

Strategic Environmental Assessment Statement Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022-2028

Prepared under the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004. (S.I. 436/2004) and (S.I. 200/2011)

July 2022

This report has been prepared by Minogue Environmental Consulting Ltd with all reasonable skill, care and diligence. Information report herein is based on the interpretation of data collected and has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is prepared for Galway County Council and we accept no responsibility to third parties to whom this report, or any part thereof, is made known. Any such party relies on the report at their own risk.

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1 Introduction

Galway County Council has adopted the Ballinalsoe Local Area Plan 2022 -2028 (LAP) on the 25 May 2022 at the Municipal District Meeting. The main purpose of the SEA Statement is to provide information on the decision-making process. To document how environmental considerations, the views of statutory consultees and other submissions and the recommendations of the SEA Environmental Report have been taken into account in the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022 -2028, as well as the monitoring arrangements. The plan was also screened for likely significant effects on European Sites listed in the EU Habitats Directive and a Natura Impact Report accompanied the preparation of the plan.

This SEA Statement includes the following information:

- Summary of how environmental considerations have been integrated into the strategy (Section Two)
- Summary of how submissions received during consultation have been taken into account in the strategy (Section Three);
- Reasons for choosing the recommended development scenario, in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered (Section Four);
- Measures that are to be undertaken to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementing the strategy (Section Five).

2 Summary of how Environmental Considerations and the SEA Environmental Report have been integrated into the Ballinasloe LAP 2022-2028

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this section is to present a summary of how environmental considerations and consultation have informed the plan preparation process. Legislation and guidance relating to SEA recommends that the process of plan preparation, SEA and Appropriate Assessment (AA) should be integrated and prepared in an iterative process to facilitate the ongoing assessment and evaluation of environmental considerations during plan preparation. A multi-disciplinary team worked on the SEA and AA elements of the strategy. Key tasks associated with the SEA were as follows:

TABLE 1 STAGES IN SEA

Stage of SEA	Plan
Stage 1 Screening	Screening is the first stage of SEA to determine if the plan requires full SEA. The SEA Regulations state that SEA is mandatory for certain plans while screening for SEA is required for other plans that fall below the specified thresholds including in the case of LAPS where the population exceeds 5,000 persons. The LAP population based on 2016 Census is 6,622 persons. The LAP therefore progressed to the next stage of SEA – Scoping.
Stage 2 Scoping	The purpose of the SEA Scoping report is to identify the scope of the SEA and ensure that relevant data and environmental topics are included in the SEA. The Scoping report was issued to the statutory environmental authority's on 14 th June 2021 for comment. Table 2 below summarises the main issues raised by consultees and the SEA response to same.
Stage3 Environmental Report	The Environmental Report tells the story of the draft LAP and how environmental considerations have been addressed and included during the preparation process. The appropriate assessment and strategic flood risk assessment is also discussed in the Environmental Report.
Stage 4 SEA Statement-current stage	This stage is the final output of the SEA process and tells the story of the SEA process. It has been prepared now the Ballinasloe LAP is finalised and adopted by Galway County Council.

2.2 Baseline Data, Geographical Information System and environmental sensitivity mapping.

The baseline data assists in describing the current state of the environment, facilitating the identification, evaluation and subsequent monitoring of the effects of the plan. It helps identify existing environmental problems in and around the plan area and in turn these can be quantified (for certain environmental parameters) or qualified. This highlights the environmental issues relevant to each SEA parameter and ensures that the plan implementation does not exacerbate such problems. Conversely this information can also be used to promote good environmental practices and opportunities for environmental enhancement, thereby improving environmental quality where possible.

Baseline data was gathered for all parameters. Other data was gathered from the SEA ER of the draft Galway County Development Plan, the SEA ER of the North West RESS, Irish Water, the EPA, Met Eireann amongst others.

The SEA has also used a Geographical Information System (GIS) in the following ways:

- To provide baseline information on a range of environmental parameters;
- To assist in assessment of alternatives;

- To help assess in-combination or cumulative impacts, and
- To provide maps to illustrate environmental parameters in the SEA Environmental Report.

2.3 Mitigation

Mitigation involves ameliorating significant negative effects. Where the environmental assessment identifies significant adverse effects, consideration is given in the first instance to preventing such impacts or where this is not possible, to lessening or offsetting those effects. Mitigation measures can be generally divided into those that:

- Avoid effects;
- Reduce the magnitude or extent, probability and/or severity of effect;
- Repair effects after they have occurred, and
- Compensate for effects, by balancing out negative impacts with positive ones.

The iterative process of the strategy preparation has facilitated the integration of environmental considerations into the layout and text of the plan. In addition, potential positive effects of implementing the plan have been and will be maximised and potential adverse effects have been and will be avoided, reduced or offset.

Many impacts will be more adequately identified and mitigated at project and EIA level. In general terms, all proposals for development will be required to have due regard to environmental considerations outlined in the Environmental Report and associated assessments including the Stage II Appropriate Assessment. Proposals for development which are deemed contrary to the environmental objectives to the Ballinasloe LAP 2022-2028 will not normally be permitted, and if permitted, not without the appropriate site and development specific mitigation measures.

The LAP has been prepared having regard to the policies and objectives outlined within the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028. The environmental protection measures for the CDP 2022-2028 are included in the SEA ER. Specific measures developed for the strategy are presented in Chapter Eight of the SEA ER.

2.3.1 Mitigation Measures-

The following table presents the some of the key mitigation measures recommended for the Ballinasloe LAP

TABLE 2 MITIGATION MEASURES –AMENDMENT OF TEXT

SEA of Ballinasloe Local Area Plan Recommended Mitigation Measures
<p>New objective</p> <p>To require the preparation and assessment of all planning applications in the plan area to have regard to the information, data and requirements of the Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report, SEA Environmental Report and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Report that accompany this LAP. There shall be a requirement of Ecological Impact Assessment as appropriate in plan area.</p>
<p>BKT 17 Water-Based Tourism</p> <p>The Council will support, subject to meeting the requirements of relevant Irish Planning and European environmental legislation including the Habitats Directive, the development of the necessary infrastructure and amenities to support water-based tourism within the plan area.</p> <p>The Council shall:</p>

- a) Collaborate with Waterways Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, other Local Authorities and other relevant agencies in the implementation of the ‘Shannon Tourism Masterplan’ which involves waterways and waterside tourism potential and to enhance water based tourism product along the Shannon Navigation System including Ballinasloe in order to make the town a more attractive inland water tourism destination. [Galway County Council will have cognisance of the SEA and AA mitigation measures including in the Shannon Tourism Masterplan as appropriate.](#)
- b) Continue to promote and enhance the public marina at Slí na hAbhainn as a sustainable marina resource including ancillary facilities and services as appropriate.
- c) [There shall be a requirement for Ecological Impact Assessment as appropriate.](#)

BKT 61 Park

To carry out a feasibility study exploring the options for the development of a public park in Ballinasloe that reflects good practice in line with . Any proposal would be subject to a detailed planning and environmental assessment that accords with proper planning and sustainable development.

[Where appropriate recreational considerations and access to blue and greens space should be underpinned by the Green Space Principles¹ including](#)

- [Enhance urban greening through planting strategies that mitigate noise and air pollution and maximise local biodiversity gain and facilitate sustainable drainage \(e.g. deciduous wooded and wildflower meadow areas\).](#)
- [A networked approach: emphasising green infrastructure networks \(rather than isolated parks\) can provide new opportunities for connecting existing and new green spaces and creating linkages between urban and rural areas. Examples include greenways and linear parks, local greenways or cycleways that link to regional and national greenways and de-culverting watercourses to provide new blue corridors.](#)
- [Well managed and maintained, creating a high-quality environment: poorly managed spaces or vandalism lead to negative perceptions among potential users.](#)
- [Multifunctional uses: examples include spaces that encourage active mobility, physical activity and sports, relaxation and tranquillity, and opportunities for social exchange \(e.g. that incorporate community gardens or encourage parkruns\).](#)
- [Create multisensory restorative environments that help mitigate the psychological stresses of modern living through the provision of “restive places for rejuvenation”.](#)

2.3.2 Material Alterations

A series of Material Alterations were also proposed to the draft Ballinasloe LAP 2022 2-2028 following public consultation and these were screened for SEA, alongside the AA and SFRA assessments. These include minor amendments to policies and landuse changes and clarification of text regarding wastewater from Irish Water as follows:

SEA 4.10.1 Water and Wastewater

As a result of this €650,000 investment, over 8,000 people, served by the scheme in Ballinasloe and surrounding area will benefit from a safer and more reliable water supply. An upgrade at the plant to increase capacity is planned to ensure the level of growth projected over the lifetime of the plan can be facilitated. In terms of wastewater capacity as envisaged in the GCDP 2022-2028 that there is adequate capacity (to WEDL ELV capability) to meet the 2028 Draft CDP population. Upgrade works at Dunloe PS to resolve capacity constraints are planned and will be carried out in the next 1-2 years.

¹ Eco-Health: Ecosystem Benefits of Green Space for Health. EPA Research Report No 328

Following detailed review and assessment it was considered that the proposed material alterations to the draft Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022-2028 would not result in significant adverse environmental effects and therefore, did not require further assessment of the likely effect on the environment of the implementation of the proposed material alterations of the draft LAP through SEA.

3 Summary of how consultations were taken into account.

3.1 Introduction

The following section summarises key points and how they were addressed in the SEA and the Ballinasloe LAP 2022-2028.

3.2 Consultation on SEA- Scoping and Environmental Report

The purpose of the SEA Scoping report is to identify the scope of the SEA and ensure that relevant data and environmental topics are included in the SEA.

The table below summarises key points raised during the SEA Scoping Stage.

TABLE 3 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION

TABLE 2-1 SUMMARY OF SEA SCOPING SUBMISSIONS AND SEA RESPONSE TO SAME

Consultee	Main Points	SEA response
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	<p>Government policy on nature conservation Government policy on nature conservation is clearly set out in the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (NBAP). It also requires Local Authorities to develop policies and objectives for the protection and restoration of biodiversity. It is crucial that consideration is given to coherent protection and enhancement of biodiversity at a regional as well as local level.</p>	Noted.
	<p>Ecological Assessments Environmental assessments should be carried out in parallel with the Plan making process to ensure integrated biodiversity impact assessment. The Strategic Environmental Assessment process should take place in consultation with the teams working on the draft Plan and Appropriate Assessment as each process can help inform the other to ensure that the objectives and policies in the draft Plan will have no significant effects on the natural heritage of Ballinasloe Town and Environs.</p> <p>Preferably, no areas should be identified or targeted for development (e.g. through land use zoning or other strategies) without basic information on the ecological sensitivities of the lands in question, including a habitat map¹, i.e. the precautionary principle should apply and no areas should be committed to development in the absence of basic ecological information so as to avoid potential conflicts</p>	Noted and agreed. Noted, a review of lands using desktop and a site walkover were used in the SEA process
	<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) The SEA should examine the effects of policies, objectives and any indicative maps or zonings, as well as cumulative impacts with other plans and projects both within and outside of the Plan area.</p>	Noted and agreed. SEA is carried out by a team of with environmental expertise. All the recommendations are already

	integrated as a part of the SEA process.
<p>The Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna section of the SEA should be undertaken by or in conjunction with a suitably qualified ecologist, and in conjunction with preparation of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) to ensure full integration of biodiversity issues and concerns, particularly in relation to nature conservation sites, rare and protected species, habitats that are rare or of high ecological value, and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive. The EPA’s Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment best practice guidance is of relevance in this regard.</p> <p>Issues of potential concern:</p> <p>The following are of potential concern in relation to the Local Area Plan: water supply and abstraction; wastewater and discharges; flood alleviation and prevention; existing and new infrastructure, particularly roads, powerlines and telecommunications; and amenity and recreation provision where this could impact nature conservation sites and/or sensitive species. Note that if any walks or trails are proposed along the River Suck, or in the SPA (and NHA), these will require assessment prior to their inclusion in the plan.</p>	Noted, see new mitigation measures in this regard.
<p>Appropriate Assessment including Screening</p> <p>The Council is responsible for carrying out screening for appropriate assessment and for determining whether it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the final plan on its own and in combination with other plans and projects, will have a significant effect on a European site in view of its conservation objectives. This must be carried out before the plan may be adopted, and best scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle should be applied in reaching such a determination, i.e. where there is uncertainty or a lack of data or information, it should not be assumed that significant effects will not result. The Department recommends referral to the recent guidance note by the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) on Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening, Practice Note PN01 “Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management”, (March 2021)².</p> <p>River Suck Callows Special Protection Area (SPA Site Code 004097) adjoins and is within the Plan area. It should also</p>	Noted. A Natura Impact Report is being prepared and it’s findings will be integrated into this environmental report.

² <https://opr.iw.ie/view-planning-practice-file/Mw>

	be noted that the targeted increase in population of Ballinasloe will put an increase in demand for water services for the plan area, including water supply and water abstraction. This is also linked to the European sites downstream, River Shannon Callows Special Area of Conservation (SAC 000216) and Middle Shannon Callows Special Protection Area (SPA 004096).	
Geological Survey Ireland	With reference to your letter dated 11 June 2021, concerning the SEA scoping for the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022-2028, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.	Noted.

4 Consideration of Alternatives

4.1 Introduction

One of the critical roles of the SEA is to facilitate an evaluation of the likely environmental consequences of a range of alternative development scenarios, in this case the Ballinasloe LAP 2022 -2028.

These alternative development scenarios should meet the following considerations:

- Take into account the geographical scope, hierarchy and objectives of the plan –be realistic
- Be based on socio-economic and environmental evidence – be reasonable
- Be capable of being delivered within the plan timeframe and resources –be implementable
- Be technically and institutionally feasible – be viable

In developing, refining and assessing the alternatives for the LAP, the toolkit included in Developing and Assessing Alternatives in Strategic Environmental Assessment Good Practice Guidance (EPA 2015) was utilised.

In addition to the above, the LAP will function within the policy hierarchy established by national, regional and county strategic plans, as well as relevant legislation.

4.2 Alternative Scenarios for Ballinasloe LAP

development will be examined:

1. Continuation of Existing LAP land use zonings and policies/objectives (The Do-Nothing Scenario). Continues with the existing LAP in its current context.

2. Town centre consolidation: This approach would be to focus explicitly on the densification of the town centre with intensification of land uses and focus on employee intensive sectors.

3. Town centre consolidation and designation of future development lands in a tiered structure: Promotion of development lands within the town centre for development and the designation of secondary and edge of centre areas where this type of development is considered appropriate in certain circumstances. It would also promote the development of neighbourhood centres to provide a level of retail services locally.

In considering these alternatives, regard was given to the Preferred Alternative (Type 4- Alternatives for Land Use Zoning) identified for the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028. Within this scenario, the Land use zoning has been applied in a way that primarily seeks to achieve sustainable and compact growth, taking into account the various requirements set out in the higher-level NPF and Northern and Western RSES. Requirements relating to land use zoning provided for by the NPF and RSES have significantly limited the availability of alternatives for the various settlements.

The preferred alternative from an environmental strategic perspective is Alternative 3, Town Centre consolidation and designation of future development lands in a tiered structure. This provides the greatest positive environmental effects and is consistent with national and regional planning policy.

5 Monitoring

5.1 Introduction

Article 10 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EEC) requires that monitoring must be undertaken of the significant environmental effects directly related to the implementation of the LAP. This is to provide for any unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage in its implementation, allowing for appropriate remedial action to be undertaken. The primary purpose of monitoring is to allow the actual impacts of the LAP on adoption to be assessed against the Strategic Environmental Objectives and their associated targets and indicators. The indicators used will show changes that would be attributable to the implementation of the LAP.

Monitoring can use existing sources of information and does not necessarily require new research to be undertaken, but can be effective in identifying where additional research should be targeted to supplement where information is deficient. .

Table 5 below presents the SEA Monitoring Table. The SEA Objectives formed the basis of the assessment of the LAP and it includes targets (overall aim), indicators (measurement of monitoring change), data sources and agency/body responsible for the monitoring.

As a number of the indicators within the monitoring table relate to the number of planning applications received it is also recommended that data arising from planning applications, particularly in terms of environmental monitoring through the preparation of Screening Reports for Appropriate Assessment, Ecological Reports, Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Reports etc be integrated into the GIS and a dedicated environmental database. This will assist in assessing cumulative impacts also, in particular ecology and water quality.

Table 4 Strategic environmental objectives, targets and indicators

Environmental Component (Code)	Indicators	Targets	Sources	Remedial Actions
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna (BFF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions of European Sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require all local level land use plans to include ecosystem services and green/blue infrastructure provisions in their land use plans and as a minimum, to have regard to the required targets in relation to the conservation of European sites, other nature conservation sites, ecological networks, and protected species • Implement and review, as relevant, County Galway Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHLGH report of the implementation of the measures contained in the Habitats Directive- as required by Article 17 of the Directive (every 6 years). • DHLGH National Birds Directive Monitoring Report for the under Article 12 (every 3 years) • Consultations with the NPWS 	<p>Where condition of European sites is found to be deteriorating this will be investigated with the Regional Assembly and the DHLGH to establish if the pressures are related to Plan actions / activities. A tailored response will be developed in consultation with these stakeholders in such a circumstance.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of spatial plans that have included ecosystem services content, mapping and policy to protect the ecosystem services when their relevant plans are either revised or drafted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require all local level land use plans to include ecosystem services and green/blue infrastructure provisions in their land use plans and as a minimum, to have regard to the required targets in relation to the conservation of European sites, other nature conservation sites, ecological networks, and protected species Implement and review, as relevant, County Galway Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022 	Internal review of local land use plans	Review internal systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEAs and AAs as relevant for new Council policies, plans, programmes etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screen for and undertake SEA and AA as relevant for new Council policies, plans, programmes etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of preparation of local land use plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review internal systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of water quality in Ballinasloe's water bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included under Water below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included under Water below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included under Water below
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance of planning permissions with Plan measures providing the protection of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For planning permission to be only granted when applications demonstrate that they comply with all Plan measures providing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review internal systems

	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	the protection of Biodiversity, flora and fauna		
Population and Human Health (PHH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Plan measures relating to the promotion of economic growth as provided for by Chapter 2.3 “Economic and Enterprise Development” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For review of progress on implementing Plan objectives to demonstrate successful implementation of measures relating to the promotion of economic growth as provided for by Chapter 2.3 “Economic and Enterprise Development” By 2020 all citizens will have access to speeds of 30Mbps, and that 50% of citizens will be subscribing to speeds of 100Mbps (Also relevant to Material Assets) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal review of progress on implementing Plan objectives Consultations with DECC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review internal systems Consultations with DECC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of spatial concentrations of health problems arising from environmental factors resulting from development permitted under the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No spatial concentrations of health problems arising from environmental factors as a result of implementing the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultations with the Health Service Executive and EPA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultations with the Health Service Executive and EPA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO data Monitoring of Galway County Council’s Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where proportion of population shows increase in private car use above CSO 2016 figures, the Council will coordinate with the Regional Assembly, the DHLGH, DECC and NTA to develop a tailored response.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of spatial plans that include specific green infrastructure mapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require all local level land use plans to include specific green infrastructure mapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal review of local land use plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review internal systems
Soil and Geology (S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of population growth occurring on infill and brownfield lands compares to greenfield (also relevant to Material Assets) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain built surface cover nationally to below the EU average of 4% In accordance with National Policy Objectives 3c of the National Planning Framework, a minimum of 30% of the housing growth targeted in any settlement is to be delivered within the existing built-up footprint of the settlement To map brownfield and infill land parcels across the Ballinasloe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA Geoportal Compilation of greenfield and brownfield development for the DHLGH AA/Screening for AA for each application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the proportion of growth on infill and brownfield sites is not keeping pace with the targets set in the NPF and the RSES, the Council will liaise with the Regional Assembly to establish reasons and coordinate actions to address constraints to doing so.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instances where contaminated material generated from brownfield and infill must be disposed of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dispose of contaminated material in compliance with EPA guidance and waste management requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal review of grants of permission where contaminated material must be disposed of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultations with the EPA and Development Management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental assessments and AAs as relevant for applications for brownfield and infill development prior to planning permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screen for and undertake environmental assessments and AA as relevant for applications for brownfield and infill development prior to planning permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review internal systems
Water (W)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of water bodies as reported by the EPA Water Monitoring Programme for the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not to cause deterioration in the status of any surface water or affect the ability of any surface water to achieve 'good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA Monitoring Programme for WFD compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where water bodies are failing to meet at least good status this will be investigated with the

<p>WFD.</p>	<p>status'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the objectives of the River Basin Management Plan 		<p>DHLGH Water Section, the EPA Catchment Unit, the Regional Assembly and, as relevant, Irish Water to establish if the pressures are related to Plan actions / activities. A tailored response will be developed in consultation with these stakeholders in such a circumstance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where planning applications are rejected due to insufficient capacity in the WWTP or failure of the WWTP to meet Emission Limit Values, the Council will consider whether it is necessary to coordinate a response with the Regional Assembly, EPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of incompatible developments permitted within flood risk areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise developments granted permission on lands which pose - or are likely to pose in the future - a significant flood risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where planning applications are being permitted on flood zones, the Council will ensure that such grants are in compliance with the Flood Risk Management Guidelines and include appropriate flood risk mitigation and management measures.

Material Assets (MA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmed delivery of Irish Water infrastructure for all key growth towns in line with Irish Water Investment Plan and prioritisation programme to ensure sustainable growth can be accommodated Number of new developments granted permission which can be adequately and appropriately served with waste water treatment over the lifetime of the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new developments granted permission to be connected to and adequately and appropriately served by waste water treatment over the lifetime of the Plan Where septic tanks are proposed, for planning permission to be only granted when applications demonstrate that the outfall from the septic tank will not – in combination with other septic tanks– contribute towards any surface or ground water body not meeting the objective of good status under the Water Framework Directive Facilitate, as appropriate, Irish Water in developing water and wastewater infrastructure See also targets relating to greenfield and brownfield development of land under Soil and broadband under Population and Human Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission Consultations with the Irish Water DHLGH in conjunction with Local Authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where planning applications are rejected due to insufficient capacity in the WWTP or failure of the WWTP to meet Emission Limit Values, the Council will consider whether it is necessary to coordinate a response with the Regional Assembly, EPA and Irish Water to achieve the necessary capacity.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO data Monitoring of Galway County Council’s Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where proportion of population shows increase in private car use above CSO 2016 figures, the Council will

				coordinate with the Regional Assembly, the DHLGH, DECC and NTA to develop a tailored response.
Air (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of journeys made by private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 National Travel Survey levels of 74% • NOx, SOx, PM10 and PM2.5 as part of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease in proportion of journeys made by private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 National Travel Survey levels • Improvement in Air Quality trends, particularly in relation to transport related emissions of NOx and particulate matter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO data • Data from the National Travel Survey • EPA Air Quality Monitoring • Consultations with Department of Transport and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where proportion of population shows increase in private car use above CSO 2016 figures, Council will coordinate with the Regional Assembly, DHLGH, DECC and NTA to develop a tailored response. See also entry under Population and human health above
Climatic Factors (C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Plan measures relating to climate reduction targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For review of progress on implementing Plan objectives to demonstrate successful implementation of measures relating to climate reduction targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review internal systems
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy • Share of renewable energy in transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute towards transition to a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050 • Contribute towards the target of the Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC), for all Member States to reach a 10% share of renewable energy in transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of Galway County Council's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 • EPA Annual National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory reporting • Climate Action Regional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where targets are not achieved, the Council will liaise with the Regional Assembly and the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office to establish reasons and develop solutions.

		by facilitating the development of electricity charging and transmission infrastructure, in compliance with the provisioning of the Plan	Office	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions across the electricity generation, built environment and transport sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute towards the target of aggregate reduction in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions of at least 80% (compared to 1990 levels) by 2050 across the electricity generation, built environment and transport sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultations with DECC (at monitoring evaluation) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy consumption, the uptake of renewable options and solid fuels for residential heating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote reduced energy consumption and support the uptake of renewable options and a move away from solid fuels for residential heating 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of journeys made by private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease in the proportion of journeys made by residents of the Ballinasloe using private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO data Monitoring of Galway County Council's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where trends toward carbon reduction are not recorded, the Council will liaise with the Regional Assembly and the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office to establish reasons and develop solutions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO data Monitoring of Galway County Council's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where proportion of population shows increase in private car use above CSO 2016 figures, the Council will

					coordinate with the Regional Assembly, the DHLGH, DECC and NTA to develop a tailored response.
Cultural Heritage (CH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of entries to the Record of Monuments and Places, and the context these entries within the surrounding landscape where relevant, protected from adverse effects resulting from development which is granted permission under the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect entries to the Record of Monuments and Places, and the context of these entries within the surrounding landscape where relevant, from adverse effects resulting from development which is granted permission under the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where monitoring reveals visitor pressure is causing negative effects on key tourist features along these routes, the Council will work with Regional Assembly, Fáilte Ireland and other stakeholders to address the pressures through additional mitigation tailored to the plans. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of entries to the Record of Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas and their context protected from significant adverse effects arising from new development granted permission under the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect entries to the Record of Protected Structures and Architectural Conservation Areas and their context from significant adverse effects arising from new development granted permission under the Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with DHLGH 		
Landscape (L)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of developments permitted that result in avoidable adverse visual impacts on the landscape, especially 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No developments permitted which result in avoidable adverse visual impacts on the landscape, especially with regard to landscape and amenity designations included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal monitoring of likely significant environmental effects of grants of permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where monitoring reveals developments permitted which result in avoidable adverse visual impacts on the landscape, the Council 	

with regard to
landscape and amenity
designations included
in Land Use Plans,
resulting from
development which is
granted permission
under the Plan

in Land Use Plans, resulting
from development which is
granted permission under the
Plan

will reexamine Plan
provisions and the
effectiveness of their
implementation

