



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Report to Arts, Culture, Leisure
and Recreation SPC
27th November 2023
Item No. 8

Urban95 Project

A Steering Group has been established to progress work on the Urban95 Project, following involvement in a 7 week on line programme and a city to city engagement working with London School of Economics. Urban95 is a project that aims to improve the experience for toddlers and their care givers, it's called Urban 95 as 95cm is the average height of a Toddler. The Steering Group will oversee a pilot programme that is working to capture the experience of toddlers through engagement with their care givers, and will pilot initiatives aimed at improving the experience of toddlers in the city. An internal vision and external vision statement has been drafted that will establish a framework for a future work. Dublin will be provided with expertise of an external organisation for a period of six months to inform and guide the pilot

Liz Coman, Les Moore, Cllr Cat O'Driscoll, Mary Mac Sweeney and Ray Yeates are supporting this work. Discussions have also been held with Deirdre Scully to identify ways that the City Development Plan provides for toddlers in the built environment.

The Dublin pilot will examine play in the city, consider pop up events perhaps in newly pedestrianised areas such as Caple Street, with an ambition to develop the understanding and capacity of decision makers to design with Toddlers in mind. There will be an opportunity to showcase existing good practice, to learn from other cities and to ensure that the needs of toddlers are considered along-side other groups, such as older person and people with disabilities, as part of the design process.

Next Steps:

1. The *Your Dublin Your Voice* survey panel will be used in Q 1 2024 to gather views and information from Dublin residence on their experiences and ideas for future implementation.
2. It is also intended to capture good practices within Parks Department for formal and informal play and how this is included in the design process for parks and open spaces.
3. A short artists in residencies programme will be explored to support engagement across four Departments to support the aims of the pilot. The 4 Departments we would like to work with are as follows: Culture, Recreation and Economic Services, Housing, Transportation and Smart Cities/Transformation.
4. Plan and deliver Play Pop Ups in pedestrian street
5. Plan and hold seminar to discuss findings and opportunities for wider implementation of toddler friendly design

Mary Mac Sweeney
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