

**Arts, Culture, Leisure & Community SPC
Minutes of Meeting held on 27th March, 2013
8:00 a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall**

Attendance

Members:

Cllr. Gerry Breen
Cllr. Vincent Jackson
Cllr. Séamas McGrattan
Cllr. Padraig McLoughlin
Cllr. Damien O'Farrell
Cllr Steve Wrenn
Cllr Jane Horgan-Jones
Siobhan Bourke, Irish Theatre Institute
Noel Kelly, Visual Artists Ireland
Willie White, Dublin theatre Festival
John Costello, Dublin G.A.A.

Other Councillors present:

Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Mannix Flynn
Cllr. John Gallagher

Officials present:

Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager
Paul Clegg, Executive Manager
Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian
Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian
Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer
Jim Beggan, Senior Executive Officer
Máire Igoe, Senior Executive Officer
Bernie Doherty, Senior Executive Officer
Ruairí O Cuív, Public Art Manager
Coilín O'Reilly, Administrative Officer
Paula Ebbs, Senior Staff Officer
Dr. Mary Clarke, City Archivist

Apologies: Cllr. Julia Carmichael (Chair)

Cllr Gerry Breen took the Chair. Cllr Breen welcomed new member Cllr Steve Wrenn

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 30th January 2013**
The minutes were noted.
2. **Arts and Culture Sub Committee** – Minutes of meeting held on 4th March, 2013.
Noted.
3. **Public Art Advisory Group** – Minutes of meeting held on 4th March, 2013
Noted.
4. **Sports Sub Committee** – Minutes of meeting held on 13th March,, 2013
Noted.
5. **Commemorations Sub Committee / Fochoiste na gCuimhneachán** – Minutes of meeting held on 21st February, 2013
Noted.

6. **Commemorative Naming Committee** - Minutes of meeting held on 23rd January 2013

Noted.

Cllr Flynn queried the protocol in relation to the naming of a Councillor as the contact person for the Commemorative Naming Committee.

Action: Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager noted the comments and agreed to refer this matter to the Protocol Committee for clarification at its next meeting.

7. **Dublin UNESCO City of Literature 2011 (Responses to questions raised)**

Action: Noted

8. **Motion – Cllr Steven Wrenn**

“To ask the City Manager and the Arts Culture Leisure and Community Strategic Policy Committee to support a motion to light up historical buildings in Dublin City during The Gathering. This motion could include historical statues and locations also. This could include visual shows highlighting the history of the building that could be projected on to the front of each building in the evening time during the summer months. Media and Arts colleges from around the city could be asked to create these shows and it would be a great opportunity for them to showcase their skills”

Action: Cllr Pat McCartan has already submitted a similar motion to the City Council. Management will co-ordinate a response to both motions.

9. **Commemorations – Presentations by Paul Clegg, Executive Manager**

Paul presented an update on the workings of the Commemorations Committee to date.

Cllr Flynn queried the criteria for plaques in the city.

Paul Clegg informed the Committee that a design template is being developed for a commemorative naming plaque which will be unique to the city of Dublin and applications will be assessed by the Commemorative Naming Committee in accordance with the criteria as set out in the policy document.

Queries from members around the pop-up temporary tenement museum at 14 Henrietta Street were raised. Paul Clegg stated the idea behind this project was to give a sense of tenement life and to restore it back to its original condition and it would be an opportunity to facilitate the proposals associated with the 1913 lockout.

Brendan Teeling, Deputy City Librarian, presented a brief on the digitisation of electoral rolls which was overseen by the City Archivist, and demonstrated how to access information on the Dublin Heritage website, www.dublinheritage.ie
The presentation was welcomed and noted.

10. **Community and Social Development – Presentation by Máire Igoe/Bernie Doherty**

Máire and Bernie outlined the structure and responsibilities under the remit of Community and Social Development which is now part of this SPC.

The Committee welcomed the amalgamation of services under Culture, Recreation and Amenity Department.

11. **Management Update on current issues**

Action: Report noted.

12. **Sub-Committee membership**

A discussion took place regarding sub-committee membership. Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager, suggested a re-vamp of the sub-committee format and to bring more external stakeholders on board to incorporate play, tourism, events etc. Cllr Flynn raised the issue of the need for representation of music on the SPC or Sub-Committee.

Noel Kelly, Visual Arts, Ireland expressed the view that we should expand out into other creative forms, for example, literature.

Action: Report to be brought to the next SPC

13. **Draft guidelines on Dublin City Council's advertising banners to promote events**

Concerns were raised by members on the issue of advertising political and alcohol related events on Dublin City Council's banners and poles.

Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager, stated that this was a good way of promoting events and in the past has received a lot of praise. In a situation whereby the festival/event being organised is of significant economic and cultural importance e.g. the Heineken Cup, the event may not take place in Dublin at future dates if such advertising were to be refused. In recent times the DCC logo has been omitted from the banner, but we will now formulate more guidelines in this respect before a final draft document is presented.

14. **A.O.B.**

Cllr Jackson enquired as to the up to date structural issues on Ballyfermot Swimming Pool.

Paul Clegg, Executive Manager. stated that Ballyfermot Swimming Pool is the subject of legal arbitration. An expert from the UK has been engaged to inspect the latest structural problems in the pool.

Siobhan Burke, Irish Theatre Institute requested if other culture organisations would be invited to a future meeting to make presentation on their role and remit within the Temple Bar Cultural Trust.

Action: Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager stated that it would be premature at present for this, but that there was scope in the future for such presentations.

Cllr Flynn expressed his dissatisfaction with the reply from the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht regarding Dublin Contemporary 2011. Brendan Kenny stated that an audit has not yet been finalised, but Dublin City Council will continue to press for more information.

Cllr Flynn requested that a full report be brought to the SPC on the closure of the City Arts Centre and for this report to include the history of activities and how the closure came about.

Action: Report to be brought to the next meeting

Cllr Breen informed the Committee that there would be a planning meeting for the September Smithfield Horse Fair on June 10th.

Items for next meeting

- Busking bye-laws
- Charging scheme for filming/promotional events
- Draft guidelines for advertisement banners

Next meeting will be Wednesday 22nd May 2013

**Councillor Gerry Breen,
Chairperson**

Date: _____

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

EVENTS AND TOURISM PROMOTION

New Years Eve Festival 2013:

New Years Eve Dublin Festival attracted over 55,000 people into various events throughout the city. This was the second year of this Festival which included an outdoor Countdown concert featuring acclaimed Irish artists. Over 15,000 concert goers being treated to a musical extravaganza in the atmospheric surroundings of College Green.

The sold out concert also featured stunning light projections on the facade of Trinity College. The event also had family workshops, a torch lit procession featuring floats, torchbearers, stilt walkers and dancers, a fireworks display at St Stephens green and a Big Brunch Family Day in Meeting House Square on New Year's Day.

Budget for the Festival

The Failte Ireland total budget for the New Year's Eve (NYE) Festival was €740,000; with a breakdown as follows over the key elements of the festival: - €102k Fireworks; €80k Procession of Light; €175,000 Countdown Concert. Dublin City Council's financial contribution towards the Festival was €110,000.

The overall budget included costs associated with the production of the event, insurances, overheads, marketing and the Big Brunch in Meeting House Square, Temple Bar on New Year's Day.

Publicity / Feedback:

The headline figures below are from a combination of surveys carried out of attendees at the NYE Dublin Festival.

Satisfaction rates and feedback:

- 93% of all respondents would recommend the event to friends or relatives next year
- 92% of those surveyed felt the event represented value for money
- 90% felt the event was well organised
- Fireworks and music dominated the suggestions from attendees when asked what they would like to see next year.

City Branding and Media Opportunities:

A significant number of international media were in Dublin for the start of Ireland holding the EU Presidency which brought additional media coverage of the NYE event to a worldwide audience with very positive commentary.

As a condition of funding, we required recognition of Dublin City Council as a key project funder, co-branding in all NYE marketing campaigns, acknowledgement regarding the use of the city streets/venues, use of our logo on all promotional materials of the festival, media opportunities to promote the City.

Dublin City Council branding was displayed at all the events; on all NYE indoor and outdoor advertising, print media, acknowledged by the media on radio and television and our logo was displayed on all promotional material including brochures, leaflets, websites, on-line media, radio/tv, venues/buildings, festival zones, parade routes etc.

Impact of the Festival: (Statistics from Evaluation carried out on behalf of Failte Ireland)

Attendance:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| NYE Festival combined overall attendance figures: | 55,763 |
| • Countdown Concert | 14,763 |
| • Peoples Procession of Light | 3,000 |
| • The Big Bank Fireworks | 35,000 |
| • The Big Brunch, Temple Bar | 3,000 |
- *89% attended with family or friends.*
 - *47% discovered the event online*
 - *30% heard about it through friends or family*
 - *36% aggregate heard about it through radio (17%), press (13%) or TV (6%).*
 - *48% of attendees are based in Dublin with a further 19% based elsewhere in Ireland, primarily in neighbouring counties*

Tourism Impact:

- 33% of attendees were visiting from outside of Ireland.
- 19% were visiting from other parts of Ireland (domestic visitors).
- 48% were locals (living in Dublin).
- Total of 22,365 attendees at NYE events were visitors to Dublin (domestic and overseas visitors).
- 67% of all attendees said NYE Dublin was an important part of their decision to visit Dublin and/or stay in Dublin.
- 36% of all attendees stayed in paid accommodation.
- Because NYE fell on a Monday, the average length of stay for overnight visitors was longer than usual at 4.8 days.
- Because of the time of The Peoples Procession and Fireworks, shops, restaurants, cafes and bars in the City Centre were busy from late afternoon on NYE with locals and visitors, including a great many family groups. This was a significant change from previous years in the city centre that only became busy on NYE in the very late evening onwards and then only with adult revellers.

The total visitor spend by attendees of the NYE Festival was estimated at approximately **€5.8m** (i.e. excluding spend by locals).

Annual Calendar of Festivals and Events 2013:

This year's Programme will see many exciting festivals and events and a whole host of gatherings taking place during the year. Our aim is to mobilise, drive and promote a whole host of events in Dublin City, improving the experience of the City for visitors and residents, bringing animation and vibe to the City's streets and providing safe, exciting and quality entertainment with something for all ages and cultures to enjoy.

A key focus in this year's Programme will be to support Gathering Initiatives. In addition to the funding provided by IPB Insurance/Gathering Ireland 2013 for events in the city, the Events and Tourism Promotion Unit advertised for Expressions of Interest from the event industry, festival producers, cultural institutions, governing bodies of sport, city businesses and other interest parties to collaborate with and support Dublin City Council in developing the Annual Calendar of Festivals and Events for 2013.

This year we encouraged applicants to mobilise international connections and networks to attract additional overseas visitors to the city in 2013 as part of The Gathering. A total of 73 applications have been received and are currently being assessed for funding or other means of support, advice, expertise or assistance.

The Events & Tourism Promotion Unit will, along with the businesses, tourism providers and the local community, be promoting all the City has to offer from school or work reunions, conferences, bringing family home to visit, history, heritage, genealogy, celebrating local heroes, reviving past traditions, community and sporting events, and heritage walks etc during the year.

Events in the City 2013:

New City Events:

- *Festival of Curiosity (Science Festival)*
- *Festival of History (Libraries)*
- *Hidden Rooms (Architectural Design Conference)*
- *Norish (Norwegian) Music Festival*
- *Leisure Cycling Festival*

Many major festivals and events will have a special Gathering Dimension such as:

- *St. Patrick's Festival with the People's Parade*
- *Dublin City Marathon*
- *Dublin City Rose Festival*
- *Liffey Swim*
- *Street Performers World Championships*
- *Culture Night*
- *One City, One Book, Strumpet City*

Other major events in the City will include:

- National Veteran Vintage Car Rally (Smithfield)
- Handels Messiah
- Samsung Night Run
- Gay Theatre Festival
- European Heineken Cup Final and the Mini Marathon.

During the year the City will be celebrating what is best about Dublin and its people, from events celebrating the City's villages and communities such as:

The Gathering of the Vikings in Clontarf, to local Festivals like Harold's Cross Community Festival, Liberties Festival, Sail Home to Your Roots and a Trip Down Basin Lane, to city-wide festivals such as the Bealtaine Festival, the Gathering of Draculas in October for the Bram Stoker Festival, the Dublin Beatles Festival, the Riverdance Gathering and the Dublin Writer's Festival.

This year will see increasing emphasis on the decade of commemorations for the City (2012-2022) and the Nation with the centenary of the Lock-out of 1913 and we have commenced planning celebrations to mark the Battle of Clontarf in 2014 and the Easter Rising in 2016.

Street Performers Voluntary Code of Conduct

A review of the Street Performers Voluntary Code of Conduct was presented to the January SPC. It was agreed that Street Performers Bye-laws be prepared and presented to the SPC in due course. These Bye-laws have now been drafted and have been referred to our Law Department for consultation. Following on from this, we will report to the SPC and prepare for a public consultation process.

DUBLIN CITY GALLERY THE HUGH LANE

Current Exhibitions:

Sleepwalkers: Production as process

Gallery 8 has been assigned to 6 invited artists for a 10 month period until May 2013. The artists have developed a programme of future site –specific installations in Gallery 8.

Sean Scully – Doric: 28th March to 9th June 2013

The work of Dublin born Sean Scully (1945) is internationally recognised in the canon of late modernism. The exhibition is dedicated to the Doric series - monumental sized paintings that the artist has produced since 2008 until now - and to a series of water-colour paintings created in Greece during the 1980s, thematic prologue of the large formats of Doric. The series was fundamentally conceived as a celebration of the contribution of classic Greek culture to humanity. The works embody a metaphor of Greek architecture: "the spaces between the columns are space for thought, for light, for questioning and growth," writes Scully. The light and dark tones intervene in a complex game of solidity and shadow.

JONATHAN CUMMINS: WHEN I LEAVE THESE LANDINGS 18th April To 20th May 2013

NCAD Gallery and Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane
18 April to 20 May 2013, The Hugh Lane
18 April to 31 May 2013, NCAD Gallery

Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane in collaboration with the National College of Art and Design (NCAD) presents three film-based installations by Jonathan Cummins: *Go Home* (2010–2013) and *Out The Road* (2012–) at The Hugh Lane; *When I Leave These Landings* (2004–2009) at NCAD Gallery.

PARKS AND LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Parks Improvements Works Programme 2013

A comprehensive programme of improvements funded by sports capital grants, and City Council budgets has been prepared for presentation to each area committee. This programme is designed to address the needs of local communities as communicated by the elected members, address a deficit of play facilities in the City (as identified by mapping) and it will enable the development of quality facilities that citizens and visitors would expect in a Capital City. The following are some of the significant projects:

- Playgrounds at Walkinstown, Edenmore, South Finglas and Merrion Square.
- Improvements to tennis facilities at St Annes Park and Bushy Park.
- Tea rooms, toilets and heritage information at St Patricks Park and Herbert Park.
- Changing room pavilions at Willie Pearse Park, Herbert Park and Bushy Park.

Historic Park Projects

In 2011 the cultural and business interests around **Merrion Square** came together to set up the Merrion Square Innovation Network with the aim of creating a more vibrant cultural tourist quarter. In 2012 there were a range of events facilitated by Failte Ireland and generally there was a policy amongst the stakeholders of having their doors open and more welcoming for visitors. One of the key outcomes of the Network is how the Park should evolve into the future and the concept of a café in the park has been suggested. A study is underway to set the context for how the park could evolve into the future informed obviously by its heritage and its evolution to date. The City Council are a lead partner in the network and support the objective of the park being the heart of a vibrant cultural South Georgian quarter.

The **Mountjoy Square** Society represents a number of committed individuals who live and work on the Square whose aim is to pursue the conservation and restoration of this very important park for the city. However, it is acknowledged there are very difficult issues to resolve around the use and layout of this park. In 2012 the City Council carried out a user survey of more than 260 people and found that over 90% expressed 'a strong love' for the park; almost 50% of those 'interviewed' were not Irish; no one mentioned heritage and the most serious issue of concern to them was anti social behaviour.

These two Squares differ in two key respects. Firstly there is a diverse resident community at Mountjoy Square and there are only a few residents on Merrion Square. Secondly, the degree of intervention to the layout of Mountjoy Square is very significant while Merrion Square relatively speaking has not changed significantly from 1846.

In both cases these projects are key actions in the City Councils Public Realm Strategy. They are facilitated by a strong desire of stakeholders in both cases to conserve heritage and to improve the presentation of these Georgian squares. The Parks Service welcomes this dynamic and is conscious of the need to establish realistic timelines for change to happen and to manage the expectations of the stakeholders in this regard.

Bull Island UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

A feasibility study is being prepared to promote the importance of the UNESCO designation on the Bull Island, the potential for increasing the visitor numbers and the opportunities for promoting the 'green credentials' of the City. We will shortly make a presentation to the North Central Area Committee.

Parks/Open Space Strategy

Geographic Information Systems mapping is progressing and it is envisaged that a draft report will be available in the 3rd quarter of 2013.

Tree Strategy

Preparative work is underway for a Tree Strategy which will set out City Council policy in relation to tree care and management. This will also look at the resources necessary to implement best practice for the City. It is envisaged that a draft report for public consultation will be available in the 4th quarter of 2013.

CITY ARTS OFFICE

There is substantial progress being made by Dublin City Council through the Temple Bar Cultural Trust in Temple Bar and already the various sections of the City Council from Area Office to Casual Trading, the Property Section and the the Arts Office are supporting and engaging with the Company whilst providing important oversight.

The annual Arts Grants supported 112 diverse and wide ranging artistic groups to the value of €530,000, 243 applications were received in total. There is a high demand for feedback on the process from individual applicants and one appeal was received.

A new vision for The Red Stables has emerged through a joint approach by the Parks Superintendent and the City Arts Office. Last summer saw artists and ecologists work together and run events for the public on the theme of where art botany and ecology meet. These events had significant impact and showed a rich vein of future programming and cooperation for the Arts Office in a parks setting. Parallel to this a review of Artists Studios and their use has led to proposals for the use of the spaces in the Red Stables, in pursuit of that vision with artists and the ecologists and the public using the spaces as part of the overall vision and fulfilling the St. Anne's Park role within the biosphere at Bull Island. Further cooperation throughout parks by artists is now being explored from bandstands to Public Art and Events.

The LAB - Dublin City Council's Municipal Arts Centre, provided rehearsal space and facilities to over 140 drama, dance, film, 3rd level and community groups throughout 2012. It also hosted for the 3rd year in a row the award winning Fringe show *The Boys of Foley Street* by Anu Productions

The Gallery The LAB Gallery curated 13 visual arts exhibitions, one of which a collaboration with Shimmer Research won best small sponsorship in the Allianz Business To Arts Awards. The next exhibition opens on the 15th March , *Exiles*, As part of the Five Lamps Arts Festival theme commemorating the centenary of the Dublin Lockout of 1913, artist Alison Pilkington has brought together a diverse group of artists to consider the idea of being 'locked out' as a metaphor for the human condition.

LOVE Film Day

As part of our Youth Arts development partnership with CDYSB, we were delighted to welcome to The LAB on Valentine's day young people who love film and are interested in developing their film-making skills. Young people aged between 13–20 took part in workshops in Screenwriting, acting for film and storyboarding.

Opera in the Open - There is discussion ongoing about the expansion of this programme to other counties as demand is high. 5 Operas return again this summer in the amphitheatre of the civic offices.

Dublin Writers Festival - After a feasibility study it was not possible to site the Writers Festival in Merrion Square. This was due to availability and cost. However with new relationships in Temple Bar and cooperation from Libraries, the amount of events has doubled from 31 to 66. This has also followed on a process of consultation with the Literature community and partnerships arising with the Dublin Book Festival, Poetry Ireland, TBCT, Axis, Children's Books Ireland and many more. There will be a much increased family and Children's Programme and major world names in Literature at The National Concert Hall as well as Trinity College, Smock Alley, Culture Box, the Stock Exchange, Workman's Club Ballyfermot and Pearse Street Libraries. This list is still growing.

Public Art in the City continues to make connections between the artists, the city and the public. Two notable per cent for art commissions were award winners. *Travelogue* by artist Theresa Nanigian undertaken in association with the National Transport Authority. Awards.

The Boys of Foley Street by Anu Productions received many accolades for the power of its theatre and was listed as one of the top ten productions seen by the theatre Critic of the Observer newspaper.

Artist Residents - Units 3 and 4 at Liberty Corner and the 3 cottages have been a great success with full occupancy throughout 2012 and continual strong demand in 2013. They are proving very economical to run with the rental income paying for the revenue expenditure in 2012.

There is an open call to Irish and International Artists' and Arts Organisations interested in applying for Albert Cottages and St. Patrick's Lodge. These residences are suitable for artists of all disciplines and both short and longer term lets are being considered.

The short term lettings supported the visits of many artists taking part in the city's key cultural events in 2012, while longer term affordable lettings in Albert Cottages supported artists development in more pragmatic ways

New Arts Plan. The Purpose of the Arts Office, a Strategic view of each Art Form and the new context for the Arts will form the basis of the new City Arts Plan currently being drafted.

1. KPIs for 2012

- 2.5 million items were loaned
- 2.7 million visits were made
- 892,891 virtual visitors were recorded
- 402,873 internet sessions were recorded, 101,255 via free Wi-Fi
- 6,893 events and exhibitions were recorded at branch libraries
- 1,998 primary school classes visited branch libraries for cultural programmes and events.

2. Events and Programming

The libraries' spring programme featured a range of events aimed at adults and children, including Children's Art in Libraries; Dublin's READING the Nightmare Club; Career Direction and Development Programme; Adult Learners' Festival, Engineers' Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, International Women's Day, and the Festival of Russian culture.

The libraries participated in Smithfield Horse Fair on 3rd March. The Learning Bus was onsite and library staff presented slideshows on the history of the fair and the area using images drawn from our collections. Staff also presented storytelling sessions for children.

As part of Digital Dublin Day, 8th March, the Learning Bus was parked at the top of Grafton Street. The public were invited to bring along photographs of Dublin which were scanned and uploaded to the Internet. The digital images have been added to the photographic collections. Visitors to the bus were also given guided 'tours' of the various databases available in the libraries.

3. Building Works

Ballyfermot refurbishment

Phase 3 works were completed in Ballyfermot Library in January. Staff are now working on site to prepare the stock for the delivery of furniture and other fittings after Easter. We anticipate an opening date in late April.

Kevin Street refurbishment

An engineer will be appointed shortly to manage the first phase of the Kevin Street refurbishment project, involving repairs to the roof, walls and drainage. The current estimate is that the library will close in June of this year and reopen following completion of a full repair and restoration project in June 2015.

4. City of Literature Office

Dublin was granted a permanent designation as a UNESCO City of Literature in 2010. Promoting reading and writers are among our activities - both locally and internationally.

Dublin: One City One Book 2013 - *Strumpet City* by James Plunkett

Over 50 events will take place across the City (and in Dún Laoghaire and Rathfarnham) as part of the Dublin: One City One Book festival, launched in Liberty Hall on Tuesday March 26th by the deputy Lord Mayor. A special edition of the book has been published by Gill & Macmillan and is available in Dublin City Libraries' branches and in all bookshops. The printed programme is in libraries, bookshops, tourist offices, national cultural institutions and venues and also online at www.dublinonecityonebook.ie

There is wide media and public interest and many enquiries have been received from outside Ireland.

International Activity

The international activity of the Dublin UNESCO City of Literature office continues. Material promoting Dublin's literary heritage and contemporary activity has been sent to Heidelberg as part of a St. Patrick's Day promotion; following an application made by the office, Dublin has been chosen as one of two featured cities in the Utrecht (Holland) City2Cities 2014 literary festival.

Words on the Street – European Literature Night

Words on the Street – European Literature Night is on Wednesday 15th May 2013 and will take place in cities across Europe on the same night. First launched in Prague, it has now become a major international cultural event promoting European cultural heritage by presenting contemporary writers, well-known and newcomers, to the broader European public.

In Dublin the format chosen is one where the twelve participating countries will each be represented by a translated piece of a novel, poem or short story, read by well known Irish people at various unusual places such as Newman House, Iveagh House, University Church, College of Surgeons, Stephen's Green Hibernian Club, Little Museum of Dublin, Constitution Room in the Shelbourne Hotel, Loreto College, 5 Ely Place, Boston College, The Sugar Club and others.

A map showing the location of the venues with information about the readers and readings will enable the public to move from venue to venue - all of which will be around the St. Stephen's Green area and within walking distance of each other.

The readings in each venue will be given by well known personalities. Those who took part in the 2012 event included the Lord Mayor, actors Barry McGovern, Tom Hickey and Owen Roe, news reader Sharon Ní Bheoláin, singer Brian Kennedy, dancer Breandán de Gallaí, broadcasters Joe Duffy, Mary Kennedy and the author Bernard MacLaverty.

Partners are the Alliance Francaise, British Council, Cervantes Institute, Goethe Institute, Italian Cultural Institute and the embassies of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Malta, Poland and Romania.

This is a free event for the public funded mainly by the participating institutions.

This project will attract national and international attention, visitors will be citizens and tourists alike and is particularly appropriate given Ireland's presidency of the EU.

5. Commemorations – 1913 Lockout

Dublin City Electoral Rolls 1898-1916.

The online database created from the scanning and digitisation of the 1908 volume of the Dublin City Burgess Rolls is now online at www.dublinheritage.ie. The database contains entries for the 46,055 people who were registered to vote in municipal elections in 1908. Along with ratepayers and Freemen, householders and lodgers - men over the age of 21 and women over the age of 30 – were entitled to vote.

In addition to name, address, and type of qualification to vote, the database gives detailed information about lodgers which is not found anywhere else (e.g. type of rooms rented and rent paid).

Plans to digitize the next two volumes are underway.

Dublin in 1913: A capital in conflict

The production of the volume of essays on the Lockout and Dublin in 1913 is complete and the book, titled *Dublin in 1913: A capital in conflict* will be launched with a full-day seminar on 13^h April.

6. The Gathering

The Dublin Festival of History

The inaugural Dublin Festival of History will run from 26th September to 5th October 2013. The Festival will feature a programme of high-profile 'main' events held in a Dublin City Council city centre venue over the weekend of 26th - 29th September featuring well-known, published historians, both international and Irish. This programme will also encompass out-on-the street history (eg. walking tours etc) and different activities eg. film/discussion. The festival will close with Local History Day in the Dublin City Library and Archive on 5th October.

Tracing your Dublin Ancestors

Drawing on our genealogical and local studies collections, free 'Trace Your Dublin Ancestors' events will be run on weekends during July 2013. Sessions will also be run as part of the Festival of History.

7. Library events.

Events planned for the second quarter of 2013 include

- Start Your own Business series;
- Lecture series and launch of *A Capital in Conflict - Dublin in 1913*, a collection of essays commissioned by Dublin City Libraries and Archive.
- Events in support of Social Inclusion Week; the Bealtaine Festival; the Dublin Writers' Festival; the Dublin Pride Festival;
- The announcement of the shortlist and winner of the 2013 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.
- City Hall Lunchtime Lectures, 2013.

SCHOOL MEALS

Dublin City Council administers a school meal scheme under the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act, 1981. There are currently 183 schools availing of the Scheme providing food to approximately 24,500 school children on a daily basis. The total annual cost of operating the Scheme is €1.4 million. This includes an amount of €150,000 paid directly to participating schools as a contribution towards their administrative costs. 50% of food costs are recoupable from the Department of Social Protection.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE SERVICES

Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge – Ard-Mheara 5 Beo Dushlan 2013

Four of the five races have now been completed in the Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge. This challenge has proved extremely successful with participant numbers remaining high and team camaraderie growing as the series continues. Team members receive regular feedback and encouragement from both the Lord Mayor and the Dublin City Sports Network. The fourth race started at the Mansion House, at 12noon on the 16th of March. The final race is the Dublin City Council Business Houses Athletics Association race which takes place in St. Anne's Park on the 6th of April. All team members will then be invited to a reception in the Mansion House later in the Month where those who completed all 5 races will receive a commemorative medal.

Operation Transformation

One hundred and fifty participants turned up to complete the 3k Dublin Walk organised by Dublin City Sports Network as part of RTE's Operation Transformation 2013. The walk, supported by Dublin City Council's Parks Department, took place in Eamonn Ceannt Park (Sundrive Park), Crumlin on Saturday 19th January. The aim of the walk was to encourage as many people as possible to come together and walk 3 kilometres. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Naoise Ó Muirí, gave a short speech at the start of the walk to welcome all participants and emphasise the importance of regular physical activity in the prevention of many common diseases.

Five thousand people participated in the 5 kilometre fun run in the Phoenix Park on the 23rd of February. This event was organised by Dublin City Sports Network, Dublin City Council, Athletics Ireland and the Irish Sports Council in partnership with the Operation Transformation production company. The Lord Mayor's Challenge team was well represented at this race and their t-shirts were highly visible on the televised programme. In addition, 40 members of Fatima Operation Transformation also completed the 5 Kilometres. The Fatima/Herberton project mimicked the RTE format and encouraged a healthy lifestyle through a multi-disciplinary approach including physical activity promotion and dietary advice. Over 120 local residents signed up to the Fatima Operation Transformation Project which was designed and delivered by Dublin City Sports Network, Dublin City Council, the HSE Health Promotion Department and the F2 centre in Herberton.

Vetting Guidelines for Sports Clubs Seminar

The National Vetting Bureau - Children and Vulnerable Persons - Act will introduce compulsory vetting of staff by organisations who work with children or vulnerable persons. This seminar will outline the procedures sports club are required to take to ensure all volunteers and coaches are vetted and the sanctions for failing to properly vet. This seminar will be held in the Wood Quay venue on Wednesday the 1st of May from 6.30 – 8.30pm.

Champions Day

Champions Day is a Sports Day organised by Dublin City Sports Network as part of Social Inclusion Week. The event caters for people with both physical and intellectual disabilities and offers them the opportunity to take part in a variety of sports including rugby, soccer, boccia, chair aerobics and athletics. Champions Day will take place in Ballyfermot Leisure Centre on Thursday 2nd May, 2013.

Go for Life Games – Dublin Trials

The Go for Life Games were established in 2012 to provide Older Adults with a National Games similar in ethos to the Community Games. Three easy to learn games were developed for the competition. The Go for Life Dublin Trials will be held in Cabra Parkside on Wednesday the 8th of May, 2013. Members of Older Adult groups from around the City will be invited to participate at the Dublin Trials. Participants will be chosen from the Dublin Trials to represent Dublin City at the National Games to be held in Dublin City University on the 8th June, 2013.

Sports Council Challenge

The Irish Sports Council is inviting organisations to get involved in a corporate sports challenge in May 2013. The challenge invites staff to set physical activity challenges to complete over 4 weeks in May. The challenges may be large scale initiatives or smaller events to suit smaller workforces.

They can be associated with a specific target like cycling the distance of the Tour de France or swimming the distance of the Irish Sea. Dublin City Sports Network will work with staff of Dublin City Council to choose the challenges which DCC will engage in.

Additionally the Dublin City Sports Network will encourage outside organisations to engage in the challenge.

Dublin City Rugby

Dublin City Sports Network, Dublin City Council and Leinster Rugby in partnership with the IRFU and ERC are engaged in two programmes in the lead up to the Heineken Cup Final to be held in the Aviva Stadium on the 18th of May. The three programmes are as follows:

Dublin City Council Under 15 Rugby Team: Thirty-three players showed up for the first ever training session of the new Dublin City Council Rugby team at the all weather pitches, Clontarf on Thursday, 21st February.

Players from schools and community groups joined together to train with the Leinster Rugby/DCC Rugby in the Community Development Officer and coaching staff from Leinster Rugby to learn/develop core rugby skills of kicking, catching, passing and tackling.

This program aims to give players from non rugby playing areas a chance to play the sport and give these players the opportunity to play for the metro Team area as a part of the Leinster player development pathway.

Regular training sessions will be organised for this new team with the goal of taking on an establish rugby team during the weekend of the Heineken Cup Final.

Rugby in the Community Programme: Six-week rugby programmes will be run in multiple locations around Dublin City in the lead up to the Heineken Cup Final. These programmes will target 10-12 year old boys and girls and adults with a learning disability.

These programmes will be initiated with a launch on the all weather pitches in Clontarf on the 4th of April and cumulate with a blitz for both categories on the weekend of the Heineken Cup Final.

Ballyfermot Leisure centre

Since the defect with the pool tiling escalated on the 14th/15th February causing the shut-down of most of the pool area, staff from CRA and City Architects inspected the damage at the pool. Following this a meeting was held between Staff from CRA, The Leisure Centre Management, City Architects Division, the original project architect and the council's legal advisers to review the extent of the problem, review information currently available as to potential causes, and identify the necessary action.

Following the meeting, a specialist consultant with previous knowledge of the leisure Centre pool is being engaged to advise on the likely causes of this new tiling failure, the correct method of repair and the most expedient timeframe for carrying out the work. When this information is available from the consultant, we will be in a position to advise on the timescale for the repair.

Responsibility for the pool defects is one of a number of matters over which the Council is in a legal dispute process with the contractor for the Leisure Centre.

Swimming Pools refurbishment project.

The final design drawings and specifications are currently being prepared for the tender documents. The next stage in the process will be to issue the tender documents. When the tender documents are issued and returned the tender submissions will be reviewed and at that stage the timelines for carrying out the proposed works will be examined and determined.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES JANUARY – MARCH 2013:

Irish Sports Council Code of Ethics for Children's Sport Courses

Sport Development Officer's organised 4 Code of Ethics courses between January and March for local community groups. The courses were attended by, member's coaches and volunteers from various sports clubs in the Dublin 8 area.

Rugby Programme (Liberty Saints)

The team are travelling to Troon in Scotland over the St. Patrick's Weekend. 24 young people will be travelling with the Dublin City Council Sport Development Officer and their team of coaches on Friday the 15th March and returning to Dublin on Monday 18th March.

After School Swimming / Snorkelling Programme

From January to March the Sport Development Officer facilitated introductory water confidence swimming sessions for the young people attending SWICN after-schools programmes

Fencing Program February

5 DCC areas took part in first ever DCC Fencing program. Participants from Crumlin, Ballyfermot, Inchicore, and South Inner City x 2 took part in the programme. The program had a five week lead in with one and half hour sessions in each area delivered by the local SDO's. The program consisted of the technique of fencing, foot work and the various moves to gain strikes and importantly the dual at the end of each session. A finals day was held in Clogher Rd Sports Centre, Crumlin on 15th Feb 2013.

Tag Rugby in February

Leinster Rugby in partnership with Dublin City Council is working for 8 weeks in the Crumlin / Drimnagh area promoting the **Development of Rugby Technique/Skills in Schools and Rugby in the Community Starter Programmes**

Swimming and Running Event

Held in Ballyfermot Leisure Centre the event started with a 200m swim followed by a 5 Km run around La Fanu Park. There was a five week training programme held leading up to the final event on 6th March. This programme will be expanded citywide.

Table Tennis Competition

In partnership with Sphere 17 Youth Service, Darndale hosted an inter community competition attended by four teenage boys from Hardwick St. In total 8 boys took part in the competition on Wednesday 23rd January.

Swim Programme – Travellers

In partnership with St. Thomas's School, Dublin 17, a group of teenage traveller boys are learning to swim to compete in a Swim Gala or Aquahtlon Race at the end of March.

Teen Parent support fitness programme

Started on Monday the 21st of January with an introduction to the gym, step class & guidelines for healthy eating. The 6 week programme helped young mothers gain an awareness and insight into sports fitness and how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

L.C.A. Cricket Programme.

The Senior Development Officer recently co-ordinated this programme in conjunction with C.B.S. Westland Row. The programme took place for 4 weeks in P.A.R.C., Pearse Street. All participants are 15 to 17 years.

DOG POUND AND WARDEN SERVICE

A joint tender for the Dog Pound and Warden Service involving Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, and South Dublin County Council is being drafted by the three local authorities at present. It is hoped to have this advertised in the coming weeks. A full report on the new contract and any efficiency gained will be provided to the Strategic Policy Committee following completion of the tender process. This service is currently being provided by Ashton Dog Pound

HORSE POUND AND SEIZURE SERVICES

In 2012 Dublin City Council's Horse Control contractor seized 254 horses of which 250 were euthanised. The majority of these horses were seized on public open space and were unaccompanied. Any issues with horses causing a nuisance should be reported to the local area office or the Control of Horses Section on 2223201. All Horses seized are fully traceable by photograph, microchip/passport and unique seizure identification number. The horses are then kept for 5 days and if not reclaimed they are euthanised at a fully licensed meat rendering plant. Dublin City Council receives receipts from the rendering plant for all horses destroyed. In 2012 77% of all horses seized were from three areas – Cherry Orchard (89), Darndale/Coolock (70) and Ballyfermot (38). There is a general decline in the number of horses seized from a 15 year high in 2010 of 446 to 254 in 2012.

CASUAL TRADING

Amendments to the Casual Trading Bye Laws in relation to Christmas trading on Henry Street were passed at the meeting of Dublin City Council on Monday 4th March 2013. Dublin City Council officials are meeting with representatives of Moore St. traders with a view to improving trading on the street in general terms. We are also meeting the business/retail sector in relation to their concerns around casual trading in the city.

SMITHFIELD HORSE FAIR

The first Smithfield Horse Fair under the Smithfield Horse Fair Control and Fee Bye-laws was held on the 3rd March 2013. The Horse Fair was organised by Dublin City Council with the help of public representatives, DSPCA, local residents and Smithfield Horse Owners. This first Horse Fair attracted 49 horses and approximately 1000 people. Dublin City Council also introduced a cultural element to the Fair with the Arts Office and the Libraries providing entertainment and information on the history of the area and the Horse Fair. It is hoped to attract more horses and expand the cultural offering into the future.

PROPOSED MONUMENT TO VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AT THE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, PARNELL SQUARE

The Ryan Report Commissioned to enquire into child abuse in residential schools which was published in May 2009 recommended the provision of a special memorial/ monument to the victims of such abuse.

The Government established a Committee under the auspices of the Department of Education in October 2009 to oversee the erection of this proposed permanent memorial. This committee launched a design competition in July 2011 with the O.P.W who was tasked to commission and deliver with €500000 budget set aside.

The Committee was chaired by Former O.P.W chairman Sean Benton. The other members were Bernadette Fahy and Paddy Doyle representing survivors of abuse, Seán Ó Laoine of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, Monica Corcoran of the Arts Council and former court Architect Bill Houlihan.

The winning design of the memorial entitled the "Journey of Light" was unveiled by the Government in July 2012 and is proposed to be erected next to the Garden of Remembrance in Parnell Square.

The memorial will include the wording of the Irish Governments 1999 apology for the suffering of those who were abused while in care and is designed by Studio Negri and Hennessey and Associates.

A Planning Application of the provision of the memorial was submitted to Dublin City Council on 22nd October 2012 and further information was requested by the City Council on 14th December 2012.

The applicant has six months to provide this information and the City Council must make its decision within a month of receiving such information. The decision of Dublin City Council is appealable to Bórd Pleanála.

LITTLE MUSEUM – ST STEPHENS GREEN

The Little Museum is located on the first floor of 15, St. Stephens Green near the corner of Dawson Street, on the Northside of the Green. It is a people's museum that tells the story of the modern city, with every item donated by members of the public.

This non-profit museum was formally opened by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, in October 2011.

The collection boasts over 400 artefacts, reflecting the generosity of ordinary Dubliners as well as many Cultural Institutions and Local Luminaries.

The Little Museum of Dublin is a non-profit company. It is governed by an Independent Board of Directors, in accordance with Company Law which is supported by a wide ranging Advisory Panel.

The premises at 15 St. Stephens Green is owned by Dublin City Council and held by the Little Museum on a Short Term Lease (expiring this year)

A new and longer Term Lease is currently being considered by the Planning and Economic Development Department.

HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS

Dublin City Council is processing applications for Higher Education Grants whose course initiated prior to 2012.

Dublin City Council have received and processed 1704 applications for the 2012/2013 academic year of which 1506 have been awarded, 59 refused and 139 are awaiting further information.

Of those renewals awarded, 1161 have been paid maintenance and 1247 have been paid fees. Dublin City Council is currently assessing completed applications in a 24 hour turn around.

All fee invoices for approved students have been paid in full.

All new applications for the 2012/2013 academic year are being processed by SUSI (Student Universal Support Ireland). Please see a statement below from VEC re SUSI. (**Attached**)



Student Universal Support Ireland

SUSI Information Note for VE Committee Members

Background:

In total SUSI will have pre-assessed over 69,000 online applications in its first year of activity. The pre-assessing provided applicants with a decision that they were eligible to proceed with their application (subject to photocopied documents matching the information on the online system) or were refused on basis of not meeting one or more of the student grants scheme criteria (Nationality, Means, Progression or Residence).

Student Grants Awarded to 35,619 applicants (1st March 2013)

SUSI has made payment in total to 33,549 applicants (26,035 Maintenance and 7,514 Fees). In addition, banking/final course acceptance details, from 2, 070 awarded applicants are required to make payments to these applicants. We are continuing to make weekly payment runs to applicants as they provide the necessary information.

SUSI Outstanding Applications

SUSI are currently assessing completed applications on a 48 hour turn around. There are currently 3,267 applications under query to be finalised by applicants. These applications require the applicant to provide either final information or documents for the application to proceed to final decision stage or for the applicant to confirm that they are not proceeding with their application.

The SUSI Support Desk continues to be engaged in a number of targeted pro-active telephone campaigns to potential applicants to assist them complete the student grant process or identify if they wish to cancel their application.

SUSI are also engaged in a structured, postal/telephone, close out campaign for those applications from whom no contact other than the original online application has been received. To date 81% of these applicants contacted did not go to college.

SUSI Appeals

The Current status on the SUSI appeals system is that all Appeals made up to 22th February 2013 have been completed there are currently 461 appeals still to be processed over the coming weeks.

Independent Review

Accenture Ireland has been appointed to carry out the independent review of the first year of the SUSI operations. The review commenced on Thursday 20th February. When complete the Review will be provided to the Department of Education and Skills and subsequently published.

11 March 2013

