An Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



Our Ref: SHD Bearna

An Bord Pleanála Reference: ABP-302216-18

03 September 2018

The Strategic Housing Unit, An Bord Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902

Via email: strategichousing@pleanala.ie

Re: Notification to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016; Planning and Development (Strategic Housing Development) Regulations 2017

Re: Proposed Strategic Housing Development in respect of the demolition of existing outbuildings and the construction of 197 No. new dwellings in addition to a multi- purpose community room, vehicular and pedestrian link bridges, parking, bicycle and bin storage areas, public realm landscaping as well as all associated site development works and services. Trusky East, Bearna Co. Galway

A chara

On behalf of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to correspondence received in relation to the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated heading.

Archaeology

Given the scale and location of the proposed development it is possible that subsurface archaeological remains could be encountered during the construction phases that involve ground disturbance.

With regard to national policy (Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage 1999, Section 3.6.2) it is the Department's recommendation that the following condition, to undertake an archaeological impact assessment, should be included in any grant of planning permission that may issue.



<u>Archaeological Impact Assessment should be compiled as follows</u>;

- The applicant is required to engage the services of a suitably qualified archaeologist to carry out an archaeological impact assessment of the development site.
- The archaeologist should carry out any relevant documentary research and inspect the site. A programme of test excavation should be carried out at locations chosen by the archaeologist and licensed under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004.
- Where archaeological material/features are shown to be present the archaeologist should consult with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht regarding further mitigation.
- Having completed the assessment the archaeologist should submit a written report to the Planning Authority and to the National Monuments Service. Preservation in situ, preservation by record (excavation) or monitoring may be required.

<u>Reason:</u> To ensure the continued preservation (either in situ or by record) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological interest.

You are requested to send further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) via *eReferral*, where used, or to manager.dau@chg.gov.ie; if emailing is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager
Development Applications Unit (DAU)
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Newtown Road
Wexford
Y35 AP90

Is mise, le meas

Diarmuid Buttimer
Development Applications Unit