

21st December 2023

Dear Councillor Heaney,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of St. Patrick's Festival in response to your letter dated 21st September 2023 and my subsequent communication on 27th October 2023.

At your request, the Board of Directors has again considered the Protocol Committee's request for there to be Councillor representation on the board of St. Patrick's Festival. The Board discussed this in detail and the decision continues to be that the Councillors are already represented on the Board of the Festival by the Lord Mayor of the day, who is a Dublin City Councillor. The Board was satisfied that the Lord Mayor's presence on the Board provides Councillor representation and ensures an appropriate level of democratic oversight and accountability.

It is pertinent to note that historically, Dublin City Council (DCC) was listed as a Member of the Company with the right to nominate a Director. In the past, this representative was appointed from the DCC Executive. However, on 7th February 2022, the Executive of DCC chose not to maintain their Membership and representation on the Board. Consequently, at the request of DCC, the revised Constitution of St. Patrick's Festival no longer lists DCC as a member. However, as stated the Lord Mayor has a seat at the Board of Directors and can attend every meeting.

The Board is deeply appreciative of the very significant contribution which DCC makes to St. Patrick's Festival each year on behalf of the citizens of Dublin. In light of this, our CEO, Richard Tierney, remains available to brief the appropriate council committees and the DCC Executive on our exciting plans for St. Patrick's Festival 2024.

Yours sincerely,



Maree Gallagher
Acting Chair