



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



Scoil na bhForbacha

Section 38

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Feb 2026

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Overview

Galway County Council in conjunction with The National Transport Authority and An Taisce Green Schools aims to provide a Safe Routes to School Scheme (SRTS) for Scoil Na bhForbacha, Furbacha. This school was successful with their application in 2021 for inclusion in the SRTS programme. The project aims to provide a range of measures designed at providing safer access to the school by enhancing local infrastructure, providing safer crossing points, and highlighting the school zone.

Background

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme is a programme devised by the National Transport Authority (NTA) in partnership with Green Schools, An Taisce. The programme was developed in 2020 to satisfy demand for support for schools to increase walking and cycling to school. The aims of the programme are to improve safety at the school gate by providing 'front of school' treatments to alleviate congestion and improve access, improve access routes to school by improving walking and cycling infrastructure, and increase the number of students who cycle to school by expanding the amount of cycle parking. The works are categorised into two groups: front of school measures and routes to school measures and can include visibility improvements in the School Zone and Gateway Areas, new/upgraded walking and cycling infrastructure, safer pedestrian crossing points, junction treatments, upgrades to existing school entrances, and improvements to permeability links

Scheme Location

This scheme is located on R336, Furbo, Co. Galway. Fig 1 below illustrates the School's location in proximity to Galway city.

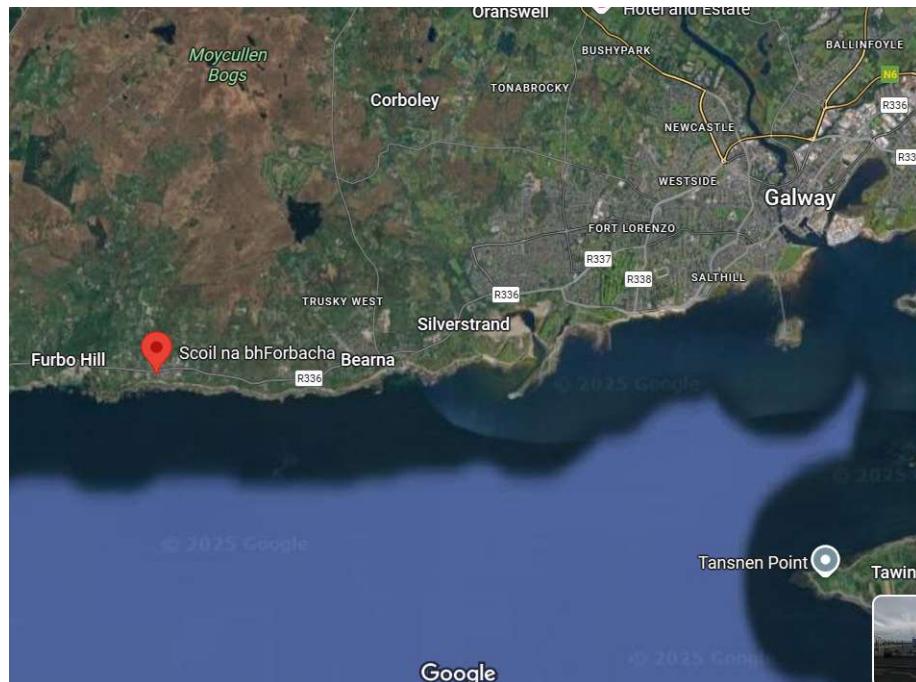


Fig 1- School Location

Project Objectives

The primary objectives for this Project are as follows:

- To provide safer access at the main entrance to the school
- To increase road safety and driver awareness within the vicinity of the school
- To provide for better connectivity between schools and other trip generators
- To highlight the presence of the school zone
- To reduce vehicular speeds adjacent to and on approach to the school

Summary of Proposed Measures

Design proposals for **Scoil Na bhForbacha** can be summarised as follows:

- Introduction of a raised table signalised pedestrian crossing on R336 directly opposite the school.
- Introduction of a second signalised pedestrian crossing on R336 within the vicinity of the filling station/ adjacent to the Montessori.
- Junction tightening and provision of raised table uncontrolled crossings at a number of entrances along R336 including the entrance to the school, Dun Elbhír estate and L1322 junction (Knockanavoddy Road) as highlighted in the drawings.
- Highlighting the school zone by use of Safe Routes to School signage, road markings and pencil bollards.

Design proposals for Scoil Na bhForbacha are illustrated in the drawing attached to this consultation. This is a revised drawing from the earlier version published in September 2025, where all submissions received during the public consultation at that time have been considered and factored into the latest design where appropriate.

What has been done so far?

The current Preliminary drawings having been derived from some recommendations noted in An Taisce's Outline Delivery Plan for this school and subsequently workshopped with NTA. Some measures have also been included following the feedback received from the public in Sept 2025 through the public consultation at that time. A Road Safety Audit was conducted on the scheme and any issues highlighted have been amended accordingly.

The scheme has progressed through Gateway 3 approval. The next phase is Phase 4 ie planning. A summary of the 7 stages of the NTA project approval process can be seen below.

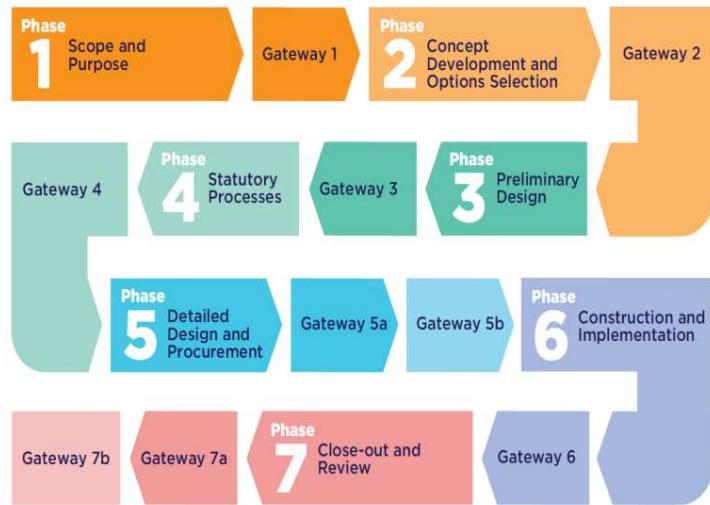


Fig 2- NTA's Project Approval Process

What happens next?

Phase 4

The public are invited to view the online material. Any representations in relation to the proposed scheme may be made in writing to the Active Travel Section through the following two options only:

- In writing to the Active Travel Team, Galway County Council, Aras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX or,
- Electronically via <https://consult.galway.ie/>.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 20th February 2026 at 12:00pm.

Please Note:

Galway County Council will review in detail all the comments and observations received and consider where appropriate, changes to the design.

All measures noted are subject to funding.