



**STATEMENT OF REASONS
WITH REGARD TO A DRAFT DIRECTION
IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 31
OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (as amended)
GALWAY CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-2029**

13th January 2023

As Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 31 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ('the Act') and having carefully considered a recommendation from the Office of the Planning Regulator ('the Office') under section 31AM(8) of the Act, I advise that:-

- (1) I have issued a Notice of Intention to Direct (Draft Direction) on the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029 to effect recommendations (2)(a)(i), (iii) – (xv) and (2)(b)(i) – (xi) of the Office to reinstate fourteen zoning objectives to that of the draft Plan and delete eleven zoning objectives, and
- (2) I have decided not to include Recommendation 2(a)(ii) issued by the Office within the Notice of Intention to Direct in respect of the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029, which would have required the reinstatement of the following zoning objective to that of the draft Plan:

*“(2) (a) Reinstatement of the following zoning objectives to that of the draft Plan:
(ii) A.6 Ragoon – i.e. subject land reverts to Agriculture (A) from Residential (R)”.*

In accordance with Section 31AN (1)(b) of the Act, my reasons for not issuing a Draft Direction on recommendation 2(a)(ii) of the Office are set out as follows:

1. The subject lands are serviced by public water and wastewater services, which is confirmed in the submission from Irish Water to the City Council (dated 6th October 2022), and may be developed for housing within the life of the City Development Plan.



2. The subject lands are also contiguous to zoned land and adjacent to the existing urban environment of Galway, thereby the zoning of these lands for residential development is reasonable in a city context.

Is mise, le meas,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.O.', is positioned above the printed name.

**Darragh O'Brien, TD,
Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage**