

Board Order ABP-314654-22

Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960

Housing Act, 1966

Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Galway City Council

Application received by An Bord Pleanála on the 16th day of September, 2022 from Galway City Council pursuant to section 76 of, and the Third Schedule to, the Housing Act, 1966 as extended by section 10 of the Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960 (as substituted by section 86 of the Housing Act, 1966), and the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022, for confirmation of a Compulsory Purchase Order authorising compulsory acquisition of lands and entitled BusConnects Galway: Cross-City Link (University Road to Dublin Road), Compulsory Purchase Order Number CCL-CPO-001, 2022.

Decision

CONFIRM the above Compulsory Purchase Order with modifications based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

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Reasons and Considerations

Having considered the objections made to the Compulsory Purchase Order, the report of the Inspector who considered the objections, the purpose of the Compulsory Purchase Order to facilitate the delivery of Galway BusConnects; sustainable public transport and active travel infrastructure, and also having regard to:

- (a) the constitutional and Convention protection afforded to property rights,
- (b) the substandard infrastructure provided for along the existing route,
- (c) the strategic nature of the scheme in the context of reducing carbon emission and climate change,
- (d) the community need, and public interest served and overall benefits, including benefits to a range of road users to be achieved from use of the acquired lands,
- (e) the proportionate design response to the identified need,
- (f) the suitability of the lands and the necessity of their acquisition to facilitate the provision of the BusConnects sustainable public transport and active travel scheme,
- (g) the policies and objectives of the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029,
- (h) the submissions made to the Board, and
- (i) the report and recommendation of the Inspector.

it is considered that the acquisition of these lands on a permanent and temporary basis, restriction, acquisition and interference of rights of way, by Galway City Council, as set out in the Compulsory Purchase Order and on the deposited maps, is necessary for the purpose stated, which is a legitimate objective being pursued in the public interest, and that the Compulsory Purchase Order and its effects on the property rights of affected landowners are proportionate to that objective and justified by the exigencies of the common good.

In reaching this conclusion, the Board agrees with and adopts the analysis contained in the report of the person who conducted the assessment of the objections and oral hearing and agrees to confirm the Compulsory Purchase Order with the omission of plot 126.a.101 from the Order.

Schedule

The Compulsory Purchase Order shall be modified as follows:

1. Plot 126.a.101 to be omitted from the Order.

Reason: The inclusion of plot 126.a.101 is disproportionate and not required to meet the needs of the proposed scheme.

Tom Rabbette

Member of An Bord Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Board.

Dated this / day o

2024

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