

Our Case Number: ABP-318220-23



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Marian Rabbitte
Coolough
Menlo
Galway

Date: 31 July 2025

Re: N6 Galway City Ring Road
Galway.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned proposed road development. The contents of your letter have been noted.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

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

Yours faithfully,

Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

HA06

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Marian Rabbitte
Coolough
Menlo
Galway

25 July 2025

An Coimisiun Pleanala
64 Marlborough Street
Rotunda
Dublin 1
DO1 V902

**Re: N6 Galway City Ring Road Amended Application/
Report in response to request for further information
Case Reference # 302885-18/MA07.318217**

Dear Sirs:

With respect to the comprehensive report in response to the request for further information from An Bord Pleanala that was submitted by Galway City Council, along with Galway County Council and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, regarding the proposed N6 Galway Ring Road, please note the following:

It appears that the [updated] Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Appropriate Assessment Screening Report fail to mention the continuous, currently ongoing, construction/clearing being carried out in the former Lackagh Quarry site located in Coolough, Galway. Notwithstanding site excavation, numerous blasts have been conducted in the vicinity of the quarry in relatively recent times. Considering this quarry is earmarked to be tunnelled through as part of the N6 Galway Ring Road project, it would seem obvious that its structure may well have been compromised. Are Galway City Council even aware of the construction that is taking place in this quarry? I see no planning permission notices posted anywhere and can only surmise that this construction is most probably unauthorized. It seems to me that this location must be reevaluated prior to any further consideration being given to its future use.

The mitigation measures proposed so that this project “will not adversely affect (either directly or indirectly) the integrity of any European site” are simply that – i.e. proposed. There are no guarantees here and even *Scott Cawley Ltd.* can’t predict every outcome. Menlo Castle, a noted local historical landmark, will never look the same again and may very well be damaged, should this project proceed. It is a shame that when so many European cities are striving to retain their historical integrity that Galway City Council are eager to sacrifice Galway’s.

Alternative, eco-friendly, logical options have been proposed, such as light rail, so there is an answer to Galway's traffic problems aside from this new road. Right now, more public buses would help ease the traffic congestion. A simple measure that could be implemented overnight. Yet this simple measure is not being implemented.

I sincerely hope that An Coimisiun Pleanála take a look at the whole picture here and do the right thing by the people of Galway City. Planning for the future now, especially at a time when the population is growing at such a rapid pace, is paramount at this juncture. Fast forward – 10, 20, 30 years – cars and car insurance will be much more expensive and out of reach for many. Mass transit will be the transportation choice for most (particularly with the Irish climate). Thus, leaving the roads a lot less congested for the fortunate few who may have the luxury of driving a car.

Let's leave the historical sites untouched. Let's leave the wild life to live in peace. Let's preserve what we have for now. Once it's gone, it's gone!

Thank you.