

Appendix A

A Phríomhfheidhmeannach, foireann na Comhairle agus a chomh comhairleoirí

I dtús báire, ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur roimh na comhairleoirí uile anseo um thráthnóna, iad siúd a bhí atofa cheanna, ach go háirithe na comhairleoirí nua tofa. Tá súil agam go mbeidh 5 bliana fiúntacha againn go léir agus muid ag déanamh ionadaíocht ar mhuintir ár gceantair , sa bhealach is fearr gur féidir linn. [Ní neart go cur le chéile].

Chief Executive, DCC staff, fellow councillors:

Firstly, I wish to welcome all councillors here this evening, those who were re-elected and especially those new councillors here. I hope we all have a productive 5 years as we seek to represent our constituents in the best way we can.

Is mian liom mo bhuíochas a chur in iúl do mo chomh-chomhairleoirí agus le bainistíocht Chomhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath as ucht an tacaíocht iontach a thug siad dom le linn mo thréimhse mar Ardmhéara. Ní mór dom freisin mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le sár-fhoireann Theach an Ardmhéara as ucht a ngairmiúlacht, a gcairdeas agus a gcomhairle i rith na bliana. Is iad atá mar bhunsraith don Oifig, ag obair go síoraí agus muid ag teacht agus ag imeacht ó Theach ársa an Ardmhéara.

I wish to thank my fellow councillors and DCC management for your tremendous support during my year as Lord Mayor. I must also thank the brilliant staff in the Mansion House for their professionalism, friendship and advice during the year. They are the constant as we pass through the great historic building that is the Mansion House.

I would also like to thank my Deputy Lord Mayor Kathleen Carney Boud (as she moved through the fair) who is not here tonight and to all the councillors who stepped in to deputise during the year.

It has been my privilege, honour and pride to have served as first citizen of this great City and to see first-hand the amount of community activity and volunteerism that goes on very hour of every day to give back to the less well off, the young, the elderly and the marginalised. These were the people I reached out to so that every citizen had an equal right and opportunity to visit the Mansion house or have the Lord Mayor visit the. 40,000 came through the front door of the Mansion House. I had over 1,200 external public engagements in schools, homeless hubs, hostels, care homes, senior citizen clubs, football clubs, sports clubs etc. I had over 1,500 senior citizens in for Afternoon Tea in the Mansion House over the year to show the city's appreciation for their immense contribution to our city. I won't mention the speeches.

I have had a great opportunity to witness, first hand, the amazing amount of work done by DCC through the city. Our parks and library services are world class – I attended the opening of the refurbished Kevin Street Library, the opening of the city farm in St Anne's park, the rose festival etc and of course did 38 park runs covering each of the city parks several times. Thanks Fanchea for making me get up every Saturday morning!

Our sports and wellbeing section did their bit to keep me active and somewhat fit. I rowed down the Liffey (twice), ran and cycled through the city (LM Chain)

Other highlights included the Papal visit, the LM Charity Ball which raised a record amount of over 100k for three charities, Hugh's House, the Irish Guide dogs and Jack and Jill and the Lord Mayor awards which went to people who have contributed significantly to Dublin.

It was an historic year for the Mansion house with the celebration of the First Dáil held in the Round Room on 21st January 1919, the same day as the start of our War of Independence. Michael MacDonnacha has written a wonderful book on the somewhat unknown role of the Mansion House during the revolutionary period.

Christmas is a magical time in the city and the lighting of 9 buildings and 4 bridges by DCC was a huge hit with Dubliners and visitors alike. This was a brilliant initiative. In the Mansion House we had our live animal crib, our choir and for the first time this year a very special Sensory Santas Grotto – inside the Mansion House and catering for children with autism. 350 saw Santa on their terms over the weekend before Christmas. I hope the new Lord Mayor will continue this initiative.

To my wife Joyce, the Lady mayoress I thank you so much for your support, assistance and advice over the year. To my four sons, my mam and all my friends and relations I also say thank you. It's been a wonderful journey and I hope Lord Mayor Number 350 has as exciting and wonderful journey as I have had. Baile Átha Cliath Abú

Gabhaim míle buíochas le mo bhean chéile, Bean an Ard-Mhéara, Joyce , as ucht do chuid tacaíochta, cúnamh agus do chomhairle i gcaitheamh na bliana. Le mo cheathrar mac, le mo le mo mháthair, le mo chairde agus mo ghaolta, táim fíor bhuíoch. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

**Aistear den scoth a bhí ann agus tá súil agam go mbeidh aistear chomh spráúil spreagúil céanna ag Ardmhéara uimhir 350 [trí chéad is a caoga] is a bhí agamsa.
Go raibh agaibh uile as eisteacht liom – Baile Átha Cliath Abú!**