November 2018

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

MGWR (2017) DAC
c/o Shane Joyce
Main Street
Clifden
Co. Galway

Re: Request for Further Information – Planning Ref. No. 18/1357 – Permission for: restoration of the disused Railway Station at Maam Cross as an all weather, railway heritage, family tourist attraction, including: re-building a partly demolished signal cabin, refurbishment of the Goods Store, loading bank (including cattle bank), the Water Tower, and passenger platforms. Necessary repairs to existing corrugated iron stores and workshop. Re-laying track as per original layout. Car parking on site, via existing entrance, and the provision of "Portaloo" toilet facilities in the townland of Lurgan

A Chara,

I refer to your application regarding the above, in order that a decision may be made on same you are requested to submit copies of the following:

1. In the interests of public health and the wider Birds & Habitats Directives, the applicant is advised to liaise with the Environment section of Galway County Council regarding the portaloo provision envisaged to occupy the site and as to the possible need to submit contract details from an environmental waste management company in regard to the management arrangement for wastewaters generated onsite and whether or not same is acceptable from a sanitary services perspective in the long term.

2. Taking account of Objective NHB6 to protect bats and bat habitats, the cluster of disused buildings onsite and noting the heavy tree cover onsite which may host/be a foraging area for bats, you are requested to carry out a bat survey onsite, to identify whether any bats or their roosts are present onsite or whether or not bats utilise the site for foraging. This shall be carried out by a suitably qualified person, a bat specialist with ecological expertise to determine whether or not bats and their roosts are present onsite and to assess the potential impact of the development on bats, such as their feeding habitat, and in accordance with best practice and relevant legislation. The survey should pay particular attention to known lesser horseshoe bat feeding habitat e.g. hedgerows, coppice, woodland fringe, tree lines and areas of scrub and pasture, linear landscape features such as ditches banks, fencing, walls, hedges etc. that may provide flight lines and details of same provided in the context of the development proposed. The survey should also be carried out at the appropriate times, the appropriate time of year and during the appropriate weather conditions to best determine the presence of bats.

3. The public notice refers to necessary repairs to corrugated iron stores and workshop. The applicant is requested to elaborate as to what this entails. Similarly there is no elevations of same furnished to the file. This matter needs to be addressed accordingly.

Continued overleaf
4. In the interests of strategic planning the applicant is requested to demonstrate in writing the compatibility of this proposed development with Objective RA 5 of the county plan.

*Please use this letter as a checklist when replying to the request for Further Information and enclose a copy of same with the reply.*

On receipt of a reply to the above, your application will be further considered.

Mise le meas...

a.s. Rúnaí Chontae

**NOTE:**
In accordance with Article 33 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 to 2006, please note that it will be required to give notice under Article 35 of the Regulations if the further information received is considered to contain significant additional data.

**NOTE:**
Please note that under the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 to 2006 Article 33 (3) failure to comply with the above within a period of six months from the date of this letter will result in a declaration that the planning application has been withdrawn.