SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT OF THE JOINT ARTS. CULTURE, GAEILGE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21st April 2021**

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| **Members:** | **Council Officials:** | |
| Cllr. Cathal King (Chair EDET) - EDET | Frank Nevin | Director of Service |
| Cllr. Liona O’Toole - EDET | Bernadette Fennell | County Librarian |
| Cllr. Louise Dunne - EDET | Justin Mulhern | Snr. Enterprise Development Officer |
| Cllr. Lynn McCrave – EDET | Laura Leonard | Snr. Executive Officer |
| Cllr. Pamela Kearns – EDET | Orla Scannell | Arts Officer |
| Cllr. Ronan McMahon - EDET | Ralph McGarry | Administrative Officer |
| Cllr. Mick Duff (Chair ACGH&L) ACGH&L | Tom Rooney | Head of Enterprise |
| Cllr. Guss O Connell - ACGH&L |  |  |
| Cllr. Peter Kavanagh - ACGH&L |  |  |
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| **Representatives** | | |
| Mr. John Kiberd – EDET | | |
| Ms. Sherri Brennan – EDET | | |
| Ms. Elaine Vince-O’Hara - ACGH&L | | |
| Ms. Freda Manweiler - ACGH&L | | |
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| **Not in Attendance** | | |
| Cllr. Ed O’Brien (Mayor) - EDET | | |
| Cllr. Sandra Fay – EDET | | |
| Cllr. Alan Hayes - ACGH&L | | |
| Cllr. Kenneth Egan - ACGH&L | | |
| Cllr. Teresa Costello - ACGH&L | | |
| Mr. Damien Roche – EDET | | |
| Mr. Sean Reid – EDET | | |

**The meeting was co-Chaired by Cllr C. King & Cllr M. Duff**

Frank Nevin, **Director of Service**, noted that the meeting would be conducted as a workshop rather than a full SPC. The approach for the meeting would be an overview of supports and how they are being rolled out.

**Headed Item 1: Minutes of Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism SPC Meeting of 10th February 2021 & Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Tourism SPC 24th February 2021.**

Frank Nevin Director of Service, the Chair of the Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism SPC – Cllr C. King and the Chair of the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Tourism SPC – Cllr M. Duff all agreed that the minutes of the respective SPC’s previous meetings would be addressed at the next separate SPC meetings in May.

**AGREED**.

**Headed Item 2: Review of current COVID related Arts sector financial supports**

Orla Scannell, **Arts Officer** presented a report on Arts and Cultural Sectoral supports. The reports covered points from the Service Adapt Renew (June 2020) Report of the Expert Advisory Group to the Arts Council. It included the announcement from the Arts Council of a €130 million investment across Ireland in 2021 and the initiative being putting in in place that would be supported. Orla also outlined the increased funding that would be received by South Dublin in a number of areas.

Orla then covered a Report from the Arts & Culture Recovery Task force – Life Worth Living 2020 – commissioned by the Dept of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media that sought to examine the challenges to the sector and make recommendations on how best it could adapt and recover. Some key outcomes were the Outdoor Public Space Scheme 2021 and increased support through Creative Ireland.

Orla conclude this element of the meeting with an overview of the sustained supports from South Dublin County Council.

Following this contribution questions were invited from the members.

Questions were raised by Cllr C. King and Cllr L. McCrave

Frank Nevin and Orla Scannell responded to questions raised.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 3: Non-Covid specific business / enterprise supports available to the Creative activity / industry.**

Tom Rooney, **Head of Enterprise,** presented a report on the Local Enterprise Office led, collaborative network for people working in the creative economy in South Dublin. SCENE (South Dublin Creative Economy Network). Launched on the 8th of April, the network uses a steering group made up of stake holders – Arts Officer, Visual Artists Ireland, Design and Craft Council of Ireland and The Creative Ireland Programme. The group, working together, will schedule a calendar of Events for members balancing the unique characteristics of the various creative activities and adding the LEO Business supports element.

Following this contribution questions were invited from the members; no questions were raised.

Cllr C. King and Cllr L. O’Toole acknowledged LEO supports to businesses.

The Reports were Noted.

**Headed Item 4: Opportunities in the return and potential growth of tourism in the County for creative activity / industry.**

Ralph McGarry, **Administrative Officer**, presented a report on the potential growth of tourism in the county. Ralph noted the impact on the hospitality sector of the on-going restrictions but with sight of restrictions easing there will be opportunities for the restart of cultural and heritage activity.

Ralph noted the €17m outdoor dining scheme from government and that this was being managed through the County Promotion Unit. The 2018 County Promotion Unit Tourism / Event & Festival Grant is being recalibrated for outdoor activity. Plans are under way to pivot opportunities for events.

Promotion of the Shop Front Grant is continuing.

Round Tower visitor centre will have their exhibition space refreshed.

Heritage app – currently working on Tallaght as the net iteration.

Tom Rooney and Frank Nevin Responded to the questions raised.

Following this contribution questions were invited from the members.

Questions were raised by Cllr P. Kavanagh, Cllr L. O’Toole, Cllr C. King, Cllr M. Duff, Cllr L Mc Crave, Cllr G. O’Connell and Cllr P. Kearns.

Frank Nevin, Ralph McGarry and Orla Scannell responded to questions raised.

**Headed Item 5: Use of existing space – both built and public realm.**

Orla Scannell, **Arts Officer** presented a report on the Outdoor Public Realm Space Scheme. As part of the Life Worth Living 2020 Report of the Arts & Culture Recovery Taskforce on behalf of the Dept of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media.

Tasked with examining the challenges of the sector and make recommendations on how best the sector can adapt. It was recommended that an accelerated public realm capital improvement programme to fund local authorities to adapt, equip or otherwise improve outdoor public spaces for arts & culture events and also festivals, taking account of public health guidelines.

Up to €250k per local authority for a single project, grant available will be 90% of eligible costs. It must be made available for arts and cultural activities.

Currently looking at option - Open Air Tallaght: Working Title, An architectural intervention to adapt and improve the use of Chamber Square Tallaght, part of the Re-imagine Tallaght Creative Consultation 2018-2019. It would involve underground and overground infrastructural changes and installation of equipment to facilitate outdoor events.

Frank noted that Failte Ireland are also involved.

Ralph McGarry, **Administrative Officer**, expanded on the use of existing space - both built and public realm, specifically the Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme aimed at tourism and hospitality.

Businesses apply to the Local Authority for a grant of up to a max of €4k (75% of costs, ex VAT). The expenditure can be from 01/04/2020 to 30/09/21 0 this is to ensure those who already action this type of activity will not be disadvantaged.

There may be licencing requirements depending on ownership of space to eb used. Applications to be made online through the County Promotion Unit.

Following these contribution questions were invited from the members.

Questions were raised by Cllr C. King, Cllr L. O’Toole, Cllr P. Kearns, Cllr L. McCrave, Cllr M. Duff.

Frank Nevin, Ralph McGarry and Orla Scannell responded to questions raised.

The Reports were Noted.

**Headed Item 6: Next Steps**

Frank Nevin, Director of Service, concluded the presentations for the meeting and noted that each SPC will deal with respective items raised.

**Headed Item 7: AOB**

Frank Nevin, Director of Service, noted that this would be his last SPC meeting as he is due to retire shortly.

All members of the SPC acknowledged and thanked Frank for his work and commitment and were sorry to hear this news but wished him well.

**The meeting ended at 7.15p.m.**

Frank Nevin, Cllr C. King and Cllr M. Duff concluded the meeting.

**Useful Links to items discussed –**

Outdoor Public Space Scheme 2021.  
[gov.ie - Re-imagining our Outdoor Public Spaces (www.gov.ie)](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.ie%2Fen%2Fpress-release%2F14d5d-re-imagining-our-outdoor-public-spaces%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjmulhern%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7Ce97c0e904cd740e8c54b08d908af96e1%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C637550372505034834%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2B9kRcOQTBoGPIi8hJuv6aXEEG%2BEmx7eyTbwzyYF5bhg%3D&reserved=0)

Outdoor Seating and Accessories Scheme

[Outdoor Seating and Accessories Scheme - SDCC](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/business/enterprise/business-support/outdoor-seating-and-accessories-scheme/)

Shop Front Grant

[Shop Front Grant - SDCC](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/business/enterprise/business-support/shop-front-grant/)