



OPTiM Financial Solutions

Business Solutions for the Hospitality Industry

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An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

March 6th 2014

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
Received: 7/3/14
Fee: €50
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AN BORD PLEANÁLA
TIME _____ BY *post*
07 MAR 2014
LTR-DATED _____ FROM *(signature)*
PL _____

Ref: 61.PA.0033

Dear Sirs,

We refer to the above planning application from Galway Harbour Company for the extension of Galway Port.

We wholeheartedly support this application and commend Galway Harbour Company on their vision in bringing this project to planning stage.

OPTiM Financial Solutions was established in 2007 to provide outsourced accounting and consultancy services primarily to the tourism and hospitality sectors. Prior to OPTiM's establishment, both directors had worked in the hospitality industry for more than 25 years. Since the early 1980s, we have had direct experience of the positive impact of various innovative projects in developing and improving the tourism infrastructure in different parts of Ireland and the UK. Our business is dependent on the tourism and hospitality sector and we see this proposed extension of Galway Port as essential for the continued development of the economy and tourism in particular in Galway City and the West of Ireland. We currently employ 4 people. The proposed extension of the port will have a direct positive impact on our clients in the hospitality sector which in turn will help our business to grow.

We also provide accounting services for Galway Sea Festival and see this port extension as a tremendous means of developing the marine tourism facilities in Galway which will allow Galway Sea Festival and similar marine-related events to develop and prosper in future years.

Director Michael O'Hare also chairs the Tourism & Sport Committee for Galway Chamber of Commerce and Industry which encompasses a wide range of tourism and sporting interests. The proposed port extension is seen by the committee as being hugely beneficial to the region in terms of employment creation, enhancement of the marine tourism infrastructure and general economic development of the region. The development of the marina and sailing facilities will bring greater numbers of visitors to Galway with increased spending power. This will directly impact our clients in the hotel and restaurant sector.

The proposed development will also greatly enhance Galway's ability to service the developing ocean energy presence off the west coast and allow Galway to further develop as a research centre of excellence which will benefit the country as a whole.



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In conclusion, we see this proposed development as extremely positive and look forward to its successful completion which will greatly boost the economy of Galway and our business in particular.

Yours faithfully,

Michael O'Hare

Michael O'Hare

Director

OFS Support Services Ltd

t/a OPTiM Financial Solutions

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07 MAR 2014	
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