

An  
Bord  
Pleanála

## Board Order ABP-320230-24

**Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960**

**Housing Act, 1966**

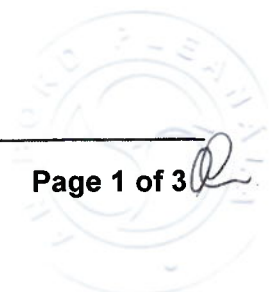
**Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2022**

**Applicant: Galway County Council**

**Application** received by An Bord Pleanála on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2024 from Galway County 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 **Galway County Council (Connemara Greenway Project – Clifden to Oughterard, County Galway) Compulsory Purchase Order Number 2 / 2024 (Physical Infrastructure)**.

### DECISION

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


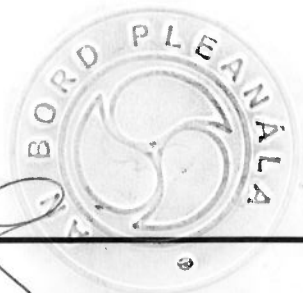


## REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Having considered the written objections made to the Compulsory Purchase Order, the submissions made at the oral hearing, the report and recommendation of the Inspector who conducted the oral hearing into the objections, and having regard to the following:

- (a) the constitutional and Convention protection afforded to property rights,
- (b) the purpose of the compulsory acquisition of lands entitled 'Galway County Council (Connemara Greenway Project – Clifden to Oughterard, County Galway) Compulsory Purchase Order Number 2 / 2024)',
- (c) the community need, public interest served and overall benefits that would be derived, particularly in terms of encouraging and facilitating active travel, promoting tourism and healthy living, enabling more sustainable forms of mobility on a cross-border basis, increasing cross-border commuting by cycling and walking, improving social cohesion, improving cyclist safety through the construction of a predominantly 'off-road' shared cycle / pedestrian network, and reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions,
- (d) the design of the proposed greenway that is proportionate to the identified need,
- (e) the policies and objectives of the Galway County Development Plan 2022 – 2028, which are not materially contravened,
- (f) the submissions and observations made at the oral hearing held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2024, and,
- (g) the report and recommendation of the Inspector,

it is considered that the compulsory acquisition of the lands comprising the Compulsory Purchase Order by Galway County Council and its effects on the property rights of affected landowners are proportionate and justified by the exigencies of the common good, necessary for completion of this section of the Connemara Greenway Scheme for the purpose stated in the Order, Schedule, and deposited maps, and that the objections cannot be sustained having regard to this necessity.

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

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025