MEETING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM SPC

Wednesday 13th May 2020

1. **Dublin Tourism Working Group Meeting Update**

Attached is text of letter from Paul Keeley, Director, Failte Ireland, to the Dublin Tourism Working Group, outlining the Failte response to the Covid Crisis : *(The Working Group is representative of the Tourism stakeholders in the Dublin region across public and private sectors).*

*“*Hello to all our colleagues. I hope this note finds you well.

I just wanted to send you a note regarding the planned Dublin Tourism Co-Ordination Working Group meeting, which is scheduled for tomorrow, 22nd April. Given the current circumstances, I am going to postpone this meeting until a later date. However, I wanted to give you an overview of what we have been doing to support industry during these extremely challenging times:

* In response to the COVID19 crisis, we immediately focused our resources on drawing even closer to industry both at the level of the firm and with key sectoral bodies. To date we have had conversations with Dublin businesses & stakeholders, to ensure we provide the requisite guidance and support at this time both in relation to government support schemes and direct Fáilte Ireland interventions.
* We created an online support hub with content informed by our conversations with industry to address immediate needs through expert webinars and guidance. This is updated on an ongoing basis, and can be accessed here [https://covid19.failteireland.ie/](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcovid19.failteireland.ie%2F&data=02%7C01%7Crmcgarry%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7Cc450f0d5c504493e0b7408d7e5dd9edb%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C637230612328617172&sdata=mqBjrGaJmHE2EGFprKvUJlLkLegzt7K50M2%2BTPoUXc4%3D&reserved=0)
* We have also launched new wellbeing supports including free counselling and financial advice, to help tourism businesses and their employees, as well as those who have unfortunately lost their jobs, through this difficult period.
* We are continually monitoring industry requirements and we are working on a number of new supports, which we will roll out in the coming weeks. These will centre on working capital/recapitalisation; re-opening under social distancing guidelines; and preparing for an effective relaunch.

We have also kept an eye on the development agenda, and where possible, we are continuing to progress our key programmes including our investment schemes, The Coastal Trail, Destination Towns and the Docklands VEDP, where we are currently looking to shift focus to short term recovery momentum. Looking to the future we are working with Ministers, DTTAS, Tourism Ireland and industry bodies to develop a roadmap to help the industry recover, when the timing is right.

I hope to reschedule our meeting in the coming weeks, but in the meantime if you have any questions or if you just want to get in touch, please contact either myself or Liz at any time.

Thanks,

A close up of a necklace

Description automatically generated

Paul Keeley

Director, Regional Development

Email: [paul.keeley@failteireland.ie](mailto:paul.keeley@failteireland.ie)””

1. **South Dublin Tourism Projects update.**

* Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre – An Bord Pleanala public consultation phase completed on 23rd March – contact awaited from ABP.
* Rathfarnham Castle Courtyard – work ongoing on bringing the project back to market at the appropriate time.
* Tallaght Stadium : it is anticipated that a Part 8 process will be commenced on the North/West Stands this Summer. The branding/marketing process will continue when market conditions permit.
* Lucan Village – a detailed application has been lodged with Failte Ireland under the Destination Towns Initiative following initial approval under the FI scheme.