



**Finance Strategic Policy Committee Breviate of Meeting
held on 15th September 2016**

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2016

Minutes agreed

2. Matters arising

- a) Dublin Chamber of Commerce – replacement nomination of Aebhric McGibney - letter dated 20th June 2016

The nomination of Mr. McGibney was ratified by the Finance Strategic Policy Committee members.

- b) Rates exemption on Irish Water Facilities – correspondence issued

It was noted that the correspondence states that funding for 2017 for rates on Irish Water will be forthcoming.

Discussions took place around the issue of government bodies being exempt from commercial rates and the ongoing impact this has on Dublin City Council.

Agreed: Report to next meeting on Rates Exemptions focussing on government departments and agencies.

Agreed: It was agreed that a previous report on Local Government Review would be circulated to members.

Agreed: Correspondence would issue to the C&AG's office regarding rates on government properties and the loss of funds from exemptions generally.

- c) Pyrite Works – additional costs – correspondence issued

The contents of the report were noted.

Agreed: Interim report to issue to the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and DPER stating that Dublin City Council request funding for monies spent to date.

- d) Ringsend Toll Bridge DAC

Report was noted.

- e) Development Contributions Scheme – link to DCC website

Update noted.

f) BRL recoupment of monies from Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government

Concerns were expressed by members on the significant delays with the recoupment of these monies as many of the projects involved have been completed for a considerable number of years.

Agreed: Correspondence should issue directly to the Minister regarding the €16.7m due to Dublin City Council.

Agreed: Correspondence should issue to all the Dublin City TD's asking them to raise this matter in the Dáil.

Agreed: The value of late payment fees, which would apply if the Prompt Payment legislation was applicable to a government department for late payment of monies owed, are to be assessed. This projection could be sent to DPER and the Department of Housing, Planning to highlight the impact on Dublin City Council's capital budget.

Agreed: It was further agreed that an examination of the Masterplan framework between Dublin City Council and the Department could be carried out to see if there has been any breach of contract.

g) Pension Liabilities

It was agreed that a report/business case should be prepared for the scenario of Dublin City Council increasing the cost base of the revenue budget by incorporating a pension provision into the DCC budget each year. This consequent provision would necessitate increased funding from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government. It was recommended that K. Quinn should consult with other public bodies on this issue.

Agreed: Business case to be prepared with consideration of the 2018 budget in mind and this item will be returned to in 6 months time.

3. Dublin City Council – Motor Tax Efficiency Recommendations

Report noted.

Agreed: It was requested that the reference to imposing a levy on counter customers calling to Motor Tax Offices would be not be pursued.

Agreed: This item will be returned to in 12 months time with a report on the UK situation within a 6 month timeframe.

Agreed: Report on the security costs of cash transfer throughout Dublin City Council.

4. Debt Management – Rates Collection

Report noted.

5. Water and Drainage Related Assets of Dublin City Council

Report noted as circulated.

6. Local Property Tax – Statistics

Report noted.

7. Housing Finance Agency – presentation by Dr. Michelle Norris

This item was taken earlier in the meeting at approximately 4pm. A presentation was made by the Chair of the Housing Finance Agency (HFA) Dr. Michelle Morris.

The HFA were thanked for a detailed and comprehensive explanation of their role.

8. A.O.B.

- NOAC – Performance Indicators in Local Authorities 2014
- Dublin City Council Performance Indicators 2015

- Reports noted. Members were advised to contact the Head of Finance with any specific queries.

Agreed: Figures to be provided on the cost of compiling the NOAC figures.

Agreed: Combined report to be provided on the number of dwellings purchased across all areas.

Signed: **Councillor Ruairi McGinley**
 Chairperson

Date: 15th September 2016

Attendance:

Members

Councillor Ruairi McGinley (Chairperson)
Councillor Paddy Bourke
Councillor Tom Brabazon
Councillor Hazel De Nortúin
Councillor Dermot Lacey
Councillor Ray McAdam
Councillor Paddy McCartan
Councillor Micheál MacDonncha
Councillor Noeleen Reilly
Councillor Nial Ring
Eric Fleming, ICTU
Joanna Piechota, Irish Polish Society
Aidan Sweeney, IBEC

Councillors – Non Members

Cllr. Mannix Flynn
Cllr. John Lyons

Officials

Kathy Quinn, Head of Finance
Fiona Murphy, Senior Staff Officer, Finance Secretariat
Lisa Nolan, Staff Officer (Secretarial), Finance Secretariat
Fiona Collins, Assistant Staff Officer, Finance Secretariat

Guest Speaker and other attendees

Dr. Michelle Norris, Chair, HFA

Barry O'Leary, HFA

Tom Conroy, HFA

Seán Cremen, HFA

Apologies

Lord Mayor Brendan Carr

Councillor Larry O'Toole

Aebhric McGibney, Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Caroline McMullan, DCU

Morgan O'Regan, Docklands Business Forum

Observers/Press

Olivia Kelly, Irish Times

Joanna Dunaj – Intern Cllr. McGinley