

To the Members of the Protocol Committee



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

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## Dublin City Council proposed membership of Stronger Cities Network

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The Strong Cities Network is a network of more than 195 cities dedicated to addressing all forms of hate, extremism and polarisation at local level and recognises that cities and local governments have key roles in preventing and responding to these issues. It builds and strengthens interaction and connections between cities, city leaders and practitioners, to realise the full potential of local action in addressing these challenges.

It was launched at the United Nations in 2015 and fills a critical gap in efforts that have typically overlooked the unique and important role cities can play in addresses threats. It recognises that cities are uniquely placed to provide services, understand and engage with their communities.

### Strategic Priorities

1. Strengthen interaction among cities within and across different country and regional contexts to allow for local leaders and governments with shared interests to learn from each other.
2. Promote effective national-local coordination to ensure that relevant national policies and programmes are informed by local government needs and priorities and facilitate more local ownership and thus local application of them.
3. Support cities to develop or strengthen mandates and programmes to prevent and respond to extremism, hate and polarisation, which leverage the range of local services, interests, networks and skills that exist within cities.
4. Enhance engagement between cities and young people so that youth have the skills, confidence and opportunity to engage with local governments and that cities in turn have the frameworks, understanding and tools for policy and practice that is participatory and representative.
5. Elevate the voices and leadership of mayors and other local leaders at regional and international levels, so that national and multilateral approaches are connected to and better understand the realities on the ground.

Membership is open to all cities and is free of charge.

Lord Mayor Daithí de Róiste and Head of International Relations Fanchea Gibson attended the Strong Cities Network Fourth Global Summit from 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September in New York which convened more than 100 Mayors and local government practitioners from more than 115 cities in 45 countries around the world to discuss and showcase the unique contributions that mayors and local governments have made and can make in preventing and responding to rising levels of hate and extremism that can lead to violence impacting their communities. There was a lot of common issues facing all cities and a good exchange of views and work practices.

I recommend Dublin City Council applies to join the Strong Cities Network.

**Lord Mayor Daithí de Róiste**  
**October 2023**