

Radiographers vote for industrial action over staffing

BY DARA BRADLEY

SIPTU radiographers at Merlin Park Hospital and University Hospital Galway said the 'disappointing' response by management to their concerns about workload, pay, and health and safety issues was too weak to avert industrial action.

Talks concluded last Thursday between trade union leaders and management at the hospitals over short staffing, excessive workloads and non-payment of wages arrears due.

They were conducted against the backdrop of a ballot by radiographers last week, in which they voted

overwhelmingly for industrial action up to and including strike.

The vote followed months of frustration over recruitment and retention issues at the two city hospitals which have left SIPTU members facing a significant extra workload amid a staffing deficit of up to 20 per cent.

SIPTU Sector Organiser, John McCamley explained there was a HSE budget for 80 Whole-Time-Equivalents at Galway University Hospitals (the two public hospitals combined). This was too low, according to SIPTU, and in recent times the WTE has been as low as 60. It currently had 65-70 WTE radiographers.

"This dispute centres around

staffing, increased workload, non-payment of wage arrears, out of hours arrangements and non-adherence to national agreements. There is a growing sense that HSE management is not willing to engage meaningfully to resolve this dispute and that the window to find a resolution is closing fast," he said.

Mr McCamley declined to elaborate on what a work-to-rule would mean, and what impact it would have on patients, until members had been consulted. But he added SIPTU was disappointed with management's response which was not enough to avert industrial action.

"SIPTU members are disappointed

that no concrete proposals have come from management to resolve the dispute and are frustrated regarding the additional workload placed on radiographers as a result of inadequate staffing.

"We are seeking commitments from management that it will address wage arrears as a matter of urgency and deal with patient safety issues in the provision of proper out-of-hours arrangements," Mr McCamley added.

Saolta University Healthcare Group - which operates the hospitals - in a statement said it was committed to the industrial relations process.

"We note the proposed industrial

action and are fully committed to engaging with the industrial relations process to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

"GUH, as with other acute hospitals, is challenged by a global shortage of radiographers and we acknowledge that staff shortages negatively impact our workforce.

"We are making every effort to fill vacant posts and are actively prioritising ongoing recruitment campaigns which target domestic and international markets.

"We will continue to engage with our staff and representative body on the issues of concern," a Saolta spokesperson said.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

NOTICE OF MAKING OF THE TUAM 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 Environmental Assessment)
Regulations 2004, as amended

Notice is hereby given that the Tuam Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029 was adopted by the Tuam Municipal District Members at their meeting on the 11th September 2023 and is due to come into effect on the 23rd October 2023.

The Tuam Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029 is a statutory document prepared by the Planning Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The Tuam Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029 is accompanied by a Local Transport Plan. The plan also includes Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report, prepared in accordance with the Planning and Development (SEA) Regulations 2004 (as amended), an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report, pursuant to Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC. The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) prepared in accordance with The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009. The Strategic Environmental Statement (SEA) which accompanies the Plan contains information on how environmental consideration has been integrated into the Plan.

A copy of the Tuam Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029 along with other accompanying reports and with the SEA Statement and AA Conclusion Statement, is available to view on the following websites:

- <https://consult.galway.ie/en/browse>
- <https://www.galway.ie/en/services/planning/planspolicy/lap/>

Copies of the Tuam Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029 will be available in due course to purchase from the Planning Department, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 (AS AMENDED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED) PART 8

APPLICANT: Galway County Council
SITE ADDRESS: Kilbannon, Co. Galway
TOWNLAND: Tonleegy & Pollacorragune

In accordance with the requirements of Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), notice is hereby given that Galway County Council intend to carry out a development at the above location comprising an extension to the existing Burial Ground at Kilbannon, Co. Galway. A Stage 1 'Appropriate Assessment' screening was carried out for the proposed development and has concluded that a Stage 2 'Appropriate Assessment' [Natura Impact Statement (NIS)] is not required.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or for purchase for a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal office hours (Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 4.00pm, excluding Bank Holidays and Public Holidays) from Tuesday 24th October 2023 until Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at the following location:

- Galway County Council, Planning Department (Public Counter), Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX
- Galway County Council, Tuam Area Office, High Street, Tuam, Co. Galway, H54 F627
- Galway County Council's Consultation Portal at <https://planning.localgov.ie/en/search/application> (LGMA online portal)

Submissions or observations in relation to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may be made in writing to the Planning Department, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX; or in electronic format via the special website at <https://planning.localgov.ie/en/search/application> (LGMA online portal) to arrive not later than Wednesday 6th December 2023.

BÓITHRE LE DÚNADH GO SEALADACH

ACHT NA mBÓITHRE 1993 - ALT 75 RIALACHÁIN NA mBÓITHRE 1994
- AIRTEAGAL 12
FÓGRA CINNIIDH

Ceantar Bardasach Chonamara

Tugtar fógra leis seo go bhfuil ordú tugtha ag Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe an bóthar R336 a dhúnadh idir An Mám agus an Teach Dóite ón 7.30 r.n. go dtí 6.00 i.n. ar an Máirt, 31/10/2023 chun Anach an Tí Dhóite a éascú.

Malaírt Sli:

1. Ba chóir do dhaoine a bheidh ag dul ón Llonán i dtreo na Gaillimhe nó i dtreo dheisceart Chonamara dul bóthar an N59 An Llonán-An Choill Mhór, dul ar bhóthar an R344 Gleann Eidhneach i mBaile na Coille Móire agus ansin bóthar an N59 An Clochán-Bóthar na Gaillimhe sa tSraith Salach.
2. Is féidir leosan freisin a bheidh ag dul ó Chonga-Chorr na Móna dul bóthar an R345 An Mám-Conga, bóthar an R346 Conga-An Chrois, bóthar an R334 An Chrois-Áth Cinn agus bóthar an N84 Áth Cinn-Gaillimh.
3. Ba chóir dóibhsean a bheidh ag dul as Gaillimh go Tuaisceart Chonamara smaoiniamh ar Rogha 2 ach droim ar ais ag brath air cá bhfuil a dtrial.

Ní cheadófar rochtain d'fheithicilí as an áit.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF ROADS

ROADS ACT 1993 - SECTION 75 ROADS REGULATIONS 1994
ARTICLE 12

NOTICE OF DECISION

Conamara Municipal District

Notice is hereby given that Galway County Council has made an order closing a section of the R336 between An Mám and Maam Cross from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 31/10/2023 in order to facilitate the Maam Cross Fair.

Alternative Route:

1. Those travelling from the Leenane direction towards Galway or south Conamara should use the N59 Leenane-Kylemore road turning onto the R344 Gleann Eidhneach road at Kylemore Village and then the N59 Clifden-Galway Road at Sraith Salach.
2. Those travelling from the Conga-Corr na Móna direction may also use the R345 An Mám Conga Road, the R346 Conga Cross Road, the R334 Cross-Headford Road and the N84 Headford-Galway Road.
3. Those travelling from Galway to North Conamara should consider option No. 2 in reverse depending on their destination.

Local vehicular access will not be permitted.

Tá míle fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras agus ghnó i nGaeilge: gaeilge@cocogallimh.ie www.gallimh.ie

customerservices@galwaycoco.ie www.galway.ie [X @GalwayCoCo](https://www.galwaycoco.ie)

J. Brann, Rúnaí Contae