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Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

LDG- _____

ACP- _____

02 OCT 2025

Fee: € _____ Type: _____

Time: 9:15 By: *Seán Óg* *DS*

An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 1 - [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EcIA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9.

The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EcIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

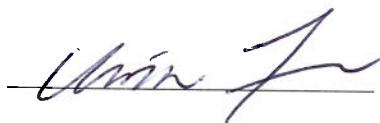
The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

2. Access Gate on the Boundary Wall Between Carrowmanagh Park and the Riverside Walk along the Owenriff River.

Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

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30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 2 – [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EcIA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9.

The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EcIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

2. Access Gate on the Boundary Wall Between Carrowmanagh Park and the Riverside Walk along the Owenriff River.

Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

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Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 3 - [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: *While I have no objection to the footbridge, I do object to the excessive number of trees to be planted on the open green area of Carrowmanagh Park, and where they are to be planted. In my opinion, they would swallow up the entire play area used by resident for over 20 years and make it a danger for residents driving in and out as the view of children would be obstructed, increasing chances of a horrible accident happening.*

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on. The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the

Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *I am in favour of some tree planting, but it should be done closer to the boundary walls*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EcIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

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Re: Submission 4 - [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EcIA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9. The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EcIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

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Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

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Re: Submission 5 - [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EclA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9.

The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

2. Access Gate on the Boundary Wall Between Carrowmanagh Park and the Riverside Walk along the Owenriff River.

Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

Is mise, le meas



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30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 6 – [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the above named and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EclA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9. The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

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Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

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30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 7 – [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

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Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EcIA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9.

The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EcIA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

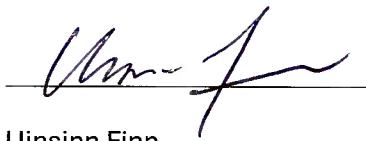
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Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

Is mise, le meas



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30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 8 – [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

Statement: *Although it may be desirable and convenient for Galway Co. Co. to plant trees as close to the felled ones as possible, there is no legal obligation to plant new trees within a certain distance of felled trees, and the required minimum distance between felled trees and new trees is not defined in the planning application.*

Response: The ecological reasoning for the chosen location of the replacement trees has been set out in the NIS and EclA reports. The proposed tree planting is one of the mitigation measures set out in the NIS so as to prevent any significant impact on Lough Corrib SAC or any other Natura 2000 site which is a legal requirement under the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). The proposed planting is in line with Galway County Development plan 2022-2028, specifically Policy Objectives NHB 4, NHB 5, NHB 7 and NHB 9.

The minimum distance for habitat replacement is site-specific given the habitats present and the species present. The reasoning for the proposed planting is set out in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and the Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

Response: The proposed trees have been spaced an appropriate distance from the boundary walls, roads etc. so that no structural damage is caused. See NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

Statement: *Most of the trees that are planned to be felled are on the south bank of the Owenriff River, the green area of Carrowmanagh Park is on the north bank. Surely it makes sense to plant new trees on the same side of the river as the felled trees? Compensatory planting at other locations along the Owenriff riverbank, and in other areas of Oughterard should be investigated.*

Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

replacement planting. However, there are large stands of the Third Schedule of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 - the invasive species Japanese Knotweed, present in the area which makes the area unsuitable as it would take approximately 3 to 4 years at a minimum to eradicate them. Refer to Section 5.2 (page 36 - 43) and Section 7.1.1.7 (page 67) of the NIS.

The reasoning the location of the compensatory planting for the chosen location is provided in the NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21) and EclA (Section 2.8 Landscape Design).

2. Access Gate on the Boundary Wall Between Carrowmanagh Park and the Riverside Walk along the Owenriff River.

Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

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30th September 2025

Case Reference: ACP-322956-25: Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 – N59 Oughterard Footbridge – (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change).

Re: Submission 9 – [REDACTED]

A Dhuine Uaisle

Galway County Council acknowledges the submission from the abovenamed and responds as follows:

1. Tree Planting in Carrowmanagh Park

Statement: Excessive number of trees (forty) to be planted" This "will take a large portion of the open amenity space which has been part of the estate since its creation in the year 2000"

Response: Thirty-six trees are proposed to be planted in Carrowmanagh Park as stated on page 66 of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS). 0.138 hectares (1,380m²) of the open amenity space will be retained as shown in the Landscape Site Plan, NIS (Section 2.8 Landscape Design on page 21, and Figure 2.6 – Proposed Development Landscape Plan, and Figure 2.6 – Carrowmanagh Park Offsite Tree Planting Landscape Plan). It should also be noted that there is a green area to the east of the Carrowmanagh apartments which will not be planted on.

Statement: Will cause road safety and visibility issues for motorists driving into the estate

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Response: The trees proposed for the planting are heavy standard (approx. 4m tall). An Arboricultural Assessment of the Site Area at N59, Oughterard Footbridge, Co. Galway provides a Method Statement /Tree Protection Plan. A Tree Maintenance Plan will be also developed during detailed design so that the trees do not provide a safety issue within the estate, with their canopies maintained to provide visibility through the proposed areas of tree planting.

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Statement: *Planting a large number of trees close to the boundary wall between Carrowmanagh Park and the Owenriff Riverwalk has the potential to cause further damage and instability to the boundary wall.*

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Response: Other locations in Oughterard were considered, including lands belonging to Galway County Council on Station Road, Oughterard. However, this was deemed unsuitable for the conservation required for the bat population. Locations on the southern bank of the river were also considered for the

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2. Access Gate on the Boundary Wall Between Carrowmanagh Park and the Riverside Walk along the Owenriff River.

Statements: *Young children playing on the open green area would be attracted to the gate and gain access to the riverwalk and the associated danger of the fast-moving Owenriff River. Addition of an access gate on the boundary wall has the potential to create a shortcut through Carrowmanagh Park by children using national and secondary schools, which in turn could create an unacceptable and unnecessary hazard.*

Response: Galway County Council can confirm that the proposed gate is strictly for use by Uisce Éireann (UÉ) or Galway County Council (GCC) only. It will be permanently locked apart from this usage, and key holders will be either GCC or UÉ. It will be non-climbable and there will be no access for walkers between the Owenriff riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park. The proposed gate will be of similar height to the existing wall and will be fitted with anti-climbing mesh on both the Riverside walk and Carrowmanagh Park faces, as a deterrent against climbing the gate from either direction. There will be no more risk to children going to and from school than there is with the boundary wall currently.

Is mise, le meas



Uinsinn Finn

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Galway County Council