

South Central Area Office
Eblana House
Marrowbone Lane
Dublin 8

**The Chairperson and Members
South Central Area Committee**

**Report on the Part VIII for the proposed Newmarket Square & Environs Public Realm
Improvement Plan**

The South Central Area Office lodged a Part VIII planning application concerning a proposed public realm improvement plan for Newmarket Square and the surrounding environs. The plan envisages the historic square being redeveloped as a new urban destination accommodating markets, events, performances, outdoor seating and improved public lighting. The proposal identifies three distinct areas in Newmarket Square: 1) The Cultural Square, 2) The Universal Square, 3) Parking Area. The Universal Square will enhance the opportunities to promote and facilitate existing markets as well as providing opportunities for these types of activities to expand. In terms of the Cultural Square, it is proposed to facilitate the development of a café in the former substation and this area will also contain seating, cycle parking and in the future may also facilitate a Dublin Bikes station. Parking will be facilitated in the western part of the square. Another stated aim was to create a public realm that prioritises walking, cycling and easy street crossing.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were available for inspection or could be purchased from 20th February 2017 for a period of six weeks. Submissions or observations in relation to the proposed public realm improvement plan were also invited and the deadline for receipt of these was 4.30pm on 20th April 2017.

Following the passing of the above deadline, two third party submissions were received in relation to the application.

As approval of a Part VIII application is a reserved function of the City Council, it is now our intention to bring the proposal to the June City Council meeting for formal approval.

Peter Finnegan
Area Manager