

Board Direction BD-011924-23 ABP-310699-21

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at Board meetings held on 22/11/2022 and 16/03/2023.

The Board decided to refuse permission, generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

## Reasons and Considerations

On the basis of the documentation provided with the application and appeal and in the absence of certain information including, detail regarding the potential (if any) for habitat foraging loss and or fragmentation, impacts to habitat structure and disturbance, potential for mortality to species as a result of the development and details relating to the bore wells on site, including detail regarding the potential (if any) for contamination via groundwater, the Board cannot be satisfied that the development for which retention permission is sought and the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on the Galway Bay Complex Special Area of Conservation (site code: 000268) and the Inner Galway Bay Special Protection Area (site code: 004031) in view of the sites' conservation objectives, and thus cannot be satisfied that a Natura Impact Statement would not be required. In such circumstances the Board is precluded from granting planning permission.

**Board Member** 

Chris McGarry

Date: 16/03/2023