

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

ABP PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REF: ABP-318886-24

**RE: Application under Section 51 of the Roads Act 1993, as amended, for the
approval of the
BUSCONNECTS GALWAY: DUBLIN ROAD DEVELOPMENT**

A Chara,

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

The BusConnects Galway: Dublin Road Development consists of the construction of Pedestrian, Cyclist and Public Transport infrastructure. The development has an overall length of 3.9km and the route runs along the Dublin Road within GCC's administrative area.

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

www.GalwayCity.ie

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**Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.**

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh,
H91 X4K8

City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8

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

- The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (including all Figures and Appendices) dated January 2025, comprising:
 - Volume 1 Non-Technical Summary (including An Irish Language version of the Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report),
 - Volume 2 Main Chapters
 - Volume 3 Figures
 - Volume 4 Appendices
- The Appropriate Assessment Screening & Natura Impact Assessment Report (including all Figures and Appendices), dated January 2025 and associated AA Screening Determination reached by GCC,
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report (including all Figures and Appendices) dated December 2024. The associated EIA Screening Determination reached by GCC is included and available at https://www.galwaycity.ie/services/active-travel/active-travel-services/bus-connects-galway-dublin-road/further-information#lgd-guides_title,
- Confirmation Notice issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 15th January 2025 confirming that the required information has been entered onto the EIA Portal, Portal ID Number 2025006.

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 January 2025,
- Application for Derogation Licence Under the European Communities, (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 – 2021 for Bats, associated Bat Survey Report and Derogation Licence DER-BAT-2025-33,

- Options Selection Report (including Appendices) dated July 2023,
- Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report (No. 1) dated September 2021,
- 2nd Non-Statutory Public Consultation Submissions Report dated March 2023,
- Planning Report dated January 2025.

All of the above documentation will also be accessible on Galway City Council's stand-alone dedicated website for the BusConnects Galway: Dublin Road Development, at www.bcgdublinroad.ie/ , which will be live by the 13th February 2025.

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

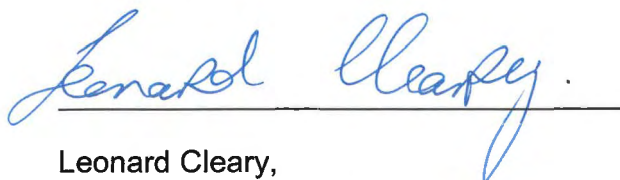
- Newspaper Notices to be published pursuant to section 51(3)(a) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) in the Galway City Tribune and the Irish Independent (one or more newspapers circulating in the area), and
- All notices to be served on prescribed bodies (2 No. hard copies and 8 No. electronic copies).

Galway City Council wish to confirm that the application fee, Ref. No. ABP-318886-24 has been paid to An Bord Pleanála. We wish to advise An Bord Pleanála that a related compulsory purchase order namely 'BusConnects Galway: Dublin Road Development Compulsory Purchase Order No. BCGDR-CPO-001-2025 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 the 27th day of January 2025.

Mise, le meas,



Leonard Cleary,

Chief Executive,

Galway City Council