



AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	<u>010975-18</u>
ABP-	
19 DEC 2018	
Fee: €	<u>50</u> Type: <u>Pmo</u>
Time:	<u>—</u> By: <u>Ex Post</u>

An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1

IDA Ireland,
West Region Office,
Mervue Business & Technology Park,
Galway City

13th December 2018

Re: N6 Galway City Ring Road Motorway Scheme 2018 and Protected Road Scheme 2018
Case reference: PL07 .302885

To Whom It May Concern,

In January 2015 IDA published its organisational strategy “Winning, FDI 2015-2019” as approved by Government, with ambitious employment (80,000 new jobs) and investment targets (900) to be achieved. A key component of the strategy is IDA’s strong commitment to regional development with targets to deliver an uplift in FDI investments of 30-40% into Regional locations outside of Dublin. In this context it is anticipated that Galway has, and will continue to be, a successful location for mobile FDI investment. In order to ensure the future competitiveness of any Regional location it is critical to have a functioning ecosystem including sustainable integrated transport systems & networks as IDA Ireland competes in an ever increasing competitive global market environment to win FDI investment for Ireland.

The FDI sector has been a key contributor to Ireland’s economic performance over the past number of years and has had an important impact on the economy throughout the downturn. It has provided critical support to Ireland’s GDP, employment base and Government Revenue. The impact of this success is tangible with one in five private sector jobs now supported by IDA client companies, directly and indirectly. In 2017, IDA recorded the highest level of employment across the FDI client base in its almost 70 year history, with employment recorded at 210,433 people.

In this regard especially in relation to talent, an attractive urban centre such as Galway with a critical mass of population is well positioned to compete for and win mobile FDI investments. However, Traffic in Galway City at peak times severely affects the entire City with resulting localised traffic gridlock, specifically in the Parkmore area. The traffic situation is severely affecting IDA’s ability to market Ireland, the West Region and Galway City specifically which is having a negative impact on the current activities & potential immediate expansions & future investment of existing and possible new name FDI clients into the locality.

A modern transport infrastructure is key to sustainable FDI investment and IDA welcomes all elements of the N6 Galway City Transport Project to achieve an integrated sustainable transport ecosystem to ensure that the West Region, with Galway City as the key centre of scale for economic growth can continue to build on the success of existing and compete for future potential mobile FDI investment.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Blewitt,
Regional Manager,
West Region,
IDA Ireland