



**Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe**  
**Galway County Council**

# **Litter Management Plan 2023 – 2025**

**Adopted by Galway County Council on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023**



**Please Play Your Part – Keep County Galway Litter Free**

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 County Galway – An Overview

County Galway is the second largest county in Ireland, with several strongly Irish-speaking areas in the County. With its rugged seascapes and scenic islands, together with its rich cultural heritage, it is a very popular tourist destination. The County has a coastline stretching to almost 700 kilometres and over 200 lakes including the renowned Lough Corrib. The County also has four main inhabited islands.

Litter contributes to the degradation of our local environment. Being highly visible, it is a blight on the landscape of our towns, rural communities, and natural resources. It detracts from Galway reputation for a natural clean environment and can leave a lasting impression on visitors. The cost of dealing with litter is a very significant drain on local funds and human resources. The majority of people in Galway are actively committed to the prevention and eradication of litter in our communities, local environment, and the marine environment. Litter can make our county less attractive for leisure, tourism, and investment. The absence of litter is an important part of keeping County Galway beautiful and maintaining its vital tourist trade.

The Census 2022 Preliminary Results show a growth of 8% in population since the last census of 2016 to 192,995 (excluding Galway City).

## 1.2 Background to Litter Management Plan

A new Litter Management Plan has been drafted to replace the current 2019-2022 plan for County Galway. Under Sections 10 to 13 of the Litter Pollution Act, 1997 as amended, Local Authorities are required to adopt Litter Management Plans for their functional areas. The legislation prescribes the specific minimum components of a Litter Management Plan, requiring information on litter prevention and control activities and the setting of appropriate policies and objectives for the three-year period of the plan.

The Litter Management Plan 2023 – 2025 establishes our objectives for the prevention and management of litter, enforcement of litter legislation in County Galway and the means to achieve them. The Plan recognises the need for emphasis on a multi-dimensional approach to preventing litter. Every sector must be involved in tackling the litter problem, the public as well as the commercial sector and the Local Authority. While there is a growing awareness of the importance to keep County Galway litter free, there is still a need to change attitudes and behaviour to recognise that littering is anti-social. This challenge is best addressed by a partnership approach involving all key stakeholders in society raising awareness of litter and its effects, as well as reviewing and enhancing, where necessary, the local authorities' own role in litter prevention and control.

One of the principal activities in achieving this strategy is the implementation of litter control measures. The amount of litter that defaces our footpaths, streets, parks, and beaches is one of the major environmental issues facing the county. Dog fouling and roadside litter remain a particular concern. At one level, such a change can be achieved by the increased awareness of littering, its causes, and its consequences. At another level, stringent enforcement through on-the-spot fines and prosecutions will be required. The main objectives of the Litter Management Plan are:

- **Educational and Awareness measures**
- **Partnership and Community Support**
- **Local Authority Litter Prevention and Control measures**
- **Enforcement and Regulation measures**

The Plan seeks to achieve continual reduction of the litter pollution level throughout the county. Performance in this regard will be monitored through the yearly implementation of the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System. (See Appendix 1).

Through careful implementation of strategic policy actions for each of our objectives we can achieve our overarching vision of keeping County Galway litter free which supports the Corporate Plan for County Galway.

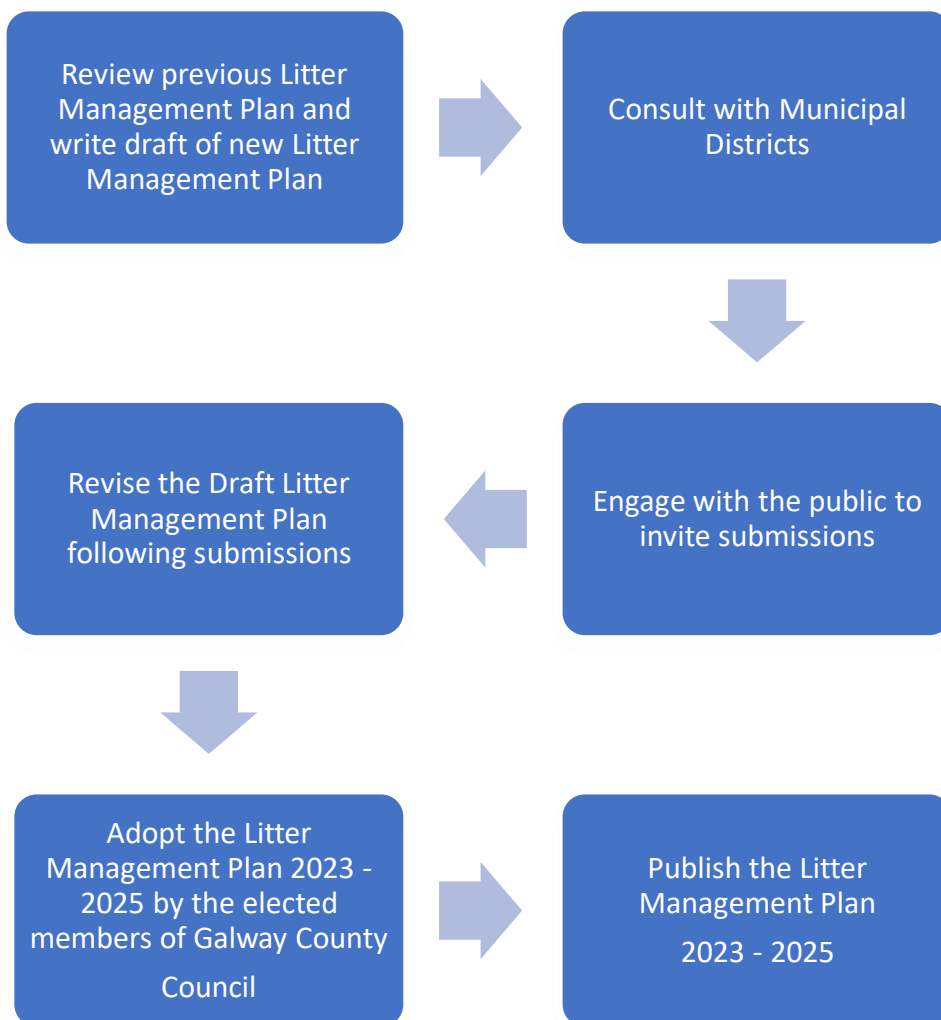
It is imperative that Galway County Council itself is seen to be a leader in the drive for a litter-free County and to this end work practices by staff must ensure that all necessary steps are taken to eliminate the spread of litter because of any works.



August 2022 – Green Dog Walkers Programme launched

### 1.3 Consultative Process

The following consultation process will be engaged in the preparation of the Litter Management Plan:



Public notice of the review and making of the Litter Management Plan 2023 – 2025 will be advertised in local media.

Contributions from members of the public will be welcomed and can be submitted through our consultation portal at <https://consult.galway.ie/en/browse>.

A copy of the Litter Management Plan 2023 – 2025 will be available on [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie).

## 2. Litter and the Law

### 2.1 Definition of Litter

The definition of 'litter' under this legislation is quite wide and extends from casual pieces of paper or cigarette ends to anything large or small that is, or is likely to become, unsightly and extends to both public and private property.

Litter is a visible form of pollution and creates an overall negative impression. Its presence devalues our living environment, generates a negative impression of our County and places a huge financial burden on Galway County Council finances. Litter pollution does not just affect towns and villages but also our roadsides, protected areas, amenity areas, beaches, rivers etc. By allowing this very visible form of pollution to continue, it will have an adverse effect on us who live and work in the county and those who visit us.

Under the Litter Pollution Acts, 1997 to 2009, litter is defined as:

“a substance or object, whether or not intended as waste (other than waste within the meaning of the Waste Management Act, 1996, which is properly consigned for disposal) that, when deposited in a place other than a receptacle or other place lawfully designated for the deposit, or is likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, whether by itself or with any such substance or object, and regardless of its size or volume or the extent of the deposit”,

The Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended, introduced strong penalties in Ireland to help combat the problems of litter pollution more effectively, and outlines everyone’s responsibilities and liabilities in relation to litter and littering.



## 2.2 Responsibilities relating to the prevention of litter

### Responsibilities of the Local Authority include:

- To take all practical measures to allow for the prevention, control, and correct disposal of litter.
- To take steps to promote awareness of litter pollution and its effect on the environment.
- To encourage participation from the public and businesses of the county in preventing and overcoming litter pollution.
- To provide access to appropriate facilities/receptacles and waste bins for its citizens and to arrange for regular emptying and cleaning.
- To enforce the law and apply the necessary penalties and legal sanctions.

### Responsibilities of businesses include:

- To keep any private land visible from a public place free from litter.
- Persons owning, operating or in charge of mobile outlets and those who organise major events have additional responsibilities.
- To ensure there is no placement of unauthorised advertisements or public notices in public places.
- To ensure no advertising material is placed on cars.
- To ensure that material being transported does not cause litter and that the material is sufficiently secure to not cause litter.
- The promoters or organisers of major events (e.g. concerts, festivals, circuses, and local sporting events) are required to ensure that they have litter control measures in place at the venue and surrounding area. This can be done by or in conjunction with the Local Authority, but the promoter/organiser must bear the costs involved.

### Responsibilities of the public include:

- If you either own or are responsible for a place to which the public has access (e.g., places like a school campus, public park, train or bus station or the precincts of a shopping centre), you are obliged by law to keep the place litter-free, regardless of how the litter got there.
- The owner/occupiers of property (a building or area of land) that can be seen from a public place are obliged to keep the property free of litter. In essence any outdoor area that is visible from a public place must be kept free of litter.
- Where litter has accumulated on property for any reason and this litter is visible from a public place, the Local Authority can issue a notice to the owner or occupier requiring the prompt removal of the litter. Such a notice can also set down precautionary measures to be put in place to prevent a recurrence. If a property owner or occupier fails or refuses to comply with the notice the Local Authority has the power to implement legal proceeding.

## 2.3 Dog Fouling

Dog owners must remove their pets' waste from public places and dispose of it in a proper manner. Failure to do so is an offence that can be subject to an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a maximum fine of €4000 on conviction in the circuit court.

The Council have erected more than 40 dog waste bag dispensers in towns, villages, beaches, and amenity areas throughout the county to encourage responsible dog ownership. The responsibilities of dog owners are outlined in our document "**A Guide to Good Dog Ownership**".

## 2.4 Posters and Temporary Signs

The increasing amount of signage that is being erected without appropriate license or permission by businesses, event organisers, etc. along our road network is detracting from the amenity of our County and can in some instances constitute a hazard to road users. The law forbids the putting up of posters/signs on poles or on other structures in public places unless written permission is obtained from the owner of the pole or other structure in advance of putting up the poster/sign. Illegal signs can be removed by Galway County Council.

## 2.5 Waste Bye-Laws

The Waste Management Bye-Laws 2019 require the holder of household and/or commercial waste to prove that they dispose of their waste correctly by giving it either to an authorised waste collector or by bringing it to an authorised waste facility. These bye laws will also help ensure that recyclable and residual waste is correctly segregated and presented separately.

## 2.6 National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

There is a recognised link between litter and waste management services and enforcement. The three Regional Waste Management Planning Lead Authorities are in the process of preparing a combined National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy. A core policy of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy is protection of the environment by ensuring waste activities and litter control measures do not pose a risk to the environment and human health and make a positive contribution to circularity. Galway County Council will support initiatives and actions outlined in the National Waste Management Plan, such as reducing single use items and promoting deposit and return scheme once introduced.

## 2.7 Enforcement/Fines

The issue of enforcement of litter legislation is instrumental in the management of litter pollution. Currently four environmental enforcement officers and 15 community wardens enforce environmental legislation in Galway County.

Leaving or throwing litter in a public place is an offence that can be subject to an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a maximum fine of €4,000 if you are convicted of a litter offence in the District Court. You can be issued with an on-the-spot fine by a litter /community warden appointed by the Local Authority or by a member of the Gardaí.

Failure to clean up and dispose of dog fouling correctly is an offence that can be subject to an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a maximum fine of €4000 on conviction in the circuit court.



### **3. Progress Since Litter Management Plan 2019-2022**

Galway County Council's last Litter Management Plan was adopted in December 2019. During the lifetime of the 2019-2022 plan many initiatives were undertaken regarding litter control and reduction. Considerable progress has been made and the process is ongoing.

Covid 19 presented new challenges in relation to litter such as the careless disposal of face coverings and gloves, increased littering at the bring banks, and in outdoor spaces. Support for waste reuse and reduction initiatives and waste management enforcement contributes to a reduction in litter in our communities.

#### **Anti-Litter Initiatives undertaken during the lifetime of the 2019-2022 Litter Management Plan.**

##### **COVID 19**

- Covid 19 affected the direct delivery and support of Litter Awareness Programmes during 2020 and 2021. This change resulted in Litter Awareness Programmes being delivered virtually.
- An Anti- Litter Awareness programme was delivered in relation to the proper disposal of face coverings, gloves and other Covid 19 related waste issues.
- During the Covid 19 restrictions outdoor areas were utilised more and an increase in litter was noted. Extra bins were installed, and an Anti-Litter Awareness Campaign was delivered to highlight this issue.

##### **LITTER SURVEYS**

- Litter surveys conducted for The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System (NLPMS), provide information on the areas which require particular attention, and it quantifies the causative factors of litter pollution. This assisted us in prioritising actions to be taken and, therefore, more effective allocation of resources. (See Appendix 1).

##### **SCHOOLS**

- 90% of educational institutions are now registered in the Green Schools programme in the county. Schools are also encouraged and supported to take part in initiatives such as National Spring Clean, Neat Streets, competitions, and the installation of water fountains which reduces the use of single use bottles and reduces litter.
- In 2021, An Anti-Litter poster competition was organised for schools and a 2022 calendar was collated from the entrants and distributed to schools, libraries, and public buildings. The poster competition was also held in 2022.
- The "Picker Pals" Anti-Litter schools programme from Voice Ireland is supported throughout the county. 112 classes have taken part in the programme so far. Picker Pals is a fun way for children to discuss and learn about litter issues in the classroom and get their family involved outside of school by going on litter picking trips in their neighbourhood.

## **DOG FOULING CAMPAIGNS**

- An Anti-litter Audio System for dog control and tackling the issue of dog fouling was installed at several amenity areas in the County including Loughrea, Renville Park and An Spidéal.
- Roll out of Dog Waste Bag dispensers and signage to towns, villages, beaches, parks, and other amenity areas continued throughout the county.
- The Anti Dog fouling campaign “Remember, If they Poop, you Scoop!” was rolled out in 2021. This consists of signage, stencilling of paths in problem areas, and a media campaign to promote the programme.
- The “Green Dog Walkers” campaign was launched in 2022 as an extension of the ongoing Anti-Dog Fouling campaign. Green Dog Walkers (GDW) is a non-confrontational, friendly way to change attitudes about dog fouling. Volunteers register and pledge to always clean up after their dog and are a friendly reminder to others to clean up also.

## **AUDIO DEVICES**

- Anti-litter audio devices have been installed at bring banks in the County which have been identified as litter problem sites. The audio device informs users not to litter or they risk an on-the-spot fine.

## **NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS**

- The Gum Litter Task Force campaign is supported in County Galway.
- National Spring Clean is supported each year, with in excess of 180 registrations annually.
- WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Collection campaign is supported each year.
- IBAL Report - Ballinasloe town has continued to improve in the IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter) monitoring programme.
- Reports from the 'See It? Say It!' application from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) which encourages people to report environmental pollution, are investigated by the Environment Team.
- Galway County Council supported the “Leave No Trace” social media campaign in 2022.

## **MEDIA**

- In conjunction with Galway City Council, a bilingual Anti-Litter advert was developed for the cinema and was seen by 192,000 attendees during its run in 2022.
- Local radio stations, newspapers, and [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie) are used on an ongoing basis to promote our Litter Awareness messages.
- In conjunction with the Roads and Transport Section advertisements were placed in local papers to inform business owners/occupiers of their legal obligation to keep the footway adjoining their property free of litter in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Increased use of social media to promote awareness of littering and waste prevention, for example the Anti-Dumping Initiative awareness campaign “Your County-Your Waste?”.
- In 2022 the “Leave No Trace” programme was actively supported on social media platforms.
- WEEE social media campaigns are supported.

## **PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL**

- Production and distribution of promotional material, such as reusable bags, cups, and bottles to promote litter awareness.

## **MAJOR EVENTS**

- Co-ordination meetings are held between the Local Authority Area Offices, the Gardaí and organisers in advance of major events, and litter management is considered at these meetings.
- A Waste and Litter Management pack was developed to encourage the Greening of Festivals. This was funded by the LAPN (Local Authority Prevention Network).

## **LITTER AT BEACHES**

Our beaches and inland waterway network are recognised as important assets and many programmes and services are supported and maintained.

Programmes include:

- The #2 Minute Beach Clean Campaign.
- Poster competition in schools for blue flag beaches.
- Litter bins maintained.
- Litter Awareness signage.
- Green Coast and Clean coast Groups supported.
- New signage introduced at blue flag beaches in relation to dog fouling.

## **TIDY TOWNS**

Galway County Council continues to support, advise, and provide funding to the Tidy Town network in Co. Galway to improve overall results in the competition. In 2021/22 the Conscious Cup campaign was rolled out in participating communities to encourage local businesses to offer a discount to customers who use reusable cups. The aim of this environmentally friendly campaign is to reduce the number of single use cups which may end up as litter. In Ireland, we dispose of approximately 200 million coffee cups every year. Anti-Litter promotional material was also made available to any community group who requested it.

## **GALWAY COUNTY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)**

Galway County Council liaises with the Galway County Public Participation Network (PPN – 1,200 groups in total) to support their initiatives and to deliver initiatives, including litter awareness, to their members.

## **ANTI-DUMPING INITIATIVE (ADI)**

Galway County Council participated in the Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI) co-ordinated by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications during the lifetime of this Litter Management Plan. The ADI programme has funded clean-ups of litter black spots and Anti-Dumping awareness programmes.

Notable projects funded over the last number of years include:

- Clean-up of large-scale illegal dumping sites throughout the county.
- Estate enhancement project in Ballinasloe.
- Bulky Goods service provided at our three Civic Amenity Sites at Ballinasloe, Tuam and Clifden.
- Hire of electronic signage with an Anti-Dumping Message display at six locations throughout County Galway.
- Roll out of a Reusable Cup Campaign in Loughrea to help reduce the number of disposable cups distributed locally.
- Bikes for Africa project in partnership with the Rotary Club involving the collection of second hand bicycles which are repaired and sent to schools in Africa.
- Anti-Dumping signage is on all Community Warden vans.

## **GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

- The customer complaints system in the Environment Section ensures all complaints received are logged, tracked, and investigated, leading to improved service delivery, accountability enforcement. 4,645 waste complaints were logged on our customer complaints system over the course of the previous Litter Management Plan 2019-2022.
- The Environment Section work closely with the Housing Section in relation to Estate Management to prevent littering and improve waste management.
- The Environment Section liaise with Area Offices in relation to litter management and awareness
- The Waste Enforcement Team carry out checks in the County in relation to householders and disposal of domestic waste.
- The Environment Section continue to engage with and support clean ups carried out by Tidy Towns Groups, Community Employment, Rural Social Schemes, or Voluntary Groups.
- Facilities to dispose of bulky goods and plastic items for recycling bulk are available at the Civic Amenity sites.
- The development of Civic Amenity site at Gort is progressing.
- Development and implementation of a Litter Fine Application to issue and track litter fines.
- The management of Derelict Sites has assisted in a decrease of litter polluted areas.
- Updated signage has been introduced at burial grounds encouraging users to correctly dispose of all related litter.
- Community Wardens play a crucial role in litter control and will continue to contribute towards awareness and enforcement.
- There are 91 Bring Banks operational throughout the county. (See Appendix 4).
- We provide a Christmas Tree Recycling programme at 13 sites throughout the county.
- The Bring Bank maintenance programme is in place to support communities maintain the local bring bank and keep the area litter free.
- The Burial Ground maintenance programme is in place to support communities maintain the local burial ground and keep the area litter free.

- Installation of new litter bins and compactor bins throughout the county.
- Networks of litter bins are serviced throughout the county.
- The Anti-Litter/Anti-Graffiti Grant scheme from the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications is used to fund Anti- Litter Awareness programmes in Co. Galway.
- Litter management is included in any proposed bye-laws for the county.
- A car disc holder with an Anti-Litter message is available for distribution through the motor tax offices.
- Galway County Council staff attend public events with information stands on litter awareness and waste management.
- Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign promoted throughout the county.
- Galway County Council will liaise with waste collection contractors and services in relation to areas which have no waste collection service or have a limited waste collection service to improve collection services and routes where possible.



## 4. Objectives and Strategic Policies of Litter Management Plan

2023 -2025

### Objective No 1: EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS MEASURES

#### To educate and raise awareness of the effects of litter on the environment.

The Environment Section of Galway County Council delivers education and awareness on litter throughout the county. All sectors of society including school, businesses, communities, and the general public are included in the programme. Anti-litter campaigns aim to raise consciousness about the impact of littering, dumping and other deleterious activities on the environment in which we live. The programme encourages personal responsibility and engagement by the people of County Galway in tackling the issues and fosters a sense of pride in the county and at local level. The issue of litter is linked to wider issues in protecting our environment including better waste management practice and prevention and protecting the natural resources of the county.

#### Actions:

##### Galway County Council will:

- Promote positive environmental action and awareness throughout the County by working in conjunction with community groups, voluntary groups and organisations, businesses, and members of the public to encourage them to participate in anti-litter initiatives.
- Promote ongoing education and information programmes at community events.
- Liaise with Waste Enforcement Unit, ensuring synergies in the message being delivered on litter
- Use social media to heighten awareness of the causes of litter and obligations under the Litter Pollution Act.
- Use all relevant media including local papers, radio, social media, and the website to promote litter prevention and engagement.
- Develop awareness among householders and businesses of their responsibilities and obligations to prevent and control litter.
- Engage in Anti-Dumping Initiative awareness campaign such as “Your County-Your Waste?”.
- Promote targeted litter prevention campaigns on relevant issues including dog fouling, graffiti, gum litter, roadside litter, and general litter.
- Assist schools in delivering a litter prevention and control message to students using the Green Schools programme as the primary mechanism for delivery.
- Deliver actions through the regional waste management plan that prevents consumption of disposable items that can lead to litter.
- Provide educational materials and support for the public on litter and associated themes.
- Integrate “Leave No Trace” principles and assets into Litter Management Plan.
- Develop an ambassador programme of sports and media stars promoting litter awareness.
- Introduce 2minute litter picks in towns and villages similar to 2-minute litter picks at beaches.
- Liaise with groups such as Foróige, scouts, student committees, Transition years and other youth groups re litter prevention and develop/support existing programme.
- Develop a beach program to include highlighting litter issue.

## Objective No 2: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

To work with community groups, Tidy Towns committees, residents' associations, local businesses, voluntary sector, Public Participation Network, education sector, etc. in encouraging, implementing, and promoting educational awareness programmes and anti-litter initiatives.

Galway County Council recognises that local community engagement is a key driver for change in delivering both prevention and control of litter. We aim to work with citizens to facilitate their engagement as equal partners in tackling the challenges presented by littering and dumping in our communities. Working with local groups ensures that communities can play a key role in tackling the issues associated with litter. Action at community level is essential to ensure that prevention and control can reach all communities of County Galway and engage all sectors of society.

### Actions:

#### Galway County Council will:

- Actively encourage and support participation of residents' associations, estate management groups and other voluntary groups in litter awareness programmes.
- Continue to liaise with community groups on grants available which support initiatives aimed at increasing awareness of environmental issues and to promote strong anti-litter initiatives.
- Continue to work with business and traders on the development of local litter programmes and Green initiatives.
- Continue to promote litter awareness and prevention through initiatives such as the Green Schools and Tidy Towns programme.
- Maximise the participation of Community Employment Schemes and Rural Social Schemes in litter clean ups which enhance the environment.
- Provide materials for the National Spring Clean Campaign, and other clean-up events.
- Support the efforts of the Housing Section to engage residents' associations in management of litter on their estates.
- Support Area Offices on litter control in towns and surrounding areas.



### Objective No 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY LITTER PREVENTION AND CONTROL MEASURES

To deliver an efficient and comprehensive litter control operation programme throughout the County.

#### Actions:

##### Galway County Council will:

- Optimise the operation and management of the Council's Civic Amenity Sites and Bring Bank Network (Appendix 3).
- Log, track and fully investigate all litter related complaints received and take appropriate enforcement action where offences are detected.
- Endeavour that County Galway, and its towns and villages are maintained to the highest standard within the confines of resources.
- Address the results and recommendations of the Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) league, Tidy Towns Competitions and the Annual National Litter and Quantification performance indicators (Appendix 2).
- Maintain our relationship with Tidy Towns and other community and voluntary bodies in the county.
- Ensure work practices by Galway County Council do not contribute to litter.
- Ensure provision of bins and adequate litter control on Blue Flag beaches during the bathing season.
- Monitor and control litter in identified litter black spots.
- Tackle the issue of dog fouling with enforcement, signage and where appropriate, bags and bins for disposal.
- Liaise with the Towns Regeneration Team and the Climate Action Team to integrate litter and waste management into sustainable community plans.





## Objective No 4: ENFORCEMENT AND REGULATION MEASURES

To implement a consistent and coordinated approach to the enforcement of litter pollution legislation to prevent and control litter and illegal dumping.

### Actions:

#### Galway County Council will:

- Implement the National Litter Pollution Monitoring System by carrying out surveys on the level/composition of litter pollution, identify litter blackspots and take remedial measures to eliminate these.
- Maintain a visible presence in towns and villages through the Community Warden network to help deter littering and to promote awareness of the implications, in terms of fines and other enforcement actions, of littering.
- Enforce the Waste Management Bye-Laws 2019 to regulate waste collection and management within the county.
- Ensure that all complaints are fully tracked when received until complaints are closed on the environmental complaints system.
- Record and investigate, as required, all complaints. We will enforce regulations and legislation for all cases received by Galway County Council and the EPA.
- Pursue illegal waste collection activities and take action to stop any activities found.
- Continue to work closely with An Garda Síochána and other Local Authorities to pursue enforcement measures in relation to litter, transfer of waste and abandoned cars.
- Liaise with other local authorities, the EPA, and the Connacht/Ulster Regional Waste Management Office ensuring effective coordination and implementation of best practice.
- Monitor and implement regulations relating to annual priorities identified by WERLA including tyres and illegal dumping.
- Utilise CCTV when legal basis is in place.
- Increase the usage of other technology including smart phones, tablets, applications, and data collection systems to improve the success of enforcement, monitoring, and action against offenders.
- Ensure that all new bye-laws include litter management controls.



## Appendix 1 - National Litter Pollution Monitoring Survey

### The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System (NLPMS)

The purpose of the NLPMS is to assess the extent and composition of Litter Pollution. It is a decision-making tool, giving Local Authorities a picture of litter pollution in their functional area, allowing them to adapt anti-litter measures to address the problems and evaluate the effectiveness of the measures.

The Litter Pollution Surveys and Litter Quantification Surveys will continue to be carried out annually to assess the effectiveness of the measures implemented to tackle litter pollution and to highlight new issues as they arise.

**Figure 1.1** gives an overview of the composition of Litter Pollution in the functional area of Galway County Council for 2021.

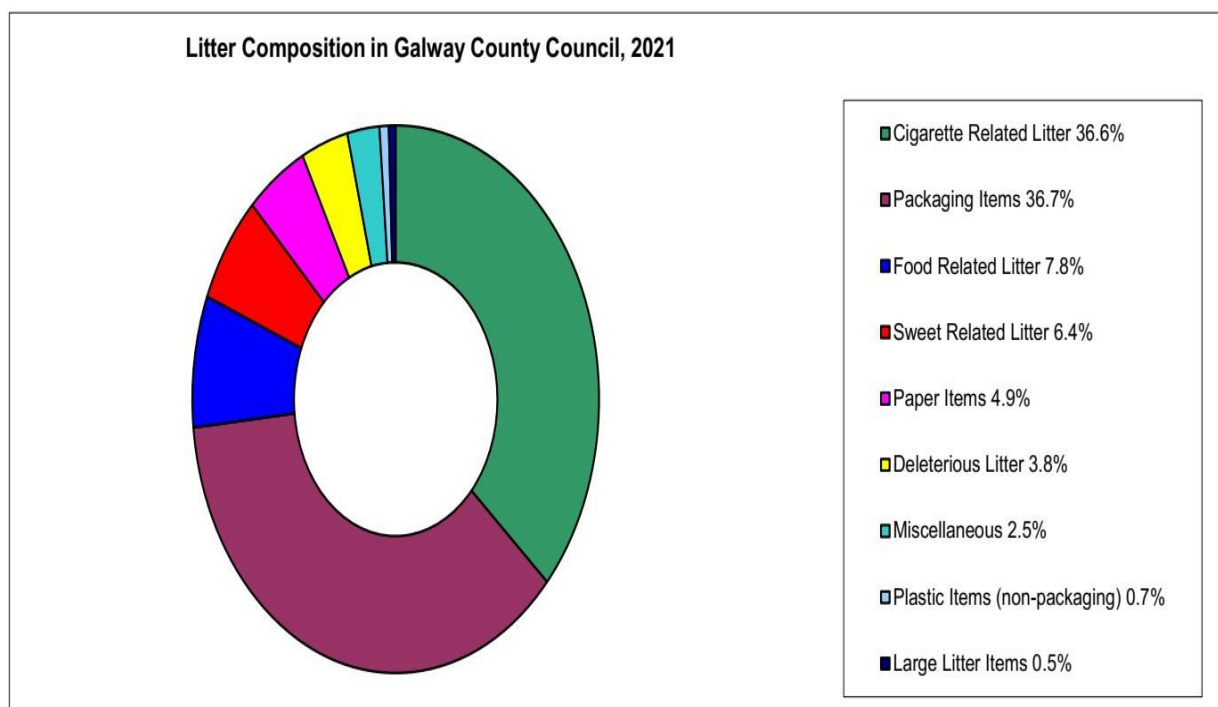


Figure 1.1

Figure 1.2 provides the Litter Pollution Survey results submitted by Galway County Council, ranked in order of significance in relation to litter category (2021).

	Litter Category	Count
1	Packaging Litter	548
2	Cigarette-related Litter	547
3	Food Litter	116
4	Sweet Related Litter	96
5	Paper Litter	73
6	Deleterious Litter	56
7	Miscellaneous Litter Items	38
8	Plastic Litter	11
9	Bulky Litter	8

Figure 1.2

Figure 1.3 gives a comparison of Litter Composition in Galway County, 2020 and 2021

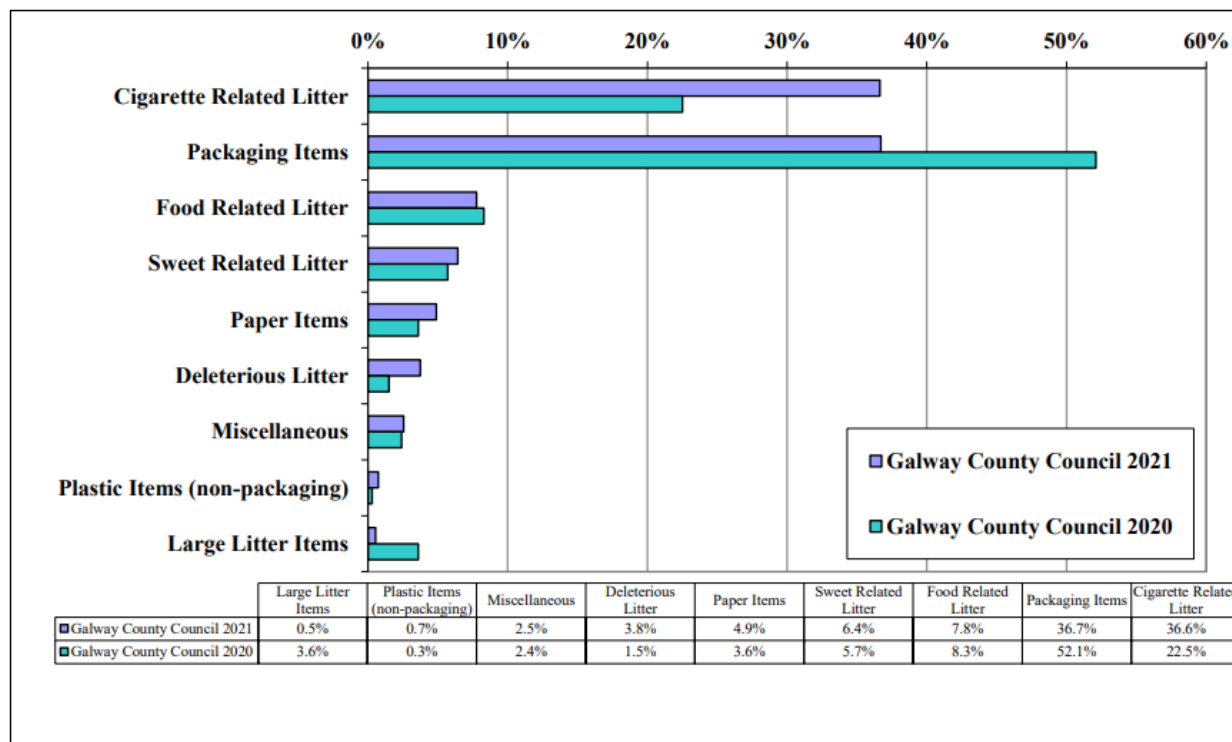


Figure 1.3

Figure 1.4 Comparison of Causative Factors of Litter Pollution in Galway County, 2020 and 2021

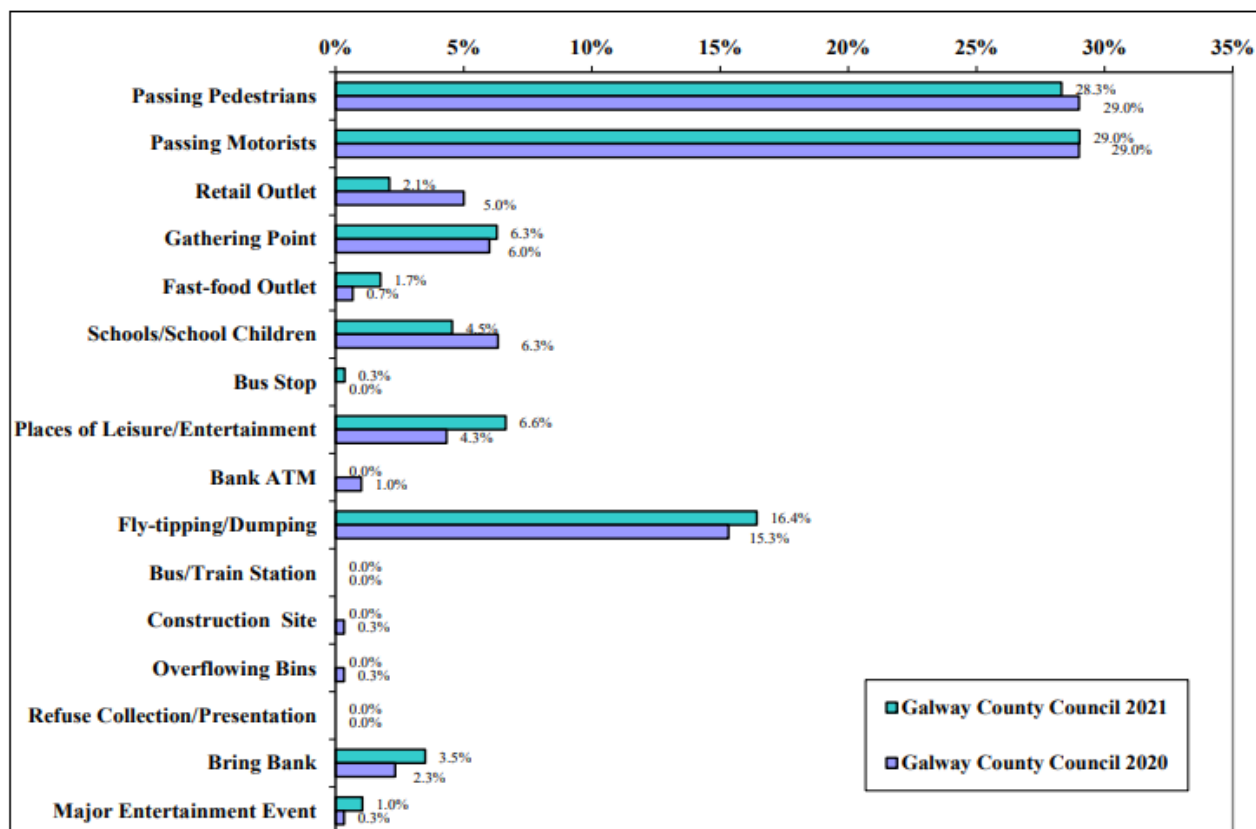


Figure 1.4

## Appendix 2 - Performance Indicators

National Litter Pollution Monitoring Survey	2020	2021
Percentage of areas in the Local Authority that are unpolluted (i.e., litter-free)	22%	22%
Percentage of areas in the Local Authority that are slightly polluted with litter	43%	43%
Percentage of areas in the Local Authority that are moderately polluted with litter	24%	23%
Percentage of areas in the Local Authority that are significantly polluted with litter	7%	11%
Percentage of areas in the Local Authority that are grossly polluted with litter	4%	1%

## Appendix 3 – Civic Amenity sites in County Galway

There are 3 Civic Amenity sites in County Galway located at Tuam, Clifden, and Ballinasloe.  
Full list of authorised waste collectors available at <https://www.nwcpo.ie/>.



### Barna Recycling Tuam Civic Amenity Site



ATHENRY RD | TUAM | CO. GALWAY | TEL 091 771619

#### THIS SITE ACCEPTS DOMESTIC WASTE ONLY

#### Items Accepted at this Civic Amenity Site

- Aerosols
- All Household Plastics\*\*
- Books, Newspapers and Magazines
- Bulky Goods\*\*
- Cardboard
- CD's & DVD's
- Cooking Oil
- Engine Oil and Empty Oil Cans
- Flat Glass
- Hard Plastic Items\*\*
- Hazardous Paint\*
- Herbicides & Pesticides\*
- Household Chemicals\*
- Household Medicines\* (No Medical Sharps)
- Mattresses
- Metal Tins\*\*
- Mixed Packaging (Polystyrene)
- Mixed Paper
- Non-Hazardous Paint
- Oil Filters
- Scrap Metal
- Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries
- Tetra Pak
- Timber Treated & Untreated

#### Items Free of Charge

- Batteries (Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries)
- Clothing, Footwear & Textiles
- Drink Cans
- Fluorescent Tubes & Lamps
- Glass Jars & Bottles
- Light Bulbs (CFL & LED only)
- Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)
- White Goods, Fridges & Freezers

\* Household Medicines, Chemicals, Herbicides & Pesticides, and ALL hazardous materials must be in original packaging and fully labelled otherwise they will not be accepted.

\*\* See <https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/wasteandlitter/civicamenitysites/> for details.

#### Standard Charges

- Car €4.00
- Small Van\*\* €8.00
- Large Van\*\* €20.00

Where the vehicle is not used to transport the waste or as supplementary charge;

- Single Axle Trailer €4.00
- Double Axle Trailer €16.00

**Note:** Items are not charged by quantity or weight.

#### Extra Charges

- Paint Cans €1.25 per can
- Mattresses €10 single  
€15 double

#### Opening Hours

- Mon - Thu 8:30am - 4:15pm
- Fri - Sat 8:30am - 3:45pm

Details accurate as of December 2021 but subject to review & change.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

[www.BarnaRecycling.com](http://www.BarnaRecycling.com) | TEL 091 771619

## Barna Recycling Clifden Civic Amenity Site



GALWAY RD | CLIFDEN | CO. GALWAY | TEL 091 771619

### THIS SITE ACCEPTS DOMESTIC WASTE ONLY

#### Items Accepted at this Civic Amenity Site

- Aerosols
- All Household Plastics\*\*
- Books, Newspapers and Magazines
- Bulky Goods\*\*
- Cardboard
- CD's & DVD's
- Cooking Oil
- Engine Oil and Empty Oil Cans
- Flat Glass
- Hard Plastic Items\*\*
- Hazardous Paint\*
- Herbicides & Pesticides\*
- Household Chemicals\*
- Household Medicines\* (No Medical Sharps)
- Mattresses
- Metal Tins\*\*
- Mixed Packaging (Polystyrene)
- Mixed Paper
- Non-Hazardous Paint
- Oil Filters
- Scrap Metal
- Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries
- Tetra Pak
- Timber Treated & Untreated

#### Items Free of Charge

- Batteries (Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries)
- Clothing, Footwear & Textiles
- Drink Cans
- Fluorescent Tubes & Lamps
- Glass Jars & Bottles
- Light Bulbs (CFL & LED only)
- Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)
- White Goods, Fridges & Freezers

\* Household Medicines, Chemicals, Herbicides & Pesticides, and ALL hazardous materials must be in original packaging and fully labelled otherwise they will not be accepted.

\*\* See <https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/wasteandlitter/civicamenitiesites/> for details.

#### Standard Charges

- Car €4.00
- Small Van\*\* €8.00
- Large Van\*\* €20.00

Where the vehicle is not used to transport the waste or as supplementary charge;

- Single Axle Trailer €4.00
- Double Axle Trailer €16.00

**Note:** Items are not charged by quantity or weight.

#### Extra Charges

- Paint Cans €1.25 per can
- Mattresses €10 single  
€15 double

#### Opening Hours

- Mon 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Sat 8:30am - 4:30pm

Open Tuesday After Bank Holiday

Details accurate as of December 2021 but subject to review & change.

mywaste



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

www.BarnaRecycling.com | TEL 091 771619

## Barna Recycling Ballinasloe Civic Amenity Site



 POOLBOY | BALLINASLOE | CO. GALWAY | TEL 091 771619

### THIS SITE ACCEPTS DOMESTIC WASTE ONLY

#### Items Accepted at this Civic Amenity Site

- Aerosols
- All Household Plastic\*\*
- Books & Phone Books
- Bulky Goods\*\*
- Cardboard
- CD's & DVD's
- Cooking Oil
- Engine Oil & Empty Oil Cans
- Flat Glass
- Green Waste
- Hard Plastic Items\*\*
- Hazardous Paint\*
- Herbicides & Pesticides\*
- Household Chemicals\*
- Household Medicines\* (No Medical Sharps)
- Mattresses
- Metal Tins\*\*
- Mixed Packaging (Polystyrene)
- Mixed Paper
- Non-Hazardous Paint
- Oil Filters
- Scrap Metal
- Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries
- Tetra Pak
- Timber - Treated & Untreated

#### Items Free of Charge

- Batteries (Solid, Household & Lead Acid Batteries)
- Clothing, Footwear & Textiles
- Drink Cans
- Fluorescent Tubes & Lamps
- Glass Jars & Bottles
- Light Bulbs (CFL & LED only)
- Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)
- White Goods, Fridges & Freezers

\* Household Medicines, Chemicals, Herbicides & Pesticides, and ALL hazardous materials must be in original packaging and fully labelled otherwise they will not be accepted.

\*\* See <https://www.galway.ie/en/services/environment/wasteandlitter/civicamenitiesites/> for details.

#### Standard Charges

- Car €4.00
- Small Van\*\* €8.00
- Large Van\*\* €20.00

Where the vehicle is not used to transport the waste or as supplementary charge;

- Single Axle Trailer €4.00
- Double Axle Trailer €16.00

**Note:** Items are not charged by quantity or weight.

#### Extra Charges

- Paint Cans €1.25 per can
- Mattresses €10 single  
€15 double
- Green Waste charged at Small Van, Large Van and Axle Rates

#### Opening Hours

- Tue 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Thu 8:30am - 4:30pm
- Sat 8:30am - 4:30pm

Details accurate as of December 2021 but subject to review & change.

**Appendix 4 – List of Bring Bank Sites in County Galway. \*Sites are subject to change**

Abbey	Community Centre Car Park
Abbeyknockmoy	O'Donohoe's Car Park
Ahascragh	Community Centre
An Cheathrú Rua	Óstán an Dóilín Car Park
An Caiseal	An Caiseal Community Centre
An Mám	Community Centre
An Spidéal	An tSeanchéibh
Ardrahan	Quinn's Hardware
Athenry	Car Park beside Kenny Park
Aughrim	Aughrim Village
Ballinasloe	Fairgreen Car Park
Ballinasloe	Poolboy Recycling Site
Ballinasloe	Public Car Park near Municipal Area Offices
Ballinasloe	Tesco Car Park Poolboy
Ballyconneely	Community Centre
Ballygar	Car Park at National School
Ballymacward	Ballymacward Church Car Park
Ballymoe	Ballymoe Village
Caltra	Caltra Village
Camus	R336 opposite pitch
Cappataggle	Car Park
Carna	Beside the Church
Castleblakeney	Castleblakeney
Cill Chiaráin	Car park at Siopa Mhic Dhonnacha
Claddaghduff	Sweeney's Shop
Clarinbridge	Clarinbridge Garden Centre
Clifden	Recycling Centre Galway Road
Cleggan	Pier
An Fhairche	An Cnoc Breac Road
Clonfert	Clonfert Village



Corr na Móna	Community Centre
Cluain Bú, Corr an Dola	Regans of Clonboo pub car park
Craughwell	Topaz Service Station
Creggs	GAA Pitch
Cregmore	Rugby Pitch
Derrybrien	Opposite National School
Dunmore	Howley's Shop
Eyrecourt	Larkin's Filling Station
Garrafrauns	Near National School
Glenamaddy	Church Car Park
Glinsk	Community Centre
Gort	Kininha Road
Headford	Bridge Street
Indreabhán	An Poitín Stil
Indreabhán	An Trá Mhór
Indreabhán	Tír na nÓg Car Park
Inis Meáin	Beside National School
Inis Mór	Cill Mhuirbhígh
Inis Mór	Cill Éinne
Inis Mór	Cill Rónáin
Inis Mór	Ionad Athchúrsála (Recycling Centre)
Inis Oírr	Comhar Chaomhán
Inishboffin	Inishboffin
Kilconly	Old Community Centre
Kilconnell	GAA Pitch
Kilkerrin	Outside front wall of Community Centre
Killary	Killary Adventure Centre
Kilreekil	Church Car Park
Kiltormer	Outside National School
Kinvara	On Ballyvaughan Road
Kylemore	Walsh's Service Station

Laurencetown	Community Hall
Leenane	At Car Park on Westport Road
Leitir Mealláin	Across road from Church
Leitir Móir	Church Car Park
Letterfrack	Letterfrack College
Loughrea	Public Car Park beside Mart
Maree	Community Centre
Menlough	Community Centre
Milltown	Car Park
Monivea	Rugby Pitch
Mountbellew	Galway Road
Maigh Cuilinn	An Spidéal Road
Moylough	Behind Clancy's Top Shop
New Inn	Convent Car Park
Newbridge	Church Car Park
Oranmore	Public Car Park
Oughterard	Health Centre Car Park
Portumna	Barrack Road, Castle Ave.
Renvyle	Laffey's Caravan Park, Lettergesh
Ros an Mhíl	Community Centre
Ros Muc	Beside Coláiste Cuimhneacháin an Phiarsaigh
Roundstone	Car Park adjacent to Church
Tuam	Recycling Centre
Tuam	Coral Leisure Centre Car Park
Tully	Tully Village
Turloughmore	Flynns of Lackagh
Tynagh	Tynagh Village
Williamstown	Beside National School
Woodford	Woodford Village

See [Galway County Council Data Hub \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com) for updates.

**Further information relating to the Litter Management in Galway is available from:**

Environment Section  
Galway County Council  
Áras an Chontae  
Prospect Hill  
Galway  
H91H6KX

**Phone:** 091 509510

**Email:** [environment@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:environment@galwaycoco.ie)

**Web:** [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie)

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