

Meeting of the Docklands Oversight & Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 2pm

**Venue: The Samuel Meeting Room, The Samuel Hotel, North Wall
Quay, Dublin 1**

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Conflict of Interest
3. Minutes of Meeting 12th March 2025
4. Matters Arising
5. Presentation on Smart Docklands by Karolina Anieslska,
Programme Manager
6. Objectives of DOCF
7. A.O.B.



24th April 2025

Mr. Paul Cleary
Assistant Commissioner, Dublin Metropolitan Region
Dublin Castle
Dublin 2

Re: Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Dear Assistant Commissioner,

The Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum commenced their new term and the first meeting was held on 12th March last. At this meeting the members agreed to write to you regarding the continued concerns of residents, business owners and community representatives of the Dublin Docklands Area regarding the increasing levels of criminal and anti-social behaviour in the Docklands Area. The Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum has previously engaged with your colleague former Assistant Commissioner Ms. Angela Willis in relation to these issues.

Over the past several months, stakeholders have witnessed a noticeable rise in incidents, including vandalism, drug-related activities, public disturbances and other forms of disruptive behaviour that threaten the safety and well-being of residents, workers and visitors alike. Employers have expressed concerns regarding the safety of staff travelling between the workplace and local transport hubs and the ongoing risks of harassment and assault.

The rapid growth and development of the Docklands area have transformed it into a bustling hub for business, tourism and residential living. Establishing a safe environment now, presents the opportunity to create resilient communities less reliant on police support and interventions in the longer term. However, the lack of a dedicated Garda station in this vicinity has made it increasingly difficult to address security concerns effectively. The nearest Garda stations are often inundated with cases from surrounding areas, leading to delays in response times and an insufficient Garda presence on the streets.

Given these circumstances, we strongly urge An Garda Síochána to consider the establishment of a new Garda station in the Docklands Area. A dedicated station would:

- Provide a more visible and effective Garda presence, deterring criminal and anti-social activities.
- Enable faster response times to incidents, ensuring public safety.
- Strengthen community policing efforts, fostering trust and cooperation between Gardaí and residents.
- Support local businesses by addressing security concerns that may impact economic activity.

We recognise and appreciate the great efforts of An Garda Síochána in maintaining public order across Dublin. However, it is evident that the Docklands Area requires additional policing resources to ensure the safety of its growing population. We kindly request an urgent review of this matter and the consideration of a dedicated Garda station to better serve the needs of our community.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues further with you and to explore potential solutions to the sharp increases in some of the most visible and civically damaging categories of criminal behaviour. We look forward to your response and to working together to improve safety within the Dublin Docklands.

Yours sincerely,

Gerard Crowley
Chairman, DOCF

Tel: 0872374107
E: infodocklands@dublincity.ie
cc shelly.oriordan@dublincity.ie

Minutes of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Meeting, 13th May 2025, The Samuel Hotel, Spencer Place, Dublin 1

Present

Chairperson: Gerard Crowley

Members:

Name	Organisation
Cllr Janet Horner	DCC Councillor
Cllr Daniel Ennis	DCC Councillor
Tony McDonnell	North Port Dwellers Association
Eileen Quinlivan	Dublin City Council
Aidan Cronin	Iarnród Éireann
Geoffrey Gallagher	Central Bank of Ireland
Cormac Kennedy	Dublin Port Company

Name	Organisation
Samir Eldin	Custom House Visitor Centre
John Tolan	Waterways Ireland
Mark Fay	North Wall Community Association
Mette Boye Hansen	Docklands Business Forum
Dr Michelle Olmstead	Trinity College
Michael Harte	Docklands SME & Start-up Partnership
Bertie Kelly	National College of Ireland

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Emma Wilson	St Andrew's Resource Centre
Cllr Cian Farrell	DCC Councillor
Cllr Kourtney Kenny	DCC Councillor
Rachel Rooney	Ringsend Community Services Forum
Conor O'Kane	Docklands Hospitality and Entertainment Assoc
Kieron Brennan	Co-Operative Housing Ireland
Conall O Callaghan	Docklands Financial Service Group

Non Member attendees:

Name	Organisation
Karolina Anielska PHD	Smart Docklands
Shelly O'Riordan	Docklands Manager, DCC
Nadine Dillon	Senior Staff Officer, Docklands Office, DCC
Robert Gallagher	Staff Officer, Docklands Office, DCC

1. Introductions

The Chairperson Mr Gerard Crowley opened the meeting by welcoming all and thanking them for their attendance.

2. Conflict of Interest

The Chairperson informed the Members present of the duty Members of the Forum have in declaring if they have a conflict of interest when items for discussion, decision or action are required to be taken. The option to raise at the meeting or to contact the Chairperson directly should a conflict of interest arise was extended to the Members.

3. Minutes of Meeting 12th March 2025.

No comments were received. The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and approved.

4. Matters Arising.

Correspondence to Assistant Garda Commissioner

Correspondence issued to Assistant Garda Commissioner on 24th April last. The Chair informed the Forum that they received an acknowledgement from Assistant Garda Commissioner, Paul Cleary and that it an invitation to meet at the end of June was extended. The following meeting dates were put forward - 24th or 25th June at 11am and we are currently awaiting confirmation from the Assistant Garda Commissioner. The Chairperson outlined to the Forum that there will need to be an agreement in relation to attendees and preparation of the issues to present at the meeting.

It was agreed that consideration of the key security and public safety issues for the business district and residential / community areas within Docklands is required in advance of the meeting to ensure the serious concerns and required actions are clearly outlined in the time available.

The following updates were provided by Docklands Manager Shelly O'Riordan on matters arising from the previous meeting.

CTC Training Centre, Sherriff Street

Dublin City Council has outlined an objective within the NEIC Strategic Plan to identify suitable premises for the provision of early learning and childcare services, family support services, youth services, recreational activities for children, and use by community and voluntary organisations. As part of the initial data-gathering phase, the City Council has reached out to all members of the NEIC Board to request information on any known vacant properties within the North East Inner City, including the CTC building. Updates on developments related to this objective will be provided in the coming months.

Dodder Bridge

The Dodder Bridge received planning permission in July 2024. It is expected that the tender will be awarded later this year and works commence in Q2 2026. The project will progress in two stages. Firstly it is proposed to advance works contract of new reclaimed land. The second stage will allow for construction of the main bridge and tender will commence next year. Detailed design is nearing completion. MARA licence commenced at end of 2023 and DCC awaits confirmation. It was noted at a recent meeting by a number of attendees that the timeline is extensive for the MARA licence to issue which is delaying progress of projects. The construction of project will take approximately 30 months.

Cormac Kennedy, Dublin Port Company agreed and stated that MARA licensing timeline is a big challenge at present. An update on the Point Pedestrian Bridge was requested. It was agreed that the high level overview shared at a recent DCC Infrastructure Meeting would be circulated.

An update on Grand Canal lock-gates repair and delivery was sought. John Tolan, Waterways Ireland gave the expected time of Quarter 1 of 2026 for completion of the main lock.

Ringsend Traffic Issues

The traffic issues experienced in Ringsend area have been forward to South East Area Manager, Brian Hanney to raise at the Irish Glass Bottle Forum for their attention and action.

Grand Canal Harbour Management Company

The next stakeholder engagement meeting is scheduled for 21st May next with Grand Canal Harbour Management Company. If any of the Stakeholders wish to contact the Directors they may do so and Docklands Office will provide their contact details.

A full action plan in relation to lighting will be developed over the course of the year, subject to the availability of appropriate funding. Several lighting systems and fuse boxes on the site need to be remediated as part of this process.

A comprehensive survey of the estate lighting was previously carried out. This included the preparation of design drawings for the replacement of the external lighting system. The design also factored in potential enhancements to the existing power distribution, control, and cabling systems, based on a one-for-one replacement of existing luminaires.

In parallel, there was engagement with the PSDP to develop a full project brief, including a Preliminary Health & Safety Design Plan and Risk Assessments, as required by the Health and Safety Authority prior to any construction activity. This process included preparing the necessary documentation for the proposed electrical works in consultation with the PSDP.

A phased programme of works was outlined in the Jones Engineering report dated 12th July 2022, which detailed the following five stages:

- Workface 1 – Red Pole Lighting.
- Workface 2 – Red Carpet Lighting.
- Workface 3 – Bollard Lighting: (completed in 2023–2024).

- Workface 4 – Green Planter Lighting.
- Workface 5 – Tomb Seat Lighting.

Phase 3 (bollard lighting) was completed in January 2024. The remaining phases are currently under review as part of the ongoing planning for future works.

5. Presentation on Smart Docklands.

Presentation by Dr. Karolina Anielska, Programme Research Manager, Smart Docklands.

Smart Docklands was established in 2018 and is funded by DCC and Connect, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks headquartered at Trinity College, Dublin.

Since its establishment it has carried out pilot projects in relation to climate change, health and wellbeing, inclusion, connection and to promote engagement from other stakeholders with smart cities. The research section is developing and with the right supports they currently have 4G and 5G in the Docklands with the intention of having it all over the city. These devices have worked in relation to keeping the city cleaner as they are fitted in the Big Belly Bins and instead of these bins overflowing the sensor will alert the depot and the bin is emptied so we have a cleaner city.

Smart Cities have also run workshops within schools in relation to traffic patterns within the Docklands which DCC Active Travel produced a report. This was a health and well-being initiative in relation to reducing air pollution and have children cycle or walk to school.

Other workshops in relation to Minecraft and how children design and see their area with the positive impact of looking after your community have also taken place.

Following the workshops the Smart Docklands team completed a survey and the outcome from the people living, working, socialising and business in the Docklands Area generated the four pilot projects categorised as Environment, Urban Greening, Anti-Social Behaviour and Community Development.

Currently Smart Docklands have four pilot projects running in relation to Water Sensors, Traffic Control, Minecraft and Graffiti. Smart Docklands are currently working towards a 3D model to allow us to view what infrastructure is planned and what the proposed development will look like before it is built.

Karolina did request that if any of the forum members currently have a good street facing window, she is currently running a pilot project in the Docklands about traffic control and would like to attach a sensor to windows or open with a street view for data about traffic control.

6. Objectives of DOCF

The Forum agreed the Agenda Sub-Committee and nominations were sought for the Sub-Committee for Public Safety and Management of the Public Realm. The members listed below had expressed an

interest on sitting on the Sub-Committees. The Chairperson suggested that the goals be clear and achievable.

Agenda Sub-Committee	Housing Sub-Committee	Public Safety & Management of Public Realm
Cllr. Courtney Kenny	Mark Fay	Cllr. Daniel Ennis
Cllr. Daniel Ennis	Emma Wilson	Tony McDonnell
Conor O’Kane/ Mette Boye-Hansen		Mark Fay
Aidan Cronin		Bertie Kelly
Mark Fay		Conor O’Kane

7. AOB

Tony McDonnell requested a date for the DCC Docklands Office and Shelly confirmed that the office will be handed over on the 28th of May. Shelly offered the Forum Members a visit of the office and Water Sports Centre.

Mark Fay informed the meeting of the 800 anniversary celebration of St. Laurence O’Toole on the 14th November next. He also outlined details of a recent visit to EU in France where St.Laurance O’Toole is patron saint. The French are invited to join in celebrating this event in Christchurch in November in Dublin. Mark has requested that if possible, when the French people visit, to have French and Irish flags along or national colours displayed on the Samuel Beckett Bridge for a couple of days before, during or around the 14th of November. Shelly O’Riordan stated that she would follow up and make enquires to see if this was possible.

Mark Fay also asked if any other members of the Forum could assist in receiving the visitors at the various attractions in Docklands. Mette Boye Hansen offered a visit to the EPIC Visitor Centre.

A discussion in relation to the development at Connolly Station and potential housing units, which has seen a decrease in the number of units due to change in original permission. Cllr Daniel Ennis stated that he is awaiting an answer from the Area Committee Meeting in relation to the Connolly Quarter development and that he will report back.

The lido in Georges Dock was discussed and update on the meeting between Dublin Lido Group and the Chief Executive in March last was provided. The Dublin Lido Group were requested to carryout out further work on the opex report. A discussion in relation to a short term use of George’s Dock took place. The City Council are currently awaiting a conservation condition survey of the Dock and

any immediate works that may be required. A further update on Georges Dock will be provided at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

It was agreed to revise next meeting which will now take place at 12pm, Tuesday 16th of September at the Docklands Office, Custom House Quay.

Signed: _____

Gerard Crowley, Chairperson

An Garda Síochána

Coimisinéir Cúnta,
Réigiún Chathair Átha Cliath,
An Garda Síochána,
Caislean Átha Cliath
Baile Átha Cliath 2,
D02 EH97

Teileafón/Tel: (01) 6663020
Facs/Fax: (01) 6663077

Bí linn/Join us  



Assistant Commissioner,
Dublin Metropolitan Region,
An Garda Síochána,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2,
D02 EH97

Láithreán Gréasain/Web Site:
www.garda.ie

Ríomh hoist;/Email:
commissioner_dmr@garda.ie

Please quote the following ref. Numbers: DM_10-316171/23

Ms. Marie Kavanagh,
Docklands Area Manager,
Dublin City Council Docklands Office.

Re: Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Dear Ms. Kavanagh,

Further to your recent letter requesting that consideration be given to the three recommendations which were put forward following the June 2023 meeting of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF), as outlined below:

1. the request for An Garda Síochána to ring-fence 2023 new recruits for allocation to the North Central and South Central jurisdictions within Dublin Metropolitan Region to aid in tackling the increased crime levels in the Docklands Area;
2. a City Garda Station with oversight and management of both North and South City Centre;
3. a new Garda Station for the Docklands Area.

It is noted, with thanks, that the Forum acknowledges the policing efforts of existing stations at Pearse Street, Irishtown Station at Ringsend and Store Street. It is accepted that the Dublin Docklands area has seen a large increase in new homes and business and continues to grow. I also note the opinion in respect of the current Garda resourcing for the Docklands area.

With regard to resourcing the Dublin Metropolitan Region, on the 8th August 2023, I welcomed sixty-one (61) Probationer Gardaí to the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR). This cohort of additional Garda personnel included the allocation of eleven (11) Probationer Gardaí to the DMR North Central Division and nine (9) Probationer Gardaí to the DMR South Central Division. The allocation of these Garda members will provide additional capacity to deploy resources to uniform front line positions, increasing visibility in areas where there is the greatest need, which includes the Docklands area.

Furthermore, it is anticipated that a further cohort of Probationer Gardaí will be allocated in late October 2023, which will provide additional capacity to deploy personnel to uniform front line positions in Dublin city.

A Garda building was provided by Dublin Port during Quarter 1, 2022 to facilitate the operation of an immigration response in Dublin Port. The facility is currently occupied by Sergeants and Gardaí who are appointed as Immigration Officers and undertake relevant immigration functions. The official opening of Dublin Port Garda Station is being planned for mid/late October. There is a future plan that the Immigration Control functions at Dublin Port should transfer to Immigration Service Delivery, Department of Justice resulting in a significant number of additional personnel available to provide further visibility at Dublin Port and the Dublin Docklands.

Presently, both the DMR South Central and DMR North Central Garda Divisions collaboratively police the docklands area, not only from their respective sides of the River Liffey, but also cross over into each other's Divisions. This has been highlighted particularly well during events, such as New Year's Eve celebrations, policing of protests and joint policing initiatives being currently undertaken, in particular, Operation Citizen, where members police both areas in unison. The aim of Operation Citizen is to deliver an enhanced high visibility policing presence in the city centre on a daily basis. Personnel from both Store Street and Pearse Street Garda Stations are allocated on a full time basis to Operation Citizen.

There are policing initiatives, such as Operation Irene 2023, an operation targeting underage drinking, drinking in public places and anti-social behaviour during summer months which has assisted in severely disrupting anti-social behaviour in the docklands area, particularly between the hours of operation 12pm-10pm with Community Policing units spearheading the operation, with the assistance of regular units and personnel from Operation Citizen.

Community initiatives such as the Bridge Project, a cross Divisional initiative involving personnel from both Store Street and Pearse Street Garda Stations have also helped in reducing anti-social/violent behaviour in the docklands area. This programme stems from youths residing on both sides of the River Liffey engaging in violent and anti-social behaviour, which was publicised using social media platforms. The main aim of educating and integrating local youths has proven successful in ensuring a reduction of such incidents in particular during summer months, when schools are closed.

Donnybrook Garda Station has a dedicated Community Policing unit which provides an excellent community policing presence and supports many communities, especially in the Irishtown / Ringsend areas which is supported by the core Garda units who respond to and deal with all other matters including incident response, crime investigations, proactive patrols, public order, domestic violence, etc.

Community Policing personnel at Pearse Street and Store Street Garda Stations regularly attend meetings throughout the year regarding security and safety in the docklands area. An Garda Síochána is committed to providing an effective policing service to the Dublin Docklands area. Your correspondence is welcomed, and while there are already established fora, we would value the opportunity to expand this network, join new business forums and community groups, to help determine a policing strategy that best serves the Dublin Docklands.

The Minister for Justice has announced an additional overtime budget of €10 million for policing of the Dublin area and a number of additional measures have been undertaken since the announcement. A major element of the policing response in the DMR is focused on high visibility

policing in key locations and at key times, proactive policing responses involving targeted intelligence led operations, searches of persons and locations, and increased focus on the congregation of large groups of people who can be perceived as engaging in anti-social behaviour.

A pilot operation involving Garda personnel operating on e-bikes undertaking high visibility patrols has now been implemented. The new e-bike patrols will help further increase the existing foot, pedal cycle and mobile patrols within the city centre, an area that has a weekly footfall of almost two million people. Additional focus on building relations with the primary targets, through increased Diversion projects, continuing partnership work, and family support intended to target youth crime will be increased.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me with your concerns and recommendations, and I am available to meet with you to discuss the issues raised in your correspondence, if you wish.

Yours sincerely,



*Assistant Commissioner
Dublin Metropolitan Region*



18th September, 2023



SMART DOCKLANDS

A Smart Dublin District





SMART DOCKLANDS

A Smart Dublin District



Karolina Anielska

Programme Manager at Smart Docklands



Karolina Anielska, PhD
karolina@smartdocklands.ie

What is Smart Dublin?



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



Comhairle Contae County Council



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

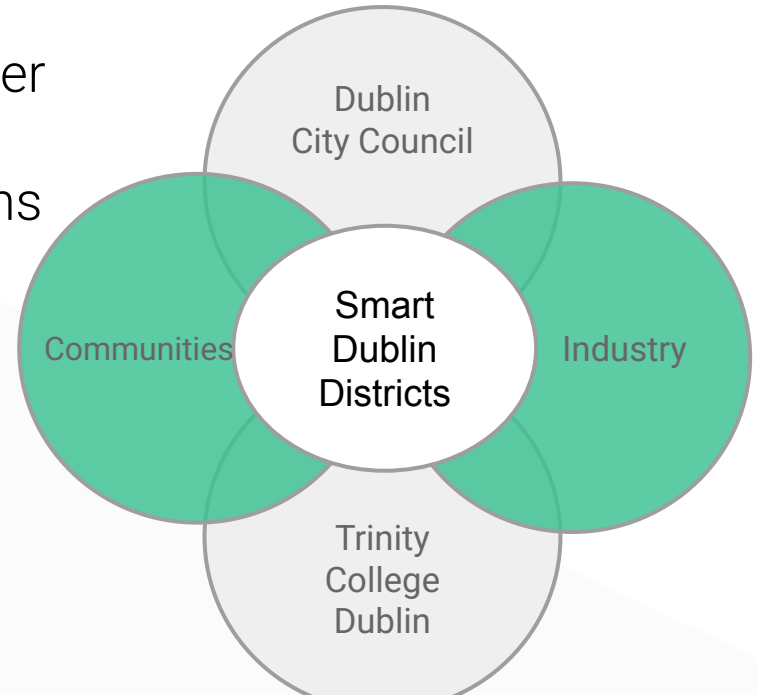
Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



The four Dublin local authorities came together to form an initiative that engages smart technology providers, researchers, and citizens to solve challenges and improve city life.



**SMART
DUBLIN**

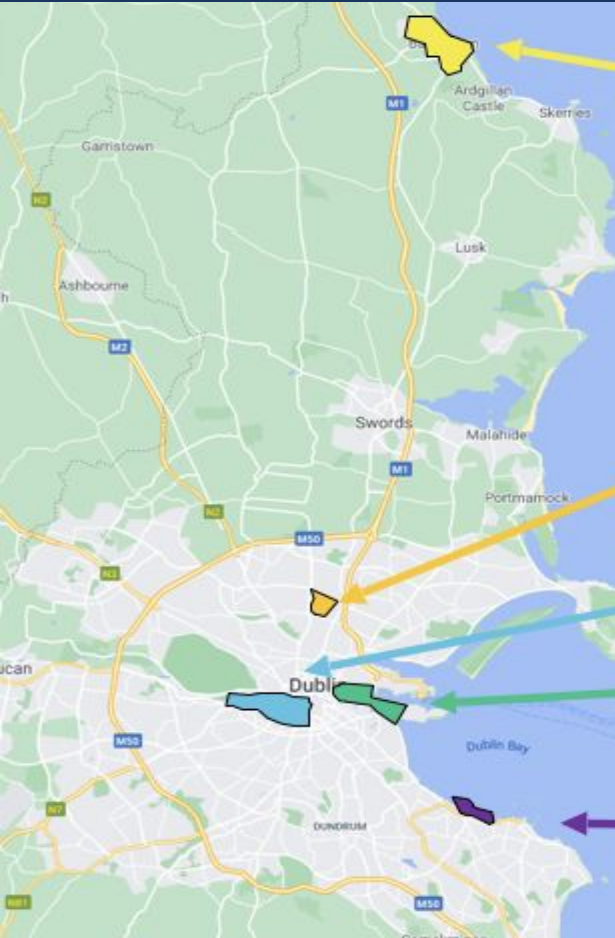


Dublin as a Testbed

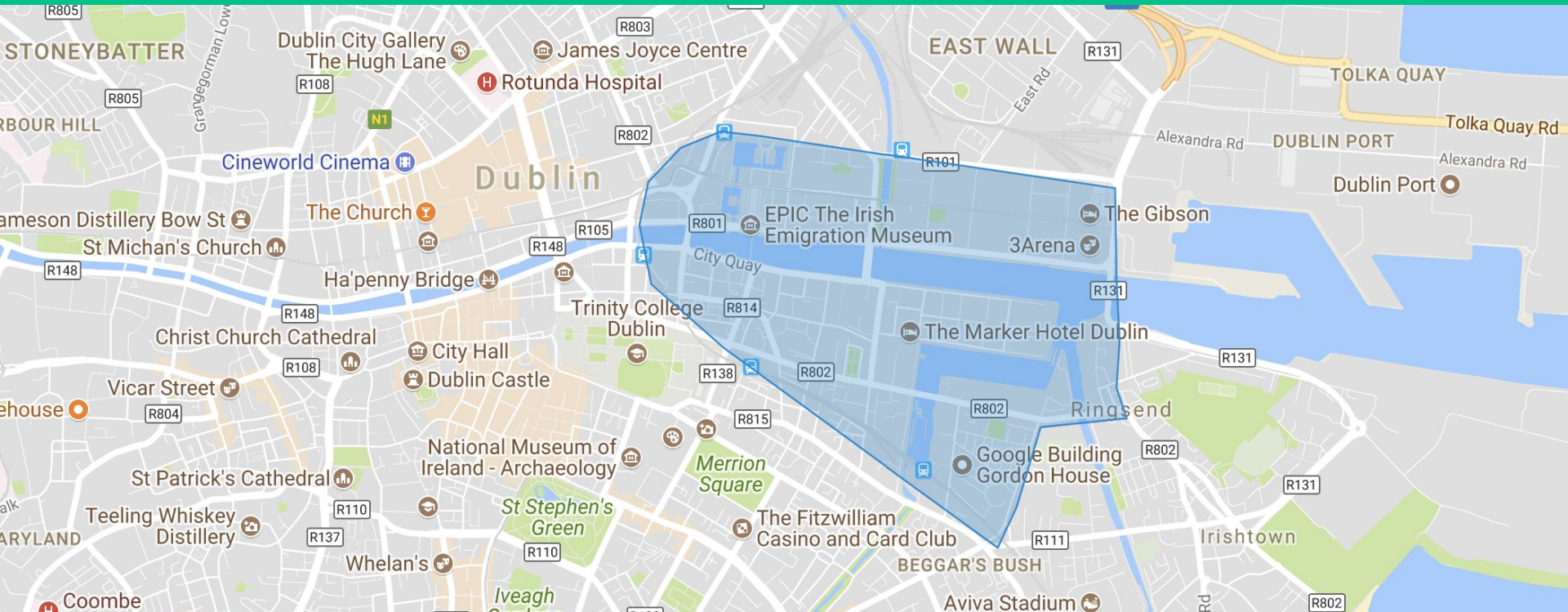


“We are big enough yet small enough to be an ideal location to pilot new city services & solutions.”

Smart Dublin Districts



Smart Docklands District





**Karolina
Anielska**

Programme
Manager



Grace D'Arcy

Engagement
Programme
Manager



Claudia Bailey

Technology and
Engagement
Manager



Clara Butz

Engagement
Programme
Lead



**Mariana
Chihenseck
Blanco**

Engagement
Programme
Lead



**Colm
Browning**

Telecoms
Research and
Innovation
Lead




TELECOM INFRA
PROJECT


Dublin City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath




Bigbelly
SMART WASTE & RECYCLING


cellnex



ACADEMY OF THE NEAR FUTURE

This smart city education programme **empowers young people and local authority staff** to become engaged actors in the use of **technology in cities**.

We are committed to reaching at least **50%** of our workshops in **disadvantaged schools** with **equal female participation**.



The
CONNECTIVE
Detective



BUILDING LEADERS,
CRAFTING COMMUNITIES



YAP YOUTH
ADVISORY
PANEL



Prototyping
ideas




Presenting
ideas to city
leadership




Citizen science
workshops



Citizen Science

 20 partner schools across Ireland

 50% female, 50% DEIS

 3 part workshop model, initiating a citizen science project around the theme 'Active Travel'

Workshop 1

Air pollution and
traffic sensor set
up

Workshop 2

Data review and
problem
identification

Workshop 3

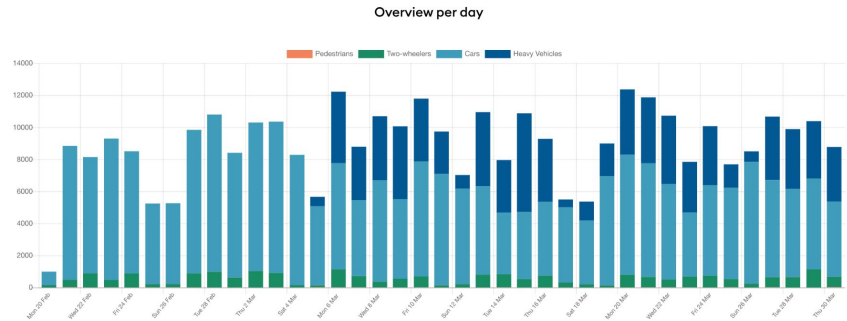
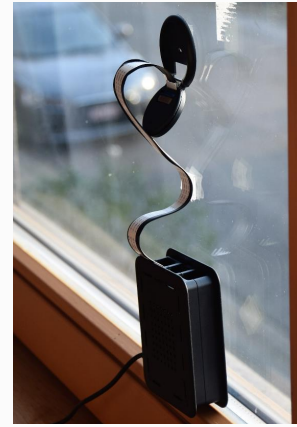
Idea generation.
Co-creation of a
local solution

Traffic Sensor Data

Telraam traffic sensor installed in each partner school.

Sensor sorts objects by size into the following categories: **pedestrians, cyclists, cars & heavy vehicles** (bus or lorry).

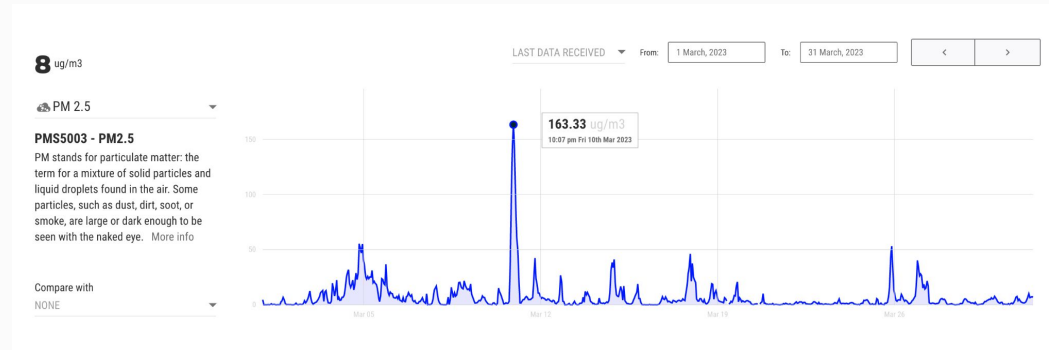
Data is uploaded onto an interactive [online platform](#).



Air Pollution Sensor Data

Smart Citizen air pollution sensor also installed in each pattern school.

Sensor collects hyperlocal air quality data, including **Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5, PM 10, & Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC)**.



Air pollution in Stoneybatter. Data collected by sensor in Stanhope Secondary School.



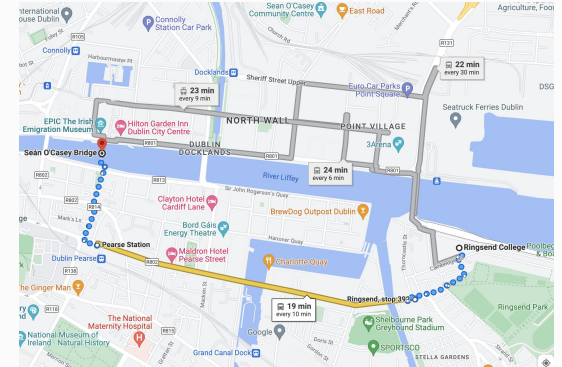
Marino College - Fairview Park Report



Active Travel initiatives in Assumption Secondary School & Colaiste Bride



CBS Westland Row - Letter to Leadership



RingSEND College - Accessibility Walk

The CONNECTIVE Detective



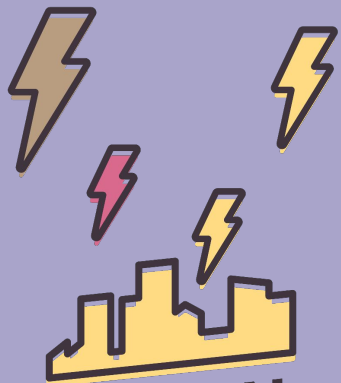
BUILDING LEADERS, CRAFTING COMMUNITIES



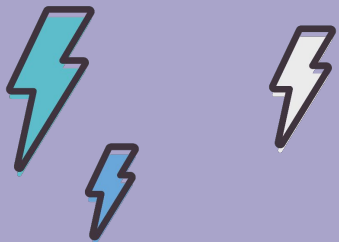


7 students aged 15-18 years old

- Codevelopment of next **citizen science** programme
- Linked with **DCC Climate Action Plan**
- Students work with DCC Climate Action Team and develop a proposal:
 - Urban Garden
 - Edible Dublin: Food Strategy
 - Children's Movement Through the City
- 10 sessions



DESIGN YOUR — FUTURE CITY —



- Fingal week complete
- Dublin City week complete
- Individual follow up of student projects in progress
- Development of follow up workshops with DCC Beta (May)

TREORAIGH DO THODHCHAÍ



ACADEMY
OF THE
NEAR FUTURE



- 14k funding from Dept of Education
- Programmed delivered in April

Local Authority Programme

The Local Authority Programme is a professional development engagement programme for staff and administrators in Dublin City Council and other Irish Local Authorities.



**Digital Rights &
The Public Sector**



**AI Awareness
Building**



expl[AI]n



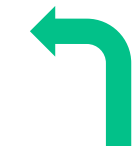
Community Engagement



Pop-ups

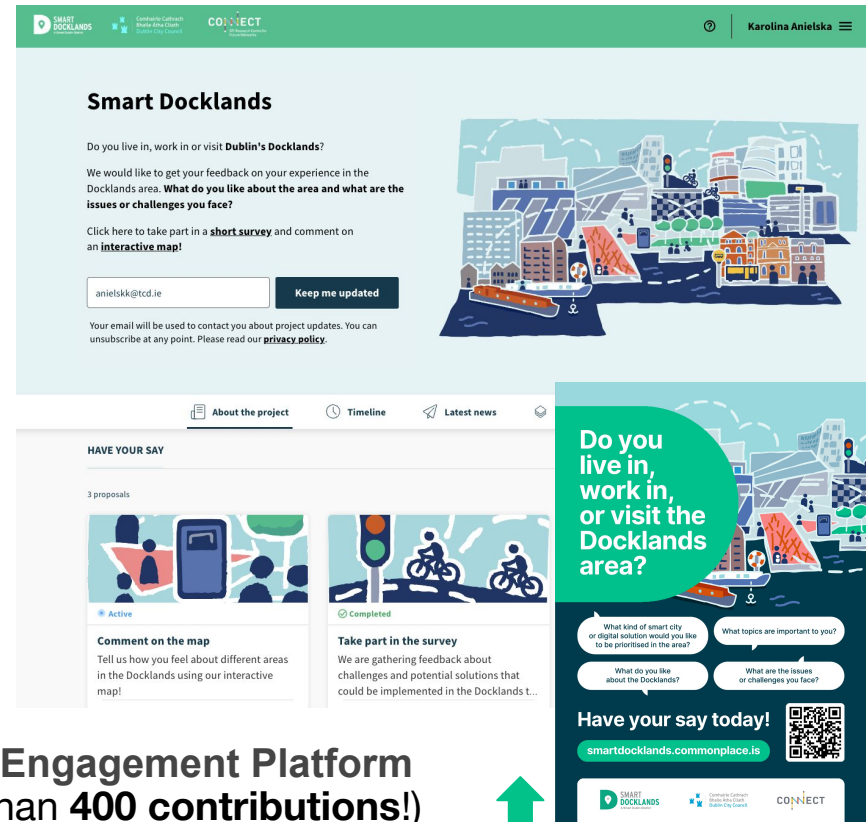


Innovation Tours



Workshops

Online Engagement Platform (more than 400 contributions!)

The screenshot shows the 'Smart Docklands' website interface. At the top, it features the SMART DOCKLANDS logo, navigation icons for 'Commonplace' and 'CONNECT', and the user name 'Karolina Anielska'. The main content area includes a 'Smart Docklands' heading, a brief introduction asking for feedback on the Dublin's Docklands area, and a 'short survey' link. Below this is an email input field with 'anielskk@tcd.ie' and a 'Keep me updated' button. A privacy notice states: 'Your email will be used to contact you about project updates. You can unsubscribe at any point. Please read our [privacy policy](#).' The page also has navigation tabs for 'About the project', 'Timeline', and 'Latest news'. A 'HAVE YOUR SAY' section shows '3 proposals' with two active items: 'Comment on the map' (Active) and 'Take part in the survey' (Completed). The survey description reads: 'We are gathering feedback about challenges and potential solutions that could be implemented in the Docklands t...'. On the right side of the screenshot is a large green call-to-action graphic that says 'Do you live in, work in, or visit the Docklands area?' and includes a QR code and the text 'Have your say today! smartdocklands.commonplace.is'. The footer contains the SMART DOCKLANDS logo, 'Commonplace' and 'CONNECT' logos, and the text 'Dublin City Council'.

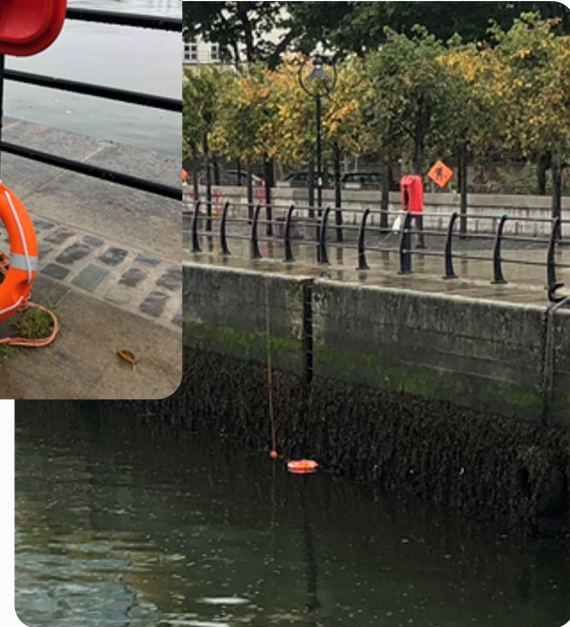
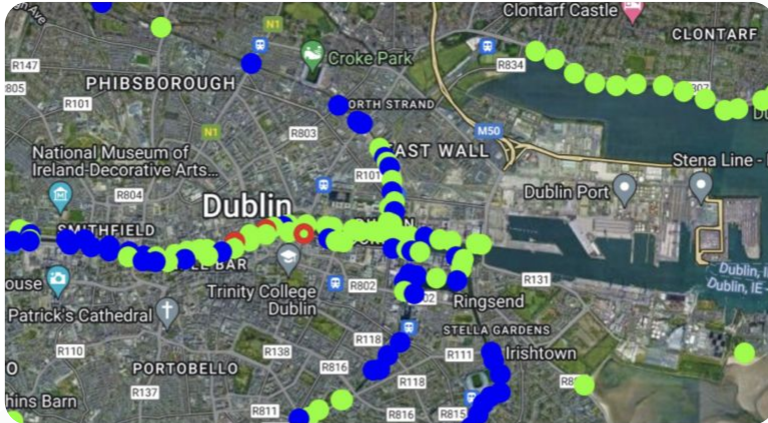
Smart Ring Buoy Project

The Challenge:

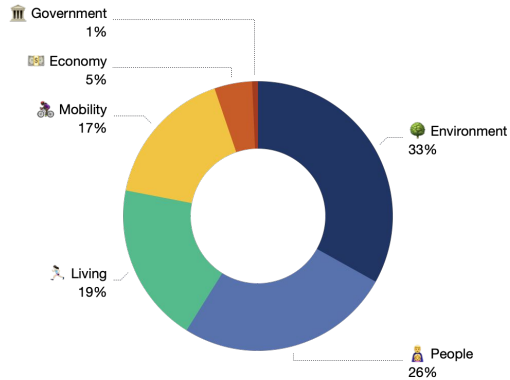
Missing / Stolen Ring Buoys along Irish waterways

The Solution:

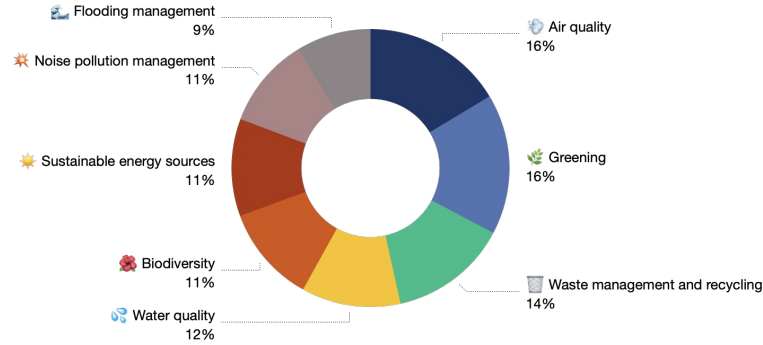
Installing low-cost sensors on ring buoy boxes along the waterways



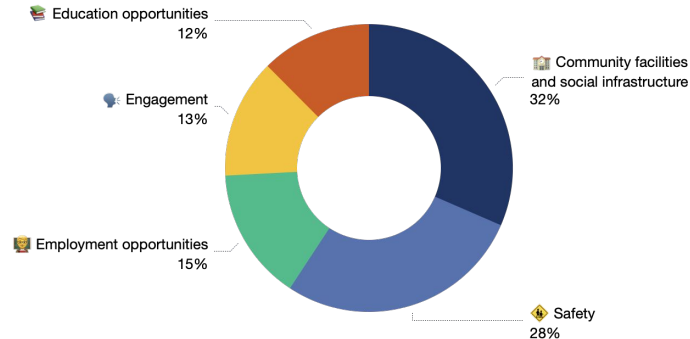
Which theme is the most important?



Environment



People & Living





+ Call for Pilots **2024**

Opportunity for inventive solutions
addressing key thematic areas
in the Docklands



Opens: 25 April 2024

Closes: 13 June 2024

Four pilots - €50k fund

€12.5K funding per pilot



- Environmental Monitoring 🌳
- Urban Greening / Biodiversity 🌿
- Antisocial Behaviour / Safety 🚧
- Community Development 🏢



Environmental Monitoring

River Liffey Water Sensors

Real-time sensors on the Liffey will provide actionable data to better manage and understand river behavior.

Count Docklands

Citizen science using camera-based traffic counters can enhance traffic monitoring and support transport planning.

Community Development

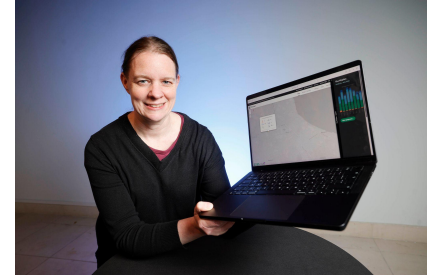
Craft My Street

Games can engage young people in decision-making processes, ensuring their perspectives shape community policies and projects.

Antisocial Behaviour/Safety

Immersive Graffiti

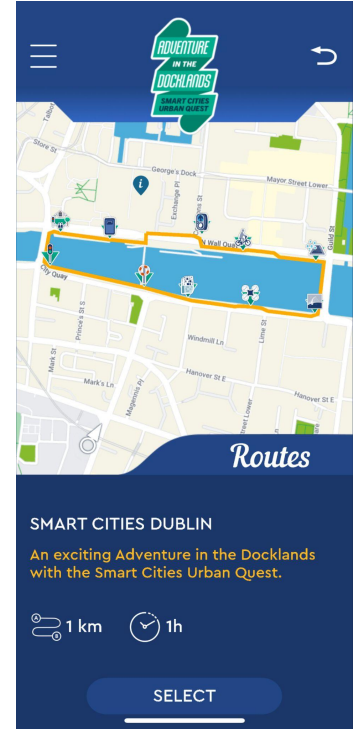
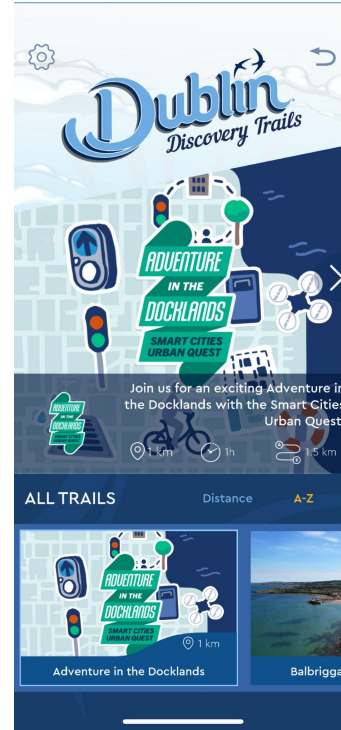
Designated graffiti workshops and support for street artists can transform illegal tagging issues into opportunities for urban enhancement.



Smart Cities Urban Quest



Smart Cities Urban Quest
(440 people over 4 days!)





Digital Twin Networking Event



DCC Innovation Hub in CHQ
January 28th 5-8pm





**SMART
DOCKLANDS**

A Smart Dublin District

- **Do the Smart Cities Urban Quest!**
- **Follow us online and join our Smart Docklands Networking Events**
- **Let us know if you have any ideas to make Docklands better that we can collaborate on.**



karolina@smartdocklands.ie



SMART DOCKLANDS

A Smart Dublin District

Thank you



Karolina Anielska, PhD
karolina@smartdocklands.ie

Report to Dublin City Council from the Docklands Oversight & Consultative Forum 2023

“A dynamic, sustainable city, that is future-ready, built on thriving, inclusive neighbourhoods and communities, a strong economy, a vibrant cultural life, and compact, connected growth.”

Dublin City Council Corporate Plan

Summary

The Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF) is appointed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to advise Dublin City Council at both an operational and strategic level on the development of Dublin Docklands.

The DOCF shares the City Council’s vision for a sustainable city. It is our considered view that implementing the recommendations outlined in this document would help build a more sustainable Docklands and city that values and welcomes all. At the conclusion of its term the second DOCF makes the following recommendations to the Council;

1. **Housing.** The disparity between office provision and accommodation and the resulting chronic shortage of between 25,000 and 50,000 housing units in Docklands be urgently addressed.
2. **Long-established Communities.** It is recommended the city council resource and facilitate the third Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum to lead a concentrated effort to properly invest in the long-established communities.
3. **Anti-social Behaviour.** The Council draw up a more robust anti-social behaviour policy and be an advocate for a Garda Station located in central Docklands.
4. **SDZ.** The original Docklands Strategic Development Zone be concluded.
5. **Built Heritage.** Docklands built industrial heritage be preserved, restored and reused with priority given to Georges Dock, the Graving Docks at City Block 19 and the areas many lifting bridges.
6. **Transportation.** The long-promised transport and services infrastructures be urgently delivered including the Dodder Bridge, the pedestrian bridge along North Wall/Sir John Rogerson’s Quays, a dual track LUAS line linking Docklands with Poolbeg and the various infrastructure and services necessary to ensure residential development progresses in a timely pace.
7. **Environment.** It is recommended that the critical role the Docklands area can play in the city’s response to climate change is fully recognised and to ensure that it’s activities and decisions are in line with both the Dublin City and National Climate Action Plan to maximise its potential as an innovation district for climate solutions.

Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum

The Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF) is the statutory body legislated for by the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015. Established by resolution of Dublin City Council and subject to the Act, the DOCF is ‘to function independently’¹.

¹ Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015 section 37 (2)

As laid out in Section 38 of the Act, the DOCF is to ‘advise the Council and the strategic policy committees of the Council in relation to the formulation, development, monitoring and review of the Council’s policy relating to the performance of the functions of the Council insofar as they relate to the Dublin Docklands Area and in particular in relation to the following:

(a) enterprise and employment

(b) education

(c) housing

(d) planning

(e) the environment, including the natural and built environment, and the amenities of the area; and

(f) the interaction of communities

The Act further states ‘the Forum may consider and advise the Council’... ‘in relation to initiatives of communities in the Dublin Docklands Area which in the opinion of the Forum will benefit such communities, including initiatives in relation to the provision or improvement of amenity, recreational, cultural or heritage facilities, the protection or enhancement of the environment and programmes to promote social inclusion and community development’.

The current and second DOCF was appointed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage in September 2020 to serve a three-year term.

Dublin Docklands

Now Ireland’s most successful urban regeneration, Dublin Docklands is at once a historic area with a rich cultural heritage and of new architectural expression.

Since the development of the Dublin Docklands Development Authority 1997 the area has become the location for;

- 60,000 Employees
- Nine out of ten World Leaders in Tech
- 50% of the World’s Leading Banks
- €10BN Private Equity Invested in the Area’s Construction

Docklands is of great strategic importance to the city and the country. The area’s businesses produce 9% of Ireland’s GDP. It also contributes €85.5MN to the city in rates. This represents 27% of the city’s whole rental income coming from 5% of its geographic area.

Recommendations

These recommendations are the considered view of the 2nd Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum and outline its advice to the Council and its strategic policy committees.

Housing

The housing shortage impacts all communities in Docklands. There is an urgent need for an increase in social, affordable and private accommodation to create a more sustainable urban quarter.

The disparity between office provision and accommodation (both social/affordable and private) and the resulting chronic shortage of between 25,000 and 50,000 housing units in Docklands be urgently addressed. As recently as June 2023 the IDA identified the shortage of housing as a challenge in attracting foreign direct investment.²

Between 1997 and 2007 the Dublin Docklands Development Authority created office space for 40,000 employees³. But only living accommodation for 6,600⁴ (applying a number of two people per 3,293 apartments built and rounding slightly). Dublin City Council has permissioned commercial accommodation in the area for approximately 26,000 employees but living accommodation for only 8,000⁵.

A negative deficit of living accommodation for 51,400 employees. Many already have a home and a small number of others are finding accommodation nearby. But a significant majority are forced to seek accommodation far beyond where they work and often in the surrounding counties. A survey conducted of over 1,000 Dockland employees, 79% are between the age of 18 and 35 and many need to get on the property ladder locally⁶.

There is also a corresponding shortage of social and affordable accommodation in the area. This needs to be addressed concurrently with the shortage for local employees.

Addressing Dockland Indigenous and Forgotten Communities

It is recommended the city council resource and facilitate the third Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum to lead a concentrated effort to properly invest in the long-established areas of Sheriff and Pearse Streets. There is a persistent issue of communities not feeling the benefits of investment in the rest of Docklands. The DOCF is concerned a failure to finally tackle the ingrained antisocial problems within these areas will ultimately undo the efforts of the last 20 years.

Anti-social Behaviour

The Council draw up a more robust anti-social behaviour policy and be an advocate for a Garda Station located in central Docklands.

Anti-social behaviour affects all communities. DCC have a statutory responsibility under the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 to draw up an anti-social behaviour strategy. This strategy, among other things, must have as its objective the prevention and reduction of anti-social behaviour. The powers the act give local authorities are wide ranging and not limited to the authority's housing units or even the immediate area in which they are located.⁷

² <https://www.irishtimes.com/business/2023/06/28/ida-boss-warns-more-tech-layoffs-likely/>

³ North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock Draft Planning Scheme 2013

⁴ Dublin City Council Housing Report to the Docklands Oversight & Consultative Forum (DOCF), March 2019

⁵ Estimation from DCC's Senior Planner for Docklands, at presentation to DOCF 2019

⁶ Docklands Business Forum's #DocklandSays survey conducted both online and at sample points in north and south Docklands.

⁷ <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2009/act/22/section/35/enacted/en/html#sec35>

According to the most recently available data from the Central Statistics Office⁸, and as widely reported, the DCC area has the highest crime rate in the country and the lowest detection rate.⁹ Docklands is also severely impacted by the growing levels of crime in the city.

It is the view of the DOCF that Docklands needs its own Garda station like the one recently opened on O'Connell Street. Pearse Street and Store Street Stations lie outside the Docklands area. Consequently, policing in Docklands is insufficient to make a meaningful impact on growing levels of antisocial behaviour.

The City Council's Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) policy, recently drawn up, needs to be more robust and must include;

- a measurement of the cost of ASB
- a dedicated phone line for reporting ASB and
- key performance indicators to assess the policy's success

Planning Including Transportation

The original Docklands SDZ should be concluded.

Drafted in 2013 in the wake of a property crash and approved by the city council the following year the Docklands Strategic Development Zone is no longer fit for purpose. The SDZ now often holds Docklands development back as witnessed during the disagreement between the council and An Bord Pleanála over the pedestrian bridges over the River Liffey. The SDZ has also created an impression locally of a two-tier Docklands, one for business the other for everybody else.

The long-promised transport and services infrastructures be urgently delivered including;

- the Dodder Bridge,
- the pedestrian bridge along North Wall/Sir John Rogerson's Quays
- a dual track LUAS line linking Docklands with the Poolbeg and
- the various infrastructure and services necessary to ensure residential development progresses in a timely pace.

Environment - Including the Natural, Built Environment and Amenities

It is the view of the DOCF that Docklands built industrial heritage be preserved, restored and reused with priority given to;

- Georges Dock
- the Graving Docks at City Block 19 and
- the areas many lifting bridges

Such plans for the restoration and reuse of Docklands industrial heritage are long overdue and should be drawn up with a view to realising the areas potential as a tourist destination.

⁸ <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-rcd/recordedcrimedetection2021/regionalanalysis/>

⁹ <https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/crime/new-cso-crime-stats-reveal-dublin-is-the-worst-area-per-capita-in-the-country-for-thefts-39788311.html> **and** <https://www.sundayworld.com/crime/irish-crime/dublin-city-had-highest-crime-rates-in-ireland-last-year-new-figures-show-40274674.html> **and** <https://www.dublinlive.ie/news/dublin-news/dublin-areas-highest-crime-rates-20323083>

Docklands waterways should be animated for the benefit of the city and its economy. These animations should be spread across the area's waterways including the River Liffey between Matt Talbot and Tom Clarke Bridges, the Grand Canal Basin, the Royal Canal at Luke Kelly Park and Georges Dock.

The promised green space including Chocolate Park needs to be prioritised and delivered for the benefit of the local communities and employees alike.

In addition, a comprehensive greening strategy should be developed for the area in response to the climate and biodiversity crisis, along with an effective litter management strategy for both the land areas and within the waterways (basin, canals and the rivers). The Docklands area has a key role in the city's response to climate change. It has the ability and the capacity to develop and foster the knowledge exchange, ideas and innovative solutions that are required to minimise the impacts of climate change on our city. The Forum should work to ensure that its decisions, activities and objectives are in line with the targets and objectives set out in the Dublin City Climate Action Plan and the National Climate Action Plan and to actively support Dublin with its participation in the EU Mission for a 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 programme.

Enterprise and Employment

The Council needs to reinvest more of the area's rental income back into Docklands to ensure Dublin remains the favoured location of so many corporate headquarters. An appropriate level of resources should therefore be focused on retaining and growing the level of business activity in the area. Particular attention should be given to facilitating developments of scale to house small and medium enterprises. This would assist bringing more business and employment diversity to the area.

Education

The Council should facilitate the areas educational institutions engaging in mutually beneficial programmes with local communities, businesses and employees. Trinity College Dublin, National College of Ireland and the City of Dublin Education and Training Boards all operate education programmes from level 5 to level 10 on the National Framework of Qualifications, in the Docklands area. The purpose of such initiatives would be to increase social mobility, employment opportunities and quality of life.

The Council should support initiatives that are specifically focussed on the Docklands population, including early learning initiatives that seek to address educational underachievement, and promote ambition for full participation in education through school, further and higher education and lifelong learning. The Council should facilitate and encourage collaboration with employers with a view to achieving the objectives of initiatives in education. Specific initiatives; Microcredentials, Apprenticeships, P-TECH, Access programmes, for example, should be supported and developed.

Interaction of Communities

The last heading listed in the Act for recommendations to be made to Dublin City Council from the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum is that of 'Interaction of Communities'. Many of the most pressing areas of concern to local communities are dealt with in the earlier stages of this report, namely housing, resourcing, and anti-social behaviour.

It is however further recommended the council's Docklands office, in cooperation with the relevant local area offices, should draw up plans to ensure all Dockland residents and employees benefit from the authority's community programmes. Particular attention and resource focus should be made to cross community initiatives.

Appendix 1
DOCF Membership

Appendix 2
Enabling Legislation

Appendix 3
Attendance Record

Appendix 4
Dublin City Council Planning Report

Appendix 5
Letters from DOCF to Departments, Organisations and City Council

Appendix 1
DOCF Membership

Dublin Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum Membership 2023		
Chairperson	Mr Michael Stubbs	
Dublin City Council	Nominated Representative	Position in prescribed organisation
	Mr Owen P. Keegan	Chief Executive
Community	Nominated Representatives	Position in prescribed organisation
Ringsend Community Services Forum	Ms Rachel Rooney	Network Coordinator RCSF
Grand Canal Dock Residents Association	Mr Michael Ingle	President
North Port Dwellers Association	Mr Tony McDonnell resigned in January 2021 position is currently vacant	Chairperson
St. Andrew's Resource Centre	Ms Dolores Wilson	Treasurer
North Wall Community Association	Mr Mark Fay	Chairperson
Business	Nominated Representatives	Position in prescribed organisation
Docklands SME & Start-up Partnership	Mr Owen Reilly	Chairperson
Docklands Hospitality & Entertainment Venue Association	Mr Conor O'Kane	Chairperson
Docklands Business Forum	Mr Alan Robinson	Chief Executive
Trinity college Dublin	Prof Ciaran O'Neill	Community Liaison Officer
Vacant Position	Vacant Position	Vacant Position
Education	Nominated Representatives	Position in Organisation
National College of Ireland	Ms Gina Quin	President

Public Bodies	Nominated Representatives	Position in Organisation
Dublin Port Company	Mr Cormac Kennedy	Head of Property
CIE	Mr Frank Masterson	Assistant Group Property Manager
Central Bank of Ireland	Mr Bernard Sheridan	Director of Strategy & Governance
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Vacant Position	
Waterways Ireland	Ms. Máirin Ó Cuireáin	Waterways Ireland Dublin Docklands Development Manager
Elected Members	Nominated Representatives	Position in Organisation
	Mr Joe Costello	Dublin City Councillor
	Ms Claire Byrne	Dublin City Councillor
	Mr Ray McAdam	Dublin City Councillor
	Mr Kevin Donoghue	Dublin City Councillor

Appendix 2

Enabling Legislation

The Dublin Docklands Development Authority was dissolved on 1 March 2016 by Ministerial Order in accordance with the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015. The Act provided for the establishment, by resolution of the Council, of a Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum which will be independent in the performance of its functions.

The role of the Forum, as set out in the Act, is to consider and advise the Council and the strategic policy committees of the Council in relation to the formulation, development, monitoring and review of the Council's policy relating to the performance of the functions of the Council insofar as they relate to the Dublin Docklands Area and in particular in relation to the following:

- a. enterprise and employment;
- b. education;
- c. housing;
- d. planning;
- e. the environment, including the natural and built environment, and the amenities of the area and;
- f. the interaction of communities

The Act also provides that the Forum may consider and advise the Council and the strategic policy committees of the Council in relation to:

- (a) initiatives of communities in the Dublin Docklands Area which in the opinion of the Forum will benefit such communities, including initiatives in relation to the provision of amenity, recreational, cultural or heritage facilities, the protection or enhancement of the environment and programmes to promote social inclusion and community development and
- (b) Communications of the Council to the public in relation to the performance of the functions of the Council insofar as they relate to the Dublin Docklands Area.

The Forum may, and if requested by the Council shall, consider and advise the Council and the strategic policy committees of the Council in relation to any of its functions.

Dublin City Council at the Monthly Meeting held on 9th May 2016, having considered Report No.129/2016 adopted the following resolution:

"That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 129/2016 and hereby establishes a Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum as provided for in the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015 and that four Members of the City Council be appointed to that Forum, and that these four Members will be convened by the Chief Executive or his nominee to be consulted in relation to various issues related to the selection of persons for appointment to the Forum as and when required".

The motion was put and carried.

Following a vote, the following Members were declared to be appointed to the Dublin Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum: Councillors Christy Burke, Gaye Fagan, Dermot Lacey and Claire Byrne.

As per Section 39 (1) of the Act, the DOCF consists of 21 ordinary members, plus an Independent Chair.

The Chief Executive recommended to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government that Retired Dublin City Council Assistant Chief Executive Mr. Michael Stubbs be appointed as the independent Chair of the DOCF, this recommendation was approved by the Department and Mr. Stubbs was formally appointed as the Chair by the Minister with effect from 6th February 2017 and for a period not exceeding 3 years under Section 39(2) of the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015.

After a lengthy expressions of interest process the membership of the DOCF was formalised when the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government appointed the 21 members with effect from 6th February 2017 and for a period not exceeding 3 years under Section 39(6) of the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (Dissolution) Act 2015. The first 3 year term of the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum ended on March 2020.

On September 8th 2020 the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Mr. Darragh O'Brien following consultation with the Council appointed the nominated Forum members for the second term of the Forum for a three year period, 2020 to 2023.

Appendix 3
Attendance Record

DOCF Meetings Attendance – January 2023 to September 2023 the end date of the Forum three year term

3 Forum Meetings were held in 2023 as well as a workshop session on the 28th March 2023 and follow up meeting to Finalise report on 13th of July

Meeting dates 28th of February 2023, 29th of June 2023, and 7th September 2023

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
Mr Michael Stubbs, Chair	3	3
Mr Owen P. Keegan	3	2
Mr Cormac Kennedy	3	1
Mr Frank Masterson	3	2
Mr Bernard Sheridan	3	3
Ms Máirin Ó Cuireáin	3	1
Ms Gina Quin	3	2
Rachael Rooney	3	3
Mr Michael Ingle	3	3
Ms Dolores Wilson	3	3
Mr Mark Fay	3	3
Mr Owen Reilly	3	2
Mr Conor O’Kane	3	1
Mr Alan Robinson	3	3
Prof Ciaran O’Neill	3	1
Cllr. Joe Costello	3	1
Cllr. Claire Byrne	3	2
Cllr. Ray McAdam	3	3

Cllr. Kevin Donoghue	3	2
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A – Number of

meetings available to attend

B – Number of meetings attended.

Appendix 4

Dublin City Council Planning Report

Appendix 5

Letters from DOCF to Departments, Organisations and City Council



Ms Angela Willis
Assistant Commissioner Dublin Metropolitan Region,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2,
D02 DH42

10th July 2023

RE: Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Dear Assistant Commissioner,

At its June meeting, the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum Members agreed to write to you regarding their continued concerns in respect of the increase of criminal anti-social behaviour in the Docklands Area. The Forum is a statutory oversight body working with Dublin City Council and is comprised of representatives from the business, community, education and public authority bodies located within the City's Docklands.

The Forum members believe that the current Garda resourcing for the Docklands area is not sufficient to meet the demands and expectations of the Docklands communities who have experienced disruptions to businesses and community activities and on occasion assaults, intimidation and damage to property with increased regularity.

The Members agreed on three recommendations to put forward for your review and consideration:

1. The request for An Garda Síochána to ring-fence 2023 new recruits for allocation to the North Central and South Central jurisdictions within Dublin Metropolitan Region to aid in tackling the increased crime levels in the Docklands Area.
2. A *City Garda Station* with oversight and management of both North and South City Centre.
3. A *new Garda Station for the Docklands Area*.

The Docklands population is approximately 27,000 with a further 44,000 people working within in the area and over 300,000 visitors annually. The Forum acknowledges the policing efforts of existing stations at Pearse St, Ringsend and Store St Garda stations however, in the opinion, the current Garda resourcing for the Docklands area is not delivering a safe environment for many of the business, local communities and visitors. The Dublin Docklands area has seen a large increase in new homes and business which is to continue to grow and in addition the Docklands area is developing as a destination for visitors both foreign and domestic. This increase in population and activity has not seen an equivalent increase in Garda resources for the area.

Dughailte Baile Átha Cliath, Cé Theach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath, D01 F84
Dublin Docklands, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1, D01 F84
T. 01 222 6070 W. www.dublincity.ie
Email: infodocklands@dublincity.ie

The members feel very strongly about the above recommendations and welcome your consideration and response on these.

Yours sincerely,



Marie Kavanagh
Docklands Area Manager
Dublin City Council Docklands Office
Ph: 01 222 6070
marie.kavanagh@dublincity.ie



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Mr. Darragh O'Brien TD
Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Custom House,
Dublin,
D01 W6X0

Tuesday 18th July 2023

RE: Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum (DOCF)

Dear Minister,

At its June meeting, the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum Members agreed to write to you, seeking an extension of the current three year term of service for the Forum Members which is due to come to an end on 7th of September 2023.

The Forum is seeking an extension of its second term from the 8th of September to the 31st of December 2023 only. The three month extension is proposed to make up for the lost period during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 which impacted the commencement of their second term. This was a disruptive period for all and interfered with the Forum schedule of meetings which has impacted on the work of the Forum. Members wish to ensure before their term completes they deliver a comprehensive report for you and the next Forum Membership.

The Members would welcome your consideration and response to their request for an extension to their current term of office with the Docklands Oversight and Consultative Forum.

Yours sincerely

Marie Kavanagh
Docklands Area Manager
Dublin City Council Docklands Office
marie.kavanagh@dublincity.ie