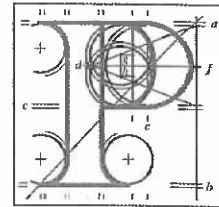


Our Case Number: ABP-314597-22



An
Bord
Pleanála

Northern & Western Regional Assembly
The Square
Ballaghaderreen
Co. Roscommon

Date: 29 November 2022

Re: BusConnects Galway Cross-City Link Scheme.
University Road to Dublin Road, Galway City.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

The Board has also received an application for confirmation of a compulsory purchase order which relates to this proposed road development. The Board has absolute discretion to hold an oral hearing in respect of any application before it, in accordance with section 218 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Accordingly, the Board will inform you in due course on this matter. The Board shall also make a decision on both applications at the same time.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

HA02A

Tel (01) 858 8100
Glao Áitiúil LoCall 1890 275 175
Facs Fax (01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin Website www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost Email bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde 64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1 Dublin 1
D01 V902 D01 V902



Northern & Western Regional Assembly

www.nwra.ie

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

16 November 2022

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	_____
ABP-	_____
18 NOV 2022	
Fee: €	Type: _____
Time: _____	By: <u>post</u>

RE: BUSCONNECTS GALWAY: CROSS-CITY LINKS (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD) SCHEME (ABP Ref: KA61.314654).

A Chara,

I refer to notification dated 13 September 2022, received from Galway City Council, informing the Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA) that it has applied under Section 51(2) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) to An Bord Pleanála for approval for the abovementioned development.

The NWRA published the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Northern and Western Region 2020-2032 (RSES) in January 2020, which is available on the NWRA website www.nwra.ie/rses.

The NWRA would advise that this proposal is supported by the RSES through Regional Planning Objective (RPO) 3.6.7.

RPO 3.6.7 supports the delivery of the following infrastructure projects to develop the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) for Galway:

- Galway City Ring Road
- Galway Transport Strategy.

In addition, of direct relevance to this proposal is Section 6.3 of the RSES titled Transport Investment Priorities - Bus Network.

In view of the foregoing, it is considered that the proposed development is consistent with regional planning objectives as set out within the RSES.

I trust that the above is of assistance and in the event that An Bord Pleanála should require any further input in respect of this matter, then do not hesitate to revert.

Le meas,

David Minton
Director

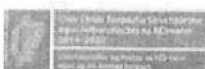
Northern & Western Regional Assembly
The Square, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon

Tionól Réigiúnach an Tuaiscirt agus an Iarthair
An Chearnóg, Béalach an Doirín, Co. Ros Comáin

+353 (0)94 9862970

+353 (0)94 9862973

info@nwra.ie



An tAontas Eorpach
Ciste Forbartha
Réigiúnach na hEorpa



Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

Halla na Cathrach
Bóthar an Choláiste
Gaillimh
H91 X4K8

City Hall
College Road
Galway
H91 X4K8

**PRESCRIBED FORM OF NOTICE TO BE SERVED ON BODIES OR PERSONS REFERRED TO IN
SECTION 51(3)(b) OF THE ROADS ACT 1993 (AS AMENDED)**

GALWAY CITY COUNCIL

BUSCONNECTS GALWAY: CROSS-CITY LINK (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD) SCHEME

To:
Northern and Western Regional Assembly
The Square
Ballaghaderreen
Co Roscommon
F45 W674

being a prescribed body for the purposes of section 51 of the Roads Act, 1993.

Galway City Council (GCC) has applied under Section 51(2) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) to An Bord Pleanála ('the Board') for approval in relation to a proposed road development consisting of the construction of the BusConnects Galway: Cross City-Link (University Road to Dublin Road) ('Proposed Scheme') together with all ancillary and consequential works associated therewith for the purpose of facilitating public transport. The Proposed 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 the Galway City Council (GCC) administrative areas.

GCC has submitted to the Board the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared in accordance with Section 50 of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) and Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment 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 (NIS) has also been prepared and has been submitted to the Board in respect of the proposed road development under Part XAB of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

An electronic copy of the EIAR and NIS is enclosed within the USB supplied with this notice.

Fáiltear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge / Correspondence in Irish is welcome

Seirbhísí Custaiméara / Customer Service (091) 538400
Rphost / Email customerservice@galwaycity.ie • Gréasán / Web www.galwaycity.ie

Submissions may be made in writing to the Board at **An Bord Pleanála (Strategic Infrastructure Division), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902** between Wednesday 21st September and Friday 18th November 2022 in relation to:

- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed road development;
- the implications of the proposed road development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area in which it is proposed to situate the proposed road development; and
- the likely significant effects of the proposed road development on a European site.

Before making its decision on the application for approval, the Board must consider the EIAR, any written submissions made to it and not withdrawn and, where an oral hearing is held, the report and any recommendations of the inspector holding the oral hearing where evidence was given in relation to the likely effects on the environment of the proposal. Public notice of any oral hearing will be given at a later date.

Further information may be obtained from:

www.CrossCityLinkGalway.ie

If you require any additional information please contact:

Mr. Colm Ó Ríordáin,
Senior Executive Engineer
Galway City Council,
City Hall,
College Road,
Galway, H91 X4K8
Tel: +353 (0) 91 894332
Email: colm.oriordan@galwaycity.ie

A hard copy of the EIAR and/or the NIS can be provided upon request if there are any difficulties with the enclosed soft copies.

Dated 13th September 2022

Mise, le meas,


Brendan McGrath,
Chief Executive,
Galway City Council