

Meeting Date 2019	Themes / Policy Issues addressed
24 th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction Pack provided to Members with information on SPCs, City Council, Ethics, Standing Orders and other obligations. • Draft Work Programme produced for the period 2019 to 2024.
21 st November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference were agreed • Work Programme 2019 to 2024 agreed. Areas of particular interest : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consideration of a Hotel Bed Tax / Transient Visitor Levy ○ LPT ○ sustainable local government funding ○ the enactment of legislative provisions to enable deductions for social housing rents to be made from social welfare payments.
Meeting Date 2020	Themes / Policy Issues addressed
16 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation made on Housing Rent Arrears and the difficulties faced in collecting rents without the option of seeking court action for tenants who persistently do not pay rent and have large rent arrears. • The Local Government Rates and other Matters Act 2019 passed but not yet commenced. The main provision includes changes to how rates are collected and billed. The legislation provides for the development of rates alleviation schemes by local authorities. Direction on this is to be provided by way of regulations from the Department. • The introduction of a Hotel Bed Tax/Transient Visitor Levy was considered and in particular the experience of other jurisdictions where such a tax has applied. The need for continuous investment in the public realm to ensure that not only does Dublin remain attractive to those who live and work here but that it remains a destination of choice for visitors, domestic and international.
24 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the context of the Covid 19 Pandemic, the SPC examined the importance of government funding to replace rates due by ratepayers severely impacted so as to continue the provision of Dublin City Council services, with correspondence issuing to Government ministers on the matter. • It was debated how although Dublin City Council receives funding for the development of the road, cycling and pedestrian network, the funding for the maintenance of Dublin City Council's road network is inadequate. • A full and detailed report was examined by the SPC on the rates debtors' year end 31st December 2019, including collection performance and year-end arrears. • The details of a ReStart Grant, introduced by the Government to support businesses, was given to SPC Members and how the scheme would be operated.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report was considered proposing the examination of Civic Crowdfunding as a means to supporting community development and increasing community participation.
17th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC reviewed the provisions for a Rates Alleviation Scheme as contained within Section 15 of the Local Government Rates and other Matters Act 2019. Regulations to issue by the Department are awaited. • A report to the SPC outlined factors impacting on the maintenance of Dublin City Council's roads network such as funding constraints, traffic volumes, transport modal share, transport modal shift, impact of utility openings and reinstatements, severe weather events and winter maintenance, traffic permits and restrictions and planned maintenance vs reactive maintenance. • Dublin City Council's ICT Transition and Response to Covid 19 across the areas of Citrix remote working, laptops, mobile phones and tablets, security, remote telephony, Microsoft Teams, and new applications. • An update on the Restart Grant and Restart Grant Plus Schemes focused on the closure of the Restart Grant Scheme in July 2020 and the opening of the Restart Grant Plus Scheme in August 2020. At the report date €55m had been paid by Dublin City Council across both schemes. • A report on the Rates Waiver Scheme in place at this time was given with an approximate value of the waiver to Dublin City Council of €100m.
3 rd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC received an update on housing rent arrears which noted that the value of rent arrears was €36.8m with 60% of tenants having a clear account. There are 24,800 tenancies with an average weekly rent charge of €70.41. • The progress made through the market dialogue process for the introduction of Civic Crowdfunding was brought to the attention of the SPC. Work on the formal tender process to commence shortly. • Further detail on the operation of the Restart Grant Plus Scheme was shared with information on that grant plus top ups and an appeals process.
Meeting Dates 2021	Themes / Policy Issue addressed
21st January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update was requested from the Minister on LPT reform. • The low funding to Dublin City Council from Transport Infrastructure Ireland in respect of national roads in Dublin was noted and considered inadequate. A submission will be made to the Minister for Transport. • A presentation was made as part of the pre-draft consultation of the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028. The presentation focused on the requirements for development plans, the difference in this plan over previous plans, the process that will apply, key issues for the plan and an economic and financial perspective. • A report was considered on the impacts of online trading on physical trading which examined credit and debit card spend, ecommerce

	<p>trends and the impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic on in-person retail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of Dublin City Council's apprenticeship programme was provided to the SPC with 26 apprenticeships across various disciplines. • The Committee was given an update on the outcome of recent market soundings relating to Civic Crowdfunding and in particular around the charges for the platform and financial transactions.
25 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation was made on Dublin City Council's strategy towards the European Funding Programme 2021-2027. The key objective is to achieve success with funding submissions made and to learn from the experience of other bodies. • Information on the outcome of the collection of commercial rates in 2020 was provided which included the impact of rates waiver schemes, arrears, analysis by electoral area. • A report was brought to the SPC on the Rates Waiver Scheme in 2021 which is expected to operate for the first two quarters of the financial year. The eligibility for the 2021 scheme was narrowed over the 2020 scheme such that ratepayers that had rates liabilities waived in 2020 will have full liabilities in 2021. • Details of Dublin City Council's debtors at year end 2020 was provided which highlighted a small reduction from €348m to €341m. • The SPC were provided with information on the Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid (SBASC) which launched in March 2021. This government grant scheme is aimed at businesses not operating from a rateable property. • The SPC asked that the concept of Community Wealth Building be examined and brought to a future meeting for discussion.
20 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report was provided giving details of housing loan accounts in arrears including the history of arrears, an analysis at year-end 2020, mortgage to rent options, Covid 19 and mortgage payment breaks and the types of loans available. • A report on the issue of cash circulation in the local economy was discussed with reference to bank branch closures and the adequacy of the ATM network. • An overview of Community Wealth Building (CWB) was brought to the SPC which detailed what CWB is, its components, the importance of place, the role of anchor institutions and CWB as applied in the US, Europe and the UK.
16 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC welcomed presentations from CWB specialists from the US (The Democracy Collaborative) and UK (Centre for Local Economic Strategies). The presenters gave details of how CWB had been used in different places to achieve local benefits. • The SPC were updated on the work of the IS Department on cyber security which referenced recent cyber-attacks impacting on government agencies, Dublin City Council's response to these attacks, Dublin City Council's current security profile, the NIST Framework and future impacts of cyber security.
18 th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC agreed to communicate to the Commission on Taxation and Welfare the importance of local government funding and local

	<p>services and ask that it consider local government funding in its work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC were updated on an extension to the Rates Waiver Scheme in operation in 2021 for quarters 1 to 3, which had been extended for certain businesses to Q4. Services not waived in Q4 include essential and non-essential retail, health, miscellaneous car parks, crèches and service stations. It was agreed to correspond with the Minister requesting that the Rates Waiver Scheme be extended to 2022. • An update on progress made with Community Wealth Building was provided. This gave details of the cross department working group established and the programme of CWB supporting actions for implementation over the next eighteen months. • An overview of the Government's new housing strategy 'Housing for All' was provided, the key financial issues being the expansion of the loan scheme, the proposed introduction of planned maintenance of local authority social housing units, changes to the Differential Rents Scheme, strengthening capacity within local authorities and the need to move from the current arrangement of funding with retrospective recoupment as Dublin City Council will struggle to meet the demands on working capital.
Meeting Dates 2022	Themes / Policy Issue addressed
20 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation was provided on the level of housing rent arrears at year end 2020 of €37.9m. It was highlighted that there are difficulties with adult children not contributing to rent payments, tenants may not declare increased income for lengthy periods and the significant delays in the commencement of Section 53 of the Housing Act 2014. The SPC decided to communicate again with the Minister urging the Department to commence Section 53. • Meeting scheduled with officials from the Department of Transport and Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage to discuss the funding of roads infrastructure. Central to this is that while funding is available for the construction of roads, funding provision for maintenance of roads, cycleways and footpaths is inadequate. • A report on how the National Development Plan applies to Dublin and the financing impact on Dublin City Council was discussed.
24 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SPC was informed that a meeting, to discuss the funding of roads infrastructure, with officials from the Department of Transport was held however a nominee was not provided from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage. • A request was issued to the Minister seeking representation from the Elected Members of the Finance SPC on the working group being established to introduce a direct deduction of rents from source where the tenant is a recipient of a social welfare payment. • A report commissioned by Dublin City Council with Grant Thornton on Local Government Funding as applies to Dublin City Council was considered. The report examined the financial challenges of the existing current model and the unique role of Dublin City as Capital City.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Wealth Building Implementation (CWB) Plan – presentation made by CLES (Centre for Local Economic Strategies), including the principles and overview of the plan for Dublin City Council with agreed actions.
19th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview on commercial rates collection performance and arrears to year-end 2021 was given. The report gave details of commercial rates funding, rates collection performance 2017 to 2021, Covid 19 financial support, arrears 2017 to 2021, age profile of 2021 arrears and 2021 arrears by electoral area. The SPC were provided with an overview of how Dublin City Council's revenue funding operates, including the varied income sources supporting City services, their budgeted value and how those income sources are allocated. The SPC agreed that DFB should provide a report with requested details on fire call out charges. The SPC established a sub-committee - the Local Government Funding Sub-Committee to run for 9 months to address the findings of the Grant Thornton Report. Consideration was given to the discussion held at a Budget Consultancy Group meeting on the recommendation from the Grant Thornton report on the setting of Dublin City Council's LPT Local Adjustment Factor. A report on the establishment of a charging policy for Dublin City Council, arising from a recommendation of the Grant Thornton report was considered. The impact on charges set under byelaws to be examined.
15th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on Dublin City Council's EU Programme Participation Strategy 2021 -2027 was made with information on EPSO establishment, Dublin City Success, European Network Building, EPSO Events, EPSO Communications, European Applications to Date, Capacity Building and the EPSO Development Programme. The SPC considered a report on Green Tendering clauses which should result in Dublin City Council suppliers considering sustainable options through the supplies and services given. The matter of the setting of the LPT rate was referred for further discussion to the BCG. The SPC agreed to recommend a Charging Policy to the City Council so that all charges in scope be set having considered relevant inflation / cost trends, under three charge bands - 1. Increased (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 3% increase in charge is applied), 2. Reduced (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 1% increase in charge is applied) 3. Unadjusted (for every 2% increase in inflation / costs, 2% increase in charge is applied). All charges should be increased annually where possible. The purpose of the policy is to safeguard Dublin City Council's resource base while applying fair and appropriate charges.
17th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWB Update on initial phase of CWB in Dublin City Council and also giving a context to the development of Dublin City Council's Social Value Framework. Presentations to be made to Area Committees.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An examination of the extract from the report of the Commission on Taxation and Welfare relating to an Accommodation Tax was circulated and discussed. • An update on trends in housing rent collection and arrears recovery was provided which highlighted that arrears stand at €37.9m. Almost one third of tenants are in arrears. The SPC agreed to again seek that the Minister commences Section 53 regarding the deduction of rents at source. • An overview report of the recent report from the Commission on Taxation and Welfare was considered. The matter of congestion charging was raised and it was agreed that a meeting would be sought with the Transport SPC.
Meeting Dates 2023	Themes / Policy Issue addressed
19 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballymun Social Regeneration Fund being incrementally reduced by Government, now wholly supported by Dublin City Council and the need for it to be reinstated to 100% • Benefits of a Visitor Levy Tax/ Accommodation Charge in Dublin City to increase funding and help make Dublin city more attractive to visitors. Estimated yield based on tourism activity data considered. • Development Levies and the proposal to have a provision that a percentage would be retained for capital projects in the local area • Continuing work of the Local Government Funding Sub-Committee in meeting with other Councils and member of the Oireachtas. • Introduction of the concept of a Social Value Framework under the Community Wealth Building (CWB) umbrella.
16 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commercial rates collection performance including arrears at year-end, and the successful efforts being made to recoup arrears. • Dublin City Council submission to the Review of Baseline Local Government Funding by the DHLGH highlighting the key role of the Dublin economy in driving the State economy.
18 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Wealth Building and a Social Value Framework including progress made with Dublin City Council Committees through workshops held. • An introduction to the Spacehive Civic Crowdfunding platform as selected for Dublin City Council following a competitive tender process. Civic Crowdfunding is the process of how local people can fundraise in a safe and verified system for local projects. • Dublin Tourism Spend, the significant economic role of tourism for the Dublin and indeed State economy and the huge potential to grow maritime tourism in the City.

21 st September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Innovative Economic Measurement, the work of Smart Dublin partnerships created and the communication of economic data. • Outcome of the National Review of the LPT Baseline with Dublin City Council's key points on the importance of Dublin to the national economy and the need to fund service improvements not referenced in the Departments assessment. • Further discussion on Visitor Levy Tax/ Accommodation Charge and how its operating successfully in other European cities with agreement to urge to Government Ministers to introduce the necessary enabling legislation as a priority. • Notice of the official launch of Crowdfund Dublin City at the Mansion House on 3rd October. • Discussion around Congestion Charges as another funding method for Dublin City Council.
16 th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent arrears and the Governments rationale that a national rent policy is needed to commence a provision that enables a direct deduction system for social housing tenants from social welfare payments. • New rates legislation introduced and how it will affect the collection of rates. The changes include the removal of payment in two parts (moieties) to the full rates liability being due at the start of the year. • An overview of Dublin City Council's desktop environment and the increase in the numbers of mobile devices used by staff. • Issues around accessibility to staff and information flow to the Elected Members discussed .
Meeting Dates 2024	Themes / Policy Issue addressed
19 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on rent collection and arrears was given, including the increase in the number of tenancies and the average weekly rent. Initiatives taken include the provision of debt management training for staff, improvements to housing IT systems and greater engagement with tenants. • The workplan for Phase 2 of Community Wealth Building was considered including the development of a Dublin City Council Online learning platform for staff to learn about CWB, the assignment of department leads to create better awareness in each Department and the plan to continue with a values-based and geographically targeted approach to the recruitment of GO's.
21 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consideration of a policy under Community Wealth Building on Values based recruitment. • Summary of SPC Work Programme 2019 to 2024