



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

REPORT TO ARTS, CULTURE LEISURE AND
RECREATION SPC

17TH FEBRUARY 2020

Item No. 9

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

AER LINGUS COLLEGE FOOTBALL CLASSIC

5 GAME SERIES

2020 - 2024



Following a detailed presentation by promoters Irish American Events Ltd. (IAEL) and discussion at a meeting of relevant Government Departments and State agencies in March 2018 a commitment was given by Dublin City Council, Fáilte Irl. and Tourism Irl. to support a proposal by IAEL for Dublin City to Host the Aer Lingus College Football Classic 5 game series, commencing with the season opening game between United States Naval Academy and the University of Notre Dame in August 2020. This proposal followed the successful hosting of previous American College Football games in Dublin i.e. The Emerald Isle Classic in 2012 and Croke Park Classic in 2014 and the first Aer Lingus College Football Classic in 2016.

The Aer Lingus College Football Classic 2020, the first game of the series on Saturday 29th August 2020 is anticipated to be a 48,500 ticket sell-out at Aviva Stadium and 35,000 visitors will travel from the US and Europe for the weekend. Members of the SPC will receive a report outlining the programme of events at the next meeting of SPC.

Anthony Flynn
Executive Manager

REDEVELOPMENT OF DALYMOUNT PARK

The Dalymount Park Redevelopment was successful in stream 1 of the Large Scale Sport Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF). The project had received an allocation of €918,750 towards the development phase of the project. Once Dublin City Council are notified formally of the grant, an integrated design team will be appointed.

Following a detailed appraisal of Dalymount Park, the current plan for the redevelopment is to build a four-sided enclosed UEFA Category 3 stadium with a capacity of 6,000. This will include a new public library for Phibsborough, flexible community space and meeting rooms. The projected cost of the redevelopment is an estimated €35 million including inflation and vat

TOLKA PARK

Ahead of the new league of Ireland season and the fact that Shelbourne FC are competing in the Premier division, a number of improvements have taken place in Tolka Park. This includes an upgrade of the floodlights.

**Don Daly,
Project Manager,**

AFRICA DAY

Dublin City Council will support the *Africa Day* event in City Hall on 25 May 2020 (on behalf of the African Ambassadors to Ireland). Africa Day which has been celebrated in Dublin over the past number of years, will celebrate African culture, history, diversity and unity.

**Grainne Kelly,
International Relations**

EVENTS UNIT



Upcoming Events 17th February 2020 – 17th May 2020

Date	Event	Event Description
26 th Feb-8 th March	Virgin Media Dublin International Film Festival	2020 Theme "Festival Film School". Audiences can experience a series of films, workshops, Q&A sessions etc. Festival is entering its 18 th year. https://www.diff.ie/
13 th -17 th March	St. Patricks Day Festival	Annual programme of public events to celebrate St. Patricks Day. http://www.stpatricksfestival.ie/
14 th /21 st March TBC	Colours Boat Race	Annual series of head-to-head rowing races between Trinity and UCD on the River Liffey. http://coloursboatraces.ie/
15 th March	St. Patricks Festival 5K Race	Race Course: St. Stephens Green South, Merrion Row, Pembroke St., Baggot St. Herbert Place, Warrington Place, and Lr Leeson St.
3 rd -5 th April	Offset/Offsite Dublin 2020	Educational and Creative conference and workshops in multiple sites around the city relating to graphic design, photography, animation, illustration, fashion, film, industrial design, and Art. https://www.iloveoffset.com/
6 th -19 th April	MusicTown 2020	Celebrates the diverse music culture that exists in Dublin City. http://www.musictown.ie/
6 th April	The Arc Moro 16 Samba	International Samba music festival designed for children in Meeting House Square

13 th April	Handel Messiah Performance	An open air production of George Frederic Handels 'Messiah' on Fishamble Street, Dublin where it was first performed in 1742. Video
23 rd – 25 th April	Festival of Rowing	Race event which takes place at Grand Canal Dock, includes participation from schools as well as adults, social rowers in rowing clubs https://www.getgoinggetrowing.com/
26 th April	Sustainable Sunday	Marking the 50 th anniversary of Earth Day, it's a free family event in Meeting House Square, dedicated to the environment with opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering & climate change.
26 th April	Night Run	10k race which starts and finishes at North Wall Quay, route includes Ringsend and Irishtown http://nightrun.ie/
29 th April	Rowkyo	This is an event which celebrates the upcoming Olympics in Tokyo which has schools virtually rowing to Tokyo, culminating with the last few hundred metres being rowed in City Hall on the 29 th April https://www.getgoinggetrowing.com/
4 th – 17 th May	16 th International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival	IDGTF is an internationally unique annual theatre festival, celebrating the contributions and identity of the LGBT community to mainstream society through theatre. Takes place in multiple venues in the city centre http://www.gaytheatre.ie/
9 th May	Darkness into Light	Fundraising charity 5k walk/run in aid of Pieta House taking place in Ringsend/Sandymount https://www.darknessintolight.ie/
10 th May	Pets in the City	Free family event which takes place on Smithfield Square which promotes responsible pet ownership & animal welfare http://www.petsinthecity.ie/
15 th – 24 th May	International Literature Festival	Annual citywide event which is a programme of the City Arts Office Programme http://ilfdublin.com/
16 th May	Bealtaine @ Temple Bar	Festival which takes place in Temple Bar, main aim is to enhance the wellbeing and experience of older people in Temple Bar http://bealtaine.ie/news
16 th – 17 th May	Battle for the Bay	Annual kite surfing, free family friendly festival which takes place on Dollymount Beach http://battleforthebay.com/
Filming		
20 th Jan – 5 th June	Redback	Multi million tv crime drama series – City Wide.

**Simon Clarke,
Events Unit**

CULTURAL AUDIT & MAP PROJECT

In February 2020, Dublin City Council Culture Company will launch *Culture Near You*, a public-facing cultural map of the city.

This public resource can be found at www.dublincity.ie/culturenearyou and is one aspect of the larger Dublin City Cultural Audit and Map project.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

In 2017, Dublin City Council asked Dublin City Council Culture Company to locate and catalogue the city's "cultural assets" as part of the Dublin City Council Cultural Strategy 2016-2021.

Defining culture very broadly, the project gathered information on the places where culture happens and the people who make it happen. This includes a huge range spanning arts, parks, heritage, visitor attractions, sports and fitness, recreation, nature, science, beliefs, community, education, the cultural and creative industries and more.

The information gathered includes buildings, public spaces, facilities, festivals and organisations, and also informal networks, groups and individuals.

USERS OF THE CULTURAL AUDIT AND MAP

There are two main user groups for the Dublin City Cultural Audit & Map.

- For city residents and visitors: it provides information and gives cultural choices to those who are not sure what is available near where they live.
- For Dublin City Council: it is an intelligence project, creating a comprehensive dataset of the city's cultural infrastructure that will help get information, analyse the data and then make decisions about the city.

ACCESSING THE CULTURAL AUDIT AND MAP DATA

The project has internal and external interfaces:

- From February, all **Dublin City Council** staff can access it on their desktop via Corporate GIS. This will be updated nightly from the Cultural Audit Database. A small number of staff will have "superuser" access in order to analyse the data for particular purposes.

→ The public can access the cultural map on the CULTURE NEAR YOU website, which sits on the dublincity.ie website: dublincity.ie/culturenearyou

MAINTAINING AND UPDATING THE MAP

Dublin City Council Culture Company have hired a part-time Cultural Map Moderator who will manage the cultural database, add submissions that match the project criteria and update cultural assets on the map as the city's cultural landscape changes, as well as working with various sections of the Dublin City Council (CRES department) and the city's cultural sector to update map sections on a regular basis. It is possible to submit your own listing on the dataset also, online.

SPREADING THE WORD

From February 2020, Dublin City Council Culture Company are engaging in a stakeholder information campaign as well as a public promotional campaign for the project.

Internal briefings and meetings are already in train: in December/January, teams in Sports & Wellbeing, the Arts Office, Heritage and Smart Dublin are or will be briefed and others are scheduled. External briefings are planned for relevant national agencies and the cultural sector, as well as a breakfast briefing for key stakeholders in conjunction with the technical suppliers who helped build the project.

A series of public-facing promotional campaigns will be rolled out at various stages throughout the year focusing on particular aspects of the map: for example: "Get active" / "Get creative" / "Delve into heritage" / Get involved in your community". These will include:

- Posters, flyers distributed around the city via libraries, DCC area offices, cultural institutions and more
- Outside advertising at bus stops, metropoles and metropanels

- Digital promotion via Culture Company and DCC digital channels
- Video campaign to encourage the cultural sector to “get themselves on the map” as well as a video to promote the public-facing resource to the city’s public
- Press coverage campaign



Iseult Byrne,
CEO
Dublin City Council Culture Company

RICHMOND BARRACKS

At the Arts, Culture, Leisure and Recreation SPC on 11th November 2019 it was agreed that Dublin City Council would transfer the management and operations of Richmond Barracks to the Dublin City Council Culture Company following the success of Henrietta Street Tenement Museum.

The Culture Company commenced operations in Richmond Barracks on Monday the 13th January. Richmond Barracks remains an important centre for the local community. The Culture Company will continue to deliver tours, talks and will now offer longer opening hours and a makerspace and a pop up Library. This creates opportunities for people of all ages to participate in Cultural activities.

Richmond Barracks will continue to be available for venue hire to Dublin City Council, corporate clients and not for profit organisations and community groups.

For further information for events and future programming in Richmond Barracks please visit our website RichmondBarracks.ie

Jackie O'Reilly,
A/ Senior Executive Officer.

DUBLIN CITY PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVE

Re-opening of Coolock Library following refurbishment

Coolock library re-opened on 2nd January following a €3.5 million refurbishment project which saw the 40 year old facility transformed to a fully accessible 600 sqm public space. The library has been completely reconfigured with community needs in mind, providing a range of meeting rooms and a large sub-dividable activity space. The library has dedicated areas for children, teens and adults with reading areas stocked with books magazines and newspapers, to complement the wide range of digital resources on offer there and throughout the branch network. As well as these traditional reading resources, the library is filled with new and innovative technology, including a laptop loan option and access to a 3D printer, 3D scanning technology and laser cutting facilities in the dedicated Makerspace. A six month programme of events, workshops and drop-in clinics will commence in the Coolock Makerspace in late February. The library opened to a warm reception from the local community and received positive coverage in the mainstream media. An official launch event will take place on 13th February. Invites will issue to all councillors shortly.



The Creative Studio at Ballyfermot Library



The Creative Studio is a free to use digital maker space facilitating the creation of music recordings, podcasts, videos, digital stories and oral histories. And more besides. At the centre of this space are two recording booths providing library patrons with access to a variety of audio and video recording equipment and software.

Library patrons can record a music track, a song, create a demo, get some band practice in, deliver a Facebook Live event, record an audio or video podcast, and upload a video to Youtube.

To enquire further, contact [Ballyfermot Library](#) by email at ballyfermotlibrary@dublincity.ie

**Angela Cassidy,
Divisional Librarian**

PARKS & LANDSCAPE SERVICES

PARKS ADMINISTRATION

Parks Administration is an area of the Parks & Landscape Services delivering customer services including dealing with 29,000 emails, phone calls and service requests relating to Parks & Open Spaces across 5 Parks Districts.

Parks Administration also look after the annual letting agreements for 215 football pitches where there are currently 96 clubs registered. St. Anne's Park Tennis Club had 1,300 customers through the gates in 2019 and the Tennis Courts in Bushy Park and Herbert Park are constantly in use.

We also have Golf and Pitch & Putt courses which were well attended during the year. Over 34,500 customers used the facilities in 2019.

PARKS PLAYGROUNDS

SEAN MOORE PARK, SANDYMOUNT



SOLAR POWERED COMPACTOR LITTER BINS

Parks & Landscape are installing Solar Powered Compactor Litter Bins in Parks & Open Spaces. These bins will be placed where there is a high level of footfall at weekends and in our Green Flag Parks. The benefits of these Bins include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Capacity – 150 gallons / 570 litres
- Solar Powered – 8 hours daylight runs the unit for 1 month
- Sensing – detects fullness level and activity
- Compacts Waste – 8 times increase in average capacity
- Smart – monitors and reports fullness status to CLEAN
- GPS Enabled – ease install and fleet logistics
- Connected – Provides real-time status and data
- Advertising – for Parks or to generate Revenue
- Wi-Fi – a hotspot for Wi-Fi in the Parks



To date bins have been located in the following Parks

South City Parks

Brickfield, Mount Argus, Eamonn Ceannt, Markievicz, Bunting, Liffey Valley, Ringsend, Herbert, Belgrave Square and Palmerston Park

North City Parks

Albert College, Johnstown, Poppintree, John Paul, Griffith, Mellowes, Father Collins, Edenmore, Ellenfield, Fairview, St. Anne's

Centre City

Merrion, Pearse Square, Blessington Basin

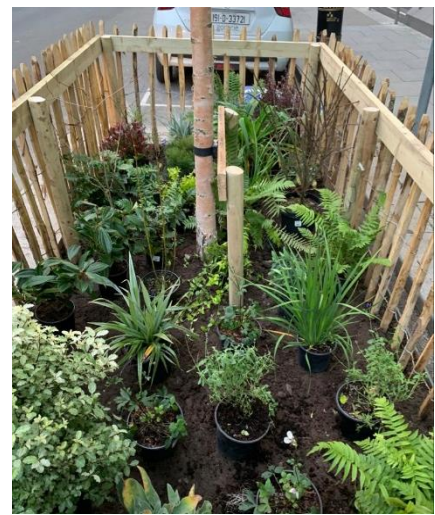
NORTH EAST INNER CITY GREENING:

1. Dorset Street Central Median





2. The new Tree Pits at James Joyce Street



3. Store Street Plaza



LIBERTIES GREENING

There were many projects undertaken during 2019 as part of the Liberties Greening Project and phase 2 will commence in 2020.

Cornmarket

The creation of a top soiled planting area allows for the addition of hedge planting that both acts as a screen to reduce the visual dominance of cars on a very busy road, the hedge will also act as a filter capturing exhaust fumes and also providing nesting and feeding habitat for biodiversity. As part of the works there is also incorporated a large planting bed for flowering herbaceous and shrub planting. Establishing both a positive visual aesthetic and biodiversity function.

The overall de-paved area equates to 130 sq m, providing a valuable SUDS measure in a very urban environment whilst protecting and future proofing the existing trees.



Review of Biodiversity Activities in 2019

The biodiversity section in Parks continued its programme of research, conservation and outreach in line with the Dublin City Biodiversity Action Plan, 2015-2020. The recruitment of a new Biodiversity Officer also took place, with the post being filled in late April.

Projects completed in 2019 included: a city and coastline otter survey; a rare flora and vegetation study of North Bull Island; studies on human impacts on Bull Island waterbirds; Marsh Fritillary surveys on Bull Island, and a pilot study to monitor the seagrass in south Dublin Bay. Projects that were continued or established in 2019 included: a Brent Geese monitoring programme with Exeter University; a pond restoration project with the Herpetological Society of Ireland; a native woodland and hedgerow survey; and an study of algae in Dublin Bay with the National University Ireland, Galway.



Otter Survey

A total of 196 otter signs and 25 otter holts were recorded across 128.5 km of watercourses and coastline in Dublin City Council's jurisdiction. This innovative study used a novel method of surveying the total river corridor as well as looking at river naturalness and human disturbance to identify the most important areas for otters.



Rare Flora Survey of North Bull Island

The 3-year survey of the rare flora of North Bull Island was completed in 2019. An additional 16 plant species were added to the overall plant list for the Island and in total, 318 plant species were recorded - including 40 significant species, 5 legally protected species, and 4 classified as 'Near Threatened' on Ireland's Red List of vascular plants.

Impact studies on the waterbirds using the Bull Island saltmarsh

The potential impacts on waterbirds by human activities (including disturbance by dogs) through the saltmarsh habitat at Bull Island was investigated. Of the disturbance events recorded, the majority were related to moderate interference by dogs. The study also revealed a high number of species using the area and the importance of the saltmarsh for the waterbirds of the greater Dublin Bay system.

Zostera Noltii monitoring in Dublin Bay

Coastwatch Ireland, in conjunction with NUIG, conducted a survey of the changes that occurred to the seagrass, *Zostera Noltii*, bed along the Merrion Strand in Dublin. Both temperature, heat stress, nitrate levels and human disturbance were measured, along with bird observations at the site. The results of the survey have fed into a Citizen Science project in the area with further research taking place next year.

Education and Outreach

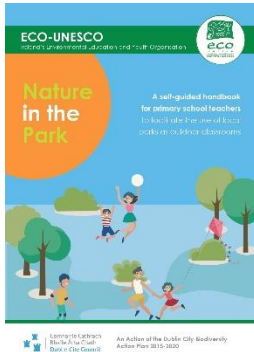
The Biodiversity Officer conducted education and outreach programmes throughout the year with members of the public and community groups, including working with communities on improving areas for pollinators, as well as tree and bulb planting with school groups in Dublin City parks.

Biodiversity villages, providing a platform for different environmental initiatives, were hosted at the St. Anne's Rose Festival and Battle for the Bay; with seminars, talks and wildlife walks hosted at the Red Stables Festival, Dublin City Neighbourhood Awards, National Biodiversity Week, Heritage Week and World Water Day



A biodiversity seminar was also hosted in December for National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS), environmental NGOs and community groups. Publicity for events was conducted through our website, social media posts on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. There were also articles featured in the Irish Times, as well as radio interviews with Dublin FM.

Nature in the Park



A new self-guided handbook for primary school teachers called 'Nature in the Park' was launched by the Lord Mayor, Nial Ring, on 22nd May 2019 to celebrate the UN International Day for Biological Diversity. Publicity for the event made the 'Image of the Day' in the Irish Times and was broadcast on RTE's News2Day programme. The handbook, devised in conjunction with ECO-UNESCO, provides teachers with the tools to conduct biology and ecology workshops in Dublin City parks.

North Bull Island Conservation Volunteers

The North Bull Island conservation volunteering programme continued for the third year, with a dedicated core group of 18 volunteers completing 976 volunteering hours. Volunteers carried out a range of flora and fauna surveys, as well as delivering workshops to members of the public. In 2019, workshops on otters, local geography, bird, bumble bee, seashell and seaweed identification, satellite imaging of invasive species, and land-based surveying for whales and dolphins were delivered to over 400 people.

The volunteers also took part in the third annual Marsh Fritillary survey with representatives from the National Biodiversity Data Centre, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the National Museum of Ireland. This year's survey showed 3.31 ha of suitable habitat being present, with 195 larval webs counted over 0.77 hectares. There were also ongoing surveys for shark eggs cases, the results of which fed into national data sets.



An Urgent Enquiry

'An Urgent Enquiry' project in collaboration with the arts and biodiversity offices in Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council and Wexford County Council took place in 2019. Dublin City Council's artist in residence, Fiona McDonald, looked at environmental sensors, and how plants and animals act as bio-indicators to help understand and mitigate the effects of the Climate Change. The project output will include an audio app that can be used on Bull Island to engage people in the importance of the site while respecting the conservation value of the area.

Strengthening collaboration

Biodiversity continued its programme of working in partnership with the Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership, Dublin Mountains Partnership, Heritage Council and other local authorities through meetings, conservation working groups, and establishing a Dublin county meeting group of biodiversity and heritage officers along with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Submissions to Planning Applications

Dublin Parks also completed submissions to the Oireachtas on its initiatives for pollinators and the Department of Agriculture's public consultation on the control of dogs, as well as feeding into the Dublin City Climate Change Action Plan and numerous submissions relating to planning across the city.



CAPITAL PROJECTS 2020

Project	Progress/Current Status	Next Stage
Le Fanu Skatepark	Contractors on site	Expected completion Q1 / Early Q2
Bridgefoot Street Park	Site clearance in progress	Contractor on site Q1
Liffey Vale, Liffey Valley Park	Public engagement workshops will be complete in Q1	Expected to go to Part 8 in Q2
UNESCO Biosphere Discovery Centre	Detail designs being finalised following public consultation	EIA to be submitted to An Bord Pleanala in Q1
Peoples Park, Ballyfermot	Series of public engagement sessions	Design / Plan to be presented to Area Committee in Q1
Stardust Memorial Park	Improvement works have commenced (new gates, wildflower planting, rose garden redevelopment)	Continued improvements to be complete by 14 th February 2021 (40 th Anniversary)
Wolfe Tone Park refurbishment	Detail design completed	Construction tender to issue in Q1
NEIC greening strategy	Nine locations complete in 2019 (Dorset Street, James Joyce Street, Belvedere Place, Amiens Street, Store Street, Gloucester Place and Seville Place.	New locations to be confirmed - Phase 2
Sculpture Dublin	Project to promote sculpture and provide for new sculpture in Parks and the Public Realm	Report to SPC in February 2020
Stoneybatter Greening	Public engagement complete	Report to be published
Dublin Historic Lamp Standards	Lamps repaired and cleaned	Installation of lamps in Croppies Acre
Jewish Cemetery, Ballybough	Conservation plan in place	Enabling works to commence

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