



Mr. Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh,  
President of National University of Ireland Galway,  
National University of Ireland Galway,  
University Road,  
Galway, Ireland  
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26<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Selection of Westside Area as a suitable area  
for a Decarbonising Zone for Galway City**

Dear President Ó hÓgartaigh,

I am writing to you to inform you of Galway City Council's recent selection of an area around Westside as a suitable area for a decarbonising zone. This selection was made in response to a request from Central Government to all Local Authorities received in February 2021 via a circular from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, which required Local Authorities select a suitable area as a decarbonising zone by 30th April 2021 and provide information on the selected area to the Department. Please find enclosed a report on the selection of the Westside Area as a suitable area for a decarbonising zone in Galway City.

Galway City Council selected the Westside Area based on a series of metrics, as a suitable area that meets the requirements of a Decarbonising Zone in terms of size, feasible pathway to 51% reduction in greenhouse gases over the decade, the potential influence of the Council, and collaboration with stakeholders.

The Westside Area includes parts of NUI Galway's campus. Galway City Council recognises that National University of Ireland Galway is a key stakeholder with its commitment to decarbonisation of the University Campus and community engagement through its Sustainability Strategy 2021-2025 and the Community and University Sustainability Partnership (CUSP).

Galway City Council would like to engage now with the University and collaborate on the next step of the decarbonising zone, which is the preparation of an implementation plan. We hope to be in a position to scope out the implementation plan when we receive further guidance from central government.

Yours sincerely,

**Dermot Mahon,**

A/Director of Service for Housing, Environment & Climate Change,  
Recreation and Amenity. Galway City Council