

**Arts, Culture, Leisure & Community SPC
Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd May, 2013
8:00 a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall**

Attendance

Members:

Cllr. Jim O'Callaghan (in the Chair)
Cllr. Gerry Breen
Cllr. Vincent Jackson
Cllr. Séamas McGrattan
Cllr. Pádraig McLoughlin
Cllr. Damien O'Farrell
Cllr. Pat Crimmins
Cllr. Henry Upton
Siobhan Bourke, Irish Theatre Institute
John Costello, Dublin G.A.A.
Maurice Ahern, Irish Sports Council
Ciaran Moore, Dublin City Community Forum

Officials present:

Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager
Paul Clegg, Executive Manager
Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian
Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer
Jim Beggan, Senior Executive Officer
Margaret Geraghty, Senior Executive Officer
Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent
Paula Ebbs, Senior Staff Officer

Other Councillors present:

Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Mannix Flynn

Apologies: Cllr. Edie Wynne,
Willie White, Dublin Theatre Festival

Cllr O'Callaghan, Chairperson, thanked the previous Chairperson, Councillor Julia Carmichael for her hard work on this Committee over the last four years. He welcomed new members Cllr Edie Wynne, Cllr Pat Crimmins and Ciaran Moore.

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 27th March 2013**
The minutes were noted.
2. **Arts and Culture Sub Committee** – Minutes of meeting held on 13th May, 2013.
Noted.
3. **Public Art Advisory Group** – Minutes of meeting held on 13th May, 2013.
Noted.
4. **Sports Sub Committee** – Minutes of meeting held on 8th May, 2013.
Noted.
5. **Commemorations Sub Committee / Fochoiste na gCuimhneachán** – Minutes of meeting held on 9th May, 2013.
Noted.
6. **Commemorative Naming Committee** - Minutes of meeting held on 13th March 2013
Noted.

7. **Presentation by Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent on Bull Island UNESCO Biosphere Reserve**

Action: Welcomed and noted.

8. **Presentation by Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent on Preliminary Tree Strategy**

A discussion took place around the importance of engaging with the community/residents regarding leaf fall, flooding, cutting down of trees etc. Leslie Moore, City Parks Superintendent agreed that public consultation was key to the development of this strategy.

Action: Presentation to be circulated.

9. **SPC Sub- committees – Revamp of Sub Committee format (Draft)**

Concerns were raised regarding proliferation of sub-committees and their effectiveness. It was suggested that some sub-committees could possibly be merged.

Brendan Kenny, Assistant City Manager drew attention to the amount of good work undertaken by these committees, but agreed that proposals around merging will be considered.

Action: Review of sub-committees to be brought to the next meeting

10. **Guidelines for advertising banners**

The Guidelines were welcomed. Discussion took place around advertising political and alcohol related events.

Margaret Geraghty, Senior Executive Officer responded by stating the use of light pole banners promoting events with a corporate sponsor provides a revenue stream to the City Council. A tender process for the management of the lamp post banner system is currently taking place.

Action: Report noted

11. **Busking – Street Performance Draft Bye Laws 2013.**

Members welcomed the draft bye laws. Concerns arose regarding health and safety requirements particularly around the more dangerous performances i.e. flame and knives. A further discussion took place regarding amplification, licences, limit by location etc.

Margaret Geraghty, Senior Executive Officer responded by stating that all suggestions/concerns/issues raised at the meeting would be taken on board in the public consultation process.

Action: The Committee agreed to recommend the draft bye-laws to the City Council to allow the public consultation process to commence.

12. **City Arts Centre – Report of closure of City Arts Centre**

Councillor Flynn thanked Ray Yeates, City Arts Officer for his report into the history of the City Arts building. A query was raised regarding proposals for the future use of the building.

It was clarified that the building must be used for artistic purposes because of the charges against it.

Action: Report noted

13. **Management Update**

Action: Report noted

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

Cllr Breen enquired as to the potential disposal of the Little Museum of Dublin premises and requested a report and advisory note from the City Arts Officer as to how to deal with that disposal.

Action: Report to be brought to next meeting

Cllr Flynn requested a report on the recent meeting between the City Manager and the cultural organisations in Temple Bar area.

Action: Report to be brought to next meeting.

Cllr Upton requested if a change of starting times for future SPC's would be considered.

Action: To be included on the next agenda.

Next meeting will be Wednesday 24th July 2013

Councillor Jim O'Callaghan
Chairperson

Date: _____

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

PARKS AND LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Bull Island UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve designation on the Bull Island is an important conservation status which acknowledges the need for integrated economic, social and environmental development. The promotion of the Biosphere reserve status is important for local communities and business but also to promote the 'green credentials' of the City.

A feasibility study is also being prepared to assess the potential for increasing the visitor numbers to the interpretive centre, which potentially could become quite a significant visitor attraction for the city.

Open Space Parks 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.

Tolka Valley Park (Cardiffsbridge) Greenway

The official opening of this Park will take place on the morning of 17th June 2013 to coincide with National Bike Week. This is a significant green infrastructure project for the City. It has involved the development of a four-kilometre greenway (an off-road cycling route) linking Glasnevin, Finglas and Ashtown together with three integrated constructed wetlands and the addition of 20 hectares of newly developed parkland. The recent recording of salmon in the Tolka River for the first time in 100 years illustrates the environmental and quality of life improvements that can be achieved by an interdepartmental 'Green Infrastructure' approach to planning and development.

Bioblitz

"BioBlitz" is a biodiversity awareness raising event that aims to provide the opportunity for the public to engage with nature and wildlife. It will be held in St Anne's Park and the Bull Island on 8th June 2013. The event will also promote the Bull Island as a unique place for protected and rare wildlife. It will be held in conjunction with The National Biodiversity Data Centre along with 6 other local sites, Abbeyleix Bog, Co Laois; Abbeyfeale Park , Co Limerick; Cabragh Wetlands, Thurles, Co.Tipperary; McGillycuddy Reeks, Co Kerry; the Phoenix Park and Limerick City.

<http://bioblitz.biodiversityireland.ie>

The BioBlitz is primarily a recording event where volunteer experts/scientists on biodiversity and the public get together for the day to identify and record as many species as possible in St Anne's and Bull Island within a defined period and submit records to the National Biodiversity Data Centre. The Red Stables will be the headquarters for recording, scientific identification and announcement of the on-line species tally. Much of the identification will take place during guided walks, talks and activities which will be facilitated on by City Council staff, scientists, experts and nongovernmental organisations such as the Bird Watch Ireland, the Irish Wildlife Trust, Bat Conservation Ireland and the Irish Seal Sanctuary.

On the day there will be walks, talks and fun activities for families including • Bat Walk and Talk (evening of 7th June) • Moth Trapping • Dawn Chorus • Seashore sampling/Razor worms /Sea Shells/Sea weed • Sand dunes Bull Island • Tree trail • Nanikin River • Pond dipping • Causeway walk for Bird watching • Seals • Bees and Butterflies • Wildflower meadows • Playing in Nature, Making Dens, Seashore play with Sand (DCC Children Services) • Beekeeping Demonstration by Federation of Irish Bee Keepers • Composting/Creepy Crawlies providing eco services by "Master Composters" (Local Authority and Stop Food Waste Initiative). There will also be Library activities the week prior to the event.

The Lord Mayor will launch the event on Sat 8th June and it will be promoted using National Biodiversity Data Centre Website, the Green Schools and the City Council website. For more Information contact Niamh Ni Chomain at biodiversity@dublincity.ie

ARTS OFFICE

New Arts Plan.

A consultant is at an advanced stage of drafting the new Arts Plan that has followed on extensive public and industry consultation as well as consultation with City Councillors and Council staff. The consultant is now focusing on the higher level position that the Arts Office will adopt on each Art form and focusing particularly on Art forms that are not traditionally strong in the Arts Office's work e.g. Circus and spectacle. The relationship between participation access and high quality practice has emerged as a key consideration. Deadline is the end of June.

Cultural Strategy: Concentration on work in Temple Bar has distracted the Arts Officer from completion but a working draft should be available by end of May. The strategic position of City Council with the National Cultural Institutions with the Arts Council and the Department of the Arts is a key consideration for the Strategy and is already well advanced.

Culture Night: Culture Night Dublin 2014 will become the responsibility of the Arts Office on the wind down of TBCT with the National coordination reverting to the Department. For 2013 the Arts Office has been asked to receive the funding from the Department with a view to overseeing the programme and marketing of Culture Night during the wind down of TBCT in 2013.

Urban Fleadh: The Urban Fleadh is scheduled for the bank holiday weekend of August final details to be agreed. The Fleadh will be focused Wolfe tone Square and the aspiration is to increase the duration and footprint of the event in the surrounding area, with Dublin City BIDs forming part of the partnership for this event. For this year the Fleadh will continue to feature as the launch event for the North Side Music Festival

NSMF: The North Side Music Festival will take place over the month of August with a programme of concerts, family and children focused music workshops across a selection of

venues. The Festival will feature a mix of Irish, international and local talent and take place in city parks, community centers, churches and civic spaces.

Drama in Schools: Work is concluding in the ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders) units in four schools. Feedback from participating teachers and principals is extremely positive. The Arts Office is currently developing a web-based resource for teachers, arts educators and drama practitioners to complement 10 years work of Dublin City Council's drama training and development programme in mainstream and special needs classes.

Children's Art in Libraries: The Spring programme dramatically explored the 1913 Lockout with five schools participating to co-inside with Seachtain na Gaeilge. The summer programme, beginning in May and running through until August, will give children the opportunity to take part in workshop programmes in Opera, Set Design, Early childhood music, Writing and Visual Arts. Theatre Lovett, featuring Ireland's most critically acclaimed performer for young audiences, will perform in three libraries, while Dublin Writers Festival showcases top international authors and illustrators in libraries throughout the city.

DCC/CDYSB Arts in Youth work partnership: Young People from across the city took part in film related workshops over the Easter holidays in Filmbase, Fringe, and The LAB. The programme was delivered by facilitators from Fighting Words, Kilkenny Young Filmmakers, Crooked House and NAYD. Youth workers also attended a networking meeting in The LAB, showcasing the LIFT Festival Ballymun, Fighting Words and an NAYD run youth worker drama training programme in Ballyfermot.

Vacant Spaces: All the spaces on the Vacant Space register have either been filled or are otherwise no longer available. Occasional requests from Artists and Arts organisations are still being taken by the Arts Office, and consideration on how best to bring this project forward is underway.

Residential Spaces and Bursaries: The Residential Spaces and Bursaries were advertised earlier this year and adjudication on the applications for the Residential Spaces has taken place. The overall quality of the applications received was high and successful applicants are currently being informed. At present demand has outstripped supply; however the Arts Office is looking at other opportunities for applicants who could not be accommodated within this round.

Public Art

The *Dublin City Public Art Programme* continues to be rolled out. As part of Strand 2 – *Interaction with the City*, *The Lost and Found Sound Assembly* led by composer George Higgs held a series of concerts on the *Higgsinstrument* which is made from items borrowed from Dublin recycling and bring centres. This commission was undertaken in association with DCC Waste Department. Performances took place in Ringsend Bring Centre, Temple Bar, Wolfe Tone Square with a final performance in the Hugh Lane Gallery. A short film of the Ringsend performance was commissioned and can be viewed on www.dublincitypublicart.ie Preparatory work is taking place with the DCC Flood Defence Unit on a commission brief and process relating to works on the Dodder River as part of Strand 4 – *City Contexts*. The Public Art Manager continues to contribute as part of the Grafton Street Quarter Improvement Project Working Group, to work with the Parks Section collaborating on temporary art projects and to develop the Public Art Register to put information on selected permanent artworks in the city on the internet.

The Lab Gallery

January 2013 saw the first solo exhibition by Dublin-born artist and academic Mick Wilson, which was critically acclaimed in international journal *Art Review* and incorporated a programme of supporting events including an artist's talk from Amada Ralph and an evening

of food and discussion hosted by “the Food Thing” as part of their ongoing association with The LAB in fostering cultural dialogue, including links between the Dublin artists and those of Cultural Corridor linked city, Liverpool.

January also saw the first round table discussions between the new European Learning Network partners in Liverpool, where the Arts Office acts as lead partner on this initiative to examine and promote collaborative practice between agencies in Dublin, Liverpool, London and Helsinki. A symposium inviting all partners and hosted by Create Ireland is due to take place at the Wood Quay Venue in Dublin on 29th May.

In March Dublin’s cultural twinning with Barcelona resulted in a research visit from Barcelona-based curators Latitudes, whose visit included participation in the *Within The Public Realm* seminar at Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane on 12th March and a talk at The LAB for MAVIS students. Studio visits took place at Temple Bar Gallery & Studios and Firestation Artists’ Studios enabling Latitudes to meet studio managers, directors and a number of Irish artists. Cultural relations, connections and future partnerships were developed through their engagement with artists, students, curators and arts organisations during their visit.

In March the gallery hosted a guest exhibition curated by The Five Lamps Arts Festival around the theme of the 1913 Lockout, while in April Create Ireland’s annual student show, From Context to Exhibition, presented the results of an intensive 8-week project. This will be followed by another annual staple, the solo exhibition by the recipient of the Irish Residential Studio Award (Alan James Burns), and in July by NINE, a special show aimed at nine-year-olds which follows an extensive period of research and will offer an ambitious supporting programme including inviting every nine-year-old in Dublin to attend.

Later in the year the LAB’s commitment to providing a platform for new and emerging artists will accord exhibition opportunities to the artists Mark Durkan and Seamus McCormack.

The Red Stables:

A large number of participants took part in the Red Stables family drop in workshop, which coincided with National Tree Day in March. Printmaking and Batik workshops are taking place in the Red Stables in May as part of the arts office’s Bealtaine Programme and a family workshop celebrating National Drawing Day will take place on May 18th.

The Red Stables Artists’ Studios will be part of Visit 2013, an open artists’ studio event taking place over the weekend of 11th and 12th of May. This free event will involve 22 artists’ studios and over 250 artists all over Dublin city opening their doors to the public. Visitors to the Red Stables will have the opportunity to meet artists’ in their studios, explore their working environment and arts practice. A free tour commencing at the Red Stables on Sunday 12th will be conducted by Jeanette Donnolly (Art for Arts Sake) and artists will give talks about their work.

The Red Stables summer school, now in its second year, focuses on mutual research and learning between artistic and ecological practices. North Bull Island, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve will feature in this year’s summer school. Artists Rhona Byrne, Jenny Brady and ecologists have started to engage with this unique environment, exploring the delicate ecosystems of the Island and St. Anne’s Park. The creative responses to their findings will be exhibited during St. Anne’s Rose Festival on 20th and 21st July. The artists have also been invited to take part in *Bioblitz Day* in June. Based in the Red Stables, it will involve the collection of biodiversity data over a 24 hour period in St. Anne’s Park and on North Bull Island.

The Red Stables Irish Residential Artists’ Studio Award was delayed due to repair and insulating works carried out in the studio. The selection process for the award will now take place in May and the selected artist will commence occupancy of the studio.

EVENTS AND TOURISM PROMOTION

Post Event Updates:

Samsung Night Run: Over 7,000 runners took part in the Samsung Night Run on the 28th April 2013 from 9pm to 11pm around Dublin City Centre and its environs. The weather was much improved from the previous year and the event seems to have gone well with no major incidents. A full post event meeting has yet to take place

The 2013 Latvian Culture Day took place in Temple Bar on 5th May. Activities consisted of a food and crafts market, free outdoor stage on East Essex Street, parade of people through streets of Temple Bar, face painting and folk dancing. Information provided by the Temple Bar Company estimate that over 2000 people; Latvian, Irish and overseas visitors attended the event. The event also attracted very positive media coverage and social media interest.

Upcoming Events:

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.

Name of Event	Location of Event	Date of Event	Description of Event
Dublin City Soul Picnic	Merrion Square Park	23 rd – 26 th May	Family Day with Soul Music and food stalls
Irish Sports Council Corporate Challenge 2013	South King Street	24 th May	Charity Collection using sport infrastructure
Puremagic Battle for the Bay	Dollymount Strand	25 th & 26 th May	Kitesurfing European Championships
Dublin Kite Fest	Dollymount Strand	2 nd June	Family kite flying festival
Bloom Festival	Phoenix Park	30 th May – 3 rd June	Gardening, food and craft festival
Docklands Summer Festival	River Liffey from Samuel Beckett Bridge and East Link Bridges	1 st June – 3 rd June	Family entertainment, food market and pirate village
The Irish Hospice Foundation	Dublin Bay (Howth to Dalkey)	9 th June	Dublin Bay Cycle
Women's Mini Marathon	City Centre	3 rd June	Charity Race
Contarf Business Association	Clontarf Promenade	14 th – 16 th June	Viking Village, art exhibitions and family entertainment

Taste of Dublin	Iveagh Gardens	18 th June	Family event
Docklands 5/10 K	Docklands Area	20 th June	Run
Dublin LGBTQ	Parnell Street to Merrion Square	29 th June	Parade, concert and various other events
SPWC	Merrion Square	12 th – 14 th July	Family event
Clontarf Half Marathon	Clontarf	13 th July	Run
St. James Hospital Fun Run	Liberties	18 th July	Run
Riverdance Gathering Event	Merrion Square / Docklands area	20 th – 21 st July	Family Event
Irish Jewish Gathering	Citywide	21 st – 27 th July	Series of gathering events for worldwide Jewish community with Irish connections
Rock 'n Roll Marathon	City Centre	5 th August	Race
Sportif Dublin 150K Cycle Event	City Centre	8 th August	Cycle Event
Day of Irish Dance (Jig)	Powerscourt Centre	10 th August	Dance Event
Liffey Swim	Liffey	24 th August	Swim Event
Fashion Festival	City Centre	8 th September	Fashion Event
Dublin International Dragon Boat Regatta	Docklands	14 th September	Boat Event
'Flyfest' and event brought to the city by the Irish Aviation Authority and Dublin City Council with the support of other key city stakeholders.	City Centre	15 th September	Fly-by event.
Fringe Festival	City Centre	9 th – 23 rd September	Indoor events
Culture Night	City Centre	21 st September	Family Event

The Gathering Ireland 2013:

Support for the Gathering initiative is ongoing. The Gathering will shortly launch their “*Dublin for Summer of Gatherings*” PR campaign to promote Gathering events delivering significant overseas visitors. Dublin City key Gatherings being highlighted in this campaign are:

- Federation of International Touch 2013 Touch Home Nations Championships – Albert College Park and DCU on 21st and 22nd June.
- International Lawn Bowls Championships - Crumlin and St. James Bowling Clubs 26th – 30th June
- Camogie Gathering Tournament – Croke Park 25th – 27th July
- IGLFA (Irish Gay and Lesbian Football Association) European Championships 2013 DCU – 13th – 15th June.

A selection of gathering branded promotional material (banners, t-shirts etc.) has been supplied to the City Council and these are available on request for distribution to local gathering organisers to decorate their events.

Guidelines/Processes Review:

As indicated previously, we plan, over the course of this year to draft a range of guidance documents that clearly set out the role and functions of this unit across the broad range of activities that fall under the remit of events and tourism. As guidelines are prepared, these will be listed on the agenda of the SPC meeting for comment and discussion.

Guidelines for the Use of Dublin City Council’s Light Pole Banner System:

As part of this ongoing review, the final draft of the Guidelines for the Use of Dublin City Council’s Light Pole Banner System to Promote Events is listed as a separate item on this agenda for approval by the members.

Draft Street Performance (control of) Bye-Laws 2013.

The Draft Street Performance (control of) Bye-Laws 2013 is listed as a separate item on this agenda for discussion and approval prior to listing the item on the City Council agenda for approval to proceed to public consultation.

Filming/Promotional Activity Guidelines:

Work is ongoing on preparation a report for the members on filming and promotional activity in the City. This report will set out the background and context on a range of issues relating to this area of activity in the public domain. It is the intention following the input of the members into this report, to prepare new guidelines and terms and conditions including fees and charges for Dublin City Council.

The work of the previous Lord Mayor, Vincent Jackson, who together with Bord Scannán na h-Éireann prepared a Code of Practice for Filming, will be reflected as part of this review process. Work is ongoing with the industry; they are assisting us in developing a prototype to trail an online application facility. The intention is to streamline the current application process that is very cumbersome to use as there are multiple points of contact with the City Council required.

Fireworks in the City:

Following on from the experience learned gained in staging a Fireworks Spectacle over St. Stephen’s Green as part of the 2012 New Year’s Eve Festival, this Unit in conjunction with the Planning Department, An Garda Síochána and Dublin Fire Brigade is carrying out an analysis of locations within the City suitable to hold future fireworks displays to ensure crowd safety, enjoyment of the spectacle and value of funding invested are primary objectives in

holding this type of event in the City. An update will be provided to the members in due course.

Running/Walking Events in the City:

Guidelines procedures in respect of runs and walks in the city, which often involve road closure applications are currently being prepared. As previously stated, a balance is required between licensing and granting approval to events that demonstrate a measurable economic and social benefit to the city but keeping in context the real issues that present daily, to keep the city streets moving for pedestrians, residents, traffic, residents and businesses.

During this review we will assess suitable locations, criteria for general suitability of an event meeting our stated objectives of animating the City and delivering tangible social, cultural and economic benefit to the City. Under consideration is the setting of a maximum number of running/walking events requiring road closures that can be accommodated in the City Centre in any given year and publicly advertising for applications to become part of a 5k, 10k half marathon, marathon series of events but also including charity and family fun running/walking activities. . There are a number of well established events in the City Calendar each year already such as the Dublin Marathon, Women’s Mini-Marathon etc. There are many other venues in City parks, beaches etc that we are keen to actively promote with a view to animating these venues but also to accommodate any over-spill or high demand for any one category of event The process of putting together guidelines will be done in consultation with the various stakeholders including Athletics Ireland but will also take into account principles of public participation, fun/enjoyment and the broad objective of promoting healthy living. We will update this Committee as guidelines are prepared.

Grant Funding from the Community, Recreation and Amenity Department:

Following the restructuring of the Department, the Arts Office, Events and Tourism Unit and Community and Social Development Section are undertaking a review of our existing grant funding streams with a view to developing consistent and coherent guidelines and evaluation processes from a corporate perspective whilst maintaining and maximising the funding at our disposal to achieve the varied objectives of each separate funding stream.

Summary Table of Events Guidelines and Processes Review:

Item	Status	Comments
Light Pole Banner Guidelines	Report prepared for March SPC.	Final draft of Guidelines on May SPC for noting. f
Street Performance Bye-Laws 2013.	Report on Outcome of Voluntary Code of Conduct at SPC November 2012.	Draft Bye-Laws on May SPC for approval to proceed to City Council and public consultation.
Fireworks Locations.	Work commenced on assessing suitability of locations	Report to future SPC.
Runs/Walking Events	Work commenced on assessing suitability of locations and other relevant issues.	Report to future SPC.

Filming/Promotion Activities.	Full Report and analysis of these categories of events underway and pilot project to develop an on-line application facility also underway	Report to July SPC
Grants/Funding	Review of existing processes and procedures underway.	Report to future SPC.
Review of existing work practices/processes and procedures. .	Work continuing to improve the interface between the customer and the unit.	Ongoing. On-line application facility to be piloted shortly, with potential subject to funding and scope, to scale up this facility for wider use across the City Council.

DUBLIN CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY & ARCHIVE

1. Ballyfermot Library, re-opening

Ballyfermot Library re-opened to the public on 29th April. The project has cost €1.7m, funded by Dublin City Council and the Dept. of Environment, Community and Local Government with works including:

- The replacement of the roof;
- The improvement of ramped access both externally and internally;
- The installation of power assisted doors;
- Increased provision of public toilets and baby-changing facilities.

The works included complete re-wiring and the installation of new, more energy-efficient lighting and heating systems. Dublin City Council received grant aid from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland based on these improvements.

As well as continuing to providing the same services as before, Ballyfermot now offers

- Improved access to all library spaces to groups for classes, activities and lectures;
- Improved public access PC provision and Wi-Fi throughout;
- Improved audio-visual and digital facilities;
- RFID self-service issue and return;
- Hot and cold beverages.

2. Events and Programming

A total of 6,924 people attended 164 library events in the first quarter of 2013.

Audience	Total Events	Total Attendance	Average
Adult	44	1439	33
Children	107	4980	47
Family	4	220	55
Teen	9	285	32
Grand Total	164	6924	42

Events/themes included Chinese New Year; 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; Festival of Russian culture; Smithfield Horse Fair, and Digital Dublin Day. The Nightmare Club reading programme for children attracted 1,981 participants.

Sabina Higgins, wife of President Higgins, visited Ballymun and Walkinstown libraries on 8th March, where she met with local school children and senior citizens.

The Bealtaine Festival takes place during May and over fifty library-based events will take place, with all libraries participating.

3. Building works - Kevin Street refurbishment

Kevin Street library will close on 31st May for works including:

- Specialist repairs to the roof and structure;
- Conservation of original architectural features;
- Restoration of original wooden shelving and flooring;
- Increased public space for study, exhibitions, community groups & children's library;
- Universal accessibility to all areas;
- Public toilets.

The library is expected to reopen in June 2015.

4. City of Literature Office

The *Dublin: One City One Book 2013 Strumpet City* programme ran throughout April with over 50 events in venues across the City. The programme was very successful with many events being booked out. *Strumpet City* received a lot of attention in the media and the book topped the Irish bestseller list and was the most-borrowed book in the libraries during the month.

Words on the Street – European Literature Night

Words on the Street – European Literature Night took place on Wednesday 15th May 2013. The programme featured the literature of twelve participating countries read by well known Irish people at various venues in and around St Stephen's Green.

5. Commemorations – 1913 Lockout

A Capital in Conflict: Dublin City and the 1913 Lockout

The book of essays *A Capital in Conflict: Dublin City and the 1913 Lockout*, was launched by the Lord Mayor on 13th April. The launch took place following a day-long seminar featuring contributors to the book which was held in Dublin City Library & Archive. The book is published by Dublin City Council and distributed by Four Courts Press.

City Hall Lecture Series

The annual City Hall Lecture Series ran throughout April and took as its theme *The 1913 Lockout in Ballad, Song and Story*.

6. International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award

The shortlist for the 2013 Award was announced by the Lord Mayor on 9th April. The list of ten books includes *City of Bohane* by Irish author Kevin Barry, and five novels in translation (from Japan, Iceland, Norway, The Netherlands and France). The winner announcement will take place on 6th June.

7. Library Management System procurement

Dublin City is the lead authority in a project to jointly procure a new library management system (computer system) for the four Dublin local authorities, and eventually for all library services nationally.

A consortium has been formed by the authorities, chaired by the Dublin City Librarian, and the tender is currently in draft form. The new system will be cloud-based and will allow us provide a modern online service to library users and provide greater efficiencies in the management of our library resources.

8. Library Conference

Dublin City hosted the annual joint conference of the Library Association of Ireland and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (UK) on 10th and 11th April. The conference attracted delegates from all over Ireland, as well as from England, Scotland, Wales and the USA. Dublin City Libraries hosted a reception for delegates in City Hall.

9. Going Places with Books – summer reading programme

Going Places with Books – Summer Reading Buzz 2013 is a programme to encourage children to read during the summer holidays.

The programme is being run jointly with the three other Dublin authorities as well as Longford and Kildare. Children will register for a special card which they will get stamped each time they complete a book. The cards will be entered into a draw at branch-level and promotional materials will include pencils, bookmarks and wristbands. The Summer Reading Buzz will be formally launched on 17th June and will run throughout the summer.

DUBLIN CITY GALLERY THE HUGH LANE

Current Exhibitions:

Sean Scully Doric.

Doric was launched by the deputy Lord Mayor Cllr. Clare Byrne on the 27th March. Supporters came from London, New York, Milan and Paris as well as from Dublin. Sean Scully gave a public lecture on the 28th which was oversubscribed.

The exhibition has been reviewed in the Examiner, The Irish Times, RTE, The Works and Radio 1 Arena. A fully illustrated catalogue is on sale in the book shop.

There were several education events relating to Doric, including a Coffee Conversation, an Interactive Scully Workshop, a Film Screening of 'Sean Scully: Why this, not that?' Sunday Sketching focusing on Sean Scully, a public lecture by Dr. Kelly Grovier, and a Bealtaine workshop.

Jonathan Cummins When I Leave these Landings

This exhibition, organised in collaboration with NCAD was launched by Minister Deenihan on April 3rd. This exhibition comprises three film based installations by Jonathan Cummins *Go Home* (2010 – 2013) and *Out on the Road* (2012 -) are at the Hugh Lane and *When I leave these Landings* (2004 - 2009) is at NCAD. The exhibition will travel to the VOID in Derry as part of the city of culture 2013 programme.

A series of conversations, under the general heading of 'The Impossible Conversation' anticipate and explore questions raised by the exhibition content. This programme of conversations will culminate in a symposium with international speakers on 11th May at The Hugh Lane.

Conversation 1 Art, Institutions and Society HUGH LANE

Conversation 2 To Who Should we Listen NCAD

Conversation 3 Difficult Conversations NCAD

Conversation 4 Symposium the Impossible Conversation in the Hugh Lane on Saturday May 11th

Return of the Lane Pictures

The change over of the Lane pictures will take place on the 23rd May. A press call is being organised with the Lord Mayor and the press office. I had a very positive meeting in London with Dr. Nicholas Penny, Director of the National Gallery London, and Christopher Riopelle, curator of paintings after 1800, regarding the Lane pictures and future possible collaborations.

Part of our discussions revolved around the possibility of collaborating on an exhibition relating to Manet's La Musique aux Tuileries for 2016/17.

Tom Cruise

Universal Studios booked the gallery for a reception for the European premier of Oblivion with star guest Tom Cruise. Minister Deenihan launched the event and Mr Cruise spoke of his Irish connections and his pleasure at being in Dublin after 15 years. After media photographs and signing autographs, he was taken on a brief tour of the collection and he promised to come back for a more in depth tour.

Visit from the Chancellor

The British Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, visited the Gallery on 12th April and was taken on a tour of the collection by Margarita Cappock. Mr Osborne wrote a letter thanking the staff and praising the collection.

Education Events

Texaco Children's Art Competition

This was launched on the 9th April in the sculpture and an exhibition of the winning works was held in the Education Spaces until the 26th April

Bealtaine:

This year we are running an extensive programme of events for the Bealtaine Festival. We have an event on every day for the month of May, these include, painting and drawing classes, workshops, public lecture, filming screenings and tours of the collection and building, as well as performances by the Bealtaine Writers Group and Cois Ceim Dance Group.

On **National Drawing Day 18th May** we will host a number of workshops for all ages and participate in a Culture Trail together with **The LAB and the Central Library**.

Visitor Numbers

Visitor numbers in the Gallery are so far positive for this year. By the end of April 2012 we had 43,103 visitors, and by the end of April 2013 we had 48,127, an increase of over 5,000.

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. The contract with the current food supplier is due to expire in the autumn. Dublin City Council are currently working on a tender document for a new food supplier and we hope to go to tender during the summer.

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 was advertised in March 2013. Three tender submissions were received and are currently being assessed by the three local authorities. It is hoped to have a new contract in place in by July 2013. 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 euthanized. 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 7 days and if not reclaimed they are euthanized and then disposed of 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. To date in 2013 96 horses have been seized of which 93 have been euthanized. There have been ongoing issues with wild horses at Belcamp Park and California Hills. When horses have been allowed to run wild over a prolonged period they are significantly more difficult to capture and it can unfortunately take several weeks. The horses at California Hills and Belcamp Park have now been seized.

The contract with the current horse seizure contractor is due to expire in August 2013. Dublin City Council in conjunction with Fingal County Council and South Dublin County Council are currently working on a tender for a new Control of Horses Contract.

CASUAL TRADING

The new Casual Trading Bye-laws made by Council in 2012 saw the introduction of 18 new designated Casual Trading locations around the City. Two locations were suspended due to development works, while a further two are for summer months only. Following widespread advertising, six locations have been trading since September 2012. Since April 2013, seven more traders have commenced or will commence trading as follows:

- Abbey Street (day time tea and coffee) – trader will commence trading in May 2013.
- Amien Street (day time tea and coffee) – trader commenced trading April 2013.
- Fade Street (night time food) – trader due to commence trading in May 2013.
- Fownes Street / Dame Street (portrait/caricature artist) – artist will commence May 2013.
- Grattan Bridge (flowers) – trader commenced trading April 2013.
- Heuston Station (day time tea and coffee) – trader commenced trading April 2013.
- Sandymount Promenade (day time tea and coffee) – trader commenced trading April 2013.

Event Casual Trading licences were issued for trading in the vicinity of the Aviva Stadium for the 6 Nations Rugby and the Ireland v Poland Soccer friendly. Event licences were also issued for both the St. Patrick's Festival and various concerts at the O2. It is anticipated that Event Casual Trading licences will be issued for the Soul Picnic and Pride Festival at Merrion Square at the end of May and June respectively. Other forthcoming summer events in the city, for which Event Casual Trading licences will be issued, include: the Heineken Cup, Soccer fixtures at the Aviva Stadium and the GAA championship season at Croke Park from May to September 2013.

HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS

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

Dublin City Council have received and processed 1,730 applications for the 2012/2013 academic year of which 1,569 have been awarded, 59 refused and 102 are awaiting further information.

Of those renewals awarded, 1,177 have been paid maintenance and 1,551 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).

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.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MAY 2013

Community and Voluntary Grants:

A total 951 applications were received and following assessment, 827 have been approved by Council. The total amount approved for community grants is €869,705.00, which comprises of €292,405 for local projects in the 5 areas and €577,300 for city wide projects.

This grants scheme will be reviewed in time for the 2014 scheme. Issues to be addressed in the review will include

- Criteria for grants
- Scale of grants e.g. should there be larger grants for a smaller amount of community groups
- Opening and closing date
- Linkage to other grants e.g. sports and culture
- Governance issues
- Role of elected members in selection process

Views on the above issues would be welcomed. Please contact Bernie Doherty 2220581, 0868150024 or email bernie.doherty@dublincitycouncil.ie

Jobstart Programme:

Jobstart is a programme being developed by the Department of Social Protection, the target group will be long term unemployed (24mths plus) with 15% of placements being aimed at those under 25 years old. Placements will be for a period of 24 months with induction and ongoing training being provided in-house. Participants will be required to work 19.5 hours per week.

It is envisaged that the department will provide a panel of potential participants to local authorities who in turn will attempt to match participant skill sets to identified projects. A number of projects have been identified for consideration across various areas of activity for e.g. environment, tourism, art, technology etc.

It is anticipated that an initial pilot could see 25 or more participants in the short term being recruited to the programme by Dublin City Council with emphasis being on real work experience to assist participants to become job ready.

Local Development Companies - Alignment Process:

Talks are ongoing with the Dept of Environment, Community and Local Government in relation to the alignment of Local Development Companies and Dublin City Council arising out of The Government's Action Programme for effective Local Government "Putting People First".

Social Inclusion:

Dublin City Social Inclusion Week ran from 29th April to 4th May. The week was opened by the Lord Mayor and in city hall on 29th April. The theme for the week was Equality and Diversity. The first Equality and Diversity Day within Dublin City Council was also launched to highlight the nine grounds in Equality legislation. This was a joint initiative between the Social Inclusion Unit and the Human Resources Department. Dublin Age Friendly City Project is progressing with a number of consultations with older people taking place in the North West and South East Areas during May 2013. City Alliances are being formed in all five areas to roll out this consultation process through the city during 2013. These consultations will result in a strategy for older people for Dublin city

Office for Integration:

Following on from the Council of Europe International Intercultural Cities Conference hosted by Dublin in February 2013 OFI is currently drafting the final Conference Report which will be published in June 2013. Main findings plus impacts on National and Local issues for Ireland and Dublin will be discussed by the Conference Committee chaired by Lord Mayor. International work continues with Dublin monitoring Rotterdam in a Euro cities programme and further work developing with Intercultural Cities project for autumn 2013 both under Council of Europe.