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



**MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Monday, February 12, 2018**

**MOTION NO.1**

**MOTION: Councillor P. Gogarty**

**Mayor's Business**

That this Council congratulates I Wish on its recent successful event in the RDS promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) as education and career choices for girls (which the Mayor attended and spoke at); thanks the Chief Executive for supporting this worthwhile venture; reaffirms its commitment to promote STEM for girls through whatever means possible at Council level; and recommends that South Dublin County Council sponsors future initiatives by I Wish as a positive way to reduce the gender inequalities in these areas and maximise the potential of our society as a whole.

**REPORT:**

South Dublin County Council is a proud supporter of the Dublin 2018 iWish STEM initiative, which is directed at attracting young girls to consider a career in science technology engineering and maths, and would like to congratulate iWish on their recent event in the RDS.

The *iWish* (inspiring women in STEM) conference in the RDS on the 29th and 30th of January 2018 consisted of workshops and engaging talks by women who are at the top of their field in STEM. The showcase event combined talks with female role models with interactive exhibition spaces where companies engaged with the students through experiments and demonstrations of what they actually do.

The Council believes that the event and overall initiative is of clear relevance and benefit to girls of secondary school age in our county and to the local economy in supporting the development of future talent for local employers, particularly in the STEM sector. In recent years, STEM has become an imperative initiative within our education system. The students attending this event are also at a pivotal point in their education. Due to this, the Council were happy to provide sponsorship to iWish and additional promotional support in the run up to the event.

By becoming a strategic partner for *iWish* 2018, South Dublin County Council have made an important statement about the organisation’s role in supporting female students wishing to pursue a career in STEM subjects. The Council will continue to support this objective into the future.

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