



Contents

1. International Relations: [page 2](#)
2. Local Enterprise Office: Training, Mentoring & Financial Grants [page\(s\) 3-13](#)
3. Dublin Place Brand - Dublin.ie..... [page\(s\) 14-16](#)
4. Economic Development Office..... [page\(s\) 17-21](#)
5. Smart Dublin & Smart Districts [page\(s\) 22-24](#)
6. Appendix 1: LEO Response Supports for COVID [page\(s\) 25-26](#)

1. International Relations:

International Relations continues to focus on developing and enhancing existing international relationships through mutually beneficial initiatives, cultural, educational and economic development exchanges. International Relations acts as first point of contact for city, business and government visiting delegations from other cities to provide support to the Lord Mayor's office on international relations matters. This work is continuing virtually during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Embassy of Canada

A virtual meeting took place between the Chargee d'affaires and senior officials from the Canadian Embassy and the Assistant Chief Executive, Head of Technical Services, Environment & Transportation and International Relations to exchange knowledge and expertise in the areas of traffic management and mobility and smart cities. It is proposed that a follow up meeting will take place in the New Year.

Eurocities

The business of Eurocities and the work of its Thematic Forums are also being delivered by online webinars during the pandemic.

2. Local Enterprise Office: Training, Mentoring & Financial Grants

LEO Response Supports for COVID

An overview of the suite of supports for business and enterprise is included in Appendix 1 of the report. Throughout the lockdown and emergency period, the Local Enterprise Office network has provided LEO Lunch and Learn webinars which are available at

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/response/Lunch-and-Learn-Training-Webinar-Series/>

BREXIT Supports

A handy guide to Brexit supports, which are available through Dublin City Local Enterprise Office are available at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Discover-Business-Supports/Brexit/> to assist businesses manage their Brexit response through –

- Scorecards and checklists to help with planning
- One-to-one mentoring
- Customs Training
- Financial supports
- Access to worldwide support networks
- Practical Steps to getting your Business Brexit Ready

In addition to this since November 2020 a panel of four business mentors have begun individually contacting the client portfolio to raise awareness of the consequences of Brexit to their respective businesses and to highlight available supports. A comprehensive review of Brexit supports from LEO Dublin City and other state agencies can be found here <https://www.prepareforbrexit.com/>

Measure 2 Statistics: Business Advice, Training & Mentoring: Training

Dublin City Local Enterprise Office has moved its training programmes, workshops and networking meet-ups online, and has adapted its programme to reflect business requirements in response to COVID-19. Participation levels and feedback to date has been positive.

The focus has moved towards supporting businesses respond to the growing demand to move their business online/ enhance their current online offering. The areas covered are: “Act Fast - How to launch an online programme quickly during COVID19” and “Ecommerce Online - best practice for your business in a digital age”. Other courses include Pricing in a pandemic - challenges & issues and leading your business through COVID-19 and advice for employers impacted by the crisis.

Fees for the training programmes have been reintroduced. As they are heavily subsidised only nominal fees are being charged to encourage participation. Places can be booked online, through the Dublin City Local Enterprise Office website. <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

November 2020 – Training Programmes Review

Date	Course Name	Places	Attendees
04/11/2020	Library Talks – Creating the Best Plan for your Business	50	44
05/11/2020	Trading Online Voucher Information Session 5 th of November 2020	151	151
05/11/2020	Twitter for Business – Half Day	30	23
05/11/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	20	12
07/11/2020	Start Your Own Business November 2020	30	28
10/11/2020	Start Your Own Business November 2020 – Weekends	30	17
10/11/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	20	10
11/11/2020	Library Talks – Financial Supports & Grants for Entrepreneurs	50	50
17/11/2020	Time Management	30	30
18/11/2020	Library Talks – Pitching to Potential Investors/ Lenders & Clients	50	41
18/11/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	22	22
24/11/2020	Social Media Content – Creating content that will make your brand stand out online	30	27
24/11/2020	An introduction to franchising	30	17
25/11/2020	Library talks – Digital Marketing Strategy & Online Presence	50	50

26/11/2020	Trading Online Voucher Information Session 26 th of November 2020	150	150
26/11/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	22	22

694 Attendees

December 2020 – Training Programmes Review

Date	Course Name	Places	Attendees
01/12/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	20	20
02/12/2020	Etsy and Shopify – Sell your Handmade Products Online	20	11
03/12/2020	How to Maximise your Website	20	15
08/12/2020	Trading Online Voucher Information Session 8 th of December 2020	100	100
09/12/2020	Business Advice Group Meeting	20	20
16/12/2020	Smartphone Video and Photography for the Web	30	12

178 Attendees

Event	Location	Further Details – Link to Event:	Date & Time
Business Advice Clinic	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Business-Advice-Group-Meeting-%2001-2021.html	6 th January
Business Advice Clinic	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Business-Advice-Group-Meeting-02-2021.html	12th January
Trading Online Voucher Information Session	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Trading-Online-Grant-Information-Session-12th-January-2021.html	12th January
Start Your Own Business Course	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Start-Your-Own-Business-Course-Mid-Week-January-2021.html	19th January
Brexit Customs and Planning Webinar	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Brexit-Customs-and-Planning-Webinar1.html	22nd January
Trading Online Voucher Information Session	Virtual	https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Trading-Online-Grant-Information-Session-26th-January-2021.html	26 th January

Start your Own Business Programme

Is the entry level training programme the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Dublin City offers and graduates of the programme regularly progress onto obtaining funding support from the LEO Dublin City and other state agencies. The programme helps participants to obtain and/or develop the necessary skills and knowledge to assess the marketing and financial viability of their business idea/project. The programme is delivered over 5 weeks as two engaging and interactive workshops per week. Since March 2020 the programme has run exclusively online. We have ran **12** Start Your Own Business Courses with **298** attendees this year.

Mentoring

Under the Local Enterprise Office Mentor Programme, clients work with an experienced mentor to identify solutions to areas of exposure within their business. With advice and guidance from their mentor, clients develop strategies that are more robust, which address issues and maximise

potential opportunities. Nominal fees have been introduced and the service continues to be delivered remotely.

Mentoring	2020 Target	YTD*	2019 Performance	Y on Y Variance
1 Hour	Product no longer offered		4	4
3 Hour	275	480	285	195
6 Hour	300	298	46	252
Brexit Engagement & Mentoring	30	186	60	126
Clinics	48	49	47	2
BAC Participants	500	875	693	182
Individual Mentoring	500	778	348	430
One to One & Group Mentoring	1000	1653	1054	599

(YTD 17/12/2020)

Funding schemes

COVID-19 Business Continuity Voucher – was designed to provide contingency planning advice to assist businesses to continue trading through the Covid - 19 crisis. Businesses employing up to 50 staff, were eligible to apply for a Business Continuity Voucher to the value of €2,500 towards third party consultancy costs to assist with developing short-term and long-term strategies to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme closed for applications on the 15th of May 2020.

Total No Applications Received	1305
No. Male Applicants	849
No. Male Approved Applicants	531
No. Female Applicants	456
No. Female Approved Applicants	312
No. Applications Approved	843
Value of Approvals	€2,107,500
Value of Payments	€1,699,241.29

(Figures as at 16/12/2020)

Micro Enterprise Assistance Fund (MEAF) – is a grant of between €500 and €1,000 in respect of vouched expenditure available to eligible businesses, helping such businesses adapt and invest in making changes demanded by Covid-19, including helping with the cost of re-opening or keeping operational and re-connecting with employees and customers. The scheme closed on the 13th of November 2020.

Total No Applications Received	37
Total No Applications Approved	17
Value of Approvals	€16049

(Figures as at 16/12/2020)

Measure 1 (Grants) Approvals Metrics : January - December 2020

Type of Grant	#No of M1 Grant Applications			Jobs		Value of M1 Grants		
	Annual Target	Total # No Approved 2020	Variance	Total Jobs Created Target - Grant Approvals	Total Jobs Created - From Grant Approvals 2020	Annual Target	Total Value M1 Grant Approved 2020	Variance
Feasibility Grant	33	34	-1	33	34	€247,500	€285,672	-€38,172
Priming	12	13	-1	18	30	€180,000	€292,500	-€112,500
Business Expansion Grant	29	27	2	58	66	€725,000	€712,500	€12,500
TOTAL	74	74	0	109	130	€1,152,500	€1,290,672	-€138,172

Total Projected 3 yrs Jobs			
	Annual Jobs Target	Projected Achieved 3 yr Jobs	Variance
Feasibility	66	34	32
Priming	36	115	-79
Business Expansion	116	196	-80
Total	218	345	-127
Grant Type	MAX Target	Delivered (Approved)	Variance
Feasibility Grant	20%	22%	-2%

GRANTS APPROVED UP TO DECEMBER 2020

GMIS No	Company	Promoter	Type of Grant	Amount Approved	Jobs
9025699	DeveloperFair Ltd	Joseph Harkins	Priming	30,000	3
12006384	Ethical Clothing Company Limited T/A Fresh Cuts Clothing	Steven Murphy	Business Expansion	7,500	1
9027386	Dublin Offshore Consultants Ltd	Tom Doyle	Feasibility	10,000	1
9026308	Tempo Utero Limited	Justyna Strzeszn	Feasibility	8,000	1
9027372	Akara Robotics Ltd.	Conor McGinn	Feasibility	15,000	1
9026232-02	Marker Content Ltd	Greta Dunne	Feasibility	10,000	1
9026959	Karen Pryal T/A Akrona LTD	Karen	Feasibility	5,000	1
9026502	Sinope Tech Limited	Emmet	Feasibility	8,000	1
9022672	Stork and Coco	Sophie Cafolla	Feasibility	6,000	1
9024063-03	Continuous Software Limited	Cagkan Turgut	Business Expansion	40,000	4
9021410	Kathryn Davey	Kathryn Davey	Business Expansion	17,500	2
9022104-02	TLC Technologies Limited t/a SureSitter	Sinead Asple	Priming	20,000	2
9017981-02	Edge Media Advertising Ltd	Paul Murphy	Business Expansion	17,500	2
9027535_01	Transit9 Limited	Keith MacHale	Business Expansion	35,000	3
9026836	Loanguru Limited	Alva Horgan	Feasibility	7,000	1
9022395-04	Silk Tree Botanics Ltd	Andrew Oates	Priming	10,000	1
9027539	Accenver Limited	Michelle Ang	Feasibility	11,000	1
9027536_01	Tripadmit Ltd	John Maguire	Priming	40,000	4
9024033	The Nature of Things	Benoit Nicol	Priming	25,000	3
9027537_01	Argeau Holdings Ltd	Adam Cleland	Feasibility	8,000	1
9027538_01	Altra Health Ltd	Adam Keane	Feasibility	9,000	1

11014214	Cleverfoods Ltd	Gillian Shiels	Business Expansion	17,500	2
13012877	Flamenco IL Holdings t/a RYPT	Cormac O'Beirne	Priming	10,000	1
9023644	Paula Love t/a Hairbare	Paula Love	Feasibility	1,400	1
9005456	Revington Hayes Limited t/a LEI Worldwide	Darragh Hayes	Business Expansion	17,500	2
9022546	KOTANICAL LIMITED	Karl Murray	Priming	10,000	1
9024492	Digital Construction Technologies Group	Joseph Mady	Business Expansion	35,000	3
9024931	Komply Privacy Limited	Welsey O'Brien	Feasibility	10,000	1
9027785	ACE Golf Tee Ltd.	Elizabeth Lawlor	Feasibility	7,000	1
9026430	IKEO Group Ltd	Ian Keogh	Feasibility	12,000	1
9023527	Zazuent	Ivano Cafolla	Feasibility	10,000	1
9026817	Inneall Development Ltd	Ciaran Mac Donncha	Business Expansion	30,000	3
9019019	Access Security & Control Technology t/a 2T-Technology	Denis Glesson	Business Expansion	15,000	1
9025582	CLIRINX Ltd	Gerry Nesbitt	Business Expansion	10,000	1
9014904-02	Edge Only Limited	Jenny Huston	Business Expansion	7,500	1
9028694	NovoGrid Ltd	Paul Manning	Business Expansion	30,000	2
9028695	Remotie	Aine Kavanagh	Feasibility	10,000	1
9026717	Rag Revolution	Edel Lyons	Feasibility	10,500	1
9028696	Magneplan	Nicole Murphy	Feasibility	2,340	1
9029811	RTN2SNDR t/a Return2Sender	Donald Douglas	Feasibility	8,900	1
9029813	Orcawise Limited	Kevin Neary	Feasibility	10,000	1
9012688	Leapfrog Training Studio Ltd t/a Yoflicks	Lisa Wilkinson	Feasibility	7,850	1
9029812	Druid Learning Limited	Niamh Faller	Feasibility	5400	1
9010355-03	Narom Ltd t/a COGNIKIDS	Ollwyn Moran	Feasibility	10000	1

9023499	Motion Impulse Limited	Elise Missall	Business Expansion	20000	2
9012398	Allgo Global Rewards Limited t/a Allgo	Gary Purcell	Business Expansion	20000	2
9029814	The Inkspot Limited	Gerry Morgan	Business Expansion	40000	4
11008589-04	Promozoo Limited	Brian Larkin	Business Expansion	30000	2
9030255	TrialProofer Ireland Limited	Aidan Buckley	Feasibility	12500	1
9030256	PharmaTech Solutions	Kieran Gallagher	Feasibility	5000	1
9030257	Outmin Limited	Ross Hunt	Feasibility	10311	1
9030259	Build My Unicorn	Thomas Walsh	Feasibility	9132	1
9028772	UNDACI Ltd t/a Personal Freight Services	Cian Hore	Business Expansion	30000	2
9022008-02	White Mausui Limited	Jasper O'Connor	Business Expansion	20000	2
9015186-02	STONEY CNC Ltd.	Rob McGrath	Business Expansion	37500	4
9027280-02	RPC Websites Limited t/a Roody Originals	Ross Culliton	Business Expansion	45000	4
9027890	Core Metals Limited	Paul Brereton	Business Expansion	37500	4
9027463	Raw Material t/a Kopper Kreation	Emmet Bosonnet	Priming	10000	1
12014242-03	Hatched Ltd. t/a Hatched Analytics	Charmaine Kenny	Business Expansion	40,000	3
9030513	Stills and Motion Productions Limited	Finn Richards	Business Expansion	17,500	2
9030514	EarthCrosser Ventures: Limited Company	Ruben Hamilius	Business Expansion	25,000	3

9030516	Hauora Ltd.	David Clancy	Priming	30,000	3
9030515	Harry's Nut Butter	Harry Colley	Priming	20,000	2
9026372-02	Animis Labs Limited	Daniel O'Neill	Feasibility	6,900	1
9030519	Switch Reusable Cup and Rewards Limited	David Beakey	Feasibility	9,375	1
9005001-05	Arden Energy	Fergal Purcell	Feasibility	13,555	1
9030520	DCE Industry Limited	Stephen Cronin	Feasibility	4,750	1
9030258	Filter Health Limited	Stephen Keenan	Feasibility	6,758.88	1
9025972	Swollet Technologies Limited	Eleftherios Laliatos	Feasibility	5,000	1
9024359-02	SparroWatch Limited	David Tunney	Business Expansion	10,000	1
9017973-02	The Project Foundry	Declan Ryan	Business Expansion	60,000	4
9027537-02	Argeau Holdings Ltd trading as "Argeau"	Adam Cleland	Priming	47,500	5
9031083	Peggy Rain Limited	Colin O'Brien	Priming	10,000	1
9022672-03	Stork & Co Design Ltd	Sophie Cafolla	Priming	30,000	3
			TOTAL	€129,671.88	130

Trading Online Voucher Metrics:

Trading Online Vouchers:	Target 2020	January – 27 November 2020
No. of Trading Online Vouchers Approved	No target set	1051
Value of Trading Online Vouchers Approved		€2,545,878.35
No. of Trading Online Vouchers Paid		126
Value of Trading Online Vouchers Paid		€311,511.44

TAME Metrics: January to 30th November 2020

Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters : M1 Metrics 2020	Target 2020		January - 21 October 2020
Grant Approvals	40		5
TAME		5	
TAME Food Academy			
Budget Approvals 2019	95,000		6,921.00
Value of Grants Paid Out To date			15,582.56

3. Dublin Place Brand - Dublin.ie

Dublin Place Brand

Open for Christmas Campaign

The 'Open for Christmas' campaign to support shops, restaurants and cafés in the city centre is taking place throughout December. The campaign encourages the public to safely return to the city in the lead up to Christmas. Running across outdoor advertising sites (bus stops, digi-panels and metropolises, big belly bins and IPA posters); radio promotions with FM104 and Radio Nova and across our social media channels. A video, featuring voiceover from Stephen James Smith and music by local Dublin band, Hudson Taylor, was also shot in the first week after lockdown to showcase the city. To date, the video has received almost 72k views. For more, see: <https://dublin.ie/christmas>



#StaySafe Campaign

Alongside 'Open for Christmas', the Dublin Brand team, in collaboration with the Events Unit, created a campaign to specifically highlight the importance of COVID safety in the city centre. This campaign is running across lamp post banners, digi-panels and big belly bins in December.



Supporting Events

Winter Lights

In collaboration with the Events Unit who deliver the exciting Winter Lights, Dublin.ie is the home for

all things Winter Lights 2020. This includes a map of all locations, stunning night-time photos, plus all 82 portrait photos of frontline workers that are projected in Smithfield Square. Live webcams of five locations will go live from 23rd December. See: <https://dublin.ie/winterlights>



12 Days of 'A Christmas Carol'

In collaboration with the Mansion House & The Lord Mayor, Dublin.ie is hosting 12 videos featuring a host of well-known faces reading a different chapter of the Charles Dickens tale, 'A Christmas Carol'. See: <https://dublin.ie/12days>

Growing Dublin Place Brand's audience on social

A campaign to grow our audience across our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter & Instagram) throughout 2020 has been very successful. We have now reached:

- 14.5k on Facebook
- 13k on Twitter
- 3k on Instagram

The campaign will continue to year end.



New sustainable merchandise

Working with sustainable suppliers, we are sourcing new branded merchandise including notebooks, bags, cycle seat covers and umbrellas. We're also working with NCAD to design and manufacture,

sustainable, branded DUBLIN masks. Over 20 design options were created by NCAD students for this project. We plan to have the first masks ready for distribution early in the new year. Samples below.

Ellen Owens

This project made me really think about the essence of Dublin. I was walking around Dublin thinking about what makes the city so unique and I think one of the things that stands out to me the most is the colour. One of my favourite pieces in the city is the U ARE ALIVE mural by Aches, along side other beautiful works dotted around the city. I chose the bright colours for this mask to boost moral and have something bright and cheery in a difficult time. I wanted to use Irish on the mask to channel pride in our city and our nationality. I wanted to convey the message that our collective efforts make a huge difference, and that in such uncertain times, Dublin is a united city, now more than ever.



Sam Hannigan

Inspired by the use of maps in american graphic designer Paula Scher's work I wanted to create a face mask that portrayed an aerial view of Dublin City. Using the recognizable shape of the city I incorporated these strong colours which are simultaneously eye catching and uplifting. I kept the logo black as it stands out well against the yellow and positioned it carefully so as to not take away from the design or have the design over power it. I wanted to reflect the usual high energy and diverse nature of Dublin City and I think that's what this mask does.



Nadia Sherlock Carter

When I got this brief I immediately went to brainstorm things that really stood out to me from a design perspective, and something I kept coming back to was the colour scheme of the Luas.

I'm not from Dublin myself and the Luas is something I would be quite familiar with as an outsider, it's all around the centre and something we don't pay much attention to when going about our day to day lives, but something incredibly useful and present nonetheless.

I developed the design with the intention of making something strong and graphic, something that wouldn't get lost



4. Economic Development Office



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

SPC Progress Report Economic Development Office

12th January 2021



Upcoming Events & Dates for your diary

Event	Economic Pillar	Date/Venue
1. Economic & Enterprise SPC	Place-Making & Clustering	12 th January 2021
2. One Zero	Promotion & Investment	March 2021
3. Dublin City Social Enterprise 2021	Promotion & Investment	March 2021
4. Your Dublin Your Voice	Human Development	March 2021
5. Dublin Economic Monitor	Promotion & Investment	March 2021
6. Futurescope	Climate & Innovation	Q1 2021
7. Dublin Tech Summit	Promotion & Investment	April 2021

Departmental Update:

1. *Economic Development Action Plan 2021 – Strategic Approach*

The EDO Action Plan is being finalised for 2021 in response to the COVID 19 Global Pandemic, the Roadmap to Reopening Ireland and the recent Reset Summit for the city. Under further review Dublin and the country have been moved to Level 3 from 1st December – 18th December; with additional movement allowed between 18th December – 6th January.

Policy:

2. Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor - *Placemaking & Clustering*

A political advisory group has been established with representatives from each of the 8 local authorities whom are participating within the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor. Three elected members will represent Dublin City Council on this group including the Lord Mayor of Dublin Hazel Chu; Cllr Claire O'Connor, Chair of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC; and Cllr Mary Freehill, Chair of the SPC Working Group on International Relations & EU Affairs. The political advisory group will meet in late 2020; early 2021.

3. Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee: SPC - *Strategic Approach*

The November sitting of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC meeting took place on 10th November remotely via MS Teams. Presentations were provided on BREXIT, which was carried out by Enterprise Ireland. A further presentation was provided on the Your Dublin Your Voice survey on people returning to the city post COVID19, provided by EDO and a presentation on the Smart8 District by Smart Cities. Progress reports were presented on the two SPC Working groups on progress to date, outlined below. As this was the last meeting of 2020, a review of the year was discussed, it was highlighted 46 meetings relating to the work of the SPC had been held during 2020. A discussion also took place on a number of motions which were received for this sitting of the SPC. The next SPC meeting is scheduled for 12th January 2021.

4. Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Working Group Tourism, City Markets & Night Time Economy - *Strategic Approach*

The SPC chair reviewed and approved the three new members to join the Tourism, City Markets & Night Time Economy Working Group. This development was also approved by the Corporate Policy Committee on 25th September. The working group chair resigned due to time constraints and commitments. New chair appointed, Cllr Danny Byrne and the group met on 9th November to progress the work programme, with the 3 new members and a new chair for the working group. The group received presentations from Dublin Town on the COVID impact on businesses in the city and also an update on the National Task Force on Night Time Economy and developments in City Markets. The group will meet again on 17th December focusing on Tourism with presentations from Fáilte Ireland and Dublin Economic Monitor.

5. Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Working Group International Relations & EU Affairs - *Strategic Approach*

The International Relations & EU Affairs working group met on 28th September and 12th October to progress the work of the group. At the first meeting, the members received an overview of the proposal to develop European funding opportunities to year end. The proposal includes a 3 step plan which will conclude with a European funding strategy for the organisation. An internal survey was disseminated across the organisation in early October, data collated and analysed and results presented to the working group on 12th October; as well as a presentation aligning EU priorities to the capital programme. 5 EU Funding Programmes Information Sharing sessions have been developed and delivered in November. Following the sessions, an EU Programme Participation Strategy 2021 – 2027 has been developed and completed on 11th December. The final meeting of this working group is scheduled for 18th December.

Projects:

6. MODOS - Sustainability Training for Business - *Climate & Innovation*

The MODOS programme has been highlighted by the National Oversight & Audit Committee (NOAC) as a best practice project for the Local Authority sector. MODOS has been presented at the Enterprise Ireland Green Enterprise Working Group and the DCC Climate Change Action Plan Engagement Workshops to showcase exemplar implementation of circular economy initiatives for micro, small and medium enterprises. To further support businesses in their transition from a linear to a circular business model, a MODOS Voucher pilot project is currently under development, in alignment with the suite of LEO offering and products. A series of MODOS webinars on the topic of circular economy and innovation will also take place starting from January. In light of the positive feedback and expression of interest by members' organisations and other local authorities to run the MODOS program to the benefit of their business networks, a Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted, in order for DCC to retain supervision, ownership of the program and the brand.

7. Dublin Economic Monitor - *Innovation & Transformation*

The December edition of the Dublin Economic Monitor was published on 10th December, with a focus on Q3 2020 stats with Economic impact review and analysis theme, BREXIT and reimagining the workplace. The edition can be available on www.dublineconomy.ie. The first DEM edition of 2021 will be published in Q1.

8. European Funding Programme Strategic Development - *Strategic Approach*

DCC Economic Development & Enterprise SPC – Working Group on International Relations & European Affairs, sought to ascertain details on existing and past EU projects / EU funded national projects that Dublin City Council had participated in or applied to. To gain an understanding of the level and scope of EU funded projects under the 2014 to 2020 EU budget cycle and to assist in raising awareness of funding opportunities in the new EU budget cycle (2021-2027). 3 Step process was completed between October – December 2020. **Step 1: DCC Internal organisation survey: Oct 2020:** Internal survey took place in early October across the organisation to capture baseline data to identify European projects which the organisation has been involved in during the current period 2014 – 2020. 24 Surveys were completed and returned across a number of 8 Departments & 14 sections. Survey results identified where there are strengths in knowledge and opportunities for potential projects across all departments; and has formed the organisation's baseline data. **Step 2: Information Sharing Events: Nov 2020:** 5 Information sessions took place during November to look at thematic approaches: Regional & Urban Development; Horizon Europe, Social & Culture and Smart & Green. **Step 3: European Funding Strategy for Dublin City Council: Dec 2020:** Following the information sessions, all data & details was collated & an EU Programme Participation Strategy 2021 – 2027 has been developed and completed on 11th December for the organisation in advance of the new EU Programme 2021 – 2027, presented to Senior Management on 14th December and to the SPC Working Group on 18th December. This will now be presented to the SPC meeting on 12th January.

Events:

9. *Event Sponsorship:*

The Economic Development Office provide support to various events across the city throughout the year. During 2020, this event sponsorship had been developed to assist in supporting identified economic sectors – Tech, Social Enterprise, Green Business / Circular Economy, Tourism, Markets, Food and Design. As a result of COVID19, all events were postponed during the emergency period and any events held have been provided as a remote virtual offering in line with current climate and operational guidelines. We have received a number of sponsorship requests for virtual events. We have amended our Event Sponsorship procedure and policy has been reviewed and amended as a result.

10. *Pendulum Resurgence - Promotion & Investment*

Pendulum Resurgence took place virtually on 27th November. EDO and Dublin.ie team hosted a virtual stand at the event to interact with attendees. Promotional material, EDO documents, videos and websites were showcased at the event. The Dublin Place brand logo and Dublin City Council logo were showcased heavily throughout the event.

11. *Dublin Summit Series – Reset Summit - Climate & Transformation*

The Reset Summit 2020 took place virtually on 26th November, as part of the Dublin City Summit Series. With 25 speakers, 4 panels and a keynote speech, the Summit considered how to reset and build back a better Dublin following the COVID 19 global pandemic and subsequent economic crisis. In line with Level 5 restrictions; the event was held remotely. The summit had 4 moderated panel discussions on: Innovation & Entrepreneurship; Employment & Skills; Community & Culture and Climate Action & Sustainability. Contributions made at the summit will inform Dublin City Council, and all stakeholders who are actively working to support the city and economy and the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan. The Reset Summit Outcomes Report will be published in Q1 and has fed into the ED Work Programme for 2021, which will be presented to the SPC on 12.Jan.20. Video & article highlights were published on DCC website in December.

<https://www.dublincity.ie/business/economic-development-and-enterprise/strategic-policy-committee/reset-summit-2020>

Research:

12. *Social Enterprise: – Human Development*

The National Social Enterprise Conference took place in November hosted by the Department

13. *Social Enterprise Awards 2020: Placemaking & Clusters*

Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2020 have been shortlisted and evaluation completed. The awards took place remotely on 12th November. This year's awardees were highlighted and celebrated at the awards. The Social Enterprise Awards, managed by Inner City Enterprise and funded by Dublin City Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development contain a development programme for the awardee social enterprises, including mentoring, training and funding.

14. Enterprise Challenge 2020: *Human Development*

A brainstorming session for the brand development of Enterprise Challenge took place on 13th October, with representatives from LEO, EDO, HEI, students & enterprises. The pilot project will be renamed: 'Enfuse'. Branding and programme materials will be developed after which the project will be re-launched in Qtr4 for commencement in Qtr1 2021. The project will be scaled further in Dublin City and will be examined regarding regional scaling.

15. Your Dublin Your Voice: *Placemaking & Clusters*

The fourth and final Your Dublin Your Voice survey for 2020 was published 8th -18th Dec. This was a collaboration with DCC's Parks section, focused on Dublin's biodiversity. Results will feed into the Biodiversity Action Plan to be launched in 2021. The findings of the survey will be collated, cleansed and disseminated to all stakeholders in Q1 2021.

5. Smart Dublin & Smart Districts



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Strategic Policy Committee

Economic Development & Enterprise
January 2021

Agenda Item: Smart City Update – Smart Districts

Smart Dublin is an initiative of the four Dublin Local Authorities to engage with smart technology providers, researchers and citizens to solve challenges and improve city life. It aims to position Dublin as a world leader in the development of new urban solutions, using open data, and with the city region as a test bed.

DCC Smart City Unit under the Smart Dublin umbrella, Dublin City Council has developed a world-leading Smart City programme. It drives forward the use of new technologies to improve our city's operations; improving efficiencies, reducing costs, driving economic growth and future proofing our communities.

Through its Smart City programme, it has turned city challenges into opportunities; using new technologies to improve city services. The Smart City Unit works together with technology providers, academia and citizens to find data-driven solutions to local challenges. The programme is also focused on the roll out of smart districts across the city.

Smart Districts are strategically selected locations where targeted smart city projects can be fast-tracked to measure impact and potential scalability. Each Smart District is unique, with bespoke programmes developed to meet the specific needs of the district residents and also provide growing businesses with a wider variety of testbed locations.

Dublin City Council supports three out of the five Smart Dublin districts; Smart Docklands, Smart DCU and our latest smart district Smart D8, a smart district focusing on Health and Well Being.

Smart District Updates:

1. Link to the Innovation Webinar on Smart Districts: <https://smartdublin.ie/register-now-smart-districts-fast-tracking-innovation-webinar/>



SMART
D8

A Smart Dublin District

Smart D8 – A Smart Health and Wellbeing District

UPDATE: Smart D8 has commenced an online and telephone survey to identify the community needs in the area. The online survey has 234 responses to date and expect 100 responses from the telephone survey by the time it closes before Christmas.

Link to where the survey can be accessed: <https://libertiesdublin.ie/take-the-smartd8-health-wellbeing-survey/>

The Smart D8 launch will be held at the end of January. Invitations will be circulated to all members of the SPC in early January. Date TBC.

2. This month's report will focus on providing you with information on Smart DCU, A Smart Dublin district located at Dublin City University Campus.

Overview:

Kearney's 2019 Global Cities Report revealed Dublin's jump to 9th place as a future global city leader. Dublin's "impressive performance" in Economic outlook and Innovation highlights it's global rise as a tech hub destination. This reinforces the need for more smart district development, to showcase Dublin's talented, innovative start-up community and to provide companies with real world testbeds to measure impact, fine tune solutions and scale-up their solutions.



Smart DCU is the third smart district to be launched under the Smart Dublin umbrella – the purpose is to allow the fast tracking of Smart City technologies in a campus setting. It's a collaboration between DCC, Dublin City University (DCU) and the DCU Alpha innovation campus

developed through the Insight Centre for Data Analytics (Insight) and the Enable research centre and SFI (Science Foundation Ireland).

Dublin City Council's involvement with the Smart DCU initiative provides additional test beds for companies pilot their solutions. It reinforces Dublin's position as a leading smart city innovation hub in the global market and may encourage further foreign investment, benefiting the local and national economy.

Just 5km outside Dublin's City Centre, DCU is home to approx. 20,000 staff and students. It encompasses 5 campus locations and stretches over an excess of 105 acres in North Dublin. DCU Alpha, the Innovation Campus provides early stage start-ups with flexible office, lab and rapid prototyping space. Besides the evident innovation culture happening around campus, the Smart DCU district will work with companies to facilitate piloting their technology solutions using the campus as a testbed. The Smart DCU district also incorporates Croke Park stadium, one of Europe's largest stadia opening the door to another area of innovation opportunities.

The combined landscape of the campus district and Croke Park stadium will fast-track pilot deployments that may otherwise struggle in the public domain due to existing bye-laws or restricted access to city assets. The Smart DCU district enables companies to measure the impact, assess the potential scalability and share their learnings with city leaders. These

valuable insights may influence current policy, leading to positive change or may highlight the need for additional research before scaling. It highlights a shift in local government from reactive decision making to proactive thinking. Another advantage for cities is the exposure to new technology solutions without the commitment to purchase. City operators can provide feedback to companies and helping to inform the design process, resulting in better designed solutions.

Kieran Mahon is the Programme Manager for Smart DCU and will highlight the current and proposed projects happening in Smart DCU. (Email: Kieran@smartdcu.ie) Please see attached .pdf of the slides which Kieran will be presenting.

For any queries in relation to any of the above please contact:

Jamie Cudden, Smart City Programme Manager Jamie.cudden@dublincity.ie or;

[Nicola Graham, Smart City Operations Manager Nicola.graham@dublincity.ie](mailto:Nicola.graham@dublincity.ie)

6. Appendix 1: LEO Response Supports for COVID



Local Enterprise Office



Coronavirus
COVID-19
National
Programme

Helping your business **respond** to COVID-19

Your Local Enterprise Office is here to help your business respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. How can we help?

Trading Online Voucher Scheme

Can you do more business online?



COVID-19 Business Loans

First 6 months are Interest & repayment free



Second voucher now available

Under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the expanded Trading Online Voucher Scheme helps small businesses with up to 10 employees to trade more online, boost sales and reach new markets. There is up to €2,500 available through the Local Enterprise Offices, with co-funding of 10% from the business.

Open to businesses that have been trading for at least six months, training and further business supports are also provided. Businesses that have already received a Trading Online Voucher can now apply for a second voucher, where upgrades are required.

Funding can be used towards adding payment facilities or booking systems to your website or developing new apps for your customers.

The voucher can also be used towards subscriptions to low cost online retail platform solutions, to help companies quickly establish a retailing presence online.

Notes: For applications received from April 6th 2020 until September 30th 2020. Further eligibility, terms & conditions apply. Businesses that wish to apply must attend an official Trading Online Voucher Seminar, through their LEO, prior to application.

New low rate of 4.5% through the Local Enterprise Offices

The COVID-19 Business Loan from Microfinance Ireland (MFI), in partnership with Local Enterprise Offices, is a Government-funded initiative to support small businesses. It's designed for micro-enterprises that are a) having difficulty accessing Bank finance and b) impacted, or may be impacted negatively, by COVID-19 resulting in a reduction of 15% or more in turnover or profit.

Loan Features:

- Business Loans of up to €50,000 are available for eligible micro-enterprises (ie businesses with less than 10 employees and up to €2m annual turnover) that are currently trading
- Loans may be used for working capital and required business changes as a result of COVID-19
- Loan terms are typically up to 3 years
- 6 months interest free and repayment free moratorium
- New low interest rate of 4.5%, if submitted through your Local Enterprise Office
- No fees or hidden costs with fixed repayments.
- No penalty for early repayment

Visit LocalEnterprise.ie/Response

Helping your business **respond** to COVID-19

visit LocalEnterprise.ie/Response

Mentoring Advice and guidance is now free



Under the Local Enterprise Office Mentor Programme, clients work with an experienced mentor to identify solutions to areas of exposure within their business.

With advice and guidance from their mentor, clients develop strategies that are more robust, which address issues and maximise potential opportunities when the COVID-19 crisis comes to an end.

Mentoring services are now free of charge.

LEAN for Micro Become a Leaner business



LEAN for Micro is available to LEO clients to help build resilience within small companies.

Under this programme, clients can avail of consultancy support with a LEAN Expert (a qualified practitioner), who will work with the company to introduce lean principles, undertake a specific cost savings project and assist the company in benchmarking its performance.

LEAN for Micro can also be used to help implement new remote working and physical distancing guidelines.

Training and Webinars Upskill and network remotely, for free



Local Enterprise Offices have moved training programmes, workshops and networking meet-ups online, covering areas such as cash management in a crisis, leading your business through COVID-19 and advice for employers impacted by the crisis.

Training programmes are free of charge and places can be booked online, through your Local Enterprise Office.

LEO Financial Supports Grants for new and established businesses



For existing companies and potential start-ups that meet eligibility criteria (such as employing 10 or fewer people with the potential for growth and job creation), Local Enterprise Offices can also offer financial supports to help manage current market challenges:

- Business Priming Grants**
- Business Expansion Grants**
- Feasibility Study Grants**
- Technical Assistance for Micro-Exporters Grant**

Notes: **For LEO Financial Supports, further eligibility criteria apply.

There are 31 Local Enterprise Offices in local authorities across the country. You'll find contact details for your nearest LEO at LocalEnterprise.ie

