



Following meetings of the Subcommittee established to explore cultural uses and occupancy of the former DIT School of Music on Chatham Row, an interview process of seven shortlisted candidates occurred on November 10<sup>th</sup> 2023.

The seven organisations interviewed were. The Dublin Music Alliance, Pallas Projects, Flux, The Dean Arts Studio(current occupant), The Gaiety School of Acting and the Irish Theatre Institute.

Each candidate made a presentation on their proposed use of the building from a Public, Semi-Public (rentable) and Private use by Artists or cultural practitioners. The interview also addressed Governance, Financial and organisational capacity and sustainability.

The Interview Panel members were; Cllr Cat O Driscoll (Chair) Cllr Claire Byrne, Marry MacSweeney Exec. Manager, Ray Yeates City Arts Officer and Sarah Searson Arts Curator (Extern). The standard of the presentations was universally high and the Panel gave due consideration to each applicant according to the criteria agreed namely;

1. Track Record of Applicant 30%
2. Quality of the Offer 30%
3. Feasibility 20 %
4. Financial Resources and Governance 20%

The Panel set 80% as the qualifying mark to be attained. Three candidates scored above 80%; Flux, Pallas and the Irish Theatre Institute, the Panel decided that that all three should be ranked in order of their score and that the first ranked Flux would be the first preference of

Dublin City Council to negotiate with for occupancy of the building. It is hoped this process would conclude by end March 2024. However if for some reason negotiations did not prove successful at that time Dublin City Council will reserve the right to proceed to the next ranked candidate.

Although this was a good outcome for the future use of the building, the Panel acknowledged in written feedback to each candidate the calibre of their application and interview. The current occupant Dean Arts Studios may continue on a month by month occupancy if they wish by arrangement with teh Property Section until the new occupant is contracted by Dublin City Council.

It is intended that a trial period of a one year Licence to occupy will be negotiated at first and if successful a lease will then be agreed.

**Ray Yeates**  
**City Arts Officer**  
**27<sup>th</sup> November 2023**