SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



**REPORT OF THE ARTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE, GAEILGE & LIBRARIES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd February 2022**

**Venue: MS Teams Meeting**

**In attendance:**

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| **Members** | **Council Officials** |
| Cllr. A. Edge (Chair) | Jason Frehill | Director of Service |
| Cllr. P. Kavanagh (Mayor)  | Paul Fusco | County Librarian |
| Cllr. A. Hayes  | Rosena Hand | Senior Executive Librarian |
| Cllr. T. Costello | Orla Scannell | Arts Officer |
|  | Aideen McLaughlin | Music Development Officer, Music Generation |

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| **Sectoral Members** |
| Elaine Vince O'Hara |
| Freda Manweiler |

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| **Apologies** |
| Cllr. M. Duff |
| Cllr. K. Egan |

**The meeting was Chaired by Cllr Alan Edge**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge opened the meeting and paid tribute to Cllr. Mick Duff, the previous chair.

**Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes**

The [minutes](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=74108) of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC meeting held on 3rd November 2021 were proposed by Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr Alan Edge.

**Agreed.**

**Item 2: County Librarian: Introduction, Library Spaces**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge welcomed and introduced Paul Fusco as the new County Librarian.

Paul Fusco, County Librarian, presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=74109) which addressed our spaces, branch network, mobile libraries and library services. It outlined plans for new Libraries in Adamstown and Citywest along with a library hub in Rathcoole and refurbishment plans for Lucan and Clondalkin libraries. Paul discussed plans for new approaches to mobile libraries, revitalizing our network and other uses of Library spaces including ideas such as Foodlab, Gamelab, Timelab and Quiet space.

A brief discussion was held with contributions from Cllr. Alan Hayes, the Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh, Cllr. Teresa Costello, Cllr. Alan Edge and Elaine Vince O’Hara who all expressed their appreciation of Library services and welcomed the enthusiasm to the expansion and development of Library services and spaces.

Cllr. Alan Edge expressed his support for the idea of using Food themed events in creating Community spirit.

Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh welcomed plans to sympathetically refurbish Clondalkin Library while embracing its heritage.

Following these contributions questions were invited from the members.

Cllr. Alan Edge enquired about the numbers availing of the restricted mobility services and the timeline for delivery of Adamstown and Citywest Libraries.

Paul Fusco and Jason Frehill responded to questions raised.

The report was **NOTED**

**Item 3: North Clondalkin Library & Creative Studio**

Rosena Hand, Senior Executive Librarian presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=74110) on North Clondalkin Library’s Creative Studio. The report tracked Creative Studio’s evolution from concept, to securing funding from the Public Service Innovation Fund, the design process in conjunction with Anne Lynch County Architects Department and Creative Studio’s setup and use. Rosena discussed the promotion of Creative Studio undertaken through multiple media channels, the initial and ongoing community engagement, the organised programmes for schools and local patrons and of the collaboration with Music Generation in organising recent live events with NOISE Music and Sub Sounds. Rosena outlined Creative Studio’s current use for schools podcasting sessions and how library staff assist local musicians and patrons to book the Creative studio, software and instruments. Rosena also discussed it’s impact and future plans for an Acoustic Meeting Pod, a suggestion of providing coffee in the absence of a local coffee shop and the wish to promote cross generational use of Creative Studio through recording workshops for an Intergenerational choir.

A brief discussion was held with contributions from The Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh, Cllr, Teresa Costello, Freda Manweiler, Elaine Vince O’ Hara and Jason Frehill and appreciation for the range of activities, outreach to local schools and community engagement provided by North Clondalkin Library were expressed.

Questions were invited from members.

Cllr. Teresa Costello asked about the use of Creative Studio.

Rosena Hand responded to questions raised and credited staff for their innovation and commitment.

The report was **NOTED**

**Item 4: Music Generation Work Plan 2022**

Aideen McLaughlin, Music Development Officer, Music Generation, presented an [update](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=74111) on Music Generation and its work plan for 2022 and outlined the growth of the programme since 2019, as well as the regions in the county where the Music Generation programme is currently reaching into. The report highlighted the impact of the pandemic on the programme and how it was necessary to transfer the programme online in order to continue providing the service, particularly for community hubs where 100% attendance was recorded in January 2021. Pathways of Progression for children and young people were highlighted, and Aideen demonstrated an outline of how a young child can progress through the programmes on offer from 0-18 years. Some new focuses for the programme were prioritised since 2019: Recruitment, Expansion of Programming and Outreach. A snapshot of the 2021 financial outcome for the Music Generation programme was given, and the outturn for the 12 months in terms of fee income versus expenditure. Aideen finished the presentation with some illustrations of new programming across 2021, some highlights and events from that year including collaboration with Libraries as well as plans for 2022 and beyond.

A brief discussion was held with contributions from Cllr. Alan Edge, Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh and Elaine Vince O’ Hara

Questions were invited from the members.

Cllr. Alan Edge asked what Outreach entailed.

Aideen McLaughlin responded to questions raised.

The update was **NOTED**

**Item 5: Action Items**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge invited contributions for Action Items.

Jason Frehill requested and Cllr. Alan Edge agreed that an update on Tallaght Cultural Quarter be included at the next SPC.

The request was **Noted.**

**Item 6: Any Other Business**

Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh expressed his apologies for the delay and indicated that Coiste na Gaeilge will report back to the next Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC.

Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh and Jason Frehill reiterated the commitment of the SPC to Heritage and agreed a presentation from the Heritage Officer would be welcome at the next SPC.

Jason Frehill confirmed that the proposed Tallaght Heritage Centre would be included on both the Art, Culture, Heritage, Gaeilge SPC and the Economic Development, Enterprise & TourismSPC.

The requests were **Noted.**

Mayor Cllr. Peter Kavanagh thanked the new chair.

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge thanked members for their attendance.

**The meeting concluded at 6:56pm.**