

Report to the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC

26th July 2016

Development of a Market Strategy for Dublin

In June 2015 the Assistant Chief Executive commissioned a retail markets expert to develop proposals for a Markets Strategy for Dublin City.

The purpose of the strategy is to provide guidance and an overall plan for the future development and regulation of markets in the Dublin City area.

There are a number of locations in Dublin where on-street trading has traditionally taken place. However the nature and of these on-street markets has changed considerably over the last number of years and a new approach is required to deal with these effectively. There are also a growing number of modern markets, both publicly and privately run, which offer a wider and more diverse range of products than ever before. There is currently no formal strategy to deal with these evolving and expanding markets and the consequent challenges for the Council.

Core elements of the proposed new strategy will be to support the economic regeneration of the city and its local communities through the development of new markets, the revitalisation of existing markets and the incorporation of potential changes to the Council's casual trading designated locations.

A draft strategy was prepared and submitted to the Council but as this had a limited focus it was decided that the report would be reconsidered. Much effort has been made to finalise the strategy document with the person who prepared the report but considerable work still remains to be done. In view of this the inclusion of the Market Strategy on the Strategic Policy Committee agenda earlier this year was premature.

Our attention recently has been concentrated on finalising the revision of the Street Performers Bye-Laws but we are now in a position to focus on the Markets Strategy.

In a report to the last SPC we provided summarised details of the guiding principles and potential implementation measures. What remains at this stage is to receive final inputs from a number of departments and to finalise the strategy document.

Vincent Norton
Assistant Chief Executive