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Do Thag/Your Ref:

3rd January 2019

To: The Chairman and Each Member of the Planning Strategic Policy Committee

A Chara,

I wish to advise that a Strategic Policy Committee meeting will take place on **Tuesday, 8th January 2019 at 9.30am** in the Council Chamber, City Hall, College Road, Galway.

The agenda for the meeting is set out below and I am to request your attendance.

Is mise le meas,

Ruth McNally,
Director of Services,
Transportation, Planning & Physical Development.

Agenda

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held 4th December 2018
2. Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy (RSES)
3. Galway Harbour - update
4. Headford Road - update
5. AOB

Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge / Correspondence in the Irish Language is welcomed

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|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Fáilteú/Reception | (091) 536400 | Maoir Pobail/Community Wardens | 536520 | Tithíocht Ghinearálta/Housing General | 536825 | Pleanáil/Planning | 536599 |
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**Minutes of Meeting of Planning Strategic Policy Committee
held on 4th December 2018 in Galway City Council, City Hall, College Road, Galway.**

- Presiding:** Cllr Ollie Crowe
- Present:** Cllr Donal Lyons
Cllr Billy Cameron
Cllr Cathal O'Conchuir
Cllr Peter Keane
Mr Derrick Hambleton (Community Representative)
Mr Shane Foran (Community Representative)
Ms Nuala Nolan (Community Representative)
- In Attendance:** Ms Ruth McNally, Director of Services
Ms Helen Coleman, Senior Executive Planner
Ms Norann Keane, Senior Staff Officer
Ms Diane Egan, Executive Planner
Ms Patrice Keane, A/Assistant Staff Officer
- Apologises:** Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty
- Absent:** Mayor Niall McNelis
Cllr Pearce Flannery
Mr. John Mannion (Community Representative)
Ms Caroline Phelan, Senior Planner
Mr Liam Blake, Senior Executive Planner

1. Minutes & Matters Arising

The adoption of the minutes of the 4th September 2018 was proposed by Cllr Donal Lyons. Mr. D. Hambleton raised a matter of accuracy and requested that the question he raised at the previous meeting in relation to due diligence at the Harbour be recorded in the minutes. The members advised the meeting that they were unhappy with the lack of information provided with regard to the appointment of new CEO at the Harbour Company. Clarification was sought in relation to the transfer of lands to the local authority and if pensions of former members of the Harbour Company would now transfer to the local authority etc. The members requested that Ms. Ruth McNally DOS raise the matter with the chief executive and a detailed report be made available. The DOS advised that she will raise the matter with the Chief executive at the next Senior Management Team meeting. The minutes were then seconded by Cllr. B. Cameron and adopted subject to the changes outlined.

2. Application details & update on Urban Regeneration & Development Fund

Ms. Helen Coleman gave an overview of the handout circulated in relation to the 8 applications submitted by Galway City Council for funding and advised that there will be an opportunity to apply again next year for the two projects which were not approved for funding this time around. The members welcomed the funding and the acknowledgement that the Martin Roundabout was not suitable for walking/cycling and requested that a copy of the application details be made available to them. Members were advised that the documents may not be public documents and were very significant sizes. They also sought clarity in relation to prioritising the transportation flow at the Salmon Weir Bridge, the proposed timescale for the

development of Ardaun and the financial contribution of developers towards the provision of transportation access. Members were advised on ongoing work between the Planning & Transportation in progressing the Ardaun transportation objectives and that significant input was given from Uinsinn Finn & Ms. Eithne Murphy, Transportation Department in relation to the Martin roundabout and Ardaun Link road. The Ardaun LAP sets out an implementation and monitoring schedule. There is no set timeframe for the proposed development of Ardaun and a review is carried out every quarter and submitted to the department. Development contribution transportation charges are dealt with in the Development Contribution Scheme and clarification would be sought with regard to making the applications submitted for URDF available to the SPC members.

3. Headford Road - Update

Ms. H. Coleman began her update on the Headford Road by stating that funding was applied for under the URDF (as above) to prepare a LAP and although it was unsuccessful this year, an application for funding could again be made in 2019. She advised that the LAP lands had been listed in the National Planning Framework as a regeneration site and that the new Land Development Agency had expressed interest in possible redevelopment of the council owned site. Members were concerned at the news that the LDA may be taking over since a team of consultants had already been put together in relation to these lands. It was also stated that the LDA have no legislative footing at this time. Members were critical that it is 2 years on and no plans were in place for the redevelopment of the lands. Members also questioned if the vision for the Dyke Rd. had now changed to housing, as the LDA are a housing focused body and it was unacceptable of the Chief Executive to announce a plan for the Headford Road and then change direction and also that the proximity of the site to the City Centre and NUIG campus needed consideration. Ms. H. Coleman responded that the objective of the LDA is opening up largescale land banks, not solely housing. It was requested by the members that the DOS provide a report on the Headford Road to the members at the next meeting.

4. RSES – Draft for consultation due 8th February 2019

The Draft for consultation until 8th February 2019 was made available to members at the meeting and the matter will be included for discussion in the future.

5. Vacant Sites Register – Update

An update on the Vacant Site Levy was provided to the meeting by Ms Diane Egan, Executive Planner. Members were advised that the vacant site levy is an activation measure aimed at encouraging land owners in urban areas to develop residential or regeneration land primarily for the purpose of housing. 86 sites city wide are being assessed and it is proposed to proceed with the examination of the first 10 sites for consideration for adding to the register. Landowners on receipt of notification of intention to include a site on the vacant sites register will have an opportunity to make submissions and appeal the valuation to the valuation tribunal and also on receipt of a demand for payment of the levy may appeal to An Bord Pleanála. Queries were raised by members with regard to availability of list for their input, appeal process, how quickly the PA would actually levy and follow up and also clarity was sought with regard to the difference between the derelict site and vacant site levy. Members were advised that once on the register, information is public. The DOS advised members with regard to the differences between the derelict site and vacant site levies and further information regarding the differences would be made available to members.

6. Proposed variation to CDP

A handout was circulated to members which gave a summary of the proposal to initiate a process to consider a variation of Galway City Development Plan 2017-2023. Ms Helen Coleman made reference to the resolution passed at the council meeting on 12th November 2018 to initiate a process to consider a variation of the Plan in relation to rezoning to allow consideration of the development of a supermarket on lands at Ballybrit (adjacent to the old Monivea Road). Reference was made to the clarity of who could bring forward a notice of motion and needs formal resolution. It's was clarified that a resolution needed ¾ of members. Helen Colman clarified the timescale for submission of the report to the Council was 4 weeks.

7. Public Realm Strategy – project program and update

The meeting was advised that consultants have been appointed and a cross departmental steering group set up. Consultation will be ongoing throughout the Strategy's development. To commence the consultation process, a pop up consultation event was organised to hear views on Galway city centre's streets and public spaces at the Galway Continental Christmas Market on Friday 30th November and Saturday 1st December.

Further consultation will take place in February 2019 to inform the preparation of the Strategy. This will involve a workshop and walking audit of the city and consultation with Elected Members / SPC members and stakeholders. This is a 6 month project and consultation will also take place after the Draft Public Realm Strategy is prepared. Members were advised that there was good feedback from the event held with various issues raised.-

8. A.O.B

An additional meeting was to be scheduled for Tuesday 8th January 2019.

This concluded the business of the meeting