

Galway County Council

Monthly Management Report

January 2021

HOUSING DIRECTORATE

MAINTENANCE REPORTING

The Housing Department have updated the Maintenance/Repair reporting systems over the last while and have created an online logging system **for all repairs:**

All Tenant requests can be logged directly or by Councillors through:

<u>https://gccapps.galwaycoco.ie/RepairRequest/</u> which can also be found on the "**Report It**" Page of <u>www.galway.ie</u>

As per the maintenance document – the servicing and maintenance of these items (and others) is the responsibility of the tenant, these items should be done annually. It is the tenant's responsibility to fix leaks etc.

Day to Day Maintenance is the tenant's responsibility. Replacement or planned upgrade is Galway County Councils responsibility.

A new Tenant's Handbook to explain the above and other tenant issues is being developed currently for approval of the SPC.

ESSENTIAL SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECTS - CONSTRUCTION SITES

The Housing Agency, under the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have confirmed that a small number of projects have been deemed essential due to the nature of the works being undertaken and the project nearing completion. Seven such schemes have been included for Galway County Council including Group Housing Schemes, Social Housing Construction and Turnkey developments. Works being undertaken by Council staff in Voids and other houses to return them to allocations may also continue.

INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE

ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME

The National Transport Authority has advised that €50m has been made available to it for the funding of walking and cycling routes in local authorities in 2021. The aim of the funding is to support the development of high-quality urban cycling and walking infrastructure outside of the major cities. The type of projects for consideration include new or improved access to town centres, schools or other destinations for walking and cycling, providing segregation

from motorised traffic, permeability schemes creating shortcut advantage for pedestrians and cyclists to key locations, improved access to public transport and so on. The next step in the process will be to submit an initial list of proposals with preliminary detail for discussion with the NTA in the first instance. It would be hoped that allocations under the programme will be made as early as possible in 2021.

N83 CARROWMUNNIAGH HILL

A tender has been awarded for road widening over a length of 450m on the N83 at Carrowmunniagh where traffic has been restricted to single lane. Commencement will be delayed temporarily due to current restrictions but will get underway as soon as possible.

GALWAY TO ATHLONE CYCLEWAY PROJECT - CONSULTATION ON ROUTE OPTIONS

Five potential route corridor options for the new Galway to Athlone Cycleway project are now available for viewing. The second phase of public consultation for the cycleway is underway until 1st March.

The Galway to Athlone Cycleway project will complete a 270km car-free corridor connecting Galway and Dublin. The project is being delivered by the Galway, Roscommon and Westmeath local authorities in partnership with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Department of Transport. Consultants RPS from Galway were appointed in 2020 to work with the project team in designing the new cycleway.

In compliance with public health restrictions, all information on the project, including maps of the proposed route corridor options, are available to view in the online virtual consultation room at <u>www.galwaytoathlonecycleway.com</u>. Members of the public may leave feedback or arrange telephone or online consultations with the project team by contacting (091) 509267 or <u>info@galwaytoathlonecycleway.com</u>. A separate briefing for elected representatives took place on 22nd January in advance of the public consultation.

The feedback received during the first consultation was very useful and we have identified route corridor options which link key attractions and amenities and use state owned land as far as possible. Where an option traverses privately owned land, we will engage and consult directly with the landowner over the coming months to determine the best route option and

minimise impact on holdings. The project team expects to recommend a preferred route corridor later this year. The identification of a preferred route corridor will be informed by the feedback received during this consultation and engineering and environmental assessments. This is the second of four periods of public consultation which will be undertaken before prior to the making of a planning application in due course.

PLANNING DIRECTORATE

<u>REVIEW TO RENEW - THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON IRELAND'S NATIONAL</u> <u>DEVELOPMENT PLAN (THE NDP)</u>

The Department for Public Expenditure and Reform has invited submissions to Review to Renew - the public consultation on Ireland's National Development Plan (the NDP).

The aim of this public consultation is to give an opportunity to interested stakeholders and the general public to contribute their views, experiences and expertise into Review to Renew so that the updated NDP can support economic, social, environmental and cultural development all across the country.

The Forward Planning and Policy Unit are currently preparing a submission in consultation with the other Directorates on behalf of Galway County Council. The views expressed by the members in terms of overall strategic projects at recent meetings have been taken on board and will be reflected in the submission. The closing date for receipt of submissions is Friday 29th January 2021.

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21st January 2021 Kevin Kelly, Chief Executive (Interim), Galway County Council.