**Minutes of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC**

**Meeting on 7th September 2017**

**In Attendance:**

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| Cllr. F. N. Duffy |
| Cllr. P. Foley |
| Cllr. E. Higgins |
| Cllr. G O Connell |
| Cllr. C. O Connor (Chair) |
| S. Brennan |
| D. Roche |

**Apologies:**

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| Cllr. A. Dermody |
| Cllr. B Ferron. |
| Cllr. R. McMahon |
| T.de Buitlear |
| S. Reid |

**Officials present:**

Frank Nevin, Director of Services

Colm Ward, Head of Enterprise

**Also in Attendance:**

Ms. Andrea Carroll, Sustainable Business Programme Manager, South Dublin Chamber

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| **The meeting was Chaired by** Cllr C. O Connor.  Before the agenda items were discussed, Cllr. Higgins informed the Committee that she would be stepping down from this SPC following this meeting. Her contribution, and that of Cllr. Dermody who is also resigning from the SPC, were acknowledged by Cllr. O’Connor and by all others present. |
| **Headed Item 1: Minutes of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC Meeting of 10th May 2017**  The Minutes of the Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC Meeting of 10th May 2017 were **AGREED.** |
| **Headed Item 2** - **Review of Business Support Fund & Revenue Budget 2018 Proposals**  **F. Nevin & C. Ward presented a report on the Business Support Fund after which Ms. A. Carroll outlined the various initiatives being delivered by South Dublin Chamber under this Fund in partnership with both the Council and LEO South Dublin.**  **Following questions and contributions from Cllrs. Higgins, Foley, O’Connell & O’Connor, D. Roche, and S. Brennan, which were responded to by F. Nevin, C. Ward & A. Carroll, it was AGREED that the Committee recommend to the full Council that:**   1. Given the success of the programme and in recognition of the continuing requirement to support business in the County, that the Business Support Fund be retained in Budget 2018 at c 1% of rate income. 2. Given the steep decline in take up and the improving business climate, the Business Support Grant to ratepayers cease in 2017. 3. The Business Support Fund will support new enterprise and innovation and will also develop the existing and planned projects with existing business. 4. The projects outlined in the report are supported but flexibility should be retained in order to recognise and support emerging opportunities, some of which may be of considerable scale. |
| **Headed Item 3 – Update on Dublin Action Plan for Jobs**  **C. Ward presented a report updating the Committee on the Dublin Action Plan for Jobson the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017.**  **Following contributions from Cllrs. Higgins, Foley & O’Connell, which F. Nevin & C. Ward responded to the report was NOTED.** |
| **Headed Item 4 – Proposed Tourism and Festival Events Grants Scheme**  **C. Ward presented a report outlining a proposed Tourism and Festival Events Grants Scheme to be run by the Council’s County Promotion Unit from 2018.**  **Following contributions from Cllrs O’Connor, Higgins, Foley & O’Connell it was AGREED that the Committee would recommend that the proposed scheme be introduced in 2018.** |
| **Headed Item 5 – Any Other Business:**  **None.**  **The meeting ended at 7:00pm** |