**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÃTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Report of Social and Community Strategic Policy Committee**

**Held on the 15th November, 2016**

**in the Community Services Conference Room**

**Attendance:**

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| Members | Officials |
| Cllr. D. Looney | A.Byrne Administrative Officer |
| Cllr. Emma Murphy | P. McAlerney Senior Community Officer |
| Cllr. V. Casserly | A.Silke Sports Officer |
| Cllr. K. Egan | T. McDermot SDC Sports Partnership |
| Cllr S. Holland | M. Finn, Social Inclusion Officer |
| G. Ní Mhuirí PPN | S. Hickey, Social Inclusion Unit |
| L. Kelly PPN |  |

**Apologies:** B. Coman, Director of Services

**Introductions**

The Chair, Cllr. Looney expressed his sadness on the death of Joe Horan, former County Manager.

**Minutes of September Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September which have been circulated were proposed by Cllr. Looney, seconded by Grainne Ní Mhuirí and agreed.

**Sports Partnership**

Thos McDermott gave a presentation on a new sports strategy being prepared by the Local Sports Partnership.

The Sports Partnership has three roles: To Lead, To Inspire, and To Enhance.

This is at pre consultation stage. A draft will be prepared by the Sports Partnership which will take account of the many initiatives and other strategies in existence such as Healthy County, Disability initiatives, Tourism Strategy and the Play Space Strategy.

Once a draft is complete, it will move to the consultation stage which is expected to be early in the New Year.

Members of the SPC will be kept up to date of developments.

**FAI – Football for All**

A comprehensive presentation as given by the FAI Development Officers. This was welcomed by the members, who appreciated the depth of programmes delivered by the officers throughout the County.

There was a lively discussion covering school based programmes, locally based programmes, programmes focusing on children with a disability and older persons.

The Development Officers welcomed the suggestions of the members and agreed to consider these when developing their 2017 programmes with the SDCC Sports Officers. These include:

Primary School Teacher Summer Courses

BEAM and LGBT Awareness programmes looking to NFL and Rugby programmes for guidance

School Completions and inclusion of ROMA boys in programmes

Increased programmes for persons with a disability

**Social Inclusion Week**

Maria Finn gave an update on how Social Inclusion Week 2016 was progressing.

Schools Competition, numbers of events, numbers attending are all up on previous years. The inclusion of many new organisations was highlighted.

This was welcomed by the members and the positive impression and leadership of the Council given by these events was welcomed.

**Less is More**

Alison Silke gave a presentation on the ‘Less is More’ initiative which is a new website/app which will be available to athletes/sports person who have maybe come to the end of their competitive sports life and are often at a loose end. This will provide a questionnaire which will give some info to the participant on what they should be watching out for. This is a collaborative venture between the SDCC Sports Office, IT Dept and Cllr Kenneth Egan.

Members will be kept up to date of progress.

**International Food Festival**

This derived from the annual 2017 Council Budget and Councillors agreed to include this for 2017.

A discussion ensued which looked at the possibilities for a festival in 2017 in the County.

A number of suggestions arose

Possible Venue of Rathfarnham Castle grounds

Similar event to A Taste of Dublin

Include groups such as Direct Provision Centres and established groups representing Polish, Nepalese, Chinese etc.

Classes

Covered in Festival

Spread over a month with different venues

Include Schools and mention of twinning between schools with recipes etc. shared.

Establish a sub committee

This is to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Updates:**

**Tidy Towns**

Paul McAlerney gave an update on the groups performance on this year’s Tidy Towns competition and updated members on the new groups in the County. A staff member now has a liaison role between all groups and the Council.

**Endeavour Awards 2016 / Chamber Awards / Pride of Place**

The Awards will be presented on 2nd December. All SPC members are invited as are all the groups who entered. South Dublin Co. Co. have also been nominated for Chamber Irelands awards for the Community Initiative Fund, the Cycling Programme and Health and Wellbeing, all of which have been regular items on this SPC. Five groups were nominated by SDCC into the Pride of Place competition and winners will be named at a function later this month.

**Local Economic Community Plan**

An update was given on the consultation for the Community elements of the LECP work plan 2017. Two consultation sessions have already taken place in conjunction with the PPN, with a further one scheduled to be held as part of the plenary meeting on 22nd November. The LCDC will then consider the issues raised when finalising their work plan. Councillors and PPN representatives are included on the Local Community Development Committee.

**Health County Status**

South Dublin County has received Health County Status and this will be conferred at a function on 29th November 2016 at City Hall. Members will be kept up to date on developments.

**Shared Space**

Members agreed to keep this going forward as something to be considered by the SPC.

**AOB**

Cllr. Dermot Looney explained that his role as chair ends at the end of 2016. He thanked all the members and officials for their work and support during his tenure as Chair.

Paul McAlerney on behalf of the staff of SDCC thanked Cllr. Looney for his guidance and commitment as Chair and his support for the many projects undertaken and supported by Cllr Looney and this SPC.

Cllr Deirdre O’Donovan will take over as Chair in 2017.

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**The meeting concluded at 7.40 p.m.**