



Galway Healthy Cities Project Gaillimh Tionscnamh na gCathracha Sláintiúla



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What is Galway Healthy Cities?

Galway Healthy Cities project is part of a World Health Organization (WHO) initiative, with over 80 cities throughout Europe involved. The aim of the WHO Healthy Cities Project is to enhance the health of the city, its environment and its people through all groups and agencies working together.

Galway Healthy Cities Forum

The Galway Healthy Cities Forum is part of the City Development Board implementing the 10 year strategy "Beo agus Briomhar"



Galway City Development Board
Bord Forbartha Cathrach na Gaillimhe

The following organisations are part of the Healthy Cities Team



Galway Transportation Unit Targets for 2009

The Galway Transportation Unit (GTU) programme of work for 2009 presents a comprehensive range of proposals in relation to infrastructural works, transport initiatives, plans underway and policy developments combined with measures to assess progress over time.

Commenting on this years programme, Head of Galway Transportation Unit, Joe Tansey stated that: "with our team of transport planning and traffic management specialists, Galway City Council has an excellent opportunity to address critical areas, which over time will reduce traffic congestion in the City." Key actions include progressing the Galway City outer bypass (GCOB), developing "Park and Ride" initiatives, implementing the Galway Strategic Bus Study and undertaking a public transport feasibility study.



Further information can be obtained by contacting Galway Transportation Unit at: (091) 894328 or by email at gtu@galwaycity.ie



Sexual Health Promotion in NUIG

The Students' Union working with NUI Galway Department of Health Promotion provided free anonymous on site Chlamydia testing for students during SHAG Week which took place between the 16th to Friday 20th February. The initiative which has been given the moniker "Pee in a Pot" is part of a wider research project exploring the optimal setting for Chlamydia testing for young people in Ireland. Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan, Senior Lecturer in Social and Preventive Medicine at NUI Galway and Director of Public Health with HSE West said "SHAG Week is a unique opportunity to carry out free Chlamydia testing which is not routinely available in the West of Ireland. Chlamydia is becoming more common, especially in young people. Testing and early treatment can prevent serious problems. We want to encourage young people to avail of this opportunity. This project will help inform a national screening programme for Chlamydia".



'Spring into Action' Art Exhibition

An Taisce's Green-Schools Travel 'Spring into Action' art exhibition was launched in Galway City Library on Wednesday 25th February. The launch was a great success with pupils, parents and teachers from schools across Galway City and County taking part. Some very imaginative pieces are on display in the form of posters and slogans and models, all based around the theme of sustainable school travel. The exhibition is being held to celebrate the work of Galway schools who are involved in the first year of the national roll-out of An Taisce's Green-Schools Travel Programme. It will help students in the important step of raising awareness among the local community and the public about their travel initiatives. Green-Schools Travel is being funded by the Department of Transport.



Speaking at the event Tiarnan McCusker, Green-Schools Travel Officer, An Taisce said: "The launch could not have gone any better. It is a credit to the schools taking part that they have such talented artists that have really grasped the issues of sustainable school travel. I would urge the public to go and see the exhibition, not only for the visual feast on display but to learn of the important sustainable travel messages being conveyed from a child's perspective".



Galway United Support Smokers' Quitline

To highlight National No Smoking Day which took place on Ash Wednesday, February 25th, Galway United, as part of their involvement in the European Healthy Stadia Programme, supported smokers to take the first positive steps towards quitting. Norma Cronin, Quitline manager with the Irish Cancer Society explained "We are delighted that Galway United FC are supporting this initiative and we would encourage smokers to take a positive step and call the National Smokers' Quitline for advice and support." If you would like advice, information and support with quitting, you can call the National Smokers' Quitline (CallSave 1850 201 203, open 8am to 10pm, Monday to Saturday). The National Smokers' Quitline is run by the Health Services Executive (HSE) in partnership with the Irish Cancer Society.



Upcoming Events in March

March 8th	International Women's Day	info@nwci.ie / www.mwci.ie
March 20th	Daffodil Day – Fundraiser for Irish Cancer Society	www.cancer.ie
March 28th - April 4th	Donor Awareness Week	info@ika.ie / www.ika.ie

The month in photos...



On your bus! Promoting bus travel to school



Richard Donovan with pupils from Greenfields NS