

**To the Chairperson and Members of the
South East Area Committee**

Report of the Director of Services, South City

City Recovery

The South East Area Offices continue to play a key role in preparing for the full reopening of businesses in the city, including advancing outdoor dining opportunities and animation of spaces. While the city centre is key to recovery, urban villages also have a significant role to play. We are engaging with businesses on both an individual and group level as appropriate. Managing the competing demands on the public realm will be a challenge over the next few months.

Grand Canal

A meeting was held on 16th January 2021 with Waterways Ireland representatives and Councillors to discuss ongoing management and maintenance of the canals in the city and to agree a new structure for interaction between Waterways Ireland and DCC. The first quarterly meeting was held on 14th October 2020 via Microsoft Teams and the second meeting was held on 5th February 2021 via Microsoft Teams. The next meeting is due to be held in May 2021, invitations to issue shortly.

Portobello Harbour Square

We met with City Architects Department and Public Realm to make a plan for public engagement in relation to the redesign of the square. A meeting took place on the 28th January with SEA Councillors to discuss the proposed public consultation for Portobello Plaza. A meeting was held with City Architects, Roads, Planning and Public Realm to discuss how we might proceed. The architects for the hotel confirmed that they plan to commence development in the summer. A meeting will be arranged with City Architects and hotel architects and other internal departments to discuss arrangements for managing the build and the renovation of the square. This meeting is unlikely to take place until July 2021 when developer's project team is in place. A further meeting will be arranged with Councillors soon afterwards to set out in some detail how the initial phase of public consultation will proceed.

Social media campaign was launched on 22nd April 2021 which focuses on the problems associated with outdoor drinking and the impact on the local community in Portobello. This was a particular problem last summer with very few places open in the City due to the Covid 19 situation. The social media campaign is a collaboration between Dublin City Council, An Garda Síochána and Waterways Ireland and we intend to launch very shortly. A further mural along Portobello Harbour has been started and will be completed on weekend of 30th April. A mural celebrating 30 years of the Polish Embassy in Ireland will be delivered in June along a section of the canal side of the hoarding. The mural will be a collaboration between a Polish and Irish artist.

Rathgar Village Improvement Plan (VIP)

Herzog Park, Rathgar – Final Phase

The Rathgar Village Improvement Plan (VIP) was approved by the South East Area Committee in January 2015. One of the main objectives that emerged during the formation of the plan was the redevelopment of Herzog Park. The South East Area Office undertook local consultation and worked with Redscape and Park Services to create a plan which was brought

to Part 8 and approved at the January 2017 meeting of the City Council. The final phase of the works planned for 2021 include the re-alignment of the front boundary of the park and the revised car park layout, as set out in the Part 8 permission. It was proposed that the tender for the car park works would issue by end of Q1 2021, but this has been delayed due to resourcing issues in Road Construction section. We are awaiting a proposed timeline from Road Design and Construction Section. Boundary treatment and further landscaping inside the park will be required as part of the works to finish the project in 2021.

Ranelagh Gardens Park

Works to light / enhance the main entrance archway were completed in February 2021. Renewal of display boards at entrances to the park will be carried out in 2021 using Discretionary Funds.

Ringsend Irishtown Local Environment Improvement Plan (LEIP)

The Ringsend Irishtown Local Environment Improvement Plan (LEIP) was adopted at the June 2017 South East Area Committee meeting. Following that it was proposed to prepare planning applications under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, for the redesign of (1) Library Square and (2) Cambridge Road.

**Both of these projects are now listed on the Capital Programme 2021 – 2023 and have been awarded funding from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF).*

Library Square: (Mitchell & Associates) Meetings with internal stakeholders were held during September and October 2018. A meeting was held with local businesses to discuss parking / loading arrangements on 5th December 2018. A presentation was made to area councillors on 13th February 2019 and a preliminary draft design was brought to a public meeting for all stakeholders on Thursday 21st March 2019 in the Ringsend Irishtown Community Centre (RICC). Following a period of consultation up to 19th April 2019, submissions were received and were reviewed by the project team. A revised design was brought before the Public Realm Working Group on 22nd October 2019. A meeting of all internal stakeholders was held on 28th November 2019 and further meetings were required with key departments. Due to resourcing issues Roads Design and Construction Section will not be able to oversee completion of project to Part 8 stage. We are therefore preparing a tender brief to ad appoint consultants to address all outstanding issues and bring the project to Part 8 stage in 2021. In the meantime we are engaging with internal stakeholders to identify all outstanding issues. Councillors will be briefed before we commence the formal Part 8 process.

Cambridge Road: An initial public workshop in relation to Cambridge Road was held on Thursday 30th August 2018 in the RICC. Meetings with Redscape Architects and internal stakeholders took place in September and October and designs were drafted based on consultations which were brought to a second public workshop/meeting on 28th November 2018. Pre Part 8 report and drawings issued in December 2018 did not meet the requirements of E & T Department, however. Further information was required in relation to road design and drainage requirements for the proposal in particular. In 2019 Road Design & Construction Section, E & T Department, agreed to take on the completion of the project to Part 8 stage. Detailed meetings are ongoing with between Roads Design & Construction and internal departments with a view to agreeing an overall design before commencing Part 8 planning process. Parks Services Department has requested that a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey be carried out prior to Part 8 to identify location of underground services and any impact on tree planting. Drainage Department welcomes the provision of additional greening providing a SuDS benefit and a proposed new surface water main is being considered in conjunction with Irish Water. Agreement of the final design for the road has been delayed as we wait for the NTA to finalise the route for the East Coast Trail (ECT) which will either traverse Cambridge Road or run along part of Cambridge Road from Canon Mooney Gardens to Thorncastle Street. Work on GPR survey and preliminary design of new surface water main will continue as we await final decision on ECT route from NTA. Due to resource constraints

in E & T Department it is likely we will have to employ a consultant to bring this project to Part 8 planning application stage. It will be necessary also to bring new design back to local consultation prior to lodgement of the Part 8.

Grand Canal and Portobello and on-street drinking

There has been problems in Portobello and in other public spaces in the city with large crowds gathering outdoors particularly with the recent fine spell of weather. Problems then ensue where people are drinking in public with no toilet facilities in the area. The problem in Portobello this year is exacerbated by the fact that there is nothing else open in the city due to the lockdown restrictions.

A meeting was arranged for Councillors with An Garda Síochána and they have devoted significant resources to dealing with this issue.

Waste Management Crews arranged for the plaza to be cleaned and additional bins will be provided. Councillors have requested that a meeting be arranged with reps. of the residents in Portobello and this will be arranged.

There are similar issues currently in the Grand Canal Dock Area

The Cabbage Garden

The Monthly Stakeholders Meeting for the Cabbage Garden took place last week. The pitch refurbishment has been delayed by the lock down restrictions and the latest news is that the contractor is due to start work at the end of June.

We are hoping to progress play possibilities/opportunities for the Cabbage Garden and additional funding has been earmarked for this.

We are also progressing a mural on Cathedral Lane in conjunction with the Iveagh Trust.

O'Carroll Villas

Housing maintenance have ordered play equipment for toddlers and we await its installation. The other outstanding piece of work here is for the railings to be painted.

CCTV

We are gradually improving our CCTV within our Housing Complexes during the current year and the work to date on this is making a real difference. One consequence of the improved CCTV is that anti-social behaviour has moved from Glovers and Mercer to O'Carroll Villas. We will now need to consider the provision of CCTV for O'Carroll Villas.

Glovers Court

Housing Maintenance are currently dealing with a rat infestation problem in Glovers Court.

Pearse House Regeneration

Housing and Community Services Department Dublin City Council applied for social housing capital funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) with its four stage capital approval process. The Housing and Community Services Department (DCC) are currently liaising with the Department of Housing and Heritage with regards to securing stage 1 approval for the regeneration of Pearse House.

Choice Based Letting

Our Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme for both Pearse House and Leo Fitzgerald House closed for applicants on the 8th March 2021. The response to the CBL scheme was very positive, with a large number of applicants applying for both schemes.

Rosary Hall

After receiving extra funding of €240,000 which was approved at the April City Council meeting (as well as €125,000 already allocated) it has been decided to retender the entire proposed works. Meetings have been arranged with both main community groups and consultant architects for early May to outline the proposed works which include mechanical & electrical

works, fire safety works, remedial works and lift replacement. Tender documentation regarding the full works is currently being prepared.

The Area Manager is also engaging in meetings with both community groups regarding governance of the facility and a draft management plan for the running of the facility is being progressed.

Age Friendly Initiative Harold's Cross

The inaugural meeting of the Age Friendly Committee took place on January 28th 2020 and was well attended. A draft report was submitted by the Harold's Cross Village Community Council (HCVCC) in conjunction with Rob Chester, Area Community Officer and it was agreed to progress a number of these proposals funding permitting. In tandem, it is proposed to hold a workshop to further engage with the residents and ensure particularly any elderly resident who was not consulted has an opportunity to contribute to the process and be included. A further meeting took place March 10th and was well attended and the plan to date was reviewed. Obviously with ongoing restrictions the facilitation of a workshop to get the views of the wider community remains deferred until guidelines permit.

A subgroup under the Housing SPC has been convened to look at the City-wide Age Friendly Strategy. Under this structure, submissions for funding may be advanced, including the Harold's Cross project.

Due to the current government guidelines and restrictions all physical meetings are currently postponed until further guidelines allow for larger meetings. Meetings are currently taking place online.

A defibrillator has been installed in Harold's Cross as part of the Age Friendly Initiatives.

The committee congratulated the HX Grow Hub for winning a City Neighbourhood Award and the group continues to grow in numbers.

It has been agreed by the elected members that further monies (€7.500) will be allocated to this Age Friendly initiative in the Discretionary funding for 2021.

8 IT Age Friendly tablets have been distributed to residents and have been very well received. Cliff Run Media have supplied over 1000 units to established Age Friendly Projects across the country. The tablet comes with one year's free WIFI and is dignity proofed to make access as easy as possible. Funding of €2,000 from the HX Age Friendly project, €1,000 from the Central Age Friendly Fund, and a final €1,000 from our Community Budget. A list of recipients was prepared in conjunction with HXVCC.

It is anticipated that when the works are completed on Rosary that it can play a pivotal role in Age Friendly activities going forward.

Next meeting has been scheduled for May 26th.

Rutland Grove

Meeting took place on 30th January with traffic engineers, Les Moore from Parks, Area Manager and staff and Cllr. Pat Dunne. It was agreed at the meeting that Traffic Section would look again at the feasibility of putting dedicated parking as per Part 8. Should it be possible to implement, the design would need to be progressed and costed. Parks are also prepared to look at enhancements at the entrance with additional trees etc.

Traffic have indicated that staff are currently seconded to be involved in DCC's Covid mobility interventions and are working on very fast rapid interventions throughout the city. Therefore they have very little spare resources at present to be involved with any possible Rutland Grove parking changes as other Covid mobility projects are taking priority.

The Area Manager and Public Domain Officer met with the secretary of Rutland Grove Association to discuss ongoing levels of anti-social behaviour. As a result, signage is to be upgraded at the entrance to the bring centre to assist with prosecutions. Extra security measures are also being considered at this entrance.

Planters were installed at the entrance to Rutland Grove to enhance the environment and assist with ongoing Illegal parking at the entrance and have been well received by community. A meeting took place between the Area Manager, the Parks Section and the secretary of the residents' association on Friday 26th March to initiate discussions around the best utilisation of the co-funded €20,000 for the improvement works.

St. Pancras, Mount Tallant

It is expected that acquisition of the units will be completed within the next few weeks. It is now confirmed DCC will be purchasing 4x2 beds 7x1 beds. Selections for the units have been completed and we are currently undertaking estate management checks on selected applicants.

Choice Based Lettings

Two more units in Rathmines Avenue were allocated under the choice based letting scheme in April and we expect to advertise further units in Rathmines Avenue in the coming weeks.

Following on from the successful introduction of the Choice Based Letting Scheme in Rathmines Avenue and Grove Road flats, we now intend to expand the scheme to include Lissadel Court, Senior Citizens' complex.

We have taken this decision, following consultation with our Allocations Section, as a result of difficulties encountered in letting the current vacancies. These vacancies have been created following the transfer of a number of tenants to the newly built Raleigh Square and Armagh Road complexes. Over the last few weeks we have had a number of refusals from applicants who have been offered bedsit units in the complex. Accordingly delays have been encountered in letting units as we then have to carry out further selections of applicants on the older persons' lists. By using Choice Based Letting we will only be assessing applications from applicants who are actually interested in these units and this will reduce the time taken to re-let the units. It should be noted that this decision will only apply to the bedsit units as the more recently built 1 bed bungalows are in high demand and we do not encounter problems letting those units.

CCTV Benbulbin Road

Following discussions with our Data Protection Office we have now agreed a course of action that will allow us to progress the installation of CCTV at Benbulbin Road. A report was submitted to the South East Area JPC and they have endorsed the project. We have now written to the Garda Commissioner to seek his authorisation to allow us to install the system. We have received an acknowledgment from the Commissioner's office but no substantive reply as of yet. Assuming we are given authorisation, this will address the concerns of our Data Protection Office in regards to DCC having the authority to install CCTV in a public place. It is a requirement under the current Code of Practice that An Garda Síochána will agree to be joint data controller of the system. Once these steps have been completed we will undertake a consultation process with local stakeholders.

Acorn IT Tablets

A roll out of the 16 IT packages for older people (which include a 10-inch Tablet Screen/full IT support/one year's free broadband) took place in March as a pilot project. Initial feedback from client users (VIPs) and sponsors assisting them has been very positive. A review will take place shortly, and a 2nd round has been suggested for the Kimmage Rathmines LEA.

Bushy Park Market

Bushy Park Market restarted on Saturday the 24th of April from 10am to 4pm and will continue every week for the spring and summer. Local residents, concerned about the impact of traffic movement and parking in Rathdown Estate were informed. A potential

solution to the easing of congestion along Rathdown Avenue, in particular, is awaited from our Roads and Traffic Department.

Cabbage Patch & Cathedral Lane

Monthly meetings with various local stakeholders continue with an aim to improve the local environment and develop activities in the park. The football pitch is due to be re-laid shortly. The proposal for a mural for Cathedral Lane is progressing.

Community Clean-Ups

We are seeing the annual ramping up of local Community Clean-Ups from Resident, Tidy Towns and other local residents keen to improve their estates, roads and shopping areas. Working in conjunction with the Public Domain Unit, we can supply a small amount of equipment on request. We ask that groups give plenty of notice to arrange for collection of waste material.

Community/Garden Gigs

We will be restarting our series of summer community and garden gigs in May for the spring and summer season. This activity replaces attendances at our regular tea dances, street parties and festivals by our older residents. Initially music will be provided at three venues, Merrick House, Eastwell Ladies Home and Orwell Men's Shed, with the range of venues expanding across the South East Area as the weather improves for June and July. 'One on one' garden gigs will also re-commence for those isolated older persons who cannot or are unable to leave their homes.

Covid-19 Community Response

We continue to receive referrals to help those who are in isolation due to the restrictions. Groups and organisations assisting and providing support include St. Andrew's Resource Centre, The Holy Trinity Church and Maxwell Court Meal Service (Rathmines), Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre, The Fair Play Café, Portobello St. Kevin's, Ranelagh Community Response, The Acropolis Group, Donnybrook Tidy Towns, Ballsbridge Tidy Towns, Serve the City, Temple Bar Company, the South City Partnership supported food bank in Bluebell, local Gardaí and other local providers.

We are also continuing to support the meals services and care packages which are delivered to vulnerable residents over bank holiday periods. Ranelagh Community Response, St. Andrew's Resource Centre, Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre and the Iveagh Trust are all involved in this service and are currently planning for the forthcoming May and June bank holiday weekends.

Crumlin Community Clean-Up Group

The Community Team continues to support the huge range of activities and programmes initiated by this group. Their weekly clean ups have become a focus for a broad range of environmental works across the area.

Environmental Projects

The following is a list of Friends of Green Spaces/planter projects/greening projects which we've supported (or are in the process of supporting) so far this year.

1. Ballsbridge Village/Tidy Towns
2. Bath Avenue/Londonbridge Road
3. Beech Hill Court
4. Beggars Bush Court
5. Boyne Street
6. Bremen Avenue
Bremen Road
7. Carmelite Centre/York Street Area

8. Charlemont Court
9. Charlemont
10. Cowper
11. Derrynane Gardens/O'Connell Gardens/BADRA
12. Donnybrook Village/Tidy Towns
13. Dunville Avenue
14. Durrow Road/Lismore Road
15. Eblana Villas (Being examined)
16. Elm Park Terrace, Terenure
17. George Reynolds House
18. Gheel Autism, Milltown (Being examined)
19. Grand Canal Wharf (Being examined)
20. Harold's Cross Village/Tidy Towns
21. Home Villas/Pembroke Cottages, Donnybrook
22. Irishtown Village/Tidy Towns
23. Iveagh Trust
24. Kevin Street/New Bride Street
25. Lansdowne Park
26. Leinster Road
27. Leo Fitzgerald House
28. Leukos Road, Ringsend
29. Long Lane
30. Lower Rathmines Road
31. McDonagh House
32. Military Road
33. Milltown Parish Centre
34. Mount Argus Grove/Church Park Estate
35. Nicholas Street/Bride Street (being examined)
36. Northbrook Avenue
37. O'Rahilly House
38. Oxford Grove
39. Palmerston Grove
40. Pearse House (through St. Andrews Resource Centre)
41. Pearse Street
42. Portobello/Tidy Towns
43. Powers Court
44. Ranelagh Close
45. Ranelagh Village/Tidy Towns
46. Rathgar Village
47. Rathmines Park
48. Ringsend Village/Tidy Towns
49. Ross Road
50. Sandymount Tidy Towns
51. Smock Alley
52. South Georgian Quarter
53. St. Andrew's Resource Centre
54. Terenure Village
55. The Grotto, Bremen Avenue (Different to 'Bremen Avenue' above)
56. The Pumphouse, Irishtown
57. Verschoyle Court
58. Whelan House
59. Whitefriar Gardens
60. Woodstock Court
61. York Road, Ringsend

Crumlin Walking Trail and Map

Following a meeting of the Crumlin Historical Society, the Crumlin Walking Trail and Map Project has recommenced. Draft images and text has been selected for 15 sites of interest in the area and our designer is preparing the first version of the brochure for review by the group and the Community Team.

Fragments of Time

Fragments of Time is a collection of poetry, prose and painting that was made as a creative response by participants and entrants to the "Holding It Together Apart" creative practices, workshops and competitions. The collection has been collated by Anne Tannam, creative coach and produced by Muirne Bloomer- the creative producer of "Holding It Together Apart." It is supported by the South East Area Community Development Team and LCDC - Local Community Development Committee - Pandemic funding.

Headway Ireland

Headway Ireland has a rehabilitation centre in Sandymount, providing services and support for people affected by acquired brain injury. Prizes have been donated to Headway's online quiz night scheduled for 30th April.

HX Grow Project

The Community Team continues to support the range of activity run by this group including plant exchanges and their online organic gardening course

Kimmage Christmas Tree

Pre-development work has begun on arranging for a Christmas tree and lights for Kimmage Village. The Public Lights and Parks Departments have been asked for their input into the proposed location at the junction of Sundrive Road and Lower Kimmage Road. This location was chosen given its high visibility and wide stretch of pavement. If the site is deemed suitable, we will canvas local businesses for their input and local resident groups were informed of the project at a meeting on 13/4/21.

'Let's Have a Chat' Gardening Programme

Due to the enormous success of this project being run by the Active IT Society in Terenure, the Community Team has agreed to support two online sessions per month for March, April, May and June. Ordinary members of the public who would like to attend these sessions with organic gardener, Fiann O'Nualláin, will now be admitted. They can have the Zoom link by contacting the Community Team.

Harold's Cross Virtual Festival 2021

Planning for the Harold's Cross Festival 2021 which will be entirely virtual and will take place from the 8th – 15th of May continues, with two meetings per month on Zoom. A comprehensive programme of online activity, with something for all ages, is in the planning stage. The Community Team will be hosting the third in our series of lectures on the River Poddle with historian-in-residence, Cathy Scuffil, on the 10th of May at 8pm and we will be running Pandemic Pets online, in lieu of our Community Dog Show.

New born Knitting

New born knitting packs, comprising wool, needles and patterns continue to be distributed to residents of Beech Hill Court, Beggars Bush Court, Cambridge Court, Charlemont Court, Heskin Court, Powers Court, Ranelagh Close, Verschoyle Court and Woodstock Court sheltered housing complexes with baby blankets, cardigans, hats and teddies for new born babies and their older siblings to be sent to refugee camps on the Greek island of Samos.

Older Person's Activity Packs

Activity packs for older people were distributed on a pilot basis to residents of selected sheltered housing schemes during March/April which proved very successful. In conjunction with our Social Inclusion Unit, we will be distributing 1,000 more packs (to include jigsaws, puzzle books, gardening seed, stress ball and more) to older people in the community at large, from mid-May onwards.

Plant Sales/Giveaways

As our annual programme of May plant sales is unable to take place this year. We will be arranging deliveries of free summer bedding (and in some cases, perennials) to our villages and over 25 community groups in the South East Area. These events must observe social distancing and Covid 19 safety protocols. Therefore no advance publicity will be arranged. Local groups are tasked with distributing plants in a responsible manner.

Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre

We are continuing to provide support to the Movie Club, Bingo Club, Youth Service and Friday Night Family Quarantine Quiz which are currently taking place virtually.

Ringsend May Day Festival

This festival is organised by the Ringsend & Irishtown Community Centre with support from the South East Area Office and local stakeholders. It will take place online this year with the main event being a musical showcase of local artists. Former footballer, Niall Quinn, will appear as a special guest/keynote speaker.

In the run up to the May bank holiday weekend, the local schools, crèche, afterschool club, youth groups, residents' associations, sports groups, active retirement groups and nursing homes will be provided with art materials and invited to submit art and positive messages, to form an exhibition to be hung on the trees and railings of the centre.

Talk About Youth Project

Support is being provided to this project, which works with approximately 150 young people, from Pearse House, Leo Fitzgerald, Markievicz, St. Andrew's Court, Conway Court, Macken Villas, Longboat Quay, Hanover Quay, Gallery Quay; Pearse Grove, Princess Street South, Boyne Street, Fenian Street and Creighton Street. Over the past year, the project has been working not only with young people, but with families also.

Village Traders

We are working closely with three village trader groups on revamping planters and trying to improve the overall visual amenity of the space for the proposed summer reopening of businesses. Rathgar, Terenure and Kimmage Trader Groups are assessing what can be achieved with support from the Community Team.

In what has been very difficult times for Local Community Groups and Volunteer Organisations, we are very grateful to all those involved in the above for their commitment and efforts.

Waste Management / Environmental Services

- New Shane Sutton mural in Portobello (Lower Deck side)
- "Portobello Matters" video Launched 22nd April
- Graffiti removal ongoing across south east area
- Support of Community Clean ups/ National Spring Clean)
- Mespil Road/ Wilton benches (X 20 repaired and repainted)
- Sean Moore Roundabout wildflower planting
- Sean Moore Roundabout skirting painted 29th/30th April

Abandoned Bike Removal

49 abandoned bikes removed for April. Total YTD 105 removed.

Joint Policing Subcommittee

The next JPC meeting is scheduled for 9.30am on Thursday 24th June (through Zoom). We are still open to applications for new members from the community and business sectors.

SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE

DUBLIN CITY SPORT & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP REPORT

MAY 2021



Delivery of DCSWP programmes for May 2021 remain subject to Covid-19 public health restrictions. With the new roadmap for reopening announced on Thursday 29th April, the number of face to face DCSWP programmes will slowly resume across our communities. Limited re-engagement with schools has commenced following the return to education.

Supporting communities across the city to stay active and healthy regardless of age, ability or background remains a priority for local authorities. Over the past year, DCSWP has focused on exploring and developing new and innovative ways to deliver on the fundamental goals set out in STRIDE, the strategic vision for the delivery of sport and physical activity in Dublin City.

Online/Social Media Supports:

- Twitter: [@dccsportsrec](https://twitter.com/dccsportsrec)
- Facebook: [DublinCitySportandWellbeing](https://www.facebook.com/DublinCitySportandWellbeing)
- Instagram: [@dublincitysportandwellbeing](https://www.instagram.com/dublincitysportandwellbeing)
- Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership Virtual Hub: dcwspub.ie

Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Virtual Hub

On Monday 15th March 2021 Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership was proud to announce the launch of the new Virtual Hub. The Hub was created to ensure DCSWP continues the very important work of supporting communities across the city and Dublin City Council staff to stay physically and mentally active in a safe environment during this very challenging time. Once restrictions are eased and lifted the Hub will also provide an invaluable resource in terms of enhancing and supporting face to face programmes.

Delivery of programmes via the Hub kicked off with our Change for Life programme which has been bringing people across the city together since 2013 as they embark on an 8-week journey towards health and happiness. Over 2000 people registered for the 2021 online programme. Regardless of age, gender or ability there is something for everyone including fitness classes, nutrition talks and weekly challenges.

The programme concluded for 2021 in early May. An update on further Hub programmes will follow in the next report.

GAGA (Get All Girls Active) - Supporting Women in Sport

The Woman in Sport 'GAGA' (Get All Girls Active) has resumed following the return to on-site education. Five schools DCSWP applied for and secured funding to roll out this initiative which led to the development and delivery of a school physical activity and exercise programme aimed at teenage girls aged 12-15 years. The programme is a wellbeing project led by Children & Young People's Services Board and delivered in partnership with DCSWP, Healthy

Ireland, Tusla and Pobal. While the return has been limited to two schools for safety reasons, plans are in place to further expand delivery as restrictions ease.

Keep Well Campaign

'Keep Well', the Healthy Ireland and central government backed national campaign was launched in October last year. The campaign aims to highlight the critical importance of minding ourselves both physically and mentally during these uncertain times. Keep Well is described as a 'call to action' to everyone across society whether at individual, organisational or voluntary level to support people in discovering the many ways we can work together to build community resilience.

With older people in our communities facing a lengthy cocooning period, supporting their physical and mental health in the confinement of home became a matter of priority for DCSWP from the start of the crisis.

Keep Well has provided a great opportunity for DCSWP to continue to prioritise older and more vulnerable people and further enable them to stay active and healthy in the safety of their own homes.

When planning the online Keep Well Older Adult programme, careful consideration was given to how DCSWP could best support people to keep active virtually. Officers worked closely with individuals to ease any concerns - advising on issues around technology and engaging with coaches familiar to many of our participants.

Chair-based fitness classes were chosen with adaptations in place to ensure the programme is fully inclusive.

The classes are delivered every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11.30am and provide a mixture of fitness, Pilates and yoga geared towards improving strength and balance.

- DCSWP reports weekly metrics to the LGMA via DCC's Transformation Unit and the Housing & Community section.

- The final two Keep Well initiatives are in the planning stages and will commence following the easing of current restrictions.

Orienteering

In late 2020 DCSWP teamed up with Orienteering Ireland to support young people, families and adults of all abilities to take up something a little different. Orienteering provides great opportunities for everyone to develop important life skills, build self-esteem and learn the benefits of teamwork in the great outdoors. Training workshops delivered by Orienteering Ireland in October 2020 have provided DCSWP Sport Officers with the knowledge and practical understanding of teaching the basic skills of orienteering to get groups up and running.

DCSWP has also worked closely with Orienteering Ireland around the use of technology to map parks and locations across the Dublin region that can potentially play host to orienteering programmes and maximise the delivery of this very positive outdoor initiative in parks and green spaces in the city.

DCSWP continues to engage with Orienteering Ireland around the roll out and delivery of the programme which will commence shortly.

Training

- Online Safeguarding Training to support compliance in local clubs and organisations resumed with Safeguarding 1 Training on 15th February. Training is provided by DCSWP Officers. Safeguarding 2 & 3 will be advertised following this and further programmes will be delivered on an on-demand basis.

- In partnership with CARA, the online Disability & Inclusion and Autism in Sport training programmes launched in 2020. This is part of a series of online Disability in Sport training programmes already in operation. The programme for 2021 is delivered on the first Tuesday of every month on an ongoing basis.
- Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership has recently been invited to apply for the CARA 'Xcessible' Bronze medal award. Through the Xcessible programme, CARA enables Local Sports Partnerships to provide meaningful opportunities for people of disabilities to take part, sustain participation and excel in sport and physical activity. DCSWP has 12-18 months before providing evidence of our work and journey to the Xcessible committee. DCSWP Sport Officers and administrative staff are currently completing their Xcessible training to support the application.

Sport for Young People – Small Grant Scheme 2021

Sports clubs operating within the administrative area of Dublin City Council and affiliated to a National Governing Body have been invited to apply for financial assistance from the Sport for Young People – Small Grant Scheme (4-21 years of age) which is funded and administered by Sport Ireland and the Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership.

The scheme, its purpose and information on the application process, was advertised on 31st March on the DCC website and all social media platforms. It was also communicated via email to national governing bodies and over 180 clubs on the DCSWP club database. Clubs across the city were then afforded three weeks to submit applications before the closing date of Friday 23rd April.

Decisions on the 170 applications received for 2021 will be submitted in due course.

Co-Funded Programmes

Engagement with schools and delivery has resumed in keeping with restrictions. School programmes (Athletics, Boxing, Cricket, Football, Rowing and Rugby) delivered by DCSWP co-funded officers will continue and expand.

Online supports for all age groups continue.

Upcoming:

DCSWP events/programmes will be supporting and linking in with the following national and international programmes

Date:	Programme/Event/Initiative	Target Group:
1- 31 May	Bealtaine Festival	Age & Opportunity
15th May	Walk to School Safely	Green Schools An Taisce
31st May - June 6th	European Mile	Athletics Ireland
14-20 June	Men's Health Awareness Week	Men's Health Forum In Ireland
21st June	International Day of Yoga	United Nations

- Development of upcoming face to face programmes are in the planning stages with Covid-safe outdoor summer multi-sport programmes for communities remaining a priority.

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