## 5.15 Balcony Typology

To provide appropriate protection and shelter at upper levels, a range of balcony designs has been incorporated into the scheme, with variations in height and treatment carefully tailored to the orientation and exposure of each elevation. These design choices are informed by a comprehensive microclimate assessment report, which analysed site-specific conditions such as prevailing wind patterns, solar gain, and user comfort.

Generally, three main types of balconies are proposed:
1. 1200mm High Metal Vertical Balustrade – Suitable for more sheltered elevations, these balustrades maintain openness while ensuring safety and visual permeability.

1B-2P Unit - Balcony - 5m2

2B-3P Unit - Balcony - 6m2

2B-4P Unit - Balcony - 7m2

3B-5P Unit - Balcony - 9m2

Balcony

Balcony

5.04 m<sup>2</sup>

Balcony

6.12 m<sup>2</sup>

Balcony

7.02 m<sup>2</sup>

- 2. 1200mm High Glazed Balustrade These provide a balance between protection and transparency, particularly effective in areas with moderate exposure to wind or where views are to be maximised without compromising user comfort.
- 3. 1500mm High Glazed Balustrade Designed for elevations facing more exposed or wind-affected aspects at high levels, these offer enhanced shelter and privacy, while still allowing natural light penetration and outward views.

Block A

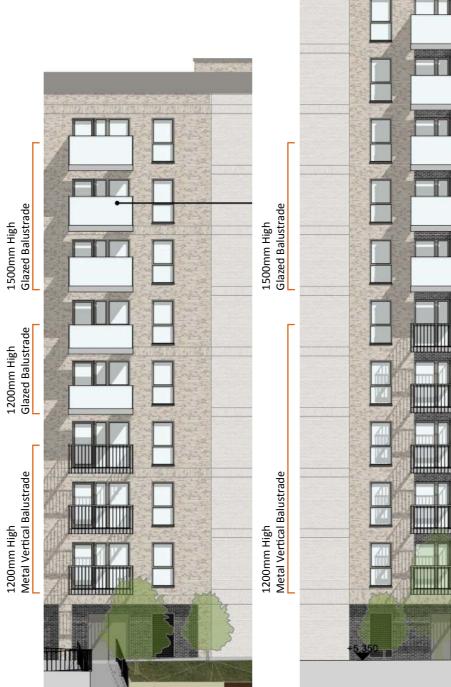
Dock Road

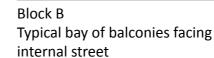
Typical bay of balconies facing

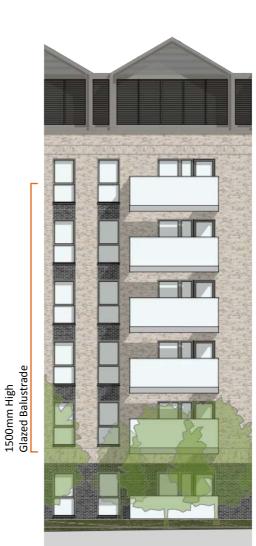
The selection and distribution of these balcony types across the development respond directly to the findings of the micro climate assessment, ensuring a comfortable and safe outdoor environment for residents in varying weather conditions.

Refer to B-fluid Wind Micro climate Modelling for details.









Block C Typical bay of balconies facing Lough Atalia



Block D

Typical bay of balconies facing internal street

#### 5.16 Non - Residential Uses

The proposed development includes a mix of nonresidential uses integrated into the ground floor of Blocks A and B, comprising three commercial units and a crèche. These uses have been carefully considered to enhance the functionality, vibrancy, and social sustainability of the scheme, while contributing to the broader regeneration goals of the Inner Harbour area.

A café/restaurant unit is located at the southern end of Block A, positioned at a key node point where the development meets the new promenade along Lough Atalia and interfaces with Dock Road. This location has been strategically selected to ensure high visibility and footfall, fostering an active street edge and encouraging public use. The unit is slightly elevated above street level, and this change in level provides a degree of natural screening and separation from Dock Road, offering a more comfortable and protected environment for outdoor seating while still engaging with the public realm.

1 retail unit and 1 cafe/restaurant unit, located in Blocks A and B, front onto the southwest-facing public square—a key gathering space within the masterplan. These units are designed to contribute to the animation and activation of the public realm, benefiting from high levels of natural light and footfall. The generous frontage of each unit, combined with direct access from the square, will help to establish a vibrant, accessible, and attractive environment for future tenants and users.

Importantly, the location of these commercial units also helps to frame a new entrance sequence into the development, forming a clear link between the public square and the promenade via a carefully designed internal courtyard. This spatial arrangement encourages permeability and strengthens the connection between residential, commercial, and public open space functions.

The proposed crèche, situated at ground level within Block B, is centrally located within the development, ensuring safe and convenient access for residents and visitors alike. The crèche benefits from proximity to both residential blocks and the internal street, where a designated drop-off zone has been provided. Its central location ensures it is within walking distance for all residents, supporting active travel and promoting a family-friendly neighbourhood.



Proposed Cafe/Restaurant 1 in Block A



Proposed Cafe/Restaurant 2 in Block A



Proposed Crèche in Block B



### 5.17 Waste, Car & Cycle Parking Strategy

Car parking is proposed at ground level, arranged along a newly created one-way internal street, which includes a designated drop-off area for the crèche to ensure safe and convenient access for parents and staff.

A small parking court is provided to accommodate allocated residential parking, including spaces for electric vehicle (EV) charging and car-sharing schemes, supporting a shift toward more sustainable mobility options. Additional parking spaces located along the existing Dock Road are intended to serve the commercial units within the development, facilitating ease of access for customers and visitors.

The overall parking layout has been designed with an emphasis on placemaking. By locating car parking around the perimeter of the site, the scheme prioritises a centrally located, communal open space, free from vehicular intrusion, fostering a safer and more inclusive environment for residents.

The proposal also includes a comprehensive provision for cycle parking, in line with national and local active travel objectives. Visitor cycle parking is strategically placed at key entry points to ensure convenience and visibility, while secure long-term cycle parking is distributed throughout the development and integrated within each residential block, supporting safe and accessible storage for residents.

Auto-tracking has been carried out to ensure that emergency vehicles can safely access the site and that distance requirements from designated vehicle set-down points to the main entrances of all residential blocks are fully compliant with relevant standards.

Similarly, tracking has been completed for refuse collection vehicles, confirming that bin trucks can efficiently access all refuse storage areas associated with each residential block. This includes the commercial waste storage area located beneath Block A, serving the café/restaurant and retail units.

To support efficient waste collection operations, the layout also allows for the provision of temporary bin staging areas during collection periods. These ensure a smooth and unobstructed process without compromising pedestrian movement or the visual quality of the public realm.

#### Galway Port - Car & Cycle Parking

	1B2P	2B3P	2B4P	3B5P	
					Total
Block A	39	8	29	5	81
Block B	51	0	49	5	105
Block C	32	6	28	0	66
Block D	50	20	29	5	104
					356
	1B2P	2B3P	2B4P	3B5P	Bedrooms
Total	1	2	2	3	Total
81	39	16	58	15	128
105	51	0	98	15	164
66	32	12	56	0	100
104	50	40	58	15	163

Cycle Parkin	g Requirement			
	Total	Secured	Visitors	
	Bedrooms	Parking	Parking	
			1 per 2 units	Total
Block A	128	128	40.5	168.5
Block B	164	164	52.5	216.5
Block C	100	100	33	133
Block D	163	163	52	215
Creche			8	8
		555	186	741

#### Galway Port - Cycle Parking for Non-Resi Uses

Use	Standard	Proposed Development	Miximum Car Parking	Cycle Parking Standard (25% of Car Parking)	Cycle Parking Requirement	Cycle Parking Requirement (Round Up)
Creche	1 per 40 sqm of operational space	255.9	6.4	25%	1.6	2
Café/Restaurant		428.4	14.3	25%	3.6	4
Retail	1 per 30 sqm GFA	156	5.2	25%	1.3	2
Retail	1 per so sqiii GFA	150	5.2	23%	TOTAL	8

	Cycle Parking	g Provision		
	Within	Cargo	Secured	Visitors
	Block	Spaces	External	Parking
				1 per 2 units
Block A	60	3	70	40.5
Block B	80	5	86	52.5
Block C	46	2	44	33
Block D	80	5	74	52
Creche				8
	266	15	274	186

### Galway Port - Proposed Car Parking Provision 356 Unit Scheme

330 Offic Scrience				
Total Dwelling Units			356	units
<b>Total Car Parking Spaces</b>	Provided		37	spaces
Total Parking Ratio			0.10	Ratio
Proposed Allocation for 0		4	spaces	
Proposed Allocation for Retail/Café (Along Docks Roa			4	spaces
			8	spaces
Proposed Allocation for I	Residential		29	spaces
which includes the follow	wing:			
EV Charging Spaces	20%	7.4	8	spaces
Car Sharing Spaces			5	spaces
Accessible Spaces	5%	1.85	3	spaces





# 5.18 Typical Floor Plans



Block D Ground Floor

Typical Upper Floors - 1st to 8th

Typical Upper Floors - 9th to 12th

## 5.19 Apartment Typology



The proposed development is designed to comply with The LDA Apartment Typology Booklet.

There are five typical apartment layouts:

Type 2A 1 Bed 2 Person (10% Over)
Type 3A 2 Bed 3 Person (10% Over)
Type 4A 2 Bed 4 Person (Open Plan)
Type 4B 2 Bed 4 Person (Corridor)

Type 5A 3 Bed 5 Person (10% Over & Corridor)

All apartments incorporate private open space in the form of a private balcony/terrace in line with requirements set out in apartment guidelines:

Balcony for 1 Bed 2 Person - 5.04 m<sup>2</sup> Balcony for 2 Bed 3 Person - 6.12 m<sup>2</sup> Balcony for 2 Bed 4 Person - 7.02 m<sup>2</sup> Balcony for 3 Bed 5 Person - 9.00 m<sup>2</sup>

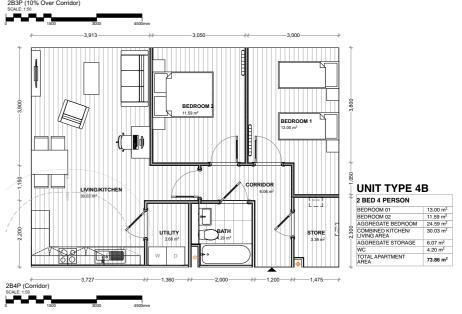
Some units can be interchanged with Universal Design Counterparts. Units whose layouts include interchangeable counter parts are:

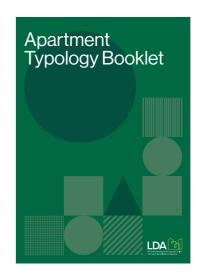
1 Bed 2 Person Type 2A to Type 2B UD
2 Bed 3 Person Type 3A to Type 3B UD
3 Bed 5 Person Type 5A to Type 5B UD



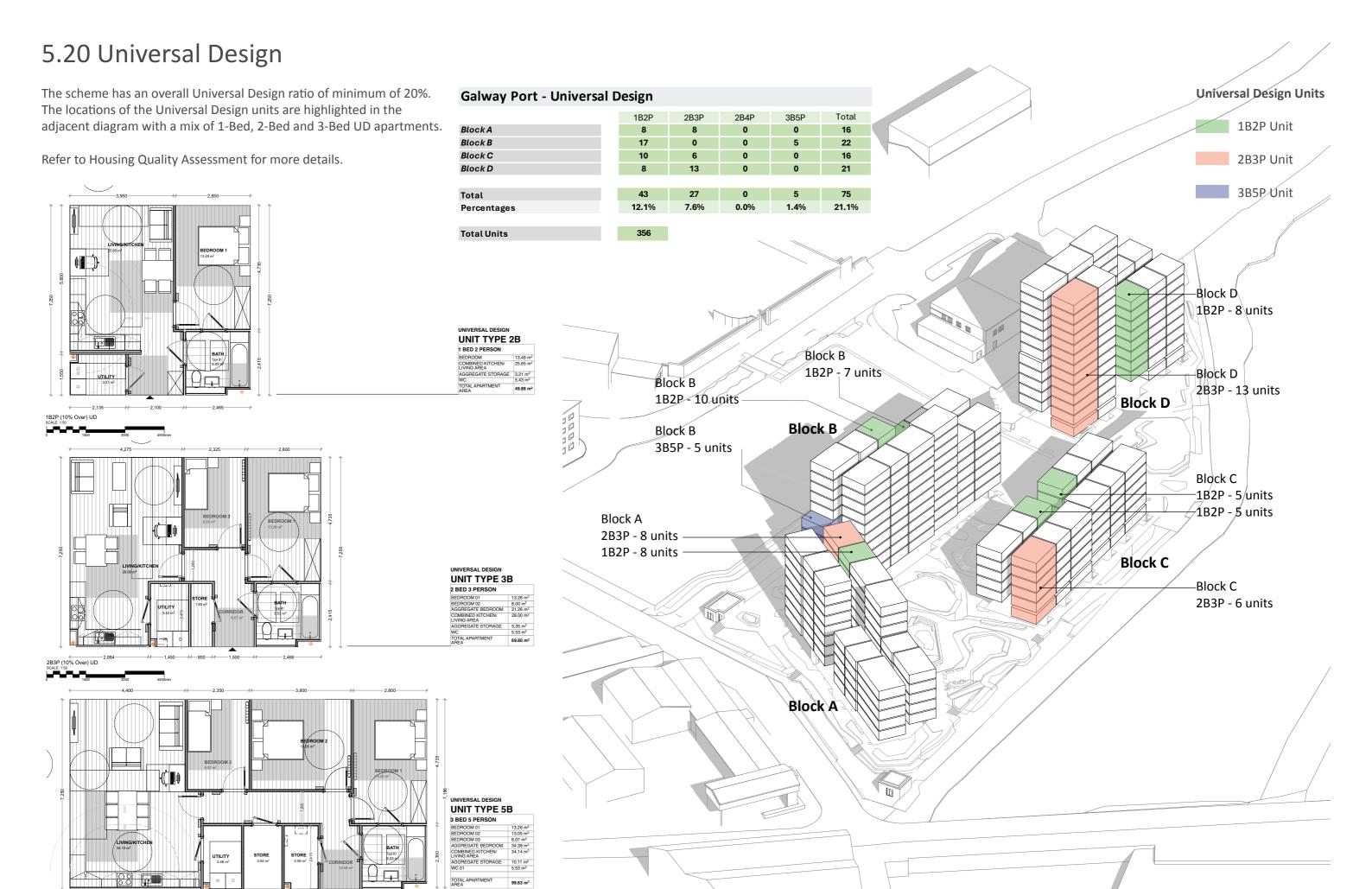




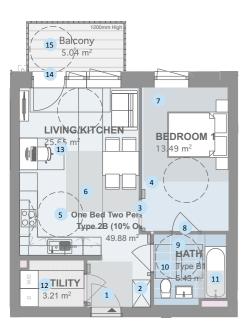








LDA GALWAY PORT LRD | MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT





- 1 Clear space adjacent to the entrance door of minimum 1500mm x 1500mm.
- 2 Space for storing outdoor wear.
- 3 Clear effective door width of minimum 800mm.
- 4 Clear space beside the leading edge of doors of minimum 300mm.
- 5 Turning circle of minimum 1500mm clear diameter.
- 6 Continuous clear space of 1200mm to a minimum of two consecutive sides of a dining table.
- 7 Clear space of minimum 800mm on both sides and at the end of a double bed.
- 8 Soft spot for future door between bathroom and bedroom.
- 9 Bathroom located immediately adjacent to the main bedroom.
- Toilet centreline between 400mm to 500mm from the wall.
- 11 Position of future shower adaptation.
- 12 Clear area of minimum 1200mm in front of units within a utility room.
- 13 Study / workspace of minimum length 1200mm and a minimum depth of 1500mm (including desk and chair space).
- 14 Level access to a balcony / terrace.
- 15 Balcony / terrace with a minimum depth of 1500mm.

1-Bed 2-Person Apartment	Gross Floor Area	Aggregate living area	Aggregate bedroom area	Storage	Private Amenity Space
Target	45 sqm	23 sqm	11.4 sqm	3 sqm	5 sqm
UD Home 1B2P	49.88 sqm	25.65 sqm	13.49 sqm	3.21 sqm	5.04 sqm

Comparison with target floor areas in the Design Manual for Quality Housing





- Clear space adjacent to the entrance door of minimum 1800mm x
- 2 Enclosed space for storing outdoor wear.
- 3 Clear effective door width of minimum 800mm.
- 4 Clear space beside the leading edge of doors of minimum 300mm.
- 5 Turning circle of minimum 1500mm clear diameter.
- 6 Continuous clear space of 1200mm to a minimum of two consecutive sides of a dining table.
- 7 Clear space of minimum 800mm on both sides and at the end of a double bed.
- 8 Soft spot for future door between bathroom and bedroom.
- 9 Bathroom located immediately adjacent to the main bedroom.
- 10 Toilet centreline between 400mm to 500mm from the wall.
- 11 Position of future shower adaptation.
- 12 Clear area of minimum 1200mm in front of units within a utility room.
- 13 Study / workspace of minimum length 1200mm and a minimum depth of 1500mm (including desk and chair space).
- 14 Level access to a balcony / terrace.
- 15 Balcony / terrace with a minimum depth of 1500mm.
- 16 Clear space of minimum 800mm to the side of a single bed.

2-Bed 3-Person Apartment	Gross Floor Area	Aggregate living area	Aggregate bedroom area	Storage	Private Amenity Space
Target	63 sqm	28 sqm	20.1 sqm	5 sqm	6 sqm
UD Home 2B3P	69.6 sqm	28 sqm	21.26 sqm	5.35 sqm	6.12 sqm

Comparison with target floor areas in the Design Manual for Quality Housing



- 1 Clear space adjacent to the entrance door of minimum 1800mm x 1800mm.
- 2 Enclosed space for storing outdoor wear.
- 3 Clear effective door width of minimum 800mm.
- 4 Clear space beside the leading edge of doors of minimum 300mm.
- 5 Turning circle of minimum 1500mm clear diameter.
- 6 Continuous clear space of 1200mm to a minimum of two consecutive sides of a dining table.
- 7 Clear space of minimum 800mm on both sides and at the end of a double bed.
- 8 Soft spot for future door between bathroom and bedroom.
- 9 Bathroom located immediately adjacent to the main bedroom.
- 10 Toilet centreline between 400mm to 500mm from the wall.
- 11 Position of future shower adaptation.
- 12 Clear area of minimum 1200mm in front of units within a utility room.
- 13 Study / workspace of minimum length 1200mm and a minimum depth of 1500mm (including desk and chair space).
- 14 Level access to a balcony / terrace.
- 15 Balcony / terrace with a minimum depth of 1500mm.
- 16 Clear space of minimum 800mm to the side of a single bed.
- 17 Minimum clear turning circle diameter of 1500mm in double bedroom.

3-Bed 5-Person Apartment	Gross Floor Area	Aggregate living area	Aggregate bedroom area	Storage	Private Amenity Space
Target	90 sqm	34 sqm	31.5 sqm	9 sqm	9 sqm
UD Home 3B5P	99.63 sqm	34.14 sqm	34.38 sqm	10.11 sqm	9 sqm

Comparison with target floor areas in the Design Manual for Quality Housing



These homes will be designed to fully comply with the criteria outlined in the Internal Layout Checklist for Universal Design Homes (May 2025), meeting all applicable requirements of the UD Home standard where relevant.

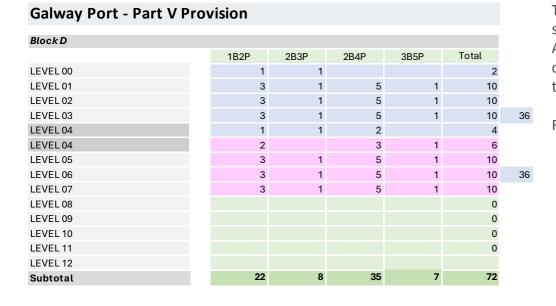
Each designated UD Home will be carefully planned to ensure accessibility, adaptability, and usability for people of all ages and abilities. The internal layouts will be assessed against the checklist to confirm compliance, ensuring that these homes are inclusive, future-proofed, and responsive to the evolving needs of residents.



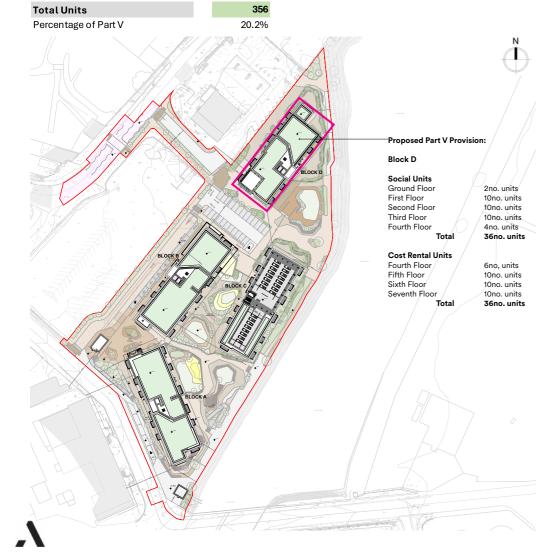
Location (page no. in guidelines)	Guideline Summary	UD Home	Check
Entrance Hallway	Level access	Υ	Yes
(Section 2, page 85)	Entrance door minimum effective clear width	800mm	Yes
	Minimum clear space adjacent to entrance door	1500mm x 1500mm	Yes
	Space for storing outdoor wear	Υ	Yes
Corridors (Section 2, page 87)	Minimum width between walls	1050mm	Yes
<b>Doors</b> (Section 2, page 87)	Minimum effective clear width of doors, straight on approach or right-angled approach via corridor at least 1100mm wide	800mm	Yes
	Minimum effective clear width of doors, right-angled approach via corridor less than 1100mm*1 wide	850mm	Yes
	Minimum clear space beside the leading edge (on the pull side) of all doors at entrance level	300mm	Yes
Stairs	Straight flights between landings, no tapered steps	Υ	N/A
(Section 2, page 91)	Clear width between handrails	900mm, with handrail on one side	N/A
	Stairs rise and going	Rise max 175mm*, going min. 280mm	N/A
	Top and bottom landing clear space minimum	n/a	N/A
Through-Floor lift (Section 2, page 94)	1000mm x 1500mm aperture in floor for future through-floor lift	Future lift space can be accessed from habitable rooms or circulation space	N/A
	Clear turning space minimum in front of future through-floor lift	1500mm turning circle diameter or 1400mm x 1700mm ellipse	N/A
Living spaces	A living space at the same level as the entrance to the home.	Υ	Yes
(Section 3, page 99)	Location for a temporary bed space at entrance level (if no bedroom at entrance level)	Υ	N/A
	Minimum clear turning circle diameter	1500mm	Yes
	Minimum width of clear route between items & in front of windows and routes between doors	750mm	Yes
Dining area (Section 3, page 101)	Minimum clear space for use and movement around the dining table	1200mm on 2 consecutive sides of table, continuous	Yes
Kitchen	Minimum space between work surfaces	1200mm	Yes
(Section 3, page 103)	Minimum clear turning circle diameter	1500mm	Yes
	All doors to the kitchen from habitable rooms are outside the main workspace.	Υ	Yes
	If the dining area is not in the same room, provide an occasional eating space in the kitchen	Υ	N/A

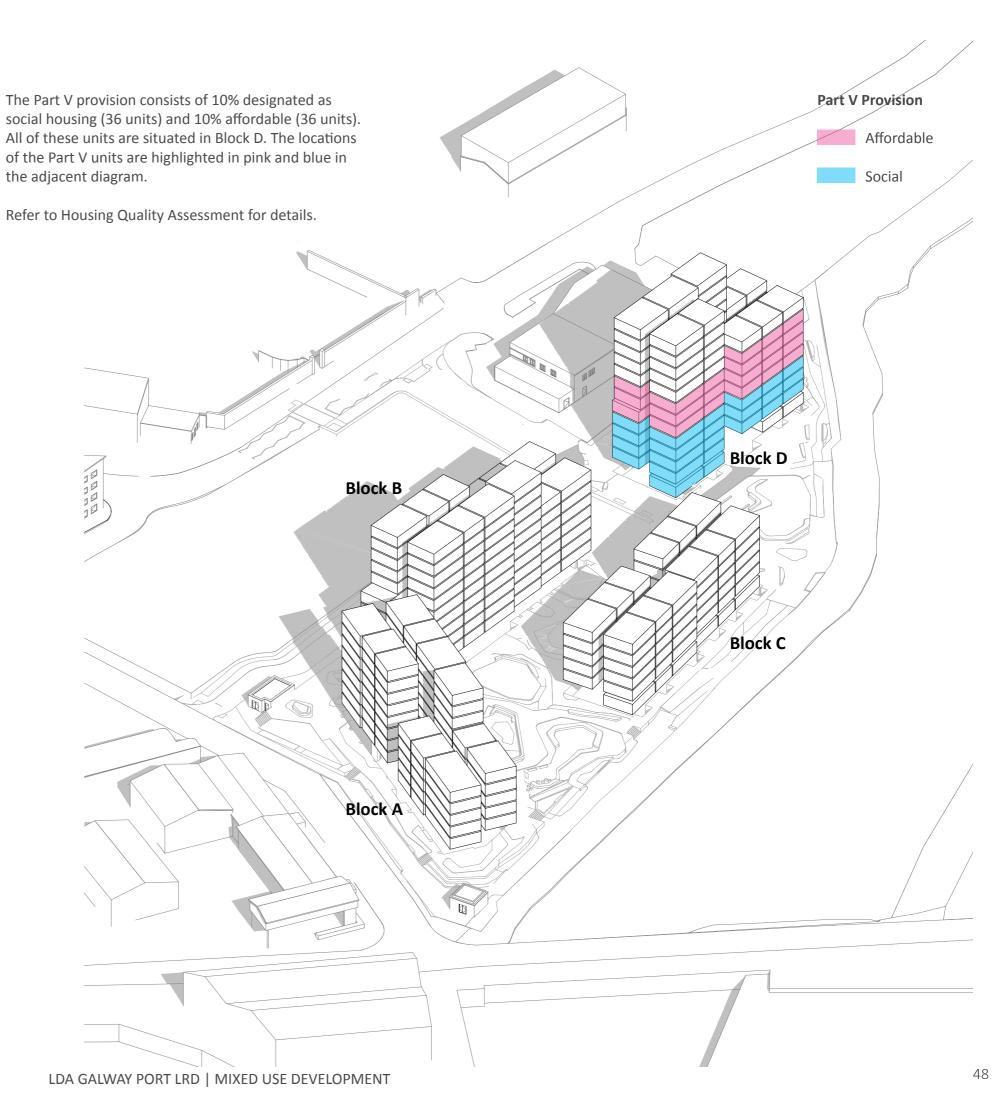
BedroomMinimum size of double and twin bedrooms13sqm(Section 3, page 118)Minimum size of single bedrooms8sqmMinimum clear space both sides and end of double bed800mm	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes
Williman size of single beardons	Yes Yes
Minimum clear space both sides and end of double hed 800mm	Yes
William cical space both sides and end of double bed obtilin	
Minimum clear turning circle diameter in double bedroom 1500mm	Yes
Single bedroom – minimum clear space at side of single bed 800mm	
Provide a bedroom at entry level n/a	N/A
Bathroom  (Section 3, page 121)  Located immediately adjacent to main bedroom with a full y height door or 'soft spot' between them for future installation of a door	Yes
Layout allows for the provision of either a bath or a shower Y	Yes
Minimum internal dimensions 2100mm x 2400mm	Yes
Minimum turning circle diameter with a 200mm overlap of the basin allowed 1500mm	Yes
Outward opening door, preferably* against a wall	Yes
Minimum activity space beside bath, if a bath is provided 1100mm x 700mm	Yes
Minimum transfer space at end of bath, if a bath is provided 400mm	Yes
Minimum size of level access shower area, if a shower is n/a provided	N/A
Basin minimum access space to front 1100 x 700mm	Yes
Toilet minimum access space to front 1100 x 700mm	Yes
Toilet centreline from wall 400-500mm	Yes
Entry Level Toilet Minimum internal dimensions 1500 x 1800mm	N/A
(Section 3, page 116) Outward opening door, preferably against a wall	N/A
Basin minimum access space to front 1100 x 700mm	N/A
Toilet minimum access space to front (where space is restricted, the basin can overlap the toilet access space by 200mm) $1100 \times 700$ mm	N/A
Toilet centreline from wall 400-500mm	N/A
Install a level access shower in the entrance level toilet "Provide drainage point for compartment to act as a second bathroom future level access shower installation"	N/A
Storage Mixture of storage type (e.g. shallow cupboard / deep cupboard Y (Section 3, page 141) / storage room)	Yes
Cupboard Depth Range 300 - 600mm	Yes
Utility"Separate utility space in homes of (Section 3, page 141)Y3-bedrooms or more"	Yes
Laundry Clear Area (in front of units) 1200mm	Yes
Study / work space Natural light to study / work space Y	Yes
(Section 3, page 140) Study / work space length minimum 1200mm*	Yes
Study / work space depth minimum (incl. chair space) 1500mm	Yes
Private Open Space Minimum effective clear width of doors to private open space 800mm	Yes
(Section 3, page 145) Level access to private open space	Yes
Apartment balcony/ terrace minimum depth 1500mm	Yes

### 5.21 Part V Provision



	1B2P	2B3P	2B4P	3B5P	Total
BlockA	0	0	0	0	0
Block B	0	0	0	0	0
Block C	0	0	0	0	0
Block D	22	8	35	7	72
Total	22	8	35	7	72
Percentages	6.2%	2.2%	9.8%	2.0%	20.2%





### 5.22 Dual Aspect

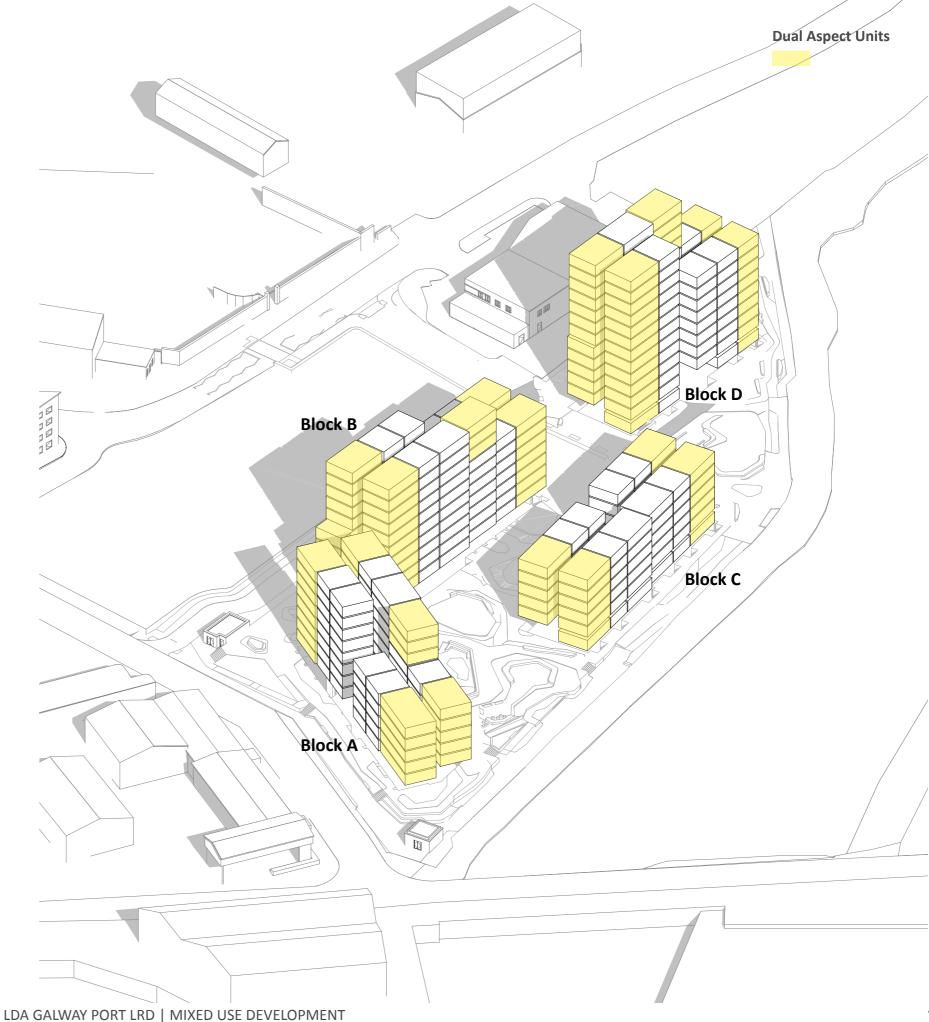
The proposed development achieves an overall dual aspect ratio of 37.6%, contributing positively to residential quality, daylight access, and natural ventilation across the scheme. Dual aspect units have been strategically distributed throughout the four blocks to maximise access to light, enhance outlook, and improve internal amenity.

The dual aspect units are primarily located at corner positions and along block edges with generous setbacks, allowing multiple exposures while maintaining privacy and minimising overlooking. These units benefit from cross-ventilation, wider views, and improved access to morning and evening sunlight, supporting passive environmental performance and a healthier living environment.

In the site layout and building design, particular attention has been paid to the orientation of the blocks, ensuring that dual aspect units take advantage of solar orientation, views towards Lough Atalia, and visual connections to communal and public open spaces.

The locations of all dual aspect units are highlighted in yellow in the adjacent diagram, illustrating their distribution across all blocks. This approach reflects a strong emphasis on delivering high-quality apartments, aligned with national standards and design best practice for urban living.

Galway Port - Dual Aspect						
Carriage Contraction	. •					
	1B2P	2B3P	2B4P	3B5P	Total	
BlockA	0	8	16	5	29	
Block B	0	0	32	5	37	
Block C	0	6	16	0	22	
Block D	6	20	15	5	46	
Total	6	34	79	15	134	
Percentages	1.7%	9.6%	22.2%	4.2%	37.6%	
Total Units	356					
Percentage of Dual Aspect	37.6%					





### 5.23 Childcare Facility

According to Planning Design Standards for Apartments – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025) and Childcare Facilities – Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001), a minimum 20 childcare places are required for every 75 residential units. However, studios and 1-beds may be excluded. Based on 184 No. 2-bed and larger units, the enclosed Culture and Social Infrastructure Audit has calculated a requirement for 49 No. places, requiring 133.5 sq m of clear floor space. However, based on the crèche's 255.9 sq m of gross floor spaces and an average requirement for 5 sq m of gross floor space per child, the crèche has a capacity for 51 No. children.

The childcare facility is centrally located within the development, enhancing local amenity provision and supporting the principles of the '15-minute city' and walkable neighbourhoods by ensuring accessibility for all residents.

Access and parking for the crèche have been carefully integrated into the internal street layout, with a designated, safe collection and drop-off zone provided for parents and staff. This ensures a convenient and secure approach to the facility. A total of four car parking spaces and two cycle parking spaces have been allocated

for crèche use, located in close proximity to the entrance to support ease of access and encourage active travel.

The facility will be of high architectural quality, incorporating thoughtful design elements such as a canopy at the entrance to provide shelter from the elements and create a safe, welcoming environment for families. The canopy also serves to reduce direct overlooking of adjacent residential units.

In compliance with the Galway City Development Plan and relevant national guidelines, an outdoor play area has been provided at 55% of the gross floor area—equating to 140.74m<sup>2</sup>. This requirement is met through the provision of two protected outdoor play zones, measuring 73.8m² and 69.6m², respectively. Both areas are designed to ensure safety, sunlight access, and separation from car parking and service areas.

The facility will be fully designed and constructed in accordance with all relevant regulations and statutory requirements, including the Child Care (Pre-School Services) Regulations 2006, and in consultation with relevant agencies such as TUSLA, HSE Environmental Health Officers, the Galway City and County Childcare Committee, and the Chief Fire Officer.

#### **Galway Port - Childcare Facilities**

184

**Total Units** 

20

Date 04.07.2025

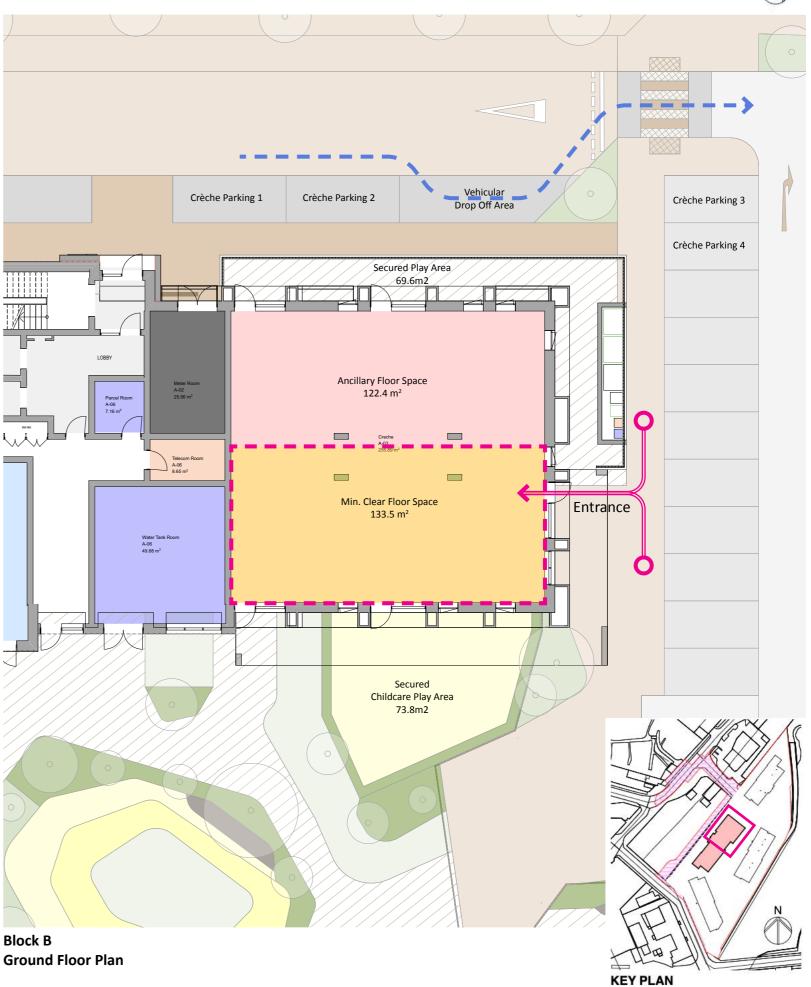
	Total number units = 356 units		356 units					
	Excluding 1-B	ed apartments	172	units				
		Clear Floor Space	Childspaces	Min. Req'd		Staff:Child	Staff:Child Children	Staff:Child Children
Class	Age		per Class	m2		Ratio		
1	0	3.5	7	24.5		1:3	1:3 3	1:3 3
2	1	3.5	7	24.5		1:3	1:3 3	1:3 3
3	2	2.8	7	19.6		1:5	1:5 5	1:5 5
4	3	2.35	7	16.45		1:6	1:6 6	1:6 6
5	4	2.3	7	16.1		1:8	1:8 8	1:8 8
6	5	2.3	7	16.1		1:8	1:8 8	1:8 8
7	6	2.3	7	16.1		1:8	1:8 8	1:8 8
			49	133.35				
			Total	Min. m2				
			Childspaces	Required				

75

Childspaces per 75 units Childspaces

49.1

Required



## 5.24 Taken In Charge

The proposed engineering and roadworks along Lough Atalia Road, which lies within third-party ownership (Galway City Council), will not result in any change to the ownership or status of this road. The existing arrangement will change with the crossing and improved junction, and no portion of this road is proposed to be taken in charge as part of the development.

The proposed public open space, including the Lough Atalia Walk along the Lough Atalia waterfront, the public square located at the junction of Block A and Block B, and all areas highlighted in blue on the site plan, are not intended to be taken in charge by Galway City Council. Instead, these areas are envisioned to be managed and maintained by a dedicated management company, which will be established by the Land Development Agency (LDA) to ensure their long-term upkeep and public accessibility.

All remaining lands, indicated in orange on the site plan, will revert to the Galway Harbour Company, the current landowner, upon completion of the development or as otherwise agreed between the parties.







### 5.25 Sustainability

The Land Development Agency (LDA) is committed to delivering sustainable neighbourhoods that enable healthy living within connected and resilient communities. For the Galway Port project, sustainability has been considered across environmental, social, and economic dimensions, ensuring that the development contributes meaningfully to Galway's long-term climate objectives while creating a high-quality living environment.







#### **Home Performance Index**

A central part of this strategy is the adoption of the Irish Green Building Council's Home Performance Index (HPI) as the sustainability assessment framework. This ensures independent verification and consistent benchmarking across all LDA projects.

A comprehensive sustainability metrics report has been prepared and tracked by Catalyst, embedding measurable performance indicators into the design process. The HPI is fully aligned with the European Union's Level(s) Framework, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and with national objectives set out in the National Planning Framework and the Climate Action Plan. The project is targeting HPI certification at or above 50% to achieve a silver rating, with the assessment placing equal emphasis on environmental outcomes, resident health and wellbeing, economic performance, and quality assurance, while also recognising the advantages of the site's sustainable and highly connected urban location.

#### **EU Taxonomy**

The scheme has also been developed in accordance with the EU Taxonomy Regulation, which forms a core element of the European Green Deal and sets out a pathway towards net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The regulation requires that new developments make a substantial contribution to at least one of six defined environmental objectives, avoid causing significant harm to others, and adhere to minimum social and governance safeguards. By aligning with these principles, the Galway Port project demonstrates a proactive commitment to climate resilience and goes beyond current regulatory requirements.

#### **Biodiversity Net Gain**

In parallel, a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment prepared by DNV has established the ecological baseline for the site and quantified biodiversity outcomes both before and after development. The results confirm that the project will deliver a net biodiversity gain of more than ten percent, meeting

the requirements of the Statutory BNG Metric (Defra, 2024) as well as HPI standards. Although the existing habitats are of limited ecological value, they will be replaced with a more diverse mix of planting, habitat creation, and long-term ecological management. As the landscaping design evolves, the biodiversity plan will be refined in consultation with an ecologist to ensure that the predicted net gain is fully achieved.

The biodiversity strategy goes beyond compliance by seeking to create a resilient and ecologically valuable landscape. Key measures include the introduction of native tree and shrub planting, pollinator-friendly species, green roofs, and the integration of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) that also function as biodiversity habitats. The public and communal open spaces are designed to support year-round ecological value while remaining usable and attractive for residents. Habitat features such as bird and bat boxes will be incorporated into buildings and landscape structures, contributing to urban ecology and supporting wider citywide biodiversity networks.

Table 1 Taxonomy-related sustainability metrics

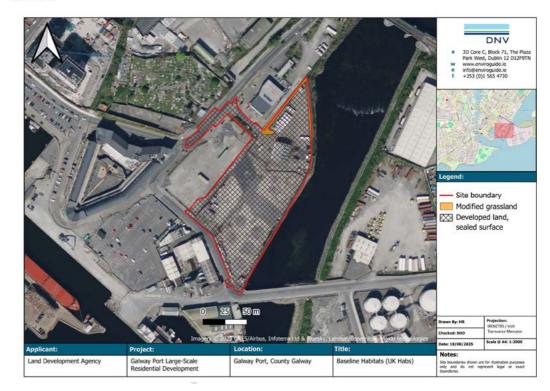
No	Taxonomy indicator	Requirement  10% better than NZEB			
1.	Energy performance				
2.	Airtightness testing	Less than or equal to 3.0m3/(m2.hr)@Pa q50			
3.	Thermal integrity testing	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix D of HPI Manual.			
4.	Global warming potential	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix D of HPI Manual.			
5.	"DNSH" - Climate Change Adaption	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix E of HPI Manual			
6.	Water - Sustainable use of water and protection of water	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix H of HPI Manual			
7.	Water - protection of water and marine resources	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix H of HPI Manual			
8.	Protection and restoration of biodiversity and eco systems	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix K of HPI Manual			
9.	Recycling of C&D waste	See EU Taxonomy description in Appendix I of the HPI Manual1			
10.	Adaptive Re-Use And design for disassembly/or adaptability	See EU Taxonomy description in second Paragraph of Appendix I of HPI Manual			

Table 2 - Employer Sustainability Metrics Requirements with HPI

	No	Indicator	HPI Compliance Requirement			
	1.	Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs)	HPI EN 11.0 - Level 2			
	2.	Carbon In-Use	$\mbox{HPI EN } 6.2$ - Level 1 compliance with energy directive means no fossil fuels on site			
	3.	Net Space Heat Demand	HPI EC 1.0, Apartments - Level 2 HPI EC 1.0, Houses - Level 1			
_	4.	Sustainable Mobility & Access to services	HPI SL 1.1- SL 1.5			
	4.	& amenities	HPI SL 2.1- SL 2.8			
_	5.	Biodiversity	HPI EN 5.0 Option A - Level 3			
	5.	biodiversity	BNG assessment using Natural England Metric 4.0			
	6.	Procurement of Timber	HPI EN 10.0 - Level 3			
	7.	Daylight	HPI HW 2.1 - Level 2			









### 5.26 Community & Stakeholder Engagement

#### Consultation

In progressing its plans and proposals, the LDA promotes a proactive and inclusive approach to community and stakeholder engagement, starting from the earliest stages in the planning and design process, through to construction and eventual occupation of a housing scheme. The LDA supports proportionate engagement processes, aiming to provide opportunities to hear the views of communities at key stages. The LDA believes that adopting this ethos will support improved design and planning outcomes, and ultimately the delivery of sustainable, inclusive developments that are well integrated with existing communities. The LDA Community Liaison Office leads and represents the organisation in all consultation and engagement on LDA Projects.

#### **Engagement Methodology**

In line with the LDA Community & Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (CSES) and guidelines a stakeholder engagement plan was prepared by the project team. The LDA, in collaboration with the Port of Galway, sought to ensure that a robust consultation process is delivered for this area which has a very active and engaged community with strong and established forums, local authority and elected representatives.

At the outset, it was agreed that a joint consultation and engagement process should be undertaken by the LDA and the Port of Galway regarding the proposed Draft Galway Inner Harbour Masterplan and the proposed phase 1 design, subject of this application. This process would build on existing stakeholder engagement and consultation undertaken by the Port regarding the previously published Vision for the redevelopment of the Inner Harbour undertaken in 2021.

A Community & Stakeholder Engagement Plan was established in order to guide the public consultation process and was set out over the following stages:

- Stage 1: Public Consultation on Design Stage
   Draft Inner Harbour Masterplan and Phase 1 Detail
- Stage 2: Publication of Community Stakeholder Engagement Reports
- Stage 3: Final Masterplan and Phase 1 Planning Application

The LDA have published a Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report regarding the phase 1 project and is available at: https://www.galway-harbour.com/. In addition, the Port of Galway have produced a Stakeholder and Engagement Report regarding the Draft Masterplan and this is submitted as an appendix to the final Masterplan as part of this phase 1 planning application.

The LDA and Port of Galway consultation reports set out the methods of communication regarding the Phase 1 consultation stage including two dropin clinics, written submissions and local elected representatives briefings. The reports have been developed to capture and present the views, ideas and concerns of stakeholders regarding the future of the Inner Harbour, as envisioned in the Galway Inner Harbour Masterplan. The consultation process sought to involve a wide range of participants, including residents, local elected representatives, businesses, environmental and community groups, policymakers and visitors to ensure that the vision reflects shared values and priorities. The reports summarise the findings from the consultation process, highlighting areas of consensus, points of divergence and key themes to guide the Inner Harbour's future development.

















