

07/03/2018

To the Chairperson and Members of
the Central Area Committee

NORTH EAST INNER CITY PROGRAMME OFFICE REPORT

Implementation of the actions identified in the Mulvey report is continuing under the direction of the Chairman Michael Stone, the Programme Implementation Board and five Sub-Groups. A progress report on the work of the Board to date was launched by the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar during his visit to the North East Inner City on Monday 26th February 2016. The report is available to download at www.neic.ie



Speaking at Sherriff Youth Club, the Taoiseach said: “I am delighted to be present for the publication of this report and to support the on-going effort to regenerate the neighborhood. This morning, I had the chance to visit a number of community projects and see with my own eyes the commitment and passion of so many people determined to bring hope and opportunity back to this community. The North Inner City is full of decent people, long established communities and newcomers who are proud of their neighbourhood and want the best for their children. While the community has faced serious challenges in recent years, there is a real determination to move forward. The Government is determined to back this through targeted investment and expertise.”

Further to the February report to the Area Committee an additional round of funding proposals (Total €65,060), were approved at the Board meeting held on 28th February 2018: This brings the total approved to €1.102M of the €2.5M 2018 RAPID funding allocated to the NEIC Initiative by the Department of Rural & Community Development.

A pilot social employment fund of €1million has also been established (co-funded €500K – Dept. Employment Affairs and Social Protection €500k and Dept. Public Expenditure & Reform) to support priority projects/services that are adversely affected by lack of uptake of existing CE places in the NEIC area. Target groups for support are those providing services in childcare / afterschool care, eldercare and the environment. To date funding has been released for one project, CASPr to recruit 3 employees on a 30 hour week. These workers are now in place. Discussions ongoing re parameters of pilot programme with Dept of Rural and Community Affairs, POBAL and Dept. of the Taoiseach.

The new proposals approved at the February Board Meeting are as follows:

- **Vantastic – Transport Service for elderly (6 month pilot project) €15,000**

This partnership pilot project, operated by [Vantastic](http://www.vantastic.ie) will offer door-to-door services to elderly and mobility impaired NEIC residents to attend hospital and other medical appointments at a nominal charge to the individual users.

- **Contribution to Irish Rail (Package 3) €5,500**

Co-funding of railway bridge painting works at Amiens Street and Seville Place.

- **Pilot Barista Training course €6,240**

The Local Employment Service has devised a pilot 2 week training course for 12 NEIC participants to include elements such as food hygiene. This has been identified as a requirement by the city business sector seeking to recruit employees in the hospitality sector.

- **Career LEAP (Local Employment Action Partnership) Training Course €24,320**

Contribution to ETB towards overall estimated cost of €100K to run two courses pre-summer 2018 including training for local project workers and employment mentors from local businesses. The Career LEAP Programme, launched in Dec. 2016, targets 18-25 year olds and aims to develop the social, emotional and cognitive skills necessary for developing career identity and work-readiness. Professor Carmel O'Sullivan, Head of School of Education at Trinity, developed the programme in conjunction with Swan Youth Service, East Wall Youth and Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI). 18 prominent businesses in the Dublin area also contributed to its development.

- **Youth Counselling Service €14,000**

This funding will enable completion of a programme of therapeutic counselling commenced in 2017 with funding from NEIC. 32 local young people are currently availing of this service through YPAR.

Updates on previously approved proposals are as follows:

- **Ana Liffey Drug Project - Assertive Case Management (NEIC Specific) - €100,000**

This 1-year project aimed at tackling on-street drug dealing blackspots was approved in 2017 and is up and running since Sept. 2017 and will run until Sept. 2018 at a total cost of €155,000. The overall purpose of the targeted interventions by the Ana Liffey dedicated NEIC outreach team is to case manage individuals who are causing harm to themselves and their community due to addiction and related antisocial behaviour. The focus is on individuals who are not currently engaged with any other support service. A project monitoring group is in place. At the last meeting held on 27th February a total of 25 individuals were fully engaged in case management with the Ana Liffey ACM Team.

- **North Inner City Folklore Project - €30,000**

The Folklore Project is now operating from Unit 1, The Forge. The 2018 funding will be used to cover costs associated with the Unit i.e. rental and utilities. The balance will be used to fund development work with the project with an initial focus on professional cataloguing of existing material to be followed by report and recommendations on future direction. The cataloguing task commenced on Wed. 7th March. The Folklore Project was also assisted in preparation of two applications for funding under the Heritage Council's Community Heritage Grant Scheme and these were submitted by the closing date of 9th February.

- **Programme of annual community events – €200,000**

Following a successful year of events in 2017, e.g. The Big Scream Halloween festival (5 events), The Last Picnic and local summer and Christmas events, a similar initial allocation has been approved for 2018. The Halloween Festival will remain as a flagship event and planning will commence shortly. Report on an evaluation process undertaken by Dublin City Community Co-Operative on the 2017 Festival is awaited. Proposals on this and other events will be brought to the Board for approval of additional funding in due course.



The Programme Office funded and provided operational support to a very successful free family event organised by Hill Street Family Resource Centre to celebrate the Chinese New Year on Saturday 17th February 2018. There was an estimated attendance of 1,600 at the event throughout the day.

- **Chinese New Year Celebration 17/02/2018**

- **NEIC Community Grants 2018 - €100,000**

The 2017 Community Grants Scheme was run successfully with 37 local projects awarded a total of €123,000. The Scheme will be run again this year with similar criteria. Details are being finalised and it is anticipated that it will open for applications before end Q1. Councillors will be notified directly when the Scheme is open.

- **Lourdes Daycare Centre - €425,000**

Following grant of planning permission in December 2017 funding for the delivery of the project to include internal alterations and extension at Lourdes Daycare Centre has been approved. An initial amount of €300,000 funding was approved by the NEIC Board at the January Meeting. Following the completion of the tender process the full contract cost of the project will be €425,000 incl. VAT. The shortfall will be met by NEIC resources re-allocated following recent cancellation of the proposed painting of Sheriff St. Lifting Bridge. Work will commence on site in the coming weeks.

Tall Ships Regatta 2018 – Business Sector €50,000

The NEIC Business Sector, represented on the Programme Implementation Board by Feargal O'Rourke, PWC; has committed funding of €50,000 to fund costs of 50 trainees (over 18 yrs.) from NEIC communities to take part in the voyages of the Tall Ships Regatta 2018 in association with Sail Training Ireland. An open call to all Over 18's in the NEIC area is currently out for trainee places for this once in a lifetime opportunity. Closing date is 31st March. Information in relation to the Tall Ships Regatta and trainee places can be found at <http://www.sailtrainingireland.com/>

If any further information is required in relation to the above projects please contact the Programme Office directly. General information is available on www.neic.ie

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