

An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Commission Order
ACP-322956-25

Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960

Housing Act, 1966

Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended

Planning Authority: Galway County Council

Application received by An Coimisiún Pleanála on the 4th day of July, 2025 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 Act, 2000, as amended, for confirmation of a Compulsory Purchase Order authorising compulsory acquisition of lands and entitled **Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 - N59 Oughterard Footbridge - (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change)**.

Decision

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

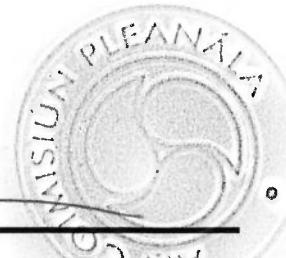
Reasons and Considerations

Having considered the objections made to the Compulsory Purchase Order, the report of the Inspector, the purpose of the Compulsory Purchase Order to facilitate a footbridge project and having regard to:

- (i) the Constitutional and Convention protection afforded to property rights,
- (ii) the need to provide safe, segregated pedestrian infrastructure traversing from the Carrowmanagh Road area to the town centre in Oughterard,
- (iii) the community need, public interest served and overall benefits to be achieved from the construction of a pedestrian route with a footbridge crossing providing safe, attractive and segregated passage for pedestrians over the Owenriff River,
- (iv) the chosen location, nature and scale of the works, which constitute a design response that is proportionate to the identified need, including the ancillary tree compensation area,
- (v) the suitability of the lands and the necessity of their acquisition to facilitate the provision of a footbridge,
- (vi) the provisions of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, encouraging enhancement of pedestrian infrastructure and a modal shift towards active travel, which the footbridge project would support the achievement of,

it is considered that, the acquisition of the subject lands at Fough West and Carrowmanagh townlands in Oughterard, County Galway, by Galway County Council, to facilitate the construction of a footbridge over the Owenriff River, including compensatory tree planting, as set out in the Compulsory Purchase Order and on the deposited maps, is necessary for the purposes 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.



Paul Caprani
Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún
Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Commission.

Dated this 5th day of February 2026