



Breviate of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 11th December 2020

In accordance with Standing Orders of the City Council, the Breviate of the Meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held on 11th December 2020 is submitted herewith.

1 Minutes of the Meeting of 25th September

Agreed

2 Area Office Staffing

Cllr McAdam had requested the item be listed given that the new area structure is now in place for 18 months. He raised concerns around Area staffing, seniority and autonomy of the staff and the discretion to allocate budgets. This view was expressed on behalf of the Fine Gael Group. Cllrs Burke and Gilliland and the Lord Mayor supported these concerns while acknowledging the excellent service they receive from existing area staff. It was requested that a plan be put in place to strengthen the staffing in time for the next budgetary process. O. Keegan notified the committee that there were gaps in staffing across the Council given the reduction of 1,300 staff since 2010 and a lot of competing demands. Budgets were going to be tight for 2022 and beyond. It was agreed that a working group would be set up on strengthening the areas under the Budget Consultative Group reporting to Cllr Seamas McGrattan. The aim is to have a proposal in place before the next budgetary process begins.

3 Updates from SPC Chairs

a Finance - Cllr Seamas McGrattan:

The SPC had been focussed on the budgetary process in recent months. A question was raised on the retraction of Restart Grants for certain barristers. K. Quinn informed the group that on appeal the grants had been restored. Every effort was being made to make payments to all applicants before Christmas.

b Housing - Cllr Alison Gilliland

Cllr Gilliland reported that work of all 3 Housing SPC subgroups was progressing well. The work on rent arrears had identified a number of potential interventions. The full report of the subgroups are on the Housing SPC Breviate. She paid tribute to the work of Eileen Gleeson Director of the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive who is retiring later in December.

- c **Planning and Urban Form - Cllr Ray McAdam:**
Ray McAdam, had circulated a brief for a sub-Committee entitling Capturing Public Value from Development Lands. The Sub-Committee was approved with the proviso that it operates according to the Transparency Code as is required when relevant committees and subgroups contain Elected Member and sectoral or external members. D. Ní Raghallaigh will communicate the requirements of that Code to the SPC.
- d **Traffic and Transportation - Cllr Christy Burke:**
Cllr Burke informed the meeting that the Minister of Transport Eamon Ryan had attended the last SPC meeting and fielded questions on a broad range of Transport topics. He also reported that the NTA had also recently presented at the SPC meeting. He was happy to report that a good working relationship was developing between the SPC and the NTA. He acknowledged the work of Brendan O'Brien, Martina Halpin and the wider Transport Team. Other Councillors commended the excellent work done on Covid Mobility works and school zones.
- e **Arts, Culture, Leisure and Recreation - Cllr Cat O'Driscoll**
Cllr Cat O'Driscoll outlined the work on the Winter Lights, and the Stardust Memorial Park. She informed the meeting that the North West Area and North Central Area had been under represented in recent rounds of Arts Grants and that possibly there was not the same community structures as there is in other parts of the City. She has notified the Protocol Committee of the slowness of Motions being referred from Council or other Committee and the item is to be addressed at the next Protocol Meeting. The Lord Mayor said she would liaise with Cllr O'Driscoll on the Night Time Economy Taskforce.
- f **Economic Development and Enterprise - Cllr Claire O'Connor:**
Cllr O'Connor described recent excellent presentations from Enterprise Ireland and Juliet Passmore. The Summit Series warranted particular mention and full credit to LEO and Economic Development Staff members. She raised the issue of demands to set up a working group on the Dublin Economic Corridor which she felt was not appropriate when a Council appointed Steering Group was already in place.
- g **Climate Change, Environment and Energy - Cllr Michael Pidgeon:**
Cllr Pidgeon informed the group that the Litter Management Strategy and the Waste Bye laws would be taken at the adjourned meeting on the 14th December. He also flagged a report to the SPC which formalised the City Council's policy of not using the herbicide glyphosate anymore. He thanked Robert Moss from the PPN and previous SPC Chair Naoise Ó Muirí for their work on this.

4 **LCDC Update Cllr Caroline Moore**

Cllr Moore was welcomed to her first meeting of the CPG. The LCDC is awaiting the appointment of some representatives from the Public Participation Network. She outlined rounds of recent and imminent funding through the LCDC. Questions were raised about the application process. She informed the members that assistance was being provided to groups on procurement matters and on the application process itself. The LCDC is also supporting the Lord Mayor and others on developing an integration policy for the City.

5 **Dates of CPG Meetings 2021**

Proposed dates noted.

6 **Date of Next Meeting - 19th February 2021 @2pm**

Noted.

Lord Mayor Hazel Chu
Chairperson

Friday 11 December 2020

Attendance:

Members:

Christy Burke
Carolyn Moore
Michael Pidgeon

Members:

Alison Gilliland
Claire O'Connor

Members:

Séamas McGrattan
Cat O'Driscoll

Officers

John Flanagan
Eileen Quinlivan
Richard Shakespeare

Owen P. Keegan
Kathy Quinn
Mary Taylor

Coilin O'Reilly
Deirdre Ní Raghallaigh