



Oifig an Ard-Rúnaí
An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

COPY



Office of the Secretary General
Department of Education and Skills

Mr Kieran Lenihan,
Clerk,
Committee of Public Accounts,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

23 July 2018

Ref: S1713202

Subject: Period report to the Committee of Public Accounts on contributions from religious congregations towards the costs incurred by the State in responding to residential institutional child abuse.

Dear Mr Lenihan,

I refer to the above matter and to the Committee's letter of 15 December 2017 in which it requested that it be kept up to date on progress in completing the contributions from congregations towards the costs incurred by the State in responding to residential institutional child abuse.

I enclose a report updating the Committee on both the 2002 Indemnity Agreement and the 2009 voluntary offers. The report covers the period up to the end of June 2018.

In response to the recommendations in the Committee's Periodic Report for November-December 2017, this report will also be published on the Department's website.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Seán Ó Foghlú
Secretary General

Department of Education and Skills
Contributions by religious congregations towards the costs incurred by the State in responding to residential institutional child abuse

Information note for the Committee of Public Accounts
July 2018

1. Introduction and overall summary of contributions offered and amounts received
 Contributions from religious congregations that managed some 100 of the 139 residential institutions listed in the schedule to the Residential Institutions Redress Board Act 2002 have been made under two distinct rounds, they are:

- the legally binding 2002 Indemnity Agreement providing for contributions of €128m; and
- the 2009 voluntary offers made by the congregations in the aftermath of the publication of the report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (the “Ryan Report”) – total offers amounted to €352.6m.

The total offers made by the congregations under the two rounds amount to €480.6m. This includes the offer by the Christian Brothers to transfer its schools playing fields (valued by them in 2009 at €127 million).

To end June 2018, total contributions amounting to €227m had been received under the two rounds as per Table A below.

Table A. Summary of original offers made plus amounts realised

	Offered (€m)	Realised (€m)	To be realised (€m)	Percentage of offer realised / yet to be realised
2002 Indemnity Agreement	128	123.79	4.21	97% / 3%
2009 Voluntary offers (*)(#)	352.61	103.17	249.44	29% / 71%
	480.61	226.96	253.65	47% / 53%

* Full amounts offered are shown.

The valuations for four properties fully transferred to State recipients are not yet to hand and are not therefore included.

The value of the original 2009 offers was €352.61m including property offers (the valuations being those put on the properties by congregations in 2009). A number of adjustments were required to be made to the offers, resulting in a reduction in the effective amount offered. The value of these offers now stands at €317.42m when those adjustments are taken into account. That figure includes an amount of €127m being the full value placed on their playing fields by the Christian Brothers in 2009 – however the maximum value that will be achieved on that offer is likely to be some 50% of that value. The end June position reflecting the adjusted offers is set out in Table B below.

Table B. Summary of adjusted offers made plus amounts realised

	Offered (€m)	Realised (€m)	To be realised (€m)	Percentage of offer realised / yet to be realised
2002 Indemnity Agreement	128	123.79	4.21	97% / 3%
2009 Voluntary offers (adjusted)	317.42	103.17	214.25	33% / 67%
	445.42	226.96	218.46	51% / 49%

2. Summary of significant developments – December 2017 to June 2018

- Additional cash contributions totalling €2.6m received (€0.65m under the 2002 Indemnity Agreement and €1.95m under the 2009 voluntary offers);
- Completion of the transfer of Beaumont Convalescent Home, Dublin 9 to the HSE;
- Completion of the transfer of Scoil Mhuire and Mercy Primary School, Ennistymon, Co. Clare to the Minister for Education and Skills;
- Completion of the transfer of St. Joseph's (former) VEC College, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary to the Minister for Education and Skills;
- Completion of the transfer of Seamount College, Kinvara, Co. Galway to the Minister for Education and Skills; and
- Ministerial consents provided for the acceptance of the transfer of land at Convent Road, Cahir, Co. Tipperary and the Adult Education Centre, Military Road, Waterford, both to the Minister for Education and Skills.

3. Indemnity Agreement

Under the June 2002 Indemnity Agreement, 18 congregations, acting collectively, agreed to provide a contribution of €128m comprising cash, property and counselling services. The cash and counselling portions of the Indemnity amounting to €65m have been paid in full.

The Department agreed in principle with CORI that a total of **64** properties would be accepted subject to good and marketable title and agreed valuations. This number has reduced to **60** as the Department has accepted and received a cash sum in lieu of four properties where good and marketable title could not be established.

The position as at 30th June 2018, is that a total of **55** properties have been fully transferred under the terms of the Agreement and there are no outstanding issues. The total value of these properties is €58.7m, representing 93% of the total monetary value of all the properties transferring under this aspect of the Indemnity Agreement excluding cash in lieu (with 97% of the total amount being contributed under the Agreement now having been provided). A list of these properties and their valuations are attached at Appendix 1.

A total of five properties remain to be fully transferred under the Agreement. However, these remaining properties are in use or available for use by the intended recipients. Work is underway with respect to the legal requirements under the Indemnity Agreement in order to finalise the transfer process. A list of those properties yet to fully

transfer and their current status and estimated timeframe for completion of the transfers is attached at Appendix 2.

Table C below provides a summary of the position in relation to the 2002 Indemnity Agreement.

Table C. 2002 Indemnity Agreement: Summary position

	Cash (€m)	Counselling €m)	Property (€m)	Total (€m)
Offered	55.07	10.0	62.93	128
Realised	55.07	10.0	58.72	123.79
Outstanding	0	0	4.21	4.21

4. 2009 Voluntary Offers

(a) Initial and subsequent offers

In 2009, the then Government and subsequently Dáil Éireann, called on the 18 congregations (i.e., those that had contributed under the 2002 Indemnity Agreement) to commit to making further substantial contributions towards the cost of the response to residential institutional child abuse.

In response, the congregations offered additional contributions, which they valued at the time (late 2009) at €348.51m. These offers comprised €107m cash to be provided within 5 years; €4m for counselling, €2m by way of a waiver of rent and €235.51m in proposed property transfers to various State bodies and voluntary organisations. While an overall offer of a contribution on behalf of the congregations collectively was sought, the congregations' responses was on an individual basis and only 15 of the 18 congregations offered to contribute.

In February 2010, the then Government decided to use the initial cash offer for the proposed Statutory Fund (now Caranua) and to ask that further additional contributions be made - as far as possible in cash which would be used towards the cost of the new National Children's Hospital project. The Government also gave initial consideration to the property offers made.

In response to the Government's call, one congregation (the Presentation Brothers) offered to provide an additional €1m towards the cost of the Children's Hospital and to refund all or part of its legal costs due from the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (the Commission) amounting to €0.6m, while the Oblates advised that it would not seek legal costs from the Commission (notional cost of some €0.725m).

When these additional offers and the value of some initial property offers (amounting to €1.775m) were included, the total value of the 2009 voluntary offers came to €352.61m.

(b) Nature of the 2009 offers

The 2009 offers of cash and property are entirely voluntary and do not form part of any binding agreement with the contributing congregations. There is, thus, no legal requirement on congregations to complete cash contributions or property transfers.

There is, therefore, no recourse to the congregations in the event that contributions are not completed or if, for example, properties offered are not accepted or the valuation of properties on transfer is less than the original offer value.

While there is no binding agreement, the Department of Education and Skills has an overall coordinating role and is responsible for direct engagement with congregations, receipt of cash contributions, reporting to Government, etc. The Department also maintains a general oversight of the property transfer process and seeks and obtains regular updates from receiving bodies, and engages with transferring congregations as required. It is a matter for the receiving State bodies, including this Department, to manage all aspects of the transfer of property to them.

(c) Realisation of cash offers

The Government decided to utilise the cash element of €110m of the congregations' offers of contributions to establish the Statutory Fund (now Caranua) with the €107m offered being augmented by the cash proceeds of property disposal by the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

To end June 2018, contributions amounting to €102.97m, comprising cash contributions of €95.15m, the cash proceeds of property disposals amounting to €5.84m, a refund of legal costs of €0.6m, together with accrued/earned interest amounting to €1.38m had been received and placed in an investment account opened with the NTMA.

(d) Outstanding cash offers

A total of €8.8m in cash contributions remains outstanding from the Christian Brothers and the contribution is expected to be completed by the end of the current year.

The Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy (which has fully completed its pledged cash contribution of €20 million) is in the process of disposing of properties offered to the Statutory Fund (Caranua). A small number of properties remain to be disposed of. The proceeds of those remaining disposals combined with the completed cash contributions from the Christian Brothers, when received, will mean that the €110 million provided for Caranua under section 29 of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act 2012, will in all likelihood be achieved. The Department is in contact with the Christian Brothers in relation to the finalisation of its cash contribution.

Any cash amounts received in excess of €110 million will go towards the cost of developing the National Children's Hospital as provided for in section 43 of the Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Act 2012.

Arrangements are being made to receive the additional cash contribution of €1m offered by the Presentation Brothers towards the National Children's Hospital. This offer does not form part of the €110m being provided to Caranua.

(e) Realisation of property offers

Following the publication of the Ryan Report, five congregations offered (in addition to making cash contributions) to transfer properties to the State, the voluntary/community sector, etc. The total value of these offers was €237.275m, this being the reflective of the values placed on the properties by the congregations in 2009.

Following consideration of the property offers by the Government on a number of occasions, it decided in 2013 to accept a total of 18 of the properties offered that were considered to be of potential benefit to the State. These were accepted for transfer to the Minister for Education and Skills (10 properties), the Health Service Executive (5 properties) and local authorities (3 properties).

A total of 9 properties have fully transferred (6 to the Minister for Education and Skills, 1 to the HSE and 2 to local authorities), leaving 9 to be completed. Of these 9 properties, 3 transfers have received ministerial consent (one of which has also received the consent of the Charities Regulatory Authority). Work on the transfer of the remaining properties is well advanced.

Details regarding all 18 properties accepted for transfer to the State, their current status and estimated timeframe for completion of the transfers, are set out in Appendix 3 below.

(f) Christian Brothers' playing fields

As part of its 2009 offer, the Christian Brothers offered to transfer its school playing fields (at 49 locations), advised by the congregation to have a professional indicative value of €127 million in 2009, into a joint trust, between the State and the Edmund Rice Schools Trust (ERST) (the trust to which the congregation's primary and secondary schools were transferred). The then Minister made a counter-proposal that, instead the playing fields would be transferred to the State with guaranteed access for the schools using them under licence for as long as required by them. This counter-proposal was not accepted by the Christian Brothers and ERST was also opposed to it.

In July 2013, the Government agreed to a revised proposal by the Minister under which the congregation would be asked to transfer the playing fields to ERST for the continued beneficial use of the schools, subject to a legal requirement that the prior approval of the Minister would be obtained for a disposal of any part of them and that, in the event of any proposed transfer, the State would be entitled to receive at least 50% of the proceeds. Under the proposal, in terms of reckoning that contribution towards the costs of redress, it was proposed that the fields and associated lands be valued on an Open Market Value basis at the date of the transfer to ERST and 50% of that valuation would be reckoned as a contribution towards the cost of the response to abuse. The revised proposal was put to the congregation in a letter of 15th October 2013.

The congregation then advised that it was undertaking a comprehensive review of its capacity to meet all of its obligations (including its outstanding redress contributions). A final response to the Minister's proposal was not therefore received from the congregation until 9th September 2015. In its letter, the congregation stated that, as the initial proposal of joint ownership was not accepted by the Minister and as his counterproposal was not acceptable to either it or to ERST, it was proceeding with the formal transfer of the playing fields to ERST.

The Congregation wrote to the Minister again on 8 May 2017 advising him that the offer made by the previous Minister had been reconsidered and made compromise proposals. The effect of these proposals would be the transfer of the playing fields to ERST with the net proceeds of any future land sales being shared on a 50:50 basis

between ERST and the State. Any sale would be notified in advance to the Minister. It was also indicated that the congregation planned to dispose of some land currently used by Clonkeen College and that the sale of the land would enable it to complete its outstanding cash commitment (which currently stands at €8.8 million).

Officials from the Department met with representatives of the Congregation on 24th November and had a preliminary discussion on the matter. Further correspondence has been exchanged since then and the Congregation has provided additional information in response to a request from the Department. The Department has sought further information from the Congregation and it is hoped to progress the matter over the course of the year.

APPENDIX 1

Property Fully & Finally Accepted under 2002 Indemnity Agreement

		Value
1	Doon, Co Limerick	€640,000.00
2	St Coleman's, Rushbrook, Cork	€571,380.00
3	Playing Field, Carna, Co. Galway	€175,000.00
4	Secondary School & Site, Ennistymon, Co. Clare	€980,000.00
5	Mohill Community School Site	€520,000.00
6	Terenure Secondary School	€4,500,000.00
7	Site at Merrion	€8,900,000.00
8	Two Properties at Tuam, Co. Galway	€3,020,000.00
9	Nursery Buildings Goldenbridge	€570,000.00
10	24 Westcourt, Tralee	€184,110.00
11	Site at Glenamaddy, Co. Galway	€600,000.00
12	11 Acre Site at Virginia Road, Kells, Co. Meath	€825,000.00
13	Deenagh House, Killarney	€215,265.00
14	St Anne's Secondary School	€2,600,000.00
15	28 The Woodlands, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	€270,000.00
16	Vacant Buildings and Land at Rathdrum	€349,200.00
17	Gate Lodge, Goldenbridge	€220,000.00
18	1 Garravogue Road, Raheen, Co Limerick	€228,550.00
19	23 Woodlea, Tralee, Co Kerry	€152,370.00
20	Goldenbridge Group Homes	€1,269,700.00
21	Ballymote, Co Sligo	€38,000.00
22	15 The Willows, Mallow, Co. Cork	€114,280.00
23	Presentation Convent, Hospital, Co Limerick (to DES)	€175,000.00
24	Traveller Site at Blackrock, Co. Dublin	€3,045,000.00
25	St Teresa's, Temple Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin	€3,045,000.00
26	Belmullet, Co Mayo	€140,000.00
27	59 Hollybank Road, Drumcondra	€570,000.00
28	Mount St Joseph, Passage West, Cork	€914,210.00
29	Building & Site at Edgeworthstown	€598,045.00
30	Avondale, Waterford Road, Kilkenny	€330,000.00
31	Site at Longmile Road, Walkinstown	€325,000.00
32	Presentation Convent Hospital, Limerick (to HVHA)	€254,000.00
33	Convent Land at Barrack Street, Limerick	€625,000.00
34	2 Moyle Crescent, Clondalkin	€325,000.00
35	.28 Acre Site at Dolphin Park, Crumlin	€250,000.00
36	Holy Cross Gardens, Killarney	€1,270,000.00
37	23 Parnell Square, Dublin 1	€1,270,000.00
38	Convent at Newport, Co. Mayo	€635,000.00
39	Ballina, Co. Mayo	€38,000.00
40	Airne Villa, Rock Road, Killarney, Co Kerry	€221,615.00

41	6 Mount Vincent Terrace, Limerick	€400,000.00
42	Gentili, Farahoe, Innishannon, Cork	€228,600.00
43	Roseboro, 2 Firgrove Gardens, Bishopstown, Cork	€292,100.00
44	4 The Hawthorns, Macroom Road, Bandon, Cork	€215,900.00
45	5 Avondale Drive, Bandon, Cork	€190,500.00
46	The Vineyard Child Centre, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow	€349,250.00
47	Lands at Mullaghmonaghan, Co Monaghan	€825,000.00
48	Benvon, 5 Bishopstown Road, Bishopstown, Cork	€279,400.00
49	Kidron, Roundhill, Old Chapel, Bandon, Cork	€266,700.00
50	St Patrick's Upton, Cork	€4,445,000.00
51	Respite Centre, Garretstown, Cork	€635,000.00
52	10 The Priory, Old Chapel, Cork	€304,800.00
53	Lands & Buildings at Lota, Glanmire, Cork	€4,000,000.00
54	Cork Street, Dublin 8	€5,209,300.00
55	Rally Field, Upton, Co. Cork (in place of former Old Schoolhouse, Garretstown, Co Cork)	€110,000.00
		€58,725,275.00

APPENDIX 2

Properties not fully & finally completed under 2002 Indemnity Agreement

Property	Transferor	Transferee	Current / proposed use	Developments since last report	Position at end June 2018
Mounthawke, Tralee, Co Kerry.	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Southern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	Functioning post-primary school.	Some progress has been made in resolving boundary related litigation and in resolving outstanding title related issues.	Pre-contract. Outstanding title related issues remain to be resolved. CSSO is in contact with the Congregation's representatives and is awaiting confirmation that the outstanding boundary related litigation has been resolved. It is not possible to give a timeframe for completion as this is dependent on resolution of litigation.
Waterpark, Newtown Road, Waterford.	Congregation of Christian Brothers	Minister for Education and Skills	Functioning primary school.	Progress is being made in resolving outstanding title related issues. Issues regarding planning compliance have been resolved.	Pre-contract. Title related issues being resolved. Transfer is expected to proceed quickly. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end Q3 2018.
Coiscéim, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford.	Congregation of the Sisters Southern Province	Health Service Executive	Functioning childcare residential centre.	Deed of appointment of new trustees was completed by the PRA in February. HSE's closing requirements sent to the Congregation's solicitors and these are being compiled.	Pre-contract. Minor qualification on title. Closing documents being finalised. Transfer is expected to proceed quickly. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end Q3 2018 (revised from end Q2).
Emohruo, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford.	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.	As above.
Sacred Heart Centre, Waterford.	Sisters of Charity	Health Service Executive	Functioning childrens' health centre.	Property has transferred but first registration is required and an application is currently with the PRA.	Post contract. Following registration a certificate of title will then issue and the transfer will complete. Minor qualification on the title. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end Q3 2018 (revised from end Q2).

Appendix 3

Properties accepted for transfer to the State under the 2009 voluntary offers

No.	Property	Transferor	Proposed transferee	Current / proposed use	Developments since last report	Position at end June 2018
1.	Convent and former boarding school, Clonakilty, Co. Cork	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Southern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property is partially occupied by a post primary school and the transfer will facilitate additional accommodation for this school.	Transfer fully completed in 2016.	N/A
2.	Old Primary School and Hall, Trim, Co Meath	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Northern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The building in question is a former school building. It is intended that Trim Educate Together National School will be relocated to the property when refurbished.	Transfer fully completed in 2016.	N/A
3	Fatima Secondary School, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Northern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property previously operated as a post primary school and the transfer will facilitate accommodation for an amalgamated primary schools	Transfer fully completed in 2016.	N/A
4.	St Joseph's Girl's Primary School, Abbey Street, Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Western Province	Mayo County Council	The Council intends, in time, to develop the property as a public library. In the meantime the building is vacant but measures have been taken to safeguard it so it is secure and well preserved. It is understood that the Council have been approached by a	Transfer fully completed in 2015.	N/A

				number of community organisations regarding use of the property and these options are being assessed at present.		
5	Athboy School, Athboy, Co Meath	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Northern Province	Meath County Council	The property has been leased by the Council to a community development group and through which a range of community services are being provided. It is understood that in the longer term the Council intends to redevelop the entire site as a hub for community facilities.	Transfer fully completed in 2015.	N/A
6	Beaumont Convalescent Home	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy South Central Province	Health Service Executive	This is a functioning health care facility adjacent to Beaumont Hospital. It will continue to function as such following transfer.	Transfer fully completed in Q4 2017.	N/A
7	St. Joseph's (former) VEC College, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Southern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property was used as post-primary school and will facilitate a new primary school.	Transfer fully completed in Q1 2018.	N/A
8	Scoil Mhuire Secondary School and Mercy Primary School, Ennistymon, Co Clare.	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Western Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The site currently hosts a primary and a post-primary school. A building project is planned to facilitate additional school accommodation.	Transfer fully completed in Q1 2018.	N/A

9	Seamount College, Kinvara, Co. Galway.	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Western Province	Minister for Education and Skills	This is a functioning secondary school and will continue to be such following transfer.	Transfer fully completed in Q1 2018.	N/A
10	St Bernard's Group Home, Fethard, Co. Tipperary	Presentation Sisters	Health Service Executive	This property is leased to the HSE as a children's group home. It will continue to function as such following transfer.	Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA) consent obtained. Deeds of transfer and conveyance documents signed and sealed.	Final searches underway. Title will then be registered. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end Q3 2018 (revised from end Q2).
11	Adult Education Centre, Ozanam Street, Waterford	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Southern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property is occupied by Waterford Wexford ETB for educational purposes. This position will continue following transfer.	Ministerial consents have been obtained.	Contract signed. Charities Regulatory Authority consent will need to be sought by the Congregation. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018.
12	Lands at Convent Road, Cahir, Co Tipperary	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Southern Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property consists of 2 acres of land and the transfer will facilitate accommodation for an amalgamated school.	Ministerial consents have been obtained.	Contract to be signed. Charities Regulatory Authority consent will need to be sought by the Congregation. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q3 2018.
13	Ballyjamesduff Co Cavan	Sisters of St. Clare	Minister for Education and Skills	The property is occupied by Cavan Meath ETB for educational purposes. This position will continue following transfer.	Ongoing engagement with Congregation's representatives to resolve outstanding pre-contract issues.	Ministerial consents and the consent of the Charities Regulatory Authority to be sought in due course. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018.
14	McAuley Centre, Kells, Co. Meath	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Northern	Health Service Executive	Property to transfer with vacant possession. The	Contracts signed.	Ministerial consents to be sought. Estimated

		Province		HSE is considering additional utilisation.		timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018 (revised from end Q2).
15	National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy South Central Province	Health Service Executive	This offer comprises the lease of land and operation of the National Rehabilitation Hospital and the transfer of a 33 acre site. This transfer will facilitate the redevelopment of the hospital (that project is now underway).	Extensive ongoing engagement between the stakeholders: the HSE, the Congregation, the Hospital trust, the Dept. of Health etc.	Work on this complex transfer is progressing but is taking longer than expected. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018 but more likely 2019.
16	Blaithín - Childcare facility at Gracepark Rd, Drumcondra, Dublin 9	Sisters of Our Lady of Charity	Health Service Executive	This 6 bed childcare facility is leased to the HSE. It will continue to function as such following transfer.	Recent contact between solicitors to address outstanding issues and advance the transfer.	Contract being drafted by HSE's solicitors. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018.
17	St Patrick's Primary School, Altamont Street, Westport, Co Mayo	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Western Province	Minister for Education and Skills	The property recently ceased to function as a school. Mayo County Council had been progressing the transfer up to this, however, in order to overcome some legal issues with this proposed transfer, it has been agreed that the property should transfer instead to the Minister with a portion to be subsequently transferred into the ownership of the Council for the purpose of its proposed development.	Congregation was advised in January that the property is now transferring to the Minister. CSSO is engaging with the Congregation's representatives to advance the transfer process.	The CSSO is currently progressing the conveyancing process to transfer the property to the Minister's ownership directly. Relevant documentation has been sought by the CSSO and is awaited. Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018.

18	St Anne's, Lenaboy, Galway	Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy Western Province	Galway City Council	<p>The property was previously leased as a childcare facility and it is understood to have been vacant for a number of years. Galway City Council is proposing to redevelop the property as a Children and Young People's Creative and Cultural Hub. This will allow its transformation into a cultural and artistic hub under the Council's cultural strategy 'Everybody Matters' to benefit children and young people across Galway city and its wider hinterland. If the city council assumes ownership of the property, work to plan and renovate the property will be initiated thereafter. This will include consultation and engagement with interested stakeholders, especially persons who were associated with the property in its many previous guises, including former residents.</p>	<p>Ongoing engagement between the Council and the Congregation. Outstanding issues, which include the completion of reports on traffic impact, access, and a geo-physical survey were agreed by both parties as required prior to any proposed transfer under the due diligence process.</p>	<p>The transfer is subject to 'Contract/Contract denied'.</p> <p>There are still a number of outstanding surveys to be completed by/on behalf of the current owners and therefore the transfer has not been completed yet.</p> <p>Estimated timeframe for completion: by end of Q4 2018.</p>
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