

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Átha an Rí

Municipal District of Athenry

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry held in Aras an Chontae on Tuesday 15th April 2025.

I LATHAIR:

BAILL: Cllr. P. Feeney (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. S. Broderick
Cllr. D. Collins
Cllr. T. Grealish
Cllr M. McNamara
Cllr C. Keane

OIFIGIGH: Mr. L. Hanrahan, DoS
Ms. R. Lowe,
Mr. S. Whelan, S.E.E.
Mr. P. Gavin, E.E.
Ms. M. Jordan, A.O.

AS LATHAIR: Cllr. J. Charity.

To consider and adopt the 2025 Annual Schedule of proposed Works of maintenance and repair to be carried out in the Athenry Municipal District.

AMD 42

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the meeting. He said that the only item on the agenda was the roads programme and invited Ms Lowe to provide an overview of the report to the Members.

Ms Lowe outlined the following

- Road's investment of €470m nationwide
- Galway County Council had been allocated €68.5m.
- €10m for national roads €305m for Active Travel Greenways National roads.
- The Galway to Dublin cycleway allocation details is outlined in the report.
- Regional and local roads funding is €43.6m which is an increase of €3.7m on last year. This increase relates to Grant funding of Regional and local roads.
- Restoration improvement programme funding is based on the length of roads in km. Extra funding to GCC first 20% goes to roads adjacent to Galway City.
- The Discretionary Grant is €5.7m.

- The Bridge Programme funding is allocated on a priority basis and is not proportionate to Municipal Districts. The budget for bridge repairs is for Clooncah and Pairc na hAbhainn in the Athenry MD area.
- There is an increase in safety measure funding of 22% and this will include works at Carnmore junction and lights.
- Safety improvements budget is €523,500 and the projects for Athenry MD area are at Carnmore Service Station and Carnmore junction.
- Drainage works total €1.2m and documentation in relation to this will circulate to members when finalised.
- Climate Adaption has €37,000 for Coolarne retaining wall.
- Local roads budget has increased to €5m.
- Active Travel funding is €2.7m and two of four schemes are in Athenry MD area. It includes the pedestrian crossing in Oranmore at old Limerick road.
- Safety Improvement Works – Ms Lowe has requested consent from the NTA to progress Active Travel at Bridge Street near the Post Office.
- The Safety scheme at Belville is progressing and staff are hoping to progress it further in the coming months following further consultations with the local landowners.

The Members thanked the Roads Team and made the following comments.

- There is a lack of funding for Claregalay - €1.2m for the N83 is no longer in the roads budget. Consultation took place with residents; pond has been built but no other funding available. Request an update from NTA re Claregalay funding.
- No progress on the park and ride.
- Number of complaints from motorists in relation to the works that were carried out at Derrydonnell Cross. The new layout is making turning at this junction difficult for road users. The removal of the slip road has made it difficult for trucks to turn. The design needs to be revisited by TII.
- General funding is lower than expected. Less than Mayo and Kerry when the funding from ring road is excluded.
- There is an issue with potential flooding for two houses near the Clarin river.
- Can community groups provide input in relation to safe routes to schools?

Ms Lowe responded to queries as follows.

- Funding for the National Roads has been reduced. There is an indication that funding will increase in 2026.
- In relation to Claregalway work will continue on the Part 8 and GCC will progress the project until funding available.
- In relation to funding prior commitments are being met in other local authorities first and TII is committed to delivering the Claregalway scheme.
- In relation to Derrydonnell the scheme was advertised for statutory process including newspaper and website. Members were made aware that works were carried out as there was an issue with collisions and GCC did works to slip lane additional stop signs etc. previously. The Council staff are listening to the comments and a road safety audit includes a number of audits. There is a

settling in period. Another audit will take place. Some extra signage will be put in place.

- In relation to extra funding for Athenry MDs it was agreed at Plenary meeting that any additional funding that comes in the middle of the year the first 20% will be given to roads adjacent to the city. Members can bring it to the plenary again if wish.
- An Taisce work with parents and the school staff on safe route to school projects. Further consultation when the design goes to planning. Ms Higgins on active travel team can provide further information on this. Round 3 GCC worked with TII. A meeting was held in last few days with schools on high-speed locations discussed. Consultants will engage with anyone who wants to make a submission.

Mr Whelan responded to queries as follows.


- Claregalway NS – GCC are wording with the NRPO re set down area but TII funding is required.
- In relation to Derrydonnell he said he has been out on request from a number of people to the new junction and layout is TII standard. The design in place encourages road users to slow down when taking the turn. There were a number of accidents when the slip line was in place.
- Areas in Ballyboggan in relation to flooding to be referred to him and he will examine. There is a hydrology study taking place at Ballyvaughan bridge and the Department are examining it and on receipt of details from the Members he will bring to the flood department.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr Collins **SECONDED** by Cllr Keane the Members **AGREED** to adopt the Annual Schedule of Proposed Works of Maintenance and Repair to be carried out in the Athenry Municipal District 2025.

The Members wished Ms Lowe well in her new appointment to Roscommon County Council and thanked her for her hard work and said that she will be a loss to Galway County Council. Mr Hanrahan concurred and said that she had done a lot of work in the area of housing projects, roads and for the MDs. He also commended her dedication during the recent storm. Ms Lowe thanked all for their kind wishes.

Criochnaigh an Crinniu Ansin

Approved by


Cathaoirleach

Date: 8/7/25

