

**Central Area Office**  
**51/53 Sean McDermott Street**  
**29th November 2018**

**To the Chairperson and Members of  
The Central Area Committee.**

***GDA Report – December Area Committee***

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**Site Projects Update**

**Major New Access Opens: Grangegorman Links with Constitution Hill**

The new pedestrian/cyclist link between Grangegorman and Constitution Hill was officially opened on 16<sup>th</sup> November. This is the first access through the east side of the Grangegorman site and opens up a major connection between the site and the north inner city. It now takes about 9 mins to walk from the Grangegorman campus to DIT Bolton Street. This new link in its current format is temporary until site development in that area is completed. It will also become the link with Broadstone Luas Stop once the Broadstone Plaza is developed by Transport Infrastructure Ireland which is expected to take place next year. The initial opening hours for the link are Mon – Fri from 7am – 4pm and Sat from 7.30am – 2pm. The GDA intends to expand these opening hours soon.

**DIT Central and East Quads (PPPs):** Work is progressing on schedule for both quads which will bring 10,000 students to Grangegorman once completed.

**Upcoming Planning Applications: DIT Academic Hub and the Energy Centre**

The GDA is hoping to submit two planning applications to Dublin City Council before Christmas; one for the DIT Academic Hub, and the other for the Energy Centre. The Academic Hub will form the centralised library for DIT and include the protected structure known as the North House as part of the build.

**Dublin 7 Educate Together Primary School:** Construction on the new school building is anticipated to commence on site early in the New Year.

**Next Phases of Development:** Work is starting on the designs for the HSE Residential Care Neighbourhood (formerly Community Nursing Unit) and the DIT West Quad (for the College of Business).

**Business Breakfast on Creative Industries:** Another successful Business Breakfast took place on 27<sup>th</sup> November in St Laurence's Church on campus, this time with a focus on Creative Industries. This was the second breakfast event of 2018 with April's having centred on Supply Chains for SMEs. The Business Breakfasts are informal free events organised by the Grangegorman Labour and Learning Forum's Business and Enterprise Group with the aim of providing opportunities for the local business community to come together to network and to learn about initiatives, supports and developments of interest to them.

#### **Upcoming Event: Dublin Winter Solstice Festival**

The Dublin Winter Solstice Festival will take place in Grangegorman again this year – the third year in a row – on 21<sup>st</sup> December, the shortest day of the year. Smashing Times Theatre Company and Slí an Chroí run the event in partnership with DIT with a wide range of activities taking place on campus before the annual festive parade to Smithfield. It is a family friendly event and everyone is welcome. The event kicks off from 4pm on 21<sup>st</sup> December. The parade starts at 5:40pm.

**Brian O'Connell**

**Administrative Officer**

**Central Area**