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Our Ref: MO/SE

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

24th March 2021

TO: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the March Plenary Meeting of Galway County Council, the Members passed the following motion:

"I call on Galway County Council to make a formal submission to the Minister for Housing Local Government & Heritage outlining our complete opposition to the proposed provisions of the Land Development Agency Bill 2021.

The proposed removal of the Section 183 reserved function of Elected Members in relation to the disposal of local authority held land to the LDA as provided for in Part 7 Section 56 of the bill is unacceptable and an affront to local democracy. As advocates for the empowerment of local government, we can never support or accept any diminution in the reserved functions and powers of elected Councillors.

I also have concerns regarding the potential long-term implications for local authorities in delivering social and affordable housing on local authority held land due to the extensive remit of the LDA. I believe that this is a major battle in our ongoing fight to preserve the local democratic function in the face of ever increasing centralism,, "

I wish for that a copy would also be circulated to other Local Authorities.

It was agreed to send a copy of this motion to all Councils.

Mise le Meas

Michael Owens

**Michael Owens
Meetings Administrator**