

Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Economic Development & Enterprise

Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 at 15.30pm

In the Council Chambers, City Hall, Dublin 2

Members Present:

Cllr. Paul McAuliffe (Chair), Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr. Deirdre Heney, Cllr. Gaye Fagan, Cllr. Noeleen Reilly, Cllr. Paddy Bourke, Cllr. Greg Kelly, Ms. Denise Brophy, Ms. Evanne Kilmurray.

Officials:

Brendan Kenny, Assistant Chief Executive, Culture, Community, Economic and Emergency.

Mary Mac Sweeney, Senior Executive Officer, LEO Dublin City.

Steven O’Gara, Staff Officer, LEO Dublin City.

Bryan Coughlan, Assistant Staff Officer, LEO Dublin City.

Alan McDonnell, Assistant Staff Officer, LEO Dublin City

Anthony McGuinness, Web Technician, Dublin.ie

Robert Hughes, Staff Officer, Dublin.ie

Peter Dee, Senior Staff Officer, Dublin.ie

Minutes:

1. Ms. Evanne Kilmurray presented an update to the committee on the work of Inner City Enterprise (ICE). She highlighted the work done to promote Social Enterprise and the first Social Enterprise Awards, supported through DCC funding, held in 2015. A video was presented showcasing the 4 Social Enterprise Award winners funded through ICE (Domegrown, Ecomattress, Walkinstown Green Café and Triftify) and their positive impact on the community. The Social Enterprise Awards will be held again in 2016 with funding from DCC.

The work of ICE was commended by the committee members present. Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe asked the Manager to examine how waste management could assist Ecomattress in sourcing mattresses for their business and the Manager confirmed that this has already been arranged.

2. Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe asked if there were any matters arising from the SPC meeting of 22nd of October 2015. The minutes of that meeting were adopted and there were no further matters arising for today’s meeting.

3. Mary MacSweeney, SEO LEO Dublin City, presented on the current work of the LEO updating on the LECP, FDI survey, Dublin Economic Monitor Q4 2016, Grangegorman development committee, Dublin.ie, Design4growth, Showcase, Enterprise Week and Employment Survey.

Denise Brophy, Dublinia Ltd, enquired about funding levels for LEO Dublin City for 2016. Ms. MacSweeney confirmed that the 2016 funding did not deviate significantly from the 2015 levels and that national funding did not reflect the higher populations in certain counties. Ms. Brophy highlighted that this was unsatisfactory as Dublin City had the higher proportion of business start ups.

Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe thanked Ms. Mac Sweeney for a comprehensive overview of the work of LEO and a discussion took place about the Dublin Economic Monitor. It was thought that the limited exposure of recent quarterly launches for the Dublin Economic Monitor led to a situation where the monitor is not as talked about as would be expected for a publication of its importance.

Ms. Brophy asked if future publications of the Dublin Economic Monitor could include a metric on the capacity of the accommodation stock in Dublin to facilitate tourist visits.

Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe also asked for the DCC branding to be increased in relation to the Design4Growth programme.

4. Mr. Anthony McGuinness gave a presentation on the impending re-launch of the Dublin.ie brand and website, the function of which is to promote Dublin to a national and international audience. The site focuses on the three themes of living, working and learning in Dublin.

The Committee commended the Dublin.ie team on their work and what they have achieved to date. Cllr. Paddy Bourke asked for clarification on the function of the AT branding and the Dublin.ie team as the lead for the project. Mr. Robert Hughes clarified the role of the team. Cllr. Bourke highlighted the importance of international relations and identified Liverpool as a key partner.

5. Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe outlined some of the recent changes to the role and function of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC including the addition of casual trading, Markets & Tourism. International Relations will report to the Planning SPC.

However, Chairman Cllr. Paul McAuliffe, felt that there should be some contact between the two SPC's in relation to the International Relations & Tourism function and asked if anyone would like to volunteer as a raconteur.

Cllr. Paddy Bourke volunteered for this role.

Ms. Denise Brophy proposed that Eoghan O'Mara, Chief Executive of the Irish Tourist Industry Confederation would present to the committee on the economic impact of tourism at the next meeting. This was agreed to by the committee.

6. The next meeting was confirmed for 22nd March 2016.