

21<sup>st</sup> June 2022

Forward Planning Section,  
Galway County Council,  
Galway.

**Re: Adopted Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022 – 2028**

A chara,

The Office of the Planning Regulator (the Office) acknowledges the adoption of the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022 - 2028 (the Plan) by the members of Galway County Council on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The Office also acknowledges receipt of your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 further to section 31(AO)(5) of the *Planning and Development Act 2000*, as amended (the Act). The Office has reviewed the adopted plan in accordance with the legislative requirements set out in section 18 of the Act.

Overall, the Office commends the Plan for providing a strong framework for town centre regeneration and for focussing on the need to make walking and cycling within the town more convenient and safer for the local community (which was assisted by the preparation of the Local Transport Plan).

The Office considers that the planning authority has responded to its submissions in a positive and constructive manner, and is satisfied with the overall outcome of the adopted Local Area Plan and the manner in which the vast majority of its recommendations and observations were addressed at the draft plan and material alterations stages.

In particular, the Office welcomes the modifications made in the adoption of the Plan in response to MA Recommendations 1 and 2, and acknowledges and accepts the reasoning provided by the elected members in deciding not to remove MA 37.

In conclusion, the Office welcomes the adoption of the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan 2022 - 2028 and looks forward to continued engagement with Galway County Council in the implementation of national and regional policy at the local level.

Is mise le meas,

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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "AM O'Connor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a diagonal slash at the end of the name.

**Anne Marie O'Connor**

Deputy Regulator and Director of Plans Evaluations

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