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Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe Galway County Council

Tuesday 4 April 2023

Recommendation for the Compulsory Purchase of Lands at Garraun South, Oranmore

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The Department of Education have made a formal request to Galway County Council for the compulsory purchase of Community zoned lands at Garraun South in Oranmore to accommodate the development of a new 1,000 pupil post primary facility for Galway Educate Together Secondary School (ETSS).

Galway ETSS was established in 2019 to serve both Galway City and Oranmore school planning areas and are currently temporarily accommodated in the Our Lady's College premises in Newtownsmyth.

The Department of Education has an urgent requirement for suitable lands to develop these facilities with numerous sites having been identified and assessed as unsuitable.

The lands subject to the proposed CPO were deemed suitable by the Department for the level of accommodation required to meet the needs of Galway ETSS and are the only appropriately zoned lands available within the functional area of Galway ETSS.

The lands are located on the Coast Road(R338) approximately 1 km from the centre of Oranmore Village and are currently zoned Community Facilities and Open Space/Recreation & Amenity in Galway County Councils Development Plan 2022-2028 and within the Garraun Urban Framework.

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The lands have excellent transportation accessibility, are accessed off the R338 within walking distance of Oranmore Village and Oranmore railway station and are served by footpaths to both.

The lands are currently intestate and there is a requirement to have the lands vested, hence the necessity for the CPO.

The CPO will be carried out under the agreement of the legal and personal representatives of the estate and it is not envisaged that there will be any objections or observations to the CPO.

It is our recommendation to implement the CPO on behalf of the Department of Education so that the Council may acquire without unreasonable delay all the lands required for the development of the Educational Facilities at Garraun South.

Damien Mitchell
Senior Engineer
Housing Section