

# 'Sewage issue means I can't rent unit'

By GERRY MCLAUGHLIN

A Sligo property owner has claimed he can't rent out a unit he owns because raw sewage is overflowing on to the premises.

Eamon O'Hara (72), who lives in Dromahair, owns a unit at Ardaghown across from Sligo University Hospital at the Mall.

The landlord says the issue is ongoing, the latest overflow occurring on November 28th.

The pictures show the effluent in and around a unit owned by Mr O'Hara.

"I own one unit and there are eight units in total and the sewerage was backing up at the back door of my property.

"The unit is vacant at present and the sewerage is going underneath a gully at my back door.

"The sewer pipe is going in underneath my building and I have taken photographs of it."

He added: "Sligo County Council say it has nothing got to do with them and that it is a private matter as I am a private owner."

But Mr O'Hara asked: "Has Sligo County Council not got a duty to contact me to make sure that I address the problem along with the other property owners?"

"I was told that I should get legal advice.

"I mentioned this to a councillor last year and he advised me to get legal advice also.

"But to me a public representative's job is not to be telling people to get legal advice."

He added: "The raw sewerage needs to be dealt with and when the problem was there last November I had to have it cleared immediately.

"But I want to make sure that it does not happen again.

"What happens is that there is a storm water gully that takes the storm water and the sewerage and pipe going out to the mains blocks and the sewage backs up and the first place it can get out is at my premises.

"But I want a permanent solution.

"I want Sligo County Council or Irish Water to take charge of the situation.

"I want them to tell me and any of the other owners who may be affected to fix the problem.

"To be fair the problem is mine as a private



The unit at Ardaghown and (inset) where sewage is emerging at the rear of the premises.

property owner or others but the cause of the problem is the responsibility of Irish Water and Sligo County Council to identify the cause of the problem.

"It is their responsibility to identify who is responsible for fixing this problem," he claimed.

Mr O'Hara said he had no idea when the sewage was going to back up again but said it was an on-going problem.

"It's like if you have a tube sticking out of your

tyre do you wait until it explodes.

"The people that are responsible for this need to step up to the plate.

"I believe that Irish Water and Sligo County Council are responsible as the drain is going out into the public sewer of Sligo County Council which is seven or eight metres from the building.

"The water comes up to the back of my property and when it blocks the sewage comes up to my door. The sewage is going to Sligo County

Council's public sewer," he said.

"I can't rent out my property because of this ongoing problem and it has been empty for almost a year.

"I sent an email to every county councillor in Sligo last Wednesday and only one of them got back to me and he is following up on that.

"Sligo County Council own the main sewer and the responsibility for that rests between them and Irish Water," he claimed.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH  
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL  
www.sligococo.ie



## PUBLIC NOTICE SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning and Development (Section 179A) Act 2000 – 2023  
Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2023

### PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 39 No. SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS AT CAMROSS AND CARROWNANTY TOWNLANDS, BALLYMOTE, CO. SLIGO.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 179A of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 - 2023, notice is hereby given that Sligo County Council proposes to carry out a development, particulars of which are set out in the Schedule hereunder.

Schedule	
Location	Nature and Extent of Development
Camross and Carrownanty Townlands, Ballymote Co. Sligo	The construction of 39 number new housing units comprising of 16 no. 1 bed apartments, 8 no. 2 bed apartments, 10 no.3 bed dwellings, 4 no. 4 bed dwellings and 1 no. 5 bed dwelling together with all associated site development works including site access, site boundaries, drainage, associated earthworks, roadworks, Public Open Space, utilities and services connections, car parking and all ancillary site works.

Sligo County Council, as the competent authority, has carried out an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and has determined that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required in respect of this proposed development.

Sligo County Council has carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report and has determined that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and has determined that an EIAR is not required in respect of this proposed development.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected and or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at Sligo County Council, County Hall, Riverside, Sligo, F91 Y763 during public opening hours Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays for a period of 8 weeks, from Wednesday 17th January 2024 up to and including Wednesday 13th March 2024. Details of the Section 179A proposal will also be available online at <https://consult.sligococo.ie/en>

A person may question the validity of any decision of the planning authority by way of an application for judicial review under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts, in accordance with sections 50 and 50A of the Act.

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