
Report on Crowdfund Dublin City Pledges (Grants)

1.0 Background

The Finance Strategic Policy Committee has championed and supported the introduction of Civic Crowdfunding to Dublin City Council over recent years. This has involved market engagement and evaluation, an open competitive tender process and selection. This project has been led by the Finance Department with a small group including staff from Procurement, Information Systems, Sports and Recreation and Housing and Community. Report No 50/2024 considered by the elected members at the February City Council meeting gave details of projects developed, project purpose and the proposed Dublin City Council pledges. This report seeks to provide an update where changes have been made to projects, overall project costs have changed and to correct an error in the earlier report.

2.0 Projects listed in earlier report

The seven projects at the submitted for verification / verified / fundraising stages were listed in Report 50/2024 as set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Proposed Dublin City Council Pledge as per Report 50/2024

	Project	Total Cost	Dublin City Council Proposed Pledge
1	All Quiet in the Tenters	€ 5,098.90	€ 2,549.45
2	Ballyrun	€ 1,291.45	€ 645.73
3	Crumlin and the way it was	€ 5,650.87	€ 2,825.44
4	Grow Food & Friendships	€ 11,146.83	€ 5,573.42
5	Renovation of community garden	€ 5,740.08	€ 2,870.04
6	Swifties Tower Suites	€ 1,093.45	€ 546.73
7	The Casual-TEE Ward	€ 3,417.18	€ 1,708.59
	Total	€ 33,438.76	€ 16,719.40

3.0 Changes to projects

Swifties Tower Suites

The project creator of the Swifties Tower Suites Crowdfunding Project has contacted DCC to advise that they will now need to withdraw their crowdfunding application. Detailed meetings were held with the DCC Biodiversity Officer, a DCC Planning Officer and Birdwatch Ireland reaching agreement that Swift Towers are not suitable at this location due to the volume of overhanging ESB wires and the underground services.

The project has created an alternative solution of which DCC, Birdwatch Ireland and the ESB are supportive. An ESB substation has been identified in close proximity of the original project

location which is suitable for the installation of Swift Boxes. The ESB have given permission and will install boxes safely, Birdwatch Ireland and the DCC Biodiversity Officer will supply the boxes, arrange a workshop for community groups to learn how to monitor boxes and report activity etc. The costs of the project, which are significantly lower will now be covered within the budget of the DCC Biodiversity Officer as it is aligned to projects targeted for completion in 2024.

The Group and project creator have thanked the DCC Crowdfunding Team for opportunity to finally get their project off the ground, they now withdraw the application as the project has changed and there is no requirement for a fundraising campaign.

The Casual-TEE Ward

The project team initially purchased the equipment & materials they believed were required to complete the project. Some challenges were encountered such that the team could not produce a t-shirt to the standard they set as they were unsuccessful in removing all of the old logo/ print, branding etc. The team have offered refunds to those who donated and advised they were willing to explore other solutions or methods to upcycle. The DCC crowdfunding team linked them in with the Rediscovery Centre and following that engagement they reverted to all backers and DCC with an evolved proposal. They are now working on a toolkit full of different creative ways you can reuse t-shirts that may have a big logo on them, or are maybe just a little dated. It is proposed for DCC to support this new project, as have some backers, while other backers have accepted a voucher. The project team will launch the toolkit on Sunday June 2nd at our Crumlin Studio. The link to register for the workshop is:

<https://scanner.topsec.com/?d=1962&r=show&u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.changeclotches.org%2Fevent-details-registration%2Ffree-t-shirt-reuse-workshops&t=570b9c317611d80ecdabbbcc199798fac0ff7030>

4.0 Changes to overall project costs

Since report 50/2024 was considered by the elected members, the costs for some projects have changed. This reflects that inputs have been clarified to a greater extent and actual costs firmed up. Also project costs all relate to incurred costs and do not reference the imputed value of volunteers etc.

5.0 Correction of error

In report 50/2024 the project values for 'Grow Food & Friendships' and 'Renovation of community gardens' were inverted in error.

6.0 Recommendation

The awarding of grants is a Reserved Function. It is proposed that Dublin City Council will make a pledge of 50% of total costs to each project. Individual project values and the total Dublin City Council commitment at €10,632 is set out below (See Table 2).

	Project	Total Cost	Dublin City Council Proposed Pledge
1	All Quiet in the Tenters	€ 5,099.00	2549
2	Ballyrun (Crowdfunding)	€ 3,417.00	1708
3	Crumlin and the way it was	€ 4,646.00	2323
4	Grow Food & Friendships	€ 5,740.00	2870
5	Renovation of community garden	€ 1,093.00	546
6	Swifties Tower Suites (project pulled)		
7	The Casual-TEE Ward	€ 1,274.00	636
	Total	€ 21,269.00	€ 10,632.00

This report seeks the approval of the City Council for the payment of these pledges (grants)

Kathy Quinn
Head of Finance
13th May 2024