



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Report to Arts, Culture, Leisure
and Recreation SPC
21st February 2022
Item No. 7

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. STRATEGY AND POLICY

EVENTS AND FILMING

The Events Unit have established an outdoor events framework that is available for use by all Dublin City Council Departments. The Framework consists of two Lots:

Lot 1: x3 Companies have qualified to deliver outdoor events for attendances >5000

Lot 2: x5 Companies have qualified to deliver outdoor events <5000

Contracts are currently being prepared following an EU tender process to set up a framework of outdoor events for suitably qualified consultants to advise Dublin City Council regarding outdoor events.

Following an EU tender process a preferred bidder has been identified to replace the lighting on the 12 sails in Smithfield Square.

DUBLIN CITY SPORTS & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

➤ **DCSWP STRIDE strategic vision 2017 -2020:**

Work continues on the development of DCSWP's interim strategy. The interim strategy will support the strategic vision of the Partnership in the short-term until a new long-term strategy is launched to run in tandem with the 2022 City Development Plan. The interim strategy survey was circulated to DCSWP staff in 2021. Findings were collated and circulated to staff in October and a feedback workshop was held with all DCSWP to discuss the findings in December 2021. A formal strategic review of all Sports services will be carried out independently by an external consultant. The process could take 3-6 months in total, commencing with the appointment of the consultant sometime in Jan – Mar 2022.

➤ **Governance in Sport Code:**

The Sport Ireland Governance Code for Sport is a code of practice for good governance of sport organisations in Ireland. It covers all National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships throughout the country. The Code is structured by 5 guiding principles, each of which has 3 sub-principles. Within these lie a total of 75 recommended practices that act as a checklist to ensure organisations have a comprehensive and robust system of governance in place. It covers areas such as strategy development, procedures & policies, financial operations, performance indicators, reporting, ethics, transparency, communications, health & safety and effective Board functionality.

DCSWP is currently on the journey towards adopting the Code and we hope to be in a position to publically declare compliance by mid-2022.

HUGH LANE GALLERY

Hugh Lane Gallery is open and welcoming visitors to our range of vibrant exhibitions while adhering fully to Covid guidelines.

LIBRARIES

Remobilisation of Library services: Following a difficult and challenging 2 year period, we have commenced the process for the return to a full service offering for Dublin City Libraries. We are now in a position to meet both public and staff expectations of what our service can and should offer to library users. Our phased and prudent approach will see a return to all in-branch activities and library events in February and a return to full library opening hours in March.

Dublin City Libraries will shortly commence the process of drafting a new Digital Strategy with the aim of optimising our digital capacity and transforming the delivery of library services.

Over the course of the pandemic library staff have moved online, promoting library services and connecting with communities. The focus is evident in some of our key 2021 online stats:

- Total likes for all our Facebook pages grew from 27,976 to 37,102 and branch Facebook posts earned 267,271 reactions, shares, comments.
- The number of people following the library twitter accounts grew by approx. 10,000
- 127 library newsletters were sent to 33,541 subscribers
- Use of eResources continued to grow, up 4% from 2020, and showing an 88% increase compared to 2019

ARTS OFFICE

A review of Arts Grants to specifically look at their impact on applicants projects and programmes and to address geographic disparity will be commissioned in February. A tender to provide a Feasibility Study into the potential for a new mid-scale 500 seater performance venue in Dublin will also issue in February. The Artists Workspaces Committee will reconvene and meet on Feb 15th 2022. The Creative Campus site of Bridgefoot Street and Merchants Quay will apply to URDF 3 when advertised.

The Arts Council and the Dublin City Council signed a partnership agreement through the LGMA in 2021. This involves all areas of partnership from Infrastructure to programming. Through this initiative the Arts Office has proposed to the Arts Council that the Arts provision and engagement in the North Central Area be studied professionally with a view to identifying areas of strength, deficit and development both in soft infrastructure (People and organisations) and hard infrastructure (buildings and facilities) The Arts Office has teamed up with Axis Ballymun to conduct the study and engaged Turley Research, who recently conducted a cultural infrastructure study for the Development Plan and Thrive an audience development agency based in Belfast. This research will focus on all aspects of the Arts in the North Central Area through surveys, focus groups and organisational consultation, meeting with key individuals etc.,

2. INFORMATION RELEVANT TO SPC

EVENTS AND FILMING

Dublin Winter Lights 2021 proved to be its biggest and successful so far with 40,000 visiting the installations and projections in Merrion Square Park over 21 nights. A report is currently being prepared and will be available to members of the SPC and all elected members.

Dublin City Council is a funding partner for this year's [St. Patricks Day festival](#). An event licence application has been lodged by the festival organisers with Dublin City Council Planning Department.

Tender documents are currently being prepared to identify a suitably qualified company/persons to deliver the Bram Stoker Festival in October 2022.

DUBLIN CITY SPORTS & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

Covid-19 Club Small Grant Scheme

As reported in the November report Sport Ireland has secured additional exchequer funding for 2021 to support sporting organisations with the impact of COVID-19, one of which is a Small Grants Scheme to cover costs associated with COVID-19 and reopening. These include insurance, overheads, Covid consumables etc...Through this funding stream Local Sports Partnerships are encouraged to operate a local scheme for small clubs and community groups (similar to the national club scheme). These local schemes can offer financial support to community groups & clubs who may not be affiliated to a national organisation or recognised governing body, but who do provide a vital local service.

Local clubs affiliated to an NGB should apply directly to the respective NGB for support as this will be available under scheme 3 and the Indoor Sports Fund under scheme 5.

The Covid-19 small grants scheme is due to be advertised in late Feb early March

Sport for Young People – Small Grant Scheme

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, will be advertised in May/June on the DCC website and all social media platforms. It will also be communicated via email to National Governing Bodies, DCSWP Sport and Co-funded Officers, clubs on the DCSWP database and on the Dublin City Council website. Clubs across the city will be afforded three weeks to submit applications before the closing date.

HUGH LANE GALLERY

Workforce Plan

Hugh Lane Gallery's Workforce Plan for 2022 is in place and recruitment of Critical Vacancies is underway.

Future Exhibitions

17th March – 10th July 2022

Patrick Graham is one of Ireland's most respected contemporary painters who emerged in the 1980s. In this period of uncertainty Patrick Graham, consolidated a position that was dedicated to a revival of painting and the search for existential meaning through aesthetic experience. Using the fundamental language of painting he addressed not only the religious, political and social spheres of modern Ireland but also developed his practice into a considered and meditative representation of humanity's transient existence.

Commissioned writers: Richard Cork, Jörg Heiser and Kelly Grovier.

Works are in process of curatorial selection and loan requests have been sent.

Education

<http://www.hughlane.ie/lectures/forthcoming-lectures>

<https://twitter.com/TheHughLane>

<https://www.instagram.com/thehughlane/>

<https://www.facebook.com/thehughlane/>

Exhibitions

Current Exhibitions are listed on:

<http://www.hughlane.ie>

LIBRARIES

A new libraries wellness project was rolled out in January 2022 and ran until the 7th February. **Belong Bi Ann**, funded by the Government of Ireland via the Dormant Accounts Fund and delivered in collaboration with Axis Ballymun, was designed to showcase the wide range of services libraries offer. Artistic and cultural outlets have been of the utmost importance during the pandemic and the BeLong BÍ Ann campaign celebrated the role and impact of the Council's libraries through podcasts, children's activities, a weekly culture circle, 40 fun facts about libraries and much more. The podcasts "library champions", included familiar faces like Manchán Magan, Collie Ennis, Liz Nugent, Dermot Bolger.

Ireland Reads is a national campaign to get the whole country reading this month in the lead up to a national day of reading on Friday, February 25th. For Dublin City Libraries, staff will post videos and photos promoting the day and discussing some of their favourite reads. Children's Services are recording a storytime video especially for early learning centres, to celebrate Ireland Reads. Funded by the LGMA and filmed in Coolock Library, the video will introduce the library to a young audience, promoting reading with puppetry and stories. The video will be shared across DCL platforms on Ireland Reads Day and all ELCs in the Dublin City Area will be invited to share in the fun.

2022 DUBLIN Literary Award Longlist Announcement: Novels by Irish authors Megan Nolan, Danielle McLaughlin, Donal Ryan and Sarah Crossan are among the 79 books nominated by libraries around the world for the 2022 DUBLIN Literary Award. Now in its 27th year, this award, which is sponsored by Dublin City Council, is the world's most valuable annual prize for a single work of fiction published in English, worth €100,000 to the winner. The shortlist will be unveiled on Tuesday 22 Mar and the winner will be announced by Lord Mayor of Dublin, Alison Gilliland, on Thursday 19 May, as part of International Literature Festival Dublin.

'**Nora: A Love Story of Nora Barnacle and James Joyce**' by Nuala O'Connor is the [One Dublin One Book](#) choice for 2022. The project aims to encourage everyone in Dublin to read

a designated book, connected with the capital city, during the month of April every year.

The programme of events will be launched on 24th February at 12.00pm in Epic by the Lord Mayor. Alison Gilliland, with a new edition of *Nora* available to borrow from public libraries nationwide.

A new book, published by Dublin City Council and edited by Dr Margarita Cappock about Sarah Cecilia Harrison, an Irish artist and first woman to serve on Dublin City Council will be launched on 10th February: *Sarah Cecilia Harrison: Artist, Social Campaigner, and City Councillor*

ARTS OFFICE

Dublin City Council have agreed a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Sport Gaeltacht, Arts and Media for the Local Live Performance scheme as in 2021. The amount provided is €245,000. An Open Call to applicants will issue as in 2021.