



**NOTIFICATION TO ATTEND MEETING OF THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE
TO BE HELD IN THE RICHARD O'CARROLL ROOM - CITY HALL
ON THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018 AT 8.00 AM**

AGENDA

THURSDAY 3 MAY 2018

PAGE

1	Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd March and matters arising	3 - 6
2	Lord Mayor's Receptions and Engagements of the Deputy Lord Mayor	7 - 10
3	Conferences	
a)	Conference Attended:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Declan Flanagan. AILG Module 4 "Wellbeing for Councillors". Clayton Hotel, County Cork. 22nd -23rd September 2017• Cllr Gaye Fagan. AILG Module 5 "The National Public Library Strategy 2018-2022." Bridge House Hotel, County Offaly. 19th October 2017• Cllr. Paddy Bourke. AILG Annual Training Conference 2018. The Park Hotel, Dungarvan, County Waterford. 12th-13th April 2018• Cllrs Mary Freehill, Dermot Lacey & Paddy Bourke. LAMA Spring Seminar. "New National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy". Central Hotel, County Donegal. 5th-7th April 2018	
b)	Conference Reports Received:	11 - 22
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Declan Flanagan. AILG Module 4 "Wellbeing for Councillors". 22nd - 23rd September 2017• Cllr Gaye Fagan. AILG Module 5 "The National Public Library Strategy 2018-2022." 19th October 2017• Cllr. Paddy Bourke. AILG Annual Training Conference 2018. 12th-13th April 2018• Cllrs Mary Freehill, Dermot Lacey & Paddy Bourke. LAMA Spring Seminar. "New National Planning Framework and Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy". 5th-7th April 2018	

4	Flanders Memorial - Presentation from Les Moore	
5	Amendment to Standing Order No 16 - GDPR & Council Questions	23 - 24
6	Proposal to rename Hume Street as John Hume Street as referred by the City Council	25 - 26
7	Process for the Changing of Street names	
8	Proposal for the Portrait of Kathleen Clarke	27 - 28
9	Motion in the Name of Councillor Dermot Lacey:	
	<i>Recognising the desire to have some posters but the overall damaging impact on the environment of excessive levels of them this Committee agrees to write to the Leaders of all Registered Political Parties and invite each Independent member of the City Council to sign up to an agreement to limit the number of posters per candidate to a maximum of 200 at the Local Elections of 2019.</i>	
	<i>This Committee further agrees that if this motion is carried and the various Parties agree to be bound by such an agreement that the City Council would issue to each registered candidate the terms of this agreement and invite them to sign up to same. The Council further agrees to promote the concept of such a voluntary agreement in the six months leading in to the Local Elections to ensure that there is no surprise element imposed on any candidate.</i>	
10	Correspondence from Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann - Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel:	29 - 30
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to fly the Fuschia Flag during July to coincide with National Day of Commemoration • Request to address the City Council 	
11	Request from Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for the loan of Chain of the Courts of Conscience	31 - 32
12	70th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights Initiative	33- 34
13	Turning of the Sovereign Seal at the Mansion House	35 - 36
14	Approval for Councillor Attendance at Conferences:	37 - 40
	a) The Parole Board Conference 2018 at the Law Society of Ireland on Thursday, 10 th May, 2018.	
	b) The Parliament Qualification of Women Act 1918-2018 : Have Women Qualified? May 5 th 2018	
15	Correspondence from Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe	41 - 46
16	Managers Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council Diaries 2019 • Dublin City Council Headed Paper • Media Cuttings System 	
17	A.O.B	
18	Proposed Date of next meeting - Thursday 7th June 2018 at 8am in the Richard O'Carroll Room, City Hall	



MINUTES OF THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2018

1 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February and matters arising**

Order: Agreed.

2 **Lord Mayor's Receptions and Engagements of the Deputy Lord Mayor**

Order: Noted and Recommend to Council

3 **Chief Executives Report on City Hall, Rates Office and Palace Street**

The Chief Executive, Owen Keegan, addressed the Members regarding the need to provide additional facilities for Councillors and the current use of City Council buildings. He reported that it was his intention to relocate staff from the Rates Office to Civic Offices and Palace Street. This would provide the opportunity to refurbish the Rates Office and bring it back into public use. As part of the refurbishment two upper floors of the building would be made available to Councillors. The Chief Executive proposed that he work with the Protocol Committee and architects to design a space which best suited the needs of the Councillors within the limitations of the building. To this end he suggested a site visit to the Rates Office as part of a future Protocol Committee meeting. He also advised the Members that he intended to redevelop the Exhibition Space in City Hall to strengthen what it offers to the public.

Order: The Members thanked the Chief Executive for his report and welcomed the proposals and looked forward to working with him.

4 **Draft Flag Flying Policy**

Cllr. Anne Feeney briefed the Members on the work carried out by the Flags Working Group and the processes that they went through in agreeing the policy. It was acknowledged that although Members had differing views on certain issues the policy represented a practical compromise that they all were prepared to endorse.

The Chair and Members thanked Cllr. Feeney for her efforts as Chair of the Working Group.

Order: Agreed and Recommended to Council

5 **Report on the Impact of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) on Council Questions**

Deirdre Ni Raghallaigh briefed the Members on the impact of the General Data Protection Regulations on Council questions. She explained that questions with personal data posed a risk as they were circulated throughout the organisation.

There were additional concerns regarding the use of non-DCC email addresses to send responses with personal data to Councillors. There was also a transparency issue with large numbers of questions without personal details not being published as they were categorised as “**details supplied**”.

The Manager put forward two possible solutions to address these concerns. Firstly, all questions with personal data would be forwarded to the Area Office for direct response to the Councillor as part of their Area questions. Secondly, “**details supplied**” questions without personal data would be published in full as part of the City Council minutes the following month.

Members acknowledged the need to treat Council questions with personal data sensitively. However, they were reluctant to assign all such questions to the Area as there were instances when they wanted a response endorsed by the Chief Executive.

On “**details supplied**” questions there was disagreement on how much of the question and response should be published. However, there was agreement that it was not appropriate for the whole question and response to be concealed as “**details supplied**”.

Order: The Manager to report back to the next meeting with possible wording on amendments to standing orders to address the issues posed by GDPR.

6 **Portrait of Richard O'Carroll**

The Manager informed Members that the family of Richard O'Carroll wished to commission a portrait of him which would be hung in the Richard O'Carroll Room.

Order: Agreed. The Manager to liaise with the City Archivist, Dr. Mary Clarke and the City Arts Officer, Ray Yeates to advise on criteria with regards the quality, size and frame for the portrait.

7 **Request for the Lord Mayor to be Patron of the Gregor McGuckin Golden Globe Race 2019**

Order: Agreement was given in principle but was dependent on due diligence being carried out and information regarding sponsorship requirements.

8 **Motion in the name of Councillor Teresa Keegan:**

“With the increased considerations of the Environment becoming an everyday part of the lifestyle of every citizen of Dublin City, I feel that the City Council should, where possible, lead by example by introducing a policy of the non-use of non-biodegradable items.”

Order: Motion as amended agreed and recommend to Council.

9 **Motion in the name of the North West Area Committee:**

“This Committee calls on the Chief Executive to include any planning applications submitted to An Bord Pleanála as a Strategic Housing Development to be included on the weekly Planning List circulated to Councillors.”

Order: Agreed and recommend to Council

10 **Membership of Northside Partnership Board**

Order: Noted and referred to the North Central Area Committee.

11 **Amendment to the Intern Programme**

Cllr. Costello had requested that the Intern Programme be amended to allow for a political party to have two interns in City Hall at one time.

Order: Members were concerned that amending the policy in such a way could place additional stress on the facilities of City Hall. However, it was agreed that one political party could forgo their right to an intern and allow another party to use that intern position.

12 **Managers Report**

The Manager informed the Committee that some alterations will be made to the positioning of the Councillors room in the Civic Offices over the next few weeks.

13 **A.O.B.**

- Cllr. Deirdre Heney raised the issue of the annual turning of the Sovereign Seal at the Mansion House. She requested that the Manager investigate the matter and report back to the Committee.

Order: Agreed. The Manager will bring a report to the next meeting.

- Cllr. Aine Clancy enquired was there an official policy in relation to when to the Deputy Lord Mayor should deputise for the Lord Mayor.

Order: The Manager responded that it was common practice for the Deputy Lord Mayor to deputise for the Lord Mayor at official City Council functions and events. For other events it was at the discretion of the Lord Mayor.

14 **Proposed Date of next meeting - Thursday 5th April 2018 at 8am in the Richard O'Carroll Room, City Hall**

Order: Due to the proximity of the next meeting and the time constraints of GDPR it was agreed to reschedule the meeting to the 3rd May 2018.

**Councillor Deirdre Heney
Chairperson
Thursday 22 March 2018**

Attendance:

Members:

Deirdre Heney (Chairperson)
Aine Clancy
Teresa Keegan
Michael Mullooly

Members:

Patrick Costello
Dermot Lacey
Naoise O'Muiri

Members:

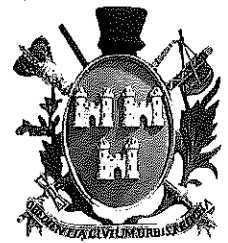
Anne Feeney
Ray McHugh
Ciaran O'Moore

Officers

Michael Gallagher

Owen P. Keegan

Deirdre Ni Raghallaigh



Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath
Lord Mayor of Dublin
Mícheál Mac Donncha

22nd March 2018

Ms. Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh
Senior Executive Officer,
Chief Executive's Department

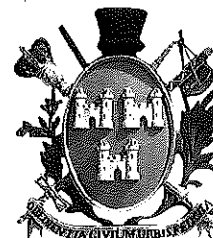
Dear Deirdre,

I would be obliged if you would bring the following receptions for the month of March 2018 to the attention of the Protocol Committee.

Date	Function	Nos
06.03.18	Inchicore Ledwidge Society Book Launch	50
08.03.18	International Women's Day	80
09.03.18	Community Awards Night	80
10.03.18	Aoibheann Pink Tie Volunteers	80
15.03.18	Reception to mark St. Patrick's Festival	100
21.03.18	Gaelcholaiste Reachrann, Donaghmede	54
22.03.18	Tour Guiding Graduation Ceremony	50
26.03.18	Tallaght and Skerries Historical Societies	20
28.03.18	St. Patrick's Athletic FC Volunteer Night (rescheduled from 28.02.18 due to Storm Emma)	100
29.03.18	Holy Heart High School, Newfoundland	61

Yours sincerely,

Mícheál Mac Donncha
Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath



Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath
Lord Mayor of Dublin
Mícheál Mac Donncha

22nd March 2018

Ms. Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh
Senior Executive Officer,
Chief Executive's Department

Dear Deirdre,

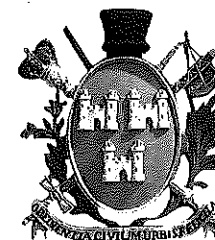
Please see below, list of functions, receptions and events in which I had a Deputy/Representative attend on my behalf during the month of March 2018:

Date:	Function:	DLM/Cllr:
05.03.18	LGBT Ireland Launch	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
06.03.18	Dublin City Student Enterprise Awards	Cllr. Janice Boylan
07.03.18	ISPCA Report Launch	Cllr. Noeleen Reilly
07.03.18	Launch of the Silk Road Film Festival Event	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
09.03.18	Na Fianna GAA Club Fundraising Event	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
10.03.18	Ireland vs Scotland NatWest Six Nations Rugby Match	Cllr. Séamas McGrattan
14.03.18	Reception to mark the 7th Anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake of 11th March 2011	Cllr. Paddy McCartan
20.03.18	HBA and Adventure Project Team up on the Royal Canal	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
22.03.18	U-21 International Friendly match Ireland vs Iceland	Cllr. Larry O'Toole
27.03.18	U-21 International Qualifier match Ireland vs Azerbaijan	Cllr. Greg Kelly
28.03.18	Bohemian Foundation Event	Cllr. Larry O'Toole
29.03.18	Holy Heart High School, choir & jazz band visiting from St. John's Newfoundland	Cllr. Paddy McCartan

Yours sincerely,

Mícheál Mac Donncha
Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath

Teach an Ardmbéara, Sráid Dásain, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 AF30, Éire
Mansion House, Dawson Street, Dublin 2, D02 AF30, Ireland.
Page 8
T. 222 6200 E. lordmayor@dublincity.ie



Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath
Lord Mayor of Dublin
Mícheál Mac Donncha

24th April 2018

Ms. Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh
Senior Executive Officer,
Chief Executive's Department

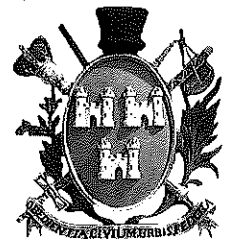
Dear Deirdre,

I would be obliged if you would bring the following receptions for the month of April 2018 to the attention of the Protocol Committee.

Date	Function	Nos
05.04.18	Fulbright talk faoin nGaeilge sna Stáit Aontaithe sa lá atá inniu ann.	70
06.04.18	Dublin Docklands Workers	65
13.04.18	Pre-Wedding Reception for David O'Rourke guest from USA	50
14.04.18	West Wicklow Group & relatives from America	45
17.04.18	Reception for members of Recognition Orkambi Campaign for Cystic Fibrosis	25
18.04.18	Anti-Conscription Campaign Centenary 1918-2018 (Round Room)	120
19.04.18	Cherry Orchard Cold Weather Volunteers & Staff	80
20.04.18	Frank Molloy's (LM Driver) Retirement Party	40
21.04.18	CIE Bus Workers and Friends	80
23.04.18	Irish Tourist Assistance Service (ITAS) Annual Meeting	50
23.04.18	60th Anniversary Celebrations for Donore Credit Union	30
24.04.18	Dublin Féadh singing group with emphasis on Sean Nós	60
25.04.18	Secondary school students from Coláiste Dhún Masc., Portlaoise	36
26.04.18	Pupils from St. Michael's Primary School	20
26.04.18	Drinks Reception for Mayor of Tirana following lecture in RIA	35
27.04.18	Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge 2018 Presentation of Medals & Scrolls (City Hall)	250
28.04.18	Darren Griffin's 40 th Birthday	50

Yours sincerely,

Mícheál Mac Donncha
Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath



Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath
Lord Mayor of Dublin
Mícheál Mac Donncha

23rd April 2018

Ms. Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh
Senior Executive Officer,
Chief Executive's Department

Dear Deirdre,

Please see below, list of functions, receptions and events in which I had a Deputy/Representative attend on my behalf during the month of April 2018:

Date:	Function:	DLM/Cllr:
04.04.18	Bohemian Foundation Event	Cllr. Larry O'Toole
06.04.18	Young Family tour of Mansion House	Cllr. Larry O'Toole
10.04.18	JCI Dublin TOYP 2018	Cllr. Paddy McCartan
12.04.18	Schools Victory Shield International - Ireland vs Scotland	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
12.04.18	DCC Retirement Function	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy
13.04.18	Courtesy call by 3 French Naval Training Ships (LYNX, TIGRE, PANTHERE)	Cllr. Paddy McCartan
13.04.18	Launching Dublin Handel Festival 'Messiah on the Street' event	Cllr. Paddy McCartan
14.04.18	Tour of Mansion House to group from West Wicklow	Cllr. Larry O'Toole
25.04.18	Launching "People of Tolka Valley"	Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr. Áine Clancy

Yours sincerely,

Mícheál Mac Donncha
Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath

Conference Report Sheet

Councillor Name	Declan Flanagan
Conference/Seminar Name	AILG briefing for Elected Members on Mental Health & well being
Conference/Seminar Topic	AILG September Training, Well being
Venue/Location	Clayton, Tivoli, Cork
Date (s) of Conference	22 & 23 Sept

Brief Summary

A number of important issues were raised including

Stress Management & Personal Resilience and how to deal with same.

The following points were mentioned to us in detail

People in all walks of life have days that are sometimes good, sometimes bad, and, most of the time, somewhere in between.

Councillors are not exceptional in this regard but their frontline role in the public arena does bring specific demands. The seemingly endless round of meetings, the cut-and-thrust of political life, and the way in which social media demands instant results – all are among the pressures which can impact on a Councillor's well-being.

AILG felt that a training seminar like this was very necessary for Councillors. The course looked at ways in which Councillors can draw from the positive aspects of their roles to help sustain them when the going gets rough. The panel of speakers are all serving Councillors. Some excellent speakers in attendance including

Cllr Shane P. O'Reilly, Cavan County Council,.

Cllr Breda Gardner, Galway County Council

Cllr Jason Murphy – Waterford Council elected in 2014

Cllr Pio Smith Mayor of Drogheda Borough District

Conference Report Sheet

AS	
It was a relevant training seminar covering the real issue of Mental health and Well being.	
Declaration	
I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.	
Signed by	Date
D J Longan	23/9/17

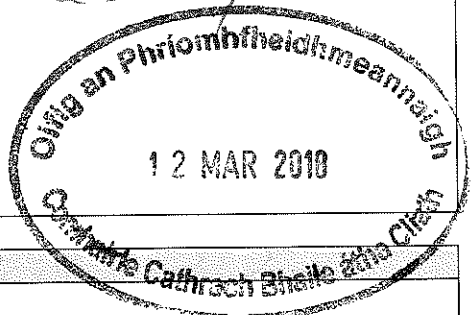


Report to the Protocol & Selection Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	Gayle Morgan
Conference/Seminar Name	National Public Strategy ^{uses}
Conference/Seminar Topic	Members in mind; their mental health
Venue/Location	Bridge House Hotel Tall ^{in Dublin}
Date (s) of Conference	19/03/2017

Brief Summary

Very interesting event. I was very surprised at the amount of stuff you can do at your local library.



Recommendations

Needs to be advertised more so people are aware of exactly what libraries offer.

Declaration

I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.

Signed by	Date
Gayle Morgan	4/12/17

Report to the Protocol Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	Paddy Bourke
Conference/Seminar Name	AIRG ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE 2018
Conference/Seminar Topic	SPORT, TOURISM, THE BEAST FROM THE EAST / RISK MANAGEMENT
Venue/Location	THE PARK HOTEL DUNCARVON CO WATERFORD
Date (s) of Conference	

Brief Summary

OPENED BY MINISTER JOHN PAUL DOUGHERTY WHO SPoke ABOUT CHARS CONDITIONS BOUNDARY REVIEWS AND WHEN WE COULD EXPECT THE BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS REPORT. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE SPoke ABOUT WATERFORD LOSING 3000 JOBS AND THEIR FIGHT BACK, THE VIKING TOWER @ A COST OF BETWEEN 30-40 MILLION POUNDS THE CONVERSION OF OLD BUILDINGS INTO HOUSING AND MUSEUMS. THE WATERFORD C.E. ALSO SPoke ABOUT THE WATERFORD GREENWAY. THE WATERFORD PORT OFFICER SPoke ABOUT SERVICE EXCELLENCE TRAINING AND THAT TOURISTS SHOULD HAVE A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE AND WANT TO COME BACK. JOHN TROTT SPoke ABOUT SPORT AND THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION

Recommendations

LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAKE:

Q. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR CANAL AND RIVER WALKING AND CYCLING ROUTES

Declaration

I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.

Signed by

Date

Paddy Bourke

17/04/2018

Report to the Protocol & Selection Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	Mary Freehill
Conference/Seminar Name	LAMA Spring Seminar
Conference/Seminar Topic	New National Planning Framework, Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy, The Economic Benefits of the Wild Atlantic Way
Venue/Location	Central Hotel, Donegal Town
Date (s) of Conference	5 th , 6 th and 7 th April 2018

Brief Summary

The seminar started with the usual opening welcoming speeches. Niall Cussen Dept of Local government, Sinead Dooley Rural Link and Joe Corr Irish Planning Inst. Spoke on Nat Planning Framework. They covered the need for connectivity to rural towns and how the Buchanan Report damaged rural Ireland.

On questioning regarding withdrawal of planning applications from LAC agendas, Niall Cussen told us that he thought Cllrs had enough to do not to be interested or concerned about spatial planning. A very good debate took place on general lack of Cllrs powers.

On talk on Regional special & Econ Strat. Speakers pointed out reason for denying one off houses as villages are dying. The future planning needed of low carbon environment, about tier 3 interestingly found out that Killybegs also used for Cruise ships, implications of Brexit. Jim Conway pointed out the need for the strategy take account of metropolitan plans, MASP and the future demographics.

John Paul Phelan addressed the dinner and just said a few words about Cllrs working conditions and pay. It was very disappointing that the minister hadn't time to hear what we had to say about the withdrawal of our powers in relation to planning.

On Saturday morning Deirdre McGloin spoke about the economic benefits of Wild Atlantic way. The big gain was in brining tourists to out of the way less well known areas and this has been a huge help to the County of Donegal.

Recommendations
In some ways the seminar was more like a scouts jamboree. I attended to have a political meeting but didn't get it. The lack of interest by the Minister in that regard was very disappointing.

Declaration	
I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.	
Signed by <i>Mary Freehill</i>	Date <i>9 April 2018</i>



Report to the Protocol & Selection Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	DERMOT LACEY
Conference/Seminar Name	LAMA SPRING SEMINAR
Conference/Seminar Topic	NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK
Venue/Location	CENTRAL HOTEL, DONEGAL
Date (s) of Conference	5th, 6th AND 7th APRIL 2018

Brief Summary

The entire Conference was built around providing on the recently published National Plan and how Councils can best engage with it through both local councils and the three Regional Assemblies.

There was also a presentation by the Minister of State for rural development on specific rural growth issues.

Recommendations

None.

Declaration

I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.

Signed by	Date
Dermot Lacey	17/4/2018

Report to the Protocol Committee for noting and referral to the City Council

Councillor Name	Paddy Bourke	
Conference/Seminar Name	LAMA SPRING TRAINING SEMINAR.	
Conference/Seminar Topic	NEW NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK	
Venue/Location	THE CENTRAL HOTEL DUBLIN CITY CO DUBLIN	
Date (s) of Conference	5 TH - 6 TH - 7 TH APRIL 2018	
Brief Summary	<p>NIALL CUSAN CHIEF PLANNER DEPT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPOKE ABOUT PLANNING TO 2040 WHEN THERE WILL BE A GROWTH OF 1 MILLION IN OUR POPULATION A NEED FOR 500,000 EXTRA HOMES AND 660,000 EXTRA JOBS AN EXPENDITURE OF 116 BILLION EURO THE NEED TO DEVELOP THE BROWN FIELD SITES IN OUR CENTRE CITIES HE SPOKE ABOUT 10 STRATEGIC OUTCOMES ONE OF WHICH WAS COMPACT GROWTH JOE COAL PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL PLANNING INSTITUTE SAID WE WERE GREAT</p>	
Recommendations	<p>AT MAKING THEM RUBISH AT IMPLEMENTING THEM THERE WAS A VERY ROBUST QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION THE DEPT WAS ROUNDLY CRITICISED FOR ITS CENTRE OF PLANNING AT A LOCAL LEVEL AND NIALL CUSAN WAS LEFT IN NO DOUBT OF THE VALUES OF CLRS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY VERY WELL ATTENDED CONFERENCE 300 - 400 CLRS.</p>	
Declaration	<p>I certify that I attended the above-mentioned Conference/Training Seminar.</p>	
Signed by	Date	
Paddy Bourke	17/04/2018	

Report to the Protocol Committee - “Amendment to Standing Order 16”

Questions

16. Questions to the Dublin Chief Executive must be forwarded electronically and must reach him/her or his/her authorised officer not later than eleven working days (including Saturdays, the day of the meeting & Public Holidays but not Sundays) preceding that on which they are to be asked. Additional information may be handed in to the Meetings Administrator in hard copy if it cannot be submitted in soft form for any reason. No member shall be entitled to table more than four questions at any one meeting. Questions must relate to matters of administration of the City Council for which the Dublin City Chief Executive is responsible, must have the purpose of eliciting information, elucidating matters of fact or of policy, be brief and contain no argument or personal imputation. Questions cannot be put and answered unless the Council has previously approved by motion without debate. The questions shall be answered without debate and supplementary questions shall not be put.

Questions submitted to the monthly City Council meeting may relate to a citywide or a local issue. Questions submitted to an Area Committee Meeting may relate to a citywide or a local issue of that administrative area only.

*To ensure compliance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and to ensure minimum circulation of personal details, questions that contain sensitive personal details (name & address, health status etc) may **only** be submitted to Area Committees for response. These questions will constitute part of a councillor’s Area Question quota but will not be listed on agenda or minutes of the area meeting*

In the interest of transparency it is desirable that all other questions and answers be included on the agenda and in the minutes of meetings. A Councillor may on request require that a street name/specific location be submitted as “details supplied”. The rest of the question and response will be included on the agenda and in the minutes of the meeting



Re: Proposal to rename Hume Street as John Hume Street

A request to rename Hume Street “in honour of Mr. John Hume for his outstanding contribution to Irish political life and in particular his unique contribution to the peace process of Northern Ireland.” has been received.

The proposal from the applicant states that:

“The street was named after the family of surgeon Sir Gustavus Hume. The street is undergoing many changes at the moment with the skin care hospital moving to St. Vincent’s in 2006. There are hardly any residents in the street, it is mainly offices and head quarters. It would be appropriate to give the street a new lease of life in honour of John Hume.”

The street is shown on the attached map R.M. 36949.

The South East Area Committee at their 12th February 2018 meeting agreed, following discussion, that the matter be referred to city council for decision as the changing of a name of a street/road/laneway is a reserved function of the City Council.

At that meeting, Cllr Lacey proposed and Cllr. Freehill seconded the proposal and the committee agreed that the order to refer the matter to the City Council should include the following wording:

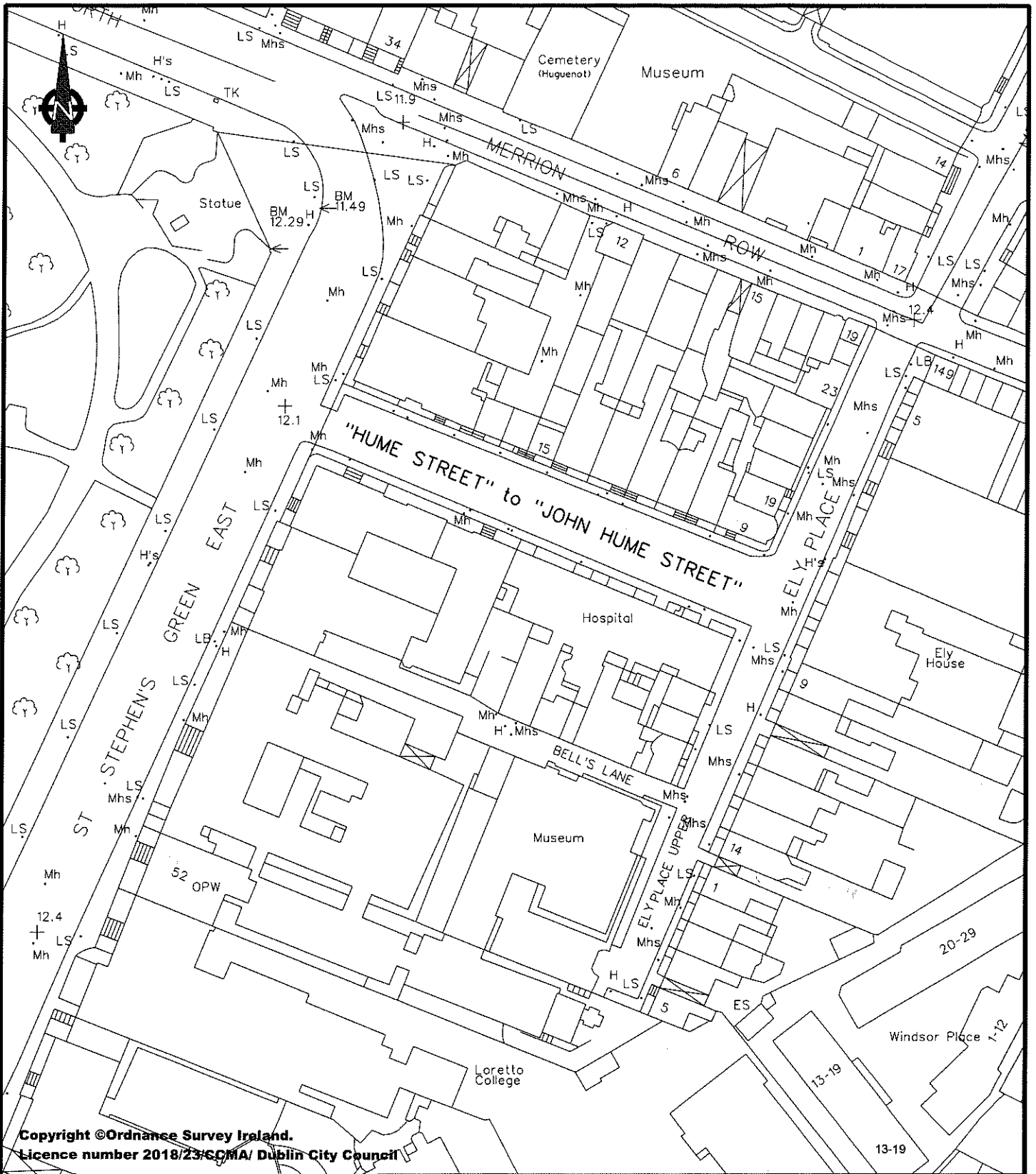
“Following discussion at the South East Area Committee, that the South East Area Committee believes that John Hume should be honoured in an appropriate manner by Dublin City Council but believes that this particular proposal is insufficient.”

This report is submitted under Section 78 of the Local Government Act 1976, as amended and under Schedule 1 of S.I. 31/1956 Local Government (Changing of Place Names) Regulations 1956 and the decision of Dublin City Council is sought as to whether to initiate the process of name change of the street currently known as Hume Street to John Hume Street by conducting a plebiscite.

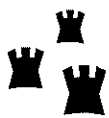
Resolution “That Dublin City Council approves/does not approve the holding of a plebiscite under Section of the Local Government Act 1976, as amended and under Schedule 1 of S.I. 31/1956 Local Government (Changing of Place Names) Regulations 1956 in relation to a proposal to rename Hume St to John Hume St”

Rose Kenny
Area Manager

Date : 22nd February 2018



Copyright © Ordnance Survey Ireland.
Licence number 2018/23/CCMA/ Dublin City Council



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT,
CIVIC OFFICES,
WOOD QUAY, DUBLIN 8.

Proposal to change the street name
'Hume Street' to 'John Hume Street'

ROADS MAINTENANCE DIVISION

R.M. 36949

Dr John W. Flanagan CEng FIEI FICE
City Engineer

C.A.D. BY	DATE	REVISED	SCALE
	Page 26 06/02/2018	/ /20	1:1250

COMMISSION OF PORTRAIT OF KATHLEEN CLARKE TO HANG IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

At its meeting of 2nd February 2017 the Protocol Committee passed the following motion:

Inspired by the Accenture Ireland #WomenonWalls project which seeks to address the lack of portraits of historical female leaders in Ireland. Dublin City Council will seek sponsorship for and commission a portrait of the first female Lord Mayor of Dublin Kathleen Clarke framed to a size and scale that will allow it to replace one of the current portraits that hang in the Council Chamber alongside that of Daniel O'Connell.

To give effect to the above motion, a team has been established to oversee the commissioning of the portrait. The members are Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian; Dr Barbara Dawson, Director Dublin City Gallery the Hugh Lane; Dr Mary Clarke, City Archivist, and Ruairí Ó Cuiv, Public Art Manager.

The Team proposes the following process.

- The artist will be commissioned following a limited call for proposals.
- A briefing document setting out the requirements (size; medium; materials; timeframe, etc.) and a short biography of Kathleen Clarke will be prepared.
- Potential artists will be nominated by DCC (City Archives; Hugh Lane) and by selected arts organisations (RHA, National Gallery).
- A selection panel will be convened, the members being the DCC team, 2 councillors?), and two external experts.
- The selection panel will agree a set of criteria for the selection of a shortlist and the selection of the winning proposal.
- The selection panel will review the list of nominated artists and choose five/six artists from the list who will be invited to submit proposals.
- The invited artists will be paid a fee of €1,500 for their proposals.
- The selection panel will review the proposals and select a winner.

Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann

Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel

Brú na bhFiann, North King Street, Dublin 7. Tel: 01-485 0666 Fax: 01-485 0601
Email: info@oneconnect.ie Website: www.oneconnect.ie

3 April 2018

Ardmhéara Mícheál Mac Donncha
Lord Mayor
Dublin City Council
Mansion House
Dawson Street
Dublin 2
D02 AF30

Dear Ardmhéara Mac Donncha,

INTRODUCTION

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel- ONE), a registered charity for veterans of the Irish Defence Forces. ONE was established on 10 March 1951 in the Mansion House Dublin and the primary objective of the Organisation is *The welfare of ex-service men and women, by providing accommodation to homeless, elderly or disabled members in need of such domestic accommodation and shelter, and any other assistance required by Veterans*. Comradeship, social and cultural activities, and remembrance are ancillary objectives. Our services are available to all veterans of the Defence Forces.

There are approximately 140,000 veterans of the Defence Forces and it is estimated that this comprises approximately 12,000 former members of the Permanent Defence Force (PDF) in receipt of pension, approximately 28,000 former members of the PDF discharged before pensionable age, and approximately 100,000 former members of the Reserve Defence Force or its predecessors the FCA and Slúa Múirí.

ONE has 42 Branches countrywide. We provide accommodation (board and lodging) for approximately 44 veterans, who otherwise would be homeless, in our three residential homes and we are developing a nationwide network of Veteran's Support Centres in 2018 based on the pilot scheme that commenced in 2012.

ONE BRANCHES

ONE has 42 Branches spread throughout the country, together with 3 Area Councils for management purposes. This provides a unique network for our volunteer members to maintain contact with veterans and provided assistance where necessary.

HOMES FOR VETERANS

The provision of accommodation and sustenance are achieved through our homes in Dublin, Letterkenny and Athlone. The Dublin home (Brú na bhFiann) is located in Smithfield and has facilities to house 30 veterans in a homely hostel setting. The homes in Letterkenny (Beechwood House) and Athlone

Patron: Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland.

Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann Cuideachta faoi theorainn Ráthaíochta. Registered in Ireland No.328824, RCN: 20044268, CHY13868.

Directors: Oliver Barbour, Colm Campbell (Chairman), Martin Casey, Patrick Durnin, Gerry Enright, Jim Fay, Patrick Flavin, Tommy Gallagher, Tom James, Edward McCarthy, Jim McEaney, Paul C. Morgan, Patrick Rooney, Derek Ryan.

Page 29

CEO: Ollie O'Connor. Company Secretary: Albert John Farrell. National President: Tom James.



(Custume House) can each facilitate 7 veterans at any given time. Our residents are both short stay and long term and contribute on a means basis towards their keep which includes all of the facilities that one would expect in a normal home. Most of our residents have had extensive service in the Defence Forces; serving with distinction both at home and in various overseas missions with the United Nations. However, for one reason or another they now find themselves homeless and in need.

VETERANS' SUPPORT CENTRES

ONE is developing a nationwide network of Veterans' Support Centres based on the pilot scheme that commenced in 2012 when we opened such facilities in Lord Edward Street Limerick, and in Aiken Barracks Dundalk. These centres provide veterans with information, advice, someone to listen and somewhere to meet with former comrades. They can be compared to a combination of Citizens' Advice Centres and the Mens' / Womens' Sheds. It is hoped that by providing early intervention, we can alleviate social stresses and significantly reduce homelessness among veterans.

By the end of 2018, ONE will establish further Veteran Support Centres in the following locations: Collins Barracks, and Cobh (Cork); Curragh (Kildare); Cathal Brugha Barracks, McKee Barracks, and Casement Aerodrome (Dublin); Custume Barracks (Athlone); Finner Camp (Ballyshannon); Dún Uí Mhaoliosa (Galway); Stephens Bks (Kilkenny); and Wexford.

FUNDING

The current level of service provision costs in the region of €838,000 annually. While Brú na bhFiann receives support from the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (€182,850 in 2017), the homes in Donegal and Westmeath are not in receipt of any such funding. The Department of Defence contribute €44,000 annually towards the running of the organisation. The balance of our income, over €600,000, is raised through various forms of fundraising. This includes: Members Subscriptions; Donations; Receipts for Meals and Accommodation; and National Collections. The principal source of collection is our Fuchsia Appeal which involves the selling of Fuchsia Emblems and is particularly focused on the month of July which is the month in which the National Day of Commemoration takes place.

CONCLUSION

The majority of Veterans of the Defence Forces, irrespective of length of service, are successful in their new careers or are happy in retirement. However, there are quite a number who need help from time to time. ONE seeks to provide that help and could do even more with your support.

Please fly the Fuchsia Flag during the month of July to support Veterans of the Defence Forces.

Regards



Ollie O'Connor
Chief Executive Officer
Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE)

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL



From: Sinead McCooile [mailto:Sinead.McCoole@chg.gov.ie]

Sent: 13 April 2018 15:37

To: lordmayor@dublincity.ie

Subject: Kathleen Clarke's chain

Dear Lord Mayor

I am writing to you in my capacity as Curator of the Department of Culture's exhibition on 100 years of women in politics and public life.

I wish to request on loan the chain that was created for Kathleen Clarke at the time she held the office of the Mayor of Dublin.

I would love the opportunity to talk to you about the exhibition and to find out if you, in your capacity as Lord Mayor, would be willing to lend this to the exhibition which will be on in Dublin Castle from 26 October 2018-26 January 2018.

The management and installation is being undertaken by the OPW.

The Minister launched a brochure on the centenary events, which you may have seen, if not, I can send on.

Kind regards
Sinéad McCooile
Historian & Curator

Sinéad McCooile | Commemorations | Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Floor 3, Joyce House, 8-11 Lombard Street East, Dublin D02 Y729
Tel: +353 (0)1 675 5916 | 085 8775706 E-mail: sinead.mccoole@chg.gov.ie

10th December
@ 6PM



Brussels, March 27th 2018

Pierre Galand,
President of the APNU and former Senator
Rue Stevin, 115
1000 Brussels, Belgium

**To the attention of Mr Mícheál Éamonn Mac Donncha,
(Lord) Mayor of Dublin**

Dublin City Council, Civic Office, Wood Quay – Dublin 8 D08 RF3F

Subject: the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Dear Sir,

Former Belgian Senator and current President of the Association for the United Nations (APNU) in the French-speaking community of Belgium, I would like to share with you an initiative to which, I am sure, you will join enthusiastically. It is for you, surrounded by a group of citizens, to read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the day of its 70th birthday, on December 10th 2018 at 6 PM on the balcony or on the steps of your City Hall.

In Brussels, the Mayor Philippe Close is eager to take part in this initiative and has decided to prepare a special light and sound show in Brussels main square at the occasion of this event on December 10th. In addition, many Human Rights associations such as Amnesty International and the League for Human Rights will participate. They will mobilize citizens and have a representation on Brussels main square. The event will be followed by a citizen meeting at the City Hall in the presence of well-known public figures and drinks will be offered.

Today, I am writing to you but also to other Mayors of major European cities to invite them to join this initiative.

I also addressed the Eurovision, chaired by the Director-General of the Belgian Radio-Television, to ensure the broadcasting of this event through Europe.

In advance, thank you for giving attention to this proposal.

Please accept, dear Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Pierre Galand
Former Senator, President of the Association for the United Nations in Belgium (APNU)

70 ans D.U.D.H. - Association pour les Nations Unies - Rue Stévin 115, 1000 Brussels
Phone : +32 2 721 69 17 - Email : coordinateur@70ansdudh.be

Avec le soutien de



Report to the Protocol Committee
“Turning of the Sovereign Seal” at the Mansion House

Background:

For the past number of years, a request has been received to have the use of the Dining Room in the Mansion House to carry out a ceremony called “Turning of the Sovereign Seal”.

The ceremony was originally carried out by Mr. Tom McGuire who was the owner of Vaughan’s Hotel in Parnell Square, Dublin which was the headquarters of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and Óglaigh na hÉireann. It is claimed that the All-Ireland elections of 1918 established the sovereignty of Ireland and gave rise to the establishment of Dáil Eireann. On 21st January 1919 the Sovereign Seal was turned by Tom McGuire and the proclamation of Ireland was read out. According to the ritual, once this was done all Irish people became sovereign citizens and were no longer subjects to the crown of England. It also claims sovereignty for the people of Ireland over all the Territory, Rivers and Lakes, Seas, Fishing, Fishing Rights, Mineral Rights, Licences and all assets of the State.

Up until 2009 the ceremony continued on an annual basis on 21st January in the Lady Mayoress Parlour. It was a small and private affair attended by the head of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, a harpist and a number of supporters. In January 2009 the then Lord Mayor Eibhlin Byrne took an interest in the ceremony and it moved to the Dining Room. Since then a request has been made to use the Dining Room for the ceremony as it is claimed this was the Cabinet Room of the first Dáil in 1919. There are no records for when this ceremony began in the Mansion House.

An Taoiseach, an Ceann Comhairle and the Chief Justice are invited to attend but they have not done so since 1922. The Ambassador of India to Ireland is also invited and they (or a representative) generally do attend. This is because the plans for India’s independence were formulated in Vaughan’s Hotel and the fourth President of India Varahagiri Giri was a member of Sinn Féin and the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

What is turned on 21st January annually is a small IRB emblem which is a small bronze harp with 12 strings on a wooden plinth. We have been advised that this seal is one of the 32 seals issued for use in the County Courts established by the First Dáil

There has been previous correspondence between the Office of the Lord Mayor / Dublin City Council and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht requesting assistance to determine the legal status of the event. However, no definitive response has been received.

Since 2010, where permission was granted, attendance was limited to 20 people to the Dining Room. In 2013 some of those attending verbally attacked the Lord Mayor for not allowing everyone access to the Mansion House to view the ceremony. Lord Mayors Oisín Quinn (2014), Christy Burke (2015) and Brendan Carr (2017) refused permission for the ceremony to take place. The Head of the IRB and his supporters gathered outside the Mansion House and performed the ceremony on the front steps. Lord Mayor Críona Ní Dhálaigh (2016) allowed the ceremony to take place in the Mansion House under the

supervision of Bartle D'Arcy, Historian. This year, the Lord Mayor Mícheál Mac Donncha, gave permission for the ceremony to take place on the front steps of the Mansion House. However due to adverse weather conditions they were permitted access to the Oak Room to perform the ceremony.

Concerns:

Every year on the 21st January the Mansion House experiences significant disruption as the ceremony is either taking place inside the residence or outside on the forecourt. It is a controversial event which attracts a number of protesters. The Gardaí in Pearse Street Garda Station are required to assist on the day to ensure there is no trouble.

The Head of the IRB also declares that he is the President of Ireland. By allowing him into the Mansion House to carry out his ceremony, there could be a perception that we are providing his claim with credence.

Fanchea Gibson
Administrative Officer

The Parole Board will host a Conference at the Law Society of Ireland on Thursday, 10th May, 2018.

Confirmed speakers for this event include:

Mr. Justice Garrett Sheehan

Shane McCarthy, The Parole Board

Michael Lynn S.C.

Paul Mageean, Commissioner, Parole Commissioners for Northern Ireland

Martin Jones, CEO, Parole Board for England and Wales

Dr. Laura Janes, Legal Director, The Howard League

Barry Donoghue, Deputy Director, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

Details are as follows:

Date: Thursday, 10th May, 2018

Time: 8.45am for registration. The event will take place from 9 am until 1.30 pm.

Venue: The Presidents' Hall, The Law Society of Ireland, Blackhall Place, Dublin 7.

CPD: Certificates of attendance will be available, on request, for CPD purposes.

This is a FREE event but booking via the Eventbrite website is ESSENTIAL. To book a place, please [click here](#)

This event is sponsored by Sheehan and Partners (@SheehanPartners) and supported by the ACJRD.

Kind regards,

Katherine Daly,
ACJRD.

Tel: 00 353 1 617 4878

Email: admin@acjrd.ie

Web: www.acjrd.ie

ACJRD, Spade Enterprise Centre, North King Street, Dublin 7 D07 H049 (This is the registered office of the ACJRD)

The Dundalk Widows Group with the support of Cllr. Emma Coffey

Conference: The Parliament Qualification of Women Act 1918-2018 - Have Women Qualified?’

To explore the roles of women in the context of History, Politics and Industry in modern Ireland. Speakers at the conference include;

Marian Harkin M.E.P

Emma Pengally M.P

Sinead McCoole, Historian, as well as women from many fields on the island of Ireland

The conference will take place on Saturday 5th May 2018, at An Grianan, the I.C.A. Headquarters in Termonfeekin, Co. Louth.

The fee per delegate including lunch is €110.00.

Since obtaining the vote what steps or progress have women in Ireland made in terms of achieving equality of representation in areas such as politics, boards of management and public/ voluntary committees?

Through a series of lectures and Q+A sessions, those present will evaluate the lessons learned about political parties and the influence of gender on candidate recruitment at the 2014 local elections. It will examine the impact of ‘Gender Quota’ system on the 2016 General Election. Speakers and delegates will consider the Gender Quota system and whether it is effective, necessary and/or useful behind women’s increased participation in elections?

The conference will highlight the administrative structures of local authorities, where men dominate senior management positions. Recent years have shown an increasing number of women accessing senior management roles, however, gender barriers remain in play.

Analysis of candidate data and electoral results from the 2014 local elections show that women’s political representation currently stands at just under 21 %. This is a record high for women’s participation in the elected structures of county and city councils since 1918. Against this backdrop of increased yet still great under representation of the gender, the necessity of considering “Have Women Qualified?” must be highlighted and addressed.

For more Information please contact

Conference Coordinator Number: 089 4214394

Cllr.Emma Coffey, 0871940837 emma.coffey@louthcoco.ie

From: Jan Dictus [mailto:jan.dictus@goja.or.at]

Sent: 13 March 2018 09:10

To: cnfe@goja.or.at

Subject: Answer from Commissioner Cañete on CNFE / NFLA / Bergen op Zoom letter

Dear Mayor, dear Councillor, dear Colleague

In January CNFE wrote together with NFLA and the Mayor of Bergen op Zoom a letter to The European Commission and the European Parliament about cross border transparency and international control on nuclear plants. This is mainly of importance for nuclear plants close to national borders. We informed you about this letter in our mail of 10 January 2018.

Now we have received an answer from the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Union Miguel Arias Cañete. A copy of that letter is attached.

CNFE is glad that the Commissioner understood the relevance of our concerns. At the same time, we are disappointed that there are no improvements planned or announced regarding public participation and transparency in relation to 2014/87/Euratom Artikel 8. Although Article 8 and point 12 of the preamble to the Directive make it fundamentally clear that it is essential that the public has access to adequate information; the actual availability of that information depends almost entirely on national legislation. A citizen in the Netherlands on 15 km of a Belgian nuclear plant, has less information and less rights than a Belgian citizen who lives also at 15 km distance. This issue is not answered by the Commissioner.

Such understanding of transparency is certainly not enough for CNFE. Availability of information and the possibility of participation in decision-making process that is equally accessible to all EU citizens will remain an important goal for us in the future.

We addressed the independence of national regulatory authorities, while they make use of expertise and knowledge from the nuclear power companies; the same companies that they should control. We suggest to make this control more international; the Commissioner answers that he even strengthens the competences of the national agencies. The new legally-binding topical peer review under the directive is a step into the right direction. This has to be enhanced by creating the necessary technical competences on a European level for the effective participation of EU bodies in this review process.

Interesting in the answer of the Commissioner is the paragraph at the end of the letter, discussing the relationship between Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and EURATOM. From the point of view of the Commission EURATOM can be seen as “lex specialis” for nuclear aspects that overrules the TFEU. This should also implicate that in non-nuclear cases – as for example cases concerning rules on competition -, the TFEU or other “lex specialis” are overruling the provisions of EURATOM.

In general, CNFE is happy that the commissioner says he takes our concerns seriously. Unfortunately, he gives no indication that the Commission thinks of making the control on nuclear plants more independent or more international. Also, no sign on improving cross

border transparency can be found in the letter. We hope that the European Parliament has a better understanding for the problems of citizens living close by nuclear plants on the other side of a national border.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have question, remark or suggestion on this matter.

Kind regards

Jan Dictus

Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe

+ 43 664 886 04274

jan.dictus@goja.or.at

www.CNFE.eu



Miguel ARIAS CAÑETE
Member of the European Commission

Brussels, 20. 02. 2018
ARES(2018) 614977

Dear Ms Sima,

I would like to thank you and the co-signatories for your letter of 10 January 2018 in which you express concerns regarding the supervision of the safety of the EU nuclear power plants (NPPs).

Taking note of the concerns raised in your letter, I would firstly like to assure you that nuclear safety and the protection of all EU citizens are priorities for the Commission. However, as you know, in line with the current division of responsibilities under EU law, the decisions to operate NPPs remain with the Member States, which are also responsible for ensuring their safe operation. The Commission's role is to ensure that those Member States choosing to use nuclear energy do so within a legal framework that meets the highest standards.

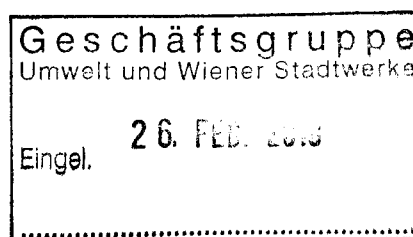
The Euratom legal framework has been significantly strengthened in the past five years, especially to take account of the lessons learned from the Fukushima nuclear accident in Japan.

In particular, Council Directive 2014/87/Euratom, amending the 2009 Nuclear Safety Directive (hereafter 'Directive'), introduces an ambitious EU-wide safety objective for all types of nuclear installations, with the aim of reducing the risk of accidents and avoiding large radioactive releases in the environment in case of a nuclear accident.

While the safety of nuclear installations remains the Member States' responsibility under the Directive, it enshrines the principle of close cooperation and information exchange between the EU Member States on nuclear safety matters with cross-border impacts. A good example of such cooperation would be the on-going cooperation activities between Belgium and France on nuclear safety matters as well as the mechanism of joint activities that has been instituted in 2016 between Belgian and German authorities, including the joint inspection agreement. A similar cooperation protocol has recently been signed between Dutch and Belgian regulatory authorities.

The EU-wide post-Fukushima comprehensive risk and safety assessments of NPPs ('stress tests') are another example of the key role of enhanced cooperation and coordination at the EU.

Deputy Mayor Ulli Sima
President, CNFE
Rathaus, 1082 Vienna



The EU-wide post-Fukushima comprehensive risk and safety assessments of NPPs ('stress tests') are another example of the key role of enhanced cooperation and coordination at the EU.

In addition, inspired by the EU stress tests, the new legally-binding EU-level topical peer review will be carried out under the Directive every 6 years on a specific topic related to nuclear safety. The first topical peer review is currently underway and the topic chosen is the Ageing Management of Nuclear Power Plants.

I concur with you that transparency on nuclear safety matters and adequate involvement for the general public to participate in the decision-making process is important. Specific new requirements have been included in the revised Directive with a view to ensuring that the public is provided with relevant information and has the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process related to nuclear installations.

You are also raising the issue of the independence of competent regulatory authorities. I would like to inform you that the Directive's new requirements aim to substantially strengthen this independence and ensure that the national competent regulatory authorities are provided with the appropriate means and competencies to properly carry out the responsibilities assigned to them.

Furthermore, it should be noted that Directive 2013/59/Euratom (Basic Safety Standards Directive) provides for strengthened requirements on emergency preparedness and response (EP&R), especially in the light of the lessons learned from the Fukushima accident.

Moreover, discussions with and between EU Member States regulatory authorities, in particular on nuclear safety risks and challenges of a cross-border nature, are being continuously undertaken in the context of the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG).

While national responsibility of Member States for the safety of nuclear installations is the fundamental principle on which nuclear safety regulation has been set up at the international and EU levels, the Euratom legal framework has been strengthened in recent years. Sufficient experience needs to be acquired with the implementation of the binding requirements enshrined in the revised Nuclear Safety Directive before considering any further changes.

You are also raising the issue regarding the use of the provisions of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) rather than of the provisions of the Euratom Treaty as a legal basis to adopt EU nuclear safety legislation. In this regard, it should be recalled that according to the settled case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union, the provisions of the Euratom Treaty constitute a more specific legal basis than the general legal basis for the protection of the environment resulting from the TFEU (principle of *lex specialis*). As such, the specific provisions of the Euratom Treaty should be used, according to the Court, to adopt legislation in the field of protection of populations against ionizing radiations (including nuclear safety)¹.

¹For instance in case C-29/99, the Court has established the competence of the Euratom Community in the area of nuclear safety on the basis of the Euratom Treaty. In its recent judgement of 2015 in case C-48/14, the Court has once more confirmed the *lex specialis* character of the Euratom Treaty vis-à-vis the TFEU and the use of the Euratom Treaty provisions as the correct legal basis for the protection of populations against ionizing radiations, irrespective of their source.

Finally, I assure you that I understand and closely follow the concerns expressed by EU citizens and various stakeholders, such as representatives of local and regional authorities as well as civil society representatives about the safety of EU NPPs.

The Commission is continuing to closely follow the situation and is carefully monitoring the timely, correct and effective transposition and implementation of the above-mentioned Directives.

Yours sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over the 'Yours sincerely,' text. The signature is highly cursive and difficult to decipher, but it appears to be a personal name.

