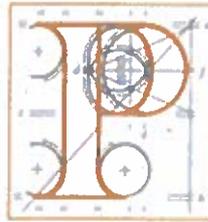
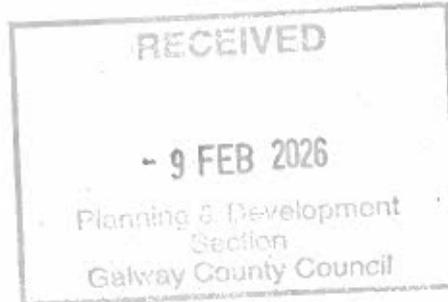


**Our Case Number:** ACP-322956-25



**An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála**

Galway County Council  
c/o Sean Devaney  
Áras an Chontae  
Prospect Hill  
Co. Galway



**Date:** 06 FEB 2026

**Re:** Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 - N59 Oughterard Footbridge -  
(Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change)  
In the townlands of Cregg, Carrowmanagh and Fough West, Oughterard, County Galway

Dear Sir / Madam,

An order has been made by An Coimisiún Pleanála determining the above mentioned case. A copy of the order is enclosed.

Please be advised that under section 217(5) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, a notice of the making of a confirmation order should be published or served as the case may be in accordance with section 78(1) of the Housing Act, 1966 within 12 weeks of the making of the order.

In accordance with section 146(5) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Commission will make available for inspection and purchase at its offices the documents relating to the decision within 3 working days following its decision. In addition, the Commission will also make available the Inspector's Report and the Direction on the decision on its website ([www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)). This information is normally made available on the list of decided cases on the website on the Wednesday following the week in which the decision is made.

Overleaf contains information in relation to challenges to the validity of a decision of An Coimisiún Pleanála under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

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

<b>Teil</b>	<b>Tel</b>	(01) 858 8100
<b>Glaó Áitiúil</b>	<b>LoCall</b>	1800 275 175
<b>Facs</b>	<b>Fax</b>	(01) 872 2684
<b>Láithreán Gréasáin</b>	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
<b>Ríomhphost</b>	<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:communications@pleanala.ie">communications@pleanala.ie</a>

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

Yours faithfully,

*Lauren Griffin*

Lauren Griffin  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737244

CH23

01-8737244

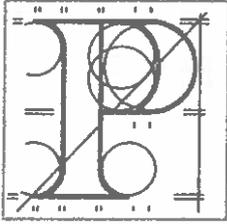
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Dublin 1  
D01 V902



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

**Commission Order  
ACP-322956-25**

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**Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960**

**Housing Act, 1966**

**Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended**

**Planning Authority: Galway County Council**

**Application** received by An Coimisiún Pleanála on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025 from Galway County Council pursuant to section 76 of, and the Third Schedule to, the Housing Act, 1966 as extended by section 10 of the Local Government (No. 2) Act, 1960 (as substituted by section 86 of the Housing Act, 1966) and the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, for confirmation of a Compulsory Purchase Order authorising compulsory acquisition of lands and entitled **Galway County Council Compulsory Purchase Order No. 3/2025 - N59 Oughterard Footbridge - (Physical Infrastructure, Fire and Emergency Services and Climate Change)**.

### **Decision**

**CONFIRM** the Compulsory Purchase Order based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

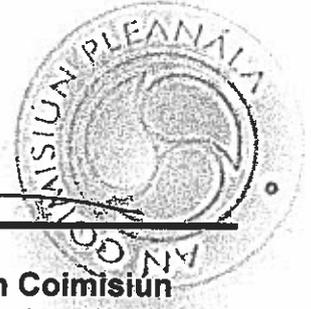
## Reasons and Considerations

Having considered the objections made to the Compulsory Purchase Order, the report of the Inspector, the purpose of the Compulsory Purchase Order to facilitate a footbridge project and having regard to:

- (i) the Constitutional and Convention protection afforded to property rights,
- (ii) the need to provide safe, segregated pedestrian infrastructure traversing from the Carrowmanagh Road area to the town centre in Oughterard,
- (iii) the community need, public interest served and overall benefits to be achieved from the construction of a pedestrian route with a footbridge crossing providing safe, attractive and segregated passage for pedestrians over the Owenriff River,
- (iv) the chosen location, nature and scale of the works, which constitute a design response that is proportionate to the identified need, including the ancillary tree compensation area,
- (v) the suitability of the lands and the necessity of their acquisition to facilitate the provision of a footbridge,
- (vi) the provisions of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, encouraging enhancement of pedestrian infrastructure and a modal shift towards active travel, which the footbridge project would support the achievement of,

it is considered that, the acquisition of the subject lands at Fough West and Carrowmanagh townlands in Oughterard, County Galway, by Galway County Council, to facilitate the construction of a footbridge over the Owenriff River, including compensatory tree planting, as set out in the Compulsory Purchase Order and on the deposited maps, is necessary for the purposes stated, which is a legitimate objective being pursued in the public interest, and that the Compulsory

Purchase Order and its effects on the property rights of affected landowners are proportionate to that objective and justified by the exigencies of the common good.



**Paul Caprani**  
**Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún**  
**Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate**  
**the seal of the Commission.**

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026





### Judicial Review Notice

Judicial review of An Coimisiún Pleanála decisions under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

A person wishing to challenge the validity of a Commission decision may do so by way of judicial review only. Sections 50, 50A and 50B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, contain provisions in relation to challenges to the validity of a decision of the Commission.

The validity of a decision taken by the Commission may only be questioned by making an application for judicial review under Order 84 of The Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986). Sub-section 50(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 requires that any application for leave to apply for judicial review must be made within 8 weeks of the decision of the Commission, save for decisions made pursuant to a function transferred to the Commission under Part XIV of the Planning and Development Act 2000, where any application for to apply for judicial review must, as set out in sub-section 50(7), be made within 8 weeks beginning on the date on which notice of the decision of the Commission was first sent (or as may be the requirement under the relevant enactment, functions under which are transferred to the Commission, was first published). These time periods are subject to any extension which may be allowed by the High Court in accordance with sub-section 50(8).

Section 50A(3) states that leave for judicial review shall not be granted unless the Court is satisfied that (a) there are substantial grounds for contending that the decision is invalid or ought to be quashed and (b) that the applicant has a sufficient interest in the matter which is the subject of the application or in cases involving environmental impact assessment is a body complying with specified criteria.

Section 50B contains provisions in relation to the costs of certain judicial review proceedings in the High Court; pursuant to Section 50B(1), Section 50B applies to the following proceedings:

- (a) proceedings in the High Court by way of judicial review, or of seeking leave to apply for judicial review, of –
  - (i) any decision or purported decision made or purportedly made,
  - (ii) any action taken or purportedly taken,
  - (iii) any failure to take any action, pursuant to a statutory provision that gives effect to
    - I. a provision of the EIA Directive 85/337/EEC as amended to which Article 10a (as inserted by Directive 2003/35/EC) of that Directive applies,
    - II. the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC, or
    - III. a provision of the IPPC Directive 2008/1/EC to which Article 16 of that Directive applies, or
    - IV. Article 6(3) or 6(4) of the Habitats Directive; or
- (b) an appeal (including an appeal by way of case stated) to the Supreme Court from a decision of the High Court in a proceeding referred to in paragraph (a) or (b);
- (c) proceedings in the High Court or the Supreme Court for interim or interlocutory relief in relation to a proceeding referred to in paragraph (a) or (b).

The general provision contained in section 50B(2) is that in proceedings to which the section applies each party shall bear its own costs. The Court however may award costs against any party in specific circumstances. There is also provision for the Court to award costs of proceedings or a portion of such costs to an applicant, to the extent that the applicant succeeds in obtaining relief, against a respondent or notice party, or both, to the extent that the action or omission of the respondent or notice party contributed to the relief being obtained.

General information on judicial review procedures is contained on [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

Disclaimer: The above is intended for information purposes. It does not purport to be a legally binding interpretation of the relevant provisions and it would be advisable for persons contemplating legal action to seek legal advice.