

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12th JUNE 2023

PRESENT	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Forde.
NORTH EAST	Comhairleoirí K. O'Flynn, J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
NORTH WEST	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, D. Boylan, B. McCarthy.
SOUTH EAST	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, K. McCarthy, T. Shannon.
SOUTH CENTRAL	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, P. Dineen, F. Kerins.
SOUTH WEST	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney E. Ryng.
ALSO PRESENT	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Housing. Ms. F. Redmond, Acting Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development. Mr. G. O'Beirne, Director of Services, Infrastructure Development. Ms. S. O'Meara, CEDO & Rapid Coordinator, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Ms. A. Murnane, Meetings Administrator. Ms. N. Stewart, Administrative Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Ms. V. Keating, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.
APOLOGIES	Comhairleoir D. Canty.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Mansworth family on the death of Brenda Mansworth.
- The O'Leary family on the death of Fintan O'Leary.
- The O'Connell family on the death of Denis O'Connell.

- The Cooke family on the death of Nellie Cooke.
- The McCarthy family on the death of Teddy McCarthy.
- The Cullen Family on the death of Ruth Cullen.
- The Murphy family on the death of Joan Murphy.
- The Phelan family on the death of Bina Phelan.
- The Mansfield family on the death of George Mansfield.
- The Lemasney family on the death of Eileen Lemasney.
- The O'Donnell family on the death of Maureen O'Donnell.
- The O'Leary family on the death of Pauline O'Leary.

2. **VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/BEST WISHES**

- Abbie O'Mahony on winning several awards at the recent MTU College of Art & Design Exhibition.
- Sciath na Scol on the successful running of their hurling and camogie competitions.
- Cumann Lúthchleas na mBunscol Chorcaí on the successful running of Primary City Sports.
- Cllr. Tadhg Barry Galvin on his election to Brighton & Hove City Council in May 2023.

3. **LORD MAYOR'S ITEMS**

3.1 **PASSING OF TEDDY MCCARTHY**

An tArdmhéara expressed condolences on the passing of Teddy McCarthy.

3.2 **WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**

An Chomhairle approved the attendance of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald at the World Health Organisation (WHO) Ministerial Conference to be held in Budapest, 5th-7th July 2023.

3.3 **ATLANTIC CITIES OCEANS ASSEMBLY**

An Chomhairle retrospectively approved the attendance of Comhairleoir O. Moran at the Atlantic Cities Oceans Assembly in Biarritz on 6th June 2023.

3.4 **CIVIC RECEPTION**

On the proposal of An tArdmhéara, An Chomhairle approved the holding of a Civic Reception for the Cork U20 hurling team who won the All Ireland Championship.

3.5 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle that the Annual General Meeting would be held on 23rd June 2023 at 6pm.

3.6 **RECENT CORK CITY COUNCIL EVENTS**

An tArdmhéara commended and thanked all involved in two recent events; the Lord Mayor's Civic, Community & Voluntary, and Culture Awards 2023 and the Lord Mayor's Ball 2023.

4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ITEMS**

None received.

5. **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Annual Report 2022.

6. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 8th May 2023.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Maher, seconded by Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Forde, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the following motion (No.39, Appendix 1) at the end of the meeting:-

FUNDING FOR CORK PRIDE 2023

'That Cork City Council will provide support funding for Cork Pride 2023 due to considerable loss of corporate sponsorship this year and that in budget 2024 we provide funding similar to that of other festival events Cork City supports.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 23/288)

7. **QUESTION TIME**

7.1 **HOUSING WAITING LIST**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

How many people are on the priority 1, 2 & 3 housing waiting list please?

Is it possible to give an expected length of time these families would be waiting for an offer of housing?

REPLY

There is no specific priority housing waiting list. At the end of each Choice Based Letting period the list of applicants who expressed an interest in a particular property is reviewed. Allocations are made under the order of priority set out in the Allocations Scheme taking into account all the relevant information provided by the applicant household including the applicant's credit time on the social housing support list, family size and type of dwelling required. This would include the extent to which the current accommodation of a household meets any accommodation requirement arising from an enduring physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual impairment of a member of the household.

The 2021 amendment to the Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 allowed for the replacement of the need for a Consultants Letter if seeking support on disability or medical ground with the new Medical/Disability Information Form (HMD Form 1). The form was designed in consultation with local authority and HSE representatives. The purpose of the form is to ensure that we are given the appropriate information in a more structured, uniform way to allow us to assess an applicant. It assists us to ensure that the individuals or families most in need of housing on Disability Grounds will be given the appropriate priority.

To ensure that we identify those most urgently in need of housing arising from a disability or medical condition, we have assigned a level of prioritisation within the group of applicant households who have been deemed to have such a need. There are 3 level of categorisation as outlined below:

- 1) **Level 1** - A member of the household has a chronic medical condition, or an enduring physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual impairment and the current accommodation is not suitable to meet their needs. It has been decided that being housed in alternative accommodation would significantly improve or stabilise the circumstances of the person concerned.
- 2) **Level 2** – A member of the household has a disability or medical condition, and their current accommodation is unsuitable for their needs on a long-term basis. It has been decided that being housed in alternative accommodation would improve or stabilise the circumstances of the person concerned.
- 3) **Level 3** – A member of the household has a disability or medical condition, and it has been decided that they would benefit from being housed in alternative accommodation.

As the circumstances of an applicant's medical condition may change over time a new HMD-1 form can be submitted if additional information becomes available.

It should be noted that in cases where there are mobility needs verified by an Occupational Therapist or related medical specialist which determine that level access

or bungalow type accommodation is required for an applicant household, these units may be allocated outside of the Choice Based Letting process.

It is also important to note that prioritisation for social housing support is based on urgency of need, not on the existence of a disability or medical condition alone.

Since the introduction of the HMD-Form 1 we have given Level 1 medical prioritisation to 6 households, Level 2 medical prioritisation to 40 households and 53 households have been given Level 3 medical prioritisation. It should be noted that prior to the introduction of the HMD-Form 1 applicants were given a classification based on a Disability Requirement/Exceptional Medical Needs which was recorded on their file.

Approximately 15% of applicants have a medical/disability requirement. The majority of these applicants are active on CBL and as outlined above their requirements are taken into consideration when the bid list is reviewed. The length of time before they are housed depends on how active they are on CBL and the demand for properties in their area of choice. As properties that are specially adapted, or ground floor accommodation become available they may be allocated outside of the CBL process to meet specific needs of these households. For households with specific medical requirements such as wheelchair accessible accommodation the length of time before they are housed depends on when a suitable property becomes available in the area they wish to live.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

7.2 **BDS CAMPAIGN**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Noting that Cork City Council has approved motions in support of the Palestinian-led Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement for freedom, equality & justice & the labelling of Israel as an Apartheid state can the CE ensure City Council going forward adheres to the BDS campaign? The participation by a choir from Israel in the recent International Cork Choral Festival is a breach of the campaign, City Council funds & hosts elements of the festival.

REPLY

Cork City Council's support for festivals is not currently contingent on their adherence to the BDS movement. The participation of choirs from different countries in the Cork International Choral Festival is a matter for the festival organisers.

Cork City Council recognises the affinity between Corkonians and Palestinians, and pursuant to motions approved by Council, is actively engaged with the Palestinian Mission in Dublin in deepening links.

Paul Moynihan,
Director of Services,
Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

7.3 **HOUSING ALLOCATION**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir G. Keohane, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Is it a Cork City Council Housing policy to allocate a Council house to a single applicant and then for that City Council tenant to move their partner into the City Council house that has a serious criminal record and is unvetted without the permission of Cork City Council Housing Department.

REPLY

Where persons on the social housing support waiting list are nominated for consideration for a City Council property then all adult members of the declared household on the application are subject to pre allocation checks. This includes an interview with the relevant Housing Officer, garda vetting and an assessment of household income to ensure continued eligibility for social housing support. The interview process includes ascertaining the actual household composition and ascertaining details regarding custody arrangements where a parent is not listed on the social housing support application and whether that parent is likely to be moving into the property in the future.

Once the Housing Officer is satisfied with the details provided by the applicant, they are then offered a viewing of the property and are subsequently signed up if they wish to proceed with the offer. During sign up, the applicant is advised regarding the process if they wish to amend their household composition in the future. They are advised that the same process of vetting that they went through would have to be completed in relation to the proposed addition of any other adult to the household.

While the tenancy agreement does not preclude anyone visiting the tenant, it is the tenant who is responsible for the behaviour of all visitors/invitees to the property and it is they who would ultimately face sanction should any issues arise. It is important to note that the tenancy agreement does not permit any person to reside permanently with a tenant without the City Council's prior consent. Should such an event occur, the Housing Officer will investigate the circumstances and, if the tenant is found to be in breach of their tenancy agreement, they will be subject to appropriate action by the City Council.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

7.4 **LEGHENAMORE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir C. Finn, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE give an update on the CPO process for the road infrastructure for Leghenamore and how many landowners have yet to agree a fair price?

REPLY

The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Lehenaghmore Road Improvement Scheme was submitted to An Bord Pleanala (ABP) on the 19th of August 2022.

As part of the process, notices were served on 25 landowners covering 80+ individual plots (with some owners having multiple plots). Four formal objections were submitted in relation to the CPO. An Bord Pleanala have yet to determine the application. The most recent correspondence from ABP indicates that they expect to make a decision by the end of June 2023; however this date may change. ABP may approve the application, reject the application or hold an Oral Hearing prior to determining the application.

In the meantime, Cork City Council's project team, including our valuation expert has entered into negotiations with land owners aimed at securing the required lands through agreement. Agreements have now been reached with nine land owners and a further eleven agreements are at an advanced stage in negotiations and are expected to be concluded shortly.

Gerry O'Beirne,
Director of Services,
Infrastructure Development.

7.5 **PUBLIC GREEN SPACE**

The following question submitted by Comhairleoir D. Boyle was deferred to the next meeting of An Chomhairle to be held, 10th July 2023:-

To ask the Chief Executive the amount of public green space that exists (excluding Fitzgerald's Park and Bishop Lucy Park) on the City Centre island?

7.6 **STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE CITY'S RIVERS FOR TRANSPORT & AMENITY**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir O. Moran, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

To ask the Chief Executive for the city's strategy for improving access to the city's rivers for water transport and amenity, and how this is being progressed?

REPLY

Cork City Development Plan includes an objective to enhance access to the river for amenity and transport. It is envisaged that this will be delivered through stand alone public projects as well as appropriately conditioned private developments/initiatives. In addition, in the planning and delivery of its transport, flood protection and public realm/ amenity improvement schemes, the Council seeks to identify and exploit opportunities for better connectivity and improved access to the water assets across the City. This is progressing, in particular at Cork Docklands where it will be considered as part of the regeneration / public realm of the area. Cork City Council is also working with the Port of Cork to advance the phased transfer of the City Quays to the City Council which will create new opportunities to benefit the City from its valuable waterfront location.

Fearghal Reidy,
Director of Services,
Strategic & Economic Development.

7.7 NEWTON HEIGHTS AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir K. Collins, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

Can the CE update on the Newton Heights Affordable Housing Scheme including clarifying if there are any issues around land ownership that may impact on the disposal of properties to successful applicants?

REPLY

I can clarify there is no issue with land ownership at Newton Heights, which may prevent the disposal of affordable homes, as Cork City Council is the outright registered owner.

The scheme map submitted to the Property Registration Authority of Ireland suggests minimal encroachment onto an adjoining folio, CK10966F, of which Cork City Council is also the registered owner. There are several burdens registered on that adjoining folio, some of which, on paper, affect 8 affordable homes at Newton Close. Those burdens do not adversely affect those specific homes and do not accurately reflect the physical boundary which exists.

Cork City Council and the legal representatives of the developer are in contact with the Property Registration Authority of Ireland to rectify the map to accurately reflect the actual defined boundary.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

7.8 **COUNCIL TENANTS' RENTS**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir T. Tynan, a written reply was circulated as outlined below:-

I am calling on the CEO, Ann Doherty to provide information regarding the total figures of rents paid by Cork City Council tenants for each yearly period from 2020 to 2022.

REPLY

YEAR	RENT PAID
2020	€28,297,209.13
2021	€29,877,708.39
2022	€30,604,948.69

Niall Ó Donnabháin,
Director of Services,
Housing.

8. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

8.1 **VACANCY IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**

On the proposal of Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Forde, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle approved the nomination of Brian McCarthy to fill the vacancy arising from the resignation of Comhairleoir F. Ryan.

8.1.1 **VACANCIES ON BOARDS/COMMITTEES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle approved the nomination of Comhairleoir Brian McCarthy to fill the vacancies on the Boards/Committees listed below arising from the resignation of Comhairleoir F. Ryan:-

Housing Strategic Policy Committee
Environment, Water and Amenity Strategic Policy Committee
North-West Local Area Committee
Finance and Estimates Committee
An Grúpa Forbartha Gaeilge
Travellers Accommodation Consultative Committee

An tArdmhéara invited Comhairleoir B. McCarthy to address the meeting.

8.2 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive, dated 1st June 2023 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal of an area of land (89.8m² approximately) situated to the rear of No. 323, Blarney Street, Cork, to Bernadette Janeczek and Margo Hodnett, c/o RDJ LLP, 2, Park Place, City Gate Park, Mahon Point, Cork for the sum of €1,000.00 (plus VAT if applicable) plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

2. Disposal of the leasehold interest in an area of ground (5.2m² approximately), which forms part of the premises situated at No. 12, Tuckey Street, Cork to New Road Development DPT Limited c/o Gordan Judge Solicitors, 123, Lower Baggott Street, Dublin 2, for the sum of €150.00 plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

3. Disposal by way of lease of property (2.8282 hectares approximately), situated at St. Michael's Drive, Ballinure, Cork, to The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, c/o Chief States Solicitors Office, Osmond House, Ship Street Little, Dublin, D08 V8C5 by way of a three-year lease, at an annual rent of €10.00 (if demanded).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Moloney, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

4. Disposal by way of lease of property known as Blackrock Castle Observatory, Blackrock, Cork to Cosmos Education Company Limited c/o O' Flynn Exham Solicitors LLP, 58, South Mall, Cork for a term of 20 years, at an annual rent of €5.00 (if demanded).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

5. Disposal of an area of land (69m² approximately) situated at Sunset Place, Rathpeacon, Killeens, Cork, to Galtymore Developments Ltd, c/o O' Flynn Exham Solicitors LLP, 58, South Mall, Cork for the sum of €1,000.00 plus costs of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O'Flynn, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

8.3 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: BLUE ANCHOR YARD, DOUGLAS STREET, CORK - FOCUS HOUSING ASSOCIATION CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 18th May, 2023 in relation to a loan facility for Focus Housing Association CLG in respect of the provision of 4 no. 1 bed units of accommodation at Blue Anchor Yard, Douglas Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Boyle, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Resolved that, pursuant to the provision of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992, a loan facility not exceeding €1,200,277 be granted to Focus Housing Association CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 4 no. 1 bed units at Blue Anchor Yard, Douglas Street, Cork.”

8.4 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT LEHENAGHMORE, CORK**

In accordance with Section 179 (4) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, An Chomhairle considered and approved the proposed residential development at Lehenaghmore, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive thereon as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, dated 8th June 2023.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir F. Dennehy, seconded by Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development at Lehenaghmore, in the City of Cork and the report of the Chief Executive, Cork City Council thereon, it is hereby resolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 179 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, that the development at Lehenaghmore, in the City of Cork be carried out as recommended in the said report of the Chief Executive, Cork City Council, which was put before Council on the 12th June 2023.”

8.5 **TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES 2023**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. O’Flynn, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, An Chomhairle considered and approved the recommendation of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, 12 June 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed Traffic Calming Schemes 2023, pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act 2009.

8.6 **CALDERWOOD ROAD PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT WORKS - SECTION 38 APPROVAL**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the

Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 10th May 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed Calderwood Road Pedestrian Improvement Works pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

8.7 **GRANGE ROAD TO TRAMORE VALLEY PARK LINK - CONNECTION FROM ALDEN GROVE - PART 8 PLANNING**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 179 (4) (a) of Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), An Comhairle considered the proposed Grange Road to Tramore Valley Park Link Connection from Alden Grove and the report of the Director of Infrastructure Development thereon dated 9th May 2023, as required under Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Finn, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development viz. the Grange Road to Tramore Valley Park Link Connection from Alden Grove and the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development Directorate, Cork City Council dated 9th May 2023 , it is hereby resolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 179 (4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, that the Grange Road to Tramore Valley Park Link Connection from Alden Grove be carried out as recommended in the said report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development Directorate, Cork City Council.”

9. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 6th JUNE 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 6th June 2023.

9.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 30/04/2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 30/04/2023.

9.2 **MOTIONS**

9.2.1 **EPA GREEN PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Chief Financial Officer, dated 1st June 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council adopts the EPA Green Procurement Guidelines as a guiding documents for all public procurement within the remit of Cork City Council.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 23/209)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Councils Procurement Policies and Procedures have been updated to incorporate EPA Green Procurement guidelines. The City Councils procurements policy specifically states that for green

procurement the City Council will follow the green public procurement guidance document issued by the EPA in 2021.

An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion to the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee for further discussion.

10. **PARTY WHIPS – 22nd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 22nd May 2023.

11. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 15th MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 15th May 2023.

11.1 **RECENT ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 12th May 2023 on recent activities in International Relations.

11.2 **DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STRATEGY**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the initial report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 27th April 2023 on the development of an International Relations Strategy.

12. **ENVIRONMENT, WATER & AMENITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 16th MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 16th May 2023.

12.1 **MOTIONS**

12.1.1 **PLANTING OF TREES, HEDGING AND PLANTS IN PRIVATE GARDENS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council undertake an initiative that would encourage the planting of trees, hedging and plants in private gardens across the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 23/130)

The report of the Director of Services stated that initiatives to encourage and promote the planting of trees, hedging and plants in private gardens across the city will be included in the Council’s Tree and Woodland Strategy.

12.1.2 **PUBLIC TOILET ON GRAND PARADE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That in the event of the public toilet on Grand Parade not being re-opened for that purpose, the unit be offered to An Garda Síochána as a city centre policing outreach hub. (An updated report on public toilet availability in the city to be issued pending the outcome from the response).’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Finn, Cllr. M. Nugent 23/113)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the conversion of the Public Toilet Unit on the Grand Parade as a City Centre Policing Outreach Hub would prove difficult and costly to adapt. The unit is a prefabricated toilet block without independent walls and floors, which are in fact integrated into the toilet cubicles themselves. As such an entirely new structure would have to be designed, built and fitted out rather than a conversion of the existing unit.

It is also worth noting that both the Bridewell and Anglesea Street Garda Stations are located in close proximity to the City Centre and are opened 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The City Council has been advised that An Garda Síochána cannot guarantee that a further building could be manned on a continual basis thus significantly negating the usefulness of this proposed outreach hub.

12.1.3 **PUBLIC TOILET POLICY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 8th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the progress of implementation of the Cork City Council public toilet policy and the appraisal document accepted in May 2021.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/126)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Public Toilet Policy, which was accepted at full Council meeting on the 10th May 2021, outlined short, medium and long term policies for the provision of public toilets in the City Centre and the wider City area.

Initially, focus was on the delivery of the short-term policies, chief among those was the opening up the North Main Street Shopping Centre toilets to the public, which was completed on the 29/06/2021.

Short Term Policies:

Make available toilet facilities within Cork City Public Building for members of the Public to access:

Complete.

Open North Main Street Shopping Centre Toilets to the Public.

Opened 29/6/2021. This facility is supervised and provides:

- 4no Ladies Toilets.
- 2no. Gents Toilets & Urinal
- 1no. Accessible Toilet.
- 1no. Baby changing unit & toilet.

Increase Awareness of Public Toilet facilities provided by Cork City Council.

Ongoing through social media.

Liaise with Local Business Owners at popular Amenity Areas to make toilet facilities available for members of the public to access.

Demand for facilities has reduced significantly since the easing of Covid 19 restrictions. Discussions to resume with CCC & Business Owners where and if required.

Medium Term Polices:

Develop & deliver a new toilet facility on the Grand Parade:

Adjacent to the Cork City Library was identified as the location to provide a public toilet facility on the Grand Parade. This facility provides a much-needed accessible toilet and baby changing unit, as well as one unisex toilet. The toilets are accessed directly via an entrance on the Grand Parade, which is separate to the main City Library entrance. The toilets are supervised at all times, with contactless pay for use in place (50c).

The toilets are open and available for use by the public.

“Leaside Leithreas” Sticker Scheme.

Discussions around this proposal are still at preliminary stage. There are some initial discussions around the possibility that this policy could be incorporate as part of the Age Friendly “Take a Seat” initiative. The “Take a Seat” initiative proposes that a small number of existing outdoor seating at restaurants and pubs, are set aside for older visitors to the City, who wish to rest and relax during their City Centre experience. The visitor would not have to purchase from the participating premises and could avail of a glass of water and use of the toilet if required. Any plan for the use of the toilets would need to have a subtle approach with the focus very much on seating. The image to be created is one of a holistic welcome, and envisioning what’s an already long-standing arrangement and making it work for all.

Provide Public Toilet Facilities at key Recreational & Amenity Areas of Cork City:

Public Toilets facilities are now provided in the following key recreational and amenity areas:

- English Market.
- Marina Park.
- Bishopstown Park.
- Tramore Valley Park.
- Ballincollig Regional Park.
- Fitzgerald’s Park

Long Term Policies:

All Public Realm Projects must consider/include the provision of Public Toilets in their proposals.

This policy is to be implemented by relevant Directorates on all new projects. Both the Capital and operational costs of such facilities must be considered at the project design stage.

13. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 18th MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 18th May 2023.

13.1 **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Community Development Project Grants Allocation for 2023.

13.2 **MINUTES OF THE ARTS COMMITTEE 27th FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of the Arts Committee from its meeting held, 27th February 2023.

13.2.1 **ARTS OFFICE REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Arts Office report, dated 27th February 2023.

13.3 **MOTIONS**

13.3.1 **ARTIST CAMPUS AT CORK'S SOUTH DOCKS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘In light of the Odlum’s artist campus proposal in Dublin’s Docks, that a similar initiative be sought for in Cork’s South Docks.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 23/160)

The report of the Director of Services stated that procurement is currently under way for services to carry out an arts and culture infrastructure needs assessment and capital project definition in support of objective 2.4 of the City Arts and Culture Strategy, to “work towards the development of an arts creation space in the city”. This will include a focus on artist’s workspaces.

13.3.2 **GET CORK WALKING ACTION PLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council welcome the publication of the Get Cork Walking Action Plan and put in place necessary measures that would see its key recommendations brought into being.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 23/179)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council supports walking a walking as a mode of transport across the city. With regard to the Get Cork Walking Action Plan, Cork City Council looks forward to supporting and participating with the lead partners of Cork Sports Partnership and Get Ireland Walking in the delivery of their plan.

13.3.3 **ACCESSIBILITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That pursuant to the Local Government Act 2001, Cork City Councillors call on the Chief Executive to consider as part of their reserved function the hiring of a Disability Equality Officer and an Access and Equality Officer. Furthermore, that matters relating to accessibility are more proactively consulted on, with a wider group of affected people.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/186)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has a number of sections that deal with matters in relation to disability, equality and access. We have an Access Officer who sits with the Operations Directorate and interfaces with representative groups throughout the City on a regular basis, our Community team works with a number of disability organisations to support their needs and the People and Organisational Development Directorate is currently scheduling the delivery of Disability Awareness Training for all staff. The Corporate and International Affairs Directorate has responsibility for ensuring the Civic Offices are accessible.

The Social Inclusion and Community Section sit on all of the relevant interagency networks in the City who work towards making Cork an inclusive, diverse and welcoming city; including LGBT Interagency Group, Traveller Interagency Group, and the Integration Strategy Working Group. The Chief Executive has requested that a review of the current situation be undertaken and this is ongoing at present.

13.3.4 **BALLINCOLLIG FIRE STATION**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘I ask this Council to provide an undertaking to commit to an increase in the budgetary needs of Cork City Fire Service so as to allow the recruitment of full-time fire fighters to man Ballincollig Fire Station.

I would further ask that in the meantime and while we await adequate funding and subsequent training that the fire station in Ballincollig be manned by our existing full-time personnel thereby providing adequate cover and better response times in the event of an emergency.’

(Proposer: Cllr. P. Dineen 23/190)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council inherited a retained fire service in Ballincollig following the boundary extension. In line with the national risk management categorisation, Ballincollig is suited to a retained service delivery model. The fire station in Ballincollig was never designed as a full-time station and is not suitable for a full-time crew and their requirements.

This issue was referred to the Labour Court in 2022. They court ruled as follows:

“the matter jointly referred by the parties to the Court for recommendation was the restoration of the 4th pump in Ballincollig to be covered by overtime on an interim basis. Based on the updated information on overtime costs submitted to the Court by both parties, the Court can see no basis for recommending that the 4th pump in Ballincollig is covered by overtime on an interim basis.”

13.3.5 **FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS IN LARGE URBAN AREAS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘Pursuant to the December 2022 report from the Department of Housing and Local Government "Retained Fire Services in Ireland: A Review of Recruitment and Retention and the Future Sustainability of Service Delivery", Cork City Council shall continue the established practice that "the operational service in large urban areas is primarily provided by full-time firefighters" and ensure that all stations within the City boundary are resourced accordingly.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/210)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Ballincollig is a retained station and is configured as such. In line with the national risk management categorisation, Ballincollig is suited to a retained service delivery model. Its current station ground has a lower risk profile to the full-time station grounds. It has approximately 230 incidents per year compared to our two full time stations which would have approximately 2800-3000 incidents in total per year. Cork City Council is committed

to ensuring that all areas in the newly expanded City are provided with the best possible Fire Service Cork City Council has already commissioned and taken delivery of a Strategic Review of the Fire and Building Control Department. We are currently in the implementation phase of this review. One of the recommendations of the Review is to carry out a risk-based fire cover of operational fire cover arrangement across the entire City.

The fire station in Ballincollig was never designed as a full-time station and is not suitable for a full-time crew and their requirements.

13.3.6 **INDEPENDENT STUDY OF THE FIRE SERVICE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘Cork City Council executive shall commission an independent study of fire service requirements for projected urbanisation and commensurate population growth in large urban areas as noted in the December 2022 report from the Department of Housing and Local Government "Retained Fire Services in Ireland: A Review of Recruitment and Retention and the Future Sustainability of Service Delivery". The study shall be published as soon as possible.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/211)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has already commissioned and taken delivery of a Strategic Review of the Fire and Building Control Department. We are currently in the implementation phase of this review. One of the recommendations of the Review is to carry out a riskbased fire cover of operational fire cover arrangement across the entire City.

13.4 **MOTIONS HELD IN COMMITTEE**

13.4.1 **HEALTH-BASED APPROACH TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

An Chomhairle considered the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council believes in a health-based approach to substance abuse and will write to the Minister for Justice requesting that prosecutions not be brought against persons found in possession of small quantities of illegal drugs in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/081)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, seconded by Comhairleoir O. Moran, An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council believes in a health-based approach to substance abuse and will write to the Minister for Justice requesting that legislation will be revised so that prosecutions will not be brought against persons found in possession of small quantities of illegal drugs in the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/081)

The report of the Director of Services stated that The EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan, the Programme for Government and the recently published mid-term review (Nov. 2021, gov.ie - www.gov.ie - Minister Feighan publishes Mid-term Review of National Drugs Strategy and Strategic Priorities for 2021-2025 (www.gov.ie)) of the national drugs strategy 'Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery' support an alternative health-led approach for the possession of drugs for personal use. It is a government priority to reinforce the health-led approach to people who use drugs and commit drug-related crimes. National initiatives such as the 'government health diversion programme and the 'drug treatment courts' have been identified as best practice on alternatives to coercive sanctions. A national working group with representation from the Dept. of Health and the Dept. of Justice is examining potential models to support a health led response to drug use and personal possession of drugs. The model would involve individuals receiving a HSE Screening and brief intervention as opposed to a criminal justice sanction. Discussions are on-going at present within that national working group. This approach is also supported by the Cork Local Drug and Alcohol Taskforce, of which Cork City Council is a member. They emphasise that any intervention should also offer the individual a health intervention such as the health diversion programme. In Cork a model of a health diversion programme is in operation. An opportunity for interested parties to engage with this topic is through the citizens assembly on drugs use. (<https://citizensassembly.ie/>)

13.4.2 **NOT FOR PROFIT RENTAL RATES ON CORK CITY COUNCIL PREMISES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

'That not-for-profit community groups can access Cork City Council premises for not for profit rental rates by being a member of the Public Participation Network (PPN).'

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 23/068)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has a long track record of supporting community-based organisations through the leasing of property. This has resulted in the development of a range of community and sporting facilities as well as crèches and pre-schools.

The disposal of City Council property is governed by the Planning and Development Act 2000 and Section 183 of The Local Government Act, 2001 which covers Cork City Council powers to facilitate the leasing of property to Commercial tenants, Community and Voluntary organisations and other individuals, to support the proper planning and sustainable development of the City.

The Council is obliged through legislation to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable for any disposal. However, in certain circumstances, the Council may wish to dispose of property for less than market value; and where this is the case, a report outlining the social or economic reasons for same must be presented to Council.

In general, the City Council does facilitate below market-rent leases for community and voluntary organisations as well as sporting bodies. Membership of the PPN may not be the only factor in determining if below market below is appropriate but it would certainly be referenced in making a recommendation to Council.

13.4.3 **BRIGID'S WEEKEND BANK HOLIDAY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will put in place an event for next year's Brigid's weekend bank holiday celebrating workers, carers and women in line with the origins of this bank holiday.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/084)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Arts and Events Section produces large-scale civic and cultural festivals on behalf of Cork City Council including the Glow Christmas Festival, St. Patrick’s Festival, Cruinniú na Óg and Culture Night.

Given the timing of St. Brigid’s weekend between two of the largest events delivered by the City Council in the annual calendar, it is currently not feasible for the City to deliver an additional event of scale, which would also involve a significant cost. The Arts Office would be open to promote and support as appropriate any initiatives to mark St. Brigid’s Day that are community or sector led, subject to available resources.

13.4.4 **SURVIVORS OF INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE MUSEUM**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would identify a suitable building/area for the creation of a museum to tell the story of survivors of institutional abuse and that City Council would liaise with survivors’ groups for the creation of same.

Historical narratives are essential to our understanding of the past and present.

Such a building/area could also serve as a centre for survivors and those suffering intergenerational trauma to access solidarity and services as well as representing and sustaining an important part of our society’s history.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. Ryng 23/103)

The report of the Director of Services stated that while recognising the need for the creation of a space to remember the history of institutional abuse in Cork, and for the provision of solidarity and support services to the survivors, it’s fair to say Cork Public Museum is not an ideal location for such an undertaking. Tackling the specific details of what was experienced by survivors in these institutions and how this still effects their lives would require bespoke facilities and supports that are not usually found in, nor are the function of a public museum.

There is a clear difference between how ordinary museum visitors and survivors would interact and engage with an exhibition of this type. They are two different groups with two different sets of needs. The latter need access to professionally trained staff, dedicated space with which to interact with the material and privacy. Their circumstances call for discretion and dignity as they deal with the emotions generated by the exhibition.

Cork Public Museum is willing to offer advice and expertise in helping to support the fulfilment of this project in a more suitable location. A separate plan and resource allocation is needed to provide such a centre.

13.4.5 **CORK SPORTS MUSEUM**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 18th May 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would put plans in place to establish a Cork Sports Museum. In this iconic year of Commemoration, when we have so eloquently commemorated our past from a political perspective and the significant events of 1920 which has forged our State to what it is today, I believe that it would be appropriate to showcase all that is good about Cork from a sporting perspective in physical form in the shape of a Sports Museum located in the City. Sport plays a hugely significant part of the social fabric of Cork and indeed Cork has a very rich history in a wide diversity of sports from a local, national and an international perspective. We should showcase and celebrate the significance and contribution that sport has made to Cork, the individual and team successes and how it has developed and evolved over the decades and beyond. I would hope that this would be a permanent fixture in our City and a home for all sporting history relating to Cork and indeed will hopefully become a viable tourist attraction into the future.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Kavanagh 20/463)

The report of the Director of Services stated that further to the attached Feasibility Study carried out by The Heritage Factory Ltd. CCP were tasked with contacting Fáilte Ireland in relation to support for a Sports Museum in Cork city. This was done through CCC’s own Tourism Section.

The response is below.

“In relation to a Sports Museum we are engaging with a group in Cork City who have sought our insights and assistance in terms of research they are going to conduct into the market for a Sports Museum. We have shared all of the insights we have with them and guided them in terms of developing a robust concept to test. They are very commercially focused. We have advised that we would not be in a position to fund this.

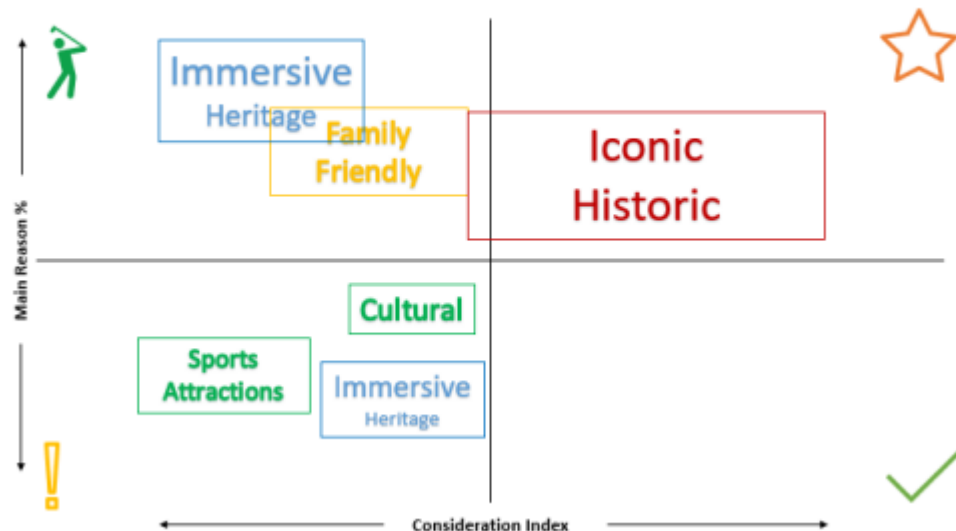
Recent Visitor Expectation Research (not published). We were recently given a top line briefing on what potential visitors to Ireland expect from a holiday in Ireland. This focused on individuals who had not previously been to Ireland.

This research included our four biggest market - UK / US / France and Germany. The research highlighted that the expectations of Ireland are predominantly outdoor attractions. The research pointed to the fact that there is little known or expected of Museums in Ireland - these would be more associated with Paris / London etc. So, a museum is unlikely to be a motivator for travel to Ireland. All post Covid indicators, so far, indicate this strong preference to outdoor and active breaks.

Earlier research pointed out that – see attached report from 2014.

- *The concept of a National Sports Museum, tested for a site in Dublin, emphasised the niche appeal of a sports museum (and the concept wasn't progressed).*
- *Below is a visual from the Innovation Screener. This saw the concept of a Sports Museum as niche product. Low in terms of a motivator for international travel or as a main reason to travel to a destination and low in terms of contributing to decision to choose a destination, so not a supporting act either.*

GRIDPLOT: Overseas Insight from tested Attractions



- *From an international review the majority of National Sports Museums have a strong level of public sector involvement. The majority are operated as either companies with a charitable status or not for profit organisations. As a result, much of the “income” generated comes in the form of state subsidy or support. With the exception of the Olympic Museum in Switzerland, the majority of visitors, to the other museums are domestic visitors. Those with a strong educational theme, such as the German Sport and Olympic Museum generate significant volumes of their visitors (70%) from school groups and associations.*
- *Financially Viable: Although they are deemed important for sport tourism, most sport museums, halls of fame and stadia tours in existence around the world are not-for-profit organisations, funded by contributions from a variety of interested*

individuals and corporations, with revenue from admission and or membership providing minimal income. Very few are financially viable.”

An Chomhairle further agreed to refer the motion back to the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee for further consideration.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle agreed to suspend standing orders to continue the meeting past 8pm.

14. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 9th MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 9th May 2023.

15. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 6th JUNE 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 6th June 2023.

15.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

15.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF APRIL 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Financial Statements to end of April 2023.

16. **SPORTS COMMITTEE – 10th MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Sports Committee from its meeting held, 10th May 2023.

16.1 **SPORTS CAPITAL GRANTS ALLOCATION FOR 2023**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle considered and approved the Sports Capital Allocation Grant Scheme 2023.

17. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd May 2023.

18. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd May 2023.

19. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd May 2023.

20. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 22nd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 22nd May 2023.

21. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 23rd MAY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 23rd May 2023.

22. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

23. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

An Chomhairle noted summaries of conferences/seminars attended as follows:-

- Comhairleoir S. Martin at the AILG Annual Training Conference 2023, held at Hotel Kilkenny, Kilkenny, 19th - 20th April 2023.
- Comhairleoir C. Kelleher as part of the Cork City Council delegation to USA – Rochester, New York, Washington DC and San Francisco, 1st - 13th March 2023.
- Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh at the ECAD Mayors Conference 2023, held at Dolmen Hotel, Qawra, Malta, 11th - 12th May 2023.

24. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

An Chomhairle noted section 141 reports as follows:-

- Comhairleoir C. Finn – Cork Educational and Training Board – January to March 2023.
- Comhairleoir C. Finn – Leisureworld Management – January to March 2023.

25. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

25.1 **2023 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ATLANTIC CITIES**

An Chomhairle considered and retrospectively approved the attendance of Comhairleoir O. Moran at the 2023 General Assembly of Atlantic Cities, held in Biarritz, France, on 6th and 7th June 2023.

26. **TRAINING**

None received.

27. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Chief Executive's monthly management report for April 2023.

28. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

An Chomhairle noted the motions on Appendix 1, that have been referred to the relevant Committees as determined by the Meetings Administrator, due notice of which has been given.

An Chomhairle noted that motion 39, Funding for Cork Pride, would be discussed under suspension of standing orders.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

An t-Ardmhéara invited Comhairleoir J. Maher to address the meeting on the following motion, after which a discussion took place.

FUNDING FOR CORK PRIDE 2023

'That Cork City Council will provide support funding for Cork Pride 2023 due to considerable loss of corporate sponsorship this year and that in budget 2024 we provide funding similar to that of other festival events Cork City supports.'

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 23/288)

29. **MOTIONS**

29.1 **RETURN WATER AND SANITATION SERVICES TO CORK CITY COUNCIL**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

'That Cork City Council immediately, in both written and verbal format, notify the Minister for the Environment, Eamon Ryan, that the Council intends that the City's water and sanitation services be returned, forthwith, to their proper ownership i.e. Cork City Council, inclusive of all competencies and administration. That the company known as Irish Water cease, herewith and immediately, its operation of the aforementioned city water and sanitation services and that it surrenders the entirety of its obligations, competencies and administration of the City's water supply and sanitation services to their proper authority, namely, Cork City Council.'

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 23/261)

Following discussion, An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council immediately, in both written and verbal format, notify the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O’Brien, that the Council requests that the City’s water and sanitation services be returned, forthwith, to their proper ownership i.e. Cork City Council, inclusive of all competencies and administration. That the company known as Irish Water cease, herewith and immediately, its operation of the aforementioned city water and sanitation services and that it surrenders the entirety of its obligations, competencies and administration of the City’s water supply and sanitation services to their proper authority, namely, Cork City Council.’

29.2 **DIFFICULTY GETTING ASSISTANCE OF COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PERSONNEL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council contact the appropriate Government department to draw their attention to the great difficulty being experienced by voluntary groups in trying to get the assistance of C.E. [Community Employment] personnel, that they be requested to examine the conditions attached to the scheme to see how they could be improved to encourage more participation, to ensure the continuation of the great amount of assistance given to so many voluntary groups and to ensure that those benefits are audited, as well as any cost involved with the scheme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. F. Dennehy 23/264)

29.3 **TREE MAINTENANCE DURING NESTING SEASON**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to ESB Networks requesting that they refrain from performing tree maintenance as part of regular works during nesting season; and that they will schedule works that may interfere with nature in this way outside of nesting season.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/267)

29.4 **SUPPORT FOR THE RETAINED FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council pledges support for the Retained Fire and Rescue Service personnel and their continued struggle for improvements in pay, conditions and a decent work/life balance with agreed time off and call on the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Public Expenditure to provide the funding necessary to sustain and enhance the service now and for future generations.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. E. Ryng 23/280)

29.5 **PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF WATER SERVICES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council:

- supports the water services workers here in Cork and their colleagues in local authorities across the state in their efforts to protect local services and their conditions of employment.
- calls on Government to set a date for a referendum on public ownership of water services.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins, Cllr. E. Ryng, Cllr. F. Kerins 23/281)

29.6 **PROTECTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY MORTGAGES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to Minister Darragh O’Brien requesting that all local authorities are provided with the facility to provide a cost-effective insurance facility for protecting local authority mortgages. This should be available to everyone eligible for the local authority home loan scheme - regardless of whether other insurance companies will cover them, thereby fulfilling the principles of the EU consumer credit directive.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/285)

29.7 **NEW FENCE AT CORK PRISON**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council writes to the Prison Service and the Minister for Justice and request an instruction be given to the prison services to address the placement of the new fence and soften the appearance of it along with continued engagement with all local residents and public.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 23/289)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, An Chomhairle approved the motion revised to read as follows:-

‘That Cork City Council writes to the Prison Service and the Minister for Justice and request an instruction be given to the prison services to address the placement of the new fence and soften the appearance of it and calls for the strong need for engagement with all local residents and public.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 23/289)

This concluded the business of the meeting.

ARDMHÉARA
CATHAOIRLEACH