

## **Appendix B**

### **Consultation on the Options and Appropriate Courses of Action available to Government in relation to the site of the former Mother & Baby Home, Tuam, Co. Galway**

In conjunction with the publication of the ETG report, Galway County Council commissioned an independently facilitated public consultation. This structured process provided valuable opportunities for the public to engage with this complex technical document and to express their views on the identified options.

The factual report from the independent facilitators was published by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs on 6 July 2018. It includes an analysis of the 799 written submissions received from a wide range of stakeholders, in addition to the views expressed during a number of public meetings which were held in Dublin and Tuam.

The report highlights the very different but equally valid views of those affected. It reflects the diverse range of expectations, preference and concerns among various stakeholders and the wider community.

An analysis of the submissions found that two options were clearly favoured, namely: memorialisation alone (Option 1) - which was favoured by local residents, and complete forensic excavation of the site with DNA analysis (Option 5) was the preference of former residents of the Home and their relatives.

Similarly, preferences from members of the general public were almost equally divided between the mutually exclusive approaches of memorialisation alone and one of the options involving forensic excavation and DNA analysis.

All participants expressed care and concern for the dignity and respect of the deceased found there. Furthermore, there was a consensus that memorialisation should accompany whichever course of action might be implemented.

The full consultation report is available on the website of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs at <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=4755>.