



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

# Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan

2017-2022



## INTRODUCTION

### Aim

The aim of the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017- 2022* is to place heritage and biodiversity at the heart of public life in the county. This will be achieved through increasing awareness, participation, enjoyment, knowledge and understanding of our shared heritage to lead to its proper conservation, management and protection and safeguarding it for future generations.

### Vision

The rich heritage and biodiversity of County Galway will be cherished, valued, conserved and enhanced in a manner that is respectful of our past, mindful of our present needs and sustainable for future generations.

### Objectives

Three overarching objectives have been identified that will underpin the delivery of actions under five key themes (see below). These objectives are:

1. to increase awareness, appreciation and participation
2. to gather and share knowledge
3. to manage and conserve our heritage, including biodiversity.

### Themes

Actions will be specified under the following five themes:

1. community engagement
2. education and training
3. research and information
4. Galway County Council: people, property and works
5. stakeholder engagement and pursuing opportunities with other partners.

### The actions

The aim, vision, objectives and themes will be delivered through a series of strategic actions that will be listed under each of them.

### Aspects of heritage included in the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022*

The Heritage Act, 1995, defines heritage as including monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, inland waterways and heritage gardens and parks. The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* provides for the aspects of heritage that are defined in the Act. This plan also provides for aspects of heritage that are unique to the county and which the people of County Galway consider to be part of their rich heritage, including the Irish language, folklore and folklife, placenames, traditional crafts, genealogy, local history and cultural heritage.

The term biodiversity is short for ‘biological diversity’ which is defined in the *United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity* as “the variability among living organisms from all sources, including, *inter alia*, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems”. Put simply, biodiversity can be described as the variety of life on Earth, including the differences among all living things and the ways in which they interact with each other and the world around them.

## **THE HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY OF COUNTY GALWAY**

### **Overview**

County Galway is the second largest county in Ireland with an area of 6,148 square kilometres, a coastline of 689 kilometres and many offshore islands. It borders five other counties and has a rich and diverse built, natural and cultural heritage. Part of the county's unique character is due to its great diversity of landscapes, seascapes and land uses. The landscape of west Galway is rugged and varied with its mountains, bogs, rivers, waterways and lakes, while limestone pavement with a myriad of drystone walls typifies the landscape of Oileáin Árann. The seascape is intricate; it includes many islands, peninsulas and deep coastal indentations. East Galway is characterised by a low-lying rolling topography of a fertile limestone plain, rich pastures, bogs and the Suck-Shannon system with its callows and Lough Derg, while the lowlands of the Burren are characterised by its unique karstic landscape and hydrology. The vast expanse of Lough Corrib roughly separates the east from the west and its water flows into the iconic inner Galway Bay.

### **Natural Heritage**

Seascapes vary from the dramatic cliffs of Oileáin Árann to sandy beaches and the famous Trá an Dóilín (An Cheathrú Rua), and the long fjord-like inlet of Killary Harbour which boasts some of the finest scenery in Ireland. The offshore islands, such as Inishbofin and Oileáin Árann, offer another dimension to the beauty of the Galway coastline.

County Galway has a rich biodiversity with a great variety of habitats and species, including a number of characteristic habitats which are rare in Ireland and the rest of the world, such as turloughs, eskers, limestone pavement, river callows and machair grasslands. Flower-rich semi-natural grassland and raised and blanket bogs, which have largely been lost across much of their range, are still found here in areas which have not been intensively farmed or exploited. These habitats support a range of plant and animal species and are especially important for insects such as bees and butterflies and other invertebrates.

The wetlands of County Galway attract an abundance of resident and migratory waterbirds each winter, while in summer the cuckoo, swallow and even a few corncrakes - a critically endangered species - arrive to breed in the countryside. Our coastline is long and varied and supports a tremendous variety of marine life from algae to invertebrates, fish, birds and large marine mammals. The clean waters of our rivers and lakes are home to a host of fish species, birds and otters as well as rare invertebrates such as the white-clawed crayfish and the freshwater pearl mussel.

Sites of many of Galway's most important natural and semi-natural habitats are afforded protection under European and national legislation by way of designation as National Heritage Areas (NHAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Various species of flora and fauna are also protected under European and national legislation. Relevant international conventions, EU directives and domestic legislation pertaining to our heritage are listed in Appendix 1.

### **Built Heritage**

Human interaction with the land and sea is evident from the earliest settlements up to the present, from archaeological remains to growing urban centres and cultivated land. The town and village streetscape, old estate houses, prehistoric tombs, castles, tower houses, medieval churches and

abbeys, traditional cottages and other vernacular buildings, field fences and gates, old bridges, piers and small harbours are some of the aspects of the built heritage that add to the character of the county. The drystone walls form another feature that contributes to our county's identity.

### **Cultural Heritage**

The traditions of County Galway can be appreciated and enjoyed by everyone who lives here or visits the county. The Irish language, folklore and folklife, traditional crafts, customs and seasonal traditions, local history, traditional Irish music, sean nós singing and dancing, and sport are important components of the cultural heritage of the county. Emigration has been a major part of the life cycle within County Galway; therefore, there is great interest in genealogy in the county. Immigration is now also creating new and more diverse communities so that the heritage of the county continues to evolve.

### **An Evolving Heritage**

Our heritage is all around us. It is not just about the past, but it is evolving every day and it is important that we manage it by making conscious and informed decisions about its future. This can best be achieved by having a clear and coherent strategy in place that recognises the value of our heritage to the quality of life of the people of County Galway and its visitors.

### **Work of Previous Plans**

The *Galway County Heritage Plan 2010-2016* and the *Galway County Biodiversity Plan 2008 - 2013*, through the cooperation and hard work of the Galway County Heritage Forum, the Galway County Biodiversity Steering Group and other partner organisations, undertook over 100 heritage and biodiversity initiatives during the lifetime of both plans. These initiatives are listed in Appendix 2. For more information please consult the following links:

<http://heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org/>

<http://biodiversity.galwaycommunityheritage.org.>

## **GALWAY COUNTY HERITAGE AND BIODIVERSITY PLAN 2017 - 2022**

The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017 - 2022* is a framework document to help us achieve our vision for heritage and biodiversity for County Galway over a 6-year period. The Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum will work in partnership with the Galway County Heritage Officer and Biodiversity Project Manager, co-ordinating and delivering the plan. This new Heritage and Biodiversity Plan aims to build upon the accomplishments of the 2004-2008 and 2010-2016 plans, while taking account of changes in the national and local environment since the publication of these plans.

The Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum comprises sectoral interests including local government, state agencies, non-governmental organisations, farmers and other landowners, local and regional development agencies, the education and heritage sector, and the community and voluntary sector.

The Heritage and Biodiversity Forum was established in 2004 to provide advice and guidance regarding the development and implementation of Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plans, and develop and review annual programmes of work.

Similar to the development of previous Galway County Heritage Plans, the Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum established three working groups to assist in the development of the 2017-2022 plan. The membership of each working group was drawn from the Forum

membership. Working groups can also invite persons who are not members of the Forum who have knowledge and expertise in relation to a specific action or initiative. Each working group considered the Heritage Plan 'Working Document' and all submissions that were received. The working groups and the aspects of our heritage that they considered are as follows:

**the Biodiversity and Natural Heritage Working Group**

• Flora • Fauna • Wildlife Habitats • Landscapes • Seascapes • Geology and soils • Inland Waterways • Ecosystem Services • Natural Capital • Traditional Land Use Practices

**the Cultural Heritage Group**

• Archaeological Objects • Heritage Objects • The Irish Language • Folklore, Oral Heritage and Folklife • Genealogy • Museums and Archives • Local History • Heritage Education • Local History • Place names • Intangible Cultural Heritage • Floating Heritage • Maritime Heritage • Heritage Trails • Digital Heritage • Traditional Crafts

**the Built Heritage Working Group**

• Monuments • Architectural Heritage • Heritage Gardens and Parks • Wrecks • Industrial Heritage • Archaeological Structures • Inland Waterways

Working groups convene when needed to develop specific actions and initiatives. The members of the Forum and working groups are listed in Appendix 3.

Each year the Forum proposes and considers actions that it hopes to deliver during the following year. Proposals may also come from local heritage organisations, schools or community groups that have identified a particular heritage need at local level, and they may also come from academic institutions and government organisations.

**Working in partnership**

Working in partnership with as many people and organisations as is possible has been policy since the first heritage and biodiversity plans were established. This plan has also been developed with this approach. It will be implemented through strategic partnerships to ensure that the people of County Galway are involved in the delivery of the plan. The Forum will also endeavour to ensure that the principles of social inclusion are fully integrated into all aspects of the delivery of the plan. Consultation at all levels has been central in the development of the plan. Appendix 4 gives a detailed overview of the consultation process.

The Forum further endeavours to undertake a range of small and large-scale projects encompassing as many aspects of heritage as is possible in each of the five municipal districts of the local authority area. Actions that converge with the policies and programmes of relevant governmental and non-governmental organisations will be prioritised.

**Heritage best practice**

The principles of sustainable development will be applied to all actions undertaken by the Forum, and any future actions arising from the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017–2022* will be undertaken in accordance with evolving good practice and in compliance with all relevant legislation. No projects will be permitted that will have a negative impact on a heritage site, object or any protected sites.

The Forum will seek to ensure that all reports, surveys and studies carried out under the auspices of the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017–2022* are made as widely available as possible. In accordance with this guiding principle, an end-of-year report which gives an account of the actions undertaken is submitted to the Forum, Galway County Council and the Heritage Council. Project outputs will be made available in a digital format where practical. The delivery of actions and initiatives takes cognisance of the budgets that are available.

### **National Heritage Plan**

The National Heritage Plan sets the framework for this new plan as it did for the previous plans. In Spring 2002, the Government published the National Heritage Plan which stated that

it is an objective of the government to ensure the protection of our heritage and to promote its enjoyment for all. The key to achieving this goal is the preparation and adoption of Local Heritage Plans involving local heritage fora, bringing together communities, local authorities and the Government. Local heritage plans will identify the steps necessary for the protection and enjoyment of heritage at the local level.

The National Heritage Plan also stated that ‘Local Heritage Plans will provide the means for a significant broadening of community participation in the protection of heritage’.

A key concept of this national plan is to ‘place the protection and enjoyment of heritage at the heart of public life’. This concept promotes the idea of increased community ownership of the protection of heritage. This ownership is seen as an integral element in achieving sustainable development and a good quality of life for all.

The Programme for a Partnership Government 2016 has committed the government to the development of a new national heritage plan that will set out policies for the protection and promotion of the country’s built and natural heritage and will respond to challenges within the heritage sector.

The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* reflects many of the policies and objectives of the National Heritage Plan and the *National Biodiversity Plan*, such as placing heritage and biodiversity at the heart of public life, promoting awareness of our heritage, acquiring and disseminating knowledge and protecting our heritage and biodiversity. Both national plans recognise that heritage is best managed and protected at the local level and the need to develop local heritage and biodiversity action plans. The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* aims to raise the profile of heritage and biodiversity as a priority within the county while adhering to the national framework.

### **Endorsement by SPC and adopted by Galway County Council**

The Draft Plan was endorsed by the Planning, & Community Strategic Policy Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and was adopted by Galway County Council on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## **GUIDING DOCUMENTS, PLANS AND STRATEGIES**

The context for the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* is set out in the following policy documents: National Heritage Plan (2002), the *3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan* (2017) and the *Heritage Council Statement of Strategy, A Fresh Vision, 2017-2021*, in addition to the draft Culture 2025, A Framework Policy to 2025 driven by the Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022. Regard was paid to *Ireland 2040 Our Plan – National Planning Framework* (2017), *Creating Green Infrastructure for Ireland – Enhancing Natural Capital for Human Wellbeing* (2010), the *National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025* (2015), the *National Mitigation Plan* (2017) and, in the local context, the *Galway County Development Plan 2015 - 2021* (2015).

## **ROLE OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL, THE HERITAGE OFFICER AND THE BIODIVERSITY PROJECT MANAGER**

Galway County Council initiated the County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan process and facilitated its development through the Galway County Heritage Officer, the Galway County Biodiversity Project Manager and the Galway County Heritage Office.

## **COMMUNICATION**

The Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum considers that consultation and communication have a central role to play in the effective development and delivery of the *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan*. The Forum is committed to having open channels of communication among all stakeholders and with the public in the implementation of this plan.

## **STATEMENT OF STRATEGY**

### **Introduction**

The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* is action based. The Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum will oversee the overall implementation of the plan. Partners may be included at the implementation stage of various actions if the need arises. Galway County Council is a lead partner while the Galway County Heritage Officer, the Galway County Biodiversity Project Manager and the Galway County Community Archaeologist in many cases will co-ordinate projects, and may be assisted by members of the Forum as appropriate.

It is acknowledged that in some instances there is need for a more co-ordinated approach to be taken with regards to the management of our heritage resources. In areas where multiple agencies have a role in the management and regulation of these resources the Heritage and Biodiversity Forum will actively seek to promote an integrated approach and encourage dialogue between stakeholders and relevant Government Departments and agencies.

Heritage and natural diversity are important elements in the social, cultural and economic life of Ireland today, and investment in them yields significant returns in furthering economic and social goals. They are significant drivers of the tourist industry and important stimulants of local activities, leading to enhanced local employment; they are measurable contributors to the sustainability of local communities and they enhance the quality of human life, and the environment, of rural communities by facilitating participation and voluntary action based on local

resources. ECORYS' *Economic Value of Ireland's Historic Environment - Final Report to the Heritage Council* (2011) (essentially dealing with Ireland's built heritage) states on p. 33:

The historic environment is a highly significant contributor to Ireland's national economy, directly supporting in the order of 25,000 FTE jobs. Including indirect and induced effects, it is estimated that the scale of economic impact attributable to the historic environment supports approaching 40,000 FTE employment positions in Ireland. Overall, this equates to an annual national income contribution attributable to the historic environment of some €1.5 billion to the nation's Gross Value Added (GVA). Within the context of Ireland's national economy, it is estimated that the historic environment sector's contribution to the national economy is equivalent to 1% of total Irish GVA, and some 2% of overall employment.

The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* emphasises local, voluntary actions on the principle of cooperation, 'ní neart go cur le chéile'. Noting the ECORYS report and the statement of An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, on 6 July 2017 that there needs to be new emphasis and importance attached to the promotion of arts, culture and heritage in Ireland matched with an appropriate budget, the Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum urges the relevant national, regional and local authorities to recognise the acknowledged benefits of Heritage and Biodiversity by increasing financial support for them: 'tús maith leath na hoibre'.

### **Timeframe**

The *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017-2022* sets out actions for a six-year period. Each year the Forum will agree on a detailed work programme drawn from the actions listed in the current plan, and include a timeframe for delivery of the actions, identify sources of funding, set out any projects proposed under the actions and agree on lead and associate partners. This will be subject to the availability of resources and funding for that year.

### **Finance**

The Forum has taken cognisance of current economic circumstances but is mindful that economic climate and other variables may change during the timespan of the plan. Some proposed actions may not be delivered during the lifetime of this plan due to financial and other restrictions.

A budget of €1,500,000 would be required for the delivery of the actions during the timespan of the 2017-2022 plan.

The Heritage Council provides partial funding for implementation of local authority Heritage and Biodiversity Plans. To qualify for this funding a Heritage and Biodiversity Plan must be agreed and adopted by the elected members of Galway County Council. Funding will also be sought annually from Galway County Council's own budget and from partner organisations. Some partners may provide benefit in kind such as expertise and office space.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

The Galway County Heritage Forum will monitor the annual work programme. Progress will be evaluated annually.

## Galway County Biodiversity and Natural Heritage Plan 2017 – 2022

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering, Sharing and Education	Objective 3 Conservation and Management		
Themes		1	2	3
<b>1. Community Engagement</b>				
NH 1.1	Engage with the community using an inclusive approach.	✓	✓	
NH 1.2	Promote and facilitate citizen science – encourage and equip groups to take part in national citizen science campaigns e.g. Coastwatch, Butterfly monitoring or Volunteer bat surveys.	✓	✓	✓
NH 1.3	Develop Local Biodiversity and Natural Heritage Plans with communities.	✓	✓	✓
NH 1.4	Develop practical conservation and restoration projects and encourage communities to become involved in the management of sites of local biodiversity interest.	✓	✓	✓
NH 1.5	Encourage and support communities to apply for funding through Galway County Council and other agencies for biodiversity and natural heritage projects.	✓	✓	✓
NH 1.6	Encourage communities to work in partnership with various agencies on biodiversity and natural heritage projects.	✓	✓	✓
NH 1.7	Highlight, promote and assist the work of community groups through <a href="http://www.galwaycommunityheritage.org">www.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a> , social and other media.	✓	✓	
NH 1.8	Produce guidance notes for community groups undertaking biodiversity or natural heritage projects on issues that need to be considered before embarking on a project.	✓	✓	✓
<b>2. Education and Training</b>				
NH 2.1	Facilitate interactive sharing and community based learning between different groups.	✓	✓	
NH 2.2	Keep abreast of good practice and all legislative requirements in heritage, natural heritage and biodiversity care and conservation and provide training in same.	✓	✓	
NH 2.3	Assist in the development of biodiversity and natural heritage skills – for communities, volunteer organisations and GCC personnel ranging from species identification and recording to practical conservation activities.	✓	✓	✓

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering, Sharing and Education	Objective 3 Conservation and Management		
	Themes	1	2	3
<b>NH 2.4</b>	Assist the business and industry sector with biodiversity and natural heritage education and training e.g. in the areas of ecotourism, geo tourism, sustainable resource management, natural capital.	✓	✓	✓
<b>NH 2.5</b>	Assist schools, third level and vocational training centres with biodiversity and natural heritage projects for the benefit of nature and the wider school community.	✓	✓	✓
<b>NH 2.6</b>	Develop technological skills and tools to assist in biodiversity education.		✓	
<b>3. Research and Information</b>				
<b>NH 3.1</b>	Collect, collate and procure data and knowledge on biodiversity and natural heritage in County Galway to strengthen the knowledge base of decision makers.		✓	
<b>NH 3.2</b>	Maintain and develop links with researchers, educational institutes, museums, libraries.		✓	
<b>NH 3.4</b>	Promote and develop biodiversity and natural heritage mapping e.g. geological heritage sites and freshwater and marine heritage sites.	✓	✓	✓
<b>NH 3.5</b>	Seek to share information with relevant organisations and agencies.		✓	
<b>4. Galway County Council: People, Property and Works</b>				
<b>NH 4.1</b>	Integrate biodiversity and natural heritage into relevant aspects of the work of Galway Co Council.			✓
<b>NH 4.2</b>	Policy: Ensure biodiversity and natural heritage are considered at earliest stages in the development of new plans and strategy documents.			✓
<b>NH 4.3</b>	Projects: Promote the integration of biodiversity into work plans and developments at earliest (design) stage of projects.			✓
<b>NH 4.4</b>	Planning – streamline systems for biodiversity in development applications.			✓
<b>NH 4.5</b>	Develop resources and supports to inform decision makers.		✓	
<b>NH 4.6</b>	Seek to establish a full time biodiversity officer position in Galway County Council.	✓	✓	✓

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation		Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering, Sharing and Education	Objective 3 Conservation and Management		
	Themes	1	2	3	
NH 4.7	Seek the employment of full-time ecologists in Galway County Council.	✓	✓	✓	
NH 4.8	Galway County Council to take a proactive role in implementing legislative requirements and national strategies for heritage/biodiversity such as: National Pollinator Plan, National habitat and species management plans and the National Biodiversity Plan.	✓	✓	✓	
NH 4.9	Implement the Galway County Invasive Species Strategy.	✓	✓	✓	
NH 4.10	Promote biodiversity led management of parks and green spaces including verges and hedgerows, drains, ditches and rivers. (Participate in Green Parks scheme).	✓	✓	✓	
NH 4.11	Conduct an audit of biodiversity of Galway County Council owned properties.		✓		
NH 4.12	Use sustainable and environmentally friendly materials in publications, developments and events.			✓	
<b>5. Stakeholder engagement and pursuing opportunities</b>					
NH 5.1	Collaborate with stakeholders for effective action on biodiversity and natural heritage.	✓		✓	
NH 5.2	Seek funding opportunities and work with project partners to achieve the aims of the Biodiversity and Natural Heritage Plan.		✓		
NH 5.3	Encourage dialogue between stakeholders and relevant government departments and agencies regarding conflicting legislation, policies and practices relating to land use and management. Areas of particular concern to this Forum include islands, coastal and inland waterways, forestry and uplands.		✓	✓	

**Cultural Heritage Plan 2017 - 2022**

<b>Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation</b>		<b>Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing</b>		<b>Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action</b>		
	Themes	1	2	3		
<b>1. Community and Local Engagement</b>						
<b>CH 1.1</b>	Support the invaluable role of local communities in conserving and promoting cultural heritage throughout the county.	✓				
<b>CH 1.2</b>	Facilitate and develop partnerships, foster and increase links with all levels of the community including local groups, individuals, schools, academic institutions, statutory and non- statutory agencies.	✓	✓			
<b>CH 1.3</b>	Promote and facilitate citizen science.	✓				
<b>CH 1.4</b>	Promote and encourage the use of the Irish Language in our heritage in our actions, projects, activities and resources.					✓
<b>CH 1.5</b>	Encourage and support individuals, groups, NGOs and the education sector in applying for heritage funding and resources.		✓			
<b>CH 1.6</b>	Collect, record and share cultural heritage information and make this information available in an easily accessible format.		✓			
<b>CH 1.7</b>	Work with local communities in developing models of best cultural heritage practice.					✓
<b>CH 1.8</b>	Highlight, promote and assist the work of community groups through <a href="http://www.galwaycommunityheritage.org">www.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a> , social and other media.	✓	✓			
<b>2. Education and Training</b>						
<b>CH 2.1</b>	Facilitate community- based learning between different groups.		✓			✓
<b>CH 2.2</b>	Develop courses, workshops and training that will assist in achieving our objectives in relation to cultural heritage.					✓
<b>CH 2.3</b>	Develop technological skills and tools to assist in cultural heritage learning.					✓
<b>CH 2.4</b>	Promote best practice on researching, compiling and producing heritage publications.	✓	✓			✓
<b>CH 2.5</b>	Promote existing relevant accredited courses and investigate the development of further courses.					✓

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing	Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action		
Themes		1	2	3
<b>3. Research and Information</b>				
<b>CH 3.1</b>	Identify gaps in cultural heritage knowledge and develop a plan of action to address these gaps.			✓
<b>CH 3.2</b>	Work with academic institutions, local communities, schools, other agencies with regards to cultural heritage research.		✓	✓
<b>CH 3.3</b>	Seek to assist local communities in researching their cultural heritage to best practice standards.		✓	✓
<b>CH 3.4</b>	Develop templates of best practice with regards to cultural heritage research and delivery of project outputs.			✓
<b>CH 3.5</b>	Digitise and make available cultural heritage research to as wide an audience as is possible.	✓		
<b>CH 3.6</b>	Undertake oral heritage projects.			✓
<b>CH 3.7</b>	Research lesser known aspects of our cultural heritage.		✓	
<b>CH 3.8</b>	Promote and further develop <a href="http://www.galwaycommunityheritage.org">www.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a> and <a href="http://www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org">www.galwaydecadeofcommemoration.org</a> .	✓	✓	
<b>CH 3.9</b>	Continue to work in collaboration with the people and communities of County Galway.	✓		
<b>CH 3.10</b>	Undertake an audit of privately held archives and provide guidelines for their proper storage and recording.			✓
<b>4. Galway County Council: People, Property and Works</b>				
<b>CH 4.1</b>	Develop materials, guidelines, courses and technologies that will assist in conserving our cultural heritage and promoting best practice.			✓
<b>CH 4.2</b>	Conduct an audit of local museums and heritage centres in the county.		✓	✓
<b>CH 4.3</b>	Provide training, produce and circulate guidelines on how to undertake cultural heritage audits.			✓
	Seek to digitise and make available historic records and materials relating to the county to best practice.			

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation		Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing	Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action		
	Themes	1	2	3	
CH 4.4	Further develop and support the Archives service to ISO standards.		✓	✓	
CH 4.5	Continue to develop www.galwaycommunityheritage.org website and provide assistance to communities in producing heritage information and materials for uploading onto the website.	✓		✓	
CH 4.6		✓	✓		
<b>5. Stakeholder engagement and pursuing opportunities</b>					
CH 5.1	Collaborate with stakeholders for effective action on cultural heritage.	✓			
CH 5.2	Seek funding opportunities and work with project partners to deliver shared cultural heritage projects.		✓		
CH 5.3	Participate in heritage events such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Galway 2020,</li> <li>• European Regional of Gastronomy 2018,</li> <li>• Heritage Week,</li> <li>• Tree Week,</li> <li>• Culture Night,</li> <li>• Cruinniú na Cásca,</li> <li>• European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018,</li> <li>• Creative Ireland,</li> <li>• Cruinniú na mBád, and</li> <li>• other themed events programmes.</li> </ul>	✓			

## Built Heritage Plan 2017 - 2022

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing	Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action		
	Themes	1	2	3
	<p><b>1. Community and Local Engagement</b></p> <p><b>BH 1.1</b> Assist communities including local groups to achieve their heritage projects and objectives to the standards of good heritage practice and to encourage cooperation and compliance with partners.</p> <p><b>BH 1.2</b> Develop training programmes and projects in partnership with local communities and other bodies that showcase built heritage good practice.</p> <p><b>BH 1.3</b> Facilitate connections between local communities with stakeholders.</p> <p><b>BH 1.4</b> Encourage and support local communities in applying for funding for built heritage projects.</p> <p><b>BH 1.5</b> Promote and facilitate citizen participation in public science projects.</p> <p><b>BH 1.6</b> Highlight and promote heritage engagement through <a href="http://www.galwaycommunityheritage.org">www.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a> and other websites, social media, and publications.</p> <p><b>BH 1.7</b> Promote dialogue and engagement between the arts, built heritage and the cultural sectors.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>
	<p><b>2. Education and Training</b></p> <p><b>BH 2.1</b> Facilitate interactive, community based learning between different groups.</p> <p><b>BH 2.2</b> Develop awareness of built heritage and conservation evolving good practice and provide training in same.</p> <p><b>BH 2.3</b> Develop technological and craft skills and tools to assist in built heritage education.</p> <p><b>BH 2.4</b> Facilitate the transmission of traditional buildings skills, such as thatching, iron-working, masonry, wood-carving, and the like.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing	Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action		
	Themes	1	2	3
	<p><b>3. Research and Information</b></p> <p><b>BH 3.1</b> Strengthen and seek to sustain the knowledge base for decision makers.</p> <p><b>BH 3.2</b> Identify gaps in knowledge around built heritage for the information of decision makers.</p> <p><b>BH 3.3</b> Procure and make accessible information on heritage legislation, protected sites, Recorded Monuments and Protected Structures etc.</p> <p><b>BH 3.4</b> Develop and maintain links with researchers, educational institutes, museums, libraries and archives.</p> <p><b>BH 3.5</b> Encourage information sharing between third level institutions and built heritage interests.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p></p> <p>✓</p>	
	<p><b>4. Galway County Council: People, Property and Works</b></p> <p><b>BH 4.1</b> Promote heritage evolving good practice in relation to conservation of built heritage.</p> <p><b>BH 4.2</b> Provide targeted traditional skills training for staff.</p> <p><b>BH 4.3</b> Continue to implement and develop the Community Archaeology Project.</p> <p><b>BH 4.4</b> Undertake audits and surveys of the built heritage of the county.</p> <p><b>BH 4.5</b> Increase awareness of the built heritage of the county.</p> <p><b>BH 4.6</b> Raise awareness and provide training where appropriate of existing heritage legislation and enforcement measures.</p> <p><b>BH 4.7</b> Encourage appropriate re-use of historical buildings and their settings.</p> <p><b>BH 4.8</b> Work in partnership with the Heritage Council, the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, various relevant professional bodies, academic institutions, local communities and others on the development of projects and evolving heritage best practice.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p></p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p></p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>

Objective 1 Awareness, Appreciation and Participation	Objective 2 Knowledge Gathering and Sharing	Objective 3 Conservation Policy and Action		
	Themes	1	2	3
<b>BH 5.1</b>	<b>5. Stakeholder engagement and pursuing opportunities</b>			
	Collaborate with stakeholders for effective action on built heritage.		✓	✓
	<b>BH 5.2</b>	Work in partnership with Government and local agencies in the development of built heritage projects and initiatives.	✓	
<b>BH 5.3</b>	Seek funding opportunities and work with project partners on developing various initiatives relating to the built heritage.	✓	✓	✓

## APPENDIX I: RELEVANT EU DIRECTIVES, DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

<b>European Directives</b>	
<b>Planning and Built Heritage</b>	SEA Directive 2001/42/EC (Strategic Environmental Assessment) EIA Directive 1985/37/EEC (as amended) (Environmental Impact Assessment)
<b>Archives and Record Management</b>	European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations, 2007-2011 INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC – Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community)
<b>Natural Heritage</b>	Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC) Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) Freshwater Fish Directive (Council Directive 78/659/EC) Water Framework Directive (Council Directive 2000/60/EC) Environmental Liability Directive (Council Directive 2004/35/EC)

<b>International Conventions</b>	
<b>Archaeology</b>	European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage ('Valletta Convention'), 1997
<b>Architectural Heritage</b>	European Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe ('Granada Convention'), 1985 Burra Charter, ICOMOS Australia, revised 2013 Nizhny Tagil Charter for the Industrial Heritage, 2003 Joint ICOMOS-TICCIH Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes 2011 ('Dublin Principles')
<b>Natural Heritage</b>	UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972 Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne Convention), 1979 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), 1979 Agreement on Conservation of Bats in Europe (Bonn Convention), 1993 Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention), 1971 Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), 1974 Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) (Bonn Convention), 1996 International Tropical Timber Agreement 1994, (1996) Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy
<b>Culture and Natural Heritage</b>	UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003

	ICOMOS Charter for the Interpretation and Preparation of Cultural Heritage Sites The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/697
<b>Landscape</b>	European Landscape Convention, 2000 ICOMOS

<b>National Legislation</b>	
<b>Planning and Built Heritage</b>	Architectural Heritage (National Inventory) and Historic Monuments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1999 Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) Heritage Act, 1995
<b>Archaeology and Archaeological Objects</b>	National Monuments Act 1930 and subsequent amendments of 1954, 1987, 1994 and 2004 National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997
<b>Heritage Objects, Museums, Archives and Records Management</b>	National Cultural Institutions Act, 1997 Local Government Act, 2001, S.80 National Archives Act, 1986 Data Protection Act, 1988 Freedom of Information Act, 1997 The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) ( Regulation (EU) 2016/697
<b>Irish Language</b>	Acht na Gaeltachta, 2012 Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, 2003 Acht Oideachais, 1998 Straitéis Fiche Bliain don Ghaeilge, 2010-2030 Polasaí don Oideachas Gaeltachta, 2017 – 2022 An tÓrdú Lagainmneacha (Ceantair Ghaeltachta), 2004
<b>Natural Heritage</b>	Wildlife Acts 1976 to 2012 Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act, 2006 Foreshore Acts, 1933-2012 Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1999 Flora (Protection) Order, 2015 European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and 2013 Forest Act, 2014 Forestry Regulations, 2017 (SI No 191 of 2017)
<b>Landscape</b>	Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended)

**Appendix 2** The Galway County Heritage Plan and the Galway County Biodiversity Plan 2010-2016 initiatives. A full list of project completed can be accessed on [www.heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org](http://www.heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org)

**Appendix 3** All members of the Galway County Heritage Forum and of the Galway County Biodiversity Steering Group and working groups

### **Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum**

1. James Allison – Sea Fisheries Protection
2. Áine Bird – Burrenbeo,
3. Tomás Breathnach – Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board
4. Christy Cunniffe – Community Archaeologist
5. Mairín Doddy – Architectural Conservation Officer, Galway County Council
6. Steve Dolan – Irish Workhouse Centre, Portumna
7. Jacqui Donnelly – Architect, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
8. Padraic Divilly – Irish Farmers Association
9. Lorna Elms – National Museum of Ireland - Country Life
10. Professor Martin Feely – National University of Ireland Galway, Geology Department
11. Dr Julie Fossitt – National Parks and Wildlife Service
12. Professor Michael Gormally – National University of Ireland Galway, Applied Ecology Unit
13. Mark Green – An Taisce
14. Ruth Hanniffy – Vincent Wildlife Trust
15. Mary Healy – Irish Workhouse Centre, Portumna
16. Donal Keegan – Forest Service
17. Martin Lavelle – Community member
18. Karen Mannion – Forum Connemara
19. Justin Mitchell – Woodlawn Heritage Group
20. Cormac Mc Carthy – Waterways Ireland
21. Dr Mark McCarthy – Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
22. Patria McWalter – Archivist, Galway County Council
23. Rosaleen Ní Shúillabháin – Forum Connemara
24. Síle O’Connor, Ballymoe – Community member
25. Elaine O’Riordan – Manager, Galway County Biodiversity Project
26. Jerry O’Sullivan – Archaeologist, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
27. Cillian Roden – Galway Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT)
28. Catherine Seale – Community Water Officer, Local Authority Waters & Communities Office
29. Meadhb Seoighe – Údaras na Gaeltachta
30. Brendan Smith – INSIGHT, National University of Ireland Galway
31. Miriam Stewart – Galway Rural Development
32. Marianne ten Cate – BirdWatch, Ireland
33. Eithne Verling – Galway City Museum
34. Professor Noel P. Wilkins – Galway Archaeological and Historical Society

### **Biodiversity & Natural Heritage Group**

1. James Allison – Sea Fisheries Protection
2. Áine Bird – Burrenbeo
3. Padraic Divilly – Irish Farmers Association

4. Professor Martin Feely – National University of Ireland Galway, Geology Department
5. Dr Julie Fossitt – National Parks and Wildlife Service
6. Professor Michael Gormally – National University of Ireland Galway, Applied Ecology Unit
7. Ruth Hanniffy – Vincent Wildlife Trust
8. Donal Keegan – Forest Service
9. Martin Lavelle – Community member
10. Elaine O’Riordan – Manager, Galway County Biodiversity Project
11. Cillian Roden – Galway Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT)
12. Catherine Seale – Community Water Officer, Local Authority Waters & Communities Office
13. Rosaleen Ní Shúillabháin – Forum Connemara
14. Miriam Stewart – Galway Rural Development
15. Marianne ten Cate – BirdWatch, Ireland

### **Cultural Heritage Group**

1. Tomás Breathnach – Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board
2. Lorna Elms – National Museum of Ireland - Country Life
3. Mary Healy – Irish Workhouse Centre, Portumna
4. Karen Mannion – Forum Connemara
5. Cormac Mc Carthy – Waterways Ireland
6. Dr Mark McCarthy – Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
7. Patria Mc Walter – Archivist, Galway County Council
8. Síle O’Connor, Ballymoe – Community member
9. Meadhb Seoighe – Údaras na Gaeltachta
10. Brendan Smith – INSIGHT, National University of Ireland Galway
11. Eithne Verling – Galway City Museum

### **Built Heritage Group**

1. Christy Cunniffe – Community Archaeologist,
2. Mairín Doddy – Architectural Conservation Officer, Galway County Council,
3. Steve Dolan – Irish Workhouse Centre, Portumna,
4. Jacqui Donnelly – Architect, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
5. Mark Green – An Taisce,
6. Justin Mitchell – Woodlawn Heritage Group
7. Jerry O’Sullivan – Archaeologist, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)
8. Professor Noel P. Wilkins – Galway Archaeological and Historical Society.

### **Galway County Council Support Staff:**

Gráinne Smyth, Clerical Officer,  
 Caroline Hannon, Assistant Staff Officer  
 Martina Creaven, Senior Staff Officer

### **Galway County Council Heritage Officer:**

Marie Mannion

**Appendix 4** Overview of meetings held and consultation process in the development of *Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2017 -2022*

Tues 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – Initial meeting of Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer and Elaine O’Riordan, Biodiversity Project Manager.

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 – Meeting of Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Elaine O’Riordan, Biodiversity Project Manager, Dr Christy Cunniffe, Community Archaeologist, Marian Donohue, Senior Staff Officer and Grainne Smyth, Clerical Officer, Galway County Council.

Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 - Meeting of Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Elaine O’Riordan, Biodiversity Project Manager, Dr Christy Cunniffe, Community Archaeologist, Marian Donohue, Senior Staff Officer and Grainne Smyth, Clerical Officer, Galway County Council.

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 Meeting of Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Steering Group Members

### **Community Consultation:**

#### **Public Consultation Meetings - Names of the attendees**

#### **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June - 11am to 1pm - Milltown Community Centre, Tuam**

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

Sile O’Connor, Heritage Forum

Tony Murphy, Milltown

Padraic O’Connor, Knock, Milltown,

Frank Glynn, Milltown

Catherine Seale, Community Water Officer

Patria McWalter, Archivist, Galway County Council,

Martin Lavelle, Heritage Forum

Pauline Connolly, Milltown Heritage

Mike Gormally, N.U.I. Galway

Louise Garvey, Glenamaddy Tidy Towns,

Elaine O’Riordan, Galway County Biodiversity Project

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – 5pm to 7pm – Clarinbridge Parish Hall, Clarinbridge**

Catherine O’Dowd, Clarinbridge Heritage

Angela Keane, Clarinbridge Heritage

Joe Sherry, Clarinbridge Village

Noël P. Wilkins, G.A.H.S.

James Allison, S.F.P.A.

Tomás Breathnach, G.R.E.T. B.

Elaine O’Riordan, Galway County Biodiversity Project

Donal Keegan, Forest Service, D.A.F.M.

Mark Green, An Taisce/Clarinbridge Arts Group

Hedy Gibbons Lynott, Clarinbridge Heritage Group

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

Diarmuid Kelly, Cuan Beo

Cllr. Martina Kinane, Clarinbridge

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June - 11am to 1pm – Ballymacward Community Centre,**

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

Mary Gorman, Woodlawn Heritage

Steve Dolan, Irish Workhouse Centre,

Sile O’Connor, Heritage Forum

Des Doherty, Woodlawn,

Justin Mitchell, Woodlawn

Michéal Kilgannon, Woodlawn,

Maeve Fahy, Woodlawn,

Alfred Seale , Woodlawn,

Catherine Seale, Community water Officer

Bernie Doherty, Carra, Bullaun, Loughrea

Francis Mc Loughlin, Ballymacward

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – 5pm to 7pm – Abbey Community Centre,**

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

Niamh Killeen, Abbey,

Mary Healy, Craughwell, Galway

Clare Horgan, Claregalway

Des Lynch, Abbey,

John Holohan, Abbey,

Noreen Shiel, Abbey Heritage,

Frances Holohan, Abbey

Noreen Lyons, Portumna Beo

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June - 11am to 1pm – Oughterard Court House,**

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

David Collins, Oughterard Heritage

Marianne tenCate , Heritage Forum, Birdwatch Ireland

Antoinette Lydon, Oughterard Heritage

Rosaleen Ní Shúillabháin, Forum Connemara

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June – 5pm to 7pm – Caife Teach na Cúirte, Doire an Fhéich, Casla**

Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Galway County Council

Deirdre Mhic an Iomaire, Coiste na mBailte Slachthmhara, An Cheathrú Rua

Rosaleen Ní Shúillabháin, Forum Connemara

Maire Ní Ghiobúin, Camus

Seosaimh Ó Giobúin, Camus

Marian Ní Scanláin, Cladhnach

**Appendix 5** Guiding documents, plans and strategies

Galway County Development Plan 2015 – 2021

Galway 2020 Bid Book

Galway County Council Cultural Plan

Galway County Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2016 - 2022

Tourism Strategy for County Galway

National Heritage Plan

National Biodiversity Plan

Culture 2025

Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022

Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020

**Appendix 6** Glossary of terms

### **All-Ireland Pollinator Plan**

The All Ireland Pollinator Plan provides a framework to bring together pollinator initiatives from the North and South of Ireland. It is a shared plan of action led by the **National Biodiversity Data Centre** and supported by multiple agencies to collectively protect Irish pollinators and the service they provide into the future. <http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/projects/irish-pollinator-initiative/all-ireland-pollinator-plan/>

### **Appropriate Assessment (AA)**

Under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, an Appropriate Assessment must be carried out to determine if impacts on important conservation areas, including **Special Areas of Conservation** and **Special Protection Areas**, are likely as a result of plans or projects. These include County Development Plans, Local Area Plans or any other regional planning guidelines, as well as project-level developments.

### **Archaeological object**

Any chattel [object], whether in a manufactured or partly manufactured or an unmanufactured state, which by reason of the archaeological interest attaching thereto or of its association with any Irish historical event or person has a value substantially greater than its intrinsic (including artistic) value. This includes ancient human, animal or plant remains.

### **Archaeological Survey of Ireland**

The Archaeological Survey of Ireland is a unit of the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, responsible for identifying and recording archaeological sites and monuments, and maintaining an archive of these data (the Sites and Monuments Record).

### **Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)**

An Architectural Conservation Area is a place, area, group of structures or townscape, taking account of building lines and heights, that is of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific or technical interest or that contributes to the appreciation of a protected structure and whose character is an objective of a Development Plan to preserve (as set out in Section 81 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000).

### **Architectural Heritage**

All structures, buildings, traditional and designed, and groups of buildings, including streetscapes and urban vistas, which are of historical, archaeological, artistic, engineering, scientific, social or technical interest, together with their setting, attendant grounds, fixtures, fittings and contents. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, it includes railways and related buildings and structures and any place comprising the remains or traces of any such railway, building or structure.

### **Archive**

Archives are the accumulated materials and records created or received by a person, family or public or private organisation, preserved because of the enduring value contained therein or as evidence of the functions and responsibilities of their creator, especially those materials using the principles of provenance, original order and collective control. They can come in a range of formats, including written, photographic, maps, moving images, sound, analogue, digital and electronic.

### **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity is a term used to describe the variety of living things on Earth. Estimates of the total number of species on Earth range from 5 to 100 million. The best estimate is believed to be around 14 million. Biodiversity is fundamental to our daily lives, providing us with all our food and many of our raw materials and medicines.

### **Biodiversity Officer**

The Biodiversity Officer role is to protect, manage and enhance the local environment by promoting awareness and understanding of the natural environment among the general public and integrating biodiversity with planning, development and management. Further information on the work they do can be found on the websites of the relevant Local Authority.

### **Birds Directive**

Under the terms of the EU Birds Directive, all EU member states, including Ireland, are bound to take measures to protect all wild birds and their habitats. The Birds Directive allows member states to make derogations from its protective measures where certain wild bird species covered by the declaration are causing damage to crops, livestock and **fauna** or represent a threat to public health or to air safety.

### **Blue Flag**

Blue Flag is an international environmental award made to beaches and marinas throughout the world that demonstrate good environmental standards and good sanitary and safety facilities. The award is made by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), an independent non-profit organisation. Blue Flag is in place in 39 countries. In Ireland, Blue Flag is operated by An Taisce, *The National Trust for Ireland*.

### **Community Archives**

Community Archives encourage groups of people to identify, explore and celebrate their own community's history. Those who build community archives create and engage with collections of photographs, documents, material objects, oral testimonies and other audio-visual material. These resources contain otherwise hidden narratives that trace and celebrate the worth of communities and individuals, past and present; from them, spring educational and social initiatives that may engage the wider community.

### **Conservation Plan (Built Heritage)**

The aim of a Conservation Plan is to provide a comprehensive understanding of a building, structure, site or monument, its significance both as a structure and a historic place, and a measure of its vulnerability to harmful change. The Plan includes management policies and recommendations for related actions which promote, conserve and enhance the special cultural significance of the building, structure, site or monument and its immediate setting.

### **Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG)**

This department oversees the protection and presentation of Ireland's heritage and cultural assets, promotes and protects Ireland's heritage and culture, and advances the use of the Irish language. It funds a number of state bodies and agencies (including the Heritage Council) with responsibilities relating to various aspects of the department's remit. The Heritage Division of the DCHG includes the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the National Monuments Service, the Architectural Heritage Advisory Unit and the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

### **Fauna**

All wild animals (aquatic and terrestrial), including in particular wild birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and non-aquatic invertebrate animals, and all such wild animals' eggs, larvae, pupae or other immature stages and young, but in relation to fish or aquatic invertebrate animals (or their eggs or spawn or other immature stages or young) only including fish and such aquatic invertebrate animals of a species specified in regulations under section 23 of the Wildlife Act, 1976, which are for the time being in force.

### **Flora**

All plants (both aquatic and terrestrial) which occur in the wild (whether within or outside the State) other than trees, shrubs or plants being grown in the course of agriculture, forestry or horticulture and including in particular lichens, mosses, liverworts, fungi, algae and vascular plants, namely flowering plants, ferns and fern-allied plants and any community of such plants.

### **Folklore**

Traditional beliefs, customs and stories of a community, passed through generations by word of mouth.

**Gaeltacht**

A region of Ireland in which the vernacular language is Irish.

**Galway Community Archaeology Project**

The primary objectives of Galway Community Archaeology Project are to:

- (i) promote awareness, knowledge and understanding of the local archaeological resource among individuals and community groups in the county;
- (ii) promote heritage best practice in relation to researching and undertaking works relating to archaeological heritage.

**Galway County Heritage & Biodiversity Forum (the Forum)**

Established in 2004, the Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Forum comprises sectoral interests, including local government, state agencies, non-governmental organisations, farmers and other landowners, local and regional development agencies, the education and heritage sector, and the community and voluntary sector. It provides advice and guidance regarding the development and implementation of Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plans, and develops and reviews annual programmes of work.

**Geographic Information System (GIS)**

GIS is designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyse, manage and present spatial or geographic data. GIS applications are tools that allow users to create interactive queries (user-created searches), analyse spatial information, edit data in maps, and present the results of all these operations.

**Geology and soils**

The study of the planet Earth as a whole or in part: the materials of which it is made, the processes that act and have acted upon these materials and the products and structures formed by such actions.

**Green-Schools**

Green-Schools, known internationally as Eco-Schools, is an international environmental education programme, environmental management system and award scheme that promotes and acknowledges long-term, whole-school action for the environment.

**Green Coast**

Green Coast is objective-led, encouraging 'best practice' in management of rural beaches and emphasising community involvement in coastal management. Green Coast Award beaches demonstrate clean water and sound environmental management. The award encourages the setting up of local Coast Care Groups.

**Habitat**

The ecological environment in which particular organisms and communities thereof thrive.

**Habitats Directive**

The EU Directive on the Conservation of Habitats, Flora and Fauna (92/43/EEC), 'the Habitats Directive', was transposed into Irish law in 1997. Its annexes list habitats and species which are considered threatened in the EU. Its main aim is to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity by requiring member states to:

- take measures to maintain or restore natural habitats and wild species listed on the Annexes at a favourable conservation status;
- undertake surveillance of the conservation status of the natural habitats and species in the Annexes;
- report to the European Commission every six years on their status and on the implementation of the measures taken under the Directive.

The listed habitats and species represent a considerable proportion of biodiversity in Ireland.

**Heritage boat**

A heritage boat is:

- (i) a boat or vessel that was important to an inland or coastal community;

- (ii) a boat built with the materials available at the time, i.e. timber, iron, steel, concrete or GRP, and which reflects the techniques and skills used in the construction of that boat;
- (iii) a boat or vessel with historic connections of national importance, or associated with prominent national persons, e.g., the *Asgard*, or a rowing boat used by Sean McBride on Lough Derg.

### **Heritage Council**

The Heritage Council was established under the Heritage Act, 1995. It seeks to protect and enhance the richness, quality and diversity of our national heritage. It works with its partners, particularly at local level, to increase awareness of our national heritage and highlight its importance to public policy and everyday life.

### **Heritage gardens and parks**

Areas of natural heritage, and gardens and parks whose plant collections, design, design features, buildings, setting, style or association are of significant scientific, botanical, aesthetic or historical interest or which illustrate some aspect of the development of gardening or of gardens and parks.

### **Heritage in Schools Scheme**

The Heritage in Schools Scheme offers a panel of Heritage Specialists who will, at the request of a teacher, visit a primary school to work directly with the children. Specialists are listed in the Heritage Directory, which is updated annually and sent to all primary schools in the country.

### **Heritage objects**

Objects over 25-years-old which are works of art or of industry (including books, documents and other records, including genealogical records) of cultural importance.

### **Heritage Officer**

Galway County Heritage Office was established in June 2000 with the appointment of County Galway's first Heritage Officer. The Heritage Officer Programme is a joint initiative between the Heritage Council and local authorities including Galway County Council. The role of the Heritage Officer is to promote awareness, knowledge and pride in the heritage of County Galway. Provide advice, guidance and information on various aspects of heritage. Promote partnership and participation Promote heritage best practice. Prepare and implement actions of *Galway County Heritage Plan 2017-2022* in conjunction with Galway County Heritage Forum. Collect data and undertake research on various aspects of the heritage of County Galway. Support the integration and inclusion of heritage policy across all sectors.

### **Heritage Science**

Cross-disciplinary scientific research of cultural heritage, a rare hybrid subject that engages people across the disciplines such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Digital and Earth sciences and the Humanities.

### **Inland waterways**

Canals, canalised sections of rivers and lakes, navigation channels in rivers and lakes, and their associated navigational features.

### **Intangible Cultural Heritage**

UNESCO defines intangible cultural heritage as the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage. It is transmitted from generation to generation, constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to

their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity.

### **Invasive Species**

Species of plants or animals which have been introduced to a new territory outside their natural range. In the absence of natural controls such as predators or diseases, they have proliferated to such an extent that they cause environmental, health or economic problems.

### **Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN):**

A network of online archives developed and managed by volunteer community groups supported by heritage professionals. A digital heritage project delivered by the National Museum of Ireland in partnership with Galway County Heritage Office.

### **Landscape**

Areas, sites, vistas and features of scenic, archaeological, geological, historical, ecological or other scientific interest.

### **Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)**

Landscape Character Assessment is a tool for identifying the features that give a locality its particular 'sense of place' and can be used to categorise the landscape into areas of similar character.

### **Local Agenda 21 (LA21)**

Local Agenda 21 is a process which facilitates sustainable development at community level. It is based on participation which respects the social, cultural, economic and environmental needs of the present and future citizens of a community in all its diversity and which relates that community and its future to the regional, national and international community of which it is a part.

### **Local Authority Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO)**

This office has been established by local authorities to promote public awareness, participation and knowledge-sharing in the development and application of the River Basin Management Plan.

### **Maritime heritage**

Maritime heritage embraces the cultural, physical and ecological legacies of past generations that derived a living from the sea, including their traditions and the natural and built features of both coastal and offshore environments, from salt marshes to cold-water corals, with their associated plant and animal communities.

### **Monument**

Monuments include the following, whether above or below the surface of the ground or the water and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground:

- (a) any artificial or partly artificial building, structure or erection or group of such buildings, structures or erections;
- (b) any cave, stone or other natural product, whether or not forming part of the ground, that has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the place where it is) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position;
- (c) any, or any part of any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, or ritual, industrial or habitation site;
- (d) any place comprising the remains or traces of any such building, structure or erection, any such cave, stone or natural product or any such tomb, grave, burial deposit or ritual, industrial or habitation site, situated on land or in the territorial waters of the State, but does not include any building, or part of any building, that is habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes.

### **National Biodiversity Data Centre**

The National Biodiversity Data Centre is the national centre dedicated to the collation, management, analysis and dissemination of data and information on Ireland's biological diversity. It serves as a hub for

the exchange of data between governmental organisations, NGOs, research institutions and volunteer recorders.

### **National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)**

The NIAH is a unit within the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The work of the NIAH involves identifying and recording a representative sample of the **architectural heritage** of Ireland, from 1700 to the present day.

### **National Parks**

Almost entirely State-owned areas designated nationally with the aims of nature conservation and public recreation and appreciation.

### **National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)**

The NPWS is part of the Heritage Division of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and is charged with the conservation of a range of habitats and species in Ireland. NPWS's most important activities include designation and protection of Natural Heritage Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, as well as managing and developing National Parks and Nature Reserves.

### **National Monuments Service (NMS) of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**

The National Monuments Service implements the provisions of the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2014 on behalf of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Responsibilities include:

- the identification and designation of monuments through the Archaeological Survey of Ireland;
- providing archaeological input into the care and conservation of national monuments in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and managed by the Office of Public Works;
- implementing protective and regulatory controls (including licensing of excavations and making of Ministerial directions and consents) under the National Monuments Acts;
- providing heritage input and advice to planning and other consent authorities in respect of individual planning and other development applications, projects and plans;
- the implementation of legislative provisions in relation to the protection of monuments and sites.

### **Natural Heritage Area (NHA)**

NHAs are areas of conservation value for ecological and/or geological/geomorphological heritage designated nationally under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000.

### **Nature Reserve**

A Nature Reserve is an area of importance to wildlife, which is protected under Ministerial order. Most are owned by the State. However, some are owned by organisations or private landowners, and persons interested in acquiring statutory protection for their lands can seek advice on this matter from the Department of Culture, Heritage and The Gaeltacht.

### **Oral History**

The collection and study of historical information using recordings of interviews with people having personal knowledge of past events.

### **Placenames and fieldnames (Logainmneacha)**

Placenames include the names of townlands, civil parishes, electoral divisions, baronies and counties. Any other place-names are minor placenames and include physical features (e.g. lakes, rivers, bays, headlands, islands, mountains, hills), names of man-made features (e.g. ring forts, churches, abbeys, graveyards, bridges, crossroads) and fieldnames. Fieldnames lack official status or administrative function but contain information on a local level regarding settlement patterns, agriculture and industry.

### **Protected structure**

A protected structure is a structure or part of a structure that a planning authority considers to be of special interest from an architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical point of view.

### **Public history**

Public history is primarily concerned with the consumption of past narratives through a language of heritage and is defined by its appeal to a popular audience.

### **Record of Monuments and Places (RMP)**

The Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) is the most widely applying provision of the National Monuments Acts. It comprises a list of recorded monuments and places and accompanying maps on which such monuments and places are shown for each county. It can be consulted in county libraries and main local authority offices and an electronic copy may be accessed via [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie). The National Monuments Service of the Department of the Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will advise on the protection applying to any particular monument or place under the National Monuments Acts by reason of it being entered in the Record of Monuments and Places and should be consulted if there is any doubt as to the status of the site.

### **Record of Protected Structures (RPS)**

The Planning and Development Act, 2000, requires each planning authority to compile and maintain a Record of Protected Structures. The RPS is a mechanism for the statutory protection of architectural heritage and forms part of each planning authority's development plan. The Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment may recommend structures to the planning authorities for inclusion on the RPS.

### **Rural Recreation Programme**

The Rural Recreation Programme is administered by 12 Local Development Companies on behalf of the Department of Rural Community Development. The programme is implemented by a Rural Recreation Officer who provides a wide range of support and advice to landowners, recreation users and community groups. They liaise regularly with landowners to ensure that good working relationships are maintained and any concerns are addressed.

### **Seascape**

Areas and sites of coastal water, including estuaries, bays and lagoons of significant scenic, geological, ecological or other scientific interest.

### **Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**

SACs are sites that are designated for the protection of habitats and/or species of conservation importance in the European Union under the **Habitats Directive**.

### **Strategic Policy Committees (SPC)**

These committees afford both elected representatives and local sectoral interests the opportunity to become more involved in policy formulation at a local level.

### **Special Protection Area (SPA)**

SPAs are sites that are designated for the protection of birds and their habitats of conservation importance in the European Union under the **Birds Directive**.

### **Water Framework Directive (WFD)**

The objectives of the European Union WFD are to protect all high-status waters, to prevent further deterioration of all waters and to restore degraded surface and ground waters to good status. The WFD requires a new holistic approach to managing their waters.

### **Wreck**

A vessel, or part of a vessel, lying wrecked on, in or under the sea bed or, on or in land covered by water, and any objects contained in or on the vessel, and any objects that were formerly contained in or on a vessel and are lying on, in or under the sea bed or on or in land covered by water.

## **Websites**

### **Organisation**

An Coimisinéir Teanga

An Taisce, *The National Trust for Ireland*

Bat Conservation Ireland

BirdWatch Ireland

BirdWatch Ireland (Galway Branch)

Bord na Mona

Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland

Building Limes Forum Ireland

Burren Beo

Coastguards of Yesteryear

CoastWatch Ireland

Coillte

Commissioners of Irish Lights

Connemara Beekeepers

Conservation Volunteers Galway

Convention on Biological Diversity

CRANN

Cuan Beo

Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Department of Education and Skills

ENFO

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Europa Nostra

### **Website**

[www.coimisineir.ie](http://www.coimisineir.ie)

[www.antaisce.org](http://www.antaisce.org)

[www.batconservationireland.org/](http://www.batconservationireland.org/)

[www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)

[www.birdwatchgalway.org](http://www.birdwatchgalway.org)

[www.bnm.ie](http://www.bnm.ie)

[www.bsbi.org.uk](http://www.bsbi.org.uk)

[www.buildinglimesforumireland.com](http://www.buildinglimesforumireland.com)

[www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com)

[www.coastguardsofyesteryear.org](http://www.coastguardsofyesteryear.org)

<http://coastwatch.org/europe/>

[www.coillte.ie](http://www.coillte.ie)

[www.cil.ie](http://www.cil.ie)

[www.connemarabeekeepers.ie/](http://www.connemarabeekeepers.ie/)

[www.facebook.com/ConservationVolunteersGalway/](https://www.facebook.com/ConservationVolunteersGalway/)

<https://www.cbd.int/>

[www.crann.ie](http://www.crann.ie)

[www.cuanbeo.com](http://www.cuanbeo.com)

[www.dccae.gov.ie](http://www.dccae.gov.ie)

[www.chg.gov.ie/](http://www.chg.gov.ie/)

[www.education.ie/en/](http://www.education.ie/en/)

[www.askaboutireland.ie/enfo/](http://www.askaboutireland.ie/enfo/)

[www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie)

[www.europanostra.org](http://www.europanostra.org)

Fáilte Ireland	<a href="http://www.failteireland.ie">www.failteireland.ie</a>
Foras na Gaeilge	<a href="http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie">www.forasnagaeilge.ie</a>
Forest Service	<a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service">www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service</a>
Forum Connemara	<a href="http://www.forumconnemara.ie">www.forumconnemara.ie</a>
Gael Linn	<a href="http://www.gael-linn.ie">www.gael-linn.ie</a>
Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board (GRETB)	<a href="http://www.gretb.ie">www.gretb.ie</a>
Galway Bat Group	<a href="http://www.galwaybatgroup.org/">www.galwaybatgroup.org/</a>
Galway Beekeepers Association	<a href="http://www.galwaybeekeepers.com">www.galwaybeekeepers.com</a>
Galway Community Archaeology	<a href="http://field-monuments.galwaycommunityheritage.org/">field-monuments.galwaycommunityheritage.org/</a>
Galway County Council	<a href="http://www.galway.ie">www.galway.ie</a>
Galway County Council Archives	<a href="http://www.galway.ie/archives">www.galway.ie/archives</a>
Galway County Heritage Office	<a href="http://heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org">heritage.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a>
Galway East Tourism	<a href="http://www.galwayeast.com">www.galwayeast.com</a>
Galway Education Centre	<a href="http://www.galwayec.ie">www.galwayec.ie</a>
Galway Hookers	<a href="http://www.galwayhookers.ie">www.galwayhookers.ie</a>
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology	<a href="http://www.gmit.ie">www.gmit.ie</a>
Galway Rural Development	<a href="http://www.grd.ie">www.grd.ie</a>
Geological Survey of Ireland	<a href="http://www.gsi.ie">www.gsi.ie</a>
Green-Schools	<a href="http://www.greenschoolsireland.org">www.greenschoolsireland.org</a>
Heritage Boat Association	<a href="http://www.heritageboatassociation.ie">www.heritageboatassociation.ie</a>
Heritage Council	<a href="http://www.heritagecouncil.ie">www.heritagecouncil.ie</a>
Heritage Visitor Sites and Service	<a href="http://www.heritageireland.ie">www.heritageireland.ie</a>
Information hub for the Irish language	<a href="http://www.peig.ie">www.peig.ie</a>
Inland Fisheries Ireland	<a href="http://www.fisheriesireland.ie">www.fisheriesireland.ie</a>
Inland Waterways Association	<a href="http://www.iwai.ie">www.iwai.ie</a>
Institute of Historic Building Conservation	<a href="http://www.ihbc.org.uk">www.ihbc.org.uk</a>
Integrated Catchment Management (WFD)	<a href="http://www.catchments.ie">www.catchments.ie</a>
International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property	<a href="http://www.iccom.org">www.iccom.org</a>
International Council on Monuments and Sites	<a href="http://www.icomos.org">www.icomos.org</a>
Invasive Species Ireland	<a href="http://www.invasivespeciesireland.com">www.invasivespeciesireland.com</a>
Ireland West Tourism	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
Irish Architectural Archive	<a href="http://www.iarc.ie">www.iarc.ie</a>
Irish Architecture Online	<a href="http://www.irish-architecture.com">www.irish-architecture.com</a>
Irish Farmers Association	<a href="http://www.ifa.ie">www.ifa.ie</a>
Irish Georgian Society	<a href="http://www.igs.ie">www.igs.ie</a>
Irish Heritage GIS data website	<a href="http://www.heritagedata.ie">www.heritagedata.ie</a>
Irish Landmark Trust	<a href="http://www.irishlandmark.com">www.irishlandmark.com</a>

Irish Landscape Institute	<a href="http://www.irishlandscapeinstitute.com">www.irishlandscapeinstitute.com</a>
Irish Natura & Hill Farmers Association	<a href="http://www.inhfa.ie">www.inhfa.ie</a>
Irish Open data Portal	<a href="http://data.gov.ie/data">data.gov.ie/data</a>
Irish Peatland Conservation Council	<a href="http://www.ipcc.ie">www.ipcc.ie</a>
Irish Railway Record Society	<a href="http://www.irrs.ie">www.irrs.ie</a>
Irish Seedsavers	<a href="http://www.irishseedsaver.ie">www.irishseedsaver.ie</a>
Irish Society for Archives	<a href="http://irishsocietyforarchives.com">irishsocietyforarchives.com</a>
Irish Whale and Dolphin Trust	<a href="http://www.iwdg.ie">www.iwdg.ie</a>
Irish Wildlife Trust	<a href="http://www.iwt.ie">www.iwt.ie</a>
Irish Workhouses	<a href="http://irishworkhousecentre.ie">irishworkhousecentre.ie</a>
Leave No Trace Ireland	<a href="http://www.leavenotraceireland.org">www.leavenotraceireland.org</a>
Local Authority Waters and Communities Office	<a href="http://www.watersandcommunities.ie">www.watersandcommunities.ie</a>
Marine Institute	<a href="http://www.marine.ie">www.marine.ie</a>
Meitheal Logainm.ie - Placenames Collection Project	<a href="https://meitheal.logainm.ie/en/">https://meitheal.logainm.ie/en/</a>
Mills and Millers of Ireland	<a href="http://www.millsofireland.org">www.millsofireland.org</a>
National Archives	<a href="http://www.nationalarchives.ie">www.nationalarchives.ie</a>
National Biodiversity Data Centre	<a href="http://www.biodiversityireland.ie">www.biodiversityireland.ie</a>
National Council for Forest Research and Development	<a href="http://www.coford.ie">www.coford.ie</a>
National Inventory of Architectural Heritage	<a href="http://www.buildingsofireland.ie">www.buildingsofireland.ie</a>
National Library	<a href="http://www.nli.ie">www.nli.ie</a>
National Monuments Service	<a href="http://www.archaeology.ie">www.archaeology.ie</a>
National Museum	<a href="http://www.museum.ie">www.museum.ie</a>
National Parks and Wildlife Service	<a href="http://www.npws.ie">www.npws.ie</a>
National University of Galway, Ireland (NUIG)	<a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie">www.nuigalway.ie</a>
Office of Public Works	<a href="http://www.opw.ie">www.opw.ie</a>
Oral History Network of Ireland	<a href="http://www.oralhistorynetworkireland.ie">www.oralhistorynetworkireland.ie</a>
People and Nature	<a href="http://www.biodiversity.galwaycommunityheritage.org">www.biodiversity.galwaycommunityheritage.org</a>
Placenames Database of Ireland	<a href="http://www.logainm.ie">www.logainm.ie</a>
Planning Architecture Design Database Ireland (PADDI)	<a href="http://www.paddi.net">www.paddi.net</a>
Researching Historic Buildings in the British Isles	<a href="http://www.buildinghistory.org">www.buildinghistory.org</a>
Railway Preservation Society of Ireland	<a href="http://www.steamtrainsireland.com">www.steamtrainsireland.com</a>
Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland	<a href="http://www.riai.ie">www.riai.ie</a>
Samuel Lewis: A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland 1837	<a href="http://www.libraryireland.com">www.libraryireland.com</a>
Sea Fisheries Protection Authority	<a href="http://www.sfpa.ie">www.sfpa.ie</a>
Teagasc	<a href="http://www.teagasc.ie">www.teagasc.ie</a>
TG4	<a href="http://www.tg4.ie">www.tg4.ie</a>
Tree Council of Ireland	<a href="http://www.treecouncil.ie">www.treecouncil.ie</a>

Tribes Beekeepers	<a href="http://www.tribesbeekeepersassociation.com/">www.tribesbeekeepersassociation.com/</a>
Tidy Towns	<a href="http://www.tidytowns.ie">www.tidytowns.ie</a>
Tuairisc.ie (Online Irish language news service)	<a href="http://www.tuairisc.ie">www.tuairisc.ie</a>
Údarás na Gaeltachta	<a href="http://www.udaras.ie">www.udaras.ie</a>
Valuation Office	<a href="http://www.valoff.ie">www.valoff.ie</a>
Vincent Wildlife Trust - Ireland	<a href="http://www.mammals-in-ireland.ie/">www.mammals-in-ireland.ie/</a>
Waterways Ireland	<a href="http://www.waterwaysireland.org">www.waterwaysireland.org</a>
Waymarked Walks of Ireland	<a href="http://www.irishtrails.ie">www.irishtrails.ie</a>
Woodlands of Ireland	<a href="http://www.woodlandsofireland.com">www.woodlandsofireland.com</a>