

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, ON WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2002

#### CATHAOIRLEACH

Mayor P. O'Sullivan

#### ILATHAIR FRESIN

#### Baill:

Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, N. Grealish, Sen. U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, S.Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

#### Oifigigh

D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, T. Kavanagh, P. Ridge, F. Gilmore, F. Dawson, J. Morgan, J. Cullen, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, L. Gavin, Senior Engineer, L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, T. Murphy, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers, P. Carroll, Administrative Officer, M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer, T. Donoghue, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

#### RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

1817

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mrs. Mary Kennedy & family, Killeeneen, Craughwell, Co. Galway.

#### CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND MANAGERS REPORT PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12 (4) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000.

1818

The Mayor stated that it had been agreed at a previous meeting that An Comh. P.O'Foighill would be allocated time to make a presentation on the Draft County Development Plan and in particular the Gaeltacht Section of the Plan.

An Comh. O'Foighill referred to a report that he had prepared and circulated to members headed "The 2000 Planning & Development Act". He expressed his disappointment that he was unable to make his

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presentation through Irish due to the lack of facilities. He stated that he was proposing in his presentation that the chapter on the Gaeltacht in the Draft County Development Plan be deleted and replaced by a new section, which he had prepared. He stated that he was asking the Council to address the situation in the Conamara Gaeltacht which is of paramount importance to the Gaeltacht and the people living in it and to protect and promote the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht and to promote Irish as the community language.

He referred to the requirements set out in the Planning and Development Act 2000 with regard to the linguistic and cultural needs of the Gaeltacht area and which the Council is statutorily bound to comply with. He stated that the following were his objectives on the Conamara Gaeltacht:-

1. Ensure that the Conamara Gaeltacht is populated by Irish speaking communities.
2. Allow Irish speakers to build their homes in the historical settlement areas from Bearna to Carna along the coast.
3. Recognise the fact that Gaeltacht Clacháns (settlements) existed in every Baile. There are 119 such Clachán between areas Rosamhíl and Bearna. The Gaeltacht Clachán areas are now larger because of increased population along the seaboard.
  1. The natural habitat of most Conamara Gaeltacht families was and still is along the Conamara coast and Aran Islands. Of course there are exceptions like Moycullen and Cor na Móna, srl. There are hundreds of thousands of unspoilt and uninhabited square miles of land in Conamara.
  2. Most Gaeltacht dwellers have a sense of community. Individuals do not make a community. Therefore, the Clacháns idea still is sustainable.
  3. Ability to converse in Irish must be a basic requisite for all Gaeltacht planning applicants.
  4. Gaeltacht dwellers alone will determine whether or not the language will survive as a spoken language.
  5. We as Councillors must play our part by ensuring that we continue to provide the strong vibrant Gaeltacht community which still exists along the coast line between Bearna and Carna with opportunities to build their homes along the coastal strip.
  6. This is a unique first-time challenge to us as Councillors to give direction to the vibrant Gaeltacht language heritage in our County.
4. Our priorities must be right and I need to convince you that my proposed amendments are based on sound cultural, social and economic planning principles.
  1. My premise is that Galway Irish Speakers who live predominantly along the coastal strip from Bearna to Carna are the greatest cultural asset that we as Councillors can offer to our County and our Country.

**In the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Mc Clearn it was agreed to replace the following on page 11 and 12 of the Draft County Development Plan:**

in Gaeltacht

the County contains the largest and most populous Gaeltacht in the Country. It is located for the most part in the Conamara area but includes the Aran Islands, some of the suburbs of Galway City and the eastern hinterland of the Corrib. (Figure 3.)

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The language and culture of the Gaeltacht is a unique and precious inheritance, which it is a National aim to preserve and protect. This aim is now enshrined in the Planning and Development Act 2000.

The Planning Authority's role in achieving this aim is in the control of the demographic pressure arising from the growth of the City, in the provision of infrastructure services, and in the formulation of controls and guidelines, which will conserve indigenous architectural traditions.

#### **By the insertion of the following on page 6 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":-**

An Ghaeltacht

The County contains the largest and most populous Gaeltacht in the Country. It is located for the most part in the Conamara area but includes the Aran Islands, some of the suburbs of Galway City and the eastern hinterland of the Corrib (Figure 3.)

The language and culture of the Gaeltacht is a unique and precious inheritance, which it is a National aim to preserve and protect. This aim is now enshrined in the Planning and Development Act, 2000.

The Planning Authorities role in achieving this aim is to protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht by granting planning permission only to Irish Speaking applicants especially in the traditional settlement area along the coastal strip from Bearna to Carna by imposing conditions in granting such permissions which will ensure the stabilisation and the promotion of Irish as a community language.

#### **On the proposal of An Comh. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed to replace the following on page 60 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Gaeltacht Na Gaillimhe

The County Galway Gaeltacht is outlined on Figure 3. Its extent was defined by the Government in 1956 and was based at that time on a region within which 80% or more of the population spoke Irish as an everyday language.

The 1996 Census of population indicated a total of approximately 36,000 people living in the area including 1,303 people living on the Aran Islands.

In 2001 there were approximately 4,500 people from the Gaeltacht in paid employment, approximately 37% of them in part-time or seasonal jobs.

Tá Gaeltacht Na Gaillimhe leirithe ar mapa Mapa 3. Shocraigh an rialtas an teorainn mar sin í 1956, an tráth a fuairí amach gurab í An Ghaeilge gná teanga cumarsáide 80% de na daoine san réigiún sin.

De réir turascail daonra 1996 bhí 36,000 daoine ina gconaí i Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe, 1303 díobh ar Oileáin Arann.

I 2001 bhí 4,500 daoine ón gaeltacht fostaithe, 37% díobh í bpostanna páirt-aimsearac nó seasó seasúrach.

#### **By the insertion of the following on page 7 of the document "The 2000 Planning and Development Act" 2000:-**

10.4 Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe

Tá Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe léirithe ar Mapa Mapa 3. Shocraigh an rialtas an teorainn mar sin í 1956, an tráth a fuairí amach gurb í an Ghaeilge gná teanga cumarsáide 80% de na daoine san réigiún sin.

De réir turascail daonra 1996 bhí 36,000 daoine ina gconaí i Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe, 1303 díobh ar Oileáin Arann.

I 2001 bhí 4,500 daoine ón nGaeltacht fistaithe, 37% díobh i bpostanna páirt-aimsireach nó seasúrach.

The County Galway Gaeltacht is outlined on Figure 3. Its extent was defined by the Government in 1956 and was based at that time on a region within which 80% or more of the population spoke Irish as an everyday language.

The 1996 Census of population indicated a total of approximately 36,000 people living in the area including 1,303 people living on the Aran Islands.

In 2001 there were approximately 4,500 people from the Gaeltacht in paid employment, approximately 37% of them in part-time or seasonal jobs.

**On the proposal of Comh. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed to replace the following on page 60 of the Draft County Development Plan**

It is a fundamental objective of the state to preserve the Irish language. The contribution of the Gaeltacht towards this objective is of immense importance because the Irish language is the community's language. Though efforts have been made to promote Irish in the rest of the country, they will fail if the Irish language ceases to be the community language in the Gaeltacht and a link with our past going back 3000 years will be lost as will an important expression of this country's individuality/uniqueness among the nations of the world. Tá sé d'aidhm ag an Stáit an Ghaeilge agus an Ghaeltacht a chaomhnú ó bunaíodh é. Baineann an-tábhacht leis an nGaeltacht mar gur inti atá an Ghaeilge dhá labhairt mar theanga pobail. Ce go bhfuil iarrachtaí dhá dhéanamh an Ghaeilge a chothú sa gcuid eile den tír, teipfidh ar na hiarrachtaí sin má phlúchtar an tobar sa nGaeltacht agus má bhrisfeadh ceangal teanga a mhair sa tír seo le breis agus 3000 bliain agus caillfeadh seod luachmhar atá ina leiriú ar fheiniúlacht na tíre seo i measc náisiúin an domhain.

**By the insertion of the following from page 7 and 8 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Tá sé d'aidhm ag an Stáit an Ghaeilge agus an Ghaeltacht a chaomhnú ó bunaíodh é. Baineann an-tábhacht leis an nGaeltacht mar gur inti atá an Ghaeilge dhá labhairt mar theanga pobail. Cé go bhfuil iarrachtaí dhá dhéanamh an Ghaeilge a chothú sa gcuid eile den tír, teipfidh ar na hiarrachtaí sin má phlúchtar an tobar sa nGaeltacht agus má bhrisfeadh ceangal teanga a mhair sa tír seo le breis agus 3000 bliain agus caillfeadh seod luachmhar atá ina leiriú ar fheiniúlacht na tíre seo i measc náisiúin an domhain.

It is a fundamental policy of the state to preserve the Irish language. The contribution of the Gaeltacht towards this policy is of immense importance because the Irish language is the community's language. Though efforts have been made to promote Irish in the rest of the country, they will fail if the Irish language ceases to be the community language in the Gaeltacht and a link with our past going back 3000 years will be lost as will an important expression of this country's individuality / uniqueness among the nations of the world.

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed to replace the following on page 60 and 61 of the Draft County Development Plan**

The strongest Irish speaking community in the country is located in County Galway, mainly in the area from Bearna to Carna and including the Aran Islands. This linguistic community is under severe pressure for many reasons, one being the pressure of people with no Irish moving in, as well as other external influences and a lack of service provision in their own language. The official Gaeltacht consists of a number of different communities and the Council recognises that the Irish language is stronger in some communities than in others.

Tá an pobal labhartha Gaeilge is láidre sa tír seo i gContae na Gaillimhe, pobal a shíneann ó Bhearna go Carna agus isteach ghoileáin Árann. Ach is pobal í atá faoi bhrú ar go leor cúiseanna, brú ó dhaoine gan Gaeilge ag bogadh isteach chomh maith le brú ón státchóras a chliseann orthu seirbhísí a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge. Ina theannta sin tuigean an Chomhairle nach ionann chuile phobal Gaeltachta ó thaobh na Gaeilge de.

**By the insertion of the following from page 8 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Tá an pobal labhartha Gaeilge is láidre sa tír seo i gContae na Gaillimhe, pobal a shíneann ó Bhearna go Carna agus isteach go hOileáin Árann. Ach is pobal í atá faoi bhrú ar go leor cúiseanna, brú ó dhaoine gan Gaeilge ag bogadh isteach chomh maith le brú ón státchóras a chliseann orthu seirbhísí a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge. Ina theannta sin tuigean an Chomhairle nach ionann chuile phobal Gaeltachta ó thaobh na Gaeilge de.

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**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to replace the following from page 61 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Cothú agus caomhnú na Gaeltachta sa gCóras Pleanála

Preserving and promoting the Gaeltacht in the Planning Process

The Planning Authority will face those aspects that damage the Irish language and the Gaeltacht in the planning process. A very small part of the county is designated as being in the Gaeltacht and it must be preserved and promoted linguistically. The planning authority will assess the impact on the Irish language of every area in the Gaeltacht. There is a limited amount of land available for development and the planning authority will ensure that only those developments that support the Irish language will be permitted. Any development, which in the opinion of the Planning Authority would have a significant negative impact on Irish and the Gaeltacht, will be refused.

Thabhairfáidh aghaidh ar na cúinsí sin a dhéanann dochar don teanga agus don Gaeltacht ó thaobh cúrsaí pleanála de. Níl ach limistéir an bheag den tír sa nGaeltacht agus caithfear í a chothú agus a chaomhnú ó thaobh na teanga de. Beidh an Chomhairle ag meas chuile iarratas feasta ó thaobh an tionchar a bheidh ag aon fhorbairt ar an teanga. Níl ach méid áirithe talamh feiliúnach le haghaidh na forbartha de, agus cinnteofar gur le haghaidh forbairtí a thacaíonn leis an nGaeilge agus leis an nGaeltacht agus a thugann cosaint di a bhronnfar cead pleanála. Ní bhronnfar cead ar aon fhorbairt a d'fhéadfadh dochar a dhéanamh don Ghailge ná don Ghaeltacht.

**By the insertion of the following from page 8 and 9 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act"**

Cothú agus caomhnú na Gaeltachta sa gCóras Pleanála.

Tabharfar aghaidh ar na cúinsí sin a dhéanann dochar don teanga agus don Gaeltacht ó thaobh cúrsaí pleanála de. Níl ach limistéir an bheag den tír sa nGaeltacht agus caithfear í a chothú agus a choamhnú ó thaobh na teanga de. Beidh an Chomhairle ag meas chuile iarratas feasta ó thaobh an tionchar a bheidh ag aon fhorbairt ar an teanga. Níl ach méid áirithe talamh feiliúnach le haghaidh na forbartha de, agus cinnteofar gur le haghaidh forbairtí a thacaíonn leis an nGaeilge agus leis an nGaeltacht agus a thugann cosaint di a bhronnfar cead pleanála. Ní bhronnfar cead ar aon fhorbairt a d'fhéadfadh dochar a dhéanamh don Ghaeilge ná don Ghaeltacht.

Preserving and Promoting the Gaeltacht in the Planning Process

The planning authority must face those aspects that damage the Irish language and the Gaeltacht in the planning process. A very small part of the country is designated as being in the Gaeltacht and it must be preserved and promoted linguistically. The planning authority will assess the impact on the Irish language of every area in the Gaeltacht. Galway County Council recognises that there has been population decline in some parts of the Gaeltacht. People will be given the opportunity to remain and return to the Gaeltacht area. It is also accepted that certain skills are required in the Gaeltacht and that people coming into the area should be given the opportunity to improve their oral Irish proficiency gradually. Agencies should make every opportunity to support the learning of Irish in these cases. Any development, which in the opinion of the Planning Authority would have a significant negative impact on Irish and the Gaeltacht, will be refused.

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to replace the following on page 61 and 62 of the Draft County Development Plan**

The planning authority will in general, and subject to the provisions of the development plan, be favourably disposed to applications of the following types.

1. áiseanna teagaise Gaeilge agus trí Ghaeilge – Language Teaching Resources.

2. áiseanna siamsaíochta trí Ghaeilge – Recreational facilities through Irish.

3. áite le haghaidh cainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge – Houses for native speakers.

4. áite a chuirfidh cumainn tithíochta ar fáil do chainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge – Houses for native speakers by voluntary organisations.

5. áite ar chostas íseal do lánúnacha óga le gaeilge – Low cost houses for young Irish speaking couples.

6. áite a thacaíonn le forbairt tionscalíoch a chruthaíonn postanna do chainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge – Economic development for native speakers.

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Ionaid pobail a thacaíonn leis an nGaeilge – Community centres that support Irish.

Ionaid oideachais ar nós naoinraí, naoilanna, ionaid cúraim, ionaid sláinte, coláistí tríú leibhéal ‘srl – Educational facilities – e.g. third level, etc.

Áiseanna turasóireachta atá bunaithe ar theanga agus ar chultúr na Gaeltachta – Tourism which is language centered.

Oifigí Gaeltachta do na seirbhísí poiblí – Gaeltacht offices for the purpose of providing services through Irish for the Gaeltacht community.

**By the insertion of the following from page 9 and 10 of the document entitled “The 2000 Planning and Development Act”:**

Polasaí 210 I measc na bhforbairtí a thabharfaidh an Comhairle tús áit dóibh sa bpróiseas

cleánála beidh:

The Planning Authority will in general, and subject to the provisions of the development plan, be favourably disposed to applications for developments of the following types.

Áiseanna teagaisc Gaeilge agus trí Ghaeilge	Language Teaching Resources
Áiseanna siamsaíochta trí Ghaeilge	Recreational facilities through Irish
Tithe le haghaidh cainteoirí Gaeilge	Houses for Irish Speakers
Tithe a chuirfidh cumainn tithíochta ar fáil do chainteoirí Gaeilge	Houses for Irish speakers by voluntary organisations.
Tithe ar chostas íseal do lánúnacha óga le Gaeilge	Low cost houses for young Irish speaking couples.
Tithe do chainteoirí Gaeilge d’réir 3.1.7.6	Houses for Irish speakers as in Section 3.1.7.6
Ionaid Pobail a thacaíonn leis an nGaeilge	Community centres that support Irish
Ionaid oideachais ar nós naoinraí, naoilanna, ionaid cúraim, ionaid sláinte, coláistí tríú leibhéal, srl.	Educational facilities – e.g. third level, etc.
Áiseanna turasóireachta atá bunaithe ar theanga agus ar chultúr na Gaeltachta	Tourism which is language centred.
Oifigí Gaeltachta do na seirbhísí poiblí	Gaeltacht offices for the purpose of providing services through Irish for the Gaeltacht community.

**On the proposal of Comh. P O’Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed to replace the following on page 62 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Comharthaíocht

Signage

beidh ar chuide ghnó comharthaí i nGaeilge amháin a chrochadh in éineacht le siombail aitheanta idirnáisiúnta.

Signage to be in Irish only with internationally recognised symbols.

**By the insertion of the following on page 10 of the document entitled “The 2000 Planning and Development Act”:**

Polasaí 211 Comharthaíocht

beidh ar chuide ghnó comharthaí i nGaeilge amháin a chrochadh in éineacht le siombail aitheanta idirnáisiúnta.

Policy 211 Signage to be in Irish only with internationally recognised symbols.

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**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to replace the following on page 62 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Forbairt ar theorann na Gaeltachta

Development on the boundary of the Gaeltacht

Scrúdóidh an tÚdarás Pleanála aon fhorbairt gar don Ghaeltacht ar eagla go ndéanfaidh se dochar don Ghaeilge.

The planning authority will consider the potential impact on the language of any development close to the Gaeltacht

**By the insertion of the following on page 10 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Polasaí 212 Forbairt ar theorann na Gaeltachta

Scrúdóidh an tÚdarás Pleanála aon fhorbairt gar don Ghaeltacht ar eagla go ndéanfaidh sé dochar don Ghaeilge.

Policy 212 Development on the boundary of the Gaeltacht.

The Planning Authority will consider the potential impact in the language of any development close to the Gaeltacht.

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P O Malley it was agreed to replace the following on page 62 and 63 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Seirbhís trí Ghaeilge

Services through Irish

Glac Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe le polasaí Teanga i 2001 a bhfuil se mar aidhm aige seirbhís ar bhonn comhionannais a chur ar fáil do phobal na Gaeltachta agus do lucht labhartha na Gaeilge i gContae na Gaillimhe.

Glacann an Chomhairle leis go bhfuil se de dhualgas uirthu an Ghaeilge a chaomhnú, a chosaint agus a chothú, agus tugainn polasaith e plean forbartha an chontae tacaíocht dó sin. Glacann an Chomhairle leis gur acmhainn í an teanga sa nGaeltacht agus le tacú léi cuirfidh sí seirbhís pleanála agus seirbhísí eile ar fáil trí Ghaeilge ón ríog ar an gCeathrú Rua. Cinnteoidh sí chomh maith gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga inmheánach na hoifige sin.

Galway County Council adopted a Language Policy in 2001 that aims to provide the Gaeltacht community and Irish speakers with a service on par with the service it provides through English. The Council accepts that it is duty bound to preserve and promote the Irish language and its development plan policies underpin this. The Council accepts that Irish is a resource in the Gaeltacht and in order to support it, it is an objective to provide a planning service along with all the other services from its offices in Cheathrú Rua, in Irish.

na theannta sin, cuirfidh an Chomhairle iachall ar aon conraitheoir atá ag obair di, a bheic tuisceanach don cultúr na n-obríonn sé.

As well the Council will ensure that all contractors employed by it in the Gaeltacht will have regard to the culture in which they work.

**By the insertion of the following on page 11 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Seirbhís trí Ghaeilge

Glac Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe le polasaí Teanga i 2001 a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige seirbhís ar bhonn comhionannais a chur ar fáil do Phobal na Gaeltachta agus do lucht labhartha na Gaeilge i gCo. Na Gaillimhe.

Glacann an Chomhairle leis go bhfuil sé de dhualgas uirthi an Ghaeilge a chomhnú, a chosaint agus a chothú, agus tugainn polasaith e plean forbartha an Chontae tacaíocht dó sin. Glacann an Chomhairle leis gur acmhainn í an teanga sa nGaeltacht agus le tacú léi cuirfidh sí seirbhís pleanála agus seirbhísí eile ar fáil trí Ghaeilge ón ríog ar an gCeathrú Rua. Cinnteoidh sí chomh maith gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga inmheánach na hoifige sin.

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Galway County Council adopted a Language Policy in 2001 that aims to provide the Gaeltacht Community and Irish Speakers with a service on par with the service it provides through English. The Council accepts that it is duty bound to preserve and promote the Irish Language and its development plan policies underpin this. The Council accepts that Irish is a resource in the Gaeltacht and in order to support it it shall provide a planning service along with all the other services from its offices in Cheathrú Rua, in Irish.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed to replace the following on page 63 and 64 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Na Bailte Fearainn

The Townlands

The Planning Authority recognises that there has been a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that relates to local townlands rather than a quasi-urban model of housing estates or terraces. Therefore local people wishing to build on family lands in the said local townlands (the Electoral area of Conamara) will be facilitated by the Planning Authority in this regard. Local people will include sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, niece or nephew of the landowner. People with genuine work related needs in the area will also be facilitated as will those who are local to the area but do not own family lands. This structure will be further examined in detail in a proposed Local Area Plan for the Gaeltacht and in its role in preserving the Irish language as a living means of communication.

Glacann an Comhairle Chontae go bhfuil claonadh ó dhucais leis na tithe sa Gaeltacht a beir Connaithe ins na bailtí fearann seachas a beir réitithe mar eastaíca tithíochta cachrac. Déanfar tiulleadh scrudú ar an nÍ seo i gcomh-theács Plean Forbartha dituíl atá ar intium a cur ar fáil don Gaeltacht i gcoitinne. Scrudófar freisin an tionncur a bí ar an socrú ins na bailtí fearann ud ar caomhnú na teangan.

**By the insertion of the following on page 11 and 12 . of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Clachán

Aithníonn an tÚdarás Pleanála go raibh patrún lonnaithe sa Ghaeltacht a bhaineann le bailte áitiúla seachas le samhail leath-uirbeach d'éatait nó de shraitheanna tithíochta. Dá bhrí sin daoine áitiúla ar mhian leo tógáil ar thalamh a dteaghlaiigh déanfaidh an tÚdarás Pleanála éascaíocht dóibh maidir leis seo. Áireofar mar dhaoine áitiúla mic, iníonacha, garmhic, gariníonacha, neachtanna nó nianna úinéir na talún. Déanfar eascaíocht freisin do dhaoine a bhfuil gá tithíocht dáiríre atá bainteach len a gcuid oibre i nGaeltacht Conamara ach nach bhfuil talamh teaghlaiigh acu maraon leo siúd atá áitiúil sa cheantar ach nach bhfuil talamh teaghlaiigh acu.

The Townlands

The Planning Authority recognises that there has been a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that relates to local towns (Bailte) rather than a quasi-urban model of housing estates or terraces. Therefore local people wishing to build on family lands in the said towns (Bailte) will be facilitated by the Planning Authority in this regard. Local people will include sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, neices or nephews of the landowner. People with genuine work related housing needs in the Conamara Gaeltacht who do not own family lands will also be facilitated as will those who are indigenous to the area but do not own family land.

An Comh. P O'Foighil then referred to his proposal for seven Settlement Centres from Barna to Rossaveal and proceeded to outline details of the proposal. Mr. Ridge requested clarification on what settlement centres were proposed. Comh. O'Foighill stated that 6 of the 7 proposed by him were already accepted by the Council except for the linear layout. Mr. Ridge asked for clarification on the proposed Settlement Centre for Barna. The County Manager stated that the document had only been received the previous day by Council Officials, that on that day there had been a number of meetings relating to other matters and that officials had not an adequate opportunity to read and assess the document. He stated that the elected members should be aware of what is proposed in this document, adding that it does not accord with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development and he could not recommend this document to the Council.

Cllr. JJ Mannion stated that the elected members had not had an opportunity to study this document. He stated that there was a huge emphasis in the document on the need to speak Irish, but there may be people who don't speak Irish and are seeking to live in the Gaeltacht e.g. returning emigrants, who have lost their ability to speak Irish. He stated that the elected members have to take account of what the County Manager stated. He stated that the difficulty he had with the document was that it had the



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potential to be very restrictive in not facilitating people who might have something to contribute to the Gaeltacht but who don't speak Irish.

An Comh. O'Foighill stated that he has seen the Gaeltacht increasingly denuded and raped by the predominance of English speaking inhabitants and stated that the Planning & Development Act 2000 placed an obligation on the Council to take measures to protect the Irish language. He stated that the County Manager should count the number of houses permitted on the Cois Fharrage road and he would be surprised by the number of houses he had permitted in this area. He stated that the Council officials had permitted the rape of the Conamara Gaeltacht by their actions. He stated that the amenity of the area was not disturbed north or south of the road by these houses and questioned who is the amenity for, the people passing through or for the people who offer an economic value to the area. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the number of Settlement Centres proposed was modest, but what was sought here was a total built up area for a distance of 15 miles. An Comh. O'Foighill stated that what he sought was the infilling of houses in this area. The County Manager stated that since 1963 the Development Plan has been weakened. He stated that planning permissions had been granted on the left side of the Cois Fharrage road for people with established housing need and that it was unfair to say that the officials had permitted the rape of the Conamara Gaeltacht. He stated that it was the County Development Plans that had done this and planning officials were merely complying with the requirements of the Development Plans. He stated that this rape will continue further and that the Cois Farrage Road from Barna to Rossaveal will be the longest street in the Europe under the proposals put forward here.

An Comh. O'Foighill stated that he was standing by the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 even if he had to seek a judicial order to achieve his aim.

The County Manager stated that planning officials want to ensure that the cultural, linguistic and heritage objectives for the Gaeltacht are achieved and that he himself loved the Irish language but there are other means of achieving these aims. He added that he had been offended by Comh.

O'Foighill's remark that officials had permitted the rape of the Conamara Gaeltacht. An Comh.

O'Foighill stated that he was withdrawing the remark he had made.

Mr. Ridge stated that what was proposed by Comh. O'Foighill was one settlement centre on the R336 from Barna to Rossaveal and advised that the proposals were not in accordance with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

An Comh. O'Foighill stated that he was proposing the settlement plan set out hereunder for the following reasons:

1.17.1.5 Bailte – Clacháns i nGaeltacht na Gaillimhe – Bearna go Rosamhíl

because of its unique settlement pattern

because of its predominance of Irish speaking residents (Highest in the Country)

because of its total sustainability

because of large population trends

because of its settlement pattern development to date

because of its 5 No. 30 m.p.h. Speed Limits

because of its 3 No. 40 m.p.h. Speed Limits

because of its average 35 m.p.h. Speed Limit

because of its unique economic, social and cultural development to date

because of its unique topography (sea / bog)

Because of Spatial Strategy considerations.

On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that the following settlement plan be adopted:

**SETTLEMENTS – BARNA - ROSAMHÍL**

**Road Boundaries on R336**

Trá Geal - Bearna	}	Settlement Area for Bearna – 498 Houses
Bearna - Baile Nua		2 mile stretch of R336 2.7 square miles
Baile Nua - Forbacha	}	Settlement Area for Forbacha – 215 Houses
Forbacha – Tí Phádraicín		2 mile stretch of R336 1.9 square miles
Tí Phadraicín - Spidéal	}	Settlement Area for Spidéal – 676 Houses
Spidéal - Púirthín		4.2 mile stretch of R336 3.7 Square miles
Púirthín - Cnoc (Séipéal)	}	Settlement Area for An Cnoc – 276 Houses
Cnoc - Cruimina		3.7 mile stretch of R336 4.0 Square miles
Cruimina - Minna	}	Settlement Area for Na Minna – 119 Houses
Minna - Aerfort		1.6 mile stretch of R336 1.9 Square miles
Aerfort - Tulach	}	Settlement Area for An Tulach – 77 Houses
Tulach - Baile na hAbhann		1.2 mile stretch of R336 .7 Square miles
Baile na hAbhann - Rosamhíl	}	Settlement Area for Rosamhíl – 213 Houses
Rosamhíl - Cros Bhóthar Casla		4.2 mile stretch of R336 1.3 Square miles

		SETTLEMENT AREAS		AREA
		R336		
No. 1	2.1 miles	x	2.73 miles <sup>2</sup>	Bearna Settlement
No. 2	2.1 miles	x	1.89 miles <sup>2</sup>	Forbacha Settlement
No. 3	4.2 miles	x	3.78 miles <sup>2</sup>	Spidéal Settlement
No. 4	3.7 miles	x	4.07 miles <sup>2</sup>	An Cnoc Settlement
No. 5	1.6 miles	x	1.92 miles <sup>2</sup>	Na Minna Settlement
No. 6	1.2 miles	x	.72 miles <sup>2</sup>	Tulach Settlement
No. 7	4.2 miles	x	1.26 miles <sup>2</sup>	Rosamhíl Settlement
	19.1 miles		16.37 miles <sup>2</sup>	

**TITHE PRÍOMHÁIDEACHA (PRIVATE HOUSES)**

Deantar Bearna	498
Deantar na bhForbacha	215
Deantar an Spidéil	676
Deantar an Chnoic	276
Deantar na Minna	119
Deantar na Tulaigh	77
Deantar Rosamhíl	<u>213</u> 2,074

**R336 Tithe agus Gníonanna**

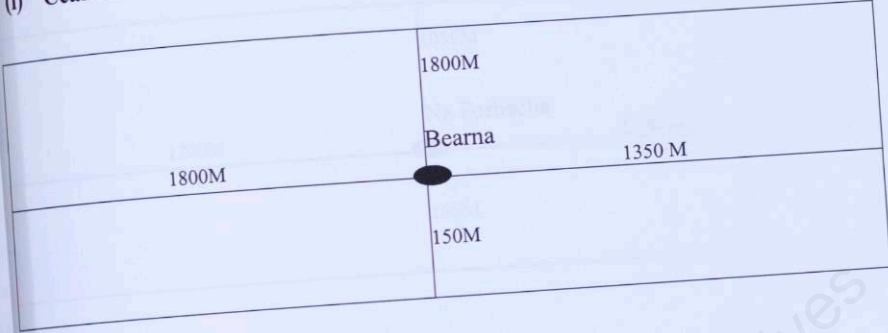
**R336 Houses and Businesses**

Tithe	535
Giopai	25
Tithe Ósta (Pubs)	12
Verfort	1
Saladhfort	1
Coileanna (1621 dáltai)	8
Maionraí	5
Coláistí Gaeilge	7
Postáin	6
Monarchain, Gníonanna, Oifigí (1680 fostaithe)	56
Biffiga an Phoist	5
Éipéal	7
Bailte Pobal	7
Báirceanna Peile	<u>5</u>
	<b>680</b>
	2,754

OMLÁN

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(i) **Ceantar Bearna**



**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

From Bearna to Silver Strand (City Boundary)  
From Bearna to Baile Nua  
From Bearna to Fr. Griffin Monument  
From Bearna to Sea

1350M  
1800M  
1800M  
150M

**AREA OF BEARNA RECTANGLE**

1500 acres (2.73 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

250 acres

**RESULT**

5 times the proposed area

(ii) Ceantar na bhForbacha

	1050M	
1200M	Na Forbacha	1950 M
.8		1.3
	150M	

**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

From Forbacha to Bearna  
 From Forbacha to Furbo Hill  
 From Furbo North to Bog  
 From Furbo to Sea

1350M  
 1200M  
 1050M  
 150M

**AREA OF FORBACHA RECTANGLE**

900 acres (1.9 sq. miles)

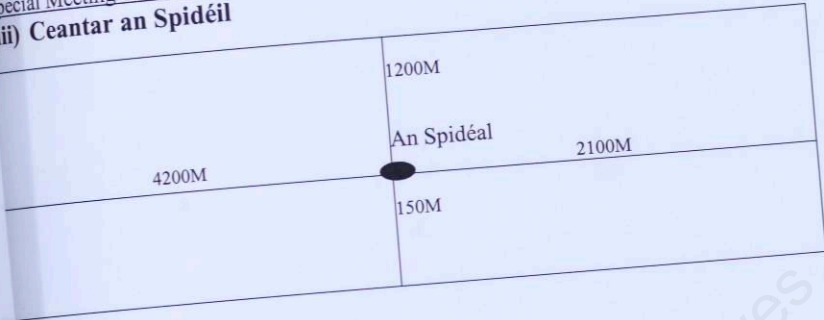
**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

250 acres

**RESULT**

3.5 times proposed area

**(iii) Ceantar an Spidéil**



**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

- From Spidéal to Furbo Hill
- From Spidéal to Púirthín
- From Spidéal to Bothúna
- From Spidéal to Sea

- 4200M
- 2100M
- 1200M
- 150M

**AREA OF SPIDÉAL RECTANGLE**

1100 acres (3.78 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

150 acres

**RESULT**

1 times proposed area

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(iv) Ceantar an Chnoic

	.4	
3600M	Séipéal	1950 M
.8		1.3
	.4	

**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

from Séipéal an Chnoic to Púirthín  
 from Séipéal an Chnoic to Cor na Rón  
 from Séipéal an Chnoic to North of Bog  
 from Séipéal an Chnoic to Sea

1950M  
 3600M  
 600M  
 600M

**AREA OF AN CNOC RECTANGLE**

600 acres (4 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

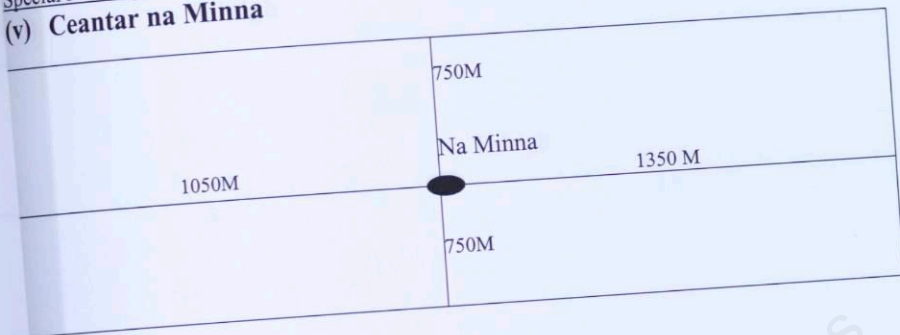
50 acres

**RESULT**

.5 times proposed area

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(v) Ceantar na Minna



**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

From Séipéal na Minna to Aerfort  
From Séipéal na Minna to Cor na Rón  
From Séipéal na Minna to Bog  
From Séipéal na Minna to Sea

1050M  
1350M  
750M  
750M

**AREA OF MINNA RECTANGLE**

90 acres (1.9 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

50 acres

**RESULT**

5 times proposed area



**(vi) Ceantar na Tulaigh**

	150M	
900M	Na Tulaigh	900 M
.8		1.3
	750M	

**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

From Séipéal na Tulaigh to Aerfort	900M
From Séipéal na Tulaigh to Cros Bhóthar Baile na hAbhann	900M
From Séipéal na Tulaigh to Portach	150M
From Séipéal na Tulaigh to Farraige	750M

**AREA OF NA TULAIGH RECTANGLE**

400 acres (.7 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

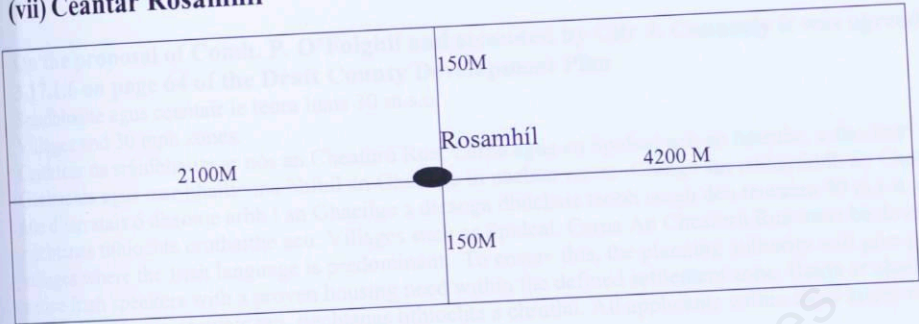
250 acres

**RESULT**

1.5 times proposed area

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(vii) Ceantar Rosamhíl



**DESCRIPTION OF BOUNDARY**

- From Céibh Rosamhíl to Baile na hAbhann 4200M
- From Céibh Rosamhíl to Cros Bhóthar Casla 2100M
- From Céibh Rosamhíl to Portach 150M
- From Céibh Rosamhíl to Farraiage 150M

**AREA OF ROSAMHÍL RECTANGLE**

467 acres (1.25 sq. miles)

**AREA OF PROPOSED CIRCLE**

250 acres

**RESULT**

1 1/4 times proposed area

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed to replace 3.1.7.1.6 on page 64 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Sráidbhailte agus ceantair le teora luais 30 m.s.u.

Villages and 30 mph zones.

Caithfear na sráidbhailte ar nós an Cheathrú Rua, Carna agus an Spideal ach go háirithe, a fhorbairt mar bhailte Gaeltachta agus mar bhailte ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge in uachtar iontu. Chuige sin tabharfaidh an Chomhairle tús áite d'iarratais ó dhaoine arbh í an Ghaeilge a dteanga dhúchais taobh istigh den teorainn 30 m.s.u. a bhfuil riachtanas tithíochta cruthaithe acu. Villages such as Spideal, Carna An Cheathrú Rua must be developed as villages where the Irish language is predominant. To ensure this, the planning authority will give priority to native Irish speakers with a proven housing need within the defined settlement zone. Beidh ar chuide iarratais ar chead pleanála sna ceantair seo, riachtanas tithíochta a chruthú. All applicants within these zones will have to prove housing need

**By the insertion of the following on page 28 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Ní cheadófar tithe ach iarrathóirí a bhfuil cumas labhairt na Gaeilge acu taobh istigh des na Clachán d'réir mar atá sonraithe i 3.1.7.6 agus d'réir Polasaí 210.

All applications for housing within these settlement areas will accommodate only Irish Speaking applicants as in Section 3.7.7.6 and Policy 210. A replication of this Settlement Plan for Cois Fharráige (Bearna – Rosamhíl) shall be adopted in the following areas if deemed necessary when the local area plan for Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe is made - Casla, Ceathrú Rua, Béal a'Daingin, Leitir Móir, Tír an Fhia, Leitir Mealláin, Camus, Gort Mór, Rosmuc, Loch an Aortha, Cill Chiaráin, Carna, Glinnse, Cor na Móna, Cloch Breac, Mionlach, Baile Clár, Carn Mór.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to replace the following on page 65 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Daoine ón nGaeltacht atá ag obair lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht. People from the Gaeltacht working outside the Gaeltacht.

Glacann an tÚdarás pleanála leis go bhfuil cuid de bhunadh na Gaeltachta ag obair lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht agus gur mian cónaí sa nGaeltacht agus i bpobal arbh í an Ghaeilge teanga an phobail. Chuige sin, bronnfaidh an tÚdarás pleanála cead fads gur cainteoirí dúchais Gaeltachta iad ó Ghaeltacht na Gaillimhe nó ó Ghaeltachtaí eile sa tír nó clainne atá ag tógáil a gclainne trí mheán na Gaeilge.

The planning authority accepts that some Gaeltacht people who work outside the Gaeltacht, wish to reside in a community where Irish is the dominant language. The planning authority will have particular regard to applications in the following categories: Gaeltacht native speakers from the Galway Gaeltacht when the language of the home is Irish or Native speakers from other Gaeltachtaí or families who are raising their children through Irish.

**By the insertion of the following on page 28 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Daoine ón nGaeltacht atá ag obair lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht

Glacann an tÚdarás Pleanála leis go bhfuil cuid de bhunadh na Gaeltachta ag obair lasmuigh den Ghaeltacht agus gur mian cónaí sa nGaeltacht agus i bpobal arbh í an Ghaeilge teanga an Phobail. Chuige sin, bronnfaidh an tÚdarás Pleanála cead fads gur cainteoirí dúchais Gaeltachta iad ó Ghaeltacht na Gaillimhe nó cainteoirí líofa Gaeilge as áiteacha eile sa tír atá ag tógáil a gclainne trí mheán na Gaeilge.

People from the Gaeltacht working outside the Gaeltacht

The Planning Authority accepts that some Gaeltacht people who work outside the Gaeltacht, wish to reside in a community where Irish is the dominant language. The Planning Authority will have particular regard to applications in the following categories: Gaeltacht native speakers from Galway Gaeltacht when the language of the home is Irish and fluent Irish speakers from other parts of Ireland who are raising their children through Irish.

**On the proposal of Comh. P.O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to replace the following on page 65 and 66 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Eisimircithe

Emigrants

Glacann an tÚdarás pleanála leis go bhfuil ceart ar leith ag Eisimircioirí cónaí ina gceantar dúchais. Is cosúil go mbíonn drochtioncar ag paistí gan aon Ghaeilge ar an nGaeltacht.

Scrúdófar iarratas fresin ó chlann atá ag teacht ar ais ó thaobh tionchar na ngasúr ar an nGaeilge sa scoil. Muna bhfuil córas éifeachtach i bhfeidhm sa gceantar/sa scoil le cinntiú go bhfaighe na gasúr sin cumas sa nGaeilge agus go dtacaítear leo le cumarsáid a dheanamh ní bhronnfar an cead sin.

The planning authority recognises that emigrants may have a desire to reside in their home areas. It appears suggests that children of returning emigrants, with no Irish, may have a negative impact on the Irish language. Emigrant families will be assessed regarding the effect the children will have on the language in the school. If no effective system is in place to ensure that these children will become fluent in Irish and if they are not supported linguistically, permission will not be granted.

**By the insertion of the following on page 29 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Eisimircithe

Glacann an tÚdarás Pleanála leis go bhfuil ceart ar leith ag Eisimircithe cónaí ina gceantar dúchais. Is cosúil go mbíonn drochtionchar ag páistí gan aon Ghaeilge ar an nGaeltacht.

Scrúdófar iarratas freisin ó chlann atá g teacht ar ais ó thaobh tionchar na ngasúr ar an nGaeilge sa scoil. Muna bhfuil córas éifeachtach i bhfeidhm sa gceantar / sa scoil le cinntiú go bhfaighe na gasúr sin cumas sa nGaeilge agus go dtacaítear leo le cumarsáid a dheanamh ní bhronnfar an cead sin.

Emmigrants

The Planning Authority recognises that emigrants may have a desire to reside in their home areas. It appears that children of returning emigrants, with no Irish, may have a negative impact on the Irish Language.

Emigrant families will be assessed regarding the effect the children will have on the language in the school. If no effective system is in place to ensure that these children will become fluent in Irish and if they are not supported linguistically, permission will not be granted.

**On the Proposal of Comh. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed to replace the following on page 64 and 65 of the Draft County Development Plan**

Forbairt Thionsclaíoch

Economic Development

Caitheadh bunús láidir eacnamaíochta a bheith sa nGaeltacht leis an bpobal a choinneál ann agus chuige sin tacóidh an t-údarás pleanála le tograí tionsclaíochta agus fostaíochta Údarás na Gaeltachta agus eagraíochta eile a bheidh ag cruthú fostaíochta do chainteoirí dúchais sa nGaeltacht.

Measfar chuile iarratas acu seo ó thaobh a dtionchar ar an nGaeilge agus ar an nGaeltacht.

The Gaeltacht needs a strong industrial base in order to retain its population and the planning authority will support the industrial and employment projects of Údarás na Gaeltachta and others as long as the employment is for Irish speakers. The effect of each application on the Irish language and the Gaeltacht will be assessed.

**By the insertion of the following from page 29 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act":**

Forbairt Thionsclaíoch

Caitheadh bunús láidir eacnamaíochta a bheith sa nGaeltacht leis an bpobal a choinneál ann agus chuige sin tacóidh an t-Údarás Pleanála le tograí tionsclaíochta agus fostaíochta Údarás na Gaeltachta agus eagraíochta eile a bheidh ag cruthú fostaíochta do chainteoirí Gaeilge sa nGaeltacht. Measfar chuile iarratas acu seo ó thaobh a dtionchar ar an nGaeilge agus ar an nGaeltacht.

Economic Development

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The Gaeltacht needs a strong industrial base in order to retain its population and the planning authority will support the industrial and employment projects of Údarás na Gaeltachta and others as long as the employment is for Irish Speakers. The effect of each application on the Irish Language and the Gaeltacht will be assessed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to replace the following on page 66 of the Draft County Development Plan**

An Ráiteas Tionchar Teanga  
Language Impact Statement

Beidh ar chuile iarrthóir an Ráiteas Tionchar Teanga seo a chur ar fáil mar chuid den iarratas pleanála, ina measc beidh tithe aonair, sceimeanna tithe, óstáin, monarchain, ionaid gnó, naoinraí, coláistí Gaeilge, gnónna. A Language Impact Statement will be required for all planning applications including, housing schemes, hotels, factories, business centres, third level colleges, Irish colleges, businesses.

**By the insertion of the following from page 30 to 34 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act" :**

Ráiteas Iompar Teangan

Le go dtabharfaí éifeacht don Acht Pleanála 2002 ó thaobh Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe do aithneofar dhá cheantar teanga i nGaeltacht na Gaillimhe.

Ceantar A

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.

Ceantar B

Na Toghcheantar (D.E.D.'s) seo a leanas:

- Na Forbacha
- Spidéal
- Cill Ainnín
- Sailearna
- Cill Cuimín
- Crumpán
- Leitir Móir
- Gorumna
- Camus
- Turloch
- Abhann Gabhla
- Scannaimh
- Cnoc Bhuí
- Árann
- Aon chuid eile den Ghaeltacht

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Language Impact Statement

In order to give practical effect to the Planning Act of 2002 vis a vis the Galway Gaeltacht the area shall be divided into two linguistic units as follows

Area A

Comprising the following D.E.D.'s

1. Na Forbacha
2. Spidéal
3. Cill Ainnín
4. Sailearna
5. Cill Cuimín
6. Crumpán
7. Leitir Móir
8. Gorumna
9. Camus
10. Turloch
11. Abhann Gabhla
12. Scannaimh
13. Cnoc Bhuí
14. Árann

Area B

The rest of the Gaeltacht

Polasaí 216 An Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan do Cheantar A

Beidh ar chuide iarrthóir Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan a chur ar fáil mar chuid den iarratas pleanála 'na measc beidh tithé aonair, scéimeanna tithíochta, Óstáin, Monarchain, Ionaid Gnó, Ionaid Pobal, Naíonraí, Naíonlanna, Coláistí Gaeilge, Gnáanna.

Leagfaidh an Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan síos coinníollacha maidir le caighdeán na Gaeilge Labhartha a éileofar ó na hiarrthóirí uilig.

'Sé Comhairle Contae na Gaillimhe a shocrós an fhoclaíocht a bhéas san ráiteas Tionchar Teangan. Áirmhítear mar chaintear Gaeilge duine atá cumasach i labhairt na Gaeilge mar a sonnrófar sa Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan a bhéas aontaithe ag Comhairle Contae na Gaillimhe.

Policy 216 Language Impact Statement for Area A

A Language Impact Statement will be required regarding all planning applications including single houses, housing schemes, hotels, guest houses, factories, business centres, third level colleges, Irish Colleges, businesses. The Impact Statement shall stipulate the standard of spoken Irish required from all applicants.

Galway County Council shall decide the wording of the Language Impact Statement required of all applicants (Gaeltacht and Non-Gaeltacht) in Area A.

An Irish speaking applicant is defined as a person who is competent in spoken Irish as outlined in the Language Impact Statement approved by Galway County Council.

An Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan Ceantar B

Beidh ar chuide iarrthóir Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan a chur ar fáil mar chuid den iarratas pleanála 'na measc beidh tithé aonair, scéimeanna tithíochta, Óstáin, Monarchain, Ionaid Gnó, Ionaid Pobail, Naíonraí, Naíonlanna, Coláistí Gaeilge, Gnáanna.

'Sé Comhairle Contae na Gaillimhe a shocrós an fhoclaíocht a bhéas sa Ráiteas Tionchar Teangan do iarrthóirí i gCeantar B.

Bhéadh sé ionann is a bheith gan mhaith, dian coinníollacha pleanála teanga a leagan síos do cheantar atá ró-lag ó thaobh cumas labhartha teanga de.

Tá sé de cheart ag na pobail Gaeltachta in aon cheantar stádas dáiríre Gaeltachta a choinneáil ina ndúiche áitiúil agus ba chóir tosca pleanála bunaithe ar chúrsaí teanga a chur ar athló do gach ceantar Gaeltachta i gContae na Gaillimhe céis moite de Cheantar A.

Ní mór an deis a thabhairt d'áititheoirí Cheantar B mar phobail iad a bheith toilteanach agus in ann a chur ina luí ar a bpobail áitiúla filleadh ar an stádas a bhí acu uair amháin, gur áititheoirí Cheantar Gaeltachta iad (ina labhraítear Gaeilge) mar a shonraigh Acht Gaeltachta 1956. Is é mo thuairim nach bhféadfadh an t-athrú teanga seo tarlú roimh dheireadh 2002 nuair a bheidh ceangal reachtúil ar na Comhairleoirí glacadh le Plean Forbartha Contae.

Bheadh tréimhse phromhaidh cúig bliana de dhíth le cuidiú le Pobail i gCeantar B iad féin a athbhunú mar cheantair Ghaeltacht dáiríre. Tá coinníoll in Acht Pleanála (2000), áfach, faoinair féidir athrú ar an Acht a thabhairt isteach le linn ré Plean Forbartha an Chontae (2003 – 2008). D'fhéadfadh pobail i gCeantar B an t-alt malairte seo a úsáid le go mbainfidís stádas Cheantar A amach dá measadh coiste monatóireachta faoi stiúir Údarás na Gaeltachta go raibh siad cáilithe lena aghaidh sin.

Language Impact Statement for Area B Applicants

A Language Impact statement will be required regarding all planning applications including single houses, housing schemes, hotels, guest houses, factories, business centres, third level colleges, Irish colleges, businesses.

Galway County Council shall decide the wording of the Language Impact Statement required of all applicants in Area B.

It would be next to worthless to impose linguistic planning conditions in an area which to all intents and purposes would be too weak linguistically to comply with such conditions.

It is the prerogative of the Gaeltacht communities in any given area to maintain a meaningful Gaeltacht status in their local community, and planning considerations on linguistic grounds shall be tapered to reflect the status of the language in Area B.

The opportunity must be given to residents of Area B that as communities they are willing and able to convince their local communities to return to the status which they once held, that of being residents in a Gaeltacht Area (Irish-Speaking) as defined by the 1956 Gaeltacht Act. I am of the opinion that such a linguistic transition could not take place before the end of 2002, when the Councillors are statutory bound to adopt a County Development Plan.

A five-year probationary period would be necessary to help communities in Area B to re-establish themselves as meaningful Gaeltacht areas. There is, however, provision in the Planning Act (2000) whereby a variation of the Act could be introduced during the lifetime of the County Development Plan (2003 – 2008). This variation clause could be used by communities in Area B to qualify for Area A status if they were deemed qualified to do so by a monitoring committee controlled by Údarás na Gaeltachta.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O’Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to replace the following on page 67 of the Draft County Development Plan**

An Ceangal

Enurement

Cuirfear an ceangal seo ar chuile cead pleanála.

An enurement condition will be attached to all permissions.

In designated settlement centres that are located in landscape Classes 3, 4 and 5, the preservation of scenic views will be a factor in determining development proposal.

**By the insertion of the following from page 34 of the document entitled “The 2000 Planning and Development Act”:**

Clásal Ceangal

Cuirfear ceangal 20 bhliain ar chuile cead pleanála Gaeltachta. Beidh Ráiteas éifeacht labhairt na Gaeilge an iarrathóra mar chuid den Chlásáil Ceangal.

Enurement Clause

A special 20 year Enurement Clause which relates to Irish Language proficiency will be attached to all permissions granted in Gaeltacht areas.

**The Elected Members agreed that page 66 of the Draft County Development Plan - Aidhmeanna**

Development Objectives

Plean Forbartha Áitiúil a dheánamh do Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe trí cheile.

Aitheantas a thabhairt do thábhacht eacnamaíoch, sóisialta agus cultúrtha na Gaeilge i saol na Gaeltachta agus i saol na tíre trí cheile.

Forbairtí a d’fheadfadh dochar a dheanamh d’úsáid, do fheiceálacht agus do stádas na Gaeilge sa nGaeltacht a aithint.

Modhanna trínar feidir na forbairtí seo a inbhanú ó thaobh cúrsaí teanga di a aimsiú.

Córas éifeachtach a leagadh síos trínar feidir na gneithe seo de thimpeallacht na Gaeltachta a mheas agus a chosaint mar chuid den phróiseas pleanála.

Make a local area plan for Gaeltacht Na Gaillimhe.

Recognise the economic, social, cultural importance of Irish in the Gaeltacht and throughout the county.

Identify developments that might be liable to damage Irish in the Gaeltacht.

Identify methods whereby these developments can be language sustainable.



**Would be replaced by the objectives listed on page 2 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act" and by the following :**

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foigil and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion:**

Spric 72 Glacann an Chomhairle leis gur acmhainn í an teanga sa nGaeltacht agus le tacú leif cuirfidh sí seirbhísí pleanála agus seirbhísí eile ar fáil trí Ghaeilge ón oifig ar an gCeathrú Rua. Cinnteoidh sí chomh maith gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga inmheánach na hoifige sin.

Objective 72 The Council accepts that the language is an asset in the Gaeltacht and in order to support the language, the Council shall provide planning and other services through Irish from the Carraroe Office. The Council shall ensure that Irish is the language medium of this office..

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely:**

Spric 73 Plean Forbartha Áitiúil a dhéanamh do Ghaeltacht ma Gaillimhe trí chéile.

Objective 73 Commence preparation of a local area plan for Gaeltacht na gaillimhe as soon as the County Plan is adopted.

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion**

Spric 74 Aitheantas a thabhairt do thábhacht eacnamaíoch, sóisialta agus cultúrtha na Gaeilge i saol na Gaeltachta agus i saol na tíre trí chéile.

Objective 74 Recognise the economic, social, cultural importance of Irish in the Gaeltacht and throughout the county.

**The Members agreed to the withdrawal of Objectives No. 75 and 76**

**On the proposal of Comh. P O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins:**

Spric 77 Córas éifeachtach a leagadh síos trínar féidir na gnéithe seo de thimpeallacht na Gaeltachta a mheas agus a chosaint mar chuid den phróiseas pleanála.

Objective 77 Put in place an effective system through which the various aspects of the Gaeltacht ethos can be assessed and protected as part of the planning process.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil**

Spric 78 Cuirfidh iachall ar aon conraitheoir atá ag obair si, a bheith tuiscannach don cultúr na n-oibrionn sé.

Objective 78 Ensure that all contractors employed by it in the Gaeltacht will have regard to the culture in which they work.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed to include the following in the Draft County Development Plan from page 35 and 36 of the document entitled "The 2000 Planning and Development Act" :**

Subject to the provision of the Development Plan the coastal strip from Bearnna to Rosamhíl is deemed suitable for once off housing along the R336 and stopend roads leading to the seashore and this area will provide for the housing needs of Irish Speakers.

Subject to the provisions of the Development Plan the R336 and the area north of the R336 from Bearnna to Rosamhíl is deemed suitable for one off housing along the stop end roads leading to the cutaway boglands along these routes for a distance of approximately 2000 metres to provide for the housing needs of Irish Speakers.

The area from Bearnna to Rosamhíl North and South of the R336 comprising of the coastal strip and the bogland strip as described above shall be deemed an area of high rate of social, economic and

cultural amenities and shall have a 'Moderate Landscape Classification and a 'Medium' Landscape Value Rating'.

The Members resumed their consideration of the Draft County Development Plan and the Manager's Report prepared in accordance with Section 12(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Mr. L. Kavanagh resumed reading of the remaining submissions.

Cllr Mc Clearn asked that an action plan be prepared for Loughrea Lake and its Environs within two years of the adoption of the plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. McCleary and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed to insert in the Draft County Development Plan a statement that an area action plan would be undertaken for Loughrea Lake and its Environs within two years of the adoption of the Draft County Development Plan.**

Cllr. McCleary also referred to the village of Ballycrissane stating that it satisfied the requirements of settlement centre status.

**On the proposal of Cllr Mc Cleary and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed to include Ballycrissane as a settlement Centre.**

Submission Number 87	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Sean O'Drisceoil, Oifigeach Forbartha, Comhdhail Oileain na hEireann, Inis Oirr, Arainn, Cuan na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Affordable Housing\Housing Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum: There is a need for practical assistance to be available to assist local people access affordable housing within towns and villages.	
<b>Response</b>	This will be addressed in the implementation of the housing strategy and housing programme 2003-2009. It is anticipated that the Settlement Strategy will encourage housing co-operatives to form with a view to developing housing on a voluntary\group basis.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that Section 3.8 be amended to include details on the housing strategy and any pro-active programmes being investigated by the council to provide affordable housing.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that Section 3.8 be amended to include details on the housing strategy and any pro-active programmes being investigated by the council to provide affordable housing.**

<b>Issue</b>	Affordable Housing\Housing Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Land should be made available at a reasonable price for the housing requirements of Irish speakers.	

**Response** The availability of land and its price is a function of the marketplace. The implementation of the housing strategy and the housing programme 2003-2009 will provide some assistance. Section 3.17. states that the planning authority will give priority to native Irish speakers with a proven housing need within a defined settlement zone, which may also assist.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Affordable Housing/Housing Strategy.

**Summary** Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhán:  
Smaller groups of housing are more appropriate and welcomed.

**Response** This has been addressed in the Cluster Housing Design Guidelines.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Derelict Buildings.

**Summary** Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum:  
Favourable consideration should be given to proposals to develop old houses and derelict buildings.

The Planning authority should work with communities to develop derelict buildings.

**Response** This merits of each application are assessed in accordance with the policies of the plan.

In addition Section 3.1.7.17 states the council will develop a programme to address redundant or derelict buildings in villages.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum:  
Promote creative designs and approaches to clustered housing

**Response** This is addressed in the Cluster Design Guidelines prepared by the consultants.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed**

**that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum: Provide a design guide to consider housing within the Conamara Gaeltacht area.
<b>Response</b>	The Council has prepared design guidelines for single and clustered housing. The preparation of design guidelines specific to Conamara can be examined in the preparation of the local plan for the gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Replace half acre requirement with quarter acre requirement.
<b>Response</b>	A minimum half acre site is required for a single house so as to provide adequate effluent treatment, parking, landscape open space and maintenance of rural amenity. It is accepted that the land pattern ownership on the islands and in parts of Conamara differ from that of the mainland and there may be a case for adopting innovative approaches to effluent treatment and site sizing.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Permit the building of 2 storey houses on the islands.  Emphasis should be placed on design of houses instead of location of site in restricted areas.
<b>Response</b>	The merits of each application are assessed based on the house design guidelines prepared by the council and the policies of the plan.  House design is just one of the many factors that need to be taken into consideration. Others include access, location, services etc.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
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<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Council should implement rules about derelict houses on islands
<b>Response</b>	3.1.7.17 states the council will develop a programme to address redundant or derelict buildings in villages.  Under the planning act 2000 it is the duty of the planning authority to secure the objectives of the plan (Section 14). Not more than 2 years after the making of the plan the manager must make a report in the progress achieved in securing objectives. This monitoring will ensure that all plan is implemented.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	All poles to be removed and replaced with underground cabling.
<b>Response</b>	This issue can be addressed in the assessment of individual applications and in the preparation of the local plan for the Gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Development Control.</b>
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from Comharchumann Conamara Thiar: Include policy statement that legitimate community based organization be informed of planning applications in the area.
<b>Response</b>	This is addressed through the administration of development control. The Planning Authority publishes a list of planning applications on a weekly basis. Over the coming 12 months further technology will be introduced into the planning department to facilitate communication with the public.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: There should be a special process in the council to assess planning applications for new developments in the area such as housing estates, industrial estates.
<b>Recommendation</b>	The council should refuse planning permission that have a negative impact.

**Response** Pre-planning meetings allows for discussion to take place on major applications. Advice given on planning policy and what is included in a planning application reduces difficulties that could arise in the planning process.

All planning applications are assessed based on the principles of proper planning and sustainable development having regard to the development plan policies.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Ensure signage is predominately in Irish if not Irish alone.

**Response** Section 3.17 contains the policy that signage in the Gaeltacht area be in Irish only with internationally recognized symbols.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Submission from Plearaca Teo: A support service needs to be in place before refusing planning Permission.

**Response** No change recommended as this policy aims to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht linguistically as required under the planning act 2000.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum  
Commitment on linguistic and cultural preservation of Gaeltacht Welcomed.

**Response** The council is both bound and keen to preserve and promote the Irish language. Section 3.17 contains polices and objectives to achieve this.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Specific comments from Comharchumann Conamara Thiar: Submission outlined infrastructural needs and development objectives for Culra and Moltra. Concern raised about any measures that would obstruct development including development at NUIG existing research facility, redevelopment of pitch and putt course at Comharchumann, Udaras na Gaeltacht infrastructure.
Response	Section 3.17.11 states the planning authority will in general and subject to the provisions of the development plan be favourably disposed to a range of applications types including economic development for native speakers, tourism that is language centred etc.  It also outlines the councils commitment to support industrial and employment projects of Udaras Na Gaeltachta.  Submission 18 has addressed development proposals at the existing NUIG facility.  Economic development can be further assessed in the preparation of the local plan for the Gaeltacht.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Irish language to be protected like any other natural resource.
Response	The importance of protecting the Irish language is recognised in the plan. Section 3.17 contains policies on the preservation and promotion of the Irish language.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Planning service through Irish in the Gaeltacht.
Response	Section 3.17 includes a commitment from the council to provide a service through Irish. It is an objective to provide planning services along with other services from its offices in Cheathru Rua in Irish.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Implement Planning Act 2000 requirements on Gaeltacht areas and make a local plan.
Response	Section 3.17 contains policies and objectives to protect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht. It is a development objective to make a local plan for Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe.
Recommendation	Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: No grants to be given to any development in area without implications for the Irish language taken into account.
Response	The Council cannot exercise control over grants given by other agencies. However the importance of protecting the Irish language is recognized in the plan. Section 3.17 contains policies and objectives to protect and promote the Irish language.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Submission by Councilor Pol Bainin O Foighil: Details submitted on the obligations of the Planning Authority under the Planning Act 2000.  Proposals submitted on the administration of the Gaeltacht area, its development and the promotion of the Irish language.
Response	The Council is committed to provide a planning service along with other services from its offices in Cheathru Rua in Irish.  Section 3.17 contains policies to preserve and promote the linguistic and cultural heritage of the Gaeltacht as set out in Section 10 of the Planning Act 2000. This includes a development objective to make a local plan for Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe.  Proposals submitted on the development of the Gaeltacht area shall be taken into consideration in the preparation of the local plan for the Gaeltacht.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was**



**agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Plearaca Teo: Do schools know that the connection is being made between planning and the language service in the Gaeltacht areas.
<b>Response</b>	The use of English instead of Irish can have a negative impact on the development of the Irish language at schools. However it is recognised that it can also impact on other aspects of community life, such as the use of English when shopping or using sports and recreation facilities. Taking this into consideration it is recommended that the statement in par 4 of 3.17.1.9 be revised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend par 4 of 3.17.1.9 to read ' Emigrant families will be assessed regarding the effect the children might have on the Irish language generally in the community'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed to Amend par 4 of 3.17.1.9 to read ' Emigrant families will be assessed regarding the effect the children might have on the Irish language generally in the community'.**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Plearaca Teo: Is the council prepared to help with support services for communities and schools.
<b>Response</b>	It is not within the councils remit to fund schools. However the plan contains policies to facilitate in the improvement of facilities and co-operate with other agencies to achieve this.
<b>Recommendation</b>	The Council is also committed to provide a service through Irish and contains policies and objectives to preserve and promote the Irish language.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Concern raised about extent of cSAC designations.
<b>Response</b>	NHA and cSAC designations are made at national/European level. The Council is required by law to protect designated areas, these protections do not prevent development taking place however any development proposals must consider the conservation status of the area.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Pre draft submission was not considered, insufficient baseline data was used in the preparation of the plan.
Response	A report on pre-draft submissions and other considerations including Government policy was presented to the Council. This was taken into consideration in the preparation of the plan. A range of studies was commissioned by the Council to provide background information for policies and objectives.  There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the plan.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Monitoring of the plan needs to take place.
Response	Under the planning act 2000 it is the duty of the planning authority to secure the objectives of the plan (Section 14). Not more than 2 years after the making of the plan the manager must make a report on the progress achieved in securing objectives. This monitoring will ensure that all objectives are being pursued and afford the opportunity of revising strategies if considered appropriate.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: There should be a planning office on the islands.
Response	There are plans for decentralization which will bring planning to a more local level. However the degree to which services can be provided at any one location is determined by resources.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
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Summary	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Roads taken in charge by council are the responsibility of the County Council.
Response	This issue is not within the remit of the development plan.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Plan should have regard to economic, social and cultural resources of the area, and should benefit people of the area.
Response	The plan aims to achieve development in a balanced manner. The provisions of the plan are favourable to local people.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Have regard to infrastructural improvements identified in plan prepared by Cois Fharraige Development Group.
Response	Infrastructure development is addressed under the policies and objectives set out in the plan. They will be further examined in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht. The Cois Fharraige Development Group will have the opportunity of making submissions to the plan.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Population.
Summary	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum Population figures and employment figures incorrect.
Response	The figures used are the most recent available at the time of publication of the Draft Plan.
Recommendation	Use will be made of the published Census figures and the forthcoming update of the Geodirectory to re-assess the base population figures included in the plan and any decisions based on these.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that use will be made of the published Census figures and the forthcoming update of the Geodirectory to re-assess the base population figures**

included in the plan and any decisions based on these.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. P. O'Faighil it was agreed to include a specific section on the islands in 3.17 to take account of plans and strategies prepared for the islands.

<b>Issue</b>	Population.
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Address population decline on the island by facilitating development
<b>Response</b>	The plan aims to strengthen local communities through balanced development. The gaeltacht local plan will further address the development needs of all districts of the gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include an objective to identify areas of declining population with a view to reversing the decline subject to the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed to include an objective to identify areas of declining population with a view to reversing the decline subject to the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Access to the west and the islands needs to be improved.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.3 (roads and transportation) contains policies and objectives to improve access to the west and the islands. Infrastructural needs will be further assessed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	The Galway Islands Plan 1997 remains to be fully implemented. Recognition should be given to the unique difficulties faced in the development of the islands.
<b>Response</b>	Infrastructure improvements are carried out having regard to an assessment of need and where resources permit.  A specific section on the islands should be included in Section 3.17 to highlight the uniqueness of the area and take into consideration plans and strategies prepared for the islands.  The needs of the islands area will be further examined in the preparation of a local plan for the gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include a specific section on the islands in 3.17 to take account of plans

and strategies prepared for the islands.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed to include a specific section on the islands in 3.17 to take account of plans and strategies prepared for the islands.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Cill Ronain urgently requires a sewerage treatment plant.
Response	Cill Ronain is identified in the revised programme of works listed in submission no 78. Sewerage facilities are provided based on assessment of need and where resources permit.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Facilitate the development of walking and cycling routes, speed limits and parking facilities.
Response	The plan contains policies to facilitate the development of walking routes, address road safety and parking requirements. Further needs of the islands can be addressed in the preparation of the Gaeltacht local plan.
Recommendation	Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: The provision of public lighting in every footpath in the Gaeltacht area.
Response	The assessment of public lighting needs is primarily based on the public lighting programme and assessments carried out in the development of schemes such as upgrading roads, village renewal schemes. Public lighting shall be provided based on assessment of need and where resources permit.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Roads and Transportation.
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Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Provide a safe road system in the Gaeltacht area.
Response	Section 3.3. contains policy to provide a safe road system throughout the county. A number of measures to achieve this are highlighted. This issue is addressed through the implementation of this policy where resources permit.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Roads and Transportation.
Summary	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Junctions between minor road and R336 should be examined particularly in the context of constructing new footpaths.
Response	Section 3.3 contains policy to provide a safe road system throughout the county. This issue is addressed through a detailed analysis of the road network and the implementation of this policy.  Infrastructure improvements are carried out having regard to assessment of needs and where resources permit.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	Settlement strategy lacks objectivity and there is little recognition of urban settlement types.  Planners trying to force strong nucleation of areas and the plan has failed to take into account congested districts or island settlement patterns.  The plan gives precedence to the city and encourages over rapid growth of the city.
Response	A range of policy documents were considered in drafting the strategy and each centre was identified based on a range of criteria and the level of contribution that each center could make to the to the aims of the strategy.  The Settlement Strategy took into account a detailed examination of the dynamics and distribution of population and settlement within the County including the settlement pattern of South Conamara.  It is recognized however that there is a settlement pattern in the gaeltacht that relates to local townlands. (Section 3.17.1.5.). This will be further examined in detail in the preparation of the Gaeltacht Local Plan.  The Plan acknowledges the role of the city in the settlement hierarchy and aims to achieve balanced spatial development and the settlement

strategy identified a choice of settlements types in the hierarchy.

There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Language used in the Settlement Strategy lacks objectivity and is negative.

**Response** The plan aims to portray and communicate the facts in an understandable manner.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum:  
Boundaries of settlement centres should be clearly defined, clusters of population outside these centres should be identified such as Ard Mor

**Response** Boundaries of settlement centres that have no plan will be assessed at development control stage.

It is recognised that there is a settlement pattern that relates to local townlands Section 3.17.1.5 states this issues will be further examined in the preparation of the local plan for the gaeltacht.

**Recommendation** Include the following paragraph at the appropriate location in the plan. 'There is a need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the Settlement Strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plans has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan'.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was recommended to include the following paragraph at the appropriate location in the plan. 'There is a need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the Settlement Strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plans has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan'.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

<b>Summary</b>	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum: Account not taken of settlement pattern of gaeltacht, an assessment of in migration of native gaeltacht populations not considered.
<b>Response</b>	The Settlement Strategy took into account a detailed examination of the dynamics and distribution of population and settlement within the County including the settlement pattern of the gaeltacht.  It is recognised that there is a settlement pattern in the gaeltacht that relates to local townlands. (Section 3.17.1.5.). This will be further examined in detail in the preparation of the Gaeltacht Local Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum: Concept of retaining balance between the growth of towns and the need to allow rural housing for housing needs welcomed.
<b>Response</b>	Plan should encourage local people to live in gaeltacht areas and encourage the development of gaeltacht areas.  The Settlement Strategy aims to strengthen local communities through balanced development and permits those functionally dependent on the land or who meet the essential housing need criteria set out in Section 3.1.7.6 to live outside settlement centers,  There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum: Where services cannot be provided in towns, the right to develop areas around villages shall be retained.
<b>Response</b>	This is unsustainable and would counteract the aims of the plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
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<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: Housing need criteria should give consideration to islanders without family land when applying for permission.
<b>Response</b>	Provisions of the plan are favourable to local people.  The current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) weakens the aims of the plan as it is open to interpretation.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain: There should be provision in the plan for returning emigrants.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.17.1.9. outlines the council's policy on returning emigrants and is considered adequate.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhán: Local people of Gaeltacht background are being pressurised out of the Gaeltacht, at the same time people outside are getting holiday homes.  Support local people who look for planning permission on their own site at home.
<b>Response</b>	Provisions of the plan are favourable to local people and the development of the Irish language.  The current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) is open to interpretation and weakens these aims.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: There should be language proofing of people who come into the Gaeltacht and buy houses.
<b>Response</b>	In the case of property where enurement clauses are not placed, the council has no control on the transfer of a house to any prospective purchaser regardless of the impact on the language.  The current definition of the enurement clause removes its effectiveness.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Delete last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause.  Add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr J. J. Conneely it was agreed to delete the last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause and to add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.**

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>Settlement Strategy</b>
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Plearaca Teo: The Plan is pushing clusters within the 30m zone, planning is easier to obtain in these zones. People have been refused or had difficulty because they want to built on their own land outside these zones.
<b>Response</b>	The strategy aims to achieve balanced development and allows for the consideration of applications for outside designated centres for as person who is functionally dependent on the land or meets the essential housing need criteria.  There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weaken the aims of the plan.  Any grant of permission is a complex matter. Consideration is given to whether an applicant meets the housing need criteria, however it must also be given to development control standards including suitability of the site for the safe disposal of effluent, traffic safety, impact on protected areas etc.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Plearaca Teo: If you are from the area, Irish speaking or prepared to learn it, planning

could be obtained if all other regulations are met outside these zones.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy aims to achieve development in a balanced manner and sets out a settlement hierarchy for the county.

The preparation of the Gaeltacht local plan will further examine the needs of the Gaeltacht and take into account a range of issues including settlement patterns and the development of the Irish language.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Coneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Tourism.

**Summary** Submission by Galway Conamara Local Area Forum:  
Address the difficulty of accommodating tourism initiatives in the Gaeltacht.

**Response** Section 3.17.1.1. states the planning authority will in general and subject to the provisions of the plan, be favourably disposed to a range of application types including tourism that is language centred. Section 5.7 also contains policies to support agri-tourism.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Tourism.

**Summary** Specific comments from off shore islands: Inis Meain:  
Facilitate the development of tourism infrastructure including holidays and hotels.

**Response** Section 3.17.1.1. states the planning authority will in general and subject to the provisions of the plan, be favourably disposed to a range of application types including tourism that is language centered. Section 5.7 also contains policies to support agri-tourism.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Town Plans/Local Area Plans.

**Summary** Specific comments from Comharchumann Conamara Thiar:  
Have a commitment to increase participation in planning, have more planning at a local level, provide technical assistance to communities.

**Response** The Council will endeavour to pursue this where resources permit.

**Recommendation** Include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the

planning process.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed to include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the planning process.**

<b>Issue</b>	Town Plans\Local Area Plans.
<b>Summary</b>	Submission from Comharchumann Sailearna Teo, Indreabhan: Plan should go back to local communities and local communities should be listened to in the preparation of plan.
<b>Response</b>	Submissions will be invited on any amendments made in the plan in accordance with the procedures set out in the planning Act 2000.  All submissions are considered in the preparation of the plan. Other considerations must include national policy, Government guidelines and plans of adjoining local authorities.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the planning process.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the planning process.**

<b>Submission Number</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Agent</b>
		Minister Eamon O'Cuiv T.D, Corr na Mona, Co. na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>		Environmental Protection.	
<b>Summary</b>		Section 2.2 - Delete 'The proliferation of septic tanks in rural areas, particularly in the eastern hinterland of Galway City where there are major aquifers of high vulnerability, is perceived to be a threat to water quality'.  Reason: Septic tanks are a efficient method of effluent disposal.	
<b>Response</b>		The relationship between septic tanks and concerns about water protection is also identified in the EPA Millennium report (p145). This statement highlights a key environmental concern to be addressed in the plan.	
<b>Recommendation</b>		It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Section 2.4 – add ‘and in the pursuit of policies that facilitate daily Irish speakers settle in the Gaeltacht’.
Response	Reason: to strengthen the position of the language in the Gaeltacht
Recommendation	Section 2.4 outlines that it is an aim to protect and preserve the language and culture of the Gaeltacht. Policies in support of this are outlined in Section 3.17. A policy statement in this section of the plan is inappropriate and in any event the policy statement is not amenable to conversion into implementable development control objectives.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Comh. P. O’Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Section 3.17.1.8 Add ‘and individuals who use Irish on a daily basis’ at end of paragraph’.
Response	No change recommended as this section relates to people from the Gaeltacht working outside the Gaeltacht and not all Irish speakers.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O’Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht
Summary	Add to 4.8.2 ‘The council will consult with Brainse na Logainmneacha of the Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs, in relation to the correct use and form of Irish placenames. All proposed names in the Gaeltacht will be in the Irish language.’
Response	Reason: To preserve our heritage.
Recommendation	The naming of residential development in Gaeltacht areas is assessed at development control stage. This would be assessed in accordance with Section 3.17 which includes the aim to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht through the planning process. All available sources will be consulted. It is not considered necessary to include a policy statement to this effect.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Section 1.2.1 - Delete ‘The city has been designated a national growth

“gateway” in the National Spatial Strategy’ because the National Spatial Strategy has not been adopted by the Government and until such a strategy is adopted formally there is no such thing.

**Response** The National Spatial Strategy Indications of a Way Ahead document proposes to facilitate further development of existing gateways identified under the NDP 2000-2006. Galway City is identified as a gateway under the NDP and it is important to recognise the significance of the spatial strategy proposals for the city and county area.

**Recommendation** Revise National Spatial Strategy to read proposed National Spatial.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed not to accept the recommendation.**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Section 2.4 - Delete ‘‘And in the formulation of control and guidelines, which will conserve indigenous architectural traditions.’’

**Reason:** There are no more indigenous architectural traditions in the Gaeltacht as compared to non Gaeltacht areas of the County.

**Response** The relevant section is 2.4: The point is accepted the word indigenous should be omitted.

**Recommendation** Omit the word indigenous from Section 2.4.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to omit the word indigenous from Section 2.4.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Include three schemes in Conamara at the end of paragraph 2.3.2, i.e. the Carna/Cill Chiarain Water Scheme, Sceim Uisce Chonamata Theas and the West Conamara Regional Water Scheme.

**Response** Section 2.3.2 is an inappropriate section of the document for a list of projects. Other recommendations in this report recommend the removal of lists from this section and their inclusion elsewhere in the plan in the listing of water services schemes.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Comh. P. O’Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 2.3.4 - Delete ‘Identifying local settlement where a small cluster of Local Authority housing could be developed, may alleviate the continuing difficulty of acquiring suitable sites for single rural cottages’.

	<p>Reason: There is no evidence of difficulty in acquiring sites for rural cottages.</p>
<b>Response</b>	<p>This statement needs to be examined in the context of the aims of the Settlement Strategy. The strategy aims to achieve balanced spatial development and offers a choice of settlement types. The draft also permits those who are functionally dependent on the land or meet the housing need criteria set out in 3.1.7.6 to locate outside settlement centres.</p> <p>The statement on par. 2.3.4 relates to the provision of Local Authority housing and not private housing. This statement allows for all types of housing to be provided for in the context of the Settlement Strategy. It is wrong to add credence to perception in the selection of sites.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<p>It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.</p>

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	<p>Settlement Strategy.</p>
<b>Summary</b>	<p>Section 3.1 - Delete 'The lack of a cohesive strategy and the permissive approach to Once-off rural housing has resulted in a very high migration to the rural hinterland of Galway City and a consequent decline in the population of the more peripheral areas of the county.'</p> <p>Reason: The problem is wrongly identified as a demand for one off housing but should be more clearly identified as an over concentration of development in Galway City and the adjacent countryside to the detriment of the rest of the count(ry). If dispersed evenly over the county would strengthen many small dying communities.</p>
<b>Response</b>	<p>This statement reflects trends that have emerged through a detailed examination of planning applications lodged and the distribution of population within the county for the period 1991-2001 and the population figures in the recent Census.</p> <p>It sets the context for the need for a Settlement Strategy in order to achieve balanced spatial development and also to ensure that population growth is accommodated in rural villages to their benefit. Dispersal throughout the countryside on the one hand, dissipates the potential benefits and on the other hand generates problems. It is wrong to ignore anything other than personal convenience, issues such as environmental degradation, traffic congestion and erosion of agricultural assets and general amenity must also be considered.</p> <p>The inference that accommodation needs to support the employment requirements of the city can be met only by rural dispersal is not supported because of the availability numerous towns and villages within commuting distance of the city.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<p>It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.</p>

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply..**

<b>Issue</b>	<p>Settlement Strategy.</p>
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**Summary** Section 3.1.3 - Delete reference to the proposed National Spatial Strategy as not adopted.

**Response** It is important to recognise the implications of the proposed National Spatial Strategy on development in the County. It does not suggest that it has been adopted. It is clearly indicated in page 97 of the recently published (Aug/Sept 2002) document "Making Ireland's Development Sustainable" that the National Spatial Strategy will be published and that the thrust of this strategy as already extensively communicated will remain intact.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.4 –Delete ‘Continued development of once-off rural housing at current levels, cannot be maintained due to increased service costs, lack of transport provision and negative impact on the environment, especially water services and visual amenities.’

‘Delete ‘ and the trends in one off development will inevitably slow or render uneconomic improvements to infrastructure and services due to increased unit costs.’

Delete ‘ and provide the best economic return’.

Reason: Negative perception of impact of one off housing.

**Response** This highlights the impact of urban generated one off housing is rural areas on the development of County Galway. It sets the context for the Settlement Strategy which aims to encourage development in a balanced manner.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O’Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.1 – Delete ‘It is therefore essential that the settlement strategy provides for the expansion of the gateway.’

Reason: The growth of a service centre does not necessarily require the major growth of residential accommodation if good transport services are provided.

**Response** Transportation requirements are part of the solution. A comprehensive transportation strategy has been prepared by Galway County Council and is currently in draft format.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.



**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.2 - Delete the word 'residential' and replace with 'growth of services'.  What the town needs to provide is as wide range of services for the community. There is no absolute reason as to why services could not be provided in towns and residential would be in a dispersed pattern.
<b>Response</b>	A spin off of residential growth is growth of services and this is suggested in Section 3.1.7.2. This is of benefit to people living in towns/villages and their surrounding rural hinterland.  Dispersed residential development will lead to unsustainable travel pattern to avail of said services.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.5 - Delete 'The closure of school, banks, shops and post offices and the discontinuation and downgrading of other services can partly be explained by static and declining population in small towns and villages in recent decades.'
<b>Response</b>	Reason: The explanation of the above lies mainly in the general decline in rural population and not in the decline of the population of villages and towns.
<b>Response</b>	The statement states that the problems highlighted can partly be explained by static and declining populations in small towns and villages.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.6 Delete statement 'Rapid growth of new housing in the open countryside, which is unconnected to farming and other rural economic activities is damaging to towns and villages in the county and creating serious environmental problems. Delete first paragraph of Section 3.1.7.5.
<b>Response</b>	Reason: There is no evidence to prove this.
<b>Response</b>	To delete this would be contradict Government policy as expressed in "Sustainable Development Strategy for Ireland- 1997".

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.6 - Amend essential housing need criteria as suggested in the submission.

Reason: Clarity of provision.

**Response** The submission lists subtle changes to a policy statement that is substantially at variance with the principles of sustainable development as currently across the county.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.8 delete 'Settlement can be planned to encourage public transport provision.' And paragraph in total.

Reason: There is very little evidence that such an approach reduces the use of the motor car.

**Response** This section highlights that that the development of settlements can lead to opportunities to develop public transportation and therefore choice in transport provision. It is self evident that it must be beneficial.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.9 - Delete 'One of the most worrying aspects of development over the last five years is the concentration of residential development in the form of once-off houses in an area east of Galway City where a major water aquifer is located. The continuation of this development is not sustainable.'

**Response** This is a factual statement clearly indicating the threat to a major aquifer. There is no basis for its removal.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.12 Delete: 'During this period the majority of growth has occurred outside the towns and villages, even though land was zoned for development, and has been predominated by low density one off houses.' 'Current trends would also see the predominance of one off houses in the countryside continue. This would use up a valuable agricultural resource, impact on water quality, reduce biodiversity and detract from the quality of the landscape.' 'The dispersal of development away from smaller towns and villages would also impact upon the level of service provision in those settlements so that in time it may not be possible for service providers to continue, resulting in the closure of schools, post offices, banks and shops.'
	Reason: The above statements are not substantiated. For most rural towns it is the decline of the rural countryside that is causing the closure of services in the towns and villages.
<b>Response</b>	This highlights the impact of urban generated one off housing in rural areas on the development of County Galway. It sets the context for the Settlement Strategy which aims to encourage development in a balanced manner.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.13 Add to hierarchy of settlements: 'Townlands: these traditionally provided the main settlement patterns in Connacht and have a strong social structure and social support system that should be preserved and developed.'
<b>Response</b>	This is the smallest unit of land area used in Ireland varying in size from 10 acres to several thousand acres. They are an ancient land designation that evolved generally around individual or extended families dating back to a largely self sufficient society with frugal requirements. They are not appropriate to use as a modern planning unit in that the traditional townlands do not have services expected by a modern society or the critical mass to support same.  This statement does not take account changes in settlement patterns that have evolved.  It is recognised that there is a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that related to local townlands Section 3.17.1.5 states the relevance of this will be further examined in detail in the proposed local area plan for the Gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	Section 3.3.1 – Delete ‘Reduce the congestion on public roads caused by the existing commuter movements to and from the city, by consolidating existing towns and villages and providing a more rational and better quality public transport system.’
Reason:	There is no evidence that commuting is reduced by pushing people into towns and villages.
Response	The text refers to the "consolidation" of towns and villages and the economies of scale in transport provision that will follow. It is self-evident that the development of settlements will lead to opportunities to provide public systems in an efficient manner. The provision of public transport offers choice to commuters, which is a method in reducing congestion.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 89	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Gerry Gavin, Coillte Teo, Mountbellew, Co. Galway.	No Agent.

Issue	Development Control.
Summary	Remove minimum setback of 30m from third party boundaries.
Response	This requirement was included in the interest of protecting the amenity value of adjoining property.  It does not prohibit development entirely as it is permitted with the consent of the adjoining landowners. Where no consent is given, it is likely that appeals on licensing would be sought by adjoining landowners.
Reason:	This is a minimum requirement in other County Development Plans to protect amenity value of adjoining property.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Forestry.
Summary	Section 5.19 - This submissions highlights that forestry activity within the County is undertaken in accordance with 5 guideline documents issued by the Forest Service.

**Response** Section 5.19 lists the 'The Forestry and Landscape Guidelines', however, proposals should have regard to all guidelines from the Forest Service. This section should be revised to give reference to all guidelines published by the Forest Service July 2000.

**Recommendation** Amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000.  
 -Forestry and Landscape Guidelines  
 -Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines  
 -Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines  
 -Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines  
 -Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000.**

- Forestry and Landscape Guidelines
- Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines
- Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines
- Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines
- Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.

**Issue** Forestry.

**Summary** Section 5.19 - Remove proposal on development charges.

**Response** Development contributions are sought in cases where large developments necessitate infrastructural improvements to facilitate and support their development.

No change is recommended as Section 5.19 proposes an equitable method to calculate such contributions.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
90	Maire Ni Chionna, Senior Engineer, Environment Section.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Revise policies under 4.9.2 to clarify wastewater treatment requirements for single houses and other premises.	

<b>Response</b>	This section should be amended to clarify requirements on wastewater systems for all types of development.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend Section 4.9. to clarify requirements on wastewater systems for single houses and other premises including pubs, hotels, service stations etc.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend Section 4.9. to clarify requirements on wastewater systems for single houses and other premises including pubs, hotels, service stations etc.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Revise Section 5.5 (effluent treatment) to provide clarification on the requirement that each house must be serviced by its own wastewater treatment system and must not share except in exceptional circumstances.  Recommendation made that it should not be a requirement for a clustered housing development
<b>Response</b>	This section should be amended to clarify requirements on wastewater systems for all forms of development including clustered housing, commercial development etc.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend Section 5.5 to clarify when group wastewater treatment schemes shall be permitted (such as for clustered housing schemes).  Provide guidance that all group schemes to be in accordance with Galway County Council Policy Documents on the Provision of Small-scale Package Treatment Plants.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed to amend Section 5.5 to clarify when group wastewater treatment schemes shall be permitted (such as for clustered housing schemes) and provide guidance that all group schemes to be in accordance with Galway County Council Policy Documents on the Provision of Small-scale Package Treatment Plants.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.4 (site size) Allow for marginal flexibility where the waste water system is delivering a high quality effluent and the site size misses the required area by a small amount.
<b>Response</b>	A minimum site size of 2000sqm is required so as to provide for adequate effluent treatment and parking, landscaping, open space and the maintenance of the rural amenity.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. McDonagh and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.6.1- Include policy ' to facilitate innovative building design that will promote good practice on energy conservation and use of renewable energy.
<b>Response</b>	This has been addressed in design guidelines prepared by the Council. The inclusion of this statement will reinforce these guidelines.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend Section 3.6.1 to include policy ' to facilitate innovative building design that will promote good practice on energy conservation and use of renewable energy'.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend Section 3.6.1 to include policy ' to facilitate innovative building design that will promote good practice on energy conservation and use of renewable energy'.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 1.1 – Amend aims of the plan to include wording on the protection of the natural resource base.
<b>Response</b>	Although the aim to protect the natural resource base is implied in other statements, a clear statement of this aim should be included.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend item 1.1 to include additional statement ' Promoting pro-active and appropriate policies for the protection of the natural resource base of the county.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed to amend item 1.1 to include additional statement ' Promoting pro-active and appropriate policies for the protection of the natural resource base of the county.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 2.2 – Details provided on how septic tanks contribute to pollution. Identify agricultural practices, capacity of waste water treatment systems and inadequate soakaways as other sources of ground water pollution.
<b>Response</b>	This section should be amended to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution.  Section 4.9 on water quality resources identifies sources of ground water pollution. This should also be revised to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution and measures to overcome this.

- Recommendation** Amend Section 2.2 to clearly identify all sources of ground water pollution.  
Amend Section 4.9 on water quality resources to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution and measures to overcome this.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend Section 2.2 to clearly identify all sources of ground water pollution. Amend Section 4.9 on water quality resources to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution and measures to overcome this.**

- Issue** Forestry.
- Summary** Section 3.4.1 – Include policy ‘to facilitate afforestation while ensuring that no pollution or injury is caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats or conservation areas’.
- Response** This statement will reinforce recommended changes to Section 5.19 on forestry development addressed in **Submission Number 89**.

- Recommendation** Amend Section 3.4.1 to include policy ‘to facilitate afforestation while ensuring that no pollution or injury is caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats or conservation areas’

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. McClearn it was agreed to amend Section 3.4.1 to include policy ‘to facilitate afforestation while ensuring that no pollution or injury is caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats or conservation areas’**

- Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.
- Summary** Include details on waste management infrastructure in Section 2.3.
- Response** This section should be amended to provide details on waste management infrastructure.
- Recommendation** Amend Section 2.3 to include section on waste management.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to amend Section 2.3 to include section on waste management.**

- Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.
- Summary** Section 5.11 should include facilitating infrastructure for the leisure, craft and marine tourist sector.
- Response** Include a statement to facilitate the provision of infrastructure for all



types of marine development.

**Recommendation** Amend Section 5.11 to include statement to facilitate infrastructure for the leisure, craft and marine tourist sector.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to amend Section 5.11 to include statement to facilitate infrastructure for the leisure, craft and marine tourist sector.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Zoning matrix does not take into consideration waste management facilities and should be modified.

**Response** This section should be amended to facilitate the provision of waste management facilities such as recycling facilities.

**Recommendation** Amend zoning matrix to facilitate the provision of waste management facilities.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to amend zoning matrix to facilitate the provision of waste management facilities.**

**Issue** Public Access to Amenities.

**Summary** Include details on designated bathing areas in section on blue flag.

**Response** This section should be amended to provide details on designated bathing areas in the county.

**Recommendation** Amend Section 3.13.2.2 to include details on designated bathing areas.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed to amend Section 3.13.2.2 to include details on designated bathing areas.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Septic tanks is one of a number of pollution threats in vulnerable aquifer areas. Agricultural practices, capacity of waste water treatment systems and inadequate soakaways as other sources of ground water pollution.

**Response** This section relates specifically to the Settlement Strategy and highlights negative environmental impact caused by the concentration of septic tanks.

The current settlement location policy will have a negative impact on the environmental resources of the county.

**Recommendation** Amend Section 2.2 to clearly identify all sources of ground water

pollution.  
Amend Section 4.9 on water quality resources to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution and measures to overcome this.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend Section Amend Section 2.2 to clearly identify all sources of ground water pollution. Amend Section 4.9 on water quality resources to clearly identify all sources of groundwater pollution and measures to overcome this.**

Submission Number 91	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Derrick Hambleton An Taisce, 26 Manor Avenue, Kingston, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Coastal Zone Management.	
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.13.3 Implement the measures which will see the provision of the coastal management plan.	
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.13.3 states it is a policy to facilitate the provision of a coastal management plan for the county. The preparation of the plan will be addressed following the adoption of the county plan.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Include policy statement to prevent unsightly fencing of commonage as per existing county development plan.	
<b>Response</b>	Fencing is addressed under Section 5.2. (rural areas) where it is an objective to control permissible developments so that the rural amenity is protected. However to facilitate access to the countryside it is recommended an additional policy be included under Section 3.20 (recreation and amenity).	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include additional policy statement to control the erection of unsightly fencing and to facilitate access to the countryside in Section 3.20: The Planning Authority shall require planning permission for fencing of areas that are traditionally of open/unfenced landscape often held in commonage. The merits of each case would be considered in light of landscape sensitivity rates and views of amenity importance.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to include the following policy statement – Preserve the status of traditionally open/unfenced landscape. The merits of each case will be considered in light of landscape sensitivity ratings and views of amenity importance.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.1 – include policy on prohibiting development along bog roads as in existing plan.
<b>Response</b>	Landscape sensitivity ratings outline the type of development generally acceptable in each area.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.8 – The statement allowing for redevelopment of existing sites and the provision of housing for essential needs. This could have a negative impact on protected areas such as NHA/CSACS.
<b>Response</b>	The merits of each case will be assessed by Development Control and take into consideration policies of the Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.8 – Provide maps for an NHA/CSAC's.
<b>Response</b>	It is recommended that a map be included identifying protected areas in the County.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Provide a map of the protected\designated areas in the county.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed to provide a map of the protected\designated areas in the county**

<b>Issue</b>	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.6 – Careful management of the Countys bogs as a fuel resource required in particular areas.
<b>Response</b>	Concerns about the development of bog land have been addressed through the provisions of policy to facilitate the utilisation of the county's bogs as a fuel energy resource where this will not conflict with environmental amenities and designations and where appropriate to allow for the continued traditional use of bogs to save turf for fuel where that use is established.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. P. Hynes it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

Issue	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
Summary	Section 3.6 –Include reference to hydro power in energy section.
Response	It is the policy of the plan to facilitate all forms of alternative energy.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. McDonagh and seconded by Comh. P O’Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

Issue	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
Summary	Concern raised about location of areas of wind farms and impact on protected areas.
Response	The location for wind energy development was addressed at strategic level in the landscape assessment for the county. The development of wind farms and their impact on protected areas is assessed by development control.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. J.J.Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

Issue	Environmental Protection.
Summary	Section 3.20 – Amend policy to protect the amenity of scenic and environmentally sensitive areas.
Response	This item is addressed through Section 4 ‘environment and conservation.’
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

Issue	Forestry.
Summary	Section 3.4.1- Include policy to redress the balance in favour of deciduous forests. Include policy to reduce exemption threshold for afforestation as in existing Plan.
Response	Section 3.4.1 states it is a policy to facilitate forestry development in appropriate locations in line with national policy, any policy on the development on deciduous forestry or reductions in exceptions thresholds should be addressed at national policy level. Permitted forestry under the plan should comply with relevant national policy and

guidelines. The plan should be altered to include for this.

**Recommendation** Amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000.  
-Forestry and Landscape Guidelines  
-Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines  
-Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines  
-Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines  
-Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to Amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000.**

**-Forestry and Landscape Guidelines  
-Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines  
-Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines  
-Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines  
-Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.**

**Issue** Forestry.

**Summary** Review Section 5.19 Development Control standards for forestry development:- as conditions are not adhered to and require stricter enforcement.

Include policy to redress the balance in favour of deciduous forests.

**Response** Section 1 shall be addressed in the implementation and enforcement of the Plan.

Section 3.4.1 states it is a policy to facilitate forestry development in appropriate locations in line with national policy, any policy on the development on deciduous forestry should be addressed at national policy level.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Heritage.

**Summary** Section 3.9 –Address the provision of legally established right of ways for walking routes.

**Response** There are 2 marked walkways Sli Conamara and Suck Valley. A number of walks have also been developed at local level. Rights of way are a complex issue and it is up to the landowner to permit right of way. However to facilitate access to the countryside it is recommended that an appropriate policy be included under Section 3.20, recreation amenity. Section 3.20 contains a policy to support walkers in developing

routes. The development of walkways and associated facilities is addressed at a different forum, in the implementation of policies in the plan and planning of individual projects.

**Recommendation** Include additional policy statement to control the erection of unsightly fencing and to facilitate access to the countryside in Section 3.20: The Planning Authority shall require planning permission for fencing of areas that are traditionally of open/unfenced landscape often held in commonage. The merits of each case would be considered in light of landscape sensitivity rates and views of amenity importance.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed to include the following policy statement – Preserve the status of traditionally open/unfenced landscape. The merits of each case will be considered in light of landscape sensitivity ratings and views of amenity importance.**

**Issue** Heritage.

**Summary** Section 3.13.3. - include commitment to develop coastal paths and facilitate access to beaches.

**Response** Access and the development of walks is addressed in Section 3.20, this contains a policy to support walkers in developing routes.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.9 supports the need to preserve the landscape.

**Response** Landscape and landscape assessment was undertaken as part of a comprehensive analysis of the county. The classifications afforded to each area were assessed in accordance with the areas' capacity to accommodate change without detriment to their preservation. All areas are classified from moderate to unique.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Establish a green belt around the city. Suggests establishment of joint committee of both Local Authorities to examine this area.

**Response** The area of special control designation has been superseded by policies, which aim to direct development to designated settlement centres and permit development outside these centres to those who are functionally dependent on the land or meet the housing need criteria. However, the

current definition of housing need weakens this aims and should be revised.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Areas including Tonabrooky Hill and other lands which surround Lough Corrib need higher protective designation to protect this area.

**Response** The landscape sensitivity rating, were assessed based on a range of criteria and in accordance with the Draft Planning Guidelines on Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DoELG. The landscape sensitivity rating for the area including Tonabrockey Hill is 'high'. No change recommended in landscape sensitivity rating taking in to consideration the dominance of views of the city/county it is recommended to examine the potential of the area.

The proposal to liaise with the city will be addressed through implementation of policies.

**Recommendation** The landscape classification does not merit alteration however it is accepted that the area has a significance greater than the classification may indicate. It is recommended that the following policy statement be included in the plan. "Its future potential as a civic amenity park to the surrounding population is recognised and development control policy in this area will seek over time to deliver on the potential".

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that the following policy statement be included in the plan. "Its future potential as a civic amenity park to the surrounding population is recognised and development control policy in this area will seek over time to deliver on the potential".**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7 - Adoption of a plan-led approach.

**Response** This issue has been addressed in the response outlined to part 1 of the submission. It is considered to be central to proper planning that a plan led approach be adopted. The draft development subject to acceptance of the recommendations made in this report will fulfill that need.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Initiate a pilot project to look at the development of GIS – to assist in the

compilation of landscape characterisation profiles and to effect links between the evaluation and understanding of cultural and natural landscape.

**Response** A detailed landscape character Assessment of the county was prepared based on the Draft DoELG guidelines. This included an assessment on the capacity of different classifications of landscape to absorb types of development. The recommendations of this study have been used in the formulation of Development Control objectives and standards.

This is the first step in the process. The issue of a pilot scheme to further address these assessments can be addressed through a different forum, such as submitting proposals to Heritage Officer.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Section 4.8.1 – Prepare a report on the making of Special Area Amenity Orders in the County for places like Lough Corrib / Menlo, Cong.

**Response** There are adequate provisions in the plan that could provide sensitive areas different levels of protection. For example, under the landscape sensitivity ratings Lough Corrib is rated as unique, Section 4.8 provides details on the areas afforded protection under National and European legislation.

However the broad definition of housing need weakens their protection status and should be rectified.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** This point refers to the joint 'Sludge management Plan' to be prepared and implemented.

**Response** This issue has been addressed through Section 3.10 Water and Sewerage and Development Control Standards Section 5.5.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**



<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.9 – There needs to be a more careful approach with regard to the provision of tourist amenities which facilitate tourist activity, and the protections needed to secure the preservation of the county's heritage and landscape.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.9 and 4.8 contains policies to allow for the development of tourism activities in a balanced manner while protecting natural resources of the county.

The last paragraph of Section 3.9 proposes a control policy on tourism infrastructure provision that is unsustainable. The removal of this paragraph and other sections of Section 3.9 is recommended.

**Recommendation** Section 3.9 Remove the following paragraphs.

"The Planning Authority will permit Tourism Infrastructure development related to sailing, boating, angling, walking and pony trekking routes, pier or marina development, golf courses, adventure centres, theme parks, interpretative centres; it is acknowledged that some tourism related developments involve the interaction of a number of the above listed activities with accommodation facilities. As not all can be located on one site the Planning Authority will facilitate such proposals where integration and linkage between tourism facilities is promoted. The Planning Authority supports the provision of tourism related developments that promote the redevelopment of existing derelict sites however, such development as with all tourism proposals must be capable of being satisfactorily screened and assimilated into the landscape. It shall not be located in areas, or close to areas, where an unsatisfactory level of visually unsympathetic development has already taken place or has otherwise been permitted".

Include the following policy statement in Section 3.9 "Tourism related developments outside settlement centres will be considered where there is proven sustainable need. The need to locate in a particular area must be balanced against the environmental impact of the development and benefits to the local community."

Cllr. J.J. Mannion stated that the members wanted to retain Section 3.9 as revised

Mr Ridge stated that the reasons for the recommended inclusion of the last paragraph was to ensure that agri-tourism is not viewed negatively. Cllr. Mannion suggested that Section 4.1.4 of the National Spatial Strategy be inserted instead of the recommended paragraph

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J McClearn it was agreed to remove the following paragraphs.**

**"The Planning Authority will permit Tourism Infrastructure development related to sailing, boating, angling, walking and pony trekking routes, pier or marina development, golf courses, adventure centres, theme parks, interpretative centres; it is acknowledged that some tourism related developments involve the interaction of a number of the above listed activities with accommodation facilities. As not all can be located on one site the Planning Authority will facilitate such proposals where**

integration and linkage between tourism facilities is promoted. The Planning Authority supports the provision of tourism related developments that promote the redevelopment of existing derelict sites however, such development as with all tourism proposals must be capable of being satisfactorily screened and assimilated into the landscape. It shall not be located in areas, or close to areas, where an unsatisfactory level of visually unsympathetic development has already taken place or has otherwise been permitted", and to include Section 4.1.4 of the National Spatial Strategy.

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Section 3.15 - Reference to disposal of waste by means of thermal treatment inappropriate.
Response	The Connaught waste management plan was adopted 12th Sept 2001. This section aims to implement the provisions of the plan.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Cllr T. Mannion asked whether there was a need for a referral to waste management in the County Development Plan assuming that the members have no control on what happens with regard to waste management. Mr Ridge stated that the Connacht Waste Management Plan stands on its own right but the inclusion of the Waste Management Plan in the County Development Plan gives it a more secure standing. Cllr. J. McClearn asked if the members now decide that thermal treatment is inappropriate can this be put into the plan. The Mayor queried whether a statement that Waste Management is now being dealt with by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government could be inserted in the Plan. Mr Ridge advised that under the Planning and Development Act 2000, the Council is obliged to have regard to the Waste Management Plan and to make provision for waste management. The County Manager stated that the whole trust of the County Development Plan is to create an environment in the county where people can live, grow and create further employment and to build on the natural resources of the county. He advised that any Development Plan should have regard to waste management. He stated that the Connacht Waste Management Plan was the Council's waste management plan and was not the Ministers or officials plan. He advised and recommended that what is in the plan should remain and advised that if the Council don't have an appropriate Waste Management Plan that we will not attract industry. Cllr. M. Regan stated that if the County and Council want industry to locate here that members cant shy away from their role and that it is up to members if we want to attract investment in the county.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Include Galway/Clifden railway project as aim in the Plan. Freeze future development along corridor.
Response	Lines cannot be reinstated where development has already taken place. It is considered that this is adequately addressed under Section 4.4 as it is a policy to ensure former railway lines and disused canals are conserved intact where possible in order to protect their heritage and recreational potential.
Recommendation	The plan contains policies for facilitate the development of walks/cycle routes. The development of walks and particular projects is addressed at a different forum in accordance with the planning policy.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Section 5.10 – Telecommunication masts. More attention to be given to co-location and sensitive placement of masts.

**Response** The policy aims to facilitate development while protecting the landscape. There is an objective to promote co-location. Section 3.5 Communications lists policies that will be pursued.

The DOELG "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures - Guidelines for Local Authorities" listed as a policy in Section 3.5 should be referred to in Section 5.10.

**Recommendation** Include reference in Section 5.10 to the following publication "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures - Guidelines for Local Authorities" Department of Environment and Local Government - July 1996.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. Walsh and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed to include reference in Section 5.10 to the following publication "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures - Guidelines for Local Authorities" Department of Environment and Local Government - July 1996.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Section 5.16 Extractive Development: Policies in the plan to be revised to give more protection to limestone pavement areas.

**Response** It is an objective to have regard to landscape sensitivity ratings.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Provision of Recreational and Sporting Facilities.

**Summary** Include policy to reduce negative effects of noise generating sports/watersports.

**Response** These activities are covered by by-laws. It is recommended to include a policy on games/ recreational activity and their control for greater impact.

**Recommendation** Add a new policy under Section 3.20:-  
' It is the policy of the Planning Authority to confine games/recreational activity, which could give rise to loss of amenity including elevated

levels of noise to locations which would not create disturbance to residents or have a negative impact on the conservation status of protected areas.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. McDonagh it was agreed to add a new policy under Section 3.20:-**

**“It is the policy of the Planning Authority to confine games/recreational activity, which could give rise to loss of amenity including elevated levels of noise to locations which would not create disturbance to residents or have a negative impact on the conservation status of protected areas.”**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
<b>Summary</b>	Regarding Section 2.7 – Encourage development of public transport solutions within the city to contribute to the balanced development of the county and city.
<b>Response</b>	This issue has been addressed through the Council’s policies on transportation outlined in 3.3.1 of the Plan where recent Government guidance identifies the need to develop transportation based on the principles of sustainable development.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.3.7 – In relation to non-national routes: include policy to protect the importance of visual amenity of roadside environment.
<b>Response</b>	This statement has been addressed through policies on national heritage in Section 4.8. However, a clear statement on this aim in Section 3.3 should be included.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Add an additional policy under Section 3.3.1 to read as follows ‘to preserve the visual amenity and rural character of the roadside environment.’

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to add an additional policy under Section 3.3.1 to read as follows ‘to preserve the visual amenity and rural character of the roadside environment**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
<b>Summary</b>	Have speed limits on non-national roads.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.3.8 states it is a policy to provide a safe road system throughout the county, a number of measures to achieve this are highlighted. The placement of speed limits is decided at a different

forum, that is through a detailed analysis of a road network and the implementation of policies in the Plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Rural Housing Policy.

**Summary** Section 3.1.7.10- Household projections  
Removal of enurement clause.

**Response** It is recommended that this statement be removed from the section as inclusion of the policy leads to the removal of existing enurement clauses that have been effective in permitting development in controlled areas where there is substantial need. The submission on this section highlights that the definition of substantial need weakens the aim of the strategy and needs to be revised.

**Recommendation** Delete last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause.  
Add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Part one states that An Taisce supports the proposed National Spatial Strategy to provide for balanced and sustainable development to counteract inadequate development of rural villages, towns and excessive one-off development in the countryside and recommends that to ensure inter-regional balance all existing towns/villages should be encouraged to consolidate. It refers to specific issues relating to the proposed N55, that while noted, are not specific to the Draft Development Plan that submissions were invited on.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy aims to achieve a balanced approach to development while counter balancing the ongoing growth of the city at the expense of parts of the county. This submission highlights the fact that the Draft contains a broad definitive of substantiated need, which weakens the aims of the strategy and landscape assessment. It is recommended that this be revised so that substantiated need implies that development outside the areas identified in the Settlement Strategy are restricted to those who are traditionally dependant on the land and who support the rural economy, only where it is demonstrated that it is essentially necessary to do so.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.4 Analysis of the Settlement Strategy, conflicts with Section 3.1.6 Introduction of the Settlement Strategy.
<b>Response</b>	<p>3.1.6 states that the sustainable development of rural villages and centres can be facilitated by development in hinterland areas, by those with a genuine rural generated need. This allows for development in the rural hinterland of settlement centres where there is a substantial need for such a location and in compliance with Settlement Strategy policies.</p> <p>No change is recommended. However this statement highlights that the definition of substantial need weakens the aims of the Strategy and Landscape Assessment and requires revision.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.6 'The rapid growth of new housing in the open countryside, which is unconnected to farming or other rural economic activities, is damaging towns and villages in the county and creating serious environmental problems.'
<b>Response</b>	Point is accepted. This is a serious defect in the plan and contradicts the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. McClearn it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.12- Implications of a non-intervention option. Recommends that the final paragraph commencing with the sentence "The Council recognises....." be omitted with the exception of the

- On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. P. O'Foght it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.12- Implications of a non-intervention option. Omit the final paragraph commencing with the sentence "The Council recognises....." with the exception of the first sentence.
- Response** It is accepted that the sections of the paragraph identified be deleted as they are in contravention of the principles of sustainable development.
- Recommendation** Section 3.1.7.12- Implications of a non-intervention option. Omit the final paragraph commencing with the sentence "The Council recognises....." with the exception of the first sentence.

**On the proposal of Cllr J.J.Mannion and seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.00p.m. on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2003. It was agreed to resume this meeting at 2.00p.m. on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2003.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2003.**

**RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY**

1819

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following: -

Tomas & Muintir Uí Niadh, Carna, Conamara, Co. Galway.

The Mayor asked Mr. Ridge to continue the presentation of the Managers report. Mr. L. Kavanagh read the remaining submissions.

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
92	Mr David Heffernan, Heffernan & Associates Architects, Barna Village, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Affordable Housing\Housing Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.6 – Consideration be given in the housing need category to affordability for first time buyers.	
<b>Response</b>	Affordability will be addressed in the implementation of the housing strategy and housing programme 2003-2009.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	One of the aims of the plan is to increase availability of building land and affordable housing through the implementation of appropriate strategies. The main strategy being the range of settlement zones introduced in the Settlement Strategy and the full implementation of Part 5 of the Planning Act 2000.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that Section 3.8 be amended to include details on the housing strategy and any pro-active programmes being investigated by the council to provide affordable housing.	

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Comh P O'Foighil it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply**

<b>Issue</b>	Derelict Buildings.
<b>Summary</b>	3.1.7.17 – Enforce the removal renovation or replacement of derelict buildings.
<b>Response</b>	The issues of renovation and replacement of buildings have been adequately addressed in Section 3.1.7.17. No change is recommended.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr P. O Malley and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	The discouragement of 2 storey houses should be discontinued. Housing should be assimilated into landscape.
<b>Response</b>	Any permissible development shall have regard to the Single Rural Housing Guidelines and the Clustered Housing Guidelines so the development is assimilated into landscape.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Design of buildings in the Conamara area can be further addressed through the Local Area Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Abandoned Roads – Allow the development of lands off abandoned.
<b>Response</b>	This will be addressed through development control. The merits of each case would be considered in light of landscape sensitivity ratings and view of amenity importance.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Cllr. M. Cunningham asked if non public roads could be similarly considered. Mr Ridge stated that the opening up of a non- public road for development purposes would be considered in the light of proper planning and sustainable development.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.10.1.1 –Include treatment plants to be encouraged, and their



suitability to be assessed by the Environment Section or Chief Medical Officer.

**Response** The provision of wastewater treatment system must take account of Section 5.5 (Development Control Standards). Referrals to other sections are considered at Development Control stage. The use of treatment plants for group water schemes is a public health issue outside the scope of this plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** 3.10.1.2 – Where a well is proposed, provided all other criteria is met, a grant of permission to be allowed subject to the provision of satisfactory water results before the development commences.

**Response** It is a policy that all water meets EU drinking water standards. This needs to be assessed in the interests of public health before grants of permission are given. It is recommended not to include a policy on this matter.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O’Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** 3.1.3.3 – Require areas which are designated sensitive to have treatment plants as standard.

**Response** All new septic tank/treatment systems must comply with the relevant EPA Guidelines on waster water treatment systems. Compliance with these standards means that the discharged effluent meets environmental criteria. It is accepted that some areas may have a requirement for a higher quality of discharge than can be achieved form a septic tank. There are too many variables to enable a standard policy to be drafted. It can be addressed ay application processing stage.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Section 3.17.1.2 – Time restriction on enurement clause to be 7 years.

**Response** There should be no time frame on the enurement condition as it removes

Issue	the effectiveness of this condition in permitting development in controlled areas.
Recommendation	Delete last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause.
Response	Add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.

Mr Ridge stated that enurement clauses allowed the granting of permission in areas where development would be normally restricted and the removal of this provision would lead to stricter development control. Mr L. Kavanagh stated that members had agreed at the previous meeting to put a time limit on enurement clauses. Mr Ridge asked whether members were going to apply the 20 year limit agreed for the Gaeltacht areas, to other areas. Cllr. T. Walsh stated that there should be a reduced time restriction for enurement clauses outside Gaeltacht areas. Mr Ridge advised that he had previously indicated that different forms of enurement clauses might be possible for different parts of the county, but that there would need to be a rational basis for decisions to put time limits on these clauses.

Cllr. S. Quinn stated that there is a difficulty where a person and his family may have to move due to the location of his job and in such cases they are prohibited from selling their house where there is an enurement clause in place, and added that the present enurement clause was overrestrictive. Mr Ridge stated that the enurement clause is generally a condition of permission in areas where the applicant would have found it difficult to get planning permission. He agreed that a lifetime enurement clause is not right and recommended a 20 year time limit.

Cllr. Connolly stated that the enurement clause should have a time limit of 10 years outside Gaeltacht areas. Mr Ridge advised that if time limits were reduced to 7 years it would impact on the development control decision making process, given that the applicant has five years to build, and by holding on to the property would feasibly only have to live in the house for two years.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that in Non Gaeltacht rural areas, where restrictions apply to particular classes of housing need, an enurement condition shall apply for a period of 10 years**

Issue	Development Control.
Summary	Naming of residential developments Section 4.8.2 – All names to be in Irish language and appropriate to their location.
Response	The naming of residential development is assessed at development control stage. The policy states names are to be agreed with the Planning Authority prior to commencement of development. The policy statement proposed is contradictory as estate names in Irish and appropriate to their location are not necessarily inclusive.  The naming of residential development in Gaeltacht areas will be assessed in accordance with Section 3.17 which includes the aim to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht through the planning process. In naming estates all available sources will be consulted. It is not considered necessary to include a policy statement to this effect.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Section 5.1 – Amend enurement time restriction from 10 years to 7.

**Response** There should be no time frame on the enurement condition as it removes the effectiveness of this condition in permitting development in controlled areas. For that reason, the 'enurement clause' outlined in Section 5.1 should be deleted.

**Recommendation** Delete last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause.

Add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that in non-Gaeltacht rural areas, where restrictions apply to particular classes of housing need, an enurement condition shall apply for a period of ten years.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Section 5.1 – amend paragraph regarding commercial and industrial development outside 40mph speed limits as follows – change 'prohibited' to say 'restricted' and add 'extensions to existing establishments shall normally be allowed'.

**Response** The alterations proposed would have implications for traffic safety and could lead to reduction in the capacity of the road network.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Mr Ridge advised that the submission conflicted with page 97 – section 5.20 class 1 Control roads in the Draft County Development Plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Removal of the requirement of a 15m by 3m parking bay. Not needed if on site parking is provided.

**Response** It is accepted that this requirement should be removed as the provisions of table 5.11.1 regarding sight distances (table 5.1) are acceptable to cover this provision.

**Recommendation** Section 5.1 - Provide a graphic to illustrate the application of the sight distances at access points to the various road classes and reference the relevant NRA Design Guidelines.

Cllr. J. Joyce stated that sight distances should stay the same as applied in the existing County Development Plan. Mr Ridge advised that the standards for access onto national roads are new and the Council is obliged to follow these standards.

Cllr. M. Cunningham asked how many extra metres sight distance was now required than was required in the current Plan. Mr Ridge stated that there was one sight distance in the current Plan which did not take into

account speed and that the sight distance was being increased to approx. 120 metres for national roads. Cllr. T. Walsh stated that he did not want to endanger lives but that a realistic distance was required to be agreed. Cllr. T. Mannion stated that you would need 330 metres to get permission on these roads. Cllr. J. Joyce stated that a setback of 3 metres was important for traffic safety. Mr Ridge stated that the visibility splay provided a 2.4 metre set back and adequate sight distance. Mr Morgan advised that the standards are set down by the National Roads Authority, that they have to be complied with and if the Council deviate from these standards a justification for such deviation must be given, and they have to be stood over from an engineering point of view. He added that standards for local roads were left out and that these would be assessed on a site specific basis. He advised in any potential court action arising that the standards as set down by the NRA would be used by claimants. Cllr. M. Regan stated that he disagreed with the regional road restrictions.

**Cllr M. Fahy proposed and was seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham that the recommendation in submission no. 92 would be accepted but regional and local roads would be excluded from the table on page 85 of the draft County Development Plan and be dealt with in accordance with the standards set down in the County Development Plan.**

**Cllr. J. Joyce proposed and was seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh that the recommendation in submission no. 92 would be accepted but that local roads would have sight distances assessed under the current County Development Plan.**

A vote was taken on the amended proposal by Cllr. J. Joyce and the result was as follows:

**For the Proposal: Cllr. Hoade, Cllr. Joyce, Cllr. T. Mannion, Cllr. T. McHugh, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. O' Malley, Mayor O' Sullivan, Cllr. S. Quinn, Cllr. T. Walsh (9)**

**Against the Proposal: Cllr. Cunningham, Cllr. Fahy, Comh. O'Foighil, Cllr. Regan(4)**

**Abstained: Cllr. Rabbitt(1)**

**The Mayor declared the proposal carried.**

**A further discussion took place on the matter.**

**On the proposal of Cllr T. McHugh and seconded by Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta it was agreed to provide a graphic to illustrate the application of the sight distances at access points to the various road classes and reference the relevant NRA Design Standards and that Standards in R180 and 181 be applied to Local Roads**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.2.1 – Concept of traditional design to be assessed by county architect in consultation with the applicant or agent.
<b>Response</b>	Allocation of staff is not a matter for a development plan. All rural houses/clustered housing proposals are assessed in accordance with guidelines prepared by the Council. Updated guidelines are being published in conjunction with this plan and will come into effect in the coming months.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh it was agreed**

**that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.4 – Reduce site size to 1500m.sq.
<b>Response</b>	A minimum site size of 2000 sqm is required as to provide for adequate effluent treatment, parking, landscape, open space and maintenance of rural amenity. No change is recommended.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.18 - Revise site size requirements to 1500m.sq
<b>Response</b>	A minimum site size is required for a single house so as to provide for adequate effluent treatment, parking, landscaping, open space and maintenance of rural amenity, Section 5.4.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.18 - Minimum clear distances from boundaries should be the same as the requirements for exempt development.
<b>Response</b>	The draft contains distances to the boundary which are at odds with the requirements under the exempt development regulations and should be revised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Revise Section 5.18 to comply with the exempted development.

**On the proposal of Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta and seconded by Cllr T. McHugh it was agreed to revise Section 5.18 to comply with the exempted development.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.18 - Provide use class for parking requirements.
<b>Response</b>	Section 5.18 deals with parking provision for residential, commercial and industrial development. In the larger settlements where there are specific land use zonings, use class for parking requirements shall apply.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.18 - Omit reference to site coverage, signage, plot ratio.
<b>Response</b>	These are normally accepted standards. No change recommended, as the standards are required to provide for acceptable residential amenity.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.18 – Industrial development – increase noise levels to 60dBa.
<b>Response</b>	55 dBA is a reasonable standard and normal operational noise level. No change recommended.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. McHugh and seconded by Comh. P. O’Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 5.20 – New development to be allowed on restricted Class II roads and where there is not a proven traffic hazard. Omit reference to R348 and R355 on Class II control table and add except in villages and speed limits.
<b>Response</b>	<p>It has been national policy on major inter urban routes, in particular Class 1 and 2 roads to preserve their levels of safety / services by restricting developments other than those strictly necessary. It is a proven fact that there is a direct relationship between increasing the number of accesses to a higher rate of accidents.</p> <p>This policy has been operated in the county in the existing county development plans. Other than national routes there are some regional routes that are of strategic importance to link national roads or important county towns. It is not recommended that restrictions be lifted on these roads.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	The current definition of housing need weakens the aim of the plan to protect these routes and should be revised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement

strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed to defer a decision on this submission.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Review appendices and in particular that relating to design and the definition of traditional. Design queries to be forwarded to the county architect for recommendation.
<b>Response</b>	The guidelines encourage contemporary design provided that a building can be assimilated into the landscape. Allocation of staff is not a matter for a development plan. All rural houses/clustered housing proposals are assessed in accordance with guidelines prepared by the Council. Updated guidelines are being published in conjunction with this plan and will come into effect in the coming months.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.6 – Building design should take account of solar gain and other energy saving methods.
<b>Response</b>	This has been addressed under housing guidelines prepared by the Council. The inclusion of the statement below will reinforce these guidelines.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend Section 3.6.1 to include policy ‘ to facilitate innovative building design that will promote good practice on energy conservation and use of renewable energy’.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to amend Section 3.6.1 to include policy ‘ to facilitate innovative building design that will promote good practice on energy conservation and use of renewable energy’.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.9.1- Sewage treatment plants to be standard near all coastal/inland waterways.
<b>Response</b>	All new septic tank/treatment systems must comply with the relevant EPA Guidelines on waster water treatment systems. The requirements for municipal systems is contained in National and EU legislation.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Regan and seconded by Cllr M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Environmental Protection.

**Summary** Section 5. 5 - Omit paragraph on annual certificate for septic tank. Amend paragraph 3 to replace 'in exceptional circumstances'.

**Response** The maintenance of septic tanks and treatment units is vital in preventing pollution.

**Recommendation** Change wording to Para. 2 Section 5.5 to 'Certification will be required that septic tanks/treatment units have been desludged in accordance with EPA Guidelines.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh it was agreed to change wording to Para. 2 Section 5.5 to 'Certification will be required that septic tanks/treatment units have been desludged in accordance with EPA Guidelines.'**

**Issue** Environmental Protection.

**Summary** Section 5.12 – Add restriction of development which will cause nutrient enrichment.

**Response** Each application is assessed for the likely damage to the environment from the discharges produced by it. Section 4.9 sets out a comprehensive policy on environmental protection of groundwater and natural water systems. It is accepted that the words "development," be added before "agricultural or forestry practices".

**Recommendation** Amend Section 5.12 by the addition of development, to read

"Restrict development," agricultural or forestry practices which contribute to nutrient enrichment of the lake".

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed to amend Section 5.12 by the addition of development, to read "Restrict development, agricultural or forestry practices which contribute to nutrient enrichment of the lake".**

**Issue** Gaeltacht

**Summary** 3.17.15 - Gaeltacht traditions given full weight against sustainable model.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy aims to achieve balance in a balanced manner.

The Council recognises that there has been a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that relates to local town lands, this will be further addressed in



detail in the proposed Local Area Plan for the Gaeltacht.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission.**

**Issue** Heritage.

**Summary** Burial Grounds  
Section 4.6 – Include statement to protect view of amenities of graveyards. Encourage the development of graveyards to meet local needs.

**Response** This is adequately addressed in the policy to protect burial grounds in co-operation with Duchas and the local community. The Council have mechanisms to involve local communities in implementing policies e.g. Community work carried out by Heritage Officer.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Reintroduce views of special amenity in particular south of the R336. This should not be a blanket zoning but specific to particular where views clearly available.

**Response** The Landscape Character Assessment identifies focal points/views along the R336. This followed a detailed survey of the county and in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines of Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Development to the south of R376 should be restricted.

**Response** The landscape sensitivity rating the area south of the R336 as 'high sensitivity' and therefore development is restricted.

The current definition of essential housing need in 3.1.7. weakens the aim of landscape sensitivity assessment and should be revised.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement

strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil. it was agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Section 5.2. – Consult with owner/interested parties on landscape sensitive areas.

**Response** The Landscape Assessment was prepared in accordance with the draft DoELG guidelines.

Consultation has been addressed through the consultation process outline in the making of the Plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Section 5.11 – Add protection of sea views from public roads.

**Response** Views have been protected under the Landscape Character Assessment of the county. Development must be in compliance with all policies of the Plan, therefore no change is recommended.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr P. Hynes seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Amenity zones need to be mapped more clearly.

**Response** The landscape assessment of the county was prepared following a detailed survey of the county and in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines of Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG.

It is accepted that the A3 maps were insufficiently clear. (Large-scale maps were on display at the counties website). The A3 maps have been modified and will be included in the final Plan.

**Recommendation** Modify maps to ensure landscape sensitivity ratings clearly identified

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was**

**agreed to modify maps to ensure landscape sensitivity ratings clearly identified.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Encourage local groups to prepare plans in area.
Response	It is an objective to prepare a Local Plan for the Gaeltacht. (Section 3.17) The preparation of this plan shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the Planning Act 2000.  Local plans for towns and villages are prepared based on the requirements set out in the Act or an assessment of need. Local Plans adopted by the Council must have regard to policies and objectives of the County Plan. Public participation in this context is welcomed.
Recommendation	Include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the planning process.

**On the proposal of Cllr. P. O Malley seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed to include a policy statement that it is the intention of the Planning Authority to facilitate and encourage greater public involvement in the planning process.**

Issue	Miscellaneous.
Summary	Section 5.14 –Replace word ' centre' with ' catchment area'.
Response	No change recommended as this would contravene the aims of the plan.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. Mannion seconded by Cllr T. McHugh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Participation in planning process.
Summary	Architectural Conservation Areas Section 4.2.2 – Local Authority to fully consult with all interested parties in the preparation of Architectural Conservation Areas
Response	This is a requirement under the provisions of the Planning Act 2000.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr P. O Malley seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Population.
Summary	Make provision to reverse rural depopulation, these areas should be identified as areas for special consideration.

**Response** The plan aims to counterbalance the ongoing growth of the city at the expense of parts of County Galway and strengthen local communities through balanced development within the period of the plan.

**Recommendation** The policies in the plan allow for a person who is functionally dependent on the land or meets the essential rural housing need criteria set out in 3.1.7.6 to develop outside centres identified under the settlement strategy.

**Recommendation** Include an objective to identify areas of declining population with a view to reversing the decline subject to the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply**

**Issue** Population.

**Summary** Table 3.2 – 3.6. Allocation of figures under estimated.

**Response** These figure are projections based on detailed analysis of recent trends in population and population distribution. They outline what we envisaged as the rate of growth for each settlement within the 6-year period of the Plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Galway County Council needs a more proactive role in providing rail links throughout the county. This could be started by reinstating links like Galway, Clifden and on a broad scape developing a link on the west coast.

**Response** This has been addressed by the inclusion of the policy to co-operate with the establishment of an Integrated Transportation Co-ordinated Group. The Council will consider recommendations made by this group such as the development of rail links.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Section 5.17 –Where developers can provide services, development should not be restricted. Provision of sewage treatment plans by developers should be encouraged.

<b>Response</b>	Agreed. The majority of smaller settlements can be served by using waste water treatment systems designed to recently published guidelines. This type of treatment has facilitated development in the county over the past 10 years.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Revise Section 3.1.7.17 to state public and private sectors can provide infrastructure. The policy should also be revised as it currently does not refer to all types of services. Revise Section 5.17 to highlight the acceptability of private sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure for settlement centres.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed to revise Section 3.1.7.17 to state public and private sectors can provide infrastructure. The policy should also be revised as it currently does not refer to all types of services.**

**Revise Section 5.17 to highlight the acceptability of private sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure for settlement centres.**

<b>Issue</b>	Quality of Maps and Final Print of Plan.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.1.1.3 – Sensitivity areas to be clearly mapped.
<b>Response</b>	It is accepted that the A3 maps were insufficiently clear. (Large-scale maps were on display at the county's website). The A3 maps have been modified and will be included in the final Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Provide larger scale maps and ensure that areas that are suitable for forestry/wind energy development, focal points/views, landscape sensitivity ratings, and protected areas are clearly identified. Produce the Final Print of the plan to a high standard.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr S. Quinn it was agreed to provide larger scale maps and ensure that areas that are suitable for forestry/wind energy development, focal points/views, landscape sensitivity ratings, and protected areas are clearly identified. Produce the Final Print of the plan to a high standard.**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
<b>Summary</b>	A clear plan and programme for access to the west is needed.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.3 contains policies and objectives to facilitate access to the west of the county. Infrastructure needs of the Gaeltacht will be further addressed in the preparation of the Gaeltacht Local Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include an indicative programme of works on road improvements that it is intended to undertake over the period of the plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. Walsh seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed to include an indicative programme of works on road improvements that it is intended to undertake over the period of the plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
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Summary	Consult with NRA on routes to achieve clear strategy.
Response	The NRA has control over the development of strategic routes. In the making of the Plan the Planning Authority consults with all sections of the Council including Roads sections.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	The village should have mapped areas defining clearly the development zone. Boundaries should relate to existing road and development patterns.
Response	Section 3.1.7.6 outlines that in the case of smaller settlements for which no specific plans are available, development shall be confined to a radius of 500m from which the Planning Authority considers to be the centre of gravity. This is assessed through Development control.  There are contradictions between confining development to 500m and a further policy statement permitting natural extensions to the settlement. This must be rectified, as it would lead to ill-defined boundaries.
Recommendation	Insert the following statement in the plan. 'There is a need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the Council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the Settlement Strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan.'

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed to insert the following statement in the plan. 'There is a need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the Council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the Settlement Strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan.'**

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	The villages of Knock (Inverin) and Furbo should be introduced.
Response	Furbo and Inverin are identified in the Settlement Strategy for the GTPS area (Table 3-2) It is accepted that the description Inverin potentially covers too large an area and a further definition is required.
Recommendation	Remove the description Inverin from the Settlement Zones in the development plan. Add the villages of Knock and Tully/ Ballynahown to

the Settlement Zones subject to their boundaries being defined following more detailed examination.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr T. McHugh it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	There should be plans for Carraroe, Cor na Ron, Mena, Camus, Screeb, Ros a Mhil.
<b>Response</b>	<p>It should be noted that some areas mentioned in the submission are not centres identified under the Settlement Strategy. Each settlement was identified based on a range of criteria and the extent to which each settlement would contribute to the aims of the strategy. There are sufficient settlements identified to meet the needs of the county within the Plan period.</p> <p>The settlement pattern of the Gaeltacht will be further addressed through the preparation of a Local Area Plan for the Gaeltacht. (i.e. 3.17.1.5).</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.6 - Guidance required on definitions relating to essential housing need criteria including what is meant by 'living and working in area', 'returning immigrant', 'substantial', 'local'.
<b>Response</b>	This highlights that the definition of housing need is open to interpretation, weakens the aims of the Plan and should be revised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr.M. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed to defer a decision on this submission.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1.7.6 – Include point system for meeting essential housing need criteria.
<b>Response</b>	<p>On balance it is considered that a points system is not beneficial. It would not take account of all scenarios and the complexities that can arise in the processing of a planning application.</p>

However the current broad definition of housing need is open to interpretation and weakens the aims of the Plan. This should be revised.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Cllr M. Hoade it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Consideration for people who grew up in area, without land.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy provides a choice of settlements for people to live in and aims to achieve development in a balanced manner. It allows for those who are functionally dependent on the land or meet the essential housing need criteria to locate outside designated centres, however the current broad definition of housing need and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the Plan and should be revised.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Take cognisance of existing development patterns.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy aims to achieve balanced development and has taken into consideration recent trends in population distribution and settlement patterns.

It is recognised however that there is a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that relates to local town lands, this will be further examined in the proposed Local Area Plan for the Gaeltacht. (Section 3.17).

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**



<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Discourage ribbon development in favour of clachan type development.
<b>Response</b>	This is addressed in the Clustered Housing Design Guidelines. In addition, where a person meets the essential housing need requirements development must have regard to Single Rural Housing Guidelines issued by the Council.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr T. McHugh it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1 - Regarding concept of 'premature development' in villages pending a development plan. Development Plans in villages to have a published timetable.
<b>Response</b>	No reference to premature development in Section 3.1. Section 3.1.7.17 outlines policy where no specific plans are available. Local plans for towns and villages are prepared based on the requirements set out in the Act or an assessment of need.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.1 - Lack of public investment should not prohibit development when private sectors can provide some.
<b>Response</b>	Agreed. The majority of smaller settlements can be served by using wastewater treatment systems designed to recently published guidelines. This type of treatment has facilitated development in the county over the past 10 years.  Section 3.1.7.7 outlines that it is a policy to direct development only where and when appropriate infrastructure will be available. While the policy goes on to state that the provision of services will be facilitated by way of public private partnership, reference should also be made to the fact that the private sector can provide infrastructure when in accordance with guidelines.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Revise Section 3.1.7.17 to state public and private sectors can provide infrastructure. The policy should also be revised as it currently does not refer to all types of services. Revise Section 5.17 to highlight the acceptability of private sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure for settlement centres.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed to revise Section 3.1.7.17 to state public and private sectors can provide infrastructure. The policy should also be revised as it currently does not refer to all types of services.**

**Revise Section 5.17 to highlight the acceptability of private sector involvement in the provision of infrastructure for settlement centres.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.17.1.6 – Villages to be provided with maps defining boundary.
<b>Response</b>	<p>The development boundary of any settlement for which a plan is prepared is the boundary as adopted in the plan.</p> <p>Section 3.1.7.6 outlines that in the case of smaller settlements for which no specific plans are available, development shall be confined to a radius of 500m from which the Planning Authority considers to be the centre of gravity.</p> <p>There are contradictions between confining development to 500m and a further policy statement permitting natural extensions to the settlement. This must be rectified, as it would lead to ill-defined boundaries.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include an objective in the development plan to establish the settlement zone boundaries as soon as possible but not later than the life time of the plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed to include an objective in the development plan to establish the settlement zone boundaries as soon as possible but not later than the life time of the plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	Tourism.
<b>Summary</b>	Include a policy to encourage agri-tourism.
<b>Response</b>	Section 5.7 outlines the Council's policy
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed to add the following policy – Ensure that all built elements of agri-tourism are appropriately designed and satisfactorily assimilated into the landscape.**

<b>Issue</b>	Tourism.
<b>Summary</b>	Include policies and provisions for site-specific tourist facilities, in particular, angling and marine based facilities.

**Response** The merits of each application are considered at Development Control stage in light of the policies in the Plan including landscape sensitivity ratings, Settlement Strategy and policies relating to tourism and recreation amenity, etc.

**Response** The report 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic vision for Galway' April 2002 was commissioned by a number of bodies including Galway County Council. It identifies a number of key projects in developing the product and advocates a partnership approach.

**Recommendation** Add the following policy to Section 3.9 'Support the strategic. **Recommendations** of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Hoade seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to Add the following policy to Section 3.9 'Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'**

**Issue** Town Plans\Local Area Plans.

**Summary** Barna urgently needs its village development plan and a road layout, details submitted on development proposals for Barna.

**Response** Noted.

**Recommendation** Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan**

**Issue** Town Plans\Local Area Plans.

**Summary** Barna bypass needs to be revised.

**Response** Agreed to re-examine.

**Recommendation** Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Comh. T. Mannion it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan\local area plan**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
93	Tesco(1), Ireland Ltd.,	Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, Town Planning & Landscape Architecture, Plunkett Chambers, 21-23 Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	

- Summary** Development Plans not to state minimum or maximum figures for parking standards to allow for an element of discretion. Standards should be applied on a case by case basis having regard to the merits of a scheme.
- Response** The development control section of the plan to a great extent relates to smaller settlements where specific plans will not be prepared. It is felt that this standard is reasonable. In larger towns, where chain supermarkets would be expected to locate, local plans will lay down relevant parking requirements.
- Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Retail Planning Guidelines.

**Summary** Retail Planning Guidelines will require the Development Plan to take on board a number of aspects to accommodate new retail facilities.

Highlights Retail Planning Guidelines requirements such as the sequential approach to site selection.

Suggests a policy for inclusion in plan. 'it is a policy of the council to concentrate new retail development where practical and viable within town centres. Where it is not possible to provide the form and scale of development that is required having assessed the size, accessibility and feasibility of developing within the town centres, alternative out of town sites may be considered.

**Response** The Retail Planning Guidelines for Planning Authorities came into effect January 2001. The 5 key objectives of the guidelines are to:

1. Ensure plans incorporate clear retail policies and proposals for retail development.
2. Facilitate a competitive and healthy environment for the retail industry.
3. Promote forms of retailing that are easily accessible – particularly public transport in a location which encourages multi-purpose shopping, business and leisure trips on the same journey.
4. Support the continuing role of the town centre as a preferred location for retail development.
5. Establish a presumption against large retail centres located adjacent or close to existing new or planned national roads/motorways.

The Council are preparing a joint retail strategy with Galway City Council as required under the RPG. Once the Councils strategy has been completed it will be presented to the Council to be incorporated into the County Plan.

The policy suggested by Tesco is covered under this wider retail policy and therefore should not be included.

**Recommendation**

Until then it is recommended that the following be inserted to Section 3.-Strategic Framework.

-The 5 key objectives of the Retail Planning Guidelines are.

1. Ensure plans incorporate clear retail polices and proposals for retail development.
2. Facilitate a competitive and healthy environment for the retail industry.
3. Promote forms of retailing that are easily accessible – particularly public transport in a location which encourages multi-purpose shopping, business and leisure trips on the same journey.
4. Support the continuing role of the town centre as a preferred location for retail development.
5. Establish a presumption against large retail centres located adjacent or close to existing new or planned national roads/motorways.

-The following policy statement:

'it is a policy to recognise the principles established in the Retail Planning'.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by CLLr. J. Conneely it was agreed that the following be inserted to Section 3.-Strategic Framework.**

**-The 5 key objectives of the Retail Planning Guidelines are.**

- 1. Ensure plans incorporate clear retail polices and proposals for retail development.**
- 2. Facilitate a competitive and healthy environment for the retail industry.**
- 3. Promote forms of retailing that are easily accessible – particularly public transport in a location which encourages multi-purpose shopping, business and leisure trips on the same journey.**
- 4. Support the continuing role of the town centre as a preferred location for retail development.**
- 5. Establish a presumption against large retail centres located adjacent or close to existing new or planned national roads/motorways.**

**-and to add the following policy statement:**

**'it is a policy to recognise the principles established in the Retail Planning'.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
94	Councillor Seamus Walsh, Glan, Oughterard, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	In the case of essential housing need road frontage of 23m will not be required where it cannot be achieved. Allow discretion in site size provided effluent requirements can still be met.	
<b>Response</b>	An assessment of need is independent to the requirements of development control standards. Housing need should not mean that a development is subject to lesser control.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed. Guidelines issued by the DoELG 2001 as the primary basis for the	

control of future retail development – This will be augmented by the retail strategy which the council is preparing’.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Guidelines issued by the DoELG 2001 as the primary basis for the control of future retail development – This will be augmented by the retail strategy which the council is preparing.**

SubmissionNumber 95	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Michael Vincent Costello, Mulroog, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway.	Justin Sadleir, Justin Sadleir Solicitors, Crow Street, Gort, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Remove lands at Mulroog, Kilcolgan from High scenic amenity area Classification.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>The landscape sensitivity ratings were assessed based on a range of criteria and in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines on Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG. The principle behind the landscape assessment is so that development is encouraged in a sustainable manner while protecting what is unique and irreplaceable to County Galway for future generations.</p> <p>Under the landscape sensitivity rating the lands identified are rated Class 3, “high sensitivity”. Under this classification few developments including those with substantiated cases for such a specific location and which are in compliance with settlement policies are open for consideration.</p> <p>There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) weakens the aims of the landscape assessment and should be revised.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed	

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed to defer a decision on this submission**

SubmissionNumber 96	Submitted	Agent
	Deputy Michael D. Higgins, Galway West Constituency Council, Labour Party, Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Policy 3.3.3 inadequate- Propose commitment to principles of Barcelona Declaration with a time scale for implementation and procedure for monitoring.	
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.3.3. States it’s a policy of the Planning Authority to provide	

adequate access for people with disabilities such as through the provisions of parking facilities and that disability access facilities are incorporated into existing/new development. The implementation of this policy will be carried out through development control.

Building regulations also have standards to ensure access for people with disabilities. It is considered that this section is adequate. The monitoring of the plan will ensure this policy is instigated.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Heritage.
<b>Summary</b>	Protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural heritage. Protection against planting of trees which has the effect of removing designated views on scenic areas.
<b>Response</b>	Section 4.1.1.3 outlines that it is a policy of the Planning Authority to afford protection to views of amenity value indicated in Figure 10. The issue raised would be addressed through conditions placed on the grant of any permissible development in these cases. Forestry planting is required to comply with national guidelines, a comprehensive list of which it is recommended to include in the final plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000. -Forestry and Landscape Guidelines -Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines -Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines -Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines -Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. Mannion seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed to amend paragraph 3 of Section 5.19 be revised to read as follows 'any proposals for forestry development should have regard to the following guidelines published by the forest service July 2000.**

- Forestry and Landscape Guidelines
- Forestry and Water Quality Guidelines
- Forestry and Archaeology Guidelines
- Forestry Bio-diversity Guidelines
- Forestry harvesting and Environmental Guidelines.

<b>Issue</b>	Heritage.
<b>Summary</b>	Protect stone buildings of a heritage character.
<b>Response</b>	There is a draft record of protected structures included in the plan to

protect the architectural heritage of the county.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr T. Mannion seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Areas designated unique/special should be absolutely protected, as a consequence where housing need occurs it would be appropriate to consider compensation of monetary kind or from land bank by the Local Authority.

**Response** The current criteria on housing need weakens the aims of the landscape classification and does not afford adequate protection to areas classified special or unique.

Section 3.8 outlines that it is a policy of the council to provide public sector housing in accordance with substantiated eligible need. This is assessed by the housing section.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Cllr M. Hoade it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Concern raised about future of Tonabrocky Hill. Suggests area be developed as park in conjunction with Galway City Council.

Area has amenity value for development of walkways. Requests that area be given a Class 5 landscape sensitivity rating of unique to protect shared amenity and heritage facility of county/city.

Suggests establishment of joint committee of both Local Authorities to develop walkways for county/city area.

**Response** The landscape sensitivity ratings were assessed based on a range of criteria and in accordance with the draft planning guidelines on landscape and landscape assessment issued by the DOELG.

The landscape sensitivity rating for the area including Tonabrocky Hill is 'high'. It is not accepted that the rating of this area should match that of the peaks of Conamara.

No change recommended in landscape sensitivity rating taking in to consideration the dominance of views of the city/county it is recommended to examine the potential of the area.

**Recommendation** The landscape classification does not merit alteration however it is



accepted that the area has a significance greater than the classification may indicate. It is recommended that the following policy statement be included in the plan. "Its future potential as a civic amenity park to the surrounding population is recognised and development control policy in this area will seek over time to deliver on the potential".

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed that the following policy statement be included in the plan. "Its future potential as a civic amenity park to the surrounding population is recognised and development control policy in this area will seek over time to deliver on the potential".**

<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.
<b>Summary</b>	The protection and strengthening of ratings is necessary to protect the Corrib as an amenity. This includes the area between the road and Lough Corrib including area occupied by Glenlo Abbey.
<b>Response</b>	<p>Under the landscape sensitivity rating Lough Corrib is classified as unique. Section 5.12 recognises Lough Corrib as the single most significant natural asset to the county. This section contains policies to restrict development, which would significantly diminish the value of any of its assets or amenities.</p> <p>Landscape sensitivity ratings in the area surrounding the Corrib vary in status (special, high/low). They are based on an assessment of a range of criteria and the draft DOELG guidelines on landscape and landscape assessment. No change in designations recommended.</p> <p>However there are anomalies between the definition of essential housing need, where development is permitted that meet these criteria and the aims of the landscape assessment. The current policy outlined in Section 3.1.7.6 weakens the protection afforded to areas classified under the landscape sensitivity rating.</p> <p>It should be noted that under draft the Record of Protected Structures Glenlo Abbey is recorded as a protected structure. This provides the Abbey and it's setting protection.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply, except the Glenlo Abbey lands.**

<b>Issue</b>	Miscellaneous.
<b>Summary</b>	Planning of county area to be integrated with city region and national proposals.

**Response** A number of policy documents have been considered in the preparation of the draft plan. However policies, in the published draft plan, relating to settlement distribution and landscape conservation are not in accordance with national policy.

**Recommendation** Review and alter policies in the published draft plan so that planning of the county area is integrated with national policy and regional policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed to review and alter policies in the published draft plan so that planning of the county area is integrated with national policy and regional policy.**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** County plan needs to be more specific in its provision for and consideration of the choices involved in the appearance of new technology and the development of appropriate infrastructure, citizenship model suggested.

**Response** Anticipation of future technology and its impacts are outside the scope of this plan. It is considered that the policies included are sufficiently innovative to cater for any changes that may emerge over the period of the plan. If not use can be made of the Material Contravention process in the legislation to give effect to any proposal that complies with proper planning and sustainable development but is inhibited by provisions in the plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Miscellaneous.

**Summary** Given the emphasis on sustainable development in the legislation governing planning, tourism needs to be considered in more detail for example green tourism, speeding on roads, inappropriateness of roadway proposals as it leads to the destruction of the character of the county.

**Response** Section 3.9 contains policies to allow for the development of tourism activities in a balanced manner while protecting natural resources of the county.

However there are contradictions between this aim and the settlement location policy, this should be rectified.

Section 3.3 contains policies to provide a safe road network. The placement of speedlimits in any area is decided at a difference forum, i.e. through detailed analysis of road network and the implementation of policies in the plan.

The draft plan contains proposals to develop national primary routes as

strategic route corridors. The selection of these routes is under the control of the NRA. There are 8 schemes at various stages of preliminary planning and preferred routes were adopted by the council. The council is required to include them in the plan to protect their development as strategic route corridors.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Conneely seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Monitoring of Success in Achieving Plan Aims.

**Summary** Integration of principles requires monitoring. Consultation to be part of monitoring process.

**Response** Under the Planning Act 2000 it is the duty of the Planning Authority to secure the objectives of the Plan. Not more than 2 years after the making of the plan the manager must make a report on progress achieved in securing objectives. This monitoring ensures objectives are being instigated.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Monitoring of Success in Achieving Plan Aims.

**Summary** Integrated planning and monitoring is crucial if areas at the rim of city previously designed outstanding Scenic Amenity/ High Scenic Area are reversed.

**Response** Monitoring will only advise on the achievement of the plans policies and objectives. If these are inadequate then monitoring will confirm that. Many submissions have pointed out the serious inadequacies in the policies and objectives of the plan.

The designations under the existing county development plan have not been removed but replaced by landscape sensitivity classification system to cover the whole county. This classification is based on draft landscape and landscape assessment guidelines issued by the DOE LG.

The current definition of housing need and the difficulties associated with defining terms like local and substantiated need weakens the aims of the landscape character assessment. This requires revision.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

<b>Issue</b>	Participation in planning process.
<b>Summary</b>	Process of public participation and opportunities for involvement are not satisfactory for the review and preparation of the draft plan.
<b>Response</b>	We are obliged to prepare the plan in accordance with the requirements set out under Section 11 & 12 of the Planning Act 2000.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Have specific protections for the land needed on each side of the existing railtracks, active and inactive and land that lies in proposed line of new track to be specified and protected by an appropriate designation. There is a need to make provision for such buildings as may be required to implement the western strategic corridor rail link project.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.1.9. States it is a policy of the plan to assist the County Development Board in its policy to establish an Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group. The council will co-operate with any recommendations made by this group such as proposals to develop rail links.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Need specific commitment in the plan for a proposal for the development for European funding assisted greenway project of the old Clifden railway line.
<b>Response</b>	The plan currently contains policies for the protection of transport heritage (4.2.1.3.) The protection of the Old Clifden Railway line is adequately addressed through these policies. It should be noted that there are areas of former lines that have been developed. Lines cannot be re-instated where development has already taken place but can encourage parts of the lines to be developed as amenity facilities
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr P O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Reference to thermal treatment in waste management section inappropriate. This is a distraction from chosen strategies of reduction reuse and recycling.
<b>Response</b>	The Connaught waste management plan was adopted 12th Sept 2001. This section aims to implement plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Require countywide policy for telecommunications masts.
<b>Response</b>	Section 5.10 contains development control objectives and standards for telecommunications. It is considered that they are adequate as they are based on recommendations made in baseline studies carried out in the making of the plan such as the landscape assessment of the county. They also have regard to DOELG Guidelines "Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities" (Section 3.5).
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. P. O Malley seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Recreational and Sporting Facilities.
<b>Summary</b>	Plan deficient in consideration of matters other than physical planning e.g. lack of reference to musical education, dance, drama etc.
<b>Response</b>	This has been addressed through polices outlined in Section 3.19. This states that it is a policy of the council to facilitate the provisions of tourism information centres and cultural venues.  It is also a policy to support the County Development Board in its key objective of strengthening the community and voluntary sector throughout the county and developing a long-term strategy of social investment at community level. The Council will co-operate in the implementation of recommendations made in the County Strategy.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Recreational and Sporting Facilities.
<b>Summary</b>	Need to make specific provision for recreation facilities for all ages.

**Response** Section 3.20 states the Planning Authority will, where possible combine with developers and local communities in the provision and improvement of recreational facilities. A systematic survey of the various settlements will be carried out to determine local aspirations and assess their viability.

This issue has been addressed through these policies and the survey will highlight the needs for recreation facilities for all age groups.

The council will co-operate with any recommendations made by the C.D.B in the Galway County Development Board Strategy.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Balance required between aims of proper planning, requirement of family farms, need to address rural depopulation.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy aims to achieve development in a balanced manner and counter balance the ongoing growth of the city at the expense of parts of County Galway.

The current housing need policy and problems associated with definition of term's conflicts with this aim and requires revision.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Proposals in the draft plan are so imprecisely defined that they depart from the principle of sustainable development as per relevant legislation of 2000 and 2001.

**Response** There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the plan should be revised.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

SubmissionNumber 97	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Pdraig Folan, Department of Education, National University of Ireland, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht.	
<b>Summary</b>	Planning should take into account the linguistic importance of the area.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>People with an interest in the language be encouraged and facilitated in their wish to settle in the area.</p> <p>Section 3.17 contains policies to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht. It includes the policy that a language impact statement will be required for all types of applications.</p> <p>The plan allows for a person who is functionally dependant on the land or meets the needs of the essential housing need criteria set out in 3.17.6 to develop outside settlement centres. Where this is not the case, there are a number of settlement centres identified under the strategy which will provide a location for residential development. This strategy aims to facilitate development in a balanced manner.</p> <p>There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and settlement location policy weakens the aims of the Settlement Strategy and should be revised.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.	

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Cunningham it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.	
<b>Summary</b>	<p>In the interests of safety, have traffic calming, 30mph speed limits in area identified.</p> <p>Also to put in place an integrated system of public lighting.</p>	
<b>Response</b>	<p>The plan contains policies to facilitate the provision of a safe road system and associated facilities.</p> <p>The placement of such measures is addressed at a different forum i.e. through detailed analysis of the road network and the use of bylaws to</p>	

Recommendation implement policy in the plan. These issues can be further addressed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** The area of Cois Fharráige westward from Mr Sean Strain's house in Kilroe East to Colaiste Cholmcille, Aille Inverin be given quasi-urban status.

**Response** The hierarchy of settlements identified in the plan aim to achieve balanced spatial development. It is considered that there are sufficient settlements identified to meet the needs of the county within the plan period. This includes settlements in the south Conamara area.

It is recognised however that there is a settlement pattern in the Gaeltacht that relates to local townlands. Section 3.7.1.15 states that this issue will be further addressed in detail in the proposed local area plan for the Gaeltacht

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Cunningham it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Tourism.

**Summary** The development of natural facilities to be favourably considered and encouraged in order to enhance tourist potential of the area.

**Response** Section 3.17 states that the Planning Authority shall subject to the provisions of the development plan, be favourably disposed to a range of applications in the Gaeltacht areas including tourism which is language based.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Town Plans/Local Area Plans.

**Summary** Draw up an integrated plan for the area of Cois Fharráige westward from Mr Sean Strain's house in Kilroe East to Colaiste Cholmcille, Aille Inverin.

**Response** This area will be addressed in detail in the proposed local area plan for the Gaeltacht.



**Recommendation** Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr P. O Malleyit was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

Submission Number 98	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Billy McDonagh, Raheen, Athenry, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Designate lands at Carrownamorrissey, Raheen and area in vicinity as village.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>Section 3.17.17 states it is a policy of the Planning Authority to direct residential development into designated settlement locations.</p> <p>Settlements were identified based on a range of criteria including the level/extent of all services available and the contribution that each centre would make to the areas of the Settlement Strategy.</p> <p>A total of 97 settlements were identified and it is considered that there are sufficient settlements identified to meet the needs of the county within the Plan period.</p> <p>There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) and these weaken the aims of the plan and should be revised.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number 99	Submitted	Agent
	Ms Maire Aine Ni Fhlatharta, An Foram do Phobal Iorras Aithneach, Carna, Conamara, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Requests no enurement condition on business premises.	
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.17.1.12 relates to housing applications. For that reason it is recommended that this section is revised, in the interests of clarity, to	

limit the enurement clause to residential development.

**Recommendation**      Revise Section 3.17.1.2 by adding 'housing' to read 'An enurement condition will be attached to all housing permissions'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue**                      Development Control.

**Summary**                    Requests time frame of five years on enurement condition.

**Response**                    No time frame should be on a enurement conditions as it removes its effectiveness in controlling development in a restricted area.

It is recommended that the definition of the enurement clause be revised to remove reference to 10 years time limit on condition.

**Recommendation**      Delete last paragraph from Section 3.1.7.10 regarding enurement clause.

   Add policy to the effect that the wording of the enurement clause in Gaeltacht areas be revised to include specific reference to the Irish language.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with in part by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission and by previous decision.**

**Issue**                      Gaeltacht.

**Summary**                    Recommends changes to Section 3.17.1.1. relating to the preservation and promotion of the Gaeltacht area.

**Response**                    Section 3.17.1.1 should be revised to indicate issues that need to be addressed in the preservation and promotion of the Gaeltacht.

The deletion of 'There is a limited amount of land available for development' is appropriate as it is out of context with this section relating to the Irish language.

**Recommendation**      Insert in Section 3.17.1.1 after the third sentence ' Galway County council recognises that there has been population decline in some parts of the Gaeltacht. People will be given the opportunity to remain and return to the Gaeltacht area. It is also accepted that certain skills are required in the Gaeltacht and that people coming into the area should be given the opportunity to learn the language gradually. Agencies should make every opportunity to support the learning of Irish in these cases'.

Delete from 3.17.1.1. 'There is a limited amount of land available for development'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr J. Joyce it was noted and**

**agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht.
<b>Summary</b>	Recommends to change paragraph 3.17.15 to include the following statement ' The council accepts that the people of the Gaeltacht have traditionally lived in the townlands and that it is their preference. No one from a Gaeltacht who needs a house in his own townland will be forced into a village or town.'
<b>Response</b>	The provisions of the plan are favourable to local people.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.17.1.5 recognises that there is a settlement pattern that relates to local townlands. This will be further examined in detail in the preparation of the Gaeltacht local plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Hoade it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht.
<b>Summary</b>	Recommends to change the first paragraph of Section 3.17.1.9 to read 'The Planning Authority accepts that immigrants have a particular right to reside in their place of birth. The council will attempt strongly to give these people the opportunity to return and to revitalise the rural parts of the county'.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.17.1.9 states that the planning authority recognises that emigrants may have a desire to reside in their home areas. It is considered that this issue is adequately addressed.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 3.17.1.9 - Requests to delete ' It seems children without Irish have a negative impact on the language in the Gaeltacht.'
<b>Response</b>	The use of English rather than Irish can have a negative impact on the development of the Irish language.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Under the Planning Act 2000 the council is bound to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht linguistically. This is an issue that must be considered in achieving this objective.

The wording is not correct in Section 3.17.1.9. and should be amended.

**Recommendation** Amend Section 3.17.1.9.: It is recommended that 'it appears suggests that' is deleted and the sentence reads as follows: 'Children of returning emigrants, with no Irish, may have a negative impact on the Irish language'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Section 3.17.1.9- Add to paragraph 'Applications will also be examined from families who return on the effect of their children on Irish in the school. Galway county council will require every board of management to have in place the means to give these children the opportunity to learn Irish well. Councils will discuss this with schools.'

**Response** The use of English instead of Irish can have a negative impact on the development of the language at schools. However it is recognised that it can also impact on other aspects of community life. It is recommended that paragraph 4 of Section 3.17.1.9 is revised to take account of this.

It is not within the council's remit to require the Board of Management to have in place the means to give these children the opportunity to learn Irish well. However the council will co-operate with other agencies to achieve this. An example of how this will occur is through co-operation in the implementation of the County Strategy prepared by the County Development Board.

**Recommendation** Amend par 4 of 3.17.1.9 to read ' Emigrant families will be assessed regarding the effect the children might have on the Irish language generally in the community'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Requests to delete 'if an effective system is not in place, this permission will not be granted'.

**Response** This policy aims to promote and preserve the Gaeltacht linguistically as required under the Planning Act 2000. It is important that the serious commitment of Galway County Council to this policy be clearly communicated.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cunningham seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	To grant planning permission to people setting up businesses in the Gaeltacht towns for example sea related activities, farming, hill walking, tourism etc.
Response	This is addressed in Section 3.17.11 which states the Planning authority will in general and subject to the provisions of the plan be favorably disposed to tourism applications that are language centred. This is also addressed in Section 5.7 in the council's policy relating to agri-tourism.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Cunningham it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	To permit industrial development of 40 acres near to the sea laboratory in Carna.
Response	This issue has been addressed in submission 18 where it was recommended to include a policy statement.
Recommendation	Add the following policy statement to the plan "It is the policy of the Planning Authority to support the further development of the N.U.I.G. marine research station at Mweenish having regard to its long establish land use on the site and its importance to the aquaculture industry to the local community and to the development of scientific knowledge'.

**On the proposal of Cllr. P. O Malley seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed to add the following policy statement to the plan**

**"It is the policy of the Planning Authority to support the further development of the N.U.I.G. marine research station at Mweenish having regard to its long establish land use on the site and its importance to the aquaculture industry to the local community and to the development of scientific knowledge'.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Add Carna and Cill Chiarain to the programme of sewerage schemes.
Response	Investment priorities for major public water and sewerage schemes are based on the councils water services 'Assessment of needs document. Carna and Cill Chiarain have been included in this document.
Recommendation	Include a programme of works in the plan to communicate to the public

the councils intentions with regard to the Water Services Programme.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed to include a programme of works in the plan to communicate to the public the councils intentions with regard to the Water Services Programme.**

Submission Number 100	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Joe Burke, Killeenadeema, Loughrea.	E. Spellman & Associates, Planning and Design Consultants, Lake Road, Loughrea, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Requests a revision of zoning on lands at Killeenadeema in an area classified high scenic amenity in the existing development plan.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>The landscape sensitivity ratings were assessed based on a range of criteria and in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines on Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG. The principle behind the landscape assessment is so that development is encouraged in a sustainable manner while protecting what is unique and irreplaceable to County Galway for future generations.</p> <p>Under the landscape sensitivity rating the lands identified are rated Class 2, "medium sensitivity" allowing various developments which are of appropriate scale and design and are in compliance with settlement policies.</p> <p>Killeenadeema is not designated as a settlement centre in the settlement strategy. It is considered that there are sufficient settlements identified to meet the needs of the county within the plan period and to include Killeenadeema would weaken the aims of the strategy.</p> <p>There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) weakens the aims of the plan and should be revised.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

Cllr M. Regan stated that there should not be development restrictions in this area and that areas such as this continue to decline. He stated that people should be let into the area to build there. Mr Ridge stated that the area in question is rated moderate and and he saw no reason why planning permission would not be granted in this area, but that each application would have to be assessed on its own merits

Cllr M. Cunningham stated that Killeenadeema should be designated as a Settlement centre. Mr Ridge stated that he would develop a form of wording for members for areas wishing to develop and who are restricted in doing so by the existing designations.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed that Killeenadeema be designated as a settlement centre..**

Submission Number 101	Submitted	Agent
	Mr John M Gallagher, 1 Oldfield, Kingston, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Requests that the site identified in this submission be removed from area classified as High Scenic Amenity.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>The landscape sensitivity ratings were assessed based on a range of criteria and in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines on Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG. The principle behind the landscape assessment is so that development is encouraged in a sustainable manner while protecting what is unique and irreplaceable to County Galway for future generations.</p> <p>This area is classified Class 2- allowing various developments which are of appropriate scale and design and are in compliance with settlement policies. This allows for a person who is functionally dependent on the land or meets the rural housing need criteria set out in 3.1.7.6 to develop in such area.</p> <p>Where this is not the case there are a number of settlements identified under the strategy which will then provide a location for residential development.</p> <p>There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) weakens the aims of the plan and should be revised.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	
<p><b>On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy seconded by Cllr. M. Cunningham it was agreed to defer a decision on this submission.</b></p>		

Submission Number 102	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Michael McDonagh, C/O Sean Dockry & Associates,  22-26 Prospect Hill, Galway.	Mr. A.P Mc Carthy, Planning Consultants Ltd. 1st Floor Unit 2, Tuam Road Centre, Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Commercial development outside settlement centres: Proposal involves replacing existing commercial fish rearing activities with an alternative use of a recreational and educational nature at lands at	

Costelloe and Fermoyle.

Requests that appropriate objectives be included in the draft plan which will leave such development open for consideration in this area.

**Response**

A Report 'Water Based Tourism- A strategic vision for Galway' April 2002 was commissioned by a number of bodies including Galway County Council.

The report indicates that the city and the county have significant potential to develop water-based tourism. It suggests a number of key projects in developing the product and advocates a partnership approach.

A further policy on this document should be added to Section 3.9. This will enable individual projects to be assessed on their merits in light of this document and other policies of the plan.

**Recommendation**

Add the following policy to Section 3.9 'Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to Add the following policy to Section 3.9 'Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
103	Mr Martin Collins, Derrybrien Dev. Assoc., Derrybrien, Loughrea, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Area does not have same pressure as near Galway but same restrictions apply.	
<b>Response</b>	It is noted that this area does not have the same pressure as locations near Galway but it is an aim of the plan to implement a settlement strategy that will counterbalance the ongoing growth of the city which is at the expense of parts of County Galway.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	The plan aims to strengthen local communities through balanced development within the period of the plan.	
<b>On the proposal of alteration to the plan</b>	The policies in the plan allow for a person who is functionally dependent on the land or meets the essential rural housing need criteria set out in 3.1.7.6 to develop outside centres identified under the settlement strategy.	
<b>Issue</b>	It is noted that the definition of essential housing need in Section 3.1.7.6 weakens the aim to achieve balanced development.	



**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

Mr Ridge advised that Section 3.1.7.6 as amended does not address the submission made here. Cllr. M. Regan stated that Derrybrien is in an isolated area and people cannot get permission to build there. He stated that he wanted to enable people build in this area.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

**Issue** Forestry.

**Summary** The over concentration of forestry is a very serious issue for the area. If it is allowed to continue at the existing rate it will take over existing communities.

**Response** Areas generally suitable for forestry were assessed at a strategic level in the landscape assessment of the county. Forestry development within the county must be in accordance with guidelines issued by the forest service. For forestry development that requires planning permission additional measures have been included in the interest of protecting the amenity value of adjoining development.

Concerns about the impact of forestry development on communities will be considered through the implementation of these standards.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Concern over designation of Derrybrien as a Windfarm location.

**Response** Figure 9-Areas of Windfarm potential indicates that this area is identified as a strategic area- where wind farm development is considered appropriate. Areas of windfarm potential were identified as part of the landscape assessment of the county. The locations were identified based on a range of criteria including potential wind resource and infrastructure.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Concern as no limits/no overall plan for development of windfarms at areas identified.

**Response** This issue is assessed through Development control with regard to guidelines issued by the DoELG 1996 and to the ' Best Practice Guidelines for Wind Energy Development published by the European Wind Energy Association.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.

**Summary** Expresses concern over the downgrading from High amenity classification to a lower category.

**Response** The methodology for classifying areas High scenic amenity has been replaced by an assessment which takes on board a range of criteria set out in the draft guidelines on landscape and landscape assessment (DOELG).

**Recommendation** Under this assessment the landscape sensitivity rating for this area is Class-2 moderate sensitivity. This rating recognises that the landscape is a significant asset to the area and provides an indication of the potential to accommodate change.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr M. Regan seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number	104	Submitted	Agent
<b>Issue</b>		Mr Michael Kennedy, Chief Executive Officer, The Western Regional Fisheries Board, The Weir Lodge, Earl's Island, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Summary</b>			
<b>Issue</b>		Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>		Recommends policy to co-operate with the Western Regional Fisheries Board with regard the conservation, protection, enhancement and sustainable development of fishery resources.	
<b>Response</b>		This is largely an operational matter. Applications are referred to prescribed bodies as part of their assessment.	
<b>Recommendation</b>		It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh seconded by Cllr T.Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Existing marinas facilities should be upgraded.

**Response** This issue has been addressed through policies in Section 4.9 relating to water quality. The amendment of the plan to include policies for lakes and waterways will also address this issue.

Applications on marinas and boat berthage areas will be assessed on their merits and in accordance with the policies of the plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O’Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Hoade it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** All planning permissions should have a standard condition restricting the discharge of contaminated storm water during site development works.

**Response** Amend development control standards for all types of development to include requirement to protect groundwater’s during construction.

**Recommendation** Add the following policy to Development Control Section 5:-  
‘Development works shall have regard to the prevention of groundwater contamination’.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.Conneely seconded by Cllr T. McHugh it was agreed to add the following policy to Development Control Section 5:-  
‘Development works shall have regard to the prevention of groundwater contamination’.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** Regarding checklist on page.22 – Design Guidelines for Single Rural Dwellings should state question ‘Is my site close to an important salmon spawning or nursery zone?’.

**Response** This item can be addressed in the items listed to include in a site survey Drawing.

The statement on page 22 of the Single Rural Housing guidelines can be amended when it is due for review.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Cllr M. Fahy it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Development Control.

**Summary** The plan should provide for the orderly development of new caravan

- Response sites and encourage the closure of sites infringing on lake foreshores.
- Response** The development of existing and new caravan sites shall have regard to policies of the plan and specifically development standards on caravan/camping sites set out in Section 5.14.
- Any unauthorised development is addressed by enforcement of policies in the plan.
- Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Cllr M. Connolly it was agreed to defer a decision on this submission**

- Issue** Development Control.
- Summary** The plan should facilitate the move from conventional septic tanks to a more modern type. The maintenance of tanks should be addressed.
- Response** This is addressed in Section 4.9 on water quality and Section 5.5 which sets out development standards for effluent treatment.
- Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

- Issue** Energy Including Alternative Energy.
- Summary** The plan should provide for greater control over exploitation of bogs in order to prevent the release of fine peaty sediment which is damaging to fisheries.
- Response** This has been addressed in Section 3.6 on energy and Section 4.9 relating to policies on water quality.
- Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Hoade it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

- Issue** Energy Including Alternative Energy.
- Summary** Concerned that windfarms may intrude on visual amenity of important angling waters and attempt to devise a coherent strategy which protects sensitive landscapes.

<b>Response</b>	Areas of windfarm potential were identified as part of the landscape assessment of the county.  This assessment considered a range of criteria set out in the draft planning guidelines on Landscape and Landscape Assessment issued by the DOELG.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Urgent need to provide facilities for pumping wastewater from the passenger boats on freshwater lakes to prevent pollution. Also to discourage the use of lakes for commercial aquaculture projects.
<b>Response</b>	This issue has been addressed through policies in Section 4.9 relating to water quality. The amendment of the plan to include policies for lakes and waterways will also address this issue.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce seconded by Cllr M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Recommends sensitive zoning of river corridors in centres of population for example along amenity strips.
<b>Response</b>	Section 4.9 contains policies to avoid water pollution.  Development alongside river banks are considered in the preparation of local plans and in individual applications.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	The use of jet skis and speedboats should be discouraged on important angling waters.

**Response** These activities are covered by by-laws. It is recommended to include a policy on games/ recreational activity and their control for greater impact.

**Recommendation** Add a new policy under Section 3.20:-  
' It is the policy of the Planning Authority to confine games/recreational activity, which could give rise to loss of amenity including elevated levels of noise to locations which would not create disturbance to residents or have a negative impact on the conservation status of protected areas.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T McHugh seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed to add a new policy under Section 3.20:-**

**' It is the policy of the Planning Authority to confine games/recreational activity, which could give rise to loss of amenity including elevated levels of noise to locations which would not create disturbance to residents or have a negative impact on the conservation status of protected areas.'**

**Issue** Environmental Protection.

**Summary** The plan should stipulate that all local authority works should include an environmental appraisal, as drainage relief, culverting of streams, bridge strengthening and road widening can seriously impact on aquatic resources.

**Response** The council must have regard to the policies of the plan and general environmental legislation.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Extractive Development.

**Summary** There is a need to curtail the development of unauthorised quarries, and the practice of opening semi-virgin sites for sale of sand deposits to existing quarries. Section 160 of The Planning and Development Act should be used where appropriate.

**Response** Section 160 of the Planning and Development Act relates to injunctions and unauthorised development.

The established law in relation to quarries make it difficult to instigate enforcement procedures on land that has a previous quarrying or extraction tradition. The onus in the past has been on the council to prove cessation of use or intensification.

There is provision in the Planning Act 2000 which will require the

registration of such establishments. This should result in more objective control of this type of development when it is brought into force.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Marine

**Summary** Requests that the Development Plan recognise the importance of freshwater lakes.

**Response** The section on Marine resources should be amended to include specific reference to lakes and inland waterways.

**Recommendation** Amend Section 3.13 to include specific reference to lakes and inland waterways. Development standards for lakes and waterways should be included in the plan, similar to those for coastal areas and Lough Corrib.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed to amend Section 3.13 to include specific reference to lakes and inland waterways. Development standards for lakes and waterways should be included in the plan, similar to those for coastal areas and Lough Corrib.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** The necessary infrastructure should be in place to accommodate development and in relation to sewage treatment, phosphorus removal should be a priority.

**Response** Sewerage facilities are provided based on assessment of need and where resources permit.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Provision of Infrastructure.

**Summary** Include policy to give due regard to the importance of the fishery resource in selecting sites for the location of storm outfalls and in this regard where feasible to install grit traps and hydrocarbon interceptors.

Prohibit the use of unbunded oil storage tanks on all commercial premises.

In relation to water impoundments and abstractions it is important to ensure free passage of all species and provide for their ecological.

**Response** The requirements of specific infrastructure is considered in individual project design. The bunding of oil storage tanks is dealt with as part of development control.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Public Access to Amenities.

**Summary** To include a policy to improve and enhance public access to rivers, lakes and coastal zones.

**Response** Access to all aspects of the countryside can be addressed by amending a policy statement in Section 3.20.

**Recommendation** Remove policy statement in Section 3.20 'The planning authority will support cycling and walking groups in promoting their disciplines and developing routes and facilities' and replace with ' The council will co-operate with all agencies in promoting and developing the recreational potential of the county and to carry out appropriate development as and when resources permit.'

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr M. Connolly it was agreed to add the following policy ' The council will co-operate with all agencies in promoting and developing the recreational potential of the county and to carry out appropriate development as and when resources permit.'**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Supports efforts to strengthen existing centres but only in the context of adequate infrastructure.

The growth of one-off single dwellings in areas of nature conservation are unsustainable. Greater protection of the impact of dwellings should be afforded.

**Response** It should be noted that the current definition of housing need weakens policies of the plan to protect areas of nature conservation and should be revised.

**Recommendation** Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**



Submission Number 105	Submitted	Agent
	Tesco(2), Ireland Ltd.,	Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, Town Planning & Landscape Architecture, Plunkett Chambers, 21-23 Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork.
<b>Issue</b>	Retail Planning Guidelines.	
<b>Summary</b>	Same as submission 93.	
<b>Response</b>	Same As Submission 93.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Hoade seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed .**

Submission Number 106	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Seamus Mac Giolla Chomhail, Priomhoifigeach, An Roinn Gnothai Pobail Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht	
<b>Summary</b>	To recognise the importance of the Gaeltacht and to include specific reference to the Irish language in the main aims of the plan	
<b>Response</b>	The draft plan does recognise the importance of the Gaeltacht and it is included as Aim 5 in the main aims of the plan.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Add to text on page 7 " which includes the Irish language." to the following sentence:- 'Promoting pro-active and appropriate policies for the protection, preservation and sustainable exploitation of the built, natural and cultural heritage	

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed to add to text on page 7 " which includes the Irish language." to the following sentence:- 'Promoting pro-active and appropriate policies for the protection, preservation and sustainable exploitation of the built, natural and cultural heritage".**

<b>Issue</b>	Gaeltacht.
<b>Summary</b>	Use the Irish spelling of the Gaeltacht towns in the plan.

Response	This point is noted and agreed with.
Recommendation	Revise the plan to include the Irish spelling of the Gaeltacht towns in the plan.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Recognise and highlight the importance of the Gaeltacht as a language based tourism destination.
Response	The benefits of tourism which is language based are recognised. It is also understood that it requires protection. Policies that support tourism that are language centred are included in Section 3.17 on the Gaeltacht area.
Recommendation	Amend Section 3.9 on tourism to include reference to the Gaeltacht area as a tourist destination in the context of cultural tourism and its importance to the local economy.

On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission

Issue	Gaeltacht
Summary	The minister supports the general proposals put forward by Udaras na Gaeltachta. The minister especially supports the strategy to develop An Cheathra Rua as a service centre.
Response	Section 3.17 gives a commitment from the council to provide a service through Irish and contains policies to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht.
Response	It also outlines the councils commitment to support industrial and employment projects of Udaras Na Gaeltachta. This shall be further addressed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed .

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Highlight in Section 3.2 that the development of the Gaeltacht is dependant upon infrastructure development.
Response	No change is recommended as infrastructural development is addressed under policies and objectives set out in Section 3.2.

This will be further addressed in a Local area plan for the Gaeltacht.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed .**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Amend the last paragraph of 3.17.1.7 to read 'as long as the employment is predominantly for Irish speakers'.

**Response** It is agreed that the last paragraph of 3.17.1.7 be revised.

Such an amendment would allow for the protection of the language as set out in the Planning Act 2000 without eliminating employment opportunities for other members of society.

**Recommendation** Amend the last paragraph of Section 3.17.1.7 by inserting the word predominantly:  
'The effect of each application on the Irish language and the Gaeltacht will be assessed as long as the employment is 'predominantly' for Irish speakers'

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** The Local Plan that is to be prepared for the Galway Gaeltacht is important and the department welcomes the opportunity of having an input.

**Response** The Local Plan will be prepared in accordance with the procedures set out under Section 18-21 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and we will welcome the Department's input.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed .**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
107	Mr Kevin Ring, Planning Section, D.O.E.L.G., Custom House, D.1.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Affordable Housing\Housing Strategy.	

<b>Summary</b>	The Plan when adopted should contain the Housing Strategy.
<b>Response</b>	While 3.7.1 makes reference to the Council's Housing Strategy and 3.8 details the Housing Programme contained therein. The Draft Plan does not contain the Strategy. This will be included in the final Plan
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amend the Draft plan to contain the Housing Strategy in its entirety.
<b>Issue</b>	Compliance with National Road Policy.
<b>Summary</b>	The Draft Plan should reflect DoELG advice and guidelines relating to control of development along National Roads.
<b>Response</b>	<p>It has been Government policy since the introduction of the National Routes in 1971 to restrict access on to the routes in the interests of public safety. Successive County Development Plans have expressed policies in line with National policy. It is even more necessary now in view of the increase in traffic volumes and higher operational speeds.</p> <p>The Draft Plan while advocating restrictions on the National Routes in defining the categories of essential housing need, which will be permissible on the routes is too liberal and imprecise. If the need is defined as per 3.1.7.6 the extended categories would be seriously in conflict with National Policy and would increase traffic hazard.</p> <p>Policies on some intensification of commercial uses would also adversely affect road safety and capacity.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Define separately from the definition of "Essential Housing Need" the categories and the circumstances under which new access may be created onto the National and restricted routes.
<b>Issue</b>	Environmental Protection.
<b>Summary</b>	Section 4.8 of the Draft Plan is too general and should be written so as to deal adequately with Habitats and Natural Heritage and distinguish this topic from Landscape quality.
<b>Response</b>	<p>A heritage appraisal of the plan has been carried out and in general it has been very positive. The main area of concern is the likely impact of the Rural Housing Policy. Recommendations contained in this appraisal are recommended for incorporation into the plan.</p> <p>It is accepted that the chapter on National Heritage lacks clear and specific policies and contains references to built heritage and landscape. It is intended to restructure and rewrite the Draft Plan. Section 4.8 will be rewritten as part of the process.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is proposed to adopt the policy proposals in the assessment as they deal with the issues raised in the DoELG submission. Section 4.8 will be rewritten.
<b>Issue</b>	Heritage.

<b>Summary</b>	Dúchas (the heritage service) which is a section of the DoELG has recommendations advocating the inclusion of i) specific chapter on "Archaeological Heritage" ii) an objective to protect the Archaeological Heritage of the County. iii) the inclusion of recorded monuments on maps
<b>Response</b>	Section 4.7 deals with Archaeological Heritage and specific policies for the preservation, conservation and maintenance of both listed sites and items and those, which have not been discovered.  A map showing the sited monuments throughout the County have been prepared as part of the Landscape Assessment as is available as a support document. This is intended to be appended to Section 4.7 to highlight the Archaeological Heritage of the County
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	a)DoELG commends the commitment of the Draft Plan to support the Government's policy on rural development by: i)providing a wide variety of settlements throughout the County ii)giving positive consideration to rural areas where there has been a decline in population iii) protecting landscape and water quality.  However the detailed provisions of the Plan "are not entirely in accord with these principles of proper planning and sustainable development" because of the broad definition of "essential rural housing need" and a facilitating policy to housing in rural areas pending the provision of infrastructural areas pending the provision of infrastructural services in rural villages.
<b>Response</b>	The 97 settlements, which provide a wide choice of rural village living environment, were selected having regard to their existing public and private services and their capacity for servicing their own community and that of their rural hinterland. They are representative of all Electoral areas and 50 of them are located outside the G.T.P.S. area, many of them being in areas which have a decline in population or, at best, a marginal increase.  The most significant service which is lacking in many of them is effluent treatment, but the policy which the Council adopted in recent year of permitting private treatment plans for group of houses will facilitate any developer who is willing to invest in the rural villages.  To encourage such housing developments on the outskirts of villages would be regarded as unsustainable as they would be remote from village services other than water/effluent treatment and would continue erosion of rural landscape deterioration of groundwater and congestion of major roads.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that is complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular

	national road policy.
<b>Issue</b>	Strategic Environmental Assessment.
<b>Summary</b>	The Final Plan should "include information on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Plan.
<b>Response</b>	Because of the significant alterations made by the members to the recommended Draft it has not been possible to assess the environment impact of policies and programmes in the absence of clarification of a range of issues.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the text of the plan, in order to separate the policies and the objectives with a view to preparing a Strategic Environmental Assessment and making the plan more accessible to the general public. (Meanwhile the original SEA will be circulated.)
<b>Issue</b>	Town Plans\Local Area Plans.
<b>Summary</b>	Any local or town Plans which are in preparation but not adopted should not be adopted pending the making of the County Development Plan
<b>Response</b>	Once a clear position on the objectives in the County Development Plan emerges some of the Town Plans could be adopted by the Council without further alterations. Technically this aspect of the submission is not relevant to the Development Plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan and seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy it was agreed to defer consideration of this submission.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
108	Mr Pdraig O'hAolain, Udaras na Gaeltachta, Na Forbacha, Gaillimh.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Supports the existing policy that signage in Gaeltacht areas should have Irish as the principal language.  It is an aim of Udaras na Gaeltachta that geographic districts of the Gaeltacht be indicated by signage to highlight the distinctiveness of the area and its attractiveness as a tourist destination.	
<b>Response</b>	The council is bound to preserve and promote the Irish language. In support of this, Section 3.17 contains a policy that signage in the Gaeltacht area to be in Irish only with internationally recognised symbols.  It is the council's intention to promote the distinctiveness of the Gaeltacht area. This will be further addressed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.	

For statutory signs the design and layout of signs will comply with statutory guidelines and all other that require planning permits will be dealt with by development control.

The boundaries if the Gaeltacht are defined by signs at present.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Recognise the elements of common interest between Udaras na Gaeltachta and the Council in providing services. For example by implementing/supporting the key projects in the Water Based Tourism study one of which is located in Cheantar no Oilean. Studies by Udaras also identified the potential of this area.

**Response** Section 3.17 gives a commitment from the council to provide a service through Irish and contains policies to preserve and promote the Gaeltacht.

It also outlines the councils commitment to support industrial and employment projects of Udaras Na Gaeltachta. This shall be further addressed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.

The report 'Water Based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway' April

2002 was commissioned by a number of bodies including Galway County Council. It identifies a number of key projects in developing the product and advocates a partnership approach.

**Recommendation** Add the following policy to Section 3.9 'Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

**Issue** Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Support a strong confident economically viable Gaeltacht region and facilitate the region and local communities in achieving their own objectives through visionary policies, modern facilities and local partnerships.

**Response** This is provided for in the policies of the development plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was**

**noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

<b>Issue</b>	Population.
<b>Summary</b>	Udaras has highlighted that some figures in relation to the Gaeltacht area are incorrect, in particular employment figures. Requests that the council wait until the final CSO results are available.
<b>Response</b>	Population figures are based on detailed demographic analysis of the county. Because of time constraints set out under the Planning Act 2000 it is not possible to await the final census figures. However, the small area statistics will be available at the first review date and they will be taken into account then. They will also be taken into account in the preparation of the local area plan for the Gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	A new road is required north of R336 between Galway and Inverin in the long term extending to Costelloe.
<b>Response</b>	Infrastructural needs will be assessed in the preparation of a local plan for the Gaeltacht.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	The plan should contain a list of roads that the council intend to improve and maintain.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.3.7 states it is an objective to strengthen and improve the road networks. In support of this a programme of works should be included to communicate to the public the councils intention with regard to the road network. Because the major portion of the Road Authority's funds come from external funds over which they do not have full control, the extent that such a programme will accurately reflect actual expenditure. However the main thrust of the roads expenditure can be indicated.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include an indicative programme of works on road improvements that it is intended to undertake over the period of the plan.



**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to include an indicative programme of works on road improvements that it is intended to undertake over the period of the plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	Roads and Transportation.
<b>Summary</b>	Recognise that the importance of the R336 is on par with the N59 for access to the Gaeltacht and economic development and recommends the following: Upgrade the status to National Secondary.
<b>Response</b>	The council do not have the authority to set the status of the R336. However it is recommended to support the proposal to upgrade the R336 to National Secondary road status. The plan does not contain adequate provisions to control access onto the R336 which are essential if the case for National Secondary status is to be sustained.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Support the upgrading of the R336 to National Secondary status and apply adequate provisions to control access points.

**On the proposal of Cllr. P. O Malley seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to support the upgrading of the R336 to National Secondary status subject to the provisions for the Gaeltacht agreed to be put into the plan.**

	<b>Issue</b> Settlement Strategy.
<b>Summary</b>	Supports policies that ensure local people of the Gaeltacht are able to fulfil their essential housing need while at the same time protecting the quality of the landscape and surrounds. Address the negative impact caused by the growth of holiday homes in the area.
<b>Response</b>	Provisions of the plan are favourable to local people and the development of the Irish language.  There are contradictions in the plan as the current definition of essential housing need (Section 3.1.7.6) weakens the aims of the landscape assessment and should be revised.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was noted and agreed that this submission had been dealt with by An Comh. P. O'Foighil's submission**

Submission Number 109	Submitted	Agent
	Mr John C Kelly, Tyrone, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Remove portion of his lands at Tyrone, Kilcolgan from Hsa designation.	
<b>Response</b>	The High Scenic Amenity designation has been replaced from landscape sensitivity ratings in the draft development plan. This assessment took into consideration a range of criteria and was carried out in accordance with the draft Planning Guidelines on landscape and landscape assessment issued by the DOELG. Under the landscape sensitivity ratings this area is classified high allowing few development, including those with substantiated cases for such a specific location and which are in compliance with the settlement policies. This rating is a measurement of the ability of the landscape to accommodate change without suffering unacceptable effects on its character or value. No change recommended in sensitivity rating.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy seconded by Cllr M. Regan it was agreed to defer consideration of this submission**

Submission Number 110	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Eugene Bergin, Manager 220/400kV Transmission Assets, ESB National Grid, 27 Lr. Fitzwilliam St, Dublin 2.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Adjust wording in Section 5.9 to read "Transmission lines should where possible avoid the landscapes which have sensitivity rating 'special' and unique' where they do not already traverse such areas" Reason: in the provision of essential transmission lines to the west of the county it may prove difficult to completely avoid these areas.	
<b>Response</b>	Striking the correct balance between economic development and environmental protection is a central element in sustainable planning. The decisions implied in this submission are the daily routine of Development Control. It is accepted that a clear communication of the Planning Authority's position on such an important matter must be beneficial. Therefore it agreed that amendments and additions are required.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Amended Section 5.9 to read 'Transmission lines should where possible avoid landscape rated 'special' and should avoid landscapes rated 'unique' where they do not already traverse such areas'. This facilitates the provision of such infrastructure while ensuring the protection of the landscape.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr J. Connolly it was agreed to amend Section 5.9 to read 'Transmission lines should where possible avoid landscape rated 'special' and should avoid landscapes rated 'unique' where they do not already transverse such areas'. This facilitates the provision of such infrastructure while ensuring the protection of the landscape.**

<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.
<b>Summary</b>	Adjust wording in Section 5.9 to read: New transmission lines should have regard to existing residential amenity and should mitigate against any significant diminution of views of special amenity value
<b>Response</b>	It is considered that5 neither wording, that in the plan and that proposed is ideal. On balance that which is in the plan is preferred in that it more clearly indicates the Planning Authority's position.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed .**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.
<b>Summary</b>	Welcome recognition that ' the provision of electricity, telecommunications, natural gas and public transport is seen as a essential to the social and economic well being of the county's community (Section 2.3.5, p 11) Propose additional wording to Section 3.6 to reinforce strategic importance of electricity: 'the development of secure and reliable electricity transmission infrastructure is also recognised as a key factor for supporting economic development and attracting investment to the County. It is a policy of the planning authority to support the infrastructural renewal and development of electricity networks in the County, including the overhead infrastructure required to provide the required networks'.
<b>Response</b>	Section 3.6 was written to highlight the Planning Authority's commitment to alternative energy. In order to remove any potential ambiguity regarding our commitment to electricity as a source of energy and the traditional means of distributing it the policy section should be strengthened.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that 3.6 Energy be amended to include the following sentence:- 'The development of secure and reliable electricity transmission infrastructure is also recognised as a key factor for supporting economic development and attracting investment to the County.' The following policies should also be added Policy 1:- "It is the policy of the planning authority to support the

infrastructural renewal and development of electricity networks in the County, including the overhead infrastructure required to provide the required networks".

Policy 2:- "To support the infrastructure development of energy networks in the County so as to provide for the energy needs of the Community while avoiding environmental damage and the location of other developments along strategic routes".

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion seconded by Cllr. M. Regan it was agreed that 3.6 Energy be amended to include the following sentence:- 'The development of secure and reliable electricity transmission infrastructure is also recognised as a key factor for supporting economic development and attracting investment to the County.' The following policies should also be added**

**Policy 1:- "It is the policy of the planning authority to support the infrastructural renewal and development of electricity networks in the County, including the overhead infrastructure required to provide the required networks".**

**Policy 2:- "To support the infrastructure development of energy networks in the County so as to provide for the energy needs of the Community while avoiding environmental damage and the location of other developments along strategic routes".**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
111	Mr Tom Kavanagh, Director of Services, Galway County Council.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.	
<b>Summary</b>	The water and sewerage schemes set out in the draft plan are not in accordance with the council's water services Assessment of Need document. Remove list from plan and instead refer to water services ' Assessment of Needs' document and the follow on ' Water and Sewerage Scheme capital investment programme' for the county as approved by the Government.	
<b>Response</b>	It is accepted that the cross reference to the "Assessment of Needs" is the correct way of accurately informing the public at any one time of the priority listing of schemes. It would be beneficial to include an indicative list to show the current position of schemes in the Assessment of Needs' listing.  See submission 78 a Table of schemes has been included as an appendix in the Manager's report.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include a programme of works in the plan to communicate to the public the councils intentions with regard to the Water Services Programme.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Regan seconded by Cllr. J. Conneely it was agreed to add "as part of the Water Services Assessment of Needs which will be reviewed as required" to the end of "Available resources and priority will determine the scheduling of construction works. The Department of the Environment and Local Government and Galway County Council will decide the relative priority....."**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
21	Mr Basil Keogh, Peacocke's Hotel, Maam Cross, Conamara, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Designate Maam Cross as a settlement centre.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>There are 97 settlement centres designated throughout the County, based on a detailed analysis of existing services and facilities within the villages and their capacity for modest growth.</p> <p>It is considered that these are sufficient for the expected demand for rural village living during the period of the Plan and well beyond.</p> <p>It is not considered that Maam Cross has the established community or level of service to warrant its inclusion as a settlement centre.</p> <p>The landscape surrounding the built complex at Maam Cross is of a scenic quality which is recognised internationally, much of it being a candidate Special Area of Conservation, and it is not recommended that its sensitivity be dominated.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

Cllr. P. O Malley stated that Maam Cross was a focal point of the Gaeltacht and a centre of tourism. He stated that the only element missing is houses in the area.

Mr Ridge advised that he had circulated a report on Settlement Strategy for members consideration.

Cllr. J. Joyce stated that he was not in favour of adding a whole lot of new settlement centres but stated that there was a need for a statement on areas that don't have settlements.

Cllr. T. Mannion stated that Fohenagh village is an ideal area for a settlement centre and that it should be designated one.

Cllr T McHugh stated that he had recommended 9 areas as settlement centres and would not like to see an opportunity lost in these areas to build houses at some later stage.

Mr Ridge stated that he would prepare a policy statement on the issues of concern to Cllr. Mc Hugh

**On the proposal of Cllr. P O Malley and seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed to designate Maam Cross as a settlement centre.**

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed to designate Fohenagh as a settlement centre.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.30p.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2003. It was agreed to resume this meeting at 10.00a.m. on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2003.

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2003**

The members resumed the consideration of the Managers report.

#### **Scenic Amenity & Scenic Areas**

Cllr M. Loughnane referred to the Landscape Character Assessment circulated with the draft County Development Plan and while accepting the scientific basis on which the Landscape Character Assessment was carried out he stated that people living on the borders of the Landscape Sensitivity Rating needed to know what rating class applied to them. Mr Ridge said that in the draft Development Plan Members have agreed a housing policy that permits the people referred to by Cllr Loughnane to live in any area of the county.

Cllr. J.J. Mannion stated that the Members couldn't contest the Landscape Character Assessment, which was a comprehensive document prepared by experts over a six-month period. He stated that Section 3.1.7.6, as amended by Members, would facilitate people who qualify under Section 3.1.7.6 in areas of High Scenic Amenity.

Comh. P. O'Foighil stated that he could not agree with the Class 5 – Unique, rating applied to all of the Aran Islands and that the maps prepared would have to be changed. Cllr. T. Mannion stated that if it was not in the Members power to change the ratings, that Members should now deal with the outstanding submissions.

Cllr. M. Loughnane stated that it was not established that Members didn't have the power to change the sensitivity ratings, and that as Members they have an intimate knowledge of their areas and should be entitled to make changes. He stated that the Class 3 Landscape rating should be taken out of the South Galway area.

On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr.T. Mannion, the landscape sensitivity ratings as set out in the Landscape Character Assessment 2003-2009 was agreed.

#### **Settlement Centres**

A document entitled "The impact on a centre of being included or not included as part of the Settlement Strategy" was circulated to the Members and summarised the provisions in the Settlement Strategy prepared as part of the review of the County Development Plan. Photographs of each of the proposed settlement areas were also on display at the meeting. Mr Ridge stated that what was contained in the Rural Housing Policy was very close to the National Spatial Strategy approach to rural housing. He stated that where a clearly documented case is made for development, it would be considered, having regard to the principles of proper planning and sustainable development. He stated that if someone wants to live in the open countryside, they will be encouraged to live in clusters of development and he recommended that in such cases development take place in settlement centres. He stated, referring to the photographs on display, that it is a striking feature that the settlement centres look like open countryside. Settlement centres will provide more available land and no location will be more than three miles from a settlement centre. Referring to his undertaking to draft a policy statement on areas which may wish to develop but are not settlement centres, a document was circulated to Members recommending an amendment to the draft County Development Plan to include the following :

*Other Residential Development Nodes*

*The settlement centres selected by the Countywide settlement strategy were selected based 1) size 2) role and 3) and where the settlement sits in the overall hierarchy of settlements. This enables policies to be implemented that will create balanced development on a Countywide basis and also create the environment for external investment. It is widely recognised that despite economic and social progress over the past decade, the patterns of development which have emerged have given rise to issues in relation to:*

- *Imbalance between and within areas in relation to the distribution of economic and social progress*
- *The growth and expansion of the larger urban areas giving rise to problems of congestion and housing shortage*
- *The implications of the growth of major urban centres for smaller towns, villages and rural areas*
- *Social economic and environmental consequences of current trends*
- *The role of infrastructure provision in facilitating and promoting development at local, regional and national level*
- *The relationship between economic and social planning, physical planning and land use policies*

*A Development Plan is primarily concerned with physical planning and land use policies. Unless a specific framework is created social and economic issues do not receive sufficient attention in particular social issues. The Settlement Strategy and supporting policies provide this framework.*

*It is accepted that unanticipated changes will take place in the distribution of population and that these changes will have an impact on the relative contribution that each centre has to make. It is also accepted that there is a potential need for some provision for those areas that do not qualify as settlement centres but can accommodate housing that would otherwise be dispersed over the open countryside..*

**Policy 1:** *Favourable consideration will be given to residential development in those locations that are not included in the Settlement Strategy centres but are suitable to receive housing of a scale appropriate to the existing population and services or potential services.*

Cllr. T McHugh stated that the document circulated was a reasonable one, in particular Policy 1 and he would have no difficulty in withdrawing submission number 86 and to allow that policy as a means of dealing with the submission. Dep P. Connaughton asked if this policy would be the working policy for the planners. Cllr. M. Loughnane asked where there is high density in a rural area, will infill be permitted under the policy. Cllr. S. Quinn asked if areas not included as settlement centres would have the same status as the settlement centres. He stated that Cortoon should be part of the settlement strategy, especially if industry comes to Tuam. Cllr M. Connolly stated that he was not satisfied that the proposal was providing what was required by Members and the public. Sen. U. Burke stated that he was concerned about the last sentence above the policy in the document. Mr. Ridge stated that he had advised against too many settlement centres and the policy outlined was an effort to bridge the gap between settlement and non-settlement areas. He advised that the 97 settlement centres proposed would permit residential and industrial development, while the level below that would permit residential development only, but there may be scope for flexibility in some cases.

Cllr. J.J. Mannion stated that the document proposed was a reasonable, logical and fair document and recommended that Members should accept the recommendation and reject any further proposals for settlement centres.

Cllr. M. Loughnane stated that Carrowbane should have been included as a settlement centre, but was not in the published draft Plan and that what went on public display was wrong. Mr Ridge stated that the reason Carrowbane had been missed from the list of settlement centres was due to the fact that it had been received by email on the Friday prior to the Council meeting of the following Monday and had not been included.

Cllr. J. Joyce stated that the settlement centres proposed and agreed at previous meetings should be included. Sen. U. Burke stated that the words "*that would otherwise be dispersed over the open countryside*" in the document should be excluded.

Mr Ridge stated that this could be done and advised that the settlement strategy can be referred to in any appeals of planning decisions to An Bord Pleanala, but if extra settlement centres are included that don't have a scientific basis, An Bord Pleanala may not see the same validity of settlement centre strategy.

**On the proposal of Sen. U. Burke and seconded by Cllr. M. Mullins it was agreed to delete the words "*that would otherwise be dispersed over the open countryside*" from the document and to insert the following in the draft County Development Plan:**

*Other Residential Development Nodes*

*The settlement centres selected by the Countywide settlement strategy were selected based 1) size 2) role and 3) and where the settlement sits in the overall hierarchy of settlements. This enables policies to be implemented that will create balanced development on a Countywide basis and also create the environment for external investment. It is widely recognised that despite economic and social progress over the past decade, the patterns of development which have emerged have given rise to issues in relation to:*

- *Imbalance between and within areas in relation to the distribution of economic and social progress*
- *The growth and expansion of the larger urban areas giving rise to problems of congestion and housing shortage*
- *The implications of the growth of major urban centres for smaller towns, villages and rural areas*
- *Social economic and environmental consequences of current trends*
- *The role of infrastructure provision in facilitating and promoting development at local, regional and national level*
- *The relationship between economic and social planning, physical planning and land use policies*

*A Development Plan is primarily concerned with physical planning and land use policies. Unless a specific framework is created social and economic issues do not receive sufficient attention in particular social issues. The Settlement Strategy and supporting policies provide this framework.*

*It is accepted that unanticipated changes will take place in the distribution of population and that these changes will have an impact on the relative contribution that each centre has to make. It is also accepted that there is a potential need for some provision for those areas that do not qualify as settlement centres but can accommodate some housing.*

*Policy 1: Favourable consideration will be given to residential development in those locations that are not included in the Settlement Strategy centres but are*



*suitable to receive housing of a scale appropriate to the existing population and services or potential services.*

The members then resumed their consideration of the submissions which had been deferred from previous meetings.

Submission Number 2	Submitted	
Summary	Mr Patrick Dooley, Cloghaun, Claregalway, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
Issue	Rural Housing Policy.	
Summary	Mr. Dooley has been refused planning permission for residential development on his land and requires a facilitating policy in the Plan to allow his nephew to secure permission.	
Response	The Draft Plan allows consideration of rural family housing need to be considered on its merit in the context of a planning application. Section 3.1.7.6.	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number 7	Submitted	Agent
Summary	Mr Chris Williams(1), Caherateemore, Athenry, Co. Galway.	Stephen Dowd & Associates, Town Park Centre, Tuam Rd., Galway.
Issue	Settlement Strategy.	
Summary	Designate Caherateemore as a settlement area.	
Response	There are 97 settlement areas designated throughout the County. They have been designated following a detailed assessment of their facilities and levels of service and their capacity to accommodate growth.  It is considered that they are sufficient to cater for the demand for sustainable rural village living during the plan period and beyond.	
Recommendation	It is not considered that Caherateemore has a sufficient level of community services to warrant its inclusion.	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. T. Rabbitt it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 9	Submitted	Agent
	Gabriel Dolan & Associates, Architects, Engineers, Surveyors,  Main Street, Craughwell, Co. Galway.	Gabriel Dolan & Associates, Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Main Street, Craughwell, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Include Aille, Loughrea as an area suitable for clustered housing developments.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>There are 97 settlement areas designated throughout the County. They have been designated following a detailed assessment of their facilities and levels of service and their capacity to accommodate growth.</p> <p>It is considered that they are sufficient to cater for the demand for sustainable rural village living during the plan period and beyond.</p> <p>It is not considered that Aille has a sufficient level of community services to warrant its inclusion.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 11	Submitted	Agent
	Mrs Emer Maughan,	Douglas Wallace, Steamship House, Dun Aengus, Dock Road, Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Rural Housing Policy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Amend 9.3.1 of the present plan by stating that "Permission for one off houses in rural areas shall be granted where the applicant proposes to construct a dwelling within a one mile distance from their primary place of work or business.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>9.3.1 of the present plan relates to areas designated Outstanding Scenic Amenity or High Scenic Amenity. It does not apply to extensive areas of the County.</p> <p>The policy proposed takes no cognisance of housing need or of language impact and is not regarded as sustainable development.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 13	Submitted	Agent
	Mr James P. Naughton,	No Agent.

Summary	Consulting Engineer, 26 Blackthorn Park, Renmore, Galway.
Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	Include a specific site at Seershin, Furbo, in the growth settlement area of Furbo village.
Response	This site is on a minor road at the western end of Furbo, well removed from the centre of the village.  The sustainable growth of Furbo in the lifetime of this Plan would be provided for on developable lands 800 metres to the east The village growth area should not extend to this site.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 14	Submitted	Agent
	Mr John Fahey, Dunally, Peterswell, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
Issue	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.	
Summary	Wishes to have portion of his land removed from the area designated High Scenic Amenity in the present County Development Plan so that he can sell a site.	
Response	An assessment of the landscape of the County has been carried out in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government. Mr. Fahy's site is in an area rated as "moderate" sensitivity [Class 2] where, in accordance with 4.1.1.3 various developments which are of appropriate scale and design, and which are in compliance with settlement policies, will be acceptable. Mr. Fahy's site is not in a settlement centre and its development potential as a residential site will relate to the rural housing needs as defined in 3.1.7.6.	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 15	Submitted	Agent
	Mr & Ms James & Sarah Clancy, C/O J & S Property Dev. Ltd., Dominick Street, Galway.	Mr. A.P Mc Carthy, Planning Consultants Ltd. 1st Floor Unit 2, Tuam Road Centre, Galway.
Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.	

<b>Summary</b>	Include objectives in the Plan which would allow the use of house and lands at Knocknagreane, Furbo, as a Thallasotherapy Centre.
<b>Response</b>	<p>The report "Waterbased Tourism A Strategic Vision For Galway", which was commissioned by a number of bodies including Galway County Council, indicated that Galway City and County had significant potential to develop waterbased tourism.</p> <p>It suggests a number of key projects in developing the tourism product, and advocates a partnership approach.</p> <p>Taking the report into consideration and having regard to this submission it is recommended that a policy statement be added to 3.9, to ' Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'</p> <p>This will enable individual projects to be assessed on their merits, consistent with the principles of Proper Planning and Development.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	Add the following policy to Section 3.9 ' Support the strategic Recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway.'

**On the proposal of Sen. U. Burke and seconded by Dep. P. Connaughton it was agreed to add the following policy to Section 3.9 "Support the strategic recommendations of the report titled 'Water based Tourism, a Strategic Vision for Galway."**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
20	Mr Martin Kelly, Cregaun, Inverin, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Designate Ballynahown as a development settlement and extend the boundary as defined in the present County Plan.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>3.1.7.17 of the Draft Plan identifies "Inverin" as a development settlement within the Galway Transportation and Planning Study area. The map (figure 1) would indicate the settlement as being at the Ballynahown end of Inverin.</p> <p>Successive County Development Plans have established two growth centres in the "cois farraige" area west of An Spideal i.e. Knock and Ballynahown. It defined the boundaries of each but did not show land use zoning or other development details. Significant development has occurred in both areas on foot of the Plan designation.</p> <p>It would seem reasonable therefore to include both Ballynahown and Knock as settlement centres in the new County Development Plan, their boundaries to be defined following more detailed examination.</p>	

Summary	Development proposals within those settlements, in the absence of specific zoning, to be in accordance with the principles set out in 3.1.7.17, paying particular attention to the provision of adequate access on to the R.336.
Response	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Remove the description Inverin from the Settlement Zones in the development plan. Add the villages of Knock and Tully/ Ballynahown to the Settlement Zones subject to their boundaries being defined following more detailed examination.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Mc Clearn it was agreed to remove the description Inverin from the Settlement Zones in the development plan. Add the villages of Knock and Tully/ Ballynahown to the Settlement Zones subject to their boundaries being defined following more detailed examination.**

Submission Number 21	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Basil Keogh, Peacocke's Hotel, Maam Cross, Conamara, Co. Galway.	No Agent.

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	Designate Maam Cross as a settlement centre.
Response	There are 97 settlement centres designated throughout the County, based on a detailed analysis of existing services and facilities within the villages and their capacity for modest growth.
Recommendation	<p>It is considered that these are sufficient for the expected demand for rural village living during the period of the Plan and well beyond.</p> <p>It is not considered that Maam Cross has the established community or level of service to warrant its inclusion as a settlement centre.</p> <p>The landscape surrounding the built complex at Maam Cross is of a scenic quality which is recognised internationally, much of it being a candidate Special Area of Conservation, and it is not recommended that its sensitivity be dominated.</p>
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**It was noted that this submission had been previously dealt with and that Maam Cross had been agreed as a Settlement Centre.**

Submission Number 24	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Val Clarke, Ros Muc, Conamara, Co. Galway.	No Agent.

Issue	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.
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## Special Meeting 11/12/2002

<b>Summary</b>	Removal of amenity designation from 22 acres of his land at Glencaugh so that he can build 15 to 20 houses.
<b>Response</b>	Whereas Rosmuc is designated as a settlement centre the land in question is outside the designated area and is on lands rated as special sensitivity in the Draft Plan. It is recommended that this rating remain and that consequently the area should be kept free of housing concentrations.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Submission Number 25</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Agent</b>
	Mr Nicholas Cafferky, Coole, Gort, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Remove amenity restrictions from his site so that he can build a house.	
<b>Response</b>	The area is zoned High Scenic Amenity in the current County Development Plan and has a high sensitivity rating in the Draft Plan. It is not recommended that this rating be changed.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

Cllr F. Fahy stated that this was an exceptional case for a disabled person and that the amenity restriction should be removed from this site to allow Mr Cafferky build a house appropriate to his disability. He stated that Mr Cafferky had been told by planning officials that he would not be allowed to build in this area of high scenic amenity. Mr Ridge asked why the applicant wanted to locate in a remote area of the county and not close to hospital and other essential services. Cllr. Fahy stated that this was the only site the applicant had. A number of Members stated that while they were sympathetic to the needs of the applicant, they felt that the plan was drafted for the county and they could not get tied up with personal cases. Mr Ridge stated that he would review the file and facts as presented and that this was an emotional subject, but if exceptions are made, where do they stop. The County Manager outlined the background to this case, stating that the family have a house in Coole Park, but did not want this house adapted, instead wanting to move to another area. He stated that this was a difficult case and that each application for permission should be dealt with on the basis of proper planning and sustainable development.

**On the proposal of Dep. P. Connaughton and seconded by Cllr. J. J. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Submission Number 27</b>	<b>Submitted</b>	<b>Agent</b>
	Ms Yvonne Doolan, Duchas – The Heritage Service, Department of Community Rural & Gaeltacht, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Heritage.	

**Summary** Protecting the archaeological heritage of County Galway.

**Response** The Duchas submission welcomes the policy of the draft in relation to archaeological heritage and advocates the inclusion of items which deal with the context of site preservation and additional points relating to non-recorded sites and underwater locations.

It is recommended that a review of the section dealing with archaeology include the salient points of this submission. A heritage appraisal has been carried out on the draft plan.

Proposals arising from this appraisal should be included into a comprehensive re-draft of this section of the plan.

**Recommendation** Redraft the heritage section of the plan to include the recommendations made by Duchas and the issues arising from a heritage appraisal of the plan.

Cllr M Connolly expressed his concern that Duchas would have more power locally than they have at present.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Sen. U. Burke it was agreed that the revised heritage section of the draft County Development Plan be accepted.**

Submission Number 28	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Tom Quinn, at Kilcolgan to Ballinderreen Road, Co. Galway.	Gabriel Dolan & Associates, Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Main Street, Craughwell, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Zone his lands on Ballinderreen Road, Kilcolgan for commercial/business park.	
<b>Response</b>	Kilcolgan village is designated as a settlement in the Draft Plan. Mr. Quinn's site is outside the proposed 500 m development limit and front on to a National Secondary Route where the maximum speed limit applies.	
	The proposed zoning is not recommended.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 29	Submitted	Agent
	Ms Maire Ni Dhomhnaill, Cnocan a Bhodaigh, Na Forbacha, An Spideal, Co. na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	

Special Meeting 11/12/2002

<b>Summary</b>	Advocates development village status for Furbo.
<b>Response</b>	Furbo Village is proposed as a settlement village in the Draft Plan.  Its development zone will be encompassed by a 500 m radius centred as determined by County Council Planning Department. Its rate of growth will be in accordance with table 3.2 of the Draft.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 30	Submitted	Agent
	Ms Sile Ni Dhomhnaill, Na Forbacha, An Spideal, Co. na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Advocates development village status for Furbo.	
<b>Response</b>	Furbo Village is proposed as a settlement village in the Draft Plan.  Its development zone will be encompassed by a 500 m radius centred as determined by County Council Planning Department. Its rate of growth will be in accordance with table 3.2 of the Draft.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 31	Submitted	Agent
	Barna Golf Club, Carboley, Barna, Co. Galway.	P.J. Tobin & Co. Ltd., Hynes Building, St. Augustine Street, Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Development complementary to Barna Golf Course be permitted as part of Golf Course Development.	
<b>Response</b>	Barna Golf Course is located 3 km from Barna Village and is therefore removed from any settlement centre as indicated in the Draft Plan. It would therefore be contrary to the settlement policy of the Draft Plan to allow housing in this area.  The landscape assessment which has been carried out in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government and which is detailed in 4.1 of the Draft Plan gives a "high sensitivity" rating to this area. Consequently 4.1.1.3 would only	



permit few developments which have a substantiated case for such a location and which are in compliance with settlement policies.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
32	Mr Cathy Ni Ghoill, Bainisteoir Comharchumann Forbartha Arann Teo, Cill Ronain, Inis Mor, Arann, Cuan na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.	
<b>Summary</b>	Kilronan Sewerage Scheme not prioritised.	
<b>Response</b>	The importance of Kilronan Sewerage Scheme to social and economic viability is recognised in that the scheme has obtained Department of the Environment and Local Government approval to commence planning and design.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Provision of Infrastructure.	
<b>Summary</b>	Need for Tourist Hotel and self catering accommodation on the island.	
<b>Response</b>	Consideration of other growth areas and any special needs of the islands (inc. Inis Mean and Inis Oir), as identified by the document "Creating a Sustainable Tourism Strategy" and by the public submission to the pre-draft phase, will be addressed in the context of the Local Area Plan for the Gaeltacht.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	Deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed to deal with as part of the preparation of a town plan/local area plan.**

<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Insufficient reference to Inis Mor in Draft Plan.	
<b>Response</b>	The Draft Plan identifies Cill Ronain as a settlement village where residential/commercial industrial growth will be encouraged.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. P. O Malley it was agreed**

that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Issue	Settlement Strategy.
Summary	Advocates housing clusters in townlands.
Response	The Draft Plan allows consideration of local family housing needs on family lands. This should contribute to sustaining existing local populations without threat to the cultural and environmental assets of the Island.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Dep. P. Connaughton it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Submission Number 33	Submitted	Agent
	Councillor Pol Bainin O'Foighil, An Cnoc, Indreabhan, Co. na Gaillimhe.	No Agent.
Issue	Development Control.	
Summary	Lands south and north of R.336 Barna/Baile na h-Abhainn to be deemed an area of "high rate of social economic and cultural amenities" for the various categories of Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe policy if ribbonisation shall not apply.	
Response	The Draft Plan does not contain any policy concerning ribbon development.	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.

Issue	Energy Including Alternative Energy.
Summary	Replace 5.8 Development Control of Windfarms with alternative policies.
Response	Windfarms: While these are emerging as necessary sources of alternative/renewable energy they are large scale intrusive installations which cannot override every other planning consideration.  It would be a dereliction of the principles of proper planning and sustainable development to disregard landscape ratings which are a statutory duty of the Planning Authority and, which in this case, have been carried out in accordance with Department of the Environment and Local Government guidelines.  There is no great rationale for re-defining farms into mini farms and windfarms. Those above 5 turbines require an Environmental Impact Statement by statute. Those below 5 turbines may if required by the Planning Authority also require an E.I.S. This is more likely to be the

case in an amenity area.

Applications from Co-ops cannot be regarded as exempted development under the Planning Act or regulations.

A specific spatial deployment of windfarms is not considered feasible or practical nor can a five turbine farm be advocated for each of the Aran Islands as a general policy statement.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue **Gaeltacht**

**Summary** General editorial revision to emphasise, using bold text, the Irish language text and have it lead the English translation.

**Response** It is accepted that the final plan format should lead with the Irish text in bold type. The completed plan will be to a professional standard of publication.

**Recommendation** Give the Irish language the lead position in the final version of the plan.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue Gaeltacht.

**Summary** Permit "fluent Irish speakers from other Gaeltachtaí to reside in Conamara Gaeltacht if they raise their children through Irish.

**Response** While there are unlikely to be large numbers of this category within the lifetime of the plan it would be preferable in the interests of sustainable development if they resided in one of the settlement villages or purchased an existing residence.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue Gaeltacht.

**Summary** 2.1.5 to be worded/drafted by Galway County Council and to include a statement by applicant as to his/her proven working knowledge of Irish.

**Response** No objections to 2.1.5 being drafted by Galway County Council.

**Recommendation** Accept draft from Galway County Council to Section 2.1.5 Language Impact Assessment.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Include additional objectives to the effect that informational and promotional brochures for the Gaeltacht be produced in Irish only.
Response	It is accepted that literature be in Irish only.
Recommendation	Add the following policy statement to the plan 'Informational and promotional brochures for Gaeltacht to be produced in Irish only.'

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue	Gaeltacht.
Summary	Land to be preserved for economic projects suitable for the area provided 80% of workers have spoken Irish.
Response	Settlement centres to cater for this on "friendly neighbour" principle.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue	<u>Rural Housing Policy.</u>
Summary	Include objectives in 5.11. Lands south and north of R.336 Barna/Baile na h-Abhainn road be deemed suitable for one-off housing subject to local housing categories.
Response	It would not be correct or legal to state that lands to north and south of R.336 are suitable for one-off housing. Factors such as traffic capacity/safety, public health, visual amenity and existing residential amenity must be considered in dealing with development proposals.
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Issue	Rural Housing Policy.
Summary	Limit duration of enurement clause.
Response	The enurement condition is to give effect to restrictive policies in the plan, particularly relating to residential development. To limit its duration

would reduce its effectiveness.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that Section 3.8 be amended to include details on the housing strategy and any pro-active programmes being investigated by the council to provide affordable housing.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Include An Cnoc, Tulac agus Na Forbacha as Gaeltacht villages.

**Response** It is accepted that An Cnoc and Tulac should be added to the settlements. Forbacha is already designated.

**Recommendation** Remove the description Inverin from the Settlement Zones in the development plan. Add the villages of Knock and Tully/ Ballynahown to the Settlement Zones subject to their boundaries being defined following more detailed examination.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

**Issue** Town Plans/Local Area Plans.

**Summary** Complete Local Area Plan for Gaeltacht by 1st March, 2004.

**Response** The Gaeltacht Local Area Plan will be initiated as a priority following adoption of the County Plan. However it would not be advisable to set a specific target date in the County Plan which may lead to legal complications if not compiled with.

**Recommendation** Include a policy statement in the plan.  
"Commence the preparation of a local area plan for the Gaeltacht as soon as the County plan is adopted."

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that the submission had been dealt with by an Comh. P. O'Foighil's proposal which had been agreed at Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2002.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
34	Ms Maura Concannon, Rinneharney, Annaghdown, Corrandulla, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Rural Housing Policy.	
<b>Summary</b>	That permission be granted for one family residence in an amenity area where a family farm exists.	
<b>Response</b>	The Draft Plan has landscape sensitivity ratings instead of amenity	

designations.

The rural settlement policy allows the actual and proven needs of rural families on family lands to be catered for. This would apply to landscape sensitivity ratings Class 1 to Class 4 (see figure 7).

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 35	Submitted	Agent
	Mr David Nolan, Design Consultant, Rinville West, Oranmore, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Zone lands at Stradbally North Clarenbridge for low density residential development.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>The lands in question (23.7 ha) are located south of Clarenbridge Village, outside the established built up area and outside the speed limits.</p> <p>Clarenbridge is one of the rural settlement centres proposed in the Draft where the population is to be limited to 500 within a 500 metre radius of the village centre.</p> <p>These lands are outside the said radius and it considered that there are sufficient development lands within the 500 m perimeter radius to allow for the desirable growth of the village within the plan period.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

Mr Ridge stated that the perimeter radius was only indicitave and could be exceeded or reduced dependant on demand in individual areas. Cllr. M. Loughnane stated that Stradbally should be established as a residential area as it is considered to be within the catchment area of Clarenbridge. Mr Ridge stated that the planning boundaries for Clarenbridge had not yet been determined.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. McClearn and seconded by Cllr. T. Rabbitt it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 37	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Martin/Larry Moran/ Donoghue, Weir, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	That the landscape value and sensitivity rating of the Weir, Kilcolgan is too high.	

**Response** The landscape assessment was carried out in accordance with the design guidelines issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

The Weir area which has a coastal frontage onto the tidal inlet of Inner Galway Bay has had a high amenity rating in the present and past development plans and has been adjudged by the new criteria to merit a higher rating than low or moderate.

It should be noted that there are two higher sensitivity classes in the Draft Plan where there are more serious constraints on developments.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. T. Rabbitt it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number 39	Submitted	Agent
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	Mr Michael Egan, Head of Corporate Affairs National Roads Authority, St. Martin's House, Waterloo Road, Dublin 4.	No Agent.
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**Issue** Compliance with National Road Policy.

**Summary** Inadequate control on frontage development adversely affects road safety. Experience and research has shown that failure to control frontage development also reduces traffic capacity, shortens the roads useful life and requires its earlier than necessary replacement.

**Response** The draft development plan is in breach of the official policy on development control relating to frontage developments on national routes.

Under Section 5.1 two applicants who qualify for permission to build one-off rural houses anywhere in the county can decide to build a house along a National Route provided that they share an access (not necessarily with an existing house). This access is not restricted to the original applicants, in effect a housing scheme might be permitted. That is in total contravention of national policy and established practice in the county.

For the Draft Plan to be sustainable and to comply with 'Development Control Advice and Guidelines' and 'Policy and Planning Framework for Roads', Section 3.1.7.6 must be extensively revised.

**Recommendation** Re-draft Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan to make it sustainable and to bring it into compliance with national policy statements such as 'Development Control Advice and Guidelines' and 'Policy and Planning Framework for Roads'.

Mr Ridge advised that the revised Section 3.1.7.6 would not comply with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, National Policy and the National Spatial Strategy.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. T. Mc Hugh it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Issue	<b>Compliance with National Road Policy.</b>
<b>Summary</b>	The National Roads Authority must uphold official policy and manage the national roads investment programme in a manner that promotes road safety. Section 5.1 and Section 3.1.7.6 should cater only for the essential need of farm families' sons or daughter's, exceptions only being permitted provided access is made only by means of the established access serving the present family home.
<b>Response</b>	Existing practice is well established and universally accepted. A deviation from this is not recommended because it would breach National Policy and would reduce the capacity of the Primary road network and would lead to more hazardous conditions on these roads. It could also impact on the levels of investment in the county road network.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Redraft the essential housing need definition in Section 3.1.7.6 of the draft plan so that it complies with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development, so that it provides support to the settlement strategy and so that it complies with national policies, in particular national road policy.

**On the proposal of Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta and seconded by Comh. P. O'Foighil it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
40	Mr Richard Noone, Gortatleva, Bushypark, Galway.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>	Housing density should be determined by site size not road frontage.	
<b>Response</b>	Road frontage is one of many inter-related issues taken into account in the assessment of a planning application.	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<b>Issue</b>	Miscellaneous.
<b>Summary</b>	Precedent should dictate planning policy.



**Response** This is not acceptable. Each application is unique.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Rural Housing Policy.

**Summary** Development control standards for rural housing. The points being made are that planning permission should be granted on sites that satisfy all development control standards, have public services in place and are not in an area of high scenic amenity.

**Response** The Draft County Development Plan has clearly highlighted the serious environmental problems that have arisen from the rapid growth of new housing in the open countryside.

Section 3.1.7.6 One-off rural houses occupied by people with no local association with the land have given rise to detrimental visual impacts on the country side, ground water pollution due to over-proliferation of septic tanks, greater dependance on private transport, erosion of bio-diversity and a reduction in the quantity of productive agricultural land. While it is necessary to control inappropriate residential development, one-off rural development for those who are dependant on the land, who have an essential rural housing need, or who support the rural economy will be facilitated.

Guidelines for single housing in the countryside are also available. These guidelines provide assistance in creating an appropriate and sensitively designed rural house that can be easily assimilated into the rural countryside.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
41	Mr Tom Burke, Mariono House, Furbo, Spiddal.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>	Settlement Strategy.	
<b>Summary</b>	Identify time scale for construction of Furbo village.	
<b>Response</b>	Available resources and priority will determine the scheduling of construction works and will be decided by the DoELG and Galway County Council. Priority will be given to towns and villages in the designated Settlement Strategy so that these centres can meet the identified housing targets.	
	It is planned that the Furbo sewerage scheme will be constructed during	

the 16 year period 2002-2018, for programme of development for sewerage schemes.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O Foighil and seconded by Cllr. J.J.. Mannion it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

**Issue** Settlement Strategy.

**Summary** Welcomes the Settlement Strategy in particular the identification of Furbo as a Settlement Centre.

**Response** The Settlement Strategy is a key element in the development plan.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number	42	Submitted	Agent
		Mr Brendan Bishop, Secretary Kinvara Integrated Plan Steering Group, Dorus House Youth Hostel, Kinvara.	No Agent.
<b>Issue</b>		Development Control.	
<b>Summary</b>		Amendment to parking requirements: where parking facilities are not provided by the developer, to required the developer to pay a contribution towards the cost of their provision.	
<b>Response</b>		It shall be the policy of the Planning Authority to provide parking in congested towns and villages and to levy contributions for this purpose on new developments. An amendment to Section 3.3.9 giving effect to this policy should be included in the plan.	
<b>Recommendation</b>		Add the following policy statement to the development control section of the plan:- 'Ensure, where possible, that adequate off-street parking and loading/unloading facilities are provided as part of each development, to ensure that parked vehicles do not cause a traffic hazard, obstruct vehicle or pedestrian movement or create a negative visual impact. Where this cannot be provided on site it shall be provided by payment of a levy to the county council for such a provision off-site.'	

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion it was agreed to add the following policy statement to the development control section of the plan:-**

**'Ensure, where possible, that adequate off-street parking and loading/unloading facilities are provided as part of each development, to ensure that parked vehicles do not cause a traffic hazard, obstruct**

**vehicle or pedestrian movement or create a negative visual impact. Where this cannot be provided on site it shall be provided by payment of a levy to the county council for such a provision off-site."**

<b>Issue</b>	Holiday Homes.
<b>Summary</b>	Insert a sentence to Section 5.15, to have regard to the cumulative total of holiday homes in an area.
<b>Response</b>	Whilst the development plan recognises the need for new holiday homes to be of modest proportions and should relate to the size of the settlement the impact of several developments in one area could prove detrimental and unsustainable. This should be covered in the plan preferably at Section 5.15.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Add the following policy statement to the plan 'The Planning Authority will have regard to the cumulative total of holiday homes contained within the settlement and that this total should be appropriate to the size and function of the settlement. It is recommended that a similar policy be inserted into the Draft Settlement Strategy.'

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Comh. Ni Fhatharta it was agreed to add the following policy statement to the plan  
'The Planning Authority will have regard to the cumulative total of holiday homes contained within the settlement and that this total should be appropriate to the size and function of the settlement. It is recommended that a similar policy be inserted into the Draft Settlement Strategy.'**

<b>Issue</b>	<b><u>Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.</u></b>
<b>Summary</b>	Clarification on land-use zoning for service centres and small settlements.
<b>Response</b>	The 97 settlements identified in the Settlement Strategy have been ranked in the hierarchy in accordance with their size, level of services, and level of pressure for development. Many of the smaller settlements with populations of less than 500 may not require land-use zonings simply because the development pressures may not arise during the life-time of the plan. However the settlements with a greater population will require plans. Through the implementation of the Draft Settlement Strategy there will be a necessity to devise a schedule for the making of these plans. An insertion should be made in the plan at Section 3.1.7.17 to reflect this.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Insert the following paragraph in Section 3.1.7.17: 'There is need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the settlement strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will, be the

boundaries as adopted in that plan.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J.J. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. J. Joyce it was agreed to insert the following paragraph in Section 3.1.7.17: 'There is need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the settlement strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will, be the boundaries as adopted in that plan.'**

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Miscellaneous.</u>
Summary	Compatibility between the strategies proposed in the Draft Development Plan and the Kinvara Integrated Area Plan.
Response	<p>There is a hierarchy of development plan extending from national plans such as the National Spatial Strategy and the National Development Plan, regional plans such as the Connacht Waste Management Plan to County Development Plans and Local Area Plans. Compatibility between these plans is a principle of proper planning and sustainable development.</p> <p>The Settlement Strategy is based on population and household projections for the 15 year period 2001-2016. The reason for distinguishing settlement hierarchy is that it allows us to visualise the relationships between different types of towns and the different level of functions they serve. The hierarchy takes into account more than the size of the town but also aims to describe the role the town will play in the context of the county.</p> <p>The purpose of the allocation of units to the smaller settlements is not only to identify the growth in population in these areas but to provide all assurance to those who wish to reside in these rural alternative areas, that is the maximum scale that these settlements will develop to, within the lifetime of the plan. The allocation identified in table 3.2 will be divided up approximately between each small settlement area.</p> <p>The visionary plan for Kinvara extends into the next generation. The County Development Plan is for the period 2003-2009. In this context the ceiling figure of 500 is regarded as a reasonable estimate which is subject to change.</p>
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion and seconded by Dep. P. Connaughton it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Issue	Provision of Infrastructure.
Summary	Population equivalent of the proposed sewerage system for Kinvara is believed to be an under-provision.
Response	The figure being referred to is the table 3.8 Water Services - Sewerage

- Response** Schemes Capital Programme. The Settlement Strategy highlights the projected growth envisaged within the 6 year period of the plan. The sewerage design figures are based on a longer investment period and taken from Water Services projections for growth of these areas. However these figures do not rule out additional capacity being added in future programmes.
- Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

**On the proposal of Cllr. J. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Settlement Strategy.</u>
<b>Summary</b>	Draft Settlement Strategy Section 3.1.7.14: amend plan to allow for the scale and pace of development within a settlement rather than base housing allocation on a population projection. Justify how this allocation will be broken up into 26 settlements when needs and demands will vary from one to another.
<b>Response</b>	The Draft Settlement Strategy creates a vision of how the County can develop in a sustainable manner if the Strategy and its supporting policies are adopted. The population allocation to each identified settlement is based on the best projections available. It is not rigidly fixed and can and will be adjusted when and if circumstances dictate. A statement clarifying this point should be included in the plan.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Include the following statement clarifying the populations allocations for each settlement and how these figures will be interpreted by the planning authority. "In order to control the scale of development a deviation in the allocated population of up to 30% will generally be acceptable, between 30% and 50% will be assessed in the context of the group of settlements and the growth experienced by each, over 50% generally will not be accepted. Regard will also be had to the rate of growth in each settlement. Use will be made of the published Census figures and the forthcoming update of the Geodirectory to re-assess the base population figures included in the plan."

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade it was agreed to include the following statement clarifying the populations allocations for each settlement and how these figures will be interpreted by the planning authority.**  
**"In order to control the scale of development a deviation in the allocated population of up to 30% will generally be acceptable, between 30% and 50% will be assessed in the context of the group of settlements and the growth experienced by each, over 50% generally will not be accepted. Regard will also be had to the rate of growth in each settlement."**

<b>Issue</b>	Town Plans\Local Area Plans.
<b>Summary</b>	It is suggested to insert a paragraph: "Notwithstanding any statement in this plan, the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan".

**Response** The implementation of the Draft Settlement Strategy creates a necessity for a schedule for the making of town plans and a paragraph to this effect should be included in the plan.

**Recommendation** Include the following paragraph at the appropriate location in the plan. 'There is a need to make plans for centres identified in accordance with their placement on the settlement hierarchy. It is recommended that the council prepare a brief to examine the preparation of plans to implement the Settlement Strategy. When the plans are in place the development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plans has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan'.

**On the proposal of Comh. P. O'Foighil and seconded by Dep. P. Connaughton it was agreed to include the following policy – "The development boundaries of any settlement for which a local plan has been prepared will be the boundaries as adopted in that plan." It was also agreed to include the following policy- "Favourable consideration will be given to residential development in those locations that are not included in the Settlement Strategy centres but are suitable to receive housing of a scale appropriate to the existing population and services or potential services."**

Submission Number	Submitted	Agent
43	Mr Sean Gavin, Chairman Newbridge Action Committee, Boherbannagh, Newbridge.	No Agent.

**Issue** Implementation of Connacht Waste Management Plan.

**Summary** Possible siting of a landfill site near the village of Newbridge, Co. Galway. Concerns are addressed in relation to the proximity of the landfill to any existing dwelling house and that such a development should not result in the compulsory relocation of any householder. Note: Two copies of this submission were received the second Submission is registered as Submission 60.

**Response** Galway County Council are currently undertaking a site selection process for a regional landfill site in the southern portion of the region as proposed under the Connacht Waste Management Plan. Any proposed landfill must go through rigorous planning and licensing procedures. In site selection for a landfill the proximity to existing residential dwellings is one of many considerations taken into account.

**Recommendation** It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.

Cllr. T. Mannion stated that the Development Plan should include a clause that landfill sites be sited at least one mile away from any dwellinghouse. Mr Ridge stated that the EPA guidelines refer to a restrictive zone of 250 – 500 metres and advised a restriction of one mile would result in a two mile restrictive radius and that Members should be mindful of the Connacht Waste Management Plan. Dep. Connaughton stated that a restrictive area of 250 –500 metres was not sufficient. Cllr M. Mullins asked if such a stipulation inserted in the plan will have any standing. Mr Ridge stated that it would cause difficulties in interpretation. He advised that the Council are obliged to include objectives in the County Development Plan for waste recovery and disposal facilities, regard having been had to the waste management plan for the area made in accordance with the Waste Management Act . He advised that the provisions being proposed by the Members are not scientific and more than likely would be invalid.

**On the proposal of Dep. P. Connaughton and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly it was agreed that landfill sites be situated not less than one mile from the nearest occupied dwelling in the interests of health and safety.**

Submission Number 44	Submitted	Agent
	Ms Brid Sullivan, 78 Claremont Park, Rahoon, Galway.	No Agent.
Issue	Landscape Assessment/Land Use Zoning.	
Summary	Zone lands at Cappaghmagapple, Clonbur for residential development.	
Response	The lands in question are located outside the designated settlement village of Clonbur and would therefore be contrary to the proposed settlement strategy of the draft development plan. It is also within an area of outstanding landscape value and sensitivity where development would be restricted.	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Mullins and seconded by Comh. P.O'Foighil it was agreed that an alteration to the plan is not needed.**

Submission Number 45	Submitted	Agent
	Councillor Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.	No Agent.
Issue	Development Control.	
Summary	Prohibit the erection of tele-communications masts be erected within half a mile of any dwelling house.	
Response	<p>The development plan is too vague in that it does not clearly set down distances for the siting of masts from existing residences and schools.</p> <p>The Draft county Development Plan contains a development control policy based on achieving a balance between facilitating the provision of telecommunications services and sustaining residential amenities, environmental quality and public health.</p> <p>The Draft Plan states that masts and associated base station facilities should be located away from existing residences and schools. All applications will be assessed in conjunction with the criteria stipulated by Government advice.</p>	
Recommendation	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

Cllr. Fahy stated that if people wish to build within the proposed half mile area that they should be allowed to

do so but would do so at their own risk. Cllr. J. McClearn asked what was the position, where due to poor coverage this requirement cannot be complied with. The County Manager advised that the Council must have regard to the policy guidelines on masts set down by the Department of the Environment and Local Government. He advised that the Council want to encourage infrastructure and investment and can only do so with proper services in place. Mr Ridge confirmed that a policy of co-location was encouraged

**Cllr. J. McClearn proposed that an alteration to the plan is not needed. This was seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh.**

**Cllr. M. Fahy proposed that no telephone mast be erected within a half mile of any dwellinghouse in County Galway. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Loughnane.**

**A vote was taken on the amended proposal by Cllr. Fahy and the result was as follows:**

**For the Proposal: Cllr. Connolly, Cllr. Conneely, Cllr. Fahy, Dep. Grealish, Cllr. Hoade, Cllr. Hynes, Cllr. Loughnane, Cllr. T. Mannion, Cllr. O Malley, Mayor O' Sullivan, Cllr. S. Quinn, Cllr. Rabbitt, Cllr. S. Walsh (13)**

**Against the Proposal: Sen. Burke, Dep. Connaughton, Cllr. S. Gavin, Cllr. J.J. Mannion, Cllr. Mc Clearn, Sen. Mc Donagh, Cllr. T. Mc Hugh, Cllr. Mullins, Comh. O' Foighil (9)**

**Abstained: Nil (0)**

**The Mayor declared the resolution carried.**

Submission Number	46	Submitted	Agent
		Mr Tom Hanlon, Cahernamadra, Kinvara, Co. Galway.	Councillor Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.
Issue		Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
Summary		Removal of high scenic amenity sensitivity ratings from lands at Cahernamadra, Kinvara, Tyrone, Kilcolgan and Cloosh, Kinvara.	
Response		All the areas are classified as being of a high sensitivity rating. Development taking place in such areas are restricted including those with substantiated cases. These ratings have been assessed in accordance with the ability of the landscape to accommodate change or intervention without suffering unacceptable effects to its character and values. The five sensitivity classes have been established to ensure that the environment and heritage generally are maintained in a sustainable manner, which at the same time enables a proactive approach to development. It is recommended that no change is made to the ratings of these areas in the best interest of maintaining the landscape and protecting view of amenity value.	
Recommendation		It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**



Submission Number 47	Submitted	Agent
	Mr John C Kelly, Tyrone, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway.	Councillor Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Removal of high scenic amenity sensitivity ratings from lands at Cahernamadra, Knivara, Tyron, Kilcolgan and Cloosh, Kinvara.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>All the areas are classified as being of a high sensitivity rating. Development taking place in such areas are restricted including those with substantiated cases. These ratings have been assessed in accordance with the ability of the landscape to accommodate change or intervention without suffering unacceptable effects to its character and values. The five sensitivity classes have been established to ensure that the environment and heritage generally are maintained in a sustainable manner, which at the same time enables a proactive approach to development. It is recommended that no change is made to the ratings of these areas in the best interest of maintaining the landscape and protecting view of amenity value.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. J.J. Mannion it was agreed that Section 3.1.7.6 as revised would apply.**

Submission Number 48	Submitted	Agent
	Mr Nicholas Cafferky, Cloosh, Kinvara, Co. Galway.	Councillor Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.
<b>Issue</b>	Landscape Assessment\Land Use Zoning.	
<b>Summary</b>	Removal of high scenic amenity sensitivity ratings from lands at Cahernamadra, Knivara, Tyron, Kilcolgan and Cloosh, Kinvara.	
<b>Response</b>	<p>All the areas are classified as being of a high sensitivity rating. Development taking place in such areas are restricted including those with substantiated cases. These ratings have been assessed in accordance with the ability of the landscape to accommodate change or intervention without suffering unacceptable effects to its character and values. The five sensitivity classes have been established to ensure that the environment and heritage generally are maintained in a sustainable manner, which at the same time enables a proactive approach to development. It is recommended that no change is made to the ratings of these areas in the best interest of maintaining the landscape and protecting view of amenity value.</p>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that an alteration to the plan is not needed.	

**On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fahy and seconded by Comh. P. O Foighil it was**