

New Dean makes history

■ Professor Alma McCarthy is the first female academic to be appointed to the position

UNIVERSITY of Galway has cracked its own glass ceiling by appointing Professor Alma McCarthy as Executive Dean at the College of Business, Public Policy and Law – the first female academic to hold the role at UG.

Professor McCarthy will take up the post on March 1 for a four-year term at the helm of the College which comprises the School of Law, J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics, and Shan-



non College of Hotel Management. She has been Dean of J.E.

Professor Alma McCarthy, Executive Dean, College of Business, Public Policy & Law, University of Galway.

Cairnes School of Business and Economics at University of Galway since 2021.

Professor McCarthy spearheaded the remote working surveys during the pandemic, with the support of the Western Development Commission, generating

the first and earliest insights into employee attitudes to the sudden and large-scale shift to working from home and out of the office. Her research has influenced national civil service talent development policy and the Government's national remote working strategy.

She has extensive experience in designing, delivering and evaluating leadership and management development training pro-

grammes aimed at improving managerial competence, with particular expertise in public and civil service management development.

Professor McCarthy said she was honoured to be appointed to the Executive Dean role and looked forward to building on the long-established success of the three Schools in the College of Business Public Policy & Law.

"Working with a strong team of

colleagues in the College, we will continue to adapt to the changing needs of the economy and society to design and deliver excellent education in business, law and hotel management and continue to engage in relevant and impactful research," she said.

"External stakeholder engagement and impact on policy will also be a key priority for the College in its new strategic plan," she added.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

FOILSIÚ DRÉACHT-MHAPA BLIANTÚIL UM CHÁIN TALÚN ATÁ CRIOSAITHE MAR THALAMH CÓNAITHE LE HAGHAIDH 2026 AGUS DEIS CHUN IARRATAIS ATHCHRISAITHE A DHÉANAMH AR AN Léarscáil DEIRIDH DO 2025.

Tá cóip den dréacht-léarscáil bhliantúil, a ullmhóidh de réir Alt 653C, arna leasú ag Alt 653M den Acht Comhdhlúite Cánacha 1997, foilsithe ar <https://consult.galway.ie> agus ar fáil lena n-íniúchadh le linn ghnáthuaireanta oifige in oifigí Pleanála Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Áras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh.

Ullmhóidh an dréacht-léarscáil bhliantúil do 2026 chun críocha sainaitheanta a dhéanamh ar thalamh a chomhlíonann na critéir iomchuí agus atá le bheith faoi réir na cánach talún criosaithe cónaithe.

Ní bheidh réadmhaoinne cónaithe, in ainneoin go bhféadfaí iad a áireamh ar an dréachtléarscáil, inmhuirir don cháin talaimh criosaithe cónaithe.

Is tagairt í talamh lena ndéantar na critéir ábhartha a chomhlíonadh do thalamh—

- atá san áireamh i bplean forbartha, de réir alt 10(2)(a) d'Acht, 2000, nó plean ceantair áitiúil, de réir alt 19(2)(a) d'Acht, 2000, atá criosaithe—
 - chun críocha úsáide cónaithe amháin nó go príomha, nó
 - do mheascán úsáidí, lena n-áirítear úsáid chónaithe,
- ina bhfuil sé réasúnach a mheas go bhféadfaí rochtain a bheith ag an talamh, nó go bhfuil baint aige, le bonneagar agus áiseanna poiblí, lena n-áirítear bóithre agus cosáin, soisíú poiblí, draenáil shéarach bréan, draenáil uisce dromchla agus soláthar uisce, is gá chun áiteanna cónaithe a fhorbairt agus a bhfuil acmhainn seirbhíse dóthanach ar fáil d'fhorbairt den sórt sin, agus
- ina bhfuil sé réasúnach a mheas nach ndéantar difear dó, ó thaobh a riocht fisiciúil, le níthe ar bhealach leordhóthanach chun soláthar áiteanna cónaithe a chosc, lena n-áirítear éilíú nó láithreach fothrach seandálaíochta nó stairiúla is eol, ach nach talamh é—
 - lena ndéantar tagairt dó i mír (a)(i) agus, ag féachaint d'fhorbairt amháin (de réir bhrí Acht, 2000) nach forbairt nár údaraiodh í (de réir bhrí Acht, 2000), atá in úsáid mar áitribh, ina bhfuil trádáil nó gairm á seoladh, atá faoi dhilteanas rátaí tráchtála, a bhfuil sé réasúnach a mheas go bhfuiltear á úsáid chun seirbhíse a sholáthar do chónaitheoirí ceantair chónaithe cóngaracha,
 - lena ndéantar tagairt dó i mír (a)(ii), mura bhfuil sé réasúnach a mheas go bhfuil an talamh neamhshealbhaite nó díomhaoin,
 - nach mbeadh a bhforbairt de réir na níthe seo a leanas—
 - i gcás ina ndéantar an talamh a chriosú i bplean forbartha, an bonn céimnithe ar dá réir a bheidh forbairt talún le tarlú faoin bplean, mar a shonraítear sa chroisáitís atá ar áireamh sa phlean sin de réir alt 10(2A) (d) d'Acht 2000, nó
 - i gcás ina ndéantar an talamh a chriosú i bplean limistéir áitiúil, an cuspóir, i gcomhréir le cuspóir agus croisáitís an phlean forbartha don limistéar a n-ullmhaítear an plean limistéir áitiúil ina leith, talamh a fhorbairt ar bhonn céimnithe, a áirítear sa phlean limistéir áitiúil de réir alt 19 (2) d'Acht 2000, ar an dáta a mbeidh comhlíonadh na gcritéir san alt seo á measnú,
- ina bhfuil sé réasúnach a mheas go bhfuil sé riachtanach, nó go bhfuil sé lámach, le haghaidh áitithe ag—
 - bonneagar agus saoráidí sóisialta, pobail nó rialtais, lena n-áirítear bonneagar agus saoráidí a úsáidtear chun críocha riaracháin poiblí nó chun oideachas nó cúram sláinte a sholáthar,
 - saoráidí agus bonneagar iompair,
 - bonneagar agus saoráidí fuinnimh,
 - bonneagar agus saoráidí teileachumarsáide,
 - bonneagar agus saoráidí uisce agus fuioillúisce,
 - bainistíocht dramhaíola agus bonneagar diúscartha, nó
 - bonneagar fóilíochta, lena n-áirítear saoráidí spóirt agus clóis súgartha,
- atá faoi réir sonrú reachtúil a d'fhéadfaí cosc a chur ar fhorbairt, nó
- ar a bhfuil an tobhach ar láithreáin tréigthe inioctha de réir an Achta um Láithreáin Tréigthe, 1990.

Ba cheart aighneachtaí ar an dréachtléarscáil 2026 a chur i scríbhinn chuig:

- "RZLT", Oifigí Pleanála Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Áras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh, H91H6KX

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- Ar an ríomhphost chuig: rzlt@galwaycoco.ie;

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- Ar líne trí chuairt a thabhairt ar: <https://consult.galway.ie>;

Tráth nach déanaí ná an 1 Aibreán 2025, maidir le—

- láithreáin ar leith a áireamh sa léarscáil deiridh nó a eisiáimh ón léarscáil deiridh, nó
- an dáta a rinneadh an láithreán na critéir ábhartha a shásamh ar dtús.

Ba cheart go n-áireofaí sna haghneachtaí ainm agus seoladh, cúiseanna le tailte a áireamh nó a eisiáimh, mar aon le léarscáil ar scála 1:1,000 (ceantar uirbeach) nó 1:2,500 (ceantar tuaithe) nuair atá aighneacht a déanamh ag úinéir talaimh, lena sainaitheann go soiléir an ceantar talún is ábhartha don aighneacht.

Maidir le aon aighneachtaí a fhaightear i scríbhinn faoin 1 Aibreán 2025 seachas eilimintí d'aighneacht a d'fhéadfaí a bheith ina sonraí pearsanta, foilseofar iad ar an suíomh gréasáin a bheidh á choimeád ag an údarás áitiúil lena mbaineann tráth nach déanaí ná an 11 Aibreán 2025.

Tá na moltaí agus na heisiáimh atá beartaithe ar an dréacht-léarscáil bhliantúil faoi réir aighneachtaí a fhaightear. Ba cheart d'úinéirí talún a thacaíonn le heisiáimh a gcuid talún aighneacht a dhéanamh chun tacú leis an eisiáimh sin.

Iarratais ar Athchriosú

I gcás ina sainaitheann talamh ar an léarscáil deiridh do 2025, a foilsíodh an 31 Eanáir 2025, mar thalamh atá faoi réir na cánach ar thalamh atá criosaithe mar thalamh cónaithe, féadfaidh duine ón 1 Feabhra 2025 go dtí an 1 Aibreán 2025, ar leis an duine sin an talamh réamhluaite, aighneacht a dhéanamh chuig Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe ag iarraidh go ndéanfaí athrú ar chriosú na talún sin. Ba cheart go n-áireofaí in aon aighneacht den sórt sin fianaise ar úinéireacht, cúiseanna mionsonraithe le haon iarratas ar athchriosú, lena bhféadfaí leanúint de ghníomhaíocht eacnamaíoch leanúnach a áireamh, mar aon le léarscáil ar scála 1:1,000 (uirbeach) nó 1:2,500 (tuaithe) ina sainaitheann go soiléir an piosa talún ábhartha.

Féadfar aighneachtaí maidir le hiarratais athchriosaithe ar an léarscáil deiridh do 2025 a dhéanamh mar seo a leanas:

- I scríbhinn agus a sheoladh chuig: "RZLT", An Rannóg Pleanála, Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, Áras an Chontae, Cnoc na Radharc, Gaillimh, H91H6KX

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- Ar an ríomhphost chuig: rzlt@galwaycoco.ie;

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- Ar líne trí chuairt a thabhairt ar: <https://consult.galway.ie>;

Tráth nach déanaí ná an 1 Aibreán 2025.

Maidir le haon iarratais athchriosaithe dá leithéid a gheofar i scríbhinn faoin 1 Aibreán 2025 seachas gnéithe den sórt sin d'aighneacht a d'fhéadfaí a bheith ina sonraí pearsanta, foilseofar iad ar shuíomh Gréasáin Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe laistigh den tréimhse reachtúil ábhartha. Eiseoidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe litir admhála faoin 30 Aibreán 2025 chuig an úinéir talún faoi iarratais athchriosaithe ina mbeidh sonraí faoi stair phleanála na talún le déanaí. Is féidir an litir admhála seo a úsáid chun tacú le héileamh ar dhíolúine ón gcáin a eascraíonn i leith na talún is ábhar don iarratas don bhliain 2025. Ní mór an t-éileamh seo a dhéanamh i dtuaisceán cánach bhliantúil 2025 faoi thalamh atá criosaithe mar thalamh cónaithe, agus ní mór é a dhéanamh chuig na Coimisinéirí Ioncaim ar nó roimh an 23 Bealtaine 2025. Féach ar www.revenue.ie chun sonraí a fháil.

Déanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe gach iarratas ar athchriosú a mheas ag féachaint do phleanáil cheart agus d'fhorbairt inbhuanaithe an cheantair.

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

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

J. Brann, Rúnaí Contae

Different view of the world

■ Mountaineer and broadcaster delivers talk in aid of Galway Mountain Rescue



Talk...mountaineer, writer and broadcaster Dermot Somers. PHOTO: TOM CURTIS.

NOMADIC journeys in Siberia and across the Sahara - not to mention the hazards of climbing north faces of the European alps - are among themes of a bilingual and illustrated talk which mountaineer, writer and broadcaster Dermot Somers will give next Thursday, February 6, in the Connemara Coast Hotel in Na Forbacha.

Hosted by Cumann Seoltóreachta an Spidéil as part of the sailing club's winter talks series, all proceeds after costs will go towards Galway Moun-

tain Rescue.

Somers, born in Roscommon, is a writer, former broadcaster, and a mountaineer. He lives in Drogheda, Co Louth.

With Crossing the Line Films, he has presented many travel and adventure programmes for TG4 and RTÉ, including a series on nomadic journeys of the world, which took him to Siberia, the Sahara, Iran, Nepal and Tibet.

His fiction, history, and travel-writing have been published in En-

glish and in Irish, winning awards in both languages.

He was a member of the successful Irish Everest Expedition, 1993, and he has travelled the world as a climber, with a particular interest in the Alps and the Himalayas.

He is author of a number of books, including the recently published Uncommon Ground: Adventures with Outsiders in Remarkable Terrain (Choice Publishing 2024). The collection is grounded in the author's personal experience of extreme

landscape, ranging from serious alpinism to desert and arctic travel.

Eachtránaithe inár Measc - Adventurers in our Midst - with Dermot Somers is part of Cumann Seoltóreachta an Spidéil Winter Talks 2025; it takes place in the Connemara Coast Hotel next Thursday at 8pm.

Tickets are available at the door from 7.15pm. Adults: €10; Concessions and children €5.

For further information, email csswintertalks@gmail.com



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

PUBLICATION OF RESIDENTIAL ZONED LAND TAX ANNUAL DRAFT MAP FOR 2026 AND OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE REZONING REQUESTS ON FINAL MAP FOR 2025.

An annual draft map, prepared in accordance with Section 653C, as modified by Section 653M of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, has been published on <https://consult.galway.ie> and is available for inspection at the Planning Offices of Galway County Council, Prospect Hill Galway.

The annual draft map for 2026 has been prepared for the purposes of identifying land that satisfies the relevant criteria and is to be subject to the residential zoned land tax.

Residential properties, notwithstanding that they may be included on the annual draft map, shall not be chargeable to the residential zoned land tax.

Land which satisfies the relevant criteria is a reference to land that—

- (a) is included in a development plan, in accordance with section 10(2) (a) of the Act of 2000, or local area plan, in accordance with section 19(2)(a) of the Act of 2000, zoned—
 - (i) solely or primarily for residential use, or
 - (ii) for a mixture of uses, including residential use,
 - (b) it is reasonable to consider may have access, or be connected, to public infrastructure and facilities, including roads and footpaths, public lighting, foul sewer drainage, surface water drainage and water supply, necessary for dwellings to be developed and with sufficient service capacity available for such development, and
 - (c) it is reasonable to consider is not affected, in terms of its physical condition, by matters to a sufficient extent to preclude the provision of dwellings, including contamination or the presence of known archaeological or historic remains, but which is not land—
 - (i) that is referred to in paragraph (a)(i) and, having regard only to development (within the meaning of the Act of 2000) which is not unauthorised development (within the meaning of the Act of 2000), is in use as premises, in which a trade or profession is being carried on, that is liable to commercial rates, that it is reasonable to consider is being used to provide services to residents of adjacent residential areas,
 - (ii) that is referred to in paragraph (a)(ii), unless it is reasonable to consider that the land is vacant or idle,
 - (iii) the development of which would not conform with—
 - (I) in a case in which the land is zoned in a development plan, the phased basis in accordance with which development of land is to take place under the plan, as detailed in the core strategy included in that plan in accordance with section 10(2A)(d) of the Act of 2000, or
 - (II) in a case in which the land is zoned in a local area plan, the objective, consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the development plan for the area in respect of which the local area plan is prepared, of development of land on a phased basis, included in the local area plan in accordance with section 19(2) of the Act of 2000,
- on the date on which satisfaction of the criteria in this section is being assessed,
- (iii) that it is reasonable to consider is required for, or is integral to, occupation by—
 - (I) social, community or governmental infrastructure and facilities, including infrastructure and facilities used for the purposes of public administration or the provision of education or healthcare,
 - (II) transport facilities and infrastructure,
 - (III) energy infrastructure and facilities,
 - (IV) telecommunications infrastructure and facilities,
 - (V) water and wastewater infrastructure and facilities,
 - (VI) waste management and disposal infrastructure, or
 - (VII) recreational infrastructure, including sports facilities and playgrounds,
 - (iv) that is subject to a statutory designation that may preclude development, or
 - (v) on which the derelict sites levy is payable in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act 1990.

Submissions on the annual draft map 2026 may be made as follows:

- In writing and addressed to: "RZLT", The Planning Department, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91H6KX

OR

- By email to: rzlt@galwaycoco.ie;

OR

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

not later than 1 April 2025, regarding—

- (I) either the inclusion in or exclusion from the final map of specific sites, or
- (II) the date on which a site first satisfied the relevant criteria.

Submissions should include a name and address, reasons for inclusion or exclusion of lands, along with a map of scale 1:1,000 (urban area) or 1:2,500 (rural area) where the submission is made by a landowner, clearly identifying the area of land subject of the submission.

Any such written submissions received by 1 April 2025 other than such elements of a submission which may constitute personal data, shall be published on the Galway County Council website not later than 11 April 2025.

The proposed inclusions and proposed exclusions on the annual draft map are subject to submissions received. Any landowners who supports the exclusion of their land should make a submission in support of such exclusion.

Rezoning Requests

Where land is identified on the final map for 2025, published on 31 January 2025, as being subject to the residential zoned land tax, a person may from 1 February 2025 to 1 April 2025, in respect of aforementioned land that such a person owns, make a submission to Galway County Council requesting a variation of the zoning of that land. Any such submission should include evidence of ownership, detailed reasons for any rezoning request, which may include continuation of an ongoing economic activity, along with a map to a scale of 1:1,000 (urban) or 1:2,500 (rural) clearly identifying the relevant plot of land.

Submissions for rezoning requests on the final map for 2025 may be made as follows:

- In writing and addressed to: "RZLT", The Planning Department, Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91H6KX

OR

- By email to: rzlt@galwaycoco.ie;

OR

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

not later than 1 April 2025.

Any such written rezoning requests received by 1 April 2025 other than such elements of a submission which may constitute personal data, shall be published on the Galway County Council website within the relevant statutory period. A rezoning request acknowledgement letter containing details of the recent planning history of the land will be issued by 30 April 2025 from Galway County Council to the landowner. This acknowledgement letter can be used to support a claim to an exemption from the tax arising in respect of the land which is the subject of the request for 2025. This claim must be made in the 2025 annual residential zoned land tax return, which must be made to the Revenue Commissioners on or before 23 May 2025. Please see www.revenue.ie for details

All rezoning requests made will be considered by Galway County Council having regard to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Tá míle fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras agus ghnó i nGaeilge: gaelige@cocogailimh.ie www.gailimh.ie

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

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