



**NOTIFICATION TO ATTEND MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
ENTERPRISE SPC**

TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DAME STREET, DUBLIN 2.

ON TUESDAY 25 JULY 2017 AT 3.30 PM

AGENDA

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Members Present:

Cllr. Paul McAuliffe (Chair),
Cllr. Paddy Bourke,
Cllr. Deirdre Heney,
Cllr. Anne Feeney,
Cllr. Gaye Fagan,
Cllr. Greg Kelly,
Cllr. Norma Sammon,
Ms. Geraldine Lavin,
Mr. Martin Harte,
Ms. Evanne Kilmurray,

Officials:

Declan Wallace, Assistant Chief Executive, Dublin City Council.
Greg Swift, Head of Enterprise & Economic Development, Dublin City Council.
Steven O’Gara, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, LEO, Dublin City Council.
Norman Thompson, Business Community Manager, LEO, Dublin City Council.
Mary Foley, Senior Executive Officer, International Relations, Dublin City Council.
Patricia Colfer, Administrative Officer, CRES, Dublin City Council.

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 31st January 2017 & Matters Arising:

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Feeney and seconded by Cllr. Reilly.

Housing SPC Working Group:

The Housing SPC is undertaking primary research concerning the effect of AirBnB on the Dublin housing market and is inviting input from members of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC before proceeding. It is therefore proposed that 2 members of this SPC will join the new working group. Cllr. Feeney will represent the Councillors & Ms Brophy will represent external stakeholders.

2. Presentation on Tourism Statement of Strategy and work programme 2017-2022:

The Manager introduced the report by describing the short time-frame involved in pulling together the Tourism Statement, highlighting that it was a living document and can be added to as the strategy evolves. The Manager also expressed his gratitude to Ms. Brophy and all the DCC staff involved in finishing it, particularly Ms. Alison King in the events unit. Ms. Brophy then made a presentation on the Tourism statement.

The members of the SPC thanked the Manager and Ms. Brophy for the excellent work by DCC staff and complemented the team on the breadth of event supported by DCC. The members highlighted the lack of skilled workers to meet the expected tourism demand and also the area of sport tourism and how DCC could do more to highlight League of Ireland football, particularly in light of DCC ownership of Dalymount Park. The ongoing issue of graffiti and its negative visual impact for tourism was also highlighted.

The report was noted for inclusion in the breviat to the next main Dublin City Council meeting and listed for review in 12 months time.

3. Draft Dublin City Markets Action Plan:

The Councillors thanked the Manager for the report but expressed some reservations concerning the under utilisation of the Smithfield Market, the lack of progress on the development of the Iveagh Market and the Victorian Market. It was also suggested that revisions could be proposed to the casual trading bye-laws, during the review, so that private markets could become regulated in future.

The manager responded that significant investment has already been made in refurbishing the Victorian Market but the issues of the remaining trader's onsite, had yet to be resolved. DCC officials have been in negotiations with the traders and a solution was likely to be forthcoming soon. The issue's concerning casual trading on Moore Street will be identified during the stakeholder consultation period, when the Casual Trading Bye-Laws are reviewed.

With regard to a Christmas Market for Dublin City, the Manager recognises the need to develop such an offering and the Markets Strategy makes provision for attracting a world class operator. However, it is understood that such a market will need time to develop fully and that current public realm and transportation works in the City Centre will make that difficult in the short term.

With regard to the Iveagh market, the Manager outlined the complicated history of the site including archaeological findings, funding constraints and the economic downturn. The manager highlighted the current developer's eagerness to proceed with the project in good faith; however more action may need to be taken by DCC to drive the project on.

The Chair asked the committee if it wished to adopt the report. However, it was decided that the report would be deferred to the next meeting of the SPC allowing a more thorough review by the committee. It was also agreed that Mr. Leslie Moore, Parks Superintendant Dublin City Council, be invited to present in more detail on the Markets Strategy.

4. Economic Development & Enterprise Management Update: Greg Swift

Mr. O’Gara updated the committee on the current work of the Economic Development Office including; the draft of the 2017 LECP Action Plan, the Launch of the Dublin Economic Monitor on April 27th in the Dublin City Gallery, Hugh Lane, the Dublin Infrastructure Summit on May 23rd, the work of the Dublin.ie team and updates on the Regional Action Plan for Jobs.

Mr. Swift updated the SPC on the work of the LEO, and reported that an additional €300,000 was received by LEO Dublin City to increase supports to projects funded through the office. €124,000 was recently awarded to projects and included the supports for the creation of 14 full-time jobs. €19,000 was approved for 8 Export grants to assist with accessing international markets; €53,000 has been approved for trading on-line vouchers, helping business develop their e-commerce potential. The Management update concluded with a video presentation of the activities of the team for Local Enterprise Week 2017 5th – 13th March.

The Chair asked that the SPC should write to the City Manager asking that the efforts of Mr. Swift, Mrs MacSweeney and the LEO team in promoting Local Enterprise Week, be recognised and know. It was also requested the Mr. Jamie Cudden of Smart Dublin be invited to present on the work of his unit to the next meeting of the committee.

5. Motion received by Cllr. Mannix Flynn

“That this meeting of DCC supports the lifting of the ban on alcohol consumption and sales on Good Friday and calls on the present Government to amend the legislation that will allow the consumption and the sale of alcohol in Restaurants and pubs and other license premises on Good Friday.”

As Cllr. Flynn was not present at the meeting the motion did not proceed.

6. Any Other Business – None.

Cllr. Deirdre Heney will succeed Cllr. Paul McAuliffe as Chair of this SPC from 1st June 2017.

7. Next Meeting: 25th July 2017



Dublin: a smart city?

Jamie Cudden – Smart City Programme Manager, Dublin City Council

Smart Dublin is an initiative of the four Dublin local authorities to engage with smart technology providers, researchers and citizens to solve city challenges and improve city life.

Cities and governments around the world are aspiring to be ‘smart’. While there is no clear definition of a smart city there are some common threads including a focus on the increased use of sensors and instruments that allow it to be better monitored and managed in real time. A smart city is also considered as one whose economy is increasingly driven by technology inspired innovation and entrepreneurship that in turn will attract businesses and jobs, create efficiencies and raise the productivity and competitiveness of the public and private sectors. Smart cities also involve increased collaboration and engagement between the city authority, the academic and business sectors and, most importantly, citizens.

The creation of a Smart Dublin regional structure in 2016 was a step in the right direction while Dublin City Council has a dedicated Smart City Function reporting directly to the Chief executive.

“We aim to position Dublin as a world leader in the development of new urban solutions, using an open data approach, and using the city as a test bed for innovation”

It’s a collaboration framework to ensure that we can take advantage of some of the big tech trends that are transforming how we live and work. The idea behind Smart Dublin is to turn key challenges

into opportunities for innovation and to call out for new ideas and solutions such as the need for better mobility and transport management, response to extreme weather and flooding events, improved energy efficiency and environment, better citizen engagement and more efficient service delivery.

“Dublin is really starting to make progress on its Smart City journey however it is not without its challenges and does require high level buy in as well as strong support across Government. This will enable Dublin to deliver on its potential.”



Figure 1 Smart Dublin at Dublin Maker Festival, July 2016



Figure 2 Smart Dublin Showcase, City Hall October 2016

10 examples of how Dublin is getting smarter:

1. A real game changer was the delivery of real time passenger information (RTPI) for Dublin's public transport system, in particular on the capital's extensive bus network – with this information now available on signage and also as a real-time data feed to your smartphone.
2. The Traffic Management Centre with its intelligent transport systems, adaptive traffic signalling, and public transport prioritisation as well as an extensive CCTV network (with over 200 networked cameras) helps to keep traffic moving across the city.
3. Croke Park (one of the largest stadiums in Europe) is also one of the world's first carbon neutral stadiums and now the test bed for a suite of cutting edge internet of things (IoT) technologies working with companies such as Intel and Microsoft.
4. Over 400 smart bins (Big Belly compactors) were deployed across Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown resulting in a significant increase in efficiencies. These bins not only collect and compact waste with real time monitoring, but also measure environmental variables and passing pedestrian numbers. There are plans afoot to roll out more of these bins across the city.
5. In order to respond more effectively to flooding we now have a network of sensors monitoring river levels, rainfall and local weather conditions in real time. The city is collaborating with Intel and the CONNECT research centre for future networks in TCD to deploy experimental low cost rainfall sensors. We have also experimented successfully with low cost river level monitoring sensors working with Kingspan and DCU Water Institute.
6. By opening up their data on www.dublinked.ie, the four Dublin Local Authorities invite it to be used for new applications that improve the lives of Dubliners. Dublin was one of the first cities to launch an open data platform in 2011.
7. www.dublindashboard.ie created by Maynooth University is one of the most comprehensive city dashboards providing access to thousands of interactive data visualisations. Phase 2 of the dashboard is underway and is supported through a €2 million research grant from Science Foundation Ireland.
8. Is Dublin noisy? A network of low cost and real time sound monitoring sensors developed by Dublin based Sonitus Systems lets people check the noise levels in their own neighbourhoods on www.dublincitynoise.ie.
9. Dublin's Docklands District is the location for one of the largest development projects in Europe with over €2 billion in investment and construction projects underway. A Docklands Smart District network brings together leading tech companies (Google, Cisco, Intel, Huawei, IBM, Vodafone, and BearingPoint), research centres (CONNECT, LERO, INSIGHT) and other agencies with a focus on deploying the latest smart city innovations and connectivity across the district.
10. Dublin City Council is planning the conversion of its 45,000 street lights to low energy LED from late 2017 onwards which will go a long way towards meeting our energy and carbon emission targets while also leveraging IoT opportunities and deploying new services on top of this infrastructure.



Figure 3 Smart Dublin SBIR Launch April 2017

Smart Dublin is also using new ways to engage the market:

“One of the areas that we are really starting to experiment with is the concept of challenge-based procurement (using a pre-commercial procurement process). Smart Dublin’s first challenge-based innovation fund (€150,000) launched in March 2016 in partnership with Enterprise Ireland and sought smart low-cost solutions to scale up cycling in the city while addressing issues such as bicycle safety and security. This process enabled tech companies and entrepreneurs to pitch their solutions and ideas to the city council. A total of 98 companies expressed interest, with 23 proposals submitted and five companies securing initial feasibility funding of €12,500 each.

Following this, four of the companies are now prototyping their solutions with €25,000 each, testing out the latest innovations in IoT to track stolen bikes, to generate real time bike journey data and also to better capture the cyclist experience. A number of these companies have gone on to secure international contracts on the back of working with the city council.



Figure 4 Smart Dublin SBIR Smart Cycle Challenge Phase 2 Launch

Three new challenges in progress

Dublin is currently looking for smart low-cost solutions to tackle illegal dumping, to address flooding/blocked gullies and also to improve wayfinding across the Dublin region with up to €600,000 in funding for innovation contracts. The winners will be selected by an open competition process run in two phases (feasibility and prototyping) with the competition open to any organisation, tech company, or entrepreneur. www.smartdublin.ie



Figure 5 Small Business Innovation Research Challenges



Dublin City Infrastructure Summit


The Chairperson of the Economic Development and Enterprise – Strategic Policy Committee of Dublin City Council, Cllr Paul McAuliffe, together with the Economic Development Office were pleased to host the Dublin City Infrastructure Summit on the 23rd of May in Dublin City Hall. The aims of the summit were to:

- Bring together key stakeholders to discuss issues,
- Propose and debate new solutions,
- Consider trends and the future needs for the city

The summit will took the format of a round-table discussion with the debate being stimulated by presentations from a cross section of policy makers, political representatives, industry bodies and institutions. An outcome report has been produced and which highlighted the key issues and contributions at the summit and will be used to inform future debate.

The summit was broadcast live via webcast and may be found here:

<https://dublincity.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>



Outcomes Report: July 2017
Dublin City Infrastructure Summit
Council Chambers, City Hall Tuesday 23rd May 2017

The delivery of Infrastructure for Dublin City is the key to being able to promote our City as a great place to live, work, visit and invest. The provision of affordable, sustainable housing and access to efficient transport are critical to ensuring that we continue to attract investment and jobs. Dublin City needs to complete nationally to access the funding required to make this happen and ensure that it remains the economic engine of the country.”

“We need to make Dublin an Irish capital city, not a copy of Barcelona, Copenhagen or Paris.”

“The delivery of Infrastructure for Dublin City is the key to being able to promote our City as a great place to live, work, visit and invest.”

“Successful cities are places where people wanted to live.”

“The absence of strategic planning is affecting our ability to win investment, and ensure we can attract and retain staff.”

“Employees are looking for other cities to locate to because of the challenge of getting affordable accommodation.”

“We don’t stand up for Dublin.”



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Outcomes Report: 2017 Dublin City Infrastructure Summit



(From R-L) 1 Senator Neale Richmond, Dr. Ronan Lyons TCD, Ms. Mary Rose Burke Dublin Chamber, Prof. John Fitzgerald TCD & Cllr. Paul McAuliffe Dublin City Council

Chaired by Councillor Paul McAuliffe of the Economic Development, Enterprise and International Relations, Strategic Policy Committee & hosted by the Economic Development Office of Dublin City Council

**Council Chambers,
Dublin City Hall
May 23, 2017**

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Dublin City Infrastructure Summit: Key Outcomes

Mr. Greg Swift, Head of Enterprise & Economic Development.

Against a back drop of rapidly improving economic conditions, Dublin City continues to show signs of recovery from the financial crisis of 2008. GDP for 2016 stood at 5.2%, one of the best performing economies in the Euro Zone and unemployment is forecast to reduce below 7% by the end of 2017. Dublin now accounts for 45% of national GDP while the greater Dublin region accounts 54%, it is clear that Dublin is the economic engine of Ireland. However, while the recovery is very positive, a number of legacy issues remain to be addressed and these pose a significant threat to our ability to compete internationally to attract the FDI, high quality jobs and enterprise that enrich the fabric of our city.

The role of high-quality infrastructure is a critical element of a modern economy. It supports the ecosystem which allows sustainable economic development and promotes enhanced efficiency, productivity and competitiveness. It is this sustainable development which makes cities attractive places to live, work, visit and invest, and it strengthens social cohesion by providing vital facilities to the residents of the City. The last decade has seen a significant underinvestment in infrastructure by the State, as the full impact of the financial crisis became apparent and austerity measures took hold. This has resulted in particularly challenging conditions across a range of key projects, markets and sectors.

“It is clear that Dublin is the economic engine of Ireland.”

Nowhere are these pressures more apparent than in the housing sector as working families struggle to find affordable homes in the city. In his presentation to the Summit Dr. Lyons of TCD highlighted that housing can be considered as representing a quarter of Dublin City’s competitiveness and that we need to build in the region of 25,000 homes each year to meet demand and reduce the cost of homes. He also highlighted the changing demographics of the demand component as a larger number of 1 and 2 person dwellings will be required and that this will need to be predominantly met by the construction of apartments. Resolving this issue is critical to maintaining Dublin’s competitiveness internationally.

In response to these pressures Dublin City Council has committed nearly €800m for housing & building between 2017 & 2019 while the State have committed spending of at least €3b nationally under its capital investment programme from 2016-2021. This represents a significant scaling up on investment from previous years but still considerably lower than the 2008 peak spending levels.

The summit also focused on other areas where infrastructure was critical such as transport, Energy, Smart Cities and the challenges of delivering these projects. Dublin City Council have made a key contribution in the delivery of a number of large projects which will enhance quality of life in the city for citizens and business, such as the LUAS Cross City Project, Dublin waste2energy plant, the Poolbeg and Docklands Strategic Development Zones as well as the delivery of a number of rapid build housing units.

The **key outcomes** emerging from the summit include;

- **Reinforcing Infrastructure** is the key to ensuring that Dublin City remains competitive and **resilient to external shocks** such as BREXIT.
- **Dublin is the national economic engine** and supports regional and rural development; as such **investment in City's Infrastructure must be maintained**.
- **Greater collaboration** between local authorities and public bodies is required, particularly in the delivery and planning of Infrastructure.
- **Housing, both in terms of affordability and accessibility**, are again highlighted as significant challenges facing the City.
- **A register of vacant sites, buildings and properties** would be beneficial and assist in improving policy making and planning decisions.
- **Building costs** in Ireland are higher than other European countries. The underlying reasons need to be independently identified.
- **A cultural change** is required as we encourage families to adapt to **apartment living** in cities and to make greater use of public transport.
- Concern over **retention of talent**, where citizens have to commute long distance, is a significant challenge for SME and FDI.
- **Transport infrastructure is a pressing need** and while plans are in progress for the Metro North and DART expansion, delivery of these projects may take a decade.

- Smart Cities and IOT could provide increased data on which to **improve our evidence based** in decision making.
- **Harnessing and valuing underused infrastructure**, such as waterways, could offer a new blueprint for cities and town across Ireland.
- **Longer term planning** was called for with a focus on quality and monitoring.

The purpose of the Dublin City Infrastructure Summit was for the City Council to build on its leadership role in convening policy makers and stakeholder for the City, bringing them together in a collaborative forum and identifying opportunities and threats facing our City. I was delighted with the attendance and participation of a very diverse group of highly engaged and passionate individuals and organisations. We made many new connections on the day and strengthened existing relationships.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the Summit, and in particular the key contributors, including; [Ms. Mary Rose Burke](#) CEO, [Dublin Chamber](#) and [Senator Neale Richmond](#), Chairman, [Seanad](#) BREXIT Committee, [Professor John Fitzgerald](#) and [Dr. Ronan Lyons](#), Department of Economics, [Trinity College Dublin](#) and [Professor Deiric O’Brion](#) CEO of [NorDubCo](#) and lecturer in [Dublin City University](#). I would also like to thanks the [Deputy Lord Mayor of Dublin](#), [Cllr Rebecca Moynihan](#) for her support and the representatives of the elected members of [Dublin City Council](#), as well as a number of the executive management team. Contributions to the summit were also made by a range of stakeholders including the [National Transport Authority](#), [Waterways Ireland](#), [CODEMA](#), [JC Decaux](#), [NESC](#), the [Construction federation of Ireland](#), [Irish Water](#), [IBEC](#), [DKM](#), [Connect Centre TCD](#), [Dublin Port](#) and [Dublin Airport](#).

I would also like to thank Ms. Barbara Clinton for her transcription of the Summit and particularly my team in the Economic Development Office for their efforts in preparing the Summit and also this outcomes report.



Greg Swift
 Head of Enterprise & Economic Development
 Dublin City Council

Welcome:



Photo 1: Cllr. Paul McAuliffe welcomes attendees to the Dublin City Infrastructure Summit

Cllr Paul McAuliffe, Fianna Fail, during his opening address to welcome those attending the Dublin City Infrastructure Summit pointed out that the summit was the second to be hosted by the Economic Development, Enterprise and International Relations Strategic Policy Committee of Dublin City Council. In June 2016, within weeks of the BREXIT referendum, the committee hosted the Dublin BREXIT Summit. Cllr McAuliffe said among the issues that had arisen during that summit were those of growth and contraction and the ability of Dublin City and the greater Dublin region to respond to the opportunities and challenges of BREXIT.

Also, Infrastructure as one of the key issues identified, as were opportunities and challenges presented by an increasing population, the need for more office space residential accommodation, a transport system that allowed people to move around the city efficiently, as well as appropriate educational services. Many pre-existing issues were brought into sharper focus by the BREXIT decision, he said. And many of these concerned the city's infrastructure, giving rise to the Infrastructure Summit – a round table event addressed by a number of key contributors with expertise in the areas of policy, transport, housing, accommodation and planning.

Introduction & Context:



Photo 2: Prof. John Fitzgerald of Trinity College Dublin briefs the summit on the challenges facing infrastructure in Dublin City

Professor John Fitzgerald, Department of Economics, Trinity College, Dublin, introduced a number of themes in his address to the summit. He said it was necessary to consider what type of development was needed for Dublin. Successful cities were places where people wanted to live. A review of the last decade seemed to indicate that everybody wanted jobs only found in cities but wanted to live in bungalows in rural areas.

That was an *“utterly unsustainable model”*, Professor Fitzgerald said. Denser development was needed for Dublin, and that was particularly true in consideration of climate change because commuting had very negative environmental effects. Having people living close to where they work was important, he added. *“A younger generation wants to live closer to work in a denser city, in apartments. Changing preferences are important,”* he commented.

“Successful cities are places where people wanted to live.”

Professor Fitzgerald also addressed the impact of past economic uncertainty on Dublin's ability to meet current challenges and opportunities. On the one hand, he said that during the previous [boom] decade people seemed to believe things were going to go on like they were forever. *"We saw the disastrous effects of that".* And then in the period 2011 to 2013 there was profound pessimism and people thought things would be the same as they were then, he said. *"And that is when we missed the opportunity – it was clear from 2012 when the recovery turned the corner that we were going to need 25,000 dwellings a year over the following 20 years given the demographics. People didn't believe Ireland had a future and nothing was done".*

Brexit was a source of huge uncertainty into the future, he said. However, even in the absence of Brexit, what he termed a *"no-regrets"* policy should be adapted in planning for Dublin's future. *"In 2007 I met Fingal County Council who were, I think, the most progressive in terms of the Dublin local authorities at the time. They*

"We missed the opportunity of taking action three years earlier, which might have put us in a better position today."

planned for Metro North – they planned around a dense development based around public transport; and then, of course, Metro North didn't happen."

Relocation of some businesses from London to Dublin would mean a positive initial impact of Brexit on the capital. However, a major constraint was that *"today we don't have the infrastructure – public or private – to support a major expansion in the city. Certainly for Ireland, on balance, there are likely to be negative effects but who can tell. It is difficult planning for a future where at the moment it seems the economy will continue to grow and you are going to need a lot more infrastructure – public and private – in the future."*

In considering investment priorities, Professor Fitzgerald said, the market failure had to be identified and whether the State should be involved, and how the State should use its scarce resources. *"In terms of the current problems, it looks to me as if yes, there is a major role for the State."* He said one role for the State was in the area of regulation. *"From what I can see at the moment is the major problem is the supply constraint on delivering housing and this body, Dublin City Council, is one of the problems."*

“The Government could abolish Dublin City Council and take over the regulation to deal with some of the problems but the fact is that you have failed, and Dun Laoghaire has failed, to deal with some of the regulatory problems that it is in your hands to deal with. “So supply constraints that you can deal with – you can make a difference through delivering a much denser city through development in suitable areas or whatever. That is something you can deliver and it does not need money; it needs regulatory change.”

Turning his attention to the cost of accommodation in Dublin, Professor Fitzgerald focused on the cost of land. *“Because as an economist, ultimately, when there is major pressure on the market I ask where the benefit lies. It lies with the owner of the land.”* He said one route was through the taxation system and property taxes. *“Once again this authority and Dun Laoghaire have decided to reduce property taxes below where they should be.”* He said that a property tax would have been the way to go in order to release more resources to infrastructure.

He told Dublin City Council representatives: *“A lot of it is in your hands. I was asked the question before: should Government use money to pay down debt or invest in infrastructure? You can do both. It is not an either or. We found in the last decade that trying to deliver too much infrastructure, too rapidly can lead to constraints. We are not facing that at the moment.”*

Returning to Metro North, Professor Fitzgerald said the Government had said it would go ahead with the rail project. However, he said that having built the Green Line extension, it was necessary to consider if the location for Metro North was still correct. *“You need to re-optimize based on what you know today.”* He said that the issue of how to finance such projects went back to a trade off between debt reduction and government investment. *“The Government has scarce resources; it is a question of where it targets it and where the market failure is.”*

“How do you develop infrastructure for a dense city that will be good to live in? That is the challenge. “

Professor Fitzgerald said, that in the long term, housing was something that could be provided by the private sector if the *“regulations are right”*. However, he highlighted the finding of a recent report that the banking and financial sector would not be able to continue to finance the needed 30,000 plus dwellings a year after 2020, *“without making the mistakes of the past”*. A larger rental sector would be required in the long term, he said, provided by commercial investment. *“We need what are referred to as vulture funds, professional investors; we need investment in rental accommodation in the longer term.”*

While the banking sector could provide finance for housing today, the problem was in delivering that housing, he said. *“In terms of delivery times, it is interesting that infrastructure takes a long time in Ireland.”* The planning process and the extent to which delivering residential accommodation could be held at various stages *“is a major problem when we are facing major constraints. That is going to be an issue for the future. How we finance it. In terms of social housing, I think we need to look at models that may take it off the State’s balance sheet. I think it is possible to do so. But you need to think about what you are doing.”*

“I find it ironic to see the United Kingdom upset about possibly paying 60 billion to the European Union, whereas two years ago 60 billion was added on to the British national debt by the Conservative government because they started interfering with the provision of social housing, which put it back on the balance sheet. Nobody got excited about that 60 billion but they are pretty excited about this 60 billion”.

He said there were ways of providing social housing *“but you have to tie your hands as a State and you have to look at a new model”*. There are ways that social housing could be delivered in the future which would ease the pressures on the Government and allow a more rapid rollout, he concluded.

Chapter One: Cataloguing the Challenges



Photo 3: Ms. Mary Rose-Burke, CEO Dublin Chamber of Commerce outlines the challenges facing infrastructure for Dublin City

Mary Rose Burke, Chief Executive Officer of Dublin Chamber, an organisation that represents business and investment in the capital, congratulated Dublin City Council on, what she said was, “*a very timely infrastructure summit.*” She said there was a sense of urgency around infrastructure in the business community and, she said, it was heartening to know the issues were now getting much-needed political attention, at local and national level.

“Infrastructure is the most pressing issue facing the region and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.”

Dublin Chamber of Commerce represents 1,300 members in the greater Dublin area and its members employ about 300,000 people, she said. “*We have a very clear insight across different sectors and different sizes of business, about the infrastructure challenges the businesses face.*”

“Historically, we have never got this right; we have underinvested. We have a very unstable capital expenditure pattern – the worst in Western Europe and the lowest proportional capital spend in the European Union. We haven’t been great in the past at some of our projections; we have tended to underestimate the future needs and failed to provide for those.”

Population growth had been underestimated and there was a failure to meet the needs of even that underestimated population. Less than 20 per cent of people in the greater Dublin area used public transport for their commute to work, not because they choose not to use it but because it was not provided in a way that met their needs, she said. (according to canal cordon count 2016 48.5% of people crossing canal at peak hours travelled by public transport -30% travelled by car.)

“From a political point of view, the capital would appear to lack a very coherent voice. TDs and representatives from other counties, for example Mayo, can be counted on to put aside their political differences and project a strong voice for their own region when they are lobbying on national policy. Dublin representatives seem to lack either that confidence or projection or unity in making the case for the city, so we don’t see a strong defence. There is almost an apology for being Dublin-centric and a lack of recognition of the importance of Dublin. If Dublin does not succeed the country cannot succeed.”

Dublin did not get a proportionate share of infrastructure, she said. Per capita investment in Dublin stood at around two-thirds the national average based on the most up to date available figures. According to Central Statistic Office projections, 300,000 more people would live in the four Dublin local authority areas by 2031: *“Where will they live and work, and how will they get from work to home, and how will they get around taking part in other social, cultural and family life events in Dublin?”*

Housing supply was now a critical issue facing the economy with housing rents surpassing the peak levels of 2008. *“Unusually, but not surprisingly, housing is now the biggest issue that our members face. That is the biggest issue that their employees are coming to them with – both the access to housing and the affordability of housing.”*

In meeting the challenges and opportunities provided by Brexit, she said, housing supply, commuting and travel times were the most practical and quantifiable measures that local authorities could deal with. *“That would make the city more competitive both for the people already living and working here but also in being able to attract in new investment. We would like to see tangible progress across those areas.”* A recent Department of Transport response to a Parliamentary question estimated the annual cost of congestion to the Irish economy at €350 million, which was projected to rise to about €2 billion by 2030. Dublin was ranked as the seventh most congested city in Europe.

Dublin Chamber saw Metro North as critical infrastructure, she said. *“Dublin Airport is critical to the connectivity of the entire country – 80 per cent of overseas visitors to the country come in through the airport – it is in effect Ireland’s airport.”* Rapid efficient connectivity into the city centre and the rest of the public infrastructure for the country needs to be developed. *“But it is also needed to ease congestion for the people, particularly in the Fingal area, to help them have a good quality of life and to reduce commuting times there.”*

“A very ambitious plan is needed to provide quality bus corridors and integrated bus routes around the city so that people could choose to use them.”

She said Dart Underground was probably a striking example of that short-termism, *“where we don’t plan properly for the future”*. She said it was first proposed in 1971 and in spite of multiple plans, postponements and revisions; its construction had not begun. She said Dublin Chamber saw Dart Underground as a piece of national infrastructure that would connect the rail system that connected towns and cities, such as Tralee to Dundalk and Sligo to Rosslare. Even if Metro North or Dart Underground were to get the go ahead, she said Dublin was facing a decade of increased congestion in lengthening commuter times and more people in the city.

She said those improvements were necessary in the short term and should be developed *“fairly rapidly to provide a solution within the decade Metro North would take to provide”*. This should include an upgrade of ticketing and payment systems, improved walking and cycling options in the city, and co-location of complementary services to *“enhance the experience of living and working in the city”*. She said only two counties outside the Dublin area – Cork and Kilkenny – contributed more to the public Exchequer than they received. She said the wellbeing of rural Ireland depended on the success of Dublin. *“That is not a message that is widely understood across the country.”*

Dublin-based politicians should be *“really bold and ambitious in making the case for Dublin. The greater Dublin area is home to 40 per cent of the population, it is the engine of the economy with 53 per cent of GDP and it generates about 62 per cent of tax revenue. We should be louder and prouder about the case for investment in Dublin. People want the quality of jobs that can only be provided in a major urban environment. We need to respect and reflect that in the way we allocate funds for housing and for other critical infrastructure.”*

“For rural Ireland to have a future and to be supported, it needs the economic engine that is Dublin to deliver to the Exchequer to support it.”

Ms Burke also called for a move away from short-term planning to 20 to 30 year planning *“so that people can see a clear line of sight for big capital infrastructure. We need to be able to scale up. Six-year time frames are just not good enough when planning the infrastructure takes 10 years. We would like to see that 20-year capital investment plan aligned with other national strategies and supported with long-term commitment so that economic cycles do not derail that building of the future.”*

Mr. Tom Parlon, Chief Executive Officer of the Construction Industry Federation, said Dublin needed to be benchmarked against other global cities with regard to attracting investment, finance, technology and foreign direct investment (FDI). Brexit might bring opportunities, he said, but it was going to be a *“long, long game”* and there were uncertainties. One of the challenges was the very basic requirement of accommodation.

The IDA and several global companies had reported their concerns about housing. *“You can be sure our competitors out there are amplifying these concerns in the battle for FDI”*, he said. *“We have to address that.”* Existing fiscal rules in the EU were restricting investment.

“Getting some flexibility in terms of our fiscal space has to be a key element from Brussels in terms of how we go forward. I understand Italy and Lithuania have substantially more flexibility than Ireland and are investing in their infrastructure currently.” He called for the establishment of an independent commission on infrastructure, and for the *“increased and appropriate use of Public Private Partnerships to deliver projects”*.

Dublin was now ranked ninth place in the world for congestion, commuter times were back at Celtic Tiger levels, and rents back at 2007 levels; and *“we have the housing infrastructure issues”*. Dublin was now the eight most expensive city for construction costs, he said, adding that there were a number of reasons for this, including the cost of insurance, regulation, availability of finance and legal expenses. Referring to a recent report that one of the biggest financiers had sold off their office portfolio in Dublin signalling, he said, that office investment was at its peak. *“They are concentrating on the residential side.”*

“We know that people working in Facebook and Google want to live close to work. They want to live in apartments, and to be able to walk to and from work.”

For builders, bank-lending rules remained very restrictive and it was an issue for a builder to find working capital to build residential property. He said one of the biggest issues was in relation to apartment building. However, it was currently “*practically unviable*” to build apartment blocks. *“It is difficult to get finance. There is no speculative finance unless your apartment block is let or fully sold in advance.”*

Regulations were a major factor in that regard, he said, in relation to underground car parking, height and other restrictions. *“There are great opportunities and great potential within Dublin but we need to have a shared strategy” that included the regions, he said, pointing to skilled construction workers having to travel long distances to and from work in Dublin because accommodation in the city was too expensive to allow those workers to stay for the duration of the projects they were working on.”*

Mr. Aidan Sweeney, Senior Policy Executive, IBEC, told the summit that in 2010 Dublin was the 26th most liveable city in the world but had now fallen to 34th place. The problems were not just about wages and tax, but also about a “*bundle of issues, including quality of life scenarios*”. He said that, on average, commuters spend 190 additional hours in traffic each year, while compared to other countries Ireland was under-urbanised.

Agreeing with a number of other contributors, Mr Sweeney said: *“We lack a coherent plan for our cities.”* He said that while there was a rural strategy no such strategy existed for Dublin or other cities. It was clear from the Dublin Development plan that focusing just on the Dublin City Council area was not sufficient. *“We saw that in the incoherent approach across the four local authorities”* and how they approached a number of issues.

“The absence of strategic planning is affecting our ability to win investment, and ensure we can attract and retain staff.”

He said a strategy that would address issues like height and density, and infrastructure, was needed. *“Who lobbies on behalf of the greater Dublin region – not just from a constituency base or a local base; who will say projects like Dart Underground is not just a Dublin city issue because it has an underlying impact on*

the electrification of the Maynooth rail line, for example, and in opening up excess capacity at Heuston train station for other users. All roads lead to Dublin and we need to take some of the pressure off". The affordability and availability of housing was a key concern as well as how people commute. He said Dublin city did some things very well, citing the broadband service. *"Businesses are coming here because of that and the question now is how do we bring it to the next level?"*

Senator Neal Richmond, chairman of the Seanad Brexit Committee, told the summit that whatever happened Brexit would not be good for Ireland. *"It will be a disaster, so how do we plan for it?"*

"I know it is a private investment and very expensive but large multinationals and EU agencies won't move their staff to Ireland or Dublin if they cannot educate their kids in the manner they want to, and are able to in Brussels or London or Geneva or wherever."

He said educational requirements were a strategic issue that needed to be dealt with. *"An international school will open in Leopardstown in September 2018, with 800 places for children aged five to 18 years. We need the roll out of, at least, another three campuses in the greater Dublin region."*

“How do we retain the staff we have as well as winning new business?”

In relation to capital investment, Senator Richmond said there was a proposal to alter and reduce the 10-year capital plan to change the debt to GDP ratio from a 45 per cent rate to a 55 per cent rate. *"That is allowed under the current fiscal rules, and is something we can start on straight away after the next budget."* He said it was vital to see some large-scale investment but the return on the investment also needed to be considered. *"Is it solely an economic return; is it a social return or an environmental return; what return are we looking for? We need large ticket, long term investment – the obvious one is Metro North."*

He said the decision to link the LUAS lines had used the available funds. Neither Dublin City nor Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Councils were being ambitious enough in their capital development plans. He said it was necessary to look beyond local elections and “nimbyism” to deal with “*the greatest challenge the State has faced since the Second World War*”.

Councillor Ciaran Cuffe, Green Party, said density was a more important consideration than building height and a key issue was to increase density. “*The current development plan allows for much greater density in our suburbs, which I think is crucial for our development as we develop quality public transport linking the city centre with our suburbs.*” Red tape and bureaucracy around housing was complicated, he said, referring to delays in starting housing on North King Street in the city centre, due to having to refer back to the Department of Housing on four separate occasions over two years. “*It will take another two years before it is built. That is a minimum of four years from start to finish for local authority housing in a housing crisis.*”

“We’d love to have all the big sticker projects like Metro North and Dart Underground but, I think, buses are the real people movers. Forty per cent of those who come to shop in Dublin city centre come by bus and only 20 per cent by car. We have got to improve connectivity for our buses and all public transport.”

As a local authority, he said, Dublin City Council did not have the autonomy to either borrow money or built “*without going back to Mammy or Daddy four separate times*”, and that took time and helped perpetuate or exacerbate the crisis, he added.

He said transport would become a much bigger issue over the months and years ahead, and that was “*why we need a very strong momentum from [Transport] Minister [Shane] Ross or his successor to press ahead with investment in quality public transport. He said the massive investment in bus improvements being proposed by the National Transport Authority was crucial*”

He said leadership and a co-ordinated voice for Dublin was needed. *“I think we would all agree that better co-ordination was needed between the four local authorities in Dublin, and in Kildare, Meath and Wicklow to where the remit of the functional economic area of Dublin extends.”* He said countries even smaller than Ireland devolved a lot more power to their local authorities, allowing the councils to respond much more quickly to crises.

Councillor Dermot Lacey, Labour Party, echoed the concerns of other speakers and said: Referring to an earlier criticism of Dublin City Council’s decision to reduce the residential property tax, he said: *“I didn’t vote for the 15 per cent reduction in property tax but part of the problem is if we raise money in other ways, the Department [of the Environment] will take it back so there is no incentive for councillors to be more responsible.”*

“We don’t stand up for Dublin.”

The central and core problem facing Dublin and decision making is the destructive but very powerful role of the Department of the Environment. It is the most dysfunctional and destructive institutional force in Irish society. We have to break the power of the department if we are to seriously challenge for Dublin.”

Again taking up the point made by Cllr. Cuffe, he said there was an 18-unit housing proposal for Donnybrook before the Department of the Environment for 18 years. *“It got planning permission, there are no objections to it, and yet it is still winding its way through the stages of the Department...that bureaucratic inertia has to be broken.”*

On housing, he said that the *“more we go for higher density and high rise the more there is resentment in the local community because they cannot afford any of those housing units. We have to find a better way than the 10 per cent social and the 10 per cent affordable to deal with that.”*

As many as 44 bodies had responsibility for traffic in Dublin, he said. *“No wonder we cannot get anything done. We need a single Dublin transportation authority that is accountable because, with all due respect to the National Transport Authority, it is not accountable in any real sense to the woman standing at the bus stop.”* He said it

was not possible to run the region with four mayors, 180 councillors and four chief executives – *“You do need a directly elected mayor and a single regional authority.”*

Lorraine Higgins, Head of Public Affairs and Communication, Retail Excellence Ireland, said Brexit was having a detrimental effect on its members. She said housing accessibility and affordability were key issues, and that a number of retailers had complained of problems in retaining staff as a result.

“Employees are looking for other cities to locate to because of the challenge of getting affordable accommodation.”

She said there was a general housing need in Dublin but also an acute need for accommodation for those working in the corporate sector. *“This needs to be sorted out as soon as possible because it threatens the essence of our FDI.”* She said a lack of clear timelines for An Bord Pleanála decisions also caused problems. Retail Excellence members were also complaining about transport issues and reduced footfall by tourists in the city centre.

Coach operators were experiencing problems with parking and enforcement of parking regulations. *“This is having a corresponding impact of traffic congestion in the city because they are forced to drive around and around because of the absence of sufficient parking spaces. Hopefully, with the long stay coach parking that might alleviate this problem in the longer term.”*

She said it was important for Dublin to assert itself during the negotiation of the European Union Trans European Network Funding for transport talks, due by 2020.

“Based on the fact that we have a critical mass of population here to make sure we get a good tranche of that funding down the line and we need to have that dialogue with our MEPs and others.”

Chapter Two: Housing and Competitiveness



Photo 4: Dr. Ronan Lyons Assistant Professor Department of Economics TCD being interviewed by Mr. Jimmy Greeley.

Dr Ronan Lyons, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin, in introducing the topic said housing accounted for a quarter of a city's competitiveness. He said three quarters of the cost base of a modern FDI project was labour, and that labour could not reasonably spend more than a third of its income on housing.

“Now that we have a world where capital is chasing skilled labour, capital wants to be where the skilled labour wants to be. Where the skilled labour wants to be is the billion-dollar question.”

Unfortunately, in Ireland's case we were so good at attracting FDI there was a delineation of what were, domestic issues and what were international. Corporate tax got a lot of focus because that was a key lever in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. *“It is still a key lever but when you are dealing, not with manufacturing firms, but with services, where all of their costs are local, housing is much more important.”*

Dr Lyons said the greater Dublin area was adding three people per hour, and that increase was not being met with a house an hour. The scale of the housing need, nationally, he put close to 50,000 a year, with about 17,000 of those homes needed in the greater Dublin area.

In the six years from January 2011 to December 2016, 21,000 homes were started nationally – the equivalent of what was needed for one year. On the other hand, about 3.7 million square metres of office space were added in the same time. That

sector, which he said was peaking, was going to increase by about a quarter in approximately five years. He said hotels would experience the same level of increase, as would student accommodation, *“if allowed”*.

“We have an empty nester problem and they have nothing to move into. Nothing has been built for them.”

“That is not going to happen with apartments”, because of the cost of building. Household size had increased between 2011 census and 2016.

“This is not supposed to happen – we are supposed to be on a long-term journey away from four or more people in the average household to two or two-and-a-half. It’s not going up because we have a baby boom; it is going up because we have people in, what are called, unrelated household units. We are cramming more and more people into the same number of units.” Ireland was increasingly an urban country “but one that likes to think of itself as rural. If you

have a one off house it is subsidised by everyone else. Not everyone can do that. Dublin is paying the way for most of the rest of the country. Until that is recognised and elucidated people won’t know this and therefore it won’t be factored into decision making at a national level.”

Going through some of the fine detail on housing and residential accommodation, Dr Lyons said there were 250,000 households of one or two people in Dublin but only 125,000 units that would suit a one- or two-person household. *“So that means a number of one or two-person households are living in far larger homes.”*

On the flip side, he said, Dublin did not need more family homes because there were 150,000 households of three and four people, and about 180,000 dwelling that would fit three or four people. *“There is a surplus of family homes but we don’t have options for pretty much every other type of accommodation.”* Dublin would need about 30,000 units of student accommodation in the next six years. *“And when you don’t build them, students will price low income families out of accommodation.”*

He said it cost about 50% more to build a square metre of apartment space in Dublin compared to its peer cities. *“How much [of this] is [due to] an inefficient market in concrete, or bricklayers, or the cost of finance. We need to find out why Dublin is 50 per cent more expensive than its peers when it comes to building the kind of accommodation that we desperately need as a city.”*

Dublin needed a large quantity of apartments but *“that is the one thing that is not being built. When you look back, that scale and type of need is not being met; it is unsurprising to see rents in the city are up by 75 per cent in six years. Cost is up, availability is down, and now Dublin features on all the wrong sorts of lists.”* He said in a recent survey of expatriates, Ireland featured in the bottom five on housing affordability and availability.

Reducing the number of vacant properties could meet two years of demand for accommodation.

He said there was not enough accommodation, which resulted in highly qualified people who relocated to Ireland having to commute from as far outside the city as Westmeath. *“Those people are not going to stay and after they have done their two years that looks okay on the CV when they leave. We risk losing those projects as well. Availability and affordability are the key pressure points now in terms of competitiveness in the housing market.”*

“The good news is that a lot of the levers to fix this are, at least, partly within the remit of the local authorities.” However, he said the mortgage market and credit conditions were *“completely outside the control of the local authorities. That is*

decided by the Central Bank but everything else – vacancy, cost, social housing and land – are all things where the Council can have an effect.”

Turning his attention to vacant properties, he said this was an issue that, if tackled, could probably result in a “*quick win*”. The level of vacancy in Dublin at 10 per cent of housing stock was double that for other comparable cities.

The single most important issue with building is the cost of construction.

In the absence of a property register and a property tax “*we won’t be able to tackle these things.*” he said. “And you need to start building.” An exercise by the Department of Housing on construction costs that was due to be completed in March of this year had yet to be completed, he said. “*The local authorities need to have an opinion on why construction costs are so expensive.*”

He said providing social housing at 10 per cent of what the market built was not the correct approach because “*the market is not going to provide enough housing when there is high unemployment*”. He said counter-cyclical social housing was needed that would be paid for “*by everyone not just the people who buy or inhabit newly built properties. So we need to move to a system of universal housing subsidies rather than rent subsidies*”. The Housing Assistance Payment was half a plus and a step in the right direction in this regard, he said. He said the council had some control over the introduction of a land value tax that would get infrastructure funded. If Metro North increased housing supply by bringing about viable new areas that should create the revenue that pays for the rail system, allowing the council to borrow against a future land value tax.

The solutions were not difficult; the difficulty was how to implement them. “*For those of you involved in decision-making, we know what the solutions, the difficult bit is how to get those over the line and convince people who are sceptical, including other stakeholders. There is lots of good research done on density, on transport, and indeed on taxation.*” He suggested local authorities needed annual targets by property type. “*The scale of the need is absolutely phenomenal. We need to get our act together.*”

Anthony Flynn, Executive Manager, Housing and Community Section, Dublin City Council, said the council's portfolio of 25,000 properties, which had a rental income of €75 million, could be used to fund infrastructure, off balance sheet. He said the council funded housing in a number of ways – through assistance given to approved housing bodies and private landlords, including through HAP. He agreed that the process for PPPs needed to be streamlined and made simpler. *“I feel the cost of construction is the most important thing we have to deal with, because construction is linked to affordability. The issue of affordable rent is very important”*, he said referring to earlier comments that people should expect to spend 30 per cent of their income on accommodation.

He said on a *“net monthly basis”* somebody earning up to €48,000 should therefore spend about a €1,000 a month. *“A two-bedroom unit was far in excess of that”*. He said there were a number of council initiatives attempting to deal with the issue of vacant houses, many of which needed significant repairs. *“The [funding] scheme that is working for the city is the buy and renew scheme rather than the repair and lease scheme.”* A key issue in planning housing stock was whether to build public or private housing. Under-occupancy was also an issue the council had to deal with, and providing housing stock that would allow people to downsize. *“We are bringing forward pilot projects testing initiatives to allow people to live with supports and assistance and we are bringing forward pilot projects in relation to that.”*

He said the council was being very clear that in relation to very large recent tenders it received for many of its projects that construction costs were too high. He said the council had stripped out many of the costs and was availing of opportunities to use a variety of building technologies. The council was keen to look to do that, including having system-based housing being manufactured off site for the council outside of Dublin. *“Nobody has to get up and drive to Dublin. We need to look at those technologies and give the opportunity to the hinterland to provide a factory-production model to bring forward this type of building technology.”*

“We’re proposing to do that in the city – we will have 150 rapid build homes in the coming weeks; we are proposing to bring another 1,000 units onto urban sites in specific areas; we have two pilots in relation to system-built housing. If we crack the nut on that one, we feel we are in a really good place to provide affordable homes.”

Referring to Ó Cualann, a housing co-operative in Ballymun north Dublin city, he said the initiative had been successful because the council had given the co-operative a serviced site at nominal cost. As a result, three-bedroom homes would be made available for €150,000 or €160,000.

Dr Dáithí Downey, Head of Housing Policy, Research and Development, Dublin City Council, said Dublin was gearing up for a housing development cycle while costs are very high in terms of productive factors, land and labour. It was the emphasis on price that seemed to determine affordability.

There were very significant issues in terms of affordability that cannot be overlooked, including quality, standards and location. It was necessary, he said, to redress and address acute unmet housing need in Dublin.

“We are dealing with massive legacy issues here – we cannot underestimate the debt burden that sits on owner-occupation and how that has squeezed out households, through vacant possession, to tenancies that are not secure and is leading to the growth in presentations to homeless services.”

“A huge number of people are at risk of being left behind in the current narrative. The local authority has a statutory responsibility in the housing of households with acute needs, and that is where we are starting. We have an opportunity to look into that mid-distance and to do something more significant. We are looking closely at how vacancy can be tackled in the city. We need to know a lot more about the geography of the vacancy in the city. We don’t have a register of ownership, or the detail on whether vacant properties are derelict or just unoccupied.” He said it was necessary to act quickly on identifying the owners and use of those properties.

He said unused commercial and retail space in the city could be converted to residential use. A secure and affordable rental market was needed. He said a universal housing allowance that would support private and public tenants would be a very interesting way of refinancing a unitary rental.

“A significant opportunity exists to adapt a counter cyclical approach to providing housing.”

Ali Grehan, City Architect, Dublin City Council, said it was necessary to invest in quality as well as quantity, and that required stewardship, allowing local authorities and others to monitor construction. The city did not seem to be able to learn from mistakes, she said, referring to the decision to connect the two LUAS lines 15 or 20 years after they had first gone into service.

While she agreed that public procurement was *“there for good reason – how we raise money needs to be completely transparent; how we award contracts needs to be completely transparent”*, she said public procurement model meant the council could not build up relationships with good Builders/developers- It is therefore very difficult to proceed in a partnership mode.

A private developer does not have to offer the opportunity to every developer in the market and accept the lowest price. That was what the public sector had to do.

“And then the battle starts. Instead of being able to seek the appropriate developer for the job we have to put it out to the market and cross our fingers and do battle throughout the construction process. That is one reason why construction costs so much – because it is not designed to be a partnership.”

She said apartments should be built not just as starter homes but as homes where somebody would want to live for all of their life. *“We should approach apartment design with that in mind, and I think we would make progress changing hearts and minds, and convincing people that apartment living is the future.”*

Chapter Three: Movement and Transport



Photo 5: Dublin City Council Chambers, City Hall

Mr. Hugh Cregan, Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation, Deputy Chief Executive, National Transport Authority, said Dublin's congestion problem was the outcome of chronic underinvestment in public transport over more than a decade. Though the reasons for the underinvestment were understandable, congestion was still the outcome, he added.

“We see it as the next big problem to solve after the housing issue. The big-ticket items like Metro North and the Dart expansion have to be built, but they are a decade away. The region cannot wait that long.”

Investment in transforming the bus system, and people's attitude towards the bus system, was the key to solving the cities congestion woes over the next number of years. To do this additional funding was required, which in turn required what he referred to as, *“buyer support”*. He said it was relatively easy to get people to support a big project like Metro North, but much more difficult to get funders to support the bus system. *“This is what we need to do. The bus system serves 125 million people a year. If we are to deal with congestion and prevent it from becoming a brake on economic growth, there has to be investment in the bus system.”*

Mr. Eamon O'Reilly, Chief Executive Officer, Dublin Port, said the port had seen growth of 25 per cent in four years, which he compared with the earlier figure of 25 per cent growth for office space in five years. *"This puts us 30 per cent ahead of where we were in 2007."* He said there as a very major development plan within the port, *"and we can finance it"* through a number of funding options, including local borrowing.

While he agreed that the planning system was slow, he said it was not an obstacle to the port's development because "we start early, it is as simple as that. *"We know it is going to be slow; we don't wait; we plan early."* In that respect, he said port development was planned up to 2040 to deliver the capacity needed, and to help and city and the economy."

Public transport played a very important role in the port's development by taking a large volume of traffic off the roads and allowing the national roads network, particularly the port tunnel, to function better. Conceding that the port was *"not very attractive"*, he said there was a lot of work going on in the port area adding to the amenities available locally. He spoke of the diving bell in John Rogerson's Quay, which has become a tourist attraction. On East Wall Road a pedestrian and garden project was unfolding to be finished by September, which will add considerably to the public realm in a very austere area of the city. In September we start work on a 4km cycle track on the northside of the port over in the Tolka Estuary."

The main problem faced by the port was people forgetting the importance of the port. *"A past government suggested the port be moved – lock, stock and barrel – somewhere north of Dublin: economic madness and environmentally unsustainable. It didn't happen. The notion did find its way into the previous development plan and has thankfully been removed in the most recent one."*

"We don't need to undermine the good planning that has been done in past investments in terms of favouring short term gains."

The port faced a specific problem in the Poolbeg Strategic Development Zone, he said. *“As recently as last Thursday, councillors tried [unsuccessfully] to get a motion through to specifically zone port land for one particular project, film studios, down to the detail of eight sound stages.”* He called for recognition that *“port infrastructure is important, there is a plan in place, and finance is in place to deliver it. Things shouldn’t get in the way of delivering the infrastructure – it is not very attractive, it is not well understood but it is a lynchpin of our economy.”*

Ms. Deirdre Lavin, Economist Group Strategy, Dublin Airport Authority, said the airport was experiencing record numbers of passengers. *“We are delighted but that brings its own problems, and we constantly have to work on the infrastructure”* associated with Dublin Airport. She said it was important to emphasise how important the airports were, *“particularly Dublin Airport, as a gateway” not just for Dublin but the rest of the country.*

A recent economic impact assessment of Dublin Airport highlighted that 15,000 people are employed on site *“and that our contribution in the local economy is far higher”*, equivalent to about 4 per cent of GDP, so you cannot over emphasise the importance of Dublin Airport, and the need to ensure its long-term health and development.” Her colleague Mark Killion said it was necessary to recognise the role of the airport as an economic driver for Ireland.

Mr. Benny Cullen, of Waterways Ireland, told the summit that Dublin’s incredible maritime and waterways heritage is being completely under used He said at the turn of the 20th century, transport was focused around the city’s waterways, which included the rivers Liffey, Tolka and Dodder, the Grand and Royal canals, as well as Grand Canal Dock, Spencer Dock, George’s Dock and Alexander Basin in Dublin Port. *“They all meet in the Liffey Estuary and flow out into Dublin Bay”.*

He said he was not suggesting going back to transporting everything by boat but waterways were *“now totally under-utilised by the city”* as transport, recreational and leisure infrastructure, and as tourist attraction for the city.

Dublin’s incredible maritime and waterways heritage is being completely under used

“What is interesting about this infrastructure is that it is 95 per cent is off road, so we are not talking about displacing existing transport.”

He said Waterways Ireland saw great potential use for these waterways – and not all of it on the water but by also getting people onto bicycles along the Grand Canal cycleway, which he said was “probably the best piece of cycling infrastructure in the country. We have a million trips down the Grand Canal, either by foot or by bicycle.

“We are working on two loops within the city – an inner city cycle loop that would follow the Royal Canal as far as Ashtown, through the Phoenix Park to Memorial Park and back along the Grand Canal into Grand Canal Dock.

He told those present of a 15-second video clip on Grand Canal at 8.45am on a Monday, which showed 115 people on bikes travelling through a junction in 15 seconds. He said 10 cars got through the same junction in 45 seconds at the same time of day.

He said the potential to move more people through the city should be capitalised on. He said Waterways Ireland was very keen to see this happen on the Grand and Royal canals. He said an outer loop reached out as far as Lucan. “What is interesting about this infrastructure is that it is 95 per cent off road so we are not talking about displacing existing transport.”

Ms. Joanne Grant, Managing Director of JCDecaux Ireland, Dublin Bikes, said the initiative had been very successful and very well received in the city. There were an average of 15,000 uses a day, and 68,000 long-term members. She said 96 per cent of all journeys were free. *“We have put a very good quality system in place.”* She said to date Dublin Bikes was cost neutral being funded by advertising, sponsorship, subscription and by the National Transport Authority.

Looking to the future she said she felt public transport for the city needed to become more coherent. *“I do think the bike scheme can play a part in that.”* This was sometimes forgotten because a private company ran the service. She asked that the complications a private company experiences in regulating, maintaining and looking after the scheme be considered in transport plans for the city.

“While the bikes are flying around the city at 17km/h, our vehicles are sitting in traffic, which is not good for the people that arrive at the bike station to find it is either full or empty because we cannot get there on time.”

Chapter Four: Delivering Infrastructure



Photo 6: Dr. Deiric Ó Broin CEO NorDubCo address the Summit on the challenges of delivering Infrastructure for Dublin City

Dr. Deiric Ó Broin, Chief Executive Officer, NorDubCo. And Lecturer in Dublin City University, said there is an unhealthy interaction between, what he called, the three I's – interest, institution, ideology – was the greatest challenge facing Dublin. The components of a healthy relationship between these included robust public institutions capable of making evidence-based decisions and having the capacity to inform the decision-making process. He said in the last 10 years there had been a withering of capacity in a number of the public institutions, and there was now real need to invest in capacity in those institutions.

In the same time period, particular vested interests were able to intervene in a policy decision, with very negative public consequences. *“So recognising and being clear about the role and appropriate extent of private vested interests, and their intervention and involvement in public policy decisions, is absolutely vital.”* It was necessary to be very clear about the influence of ideology on how institutions function – on ideological positions on whether a service should be market based service, or a publically owned and delivered services.

“I have a concern that the legitimacy and credibility of many public Irish institutions is not only problematic but contestable, by which I mean there is widespread public apathy and the wilful ignoring of public decision-making processes. That is going to get worse unless we do something about it.”

Recent local and regional local government reform taken in conjunction with the way the State has re-orientated its planning and development process, and changes in political culture, were a very significant change in the way in which the local state in Ireland interacts with citizens and civil society.

“The success – the public acceptance – of our new and existing public institutions and, more importantly, their plans, strategies and decisions depends on input and output legitimacy. By input legitimacy I talk about the functioning and machinery of an institution, how its members are selected or elected, procedure by which decisions are made, and the power that it exercises. Output legitimacy I am talking about the public assessment of the relevance and quality of an infrastructure reform. They are huge challenges facing the city region and its public institutions.”

“At one level you might ask what any of this has to do with building the next Luas line or Metro North or the Dart interconnector or the Super M50.” He said it was important because of a significant undermining of public confidence in public institutions. It appears to be an ongoing process with no

“Being clear about the role and appropriate extent of private vested interests, and their intervention and involvement in public policy decisions, is absolutely vital.”

end in sight.” That was the context for some of the challenges facing the Dublin city region. “If we are to invest and deliver the infrastructure necessary to maintain the city region’s competitiveness, whether it is housing or transport infrastructure, we also want to maintain the relatively attractive sense of place that Dublin has.”

“Infrastructure deficits required billions in investment, if not tens of billions, whether delivered by public, public-private or private financing arrangement. He said those making the decisions would be faced with most questioning citizenry they had ever faced, and the legitimacy of their decisions would be examined in minute detail more than had ever happened in the history of the State. “I am not sure we are wired for that yet.”

A key issue was how removed the public was from many of the decisions taken. *“If you look at the recent development of the incinerator in Dublin – an initiative that by and large would be mainstream in any western European city. In Dublin it proved hugely costly and problematic. How can we avoid similar situations in the future? Who will be meaningfully accountable for decisions? How can what is widely regarded as an unclear system be made more transparent and meaningful to citizens in the city region. We live in a changed time and what we managed to get away with in the past is probably no longer sufficient. “*

Dr Ó Brion said he was concerned this had not been taken into account. *“We recognise that money needs to be spent, we acknowledge we may have to be nimble in how we access funding, but who is responsible to the citizens for the spending of that money. Where investment in infrastructure is seen to be paying off, the perception this has been a worthwhile investment that helps to make the city a better place.”*

He said promoters of such very large projects were sometimes self-serving, misinforming the public, the media and public representatives to get the project built. The formula for approval seemed to be an unhealthy cocktail of underestimated costs, overestimated revenue, undervalued environmental impacts and overvalued economic development impacts.

“While I am not suggesting this is the case in Ireland, I think it is vital we are aware of the fluidity of public perceptions of success and how these might differ from the metrics of success that public institutions use.

“I maintain my optimism that Dublin can get it right, but if we want to tackle these issues, we have to acknowledge they exist in the first place.”

Referring to the idea put forward for providing apartments for families, he said, *“culture trumps strategy every time. We have a dominant political and social culture in this country – we buy houses. You are talking about asking people to change the most central habit of their life to deliver what you perceive to be a healthy outcome – apartments. I am not sure we are set up to communicate the scale of the need for that change to the public.*

Linda Doyle, Director, Connect Centre Trinity College Dublin addressed the summit about how technology could address some of the issues of the city and the development of the Smart City. She said technology played a role in all aspects of the city’s life from the working of Dublin Port to running the bus service.

“It is impossible to think of any infrastructure now, including housing, without thinking about the technology, and the digital layer that sits on top of it. You need to think of digital networks in everything.”

She said density was an issue for connectivity – what she referred to as *“the massive internet of things”*. She said this was very important in considering future communications for the city. She said an asset registry should be established to ascertain the extent of assets that could be used to expand and deepen that connectivity into the future.

She suggested that *“we embed our environment with sensors everywhere and anywhere right around the city...on lampposts, walls, benches, in buses and cars.”* She said the dense deployment of sensors, and ultra dense networks, is all about future communications systems.

“The networks we have in the city now are not fit for purpose for the future – for virtual reality, augmented reality, that might overlay the city and help with any of these problems, we need that denser deployment.”

She said such deployment was difficult “for all of the reasons everyone mentioned – there are many different authorities involved in everything, planning permission is sluggish and slow, nobody really realises the benefit – why should I give up my lamppost? This frustration feeds into the digital structure in the same way.” She said this was a difficult for every city and suggested that if Dublin could solve this problem it would have a blue print for IP that could be exported to other cities. We need to look at new ways of planning that involve technology like artificial intelligence and learning and where you can do automated plans. A lot of the process can be automated and then the human intervention, which is also really important, can complement it.

She referred to a recent pilot mobile taskforce looking at how we could improve the network, which looked at the planning that underpinned it. She said there were a number of models in Dublin and suggested putting “out calls to see if people could do planning in new ways using technology and artificial intelligence. She suggested a role for Blockchain, the distributive ledge that underpins the online currency, Bitcoin.

“People will be able to interact with the city in a way that is more comfortable, right down to the level of how we plan, how we use technology to do the planning and deal with the fragmentation”

An issue would be managing digital assets in a distributive fashion but she said there was a lot of data from the United Kingdom on its use in government. “We have an opportunity to look at things like that”. She said technology was not the whole solution but “it can be a very significant part. “Some of the frustration that was vented here can be taken away by certain technologies. Once we have the amazing networks the city will be smarter and we will have no congestion. She said €60 million was being invested in ongoing research in Ireland on future networks, communications and telecom projects.

Gerry Wardell, Director, Codema, the Dublin energy agency, said and the issue of climate change and how Dublin is going to address the huge global issue of climate change. He said Dublin would not become a modern city without considering these. He said apart from comments made by Professor Fitzgerald at the start of the summit, the issue had not been discussed. *“It should underpin any future development, and I know local authorities are doing a lot in terms of looking at district heating, renewable energy, and climate strategies. I feel obliged to mention that.”*

“It would be remiss in terms of developing a modern world class city, not to consider the long-term future of the energy infrastructure”

Mr. Paul Horan told the summit that a problem with school places had been responded to by government in 2012 with a school-building programme. School places were provided through a mixture of public and private initiatives including PPPs, rapid build, refurbishment, but quietly over five years 100,000 school places have been delivered.

He said this happened because it became an absolute priority of the Government to solve that problem, and *“they decided to put money into it – about €2bn was set aside, and the Department delivered”*. He said he had no doubt if the NTA was given €2 billion; it would *“have the metro running in about two years”*. He said underinvestment was a problem – that 2 per cent of GDP was being? Rather than the necessary 4 per cent. *“It is down to picking the key projects, deciding what we want to do and investing in those, rather than trying to pull 45 projects along in 45 years.”*

Declan Wallace, Assistant Chief Executive for Culture Recreation and Economic Services (CRES), Dublin City Council, said density was at the heart of all Dublin's issues – and would deal with traffic, housing problems and other public realm issues. In terms of convincing the public of the need for increased height and increased density he felt we had we had not succeeded. He said elected members are sometimes blamed but they are simply representing the views of their constituents.

He said apartment living was associated with historic problems in developments such as Ballymun. These were followed by some “shoebox” typology developments, built in the early 1980s. He was concerned that some speakers were advocating the building of more of these to solve the current supply problems. It needs a culture change to convince people of the merits of apartment living and the only way to achieve this is to build decent apartments with the living space suitable for families as well as for one person. *“We do need to get a good supply of decent sized, decent quality*

“We need to make Dublin an Irish capital city, not a copy of Barcelona, Copenhagen or Paris.”

apartments. I think that is one of the issues we have.” He said the council was always keen to improve Dublin – but he felt we have our own culture and our own individual attributes”

He said continental capital cities were built generally with five-storey buildings from day one. *“Dublin is not like that and is a medieval city at its core. Its outer city area is made up of a huge number of two-storey semi-detached dwellings.”* Until we grasp the nettle and convince people that it is only by building good quality, well managed apartments that we can justify and provide the capital investment in the public realm and transport infrastructure to deal with congestion and quality environment.

He went on to agree with Ali Grehan in relation to her comment on the negative impacts of the public procurement process.” On a lighter note, he said very few organisations would ask *“people to come in to have a go at them”*. He said that was what the council had done in holding the summit. *“It has been very useful and I thank all who participated.”*

In his closing comments, **Greg Swift, Head of Enterprise and Economic Development, Dublin City Council**, said the summit had been very useful to help identify the gaps and issues “*we are facing to develop this city*”. He said following the event, his office would categorise the issues that had arisen and been discussed throughout the morning, and consider further research and offered. Mr. Swift offered his sincere thanks to everyone for attending and taking part in the Dublin City Infrastructure summit.

Contributors:

1. [Councillor Paul McAuliffe](#), Infrastructure Chair, and Chair of the Economic Development, Enterprise and International Relations, Strategic Policy Committee
2. [Professor John Fitzgerald](#), Department of Economics, Trinity College, Dublin
3. [Ms Mary Rose Burke](#), Chief Executive of Dublin Chamber
4. [Mr Tom Parlon](#), Chief Executive of the Construction Industry Federation
5. [Mr Aidan Sweeney](#), Senior Policy Executive, IBEC
6. [Senator Neal Richmond](#), chairman of the Seanad Brexit Committee
7. [Councillor Ciaran Cuffe](#), Green Party
8. [Councillor Dermot Lacey](#), Labour Party
9. [Ms Lorraine Higgins](#), Head of Public Affairs and Communication, Retail Excellence Ireland
10. [Dr Ronan Lyons](#), Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin
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14. [Mr Hugh Creegan](#), Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation, Deputy Chief Executive, National Transport Authority
15. [Mr Eamonn O'Reilly](#), Chief Executive, Dublin Port
16. [Ms Deirdre Lavin](#), Economist, Group Strategy, Dublin Airport Authority
17. [Mr Benny Cullen](#), of Waterways Ireland
18. [Ms Joanne Grant](#), Managing Director of JC Decaux Ireland, Dublin Bikes,
19. [Dr Deiric Ó Broin](#), Chief Executive Officer, NorDub Co and lecturer at Dublin City University
20. [Ms Linda Doyle](#), Director, Connect Centre,
21. [Mr Gerry Wardell](#), Director, Codema,
22. [Mr Declan Wallace](#), Assistant City Manager for Recreation and Economic Development, Dublin City Council
23. [Mr Greg Swift](#), Head of Enterprise and Economic Development, Dublin City Council,

Photos of attendees:



Photo 7: Mr. Lorcan Blake DKM Economic Consultants & Mr. Norman Thompson, Business Community Manager Dublin City Council



Photo 8: Mr. Stephen Coyne, Liberties Area Business Forum & Ms. Mary MacSweeney, Deputy Head of Economic Development & Enterprise Dublin City Council



Photo 9: Senator Neale Richmond, Deputy Lord Mayor Rebecca Moynihan, Cllr. Paul McAuliffe



Photo 10: Infrastructure Summit mingle at a Reception in Dublin City Hall



Photo 11: Mr Michael Culligan CEO Dublin BIC, Ms. Mary MacSweeney Dublin City Council, Ms. Annette Hughes and Mr. Lorcan Blake, DKM Economic Consultants



Photo 12: Mr. Eamonn O'Reilly, CEO Dublin Port Company, Ms. Ali Grehan, City Architect, Mr Anthony Flynn, Executive Manager, Housing and Community Services, & Dr Dáithí Downey, Head of Housing Policy, Research and Development, Dublin City Council



Photo 13: Mr. Aebhric McGibney Director of Policy, Dublin Chamber & Mr. Declan Wallace, Assistant CEO Dublin City Council



Photo 14: Prof. John Fitzgerald Trinity College Dublin



Photo 15: Deputy Lord Mayor Rebecca Moynihan, Senator Neale Richmond & Cllr. Paul McAuliffe



“We see it as the next big problem to solve after the housing issue. The big-ticket items like Metro North and the Dart expansion have to be built, but they are a decade away. The region cannot wait that long.”

“Dublin’s *incredible maritime and waterways heritage* is being completely under used”

“How do you develop infrastructure for a dense city that will be good to live in? That is the challenge. “

The single most important issue with building is the cost of construction.

“Infrastructure is the most pressing issue facing the region and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.”

“A significant opportunity exists to adapt a counter cyclical approach to providing housing.”



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council





Management Update

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1. Economic Development:

Dublin Action Plan for Jobs: Implementation Committee

On June 27th Dublin City Council hosted the third meeting of the Implementation Committee for the Dublin Action Plan for Jobs (DAPJ). The Meeting was chaired by Caroline Keeling, CEO of Keelings and by Owen Keegan CEO of DCC. The meeting heard presentations from Ali Grehan, City Architect for Dublin City on action 88, Reimagining Dublin 1 and from Ronan Furlong, Director of DCU Alpha on action 35, Makerspace Dublin. The meeting also received a briefing from Michael Broughan of Enterprise Ireland on the announcement of the regional enterprise competitive fund of €60M in support of the Action Plan for Jobs that is open to applications.

Dublin Economic Monitor: Issue 9 & 10

The Ninth issue of the Dublin Economic Monitor was launched by Dublin City Council at a breakfast event held on April 27th at the Dublin City Gallery, Hugh Lane, Parnell Square. The Monitor shows that Dublin continued its economic resurgence, translated in a further reduction to the unemployment rate reducing to 6.8% for the city. However, significant pressures are emerging as the economy grows that represent a threat to competitiveness and the continued performance of the city. A major issue is the rising cost of housing, Dr. Ronan Lyons of TCD was invited to produce an article for the monitor on housing where he identified the issues underpinning the rising cost of housing and expressed it in terms of a loss of competitiveness for Dublin.



Issue 10 of the Dublin Economic Monitor will be launched by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council on 27th July in the LEXICON library in Dún Laoghaire and will be available on www.dublineconomy.ie from Thursday morning.

Dublin City Infrastructure Summit

The chair of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC Cllr Paul McAuliffe hosted a special Dublin Infrastructure Summit which was held on the 23rd May in Dublin City Hall. The summit was organised by the Economic Development Office of Dublin City Council and was attended by a wide range of people who engaged in the discussion. The aims of the summit were:

- To bring together key stakeholders to discuss present infrastructural issues,
- To propose and debate solutions,
- To consider trends and future infrastructure needs for the city.



An outcome report has been produced and is being circulated with this agenda. A video of the summit will also be shown at the SPC meeting on 25th July.

Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan - Summer Briefing: June 1st 2017

The Economic Development Office and the Community Development Office of Dublin City Council hosted the 2017 LECP Action Plan briefing in the Woodquay Venue on June 1st.

Cllr Daithi Doolan, Chair of the LCDC and Cllr Paul McAuliffe Chair of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC hosted a well attended and engaging event. During the course of an interactive briefing, attendees heard from a number of contributors to the LECP about their experience of collaborating with the LECP and other stakeholders.



A range of videos were produced to promote LECP projects which have taken place. These are available to view here. <http://www.dublincity.ie/LECP>

CoderDoJo Coolest Projects: 17th June

CoderDoJo Coolest Projects is a globally recognised initiative, whose purpose is to showcase, inspire and enable innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and technology skills development in youth innovators aged 7 – 17 years. LEO Dublin City and Economic Development exhibited at and sponsored this event



The event was held in the RDS with 10,000 attendees and 800 projects presented by the children to the judges. We used the opportunity to showcase a LEO Dublin city client Teddybots, who provided a 3D virtual drawing experience at our stand, that was very popular with the children attending. Teddybots are a company that design and make robot shaped toys, designed for traditional playtime and bedtime. They aim to develop both 'online' and 'offline' educational and play environments for young people. Further information company <https://www.teddybots.com/new-home-soft-bot/>

CoWorking Europe: 8th – 10th November

The Economic Development office and International Relations are partnering with the European CoWorking Federation to assist in delivering the European Coworking Conference in Croke Park in November of this year. The Conference will be opened by the Lord Mayor who will also host a reception in City Hall that evening for the delegates. The Economic Development Office will be presenting on the findings of a research paper on Enterprise Space in Dublin City, which is currently being drafted.

re:publica: 7th - 8th September

re:publica is one of the largest and most exciting conferences about digital culture in the world. Since its foundation in 2007 in Berlin, it has grown from a cozy blogger meeting with 700 participants into a wide-ranging “society conference”, attracting 9,000 visitors at the eleventh edition of re:publica. At the event representatives of digital culture share their knowledge and decision-making tools, and discuss the future of the information society. Here they can mingle with activists, scientists, hackers, entrepreneurs, NGOs, journalists, social media influencers, marketing experts, and many others. This type of event fosters innovation and creates synergies between the various attendees and contributors. The promoters have promoted gender equality where almost half of re:publica speakers are female – far more than at many other similar events.

re:publica Dublin will take place from 7-8th of September 2017 at the Light House Cinema in Smithfield Dublin 8, and is being supported by the Economic Development Office.

UPRISE 6: October 26th

Following on from the success of our partnership with UPRISE 4 held in Dublin in 2016, Dublin City Council is sponsoring a “FinTech & Entrepreneurship” stage at UPRISE 6 scheduled to be held in the RDS this October.

UPRISE festival celebrates the enterprise and start-up eco-system in a unique, engaging and exciting way featuring a start-up market place, investor panels, workshops, speakers stages with music and food. This project will be delivered as part of our commitment to hold a FinTech event as set out in the Dublin Regional Enterprise Development Strategy.



Flanders Waterways Trade Mission to Dublin: 21st September

Dublin City Council (Economic Development Office & International Relations) will host a trade delegation from Flanders in September. De Vlaamse Waterweg nv (Flemish Waterways plc) manages and develops the inland waterways through a powerful structure that contributes to the economy, welfare and dynamic of the Flemish region. De Vlaamse Waterweg nv boosts inland navigation, manages water control and enhances the appeal of

the waterways for both commercial and recreational use, including the development of tourism and the discovery of nature. The mission to Dublin will include an evening reception with the Lord Mayor and a business connection event aimed at bring together enterprise and start-ups in Dublin with their counterparts from Flanders with a view to supporting shared learning and the development of new business opportunities.

2. Dublin.ie: www.dublin.ie

Dublin.ie is a city branding website that publishes 3 commissioned **articles** per week under the categories of living, working and learning. The articles highlight the people, places and things that make Dublin special to locals and visitors. Over the last number of months articles have been commissioned focussing on successful business start up restaurant chain Sprout & Co, UCD's Irish Folklore Centre and the re-opening of the National Gallery. Articles detailing Dublin treasures such as Áras an Uachtaráin, Malahide Castle and the Iveagh Gardens have also proved popular with visitors to the site.

In order to showcase the best stories of the work of Dublin City Council, staff with key roles such as the Biodiversity Officer, City Archaeologist and Arts Officer have met with the Dublin.ie team to identify suitable subjects for future articles. Examples of these stories include:

<https://dublin.ie/working/articles/meet-a-dubliner-sarah-scannell-cycling-walking-officer/>

<https://dublin.ie/working/articles/the-flower-factory/>

<https://dublin.ie/working/articles/run-this-town-traffic-control/>

The Dublin.ie team have reached agreement with the First Post team to print certain articles written for Dublin.ie in First Post in a repurposed format. These articles focus on Council staff and services for example an article on the Traffic Control Room was recently published in First Post. More articles with this focus will be featured in future editions of First Post and each one will include Dublin.ie branding showing the origin of the writing.

As a way to highlight Dublin.ie and to encourage wider usage and a greater awareness of new content on the site the first online **newsletter** was issued this month. A new on line newsletter will issue on a fortnightly basis featuring, upcoming events and festivals, best articles and news stories. We will actively promote and encourage users to sign-up to our newsletter over the coming months <https://dublin.ie/newsletter>.

We feature various events and festivals on our **What's On** section <https://dublin.ie/whats-on/> under different categories across the Dublin region. The Dublin.ie team work closely with the council's Event Unit to ensure all large festivals and events delivered and supported by Dublin City Council are included and promoted on Dublin.ie

In order to maximise the reach and engagement of the Dublin.ie website and to get a better understanding of our target audience, a **Digital Marketing Strategy** is being developed for the site. This work is due to be completed by October 2017 and the strategy will include Key Performance Indicators (KPI's).

The Dublin.ie team continue to work with key partners including staff from the four Dublin local authorities, VisitDublin, Dublintown, Dublin Chamber of Commerce and Dublin Globe to promote the attractiveness of the city as an exciting place to learn, work, explore and start a business in.

Mary Mac Sweeney

Deputy Head of Enterprise and Economic Development

3. International Relations:

As part of the twinning arrangements between San José and Dublin a scholarship programme has been in place for some time that facilitates an student from Dublin in engaging in a Masters level scholarship programme between DCU & San José State University. The focus of this scholarship is on science focus and includes a 6 month work placement in workplace in San José. The possibility of providing a reciprocal programme for the benefit of a student from San José is being considered, the issues of the appropriate course, accommodation and suitable work placement for the student would need to be worked out.

San José Welcoming Cities initiative – Cllr. Dermot Lacey proposed that Dublin City declare itself a Welcoming City similar to San José and that we ask our sister cities to do likewise. A report has been prepared for the Council.

Staff from International Relations arranged a meeting with officials from Belfast City Council in Dublin on 20th March to prepare for a visit by their Chief Executive with our Chief Executive. The meeting took place on 25th May. In attendance were Suzanne Wylie CEO and Donal Durkan Director of Development Belfast and Owen Keegan, Richard Shakespeare, Greg Swift, Ray Yeates, Alison King, Grainne Kelly & Mary Foley. Topics discussed were Brexit, International Relations, further collaboration between Dublin & Belfast, opportunities for engagement between Dublin, London & Belfast, Action Plan for Jobs, Events & Festivals, Maritime Festival, European Capital of Culture bid 2023, MIPIM 2018.

The meeting of EU Capital Mayors and the European Commission on 12th May in Riga was cancelled due to the sudden inability of Commissioner Cretu to attend. Cllr. McAuliffe was due to represent the Lord Mayor. It has been rescheduled for 21st & 22nd September and is in the Lord Mayor's diary.

Cllr. McAuliffe deputised for the Lord Mayor at the 4th ASEM (Asia/Europe Meeting) in Lisbon on 25th to 27th May which focussed on 3 areas – mobility & environmental sustainability; innovation & entrepreneurship; inclusion & interculturalism.

I assisted with the EU Funding Workshop in Wood Quay Venue on 15th March

Working on a Friendship Agreement with Dublin Ohio. Greg Swift will accompany the LM to Dublin Ohio in August for the 30th anniversary of the Ireland Festival which will have a focus on economic development.

Margaret Hayes, City Librarian and Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian kindly collaborated on a video message to Montreal as part of their Bloomsday celebrations.

I attended Eurocities Co-Operation Platform meeting in Antwerp on 18th & 19th May

We collaborated with Dublin Chamber to welcome a high level delegation from Beijing for a Chamber Business Forum on 1st June. During their visit they met Owen Keegan & the Lord Mayor. They are very keen to build on the Dublin/Beijing twinning arrangement.

We collaborated with Smart Dublin team on a business conference on 11th & 12th May in City Hall for Smart Tech businesses from Budapest who were in Dublin for Futurescope. We also accommodated a round table discussion with the Deputy Mayor of Budapest and other delegates, with Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh, Ray Yeates, Jim Beggan, Don Daly. We arranged a visit for them to Hugh Lane Gallery, Ballyfermot Sports Centre and a meeting with Failte Ireland

We are working with Dept. Environment on accommodating a delegation from Romania who are on a study visit in Ireland in July. We are arranging for them to hear about best practice in HR & Transportation in DCC on 5th July. Also planning for delegations from Hamburg (October) and Antwerp (September)

Dublin City Council is considering a request to host the World Choir Games in 2020.

Mary Foley

Head of International Relations

4. Local Enterprise Office: Training, Mentoring and Events

African Professional Network Ireland (APNI) 30th May

LEO Dublin city participated in the judging of the African Professional Network of Ireland (APNI) Lion's Den pitch leading onto the Passion to Profit event. Participants competed for €1,000 prize fund sponsored by Dublin City Council to invest into their business. Expert advice from Google and Clicks to Causes, mentorship from Daniel Ramamoorthy and The Entrepreneurs Academy and training courtesy of live wire were also offered to the winner. Neto Ikpeme of Wella Health was the winner of the Lion's Den award..

National Enterprise Awards, National Final, 25th May



Pink Kong Studios represented LEO Dublin City at the National Enterprise Awards. Pink Kong is an award winning studio that creates branded animated entertainment for TV, Games, Film and Advertising Houses. Co-founded in March 2014 by Creative Director, Aoife Doyle and Producer Niamh Herrity, the studio's vision is to create original, high end, story driven animated content for worldwide viewers. Watch the details of their supports from LEO Dublin City at

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Pink-Kong-Studios.html>

From starting the business in their bedroom to now being based in the Liffey Trust, they went from a 3 person operation to employing 15 people. Supports received from the Local Enterprise Office Dublin city to date include a priming grant, an export grant for pitching to International markets, participation in the Women's Network and participation in the Hi-Start Training Programme which aided strategic direction and financial planning.

Mentor Training, 24th May

A training and network workshop took place for the 50 members of the panel of LEO Dublin City mentors on Wednesday 24th May in the Morrison Hotel. Mentors received updates on grant funding, the Enterprise Europe Network, market research tools available via the Business Information Centre of Dublin City Library, metrics being used to evaluate LEO Dublin City training and mentoring. LEO Dublin also gained insight from the mentors on market dynamics, and the event provided an opportunity for mentors to meet with each other and to meet with staff from LEO Dublin city. The next training session is currently being planned and will take place on 28th September in Wood Quay venue.

Trading Online Voucher, Smock Alley, 10th May

A Trading Online Voucher training workshop was held in May that was attended by 100 clients. This very popular voucher provides financial assistance to small businesses to develop their e-commerce strategies by creating or enhancing their online presence.



Grangegorman Learning & Labour Forum, 16th May



Grangegorman Business Breakfasts **are informal and complimentary events** organised by the Grangegorman Labour and Learning Forum's, Business and Enterprise Group. Their aim is to provide opportunities for members of the local business community to come together to network and to learn about initiatives, supports and developments of interest to them. LEO Dublin City presented to local businesses on the supports and service we provide on 16th May - Trading Online Voucher Scheme,

Training programmes on social media, and our mentoring programme were highlighted as relevant supports that local businesses could avail of to assist them to reach prospective customers that will be coming into the area in the near future. Approximately 40 people were in attendance.

Bank of Ireland Event, Mansion House, 19th May

LEO Dublin City manned an information stand at this event attended by up to 400 SME's.

Women in Business Network



May – “Success of a Service Business”, 15th May

Bernie Kinsella MD of Wheels Couriers and CEO of WorldBOX shared milestones, challenges and key learning. She spoke of success in a service business, the role of technology in growing the core business, how the opportunity of WorldBOX was identified and how they are adapting to a new customer base and business model.

June - “How to Make an Impact in Business”, 26th June



Margaret E Ward spoke on how to make an impact in business. Margaret grew her business Clear Ink to great International success while advocating for more women's voices in the media through the influential Women on Air initiative set up by her in 2010. Margaret has great belief in the power of women to “walk over hot coals” in order to get to where they want to go and she is an inspirational speaker. She shared her tips on how to overcome your fears, take on challenges and make a real impact in business through more effective communication.



Niamh Hannon counselling psychologist of Mindworks spoke on the secret of happiness, equipping participants with simple yet effective tools to increase their happiness in life and work. The focus was switched from what it takes to be successful to being in a state of happiness, leading to a formula for success.

Promotion and communication of LEO Dublin City services

Dublin Gazette Advertising:

A series of advertising has been run in the Gazette newspaper to create awareness of LEO Dublin and our services. We have placed one advert a month, each focusing on a different area of service, with a case study.



LEO E-newsletters:

The LEO e-zine promoting events and providing information on supports offered by the LEO office is circulated to approximately 9,000 people by e-mail each month. Additionally bespoke newsletters are developed on an adhoc basis regarding specific networks/events/grants e.g.

April

- Plato
- National Ploughing Championships 2017
- The Business of Sports & Fitness
- New Frontiers for Early Start Up's

May

- New Frontiers for Tech and Knowledge Intensive Ventures Phase 2
- The LEO Innovation Investment Fund

June

- Building Craft & Design 2018
- Go 2 Tender Programme
- Smart Exporter for Design Businesses
- LEO Dublin City Financial Assistance.

The e-zine is a valuable promotional tool for the range of events provided to businesses in the city. A Digital Marketing Strategy is currently being implemented during 2017. A website content audit took place. Content is being redeveloped.

Kick start your own Food Business, 14th and 28th of June Finnstown House Hotel

The programme designed to help those with a food idea, or those at a very early stage of starting up a food business (first 24 months) to develop a basic knowledge of what is involved in setting up a food business. The content of the two day programme is designed to provide participants with information which will allow them to avoid the pit falls normally associated with this journey. The programme content assumes that participants have the required business knowledge to run an enterprise e.g. they must already understand the basics of setting up a business, tax compliance rules, creating a business plan etc.

Recruitment is underway for the September programme, taking place 11th and 25th.

Building Craft & Design Programme, 27th June – 8th Nov

22 ambitious creative enterprises that want to inject new ideas and approaches to product development into their practice, and boost export and growth potential through a series of design led workshops, were selected to participate in the Building Craft & Design Programme.

Participant companies set out below:

Participant	Website	Product
Alan Boyle Ceramics	www.alanboyle.net	Ceramics
Aleksander Mihajlovic	N/A	Furniture and Woodwork
Ail & El Design	www.ailandel.com	Homeware including textiles, paintings and use of concrete
Colin Harris	www.colinharris.ie	Furniture
Edel Traynor	www.edeltraynor.com	Contemporary Womenswear Designer
Elements of Action		Furniture Design/Maker
Elements of Action	www.elementsofaction.net	Furniture Design/Maker
Eleven 50	www.eleven50.ie	Contemporary Hand Blown Glass Design
Emer Roberts	www.emerroberts.com	Fine Jewellery
Grainne Bath Enright	N/A	Artwork and Prints
Kiki Moon	www.lovekikimoon.com	Design Led Textiles for the Gift Market
Kim Keohane	www.kimkeohane.ie	Jewellery Design
Liadain Aiken	www.liadainaiken.com	Knitwear
Mulholland Jewellery	www.mulhollandjewellery.com	Jewellery
Nina McGowan	www.loiteringtheatre.org	Mixed Media Construction/Sculptural Lighting
Orla Langan	www.oralangan.com	Womenswear Designer
Pierce Healy Studio	www.piercehealystudio.com	Jewellery
Regina Rogers Fallon	www.reginarogersfallon.com	Art and Interior Design
Sandra O'Connor	N/A	Crochet Designer for Children's Clothing
The Costume Room	www.thecostumeroom.com	Fashion Design
The House of Leaf	www.thehouseofleaf.com	Silk Scarves
Knut Klimmek	www.klimmek-furniture.ie	Furniture

**Regional Enterprise Development Fund Information Session, 6th July RED Cow
Moran Hotel, Dublin 22**

This regional competitive fund is designed to support the ambition, goals and implementation of the Regional Action Plans for Jobs. Enterprise Ireland with the support of Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation is leading in the development and implementation of this Fund of up to €60m. It is proposed to deliver this funding through two Scheme calls, the first call will fund projects under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund of up to €35m in grant support. The second call under this Scheme will fund projects from the remaining balance of the €60m budget available.

**New Frontiers Phase 2 assessment panel, 3rd to 5th of July Dublin Institute of
Technology, Grangegorman**

Following a competitive selection process, committed participants who have a strong value proposition and who can demonstrate that their business proposition has potential to grow and create jobs may be offered a place on Phase 2. If successful, you will receive intensive support for six months to develop both your own skills and to work up your business proposition. This will entail full-time participation in workshops, mentoring and regular reviews. Using this support, you will fully detail and validate your business proposition and identify potential customers, sales channels and funding options. You must be available for full-time participation in this six-month course. To facilitate this, you will receive up to €15,000 in funding, subject to satisfactory performance and development reviews. The aim of this phase is to support you in the development of an investor-ready business plan.

Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur 2018 launch

Promotion has begun with the launch of the www.IBYE.ie on 23rd June. The competition is open to entrepreneur's aged 18 – 35. There are three categories for entry:

1. Best business idea (pre trading)
2. Best start up (up to 18 months)
3. Best established (+18 months)

Stage 1, applications takes place July through to 29th September.

Lean for Micro: February – June 2017



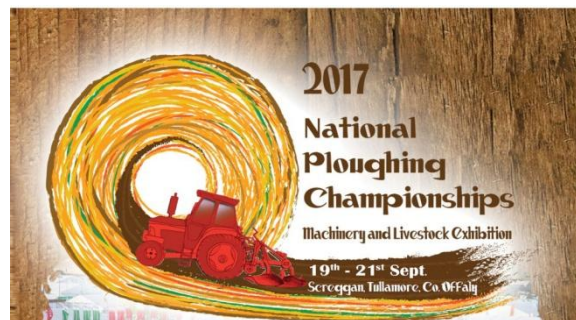
The Lean for Micro is aimed at owners/managers and key staff members of small businesses who wish to gain an introduction to lean concepts and allow them to gain a practical understanding of lean principles by undertaking a focused assignment with expert mentoring support. We have just finishing a pilot of the project. 8 participants will be awarded with Green Belt Six Sigma Certificates to acknowledge their learning through the course of the programme. Another Lean project will commence shortly. The course is over subscribed with a waiting list.

Accelerate: September 2017

The Accelerate Management Development programme provides the owner/manager with the management, leadership, business skills and knowledge to achieve sustainability and growth in their business. We are currently recruiting for September 2017.

The National Ploughing Championship, 19th – 21st September, Screegan Tullamore Offaly

Local Enterprise Office Dublin City will take part in the Local Enterprise Village at the National Ploughing Championships. Wild by Water will represent LEO Dublin City. Wild by Water, design and produce funky, functional and fashionable bags featuring images of Irish coastal and waterside environments.



Wild by Water attended a briefing session on 28th June from which publicity photos and material will be developed to promote participating companies.

National Women's Enterprise Day, 12th October

A day-long event is being planned for the The Pavilion at Leopardstown Racecourse on October 12th. The theme will be 'Open doors to new markets'. In the morning, there will be *Meet the Entrepreneur* sessions. The plan is to have an entrepreneur from each region, with a video about them and then a facilitated panel discussion. The full day event will include networking, one-to-one mentoring and exhibition. Jando Design will represent LEO Dublin City. Jando design create wall art, greeting cards, tote bags, notebooks and ceramic mugs. Further information www.jandodesigns.com

LEO Training

A wide range of Training Courses are available for booking on the LEO website. There has been a strong response to the variety of courses provided, that are structured to assist individuals who want to set up a business, and build skills and knowledge that is critical for start up and scaling enterprises. The free Library Talks form a popular part of this programme.

April

Date	Course	Booking	% Full
12/04/17	Business advice clinic	16/18	88%
08/04/2017	Start your own business	12/20	60%
06/04/2017	Library Talk - Market research skills	66/85	77.6%
05/04/2017	Create a free website with wordpress	21/21	100%
04/04/2018	Business Advice Clinic	17/18	77%
04/04/17	Start your own business	15/16	93%
13/04/2017	Library Talk - Managing your online presence	76/85	89%
19/04/2017	Business advice clinic	12/18	66%
20/04/2017	Library Talk - Financial Supports & Grants for entrepreneurs	88/100	88%
26/04/2017	Negotiation Skills	8/20	40%
26/04/17	Business advice clinic	10/18	55.5%
27/04/2017	Library Talk - Essential supports and services for Entrepreneurs	58/85	68%

May

Date	Course	Booking	% Full
03/05/17	Time management	10/20	50%
03/05/17	Business advice clinic	9/18	50%
10/05/17	Trading Online Voucher	99/100	99%
10/05/17	Business Advice clinic	9/18	50%
16/05/17	Business advice clinic	10/18	55.5%
16/05/17	Start your own business	15/16	93.7%
17/05/17	Facebook for business	16/20	80%
24/05/17	Business advice clinic	18/18	100%
30/05/17	Business advice clinic	18/18	100%

June

Date	Course	Booking	% Full
07/06/17	Business advice clinic	14/18	77.7%
13/06/17	Business advice clinic	9/18	50%
13/06/17	Online marketing & social media	18/20	90%
14/06/17	Social media marketing	12/20	60%
20/06/17	Start your own business	17/17	100%
21/06/17	Business advice clinic	7/18	38.8%
22/06/17	Idea Generation	10/16	62.5%
27/06/17	Business advice clinic	12/18	66.7%

5. Local Enterprise Office: Financial Support

LEO Financial Grants: January – July 2017

Company	Type of Grant	Amount Approved	Ref. Amount	Jobs
Alcohol Delivery Platforms Ltd ta DroppOff	Feasibility	€6,000.00	0	1
Alison Jones t/a Bold Bunny	Business Expansion	€10,000.00	€5,000.00	1
Ballswheel Ltd	Feasibility	€7,000.00	€0.00	1
BiggerWide Ltd	Feasibility	€10,000.00	€0.00	1
Career Guidance Analytics Ltd	Feasibility	€10,000.00	0	1
Cognition Services Ltd	Priming	€30,000.00	€9,900.00	3
Compass Expert Training	Feasibility	€8,000.00	€0.00	1
Coroflo Ltd	Feasibility	€9,000.00	€0.00	1
DwellDown Ltd	Feasibility	€8,000.00	0	1
Eva Power T/A The Ethical Silk Company	Business Expansion	€10,000.00	€5,000.00	1
Fractus Media Ltd	Business Expansion	€20,000.00	€10,000.00	2

Company	Type of Grant	Amount Approved	Ref. Amount	Jobs
Handy Food Innovation Ltd T/A Strong Roots	Feasibility	€10,000.00	€0.00	1
Hopfully Brewing Ltd	Priming	€20,000.00	€6,600.00	2
iMilk Ltd	Feasibility	€8,000.00	€0.00	1
Innovate Circle Ltd	Feasibility	7,500.00	€0.00	1
McCormick Advanced Marcomm Services Ltd T/A Chrysalis Digital Marketing Services	Business Expansion	10,000.00	€5,000.00	1
Medical EGuides Ltd	Priming	25,000	€8,250.00	3
Natalie Cassidy & Yvonne Barnes T/A BC Studios	Priming	€20,000.00	€6,600.00	2
O'Leary Analytics T/A Olytico	Business Expansion	€10,000.00	€5,000.00	1
Owen McLoughlin T/A Jando Design	Priming	€10,000.00	€3,300.00	1
Paul Goodwin T/A Taxi Share Technology	Feasibility	€8,000.00	€0.00	1
Pink Kong Studios Ltd	Business Expansion	€10,000.00	€5,000.00	1
Popsy Daisy Ltd	Priming	€10,000.00	€3,300.00	1
Pressing Matters Ltd T/A Dublin Vinyl	Priming Grant	€30,000.00	€9,900.00	3

Company	Type of Grant	Amount Approved	Ref. Amount	Jobs
Qawe Ltd	Feasibility	€5,000.00	0	1
Republic of Bloom Ltd	Feasibility	€12,500.00	€0.00	1
Stoinska Grimson Ltd T/A Maven46	Priming	€25,000.00	€8,250.00	3
Teddybots Ltd	Priming	€15,000.00	€4,950.00	2
The Analytics Store Ltd	Feasibility	€10,000.00	0	1
Usebecause Ltd T/A Usebecause.com	Feasibility	€4,750.00	€0.00	1
We Love Cinema Ltd T/A Usheru	Business Expansion	€15,000.00	€7,500.00	2
	No Grant Approved: 31	€393,750.00	€103,550.00	44

Total LEO Financial Grants: January – July 2017

Summary Totals : January - July 2017		Total Jan - July 2017
Total Value of Grants Approved		€393,750
No. of Grants Approved		31
No. of Jobs Approved Supported by Grant Approval		44
Average Cost Per Jobs		€8,948

Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters (TAMES) January – July 2017

Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters : Metrics 2017		
	Target	January –July 2017
Grant Approvals	20	22
Budget 2017	40,000	-
Value of Grants Approved	-	49,775.00

TAMES Grants approved January – July 2017

Name	M	F	Sector	Trade Show	Amount Approved
Aimée Madden Clinic Shift	1	0	Medical Software	HIMSS February 19th-23rd, Orange County Convention Centre, Orlando	2,000.00
Alena Rodova Blooming Walls Ltd.	1	0	Food Growing Equipment	Ambiete, February 10th - 14th, Frankfurt, Germany	3,000.00
Ali Jones Bold Bunny	1	0	Card Maker	Top Drawer, London, 10 – 12 September, 2017	2,000.00
Anna Ryzova iIMAGE Vision Software Ltd	0	1	Software Packaging	Volvo Irish Supply Day, Sweden, 14 March 2017	1,000.00
Aoife Hayes CST International	0	1	Market research agency	Arabian Travel Market, Dubai, 24-27 June 2017	1,425.00
Claire McCarthy The Hen Planner	1	0	Event Management and Sales	National Wedding Show, Olympia, London 17th - 19th of February 2017	2,000.00
Edward O'Cleary Saturday Workshop	1	0	Wooden gifts Designer	London Design Fair 2017	2,500.00
Emer Roberts Sculptors	0	1	Sculptor	International Jewellery London	2,500.00
Improper Butter	0	1	Food Production	BBC Good Food Show Nov 2016	2,350.00
Jerome O Drisceoil Green On Red Gallery	1	0	Fine Art Gallery	Volta 10, Pier 90, New York 1st - 5th March 2017	2,500.00

Name	M	F	Sector	Trade Show	Amount Approved
John O' Callaghan Cater Save	1	0	Manufacturing	The Restaurant Show, London, 3rd - 5th of October 2017	2,500.00
Julie Mc Loughlin Jando Design	1	0	Wall Art	The London Design Fair, Old Truman Brewery, London 21st - 24th September 2017	2,500.00
Mark Bannon VT Networks	1	0	IOT Provider	Mobile World Congress	2,500.00
Mary Harding Tonn Surf	0	1	Swimwear Designer	Pitti Uomo Florence	2,500.00
Matthew Hanbury Flight Illumine	1	0	Lighting Manufacture	Dark Room London	2,500.00
Matthew Nevin Mart	1	0	Video Production	Activating Pangea , Santa Monica, 18 -22 July 2017	2,500.00
Matthew Toman	1	0	Film Production	A Bug Free Mind, Las Vegas, 7th - 13th May 2017	2,500.00
Samuel Dennigan Strong Roots	0	1	Software Packaging	Harrogate Fine Food Show, Yorkshire, 26-27 June 2017	1,000.00
SoFcool Ltd T/A Celtic Ore Crafts	1	0	Jewellery	The Ireland Show, Secaucus, New Jersey, 22-25 April 2017	2,500.00
Wayne Knowles Jewel Star	1	0	Jewellery	International Jewellery London, London 3-5 September 2017	2,500.00
Wayne Knowles Jewel Star	1	0	Jewellery	International Jewellery London	2,500.00
Yvonne Ryan Jewellery	0	1	Jewellery	International Jewellery London, London 3-5 September 2017	2,500.00
Total				No: Tam Approved: 22	49,775.00

Trading Online Vouchers (TOV) January– July 2017

Trading On Line Vouchers:	Target 2017	January - July 2017 Approved by EVAC
No. of Trading Online Vouchers approved	88	92
Value of Trading Online Vouchers approved		€208,027.00

Trading Online Vouchers (TOV) January– July 2017

Company	Approved Nett of VAT
A Career to Love	€1,250.00
ACR Plumbing & Heating Ltd	€2,500.00
Akina Beauty & Laser Clinic	€850.00
Amy Lous	€1,425.00
Amy Lou's	€2,500.00
Andonis Flower Designers Ltd	€2,500.00
Blink & Wink Beauty Ltd	€2,500.00
BPAFREE.ie	€2,500.00
Brendan Joseph Ltd	€2,470.00
Cabra Vet Clinic	€1,450.00
Cairenn Foy Ltd	€1,250.00
City Pharmacy	€2,500.00
Clearview Blinds Limited T/A Starblinds	€2,500.00
Collins Avenue Physiotherapy Clinic	€2,000.00
CST International	€2,500.00
CWB (Obsidian)	€2,500.00
Cyclebike	€2,500.00
Daniel Coyle Architects	€1,806.00
Delvo Traders	€2,500.00
Design Yard	€2,500.00
Donagher Designs Ltd	€1,375.00
Dublin Linen and Lace	€2,500.00
Dublin School of Yoga	€1,520.00
EasyDraft	€2,500.00

Company	Approved Nett of VAT
ED Sport	€2,450.00
Eirim	€2,135.00
Elements of Action	€2,444.00
Emma Douglas/ Toner Shop.ie	€2,500.00
ETAC Limited	€2,500.00
Foley Ryan Communications	€2,335.00
Game Localization Network Ltd	€2,500.00
Gourmet Food Brothers Family Ltd	€2,500.00
Inner Interior Architecture	€2,000.00
Insight Statistical Consultant	€2,500.00
Iping Ltd	€2,500.00
Irish Film & Television Network	€2,500.00
iTax Consultancy Ltd	€2,500.00
Jack Layden Enterprise LTD TA Basecamp	€2,500.00
Japan Ireland Travel	€2,500.00
Kbell Ltd T/A Kendlebel	€2,500.00
Kiki Moon	€1,950.00
Koyu Foods Ltd	€900.00
Legal & General	€2,500.00
Liilt LTD	€2,500.00
Live and Breathe Pilates	€2,242.00
Living Language Contact LTD	€1,500.00
Loinnir Jewellery	€2,500.00
M & J Nutrition	€2,500.00
M Orthopaedic T/A Consulting Orthopaedic	€2,500.00

Company	Approved Nett of VAT
Medical Poland	€2,500.00
Mobility Mojo	€2,500.00
My Place Connect	€2,500.00
New Beginning Financial Services	€2,500.00
New Romantic	€2,475.00
Oasis Beauty Day Spa L Laser Clinic	€2,500.00
Odyssi Consulting	€2,500.00
Oldtown Design	€2,500.00
Olympus Dance & Music Academy	€2,500.00
Personal Health	€2,500.00
Petit Bambino	€2,500.00
Plant Store - Indoor Plant Store LTD	€2,500.00
Podology Ltd	€2,500.00
Print Ready	€2,500.00
Print Rebal T/A Digital Textile Fashion Hub LTD	€2,500.00
Printcom	€1,750.00
Qflow Promotions -Eflow Marketing Ltd	€2,500.00
Rediscovery Centre	€2,500.00
Rónán Hussey Design	€2,500.00
Royal Rubber Stamp Co LTD	€1,800.00
Ruth Allen Hpnotherapy	€2,300.00
Scented Sachets Ltd	€2,500.00
Sean Gleeson/Find a Venue	€2,000.00
Sheridan Estates	€2,500.00
Small Space	€2,475.00

Company	Approved Nett of VAT
Smartvote Ltd	€2,500.00
Stonechat Jewellers	€2,500.00
StressLess Massage	€2,500.00
Tattoo Prime	€2,500.00
Technotraining Ltd	€2,500.00
Telescopic Healthcare Ltd T/A Happytreads	€2,500.00
The Brow Artist	€2,080.00
The Chia Collective	€2,500.00
The Constant Knitter	€750.00
The Restore Centre Ltd	€2,500.00
The United Arts Club	€2,000.00
This is Knit Ltd	€2,000.00
Tommy Tucker Tyres	€600.00
Tonn Surf Irish Atlantic Attire	€2,500.00
Wild by Water	€2,370.00
Wild Irish Foods	€2,075.00
WineOnLine	€2,500.00
Worldbox	€2,500.00
No Vouchers Approved : 92	€208,027.00

Greg Swift

Head of Enterprise and Economic Development

