



Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe Galway City Council

Halla na Cathrach
Bóthar an Choláiste
Gaillimh
H91 X4K8

City Hall
College Road
Galway
H91 X4K8

**An Bord Pleanála (Strategic Infrastructure Division),
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902**

ABP PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REF: ABP- 311682-21

**RE: Application under Section 51 of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, for approval of the
BUSCONNECTS GALWAY: CROSS-CITY LINK (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD)
SCHEME**

A Chara,

Galway City Council (GCC) is submitting the enclosed Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement for the BusConnects Galway: Cross City-Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme to An Bord Pleanála and is hereby applying for approval under Section 51 of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended, for the purposes of construction and operation of the BusConnects Galway: Cross City Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme for the purposes of facilitating public transport.

The BusConnects Galway: Cross-City Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme consists of the construction of bus, cycle and pedestrian infrastructure. The scheme has an overall length of approximately 6.7km, and is routed along the University Road, St. Vincent's Avenue, St. Francis Street, Eglinton Street, Eyre Square, Forster Street, College Road and Dublin Road and also encompasses numerous roads within the city centre including Fairgreen Road, Bothar Uí Eithir, Prospect Hill, Bothar na mBan, St. Brendan's Avenue, Headford Road, Dyke Road, Woodquay, Daly's Place, Merchants Road, Forthill Street, Queen Street and Dock Road, all in the County of Galway and within Galway City Council (GCC) administrative areas.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been prepared and compiled in accordance with the provisions of the Roads Act, 1993, as amended, and in accordance with Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 in respect of the proposed road development. A Natura Impact Statement has also been prepared in respect of the proposed road development.

I enclose 2 no. hard copies and 8 no. electronic copies on the enclosed USB flash drives of the following:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (including all Figures and Appendices) dated August 2022, comprising:
 - Volume 1 – Non-Technical Summary
 - Volume 2 – Main Chapters
 - Volume 3 – Figures
 - Volume 4 – Appendices

Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge / Correspondence in Irish is welcome

Seirbhísí Custaiméara / Customer Service (091) 536400
Rphost / Email customerservice@galwaycity.ie • Gréasán / Web www.galwaycity.ie

- The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) (including all Figures and Appendices) dated August 2022);
- The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (including all Figures and Appendices) dated August 2022. The associated AA Screening Determination reached by GCC is available at www.galwaycity.ie/busconnects-galway-cross-city-link
- An Irish language version of the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report;
- Confirmation Notice issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 1st September 2022 confirming that the required information has been entered onto the EIA Portal, Portal ID Number 2022166.

Supplementary Information:

- Map of the location of the proposed road development (Location Maps) to a scale of 1:2,500;
- Preliminary Design Report (including Appendices) dated August 2022;
- Options Assessment Report (including Appendices) dated August 2022;
- Public Consultation Report dated July 2021.
- Planning Report dated August 2022.
- Letters of consent from Landowners not included in the Compulsory Purchase Order.

All of the above documentation will also be accessible on Galway City Council's stand-alone dedicated website for the BusConnects Galway: Cross City-Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme, at www.CrossCityLinkGalway.ie, which will be live by the 16th September 2022.

Galway City Council will also send to An Bord Pleanála in due course:

- Newspaper Notices to be published pursuant to section 51(3)(a) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) in the Galway City Tribune and the Irish Independent (one or more newspapers circulating in the area, and
- All notices to be served on prescribed bodies (2 x hard copies and 8 x electronic copies).

Galway City Council wish to confirm that the application fee, Ref No. ABP – 311682-21 has been paid to An Bord Pleanála. I wish to advise An Bord Pleanála that a related compulsory purchase order namely 'BusConnects Galway: Cross City-Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order No. CCL-CPO-001, 2022' will be lodged in the next number of days.

Should you have any queries in relation to the enclosed documentation, please contact the undersigned.

Dated this 7th day of September 2022.

Mise, le meas,



 Brendan McGrath
 Chief Executive
 Galway City Council