

# Galway priest on a life in limbo

Documentary tells story of Redemptorist silenced by Vatican for liberal views

THE story of an outspoken Galway priest – suspended from public ministry by the Vatican for his liberal views – will be told in an upcoming documentary to be screened on TG4.

*Misneach*: Tony Flannery gives a voice to a priest who has been side-lined by the church he has devoted his life to – simply for expressing his support for women's ordination, optional clerical celibacy, same sex relationships and his liberal views on homosexuality.

Ordained in 1974, Tony Flannery

is a native of Attymon. Eleven years ago, he was summoned to Rome by the Superior General of the Redemptorists to find his writing in *Reality* magazine had been the subject of complaint to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

He was handed an unsigned piece of paper, containing instructions from the CDF that he be suspended from ministry.

What followed was a long process, the result of which means that to this day, Tony is forbidden to speak in any Catholic Church

property.

Tony has never known who his accusers were and has been given no right to appeal this decision.

Despite being offered a chance to return to ministry if he were to sign a statement renouncing his views and agree with the Church's moral teachings and their stance of female ordination – Tony has not waived.

*Misneach*: Tony Flannery will be broadcast on TG4 on Wednesday, October 18, at 9.30pm.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED MATERIAL ALTERATIONS TO THE DRAFT ATHENRY LOCAL AREA PLAN 2023-2029

in accordance with:

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

Planning and Development (Strategic Environment Assessment) Regulations 2004, as amended

Notice is hereby given that the Members of Athenry /Oranmore Municipal District, having considered the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029 and the Chief Executive's Report in respect of submissions received, have resolved in accordance with Sections 20 3(e) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that the Draft Local Area Plan be amended. The proposed amendments constitute material alterations to the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029.

In accordance with Section 20 3(f) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Galway County Council has screened the Proposed Material Alterations for the need to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) and has determined that: SEA is required with respect to certain Proposed Material Alterations; and Stage 2 AA is not required for any Proposed Material Alteration.

A copy of the proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029, the SEA and AA Screening Determinations in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and associated SEA and AA documents (including information on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the proposed Material Alterations that is included in the SEA Environmental Report on Proposed Material Alterations) will be available for public display and may be inspected from Thursday 5th October 2023 to 4.00pm on Friday 3rd November 2023 inclusive during normal opening hours at the following locations:

- <https://consult.galway.ie/>
- Planning Office, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX (Monday-Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm)
- Athenry Library, Old Church Street, Athenry H65 C992 (Wednesday & Friday 10.30am – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 5.00pm (closed Sunday, Monday & Tuesday) Thursday 3.00pm – 7.00pm; Saturday 11.00am – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 5.00pm)
- Athenry Area Office, Old Church Street, Athenry H65 C992 (Monday-Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 5.00pm)

Written Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029, the SEA and AA determinations in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the associated SEA and AA documents (including information on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the proposed Material Alterations that is included in the SEA Environmental Report on Proposed Material Alterations) are invited from members of the public and other interested parties. Written submissions or observations must state the full name and address of the person or relevant body or agency making Material Alterations and should be clearly marked "Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029", and should quote the relevant proposed material alteration reference number(s) (which commences with 'MA').

Submissions may be made within the above period and before 4.00pm on Friday 3rd November 2023. Written submissions or observations should be clearly marked 'Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athenry LAP 2023-2029' and must be submitted either:

Online: Online by visiting <https://consult.galway.ie/>

By Email: Sent by email to [forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:forwardplanning@galwaycoco.ie)

In Writing: In writing and addressed to: 'Proposed Material Alterations to the Draft Athenry Local Area Plan' Forward Planning Section, Galway County Council, Prospect Hill, Galway.

The closing date for Submissions/Observations is Friday 3rd November 2023 at 4.00pm.

### Late Submissions will not be accepted.

Please send your submission/observation through one medium only either in writing or electronically.

In respect of making a submission or observation please note the following:

Children or groups and associations representing the interests of children are entitled to make submissions or observations regarding policy objectives to deliver an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area of the LAP.

Galway County Council is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act (as amended). Please be advised that all submissions received will be published online in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act.

You should ensure that no vexatious, libellous or confidential information, including confidential information relating to a third party (in respect of which the third party has not, expressly, or impliedly in the circumstances, consented to its disclosure) is included in your submission. The Planning Authority reserves the right to redact any submission or part thereof that does not comply with this requirement. Please be advised that the submission will be published in full.

Galway County Council is subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act (as amended) and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). In order to assist us in complying with Data Protection and GDPR please include your name and contact details (and where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company etc., which you represent), on a separate sheet to the content of your submission/ observation. This processing of your personal data is lawful under Article 6 (1)(e) of the GDPR regulations. The Council's Data Protection Policy is available on the Council website.

Please note that in accordance with Section 19 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2018, all valid submissions received by the Council shall be published on the Galway County Council website within 10 working days of its receipt by the Council. The planning process is an open and public process and therefore your submission (in part or in total) will be available to view online at <https://consult.galway.ie/>. All observations or submissions received during the above time period will be taken into consideration before the making of the Athenry Local Area Plan 2023-2029.

Hard copies of the Material Alterations and associated documentation are available for purchase from the Planning Department.

### Lobbying

Lobbying is an essential part of the democratic process. It enables or facilitates citizens and organisations to make their views on public policy and public services such as land use zoning known to politicians and public servants (designated Public Officials). If you are involved in lobbying, you may need to:

- Register on the Register of Lobbying website which is maintained by Standards Commission [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie)
- Provide information to the Standards Commission about your lobbying activities three times a year
- Please visit [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie) for more information.

The personal information (data) collected during the consultation process (which may include the collection of sensitive personal data) is collected for the purpose of receiving and dealing with submissions and any data collected is subject to Galway County Council's privacy statement which can be found at <http://www.galway.ie/en/services/yourcouncil/privacystatement/>

Tá míle fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras agus ghnó i nGaeilge: [gaeilge@cocogailimh.ie](mailto:gaeilge@cocogailimh.ie) [www.gailimh.ie](http://www.gailimh.ie)

✉ [customerservices@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:customerservices@galwaycoco.ie) [www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie) X @GalwayCoCo

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