

## Finance Strategic Policy Committee

### Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Welcome to new members Cllr. Christy Burke and Sohini De.

#### 1. Draft Minutes of the Finance SPC meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

The draft minutes were proposed by Cllr. Anthony Connaghan and seconded by Cllr. Christy Burke. The minutes were adopted.

#### 2. Matters Arising.

Cllr Dermot Lacey requested a copy of the recently published commission on taxation report, specifically the extract relating to accommodation (bed tax).

**Agreed to:** Circulate a copy of the extract from the report dealing with accommodation tax to all and to also list as an agenda item for a future meeting.

#### 3. Correspondence.

Noted.

- a) Reply received from Minister Peter Burke Re: LPT Correspondence sent 25/4/22.
- b) Letter to Minister O'Brien Re: Response to letter dated 24/4/22 Rents deduction at source Working Group.
- c) Letter to AILG dated 27th April Re: Support for representation onto Rents Working Group
- d) Acknowledgement email from AILG dated 8th June 2022
- e) Change of membership - Dublin Chamber Correspondence
- f) Email to Cllr McCartan Re: Information on Grants and Subsidies received from the Department

A reply from the AILG was received on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, Cllr Mc Grattan shared the content of the response and agreed to include with the agenda at the next meeting.

#### 4. Dublin City Council EU Strategy 2022-2027.

The Committee welcomed the attendance of Anthony Flynn, Executive Manager, CRES and Ciara O hAodha, Interim Head, European Programme Support Office (EPSO). Ciara provided a presentation entitled 'Dublin City Council EU Programme Participation Strategy 2021 -2027'. The presentation provided information on the following:

- EPSO establishment
- Dublin City Success
- European Network Building
- EPSO Events
- EPSO Communications
- European Applications to Date
- Capacity Building
- EPSO Development Programme

Ciara provided information on DCC's EU applications and noted the challenges experienced. A total of 16 applications were submitted, 11 were unsuccessful and the

remaining 5 applications are progressing through the various stages. Training and development programmes are due to be offered to assist staff in producing more robust applications going forward.

The committee welcomed the presentation and thanked Ciara and Tony.

Acknowledgment and gratitude was also offered to Cllr. Freehill who has supported the establishment of the EPSO and in showcasing Dublin as a modern European capital city.

## **5. Report on Green Tendering Clauses.**

Report Noted.

The committee discussed the contents of the report and noted the following:

- The Central Procurement Unit to provide assistance to buyers through in-house training.
- Suppliers will be encouraged by DCC to consider 'green' through the supplies and services they offer.
- The Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan provides a requirement to train SME's on Green Public Procurement.
- Contract Management will play a key role.
- Green Procurement remains an ongoing learning piece.

## **6. DCC LPT Local Adjustment Factor Report.**

Report Noted.

The committee discussed the report and considered the following factors:

- Impact of inflation.
- Funding the Public Sector pay increase.
- Rising energy costs.
- Lack of information from the DHLGH.
- A continued reduction in rate over the last 3 years.
- Possible impact on the delivery of services.
- The political influence on the decision to change the rate.

### **Agreed to:**

- Refer item to the Budget Consultative Group (BCG) for further discussion and consideration.
- It was agreed to arrange a meeting (information basis) for 63 councillors to discuss the LPT rate.

## **7. Charging Policy Update Report.**

Report noted.

Arising from report 08/2022 from the May Finance SPC meeting Kathy provided an update on changing byelaws to reflect inflation. The report noted a number of recommendations which would safeguard Dublin City Council's resource base while applying fair and appropriate charges.

It is proposed that the Finance Strategic Policy Committee recommend to Dublin City Council that:

- it's charging policy be revised.
- all charges in scope be set having considered the relevant inflation / cost trends.

- all charges in scope of this policy be considered under the three charge bands of increased (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 3% increase in charge is applied), reduced (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 1% increase in charge is applied) or unadjusted (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 2% increase in charge is applied).
- changes to all charges made under byelaws will be brought individually before the City Council with reference made to the consideration given to movements in inflation / costs in setting the charge.
- all charges should be reviewed annually where possible.

**Agreed to:**

The report was recommended to Council for consideration, proposed by Cllr. Ring and seconded by Cllr. Lacey.

**8. Crowd Funding Update Report.**

Report Noted.

Following a market soundings exercise DCC have progressed onto the next stage of the procurement process to award a contract to the most suitable applicant. An update on the successful Tenderer will be noted in a report at the next SPC meeting.

**9. Community Wealth Building Update Report.**

Report Noted.

The tender award for the provision of a Support Service provider to assist in the roll out DCC's CWB implementation plan is concluding and an update on the successful tenderer will be noted in a report at the next SPC meeting.

**10. Local Government Funding Sub Committee.**

Report Noted.

The first meeting of the LG Funding Sub Committee will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 at 1pm.

**11. AOB**

- A report was requested detailing the value of spend in each of the last five years on the removal of commercial waste illegally dumped, a clarification if DCC Waste Management have made contact with the Revenue Commissioners, An Garda Síochána and CAB on the person / persons involved.
- It was agreed to move meetings to Hybrid with effect from the next meeting in November.

**12. Next meeting Monday 17th November 2022 at 2.30pm.(Hybrid)**

**Signed:** Councillor Séamas McGrattan  
Chairperson

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **Members Present**

Cllr Seamas McGrattan (Chair)  
Cllr Alison Gilliland  
Cllr. Daryl Barron  
Cllr Mary Callaghan  
Cllr Anthony Connaghan  
Cllr Daithi De Roiste  
Cllr James Geoghegan  
Cllr Dermot Lacey  
Cllr Paddy McCartan  
Cllr Nial Ring  
Cllr Christy Burke  
Alan Robinson, Docklands Business Forum  
Eric Fleming, ICTU  
Sohini De, Dublin Chamber of Commerce  
Professor Caroline McMullan, DCU  
Philip O'Callaghan, PPN Nominee  
Aidan Sweeney, IBEC

### **Officials**

Kathy Quinn, Head of Finance  
Fintan Moran, Head of Management Accounting  
Enda Currid, Senior Executive Officer, Accountant  
Lisa Flanagan, Senior Staff Officer  
Mary Curran, Staff Officer  
Sophie Kelly, Assistant Staff Officer

### **Guest**

Cllr. Mannix Flynn

### **Apologies**

Cllr Darcy Lonergan