



MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. Strategy and Policy

LIBRARIES

Dublin City supporting libraries nationally - Update

Dublin City Libraries have managed the National Library Management system on behalf of all library authorities in the country since 2020. In addition to maintaining and supporting the system, DCL also manages the national helpdesk

The number of queries received by the helpdesk has grown considerably over the last four years. In the first 3 quarters of 2023, 3,888 queries were handled (avg. 18 per day).

| Year | No. of Tickets |
|--------------|----------------|
| 2020 | 640 |
| 2021 | 649 |
| 2022 | 2580 |
| 2023 (Q1-Q3) | 3888 |

EVENTS

Dublin City Council Events Community Fund.

The current total stands at €25,324. In accordance with the report “*Event Safety and Minimal Charging for Public Events*” submitted to the SPC Committee in February 2023, the total will be distributed equally amongst the five area offices for the purpose of funding events in the community.

SPORT AND RECREATION

The DCC Sports Plan underway. Public consultation to be completed during August/September 2023 including input from young people. Plan to be adopted by year end.

ARTS OFFICE

The Arts Office are engaged with Turley to produce a Toolkit and Guidance Document for Developers in relation to the 5% provision for Creative, Community, Cultural space in new developments.

PARKS & LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Communication Boards – Dublin City Council Playgrounds

The first of Dublin City Council's new Communication Boards was recently unveiled in Herbert Park by the Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithí de Róiste and the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth of Ireland, Roderic O'Gorman.

Dublin City Council will be installing these Boards in all their park playgrounds over the coming months. The rollout of the Communication Boards follows the announcement earlier this week of a three-year plan for Dublin to become an autism-friendly city.

Communication Boards are primarily a communications support, with particular benefit to children or adults who are either pre-verbal or non-verbal and/or have communication difficulties.

The plan to install Communication Boards in city parks is an initiative of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Dublin City Council Parks section with the support of the charity [Finding Charlie's Voice](#).

2. Information relevant to SPC

LIBRARIES

Finglas Library will be officially opened by the Lord Mayor on Saturday 9th December at 11 am.

Dublin City Libraries have advertised to award a contract of service for a **Storyteller in Residence for Children**. The Storyteller in Residence for Children will deliver a programme of activities designed to promote literacy and encourage the habit of reading and library usage among young people. The resident will liaise with Dublin City Libraries' Events and Partnerships and Community, Children's Services and Social Inclusion sections to promote the library service to children within and beyond our library branch network.

New assistive and innovative technologies and services available in library branches

Funded through Dormant Accounts 2023, 18 branches now provide Acorn Age Friendly tablets for lending. More details [here](#) on our Age Friendly initiatives.

A [Tovertafel](#) (magic table) has been purchased for the new Finglas Library. Magic tables are also available in the Central Library and in Walkinstown.

Two Sensory Cubbies purchased for Central and Ballyfermot Libraries. More details [here](#) on our range of sensory services

Following the success of the [Library Locker](#) in Drimnagh, a second locker will be available for the community and users of Darndale Village Centre.

In partnership with the LGMA and with funding from the Department of Children, Children's Literacy Collections are being placed in the Visitor's Centres of five Prison Libraries.

Dublin City Libraries received a grant from the ALL Strategy Fund for €14,200 to set up a '**Library Literacy Champion**' programme. The training initiative will conclude in December. This project was funded by SOLAS under the Adult Learning for Life strategy. 29 members of staff participated in the four month programme.

The **2023 Dublin Festival of History** ran from 25th September to 15th October with 200+ in-person and online events in libraries and other venues around the city.

Gaeilge sa Leabharlann

WB Yeats – Nobel Prize 100 year Centenary, bilingual event. The event will feature a selection of Yeats work read by Donncha Crowley with music by Enda Reilly. Central Library Thursday 16 Nov 1.00pm

Samhain agus an Saol Eile - Réaltán Ní Leanáin discusses her City of Literature residency, Dublin's haunted buildings and shares an extract from a work-in-progress. Pearse Street Library, Thursday 23 Nov 6.30pm

Sa Pholl Báite with Anna Heussaff & Aine Ní Ghlinn. Anna Heussaff discusses her latest thriller Sa Pholl Báite, which is set in Kilmainham and the Beara Peninsula. The novel is nominated for Leabhar Ficsin na Bliana at this year's An Post Book Awards. Inchicore Library @ Richmond Barracks Tuesday 28 Nov 11.30am

EVENTS

Dublin City Council Dublin Winter Lights (1st Dec - 1st Jan) www.dublinwinterlights.ie

New projections and installations for 2023 include O'Connell Street Statues and Trees, The Spire, Ha'penny Bridge, Barnardos Square, Central Bank Plaza, Bank of Ireland College Green, and a re-vamp of Merrion Square Park.

Relaxed performances in Merrion Square Park will take place every Fri-Sun.

An original piece of harp music will be brought to life on the strings of the Samuel Beckett Bridge.

Following an open call process, 16 internationally renowned digital artists have created stunning visuals and graphics for the iconic GPO and Custom House buildings. Both buildings will be transformed into a high definition visual canvas. The winning artwork on each building will be announced early next month after consideration by a panel of internationally-recognised judges.

Entrants of the children's art competition will be projected onto the side of Palace Street. Following on from last year's success, Donal Fallon as part of his "Three Castles Burning" podcast will again commission a podcast of the history of the 2023 'Dublin City Council Dublin Winter Lights' locations .

SPORT AND RECREATION

Departmental Capital / Other Projects

| Sports & Recreation Projects | Progress / Current Status | Next Stage |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Aughrim St Sports Centre | Contractor appointed | Accessibility works due to commence |
| Irishtown Sports Stadium | Tender documents complete | Advertise & Evaluate tenders and appoint contractor. |
| Donore Community Centre | Strip out contractor appointed | Strip out & survey investigative works to be completed |
| Northside Swimming Pool | Feasibility Study Complete | Design Team to be appointed in Q4/23 |
| St. Catherine's Sports Centre | Works Commenced | Will be complete by the end 2023 |
| Clontarf GAA all-weather | Works Commenced | Will be complete by the end of 2023 |
| Upgrade of leisure facilities | Design Framework developed | Design framework to be established for improvement works to Ballymun, Finglas, Ballyfermot etc. |

DCSWP Ongoing Projects

| Project | Progress/Current Status | Next Stage |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Governance Code | Review completed and submitted to Sport Ireland to be included on register of organisations in compliance with the Governance Code For Sport | Consult with Sport Ireland on Next Steps |
| Dormant Account Funding | DCSWP has been notified by Sport Ireland that all government processes are now complete with regards to DAF | Launch of the fund through media release |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Sport for Young People Small Grant Scheme | 170 applications received. Sport Ireland Contribution €80,000. First Phase of the assessment nearing completion. DCSWP Advisory Board member to be nominated to assist in Phase two of the assessment of applications. | DCSWP Advisory Board member to be nominated to assist in Phase two of the assessment of applications. |
| Delivery of DCSWP Programmes | | DCSWP Sport and Co-funded Officers (Athletics Ireland, Boxing, Cricket, FAI, Health Improvement, Rugby, Rowing and Swimming Ireland) Officers continue to work closely with community groups, clubs schools and services in the delivery of multi-sport and physical activity programmes aimed at core target groups across communities. Core target groups include older adults, underactive communities, schools, ethnic minorities, mental health groups, people with physical, intellectual and sensory disabilities and youth at risk (young people age 10-24 years) |
| National and International events | DCSWP continues to link in with major national and international sport, health and physical activity events | European Week Of Sport/Dublin Sportsfest 23 – 30 Sep Active Age Week 3 – 9 Oct Fit For All Week 11-17 Oct Dublin City Marathon 29-30 October |

PARKS & LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Park Pitches

Following a request received from the Director of the Dublin & District Schoolboys/Schoolgirls League, Parks Biodiversity & Landscape Services has agreed with our counterparts in Fingal County Council, DLR County Council and Dublin South County Council to co-ordinate the closure of pitches during the Christmas break across the four Dublin local authorities. The closure period will be from Monday 18th December 2023, with pitches re-opening from Monday 15th January 2024 and this standardisation of the pitch closure period will enable the DDSL to manage their fixtures and playing season more effectively.

HUGH LANE GALLERY

Visitor Numbers

Hugh Lane Gallery's Visitor Numbers hit a record high in Oct 2023, with 37,197 people visiting the Gallery's critically acclaimed "Andy Warhol- Three Times Out Exhibition".

Workforce Plan

2x Gallery Attendants and 1x ASO - Education Assistant will be appointed November 2023
Further CVRs to be filled in 2024.

Current Exhibitions

Andy Warhol Three Times Out
6th October 2023 – 28th January 2024

Over 250 works on loan from museums and private collections in the US, Canada, Europe and the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh are included in this substantial exhibition of Andy Warhol Three Times Out. Organised by Hugh Lane Gallery, Andy Warhol Three Times Out has been five years in the making and includes works on loan from private collections and major institutions based all over the globe, including the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US.

Future Exhibitions

Sarah Purser: Artist, Collector Activist

12 June – 20 October 2024

Sarah Purser (1848 – 1943) was a hugely influential figure in Irish artistic circles, both as an artist and as an organiser. This exhibition, drawn largely from the HLG collection, will present her life and work from three different perspectives: artist, collector and activist. Purser was born in 1848 in Dún Laoghaire and studied in Switzerland, Dublin, and Paris before establishing herself as a leading portraitist in the city. Hugh Lane Gallery has a fine collection of her work, with sensitive portraits of Edward Martyn, Maud Gonne, W. B. Yeats and others. She was also an active collector and numerous works from her collection were given in her memory through the Friends of the National Collections of Ireland, which she had founded in 1924. Purser was an energetic advocate for the visual arts in Ireland and her home at Mespil House was a meeting place for various cultural figures. She founded the stained glass studio, An Túr Gloine. She arranged the 1901 exhibition by Nathaniel Hone and John Butler Yeats that was a catalyst for Hugh Lane's interest in modern art, which in turn led to the founding of Hugh Lane Gallery. It was later through her efforts that Charlemont House was secured as the permanent home for the gallery.

Online Collection

Hugh Lane Gallery's online collection has been updated and intergrated into the Gallery's new website. It can be accessed through the homepage or via <https://onlinecollection.hughlane.ie>.

Education

A superb programme of talks, film screening, art workshops, community engagement and more has been curated by Gallery's Education team exploring themes arising from Andy Warhol Three Times Out and includes an ambitious programme of events taking place in DCC Public Libraries throughout the city. Our primary schools city-wide project Zoom@ Hugh Lane Gallery is now in Phase VI and we are also facilitating huge demand for tour requests to visit the Warhol exhibition. **We Can Can Can** is an Education and Community Outreach project by visual artist **Liliane Puthod** in response to *Andy Warhol Three Times Out*. Based on Andy Warhol's famous Campbell's Soup paintings and sifting it through the lens of Irish culture, the project is built on four chapters titled *Can of Beans*, *Silver Can*, *Revolving Can* and *Humming Can*, each exploring media and themes used by Andy

Warhol as a way to initiate a dialogue around the production of singular and multiple objects within an everyday environment. With the incremental addition of artwork made during this project, Gallery 6 becomes a space to question the relationship between time, value, individuals and society. **Chapter 1:** *Can of Beans* with Cabra For Youth, Batchelors Beans Factory and Damn Fine Print. **Chapter 2:** *Silver Can* with Lourdes Youth and Community Services, Colorman Packaging and Printing Company, James Collins and Tom McDonnell with Pavee Point Roma Centre. **Chapter 3:** *Revolving Can* with Beneavin De La Salle College, Finglas, Irish Film Institute (The Irish Adverts Project) and visual artist Helena Gouveia Monteiro. **Chapter 4:** *Humming Can* with St Mary's Secondary School, Glasnevin, Dublin Digital Radio and band Acid Granny. Also among our community outreach projects is *High Expectations*, a year long Early Years artist residency with artist Helen Barry in collaboration with Ozanam House and NEIC.

ARTS OFFICE

Tenders for an Integrated Design Team will issue soon for 8/9 Merchants Quay, Former Eden building and Bridgefoot Street.

DUBLIN MUNICIPAL THEATRE

Agreements are still being finalised with the current tenant and the aim is to complete this by the end of year to allow the new Dublin Municipal Theatre Company to take over operations in January 2024. This is all subject to a number of legal pieces that need to be executed and the timelines are subject to change.

27th November 2023