Description
23/09/2022	Advertisement for Expression of Interest (EOI) via newspapers & GCC website
31/10/2022	Closing date for receipt of EOI applications from interested Developers/Builders
	EOI assessment complete
19/05/2023	Stage 1 - Capital Appraisal submission
15/06/2023	Stage 1-4 Approval (Turnkey) 22 Units
22/12/2023	Delivery of Units to Local Authority
05/01/2024	First Claim to Department
08/03/2024	Close of Sale
15/03/2024	Final claim to Department
27/09/2024	Assets registration – email sent to finance for inclusion on fixed asset register
	Tenancy Allocations & Occupancy

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **TURNKEY N7-2-353 LAKEVIEW, GLENAMADDY - 22 UNITS**

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Circular 31/2019 – Arrangements for the provision by LA of Social Housing through Turnkey Projects	Provision by LA of Social Housing through Turnkey Projects
Capital Works Management Framework	
Circular 13/2019 – Unit Ceiling Cost 2019	Ceiling cost guidance
Quality Homes for Sustainable Communities	
Standard Specification for Materials & Finishes for Social Housing	
Design Standards for new apartments – guidelines for planning authorities (2018)	
Building Control Regulations 1997-2015	
Project Brief Submission & Housing need assessment	
Project projected Costing	

Section B – Step 4 - Data Audit

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **Turnkey - 22 Units at Lakeview, Glenamaddy**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability Y / N
Advertisement for Turnkey development	Request of EOI from Developers for Turnkey developments	Y
Submissions to the DHLGH & supporting documentation for Stage 1 & 2	Approval for progression of project	Y
Approval letters for each stage of the projects	Confirm budget approval and progression of project	Y
Claim submission to the Department & expenditure monitoring report	Reconciliation of expenditure with GCC financial management system Agresso MS7	Y
Financials – extract from Agresso, Invoices & payment certification	Compliance with financial/accounts payable procedures, TCC	Y
Department Claims	To recoup expenditure incurred	Y
C3 – Planning permission	Compliance with planning requirement	Y
Contracts for Turnkey	Agreement on acquisition including number of units, price & terms & conditions	Y
Chief Executive Order	No 4980, dated 19/06/2023	Y
iHouse verification	Units recorded on iHouse, all occupied	Y

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the acquisition of **Turnkey - 22 Units at Lakeview, Glenamaddy** based on the findings from the previous section of this report.

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for Project Name based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

No recommendations

Section A: Introduction

Scheme Information (Capital Project 5)

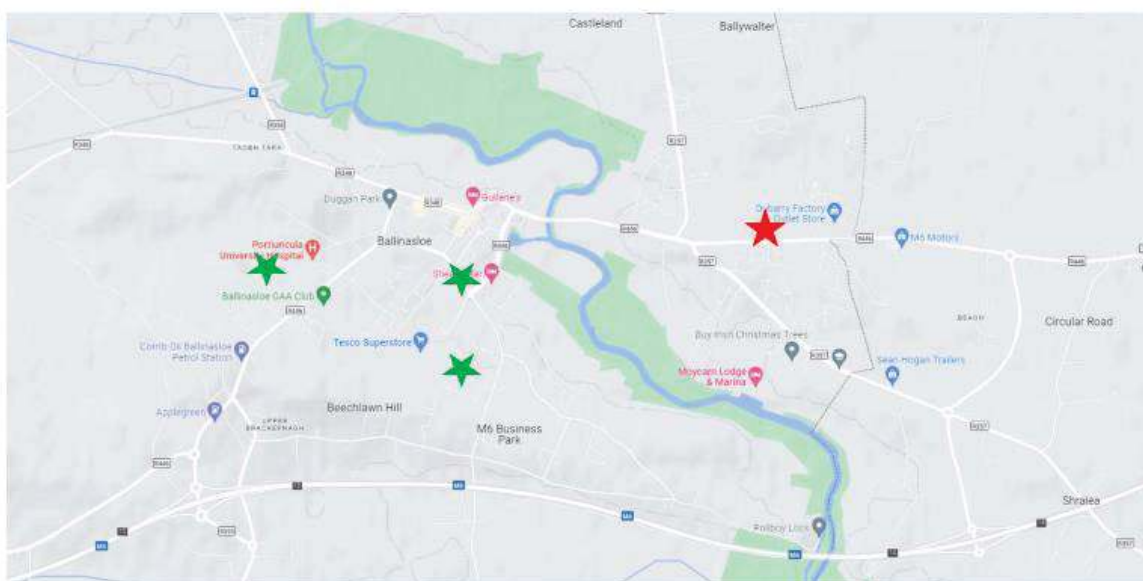
Name	N7/2/346 – Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada
Detail	Acquisition of 34 Turnkey Units at Kilgarve, Ballinasloe, comprising of - Turnkey (34) – 3 x 1 bed, 22 x 2 bed, 8 x 3bed/2storey and 1 x 3bed bungalow
Responsible Body	Galway County Council
Current Status	Being Incurred
Start Date	18/03/2022
End Date	Q4,2025
Overall Cost	€11,600,015

Project Description

The project comprises of 34 Turnkeys. The development was a greenfield site in Kilgarve, Ballinasloe. It was the first phase of a two-phase development. A project appraisal submission was made to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government in May 2022 submitting a Turnkey application for the acquisition of 33 units at Kilgarve in Ballinasloe.

A separate Part V proposal for the acquisition of 4 units at the same location of Kilgarve, Ballinasloe was also submitted.

This turnkey is located on the old Dublin Road on the East side of Ballinasloe.



Green Star – Approved Housing Projects
Red Star – this proposed turnkey application

A Procurement Report is included with the submission for the Turnkey Proposal, which outlines the process applied seeking 'Expressions of Interest' (EOI) for turnkey acquisitions of social housing and provides details of the outcome of the process. Housing demand assessment indicated high demand for the area which made these acquisitions a viable option for the provision of units and reduce the housing waiting list.

Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, **Housing Section** of Galway County Council have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the **N7/2/346 – Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada**

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Provide social housing in accordance with GCC Housing Delivery Action plan 2022-2026	Funding Approval of Turnkey - €11,600,015	Public Advertisement seeking EOI's	34 Unit of varying size 3 x 1B 22 x 2B 8 x 3B/2S 1 x 3B bungalow	Availability of a supply of social housing units to meet the demand in the area
Reduce Housing waiting list	Local Authority Staff – Technical & Administration support	Receipt and evaluation of proposals		New tenancy agreements
Provision of 34 units		Capital Appraisal Submission to DHLGH and obtaining budget approval to progress with acquisition		Income generation for the Council
		Completion of contract agreements, Chief Executive Orders		
		Submission of claims & recoupment of funds from the DHLGH		

Objectives:

Provide social housing in according with GCC Housing Delivery Action plan 2022-2026. Reduce the housing waiting list. Current demand in this region of 352 applicants when the project was reviewed.

Acquisition of 34 Turnkey Units at Kilgarve, Ballinasloe, comprising of

- Turnkey (34) – 3 x 1 bed, 22 x 2 bed, 8 x 3bed/2storey and 1 x 3bed bungalow

Inputs:

The primary input is funding approvals received from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, totalling Funding Approval of: Turnkey - €11,600,015

Access to technical and administration staff in the Housing Department to support and manage the projects.

Activities:

On March 2022, Galway County Council advertised in regional/local newspapers, social media outlets & Galway County Council websites seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for 'Advance Purchase Arrangements of Un-commenced Residential Developments through Turnkey Agreements'. Briefing document was made available for prospective applicants. The closing date for EOI was 31st March 2022. 20 submissions were received by the closing date and were assessed in line with the pass/fail criteria based on Location, Land Zoning Status, Utilities & Services and Affordability Gain. Housing needs assessment for the area was reviewed and given the high demand for the Ballinasloe area a Capital Appraisal submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage was made on 4th May 2022. Departmental approval was received along with budget allocation in June 2022.

As the project progressed, it was necessary to make a revised cost submission in April 2023, which was subsequently approved by the Department in May 2023

Outputs & Outcomes:

At year end, all units were complete, with the exception of one unit. The final Account & final Claim submission is expected to issue to Department once completed, which is anticipated to be July 2025.

Delivery of the agreed 34 units to meet the social housing demand in an area where a need has been identified. 34 units are occupied.

Turnkey Workflow process



Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the **N7/2/346 – Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada** from inception to conclusion in terms of major project/programme milestones.

Period/Year	Turnkey (34) units
18/03/2022	Advertisement of EOI's
31/03/2022	Closing date for receipt of EOI applications from interested developers/builders
17/05/2022	Stage 1 – Capital Appraisal Submissions to DHLGH for 34 Units
21/06/2022	Approval Stage 1-4 Turnkey 34 Units (DHLGH)
21/6/2022	Budget Approval €10,007,111
04/07/2022	Chief Executive order 3547
January 2023	Construction works commenced
18/04/2023	Revised Cost submission
05/05/2023	Revised Approved Budget € 11,600,015
	Units handed over to GCC on a phased basis
	Pending
Pending	Final Account/Claim to Department

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **N7/2/346 – Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada**

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Circular 31/2019 – Arrangements for the provision by LA of Social Housing through Turnkey Projects	
Capital Works Management Framework	
Circular 13/2019 – Unit Ceiling Cost 2019	
Quality Homes for Sustainable Communities	
Standard Specification for Materials & Finishes for Social Housing	
Design Standards for new apartments – guidelines for planning authorities (2018)	
Building Control Regulations 1997-2015	
Project Brief Submission & Housing need assessment	
Project projected Costing	

Section B – Step 4 - Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the **N7/2/346 – Kilgarve An Ghort Fhada**. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability Y / N
Advertisement for Turnkey development	Seek Expression of Interest	Y
Evaluation for Stage 1	Site Location, Housing need	Y
Submissions to DHLGH & supporting document for Stage 1-4	Briefing document/Project Appraisal	Y
Approval letters for each stage	Confirm budget approval and progression of project	Y
Claim submission to Department & expenditure monitoring	Reconciliation of expenditure with GCC financial management system Agresso MS7	Y
Financial - Agresso extract, Invoices & Payment certification	Reconciliation of Income & Expenditure	Y
Department Claims	To recoup expenditure incurred	Y
C3 Planning Permission	Planning Permission Ref – 20/989, ABP-310373-21 – 28/10/2021	Y
iHouse Verification	Units recorded on iHouse Units Occupied	Y
Fixed Asset Register	Units capitalised on FMS and included in Fixed Asset Register Email sent to Finance 17/12/2024 for 34	Y

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for Project Name based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

Yes

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

No Recommendations.