

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Forde.
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran, G. Keohane.
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, F. Ryan, D. Boylan.
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, T. Shannon.
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, S. O’Callaghan, P. Dineen.
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney E. Ryng.
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Mr. N. Ó Donnabháin, Director of Services, Housing. Ms. A. Rodgers, 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. T. Duggan, City Architect. Ms. E. Roberts, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure Development. Ms. K. Fitzgerald, Meetings Administrator. Ms. E. Foran, Clerical Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Keane family on the death of Denis Keane.
- The Walsh family on the death of Catherine Walsh.
- The Condon family on the death of Eileen Condon.
- The Scanlon and Buckley families on the death of Simone Scanlon Buckley.

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

- Lord Mayor’s Christmas Concert Committee on successful hosting of charity concert, first in two years.

- Cork Youth Orchestra on successful hosting of the Snowman and other concerts in December.
- Cork City Council Parks & Recreation Department on lighting up of Lough Crib and great event around it.
- Cork City Council Women’s Caucus on superb organisation of “Pathways to Participation” Conference.
- Lord Mayor Cllr. Deirdre Forde on superb organisation of “Pathways to Participation” Conference.
- Alma Murnane and Organising Team on superb organisation of “Pathways to Participation” Conference.
- Micheál Martin on his term as Taoiseach.

### 3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

- 3.1 An Chomhairle approved a delegation to travel to Rennes on February 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2023, to mark the 40th Anniversary of the twinning of Cork and Rennes.

### 4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

- 4.1 The Chief Executive gave an update on the weather assessment teams. They have been meeting over the last week. The roads crew have been deployed salting and gritting. A map of the routes is available on the website.
- 4.2 The Chief Executive advised that a Winter Plan is in place for vulnerable people.
- 4.3 The Chief Executive advised that the Community Response Forum, following on from COVID-19, are engaging with communities.

### 5. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Sheehan, seconded by Comhairleoir M.R. Desmond, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Canty, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle considered and approved the minutes of:-

- Budget Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

### 6. **QUESTION TIME**

#### 6.1 **LOCAL AUTHORITY HOME LOAN’S**

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

In light of Cork City Council advertising the affordable housing schemes there will be a lot more Local Authority Home Loan applications coming in & people will need these

to be accessed so they can upload their acceptance as part of the affordable housing process.

How many applications have Cork city Council received & how many have been processed to date?

1. What is the length of time it takes to process an application?
2. How often are assessments carried out & what are the process after City Council receives the application?
3. Has Cork City Council a backlog of applications & when are they expected to be done?

## **REPLY**

### **1. How many applications have Cork City Council received & how many have been processed to date?**

A total of 149 Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) applications have been received to date in 2022 which includes 23 loan applications where the person has indicated an interest in Affordable Housing.

Each of the 149 applications has either been fully processed or is under processing by the Home Loans Unit. A total of 126 applications have been fully processed and a final decision to approve or decline has been advised to applicants. A further 23 applications are currently being processed and are classified as follows:

- 13 No. Awaiting Further Information from the applicant;
- 9 No. Financial Analysis stage and awaiting presentation to the City Council's Credit Committee;
- 1 No. Awaiting presentation to the City Council's Appeals Committee.

### **2. What is the length of time it takes to process an application?**

The processing time of each application varies depending on the quality of the information supplied by the applicant when submitting their application. The average processing time to bring a loan application from valid application stage to approval in principle (AIP) or loan rejection decision is 6-8 weeks.

### **3. How often are assessments carried out & what are the processes after City Council receives the application?**

The Home Loans Unit processes loans using a standard set of operating procedures. A detailed initial checking process take place by the Loans Unit to ensure the application is valid, e.g. household income is in line with income eligibility requirements, full and complete bank account statements have been submitted including savings accounts, current account, Revolut account, credit card statements, etc., passport details, a signed application form.

Once a valid application form is received, a report on the applicant's credit history and Local Property Tax check is completed.

Applications are then submitted to the Housing Agency (the underwriter) using a Digital File Transfer System for assessment and a Letter of Recommendation to Approve or

Decline is received. Where a recommendation to decline is received, the applicant is notified of the decision and is free to appeal.

The Application is then brought to an internal Cork City Council Credit Committee Operational Group (CCOG) and Credit Committee (CC) for final assessment and decision. Applicants are then notified in writing of the Credit Committee decision. Applicants with Approval in Principle (AIP) have 6 months from the date of notification of the AIP decision in which to locate a suitable property, submit for final loan approval and draw-down of approved loans.

**4. Has Cork City Council a backlog of applications & when are they expected to be done?**

No current backlog exists.

Niall Ó Donnabháin,  
Director of Services,  
Housing.

**6.2 CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FOOTPATH ON COONEY'S LANE**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that funding has been allocated by the National Transport Authority to Cork City Council to enable the construction of a new footpath on Cooney's Lane from the existing footpath at the pedestrian entrance to Newton Court to the existing footpath on the Bellevue Road.

**REPLY**

The National Transport Authority recently approved grant funding of €30,000 for Cork City Council in respect of Cooneys Lane. The approved funding will enable the Council to progress the appointment of a consultant to undertake necessary surveys and preliminary design for improvement works at this location. Improvement proposals will be prepared and presented to Members in due course and further grant funding will be sought to progress the proposed scheme.

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

**6.3 CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROCESS**

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

Can the CE update on the City Development Plan Process relating to the Ministerial direction on same & the next steps?

## **REPLY**

The Direction from the Minister for Local Government and Planning under Section 31 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, in relation to the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 was received on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022. The Direction instructs the Council to revert 7 zonings made in the adopted Development Plan to their proposed zoning as set out in the Draft Development Plan published on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021, and to remove 1 additional zoning. Under the terms of the Act, the Direction has immediate effect, and its terms are considered to be incorporated into the Development Plan as of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022. The Development Plan Team is now in the process of implementing the Direction into the Development Plan and will publish a revised, final Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028 within the next number of weeks.

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

### 6.4 **PARKING PERMITS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive the number residents parking permits that have been issued by the Council in the year to date, and how this compares with the number issued in 2021?

## **REPLY**

As requested, I can confirm the following:

- Number of Permits issued from 1st January 2021 to 8th December 2021 – 4,602
- Number of Permits issued from 1st January 2022 to 8th December 2022 – 3,310

David Joyce,  
Director of Service.  
Roads & Environment Operations Directorate.

### 6.5 **PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT THOMAS DAVIS STREET & GERALD GRIFFIN STREET**

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

To ask the CE for an update on the Proposed Housing Development at Thomas Davis Street and Gerald Griffin St. When is construction due to start on site?

## **REPLY**

Thomas Davis Street –

Respond has completed its enabling works contract on this site, and there were some title issues to a portion of the site which were required to be resolved. The main construction contract is now under tender and a funding application is being progressed with the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage with a view to commencement of the main housing contract in April of 2023.

Gerald Griffin Street -

The site at Gerald Griffin Street is currently within a live procurement process, under the Competitive Dialogue procedure, to seek to progress development on this site with a view to commencement of development in 2023.

As the procurement process is live, further detail cannot be provided at this time, but a full briefing will issue to Council in due course when the procurement process concludes.

Niall O'Donnabhain,  
Director of Services  
Housing Directorate

### **6.6 PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN NE WARD**

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

"To ask the Chief Executive: (a) the means of determining the priority of pedestrian crossings to be delivered in the North East ward in 2023 relative to other potential locations in the ward; (b) the scope and extents of these works (e.g. to support safe travel by foot to a pedestrian crossing at New Inn NS); (c) the public consultation process that will be involved (e.g. Section 38, Part VIII, etc.); and (d) if resource and other capacity limits will affect the timely delivery of pedestrian crossings at other locations in the ward in 2023 (e.g. Safe Routes to School at St Luke's Cross)?"

## **REPLY**

### **(a) the means of determining the priority of pedestrian crossings to be delivered in the North East ward in 2023 relative to other potential locations in the ward**

The Traffic Regulation & Safety Section, within the Operations Directorate, maintains a list of requests received for new pedestrian crossings or works to existing pedestrian crossings across the City. This list includes previous motions and representations received from Members, items highlighted by Members, requests from members of the public and locations identified by Cork City Council. While a list is maintained, to date, there has been no budget available to the Traffic Regulation & Safety Section to

undertake any of the requested work, save for limited funding provided by the Members through their annual LAC fund.

In 2022, the Traffic Regulation & Safety Section identified an opportunity to secure funds from the NTA in 2023 to undertake the feasibility of the delivery of several projects involving the installing or enhancement of pedestrian crossings across the city to facilitate and encourage active travel.

As the number of potential project/location requests on file exceeded the amount of funding available, a review was undertaken to select projects that would not secure funding from other sources e.g. Bus Connects, Low Cost Safety, etc., and would achieve maximum benefit in terms of active travel. The criteria below were applied to this process. Requests that were not selected for this tranche of funding remain on the list in the event that future funding becomes available.

The criteria (in no particular order) for selecting which schemes to be put forward for funding was as follows:

- Locations that have known impediments to active travel such as traffic management/calming, junction layout, road safety.
- Locations that facilitate the safe crossing of pedestrians at areas with high demand, to enhance pedestrian connectivity and to promote the use of active travel.
- Projects that do not have committed funding from other sources or potential future funding from other sources e.g. low cost safety, safe routes to school funding or are being progressed by a private developer.
- Projects that will not be progressed as part of a future Infrastructure Directorate capital project e.g. Bus Connects, other capital works.
- Projects with additional constraints such as issues over land ownership, CPO requirements, challenging topography, extensive services etc are not considered for this tranche of funding but will remain on the list of potential projects for future funding streams.
- With regard to footpath schemes, and in accordance with the Local Authority – Active Travel Allocation Letter 2022 from the NTA to Cork City Council, “Footpaths must be useful for active travel purposes i.e. for travel to work/school/shops/ services etc. Footpaths that are predominately for leisure/recreational purposes (e.g. walking loops/leisure tracks/Slí na Sláinte) are generally not suitable for funding under the Active Travel Programme.” Projects not meeting this criteria will not be considered.
- As far as is practicable, an even spread of projects throughout the Cork City Council administrative area are to be considered.

The NTA have agreed to fund an initial review of nineteen specified locations across the city where there is a perceived impediment or ‘missing link’ to active travel. The provision of a new pedestrian crossing or an upgrade to an existing crossing or the provision of other active travel measures will improve connectivity at the selected locations and encourage the uptake of active travel modes for local journeys.

The 19 locations chosen to be included in the 2023 Active Travel – Multi Interventions & Pedestrian Crossings scheme of works represent the locations which were on the list of requests as of early 2022 and which were unlikely to be delivered via another project

e.g. SRTS, Bus Connects etc. The chosen locations most certainly do not represent the totality of pedestrian interventions in the North East LEA. There are many other projects that are proposed / underway and will benefit the NE area including:

- Pedestrian crossing at Cara Junior School
- Low cost safety schemes at White's Cross and Dublin Pike
- 3 of the 6 Safe Routes to School projects at St Lukes School, Glanmire Community School and St. Josephs National School
- R639 Kearney's Cross bus shelter (complete)
- Bus shelters at Ashmount, Lotabeg and Dublin Hill Middle southbound (proposed)
- Ballyvolane Sustainable Transport Corridor
- MacCurtain Street Public Transport Improvement Scheme
- Mayfield to Glen Walking and cycling route
- Banduff Road Scheme
- BusConnects Route A Dunkettle to City
- BusConnects Route B Mayfield to City
- Northern Distributor Road
- Colmcille Avenue to Gardiners Hill Pedestrian and Cycle Upgrade Scheme,
- Rathmore Road Pedestrian Safety Intervention,
- Dedicated cycle facilities and enhanced pedestrian infrastructure from Dunkettle/Tivoli Roundabout to Horgan's Quay,
- Cycle Route\_Glanmire to Dunkettle Roundabout,
- Glanmire and Riverstown Greenway,
- Various Glanmire Road Improvement Schemes,
- Various rapid deployment footpath schemes.

**(b) the scope and extents of these works (e.g. to support safe travel by foot to a pedestrian crossing at New Inn NS);**

The scope of the work is to look at the feasibility of the provision of a new pedestrian crossing or an upgrade to an existing crossing or the provision of other active travel measures to improve connectivity at the selected locations. The extent of the works will be dependant on the outcome of the feasibility study. For example, the objective of the project at New Inn National School is to connect the footpath on the northern side of Church Hill to the school (less than 100m) which would enable people to walk from Cul na Greine and Crawford Woods to the school via any identified active travel infrastructure be that footpaths, crossings etc to be determined as part of the feasibility study.

**(c) the public consultation process that will be involved (e.g. Section 38, Part VIII, etc.)**

The public consultation process that will be carried out will be determined by the statutory process required for each individual project. Depending on the works proposed at each location, it is likely that either a Section 38 or a Part 8 will be required.



**(d) if resource and other capacity limits will affect the timely delivery of pedestrian crossings at other locations in the ward in 2023 (e.g. Safe Routes to School at St Luke's Cross)**

Traffic Operations are currently working on delivering the Active Travel Scheme concurrently with the Safe Routes to Schools programme, the pedestrian crossing at Cara Junior School, the Bus Shelter programme, the 30kph Slow Zones for Housing Estates programme, 6 Low Cost Safety Schemes, the Bike Parking programme as well as the day to day workings of the Traffic Operations division and have the required resource capacity to move all of these projects forward.

David Joyce,  
Director of Services,  
Roads & Environment Operations.

6.7 **HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE IN PROCUREMENT**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if she will set out the current Council policy and practice regarding human rights compliance in procurement (including divestment if required due to human rights violations)."

**REPLY**

All Public Procurement conducted by Cork City Council adhere to the requirements of Article 57 of Directive 2014/24/EU (Public Sector) transposed by SI 284 of 2016. Article 57 allows for the exclusion of an economic Operator where they have been subject of a conviction by final judgement for one of the following reasons:

- (a) participation in a criminal organisation, as defined in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA ( 1 );
- (b) corruption, as defined in Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union ( 2 ) and Article 2(1) of Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA ( 3 ) as well as corruption as defined in the national law of the contracting authority or the economic operator;
- (c) fraud within the meaning of Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests ( 4 );
- (d) terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, as defined in Articles 1 and 3 of Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA ( 5 ) respectively, or inciting or aiding or abetting or attempting to commit an offence, as referred to in Article 4 of that Framework Decision;
- (e) money laundering or terrorist financing, as defined in Article 1 of Directive 2005/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ( 6 );
- (f) child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings as defined in Article 2 of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ( 7 ).

Cork City Council use standardised Procurement Documents issued by the LGMA for sub threshold competitions which include Article 57 criteria and use standardised Procurement documents issued by the Office of Government Procurement for above threshold competitions which also include ESPD upload as part of the companies' response.

Where a Council supplier is convicted of a human rights violation, the Council would terminate the contract with immediate effect.

John Hallahan,  
Chief Financial Officer.

## 6.8 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON**

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

Can the CE outline the process that was involved in cancelling the “Christmas Lights Switch On” ceremony in Cork City, much to the disappointment of thousands of Corkonians, both young and old. Numerous towns, villages and cities around Ireland have had successful safe “Christmas Lights Switch On” ceremonies, without any negative reports from the Health Service Executive or the Health and Safety Authority. I would ask that the CE supply elected members with a copy of the Risk Assessment and associated paperwork prepared under Section 19 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005, which ultimately led to the decision not to proceed with the “Christmas Lights Switch On” ceremony by Cork City Council.

### **REPLY**

The decision to not proceed with a Switch On of the Christmas Lights event on St Patrick's Street was made following the feedback and consultation with statutory agencies as part of the debrief of 2019 Switch on event. The problems identified at that event are outlined in the report to the SPC dated 1st December 2022 (copy attached here).

Risk assessments are undertaken in the planning of large-scale events in accordance with Part XVI (Licensing of Outdoor Events) of the Planning and Development Act. The role of a risk assessment is not to decide to hold an event, but identify risks associated as part of the planning process and see what actions can be put in place to mitigate these risks. Consequently, as no event was planned in 2022, a risk assessment was not undertaken in this context.

While it is noted that other towns and villages around Ireland had switch on events, these events vary considerably in terms of complexity, site suitability, audience attendance and dynamics. In relation to Cork City, as the size and popularity of the event has grown, St Patrick's Street has become more limited in the ability to safely deliver

an event of this size and complexity, while retaining the need for business to remain open and traffic movement throughout the city.

Despite significant work undertaken to expand the event capacity at St. Patrick's Street with increased screens, security, creating zones for the audience etc., year on year the numbers attending have exceeded beyond the event perimeter. While the event in 2019 was delivered safely and without incident, there were numerous concerns raised ranging from crowd crushing and accesses for emergency services etc. There was also significant negative feedback from the public and in the media following the 2019 event about crowd safety, which reinforced the feedback from the statutory bodies, and the decision was made to not return to a large-scale switch on event.

While the disappointment by the public at not having a physical switch on event is recognized, Cork City Council has delivered a hugely successful free programme of events for Christmas as part of GLOW. This includes the return of the festive installation in Bishop Lucey Park that has had over 20,000 visitors in the last three weekends, free festive craft workshops at TEST Site on Cornmarket Street, musical performances at the Coal Quay and Grand Parade in the Little big Caravan Stage as well as at the Festival market on Emmet Place.

Adrienne Rodgers,  
Director of Services,  
Community, Culture & Placemaking.

## 6.9 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

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

‘That Cork City Council has an official turning on of the Christmas lights event and kicks off the Christmas season in style for 2022.’

### **REPLY**

The Switching on of the Christmas Lights event was run by the Events Team in the Arts and Events section for a decade prior to 2019. The event was hugely successful in terms of popularity with the public and the numbers attending had grown considerably to 2019. In 2019, a tipping pint was reached in terms of the ability to run the event safely and in a manner that was not at risk of a major incident occurring.

### **Complicating Features:**

In terms of crowd management this event had particular challenging features. Crowds were focused on a singular interest point for a short period of time with the full crowd ascending and dispersing through a condensed number of access/ egress points at the same time. Additionally, Business' on Patrick Street must be facilitated to stay open and trading. These factors differ from an event such as the St. Patricks Day Parade,

where the interest point is dispersed along a route rather than condensed into a singular point and Traders close for a number of hours which facilitates the use of pavements for audience viewpoints

### **2019 Review:**

Post the event in 2019 a meeting was held of all of the stakeholders including An Garda Siochána, Events and Security Services. At that meeting, it was strongly advised that the event should not go ahead again in its present format. Amongst the issues observed were:

Crowd crushing on the access streets due to crowd density

The difficulty in facilitating emergency access should it have been necessary

The site location and design simply did not lend itself to this event due to the audience growth

### **2020 – 2022:**

The Covid emergency meant that the Switching on of the Lights event did not take place in 2020 and 2021 in its usual format. Instead in each year, a remote switch-on involving a photo-shoot of the Lord Mayor and a post-event release along with a commissioned video for social media promoting Cork at Christmas was issued.

For 2022 with the removal of the restrictions, it was decided to continue the new approach in light of the very significant issues raised in 2019.

It should be noted that the City Council takes its role in embracing the joy of the season and providing a city centre attraction very seriously and in that spirit, the Glow Christmas Festival will launch on Friday 25th November with a programme that includes the experience at Bishop Lucey Park as well as other activation in the streets in the lead-up to Christmas.

### **Future Approach:**

The responsibility to public safety is of paramount importance and the risks cannot be underestimated.

We will review plans for 2023 and consider options for an alternative format. It is very unlikely that this can be capacitated on St. Patrick's Street as any alternative, dispersed approach would have serious capacity and budgetary concerns. For example, the St. Patrick's Day festival budget is four times that of the Christmas Lights Switch-on. Any future event would need to be in a controlled environment and is likely to be ticketed with limited capacity.

Adrienne Rodgers  
Director of Services  
Community, Culture and Placemaking

6.10 **STATUS OF LAND AT EAST OF RESIDENCES AT GARRANE DARRA**

In response to the following question submitted by Comhairleoir C. Finn.

Can the CE advise on the status of the land east of the residences at Garrane Darra & straddling the N40 zoned as public open space and when the planning conditions for the development of playing fields and related infrastructure is likely to be delivered?

This question was deferred to the next meeting.

6.11 **VACANT SOCIAL HOUSING**

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

To ask the CE to outline if any new scheme to turn around vacant social housing more promptly is being considered due to a recent report that Cork City Council is bottom of the table in terms of length of time in returning vacant units to housing stock?

**REPLY**

While the average reletting time of 75 weeks as outlined in the NOAC report for 2021 is long, the City Council is taking appropriate steps to expedite this turnaround time. It is important to note however that the published reletting time includes the time taken to both repair and upgrade vacated properties to an acceptable letting standard and to relet those properties in line with the City Council's scheme of lettings.

As such, the time taken to relet a property is dependent on the condition of a property at the time of return and/or how long it takes to relet a particular property depending on uptake and acceptance by applicants on the social housing list.

In order to streamline the process, a number of new innovations have been introduced in all areas of the process, from Area Management to Housing Maintenance to Allocations to improve the turnaround times. To date in 2022, this has already led to a reduction in the reletting time down to approximately 58 weeks.

Although still a long period, based on process and system improvements underway, the City Council is confident it will deliver an increased reduction in the turnaround time through to the end of 2022 and beyond.

Niall O'Donnabhain,  
Director of Services,  
Housing Directorate.

7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

7.1 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: 92 BALLYHOOLEY ROAD, ST. LUKES, CORK**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in relation to a loan facility for Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE) in respect of the provision of 6, one bed units of accommodation at 92 Ballyhooley Road, St. Lukes, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, 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 €1,079,775 be granted to Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann (ONE), subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 6, one bed units of accommodation at 92 Ballyhooley Road, St. Lukes, Cork.”

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

8.1 **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES DATED 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 on the Housing Finance Agency Plc. €25 million loan.

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

“That Cork City Council in accordance with S.106 of the Local Government Act 2001 approves the raising of a loan of €25 million from the Housing Finance Agency Plc. for any purpose authorised under the Housing Acts.”

8.2 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

9. **PARTY WHIPS – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

9.1 **MEETING SCHEDULE 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and approved Meeting Schedule 2023.

10. **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & TOURISM STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the International Relations & Tourism Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022.

10.1 **MOTORHOME STOPOVER FACILITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council would consider the provision of a motorhome stopover facility within the boundary of the city. The last few years and especially the Covid years have seen a huge jump in the sales of motorhomes across Ireland, the UK and Europe. It makes sense that a facility be made available to these tourists to encourage them to visit and stay in Cork.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 22/358)

The report of the Director of Service stated that while visitor accommodation stock in Cork City is currently weighted towards hotels, it is recognised that the availability of a wide choice of visitor accommodation which meet the different needs of visitors is key to fostering sustainable tourism growth.

Objective 7.26 of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-28 is

“To encourage the development of a range of new and enhanced visitor accommodation options in Cork City. This includes working with stakeholders to explore opportunities to provide motorhome parking facilities for short-term stays.”

The provision of short-term motor parking facilities with associated services was explored some years ago by Cork City Council but did not prove feasible at that time. Fáilte Ireland is currently finalising a new research report concerning motorhomes in Ireland. In particular the report seeks to identify supply side gaps in motorhome facilities and infrastructure in tourist locations (including commentary on market failure if any) and identify opportunities and blockages to the development of serviced parking sites. The findings of this report should be available by the end of 2022 and will inform a study brief to be prepared by the Strategic Economic Development Directorate regarding the potential to develop short term motorhome parking facilities in Cork City.

11. **ENVIRONMENT, WATER & AMENITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Environment, Water & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.

## 11.1 **MOTIONS**

### 11.1.1 **REUSE OF FURNITURE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE investigates the logistics of the reuse of furniture as part of the circular economy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 22/238)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council fully supports the Governments Circular Economy policy and is keen to progress initiatives in this space. However, the setup and operation of furniture reuse scheme as part of the circular economy is a complex issue and would require cross Directorate input together with private sector participation. Cork City Council may be able to facilitate the setup of reuse enterprises through seed funding and/or a commitment to provide a drop off/collection point for items at the Civic Amenity Site that are destined for “reuse” rather than disposal. The Civic Amenity site is not currently set up to facilitate such an operation and would require significant modification and capital funding to accommodate such a new service. The provision of a safe, secure, staffed supervised area and the practicalities and budgetary implications of such an operation would have to be considered before any such a service could commence. Cork City Council will review, in 2023, options to fund an evaluation of how such a service could be initiated and run, including the cost and resource requirements of such a scheme.

### 11.1.2 **LIST OF HERBICIDES AND WEED REMOVAL METHODS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That a listing of herbicides and weed removal methods, now being used by the Council after its decision to no longer use glyphosate, be made publicly available.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/339)

The report of the Director of Services stated that manual/mechanical operations are the main weed control methods used by Parks during 2022 following the Council decision to discontinue the use of Glyphosate in parks and amenity areas. These include hoeing, strimming, mechanical edging of footpaths and mechanical wire brushing on paved surfaces.

Two organic growth retardants Katoun Gold and Ultima (containing pelargonic acid, present in many plants and animals) have been trialled at several locations to determine their effectiveness at controlling weed growth. These retardants slow growth and kill the foliage but not the root system. Our findings to date are that weed growth is restricted by about four weeks. These retardants are most effective around fixed objects (bins, benches etc) and around the base of headstones and kerbs in cemeteries.



The Roads Department also use Ultima (pelargonic acid & maleic hydrazide) which is a contact herbicide which is a growth inhibitor but does not kill the roots. Valdor Flex (diflufenican & iodosulfuron-methylsodium) is also use. Valdor Flex is a residual herbicide. It is typically used from April to June. The active substances in Valdor® Flex move through the plant systemically, enabling the control of young plants that are present at the time of spraying. They also provide residual activity, creating a barrier at the soil surface which is effective for up to four months.

Cork City Council's website will be updated to inform the public of the weed control methods in operation.

### 11.1.3 **INSTALL SOLAR PANELS ON COUNCIL BUILDINGS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council give priority to seeking to install solar panels on as many of its buildings and structures as possible.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/384)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has installed solar panels on a number of its buildings including the Central Library and the Ballyvolane Fire Station as well as most recently the office buildings in the Tramore Valley Park.

Cork City Council Energy Agency has identified the installation of solar PV on City Council buildings as a key action which will have to be delivered in order to help meet our national 2030 carbon target.

However careful consideration has to be given to how such a scheme would be rolled out.

Individual assessments of every building, to evaluate their structural integrity, orientation and adaptability to accommodate Solar PV infrastructure, must be undertaken.

The most appropriate funding model which will best deliver this very significant capital investment must also be evaluated.

During 2023 it is hoped that significant progress can be made on initiating this project in Cork City Council.

### 11.1.4 **COMBAT DOG FOULING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE will report on measures to combat dog fouling and their success or failure around the city.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 22/401)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council takes the anti-social behaviour of dog fouling seriously and has, as members will be aware, established a subcommittee of Council to address this issue.

The Dog Fouling Committee was established with the aim of helping to bring about a change in mindset and behaviour through education and awareness campaigns and by reinforcing the message of personal responsibility in relation to dog owners cleaning up after their dogs.

The Dog Fouling Committee has engaged in the following activities:-

Annual Primary Schools Poster Competition  
School visits in conjunction with the Litter Warden Service  
Roadshow Information/ Awareness Events  
Radio Campaign  
Cinema Campaign  
Bus & Bus Shelter Campaign

The Committee is currently working on a social media awareness video the theme of which is "Love Your Dog- Respect Your City, Pick It, Bag It, Bin It or bring it home if a public litter bin is not available."

The work of the Dog Fouling Committee is largely future focused in that it involves highlighting awareness and responsibility among the children of today who will become the adults and dog owners of tomorrow.

The Litter Warden Service erect Anti Dog Fouling Signage, carry out enforcement activities in and out of uniform and where possible issue fines for dog fouling.

Section 22 of the Litter pollution Act 1997 states that where faeces has been deposited by a dog, the person in charge of the dogs shall immediately remove the faeces and shall ensure that it is properly disposed of in a suitable sanitary manner.

The difficulty in issuing fines for offences under section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 is that the Litter Warden must actually witness both the dog depositing faeces and the person in control of the dog, neglecting to remove the faeces. The practicalities associate with this mean that is extremely challenging and time consuming to issue fines for such offences.

Alternatively, a member of the public who witnesses an offence i.e., the dog depositing faeces and the person in charge of a dog neglecting to remove the faeces can make a complaint to the Litter Warden or to the Litter Management Section. In such cases a fine will issue if the complainant can identify the dog owner and is prepared to go to court if necessary and give evidence. The legal requirement for the complainant to go to court in such cases is a barrier for members of the public proceeding with their complaint as anonymity is often required by members of the public who report such instances.

It should be noted that the majority of instances of Dog Fouling occur early in the morning, early in the evening or late at night outside of the times when Litter Wardens are on duty and oftentimes dogs are left out unaccompanied to foul thus making it almost impossible to issue fines for these offences.

#### 11.1.5 **RE-USE OF WASTE MATERIALS INTO CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council supports an enterprise similar to the Rediscovery Centre in Dublin, which nurtures enterprises adopting the re-use of waste materials into the circular economy.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/412)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council fully supports the Governments Circular Economy policy and is keen to progress initiatives in this space. However, the setup and operation of schemes as part of the circular economy is a complex issue and would require cross Directorate input together with private sector participation. Cork City Council may be able to facilitate the setup of reuse enterprises through seed funding and/or a commitment to provide a drop off/collection point for items at the Civic Amenity Site that are destined for “reuse” rather than disposal. The Civic Amenity site is not currently set up to facilitate such an operation and would require significant modification and capital funding to accommodate such a new service. The provision of a safe, secure, staffed supervised area and the practicalities and budgetary implications of such an operation would have to be considered before any such a service could commence. Cork City Council will review, in 2023, options to fund an evaluation of how such a service could be initiated and run, including the cost and resource requirements of such a scheme.

#### 12. **COMMUNITY, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Community, Culture & Placemaking Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

#### 12.1 **MINUTES OF THE ARTS COMMITTEE – 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking on the minutes of the Arts Committee from its meeting held, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

#### 12.2 **MOTIONS**

##### 12.2.1 **PITCHES FOR LADIES FOOTBALL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council enter into discussions with the Cork ladies football board with a view to identifying pitches for use by ladies’ footballers.’

(Proposer: Cllr. S. Martin 22/392)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council will enter into discussions with representatives of the Cork Ladies Football Board with a view to identifying suitable land for pitches for use by the ladies footballers. Cork City Council will also work on methods of developing the sport.

### 12.2.2 **LOCAL STUDIES IN CORK CITY LIBRARY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That a debrief be given by the City Librarian on the future of the iconic local studies in Cork City Library.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 22/406)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the City Librarian will attend the SPC Meeting and will give a debrief on the development of the Local Studies and Learning Department of the City Library. The new department is a merge of the older Local Studies and Reference Departments.

### 12.2.3 **WALL MURALS ACROSS CORK CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council engage with groups like Ardú to continue the excellent programme of wall murals across the city. One proposal to put forward would be to continue murals around the Noonan Road area including at '98 Street marking the 1798 Rebellion and Noonan Road in memory of Na Fianna Éireann Volunteer Richard Noonan whose centenary occurs on the 11<sup>th</sup> October.’

‘Go rachaidh Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí i dteagmháil le grúpaí ar nós Ardú chun go leanfar ar aghaidh le clár iontach múrmhaisithe trasna na cathrach. Moladh amháin a d'fhéadfaí a chur ar aghaidh ná leanúint ar aghaidh le múrmhaisithe timpeall ar cheantar Bhóthair Uí Nuanáin, lena n-áirítear an ceann ag Sráid '98 - ag cuimhneamh ar Éirí Amach 1798 - agus ag Bóthar Uí Nuanáin, ag cuimhneamh ar an bhFiann Richard Noonan a bhfuil a chomóradh céad bliain ar an 11<sup>ú</sup> Deireadh Fómhair.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Collins 22/407)

The report of the Director of Services stated that on behalf of the City Council the Arts Office has embraced the potential of Street Arts, and murals specifically, in recent years.

Our partnership with the artists and organisers of Ardú Street Arts, funded by the Creative Ireland Programme under the work programme of the Cork City Culture and Creativity Team has led to 14 new high quality, large-scale murals across the city supported by an accompanying website and self-guided audio-trail. This initiative has been warmly received by the local public and visitors alike and has attracted significant national and international media attention. With a new five-year Creative Ireland programme approved by national government there is continued opportunity to develop this work in a manner that connects with local communities.

The Cork City Council Arts Office can provide advice, guidance and information to any group wishing to produce a mural and we have developed a Street Arts Toolkit resource that includes all information needed. This is downloadable from the Arts section of the Cork City Council website.

#### 12.2.4 **STRATEGY TO COMMISSION PUBLIC MURALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the city’s strategy to commission public murals, including how murals and artists are selected, how the city approaches property owners to place murals on walls, and how property owners can offer walls for use for murals.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/413)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council Arts Office does not have a standing commissioning budget for murals and therefore does not commission murals. Murals currently painted under the auspices of Cork City Council have come about through partnership, e.g. Ardú Street Art, where the specialist partner organisation is responsible for curation and commissioning in agreement with the Arts Office. In other instances murals have been funded through grant-aid and in this instance the curation and commissioning is managed by the grant-aided party.

The sourcing and selection of walls with property owners is managed by the commissioning party.

Where Cork City Council commissions a mural directly this would be conducted in-line with the City Council Public Art Policy. The current policy has expired and will be reviewed and brought to Council for adoption in 2023.

#### 12.2.5 **VILLE Á VÉLO DU TOUR DE FRANCE**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir O. Moran, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will apply for a Ville à Vélo du Tour de France rating, having hosted the Tour de France in 1998.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/465)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council will begin the initial process of the application and once the full application is provided, we will consider pursuing it further.

#### 12.2.6 **MY OPEN LIBRARY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will report on the operation of the My Open Library service in Douglas and extend the service to an appropriate location on the north side of the city, such as Blackpool Library or Frank O’Connor Library in Mayfield, and in the city centre at the main City Library.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/466)

The report of the Director of Services stated that My Open Library in Douglas is a very successful initiative that has added substantially to the opening hours, operation, and accessibility of the Library Service in that area. Three further projects are in preparation for 2023. The locations are Glanmire, Blackpool and Bishopstown. The commitment of the Library Service is to roll out the My Open Library offering to all locations at the earliest opportunity. Mayfield Library and the New City Library will have My Open Library functionality, but not in the immediate future, for structural reasons. However as both are in line for rebuild or refurbishment MOL will be included in future works.

#### 12.2.7 **CONDITIONS OF PLANNING FOR NEW HOUSING ESTATES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council ensure traffic calming measures are a condition of planning for all new housing estates, consideration should also be given to ensuring adequate public lighting and footpaths/pedestrian connectivity is a requirement.’

‘Go gcinnteoidh Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí gur coinníol pleanála iad bearta moillithe tráchtá do gach eastát nua tithíochta, agus go gcinnteofar go mbeidh soilsiú tráchtá agus cosáin/ceangail choisithe shásúla ina riachtanais.’

(Proposers: Cllr. M. Nugent, Cllr. K. Colins 22/470)

The report of the Director of Services stated that each residential estate planning application is assessed to ensure compliance with the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). DMURS design principles include “To support the creation of integrated street networks which promote higher levels of permeability and legibility for all users, and in particular more sustainable forms of transport” and “The quality of the street is measured by the quality of the pedestrian environment.”

To this end, the design of residential estates internal estate roads are assessed to ensure the design includes measures and tools to encourage drivers and residents to slow down.

Pedestrian connectivity and a more connected network reduce car dependency and increase use of more sustainable modes of transport. Both these aspects are reviewed as part of the assessment of the design a proposed residential estate planning application.

#### 12.2.8 **DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That this Council seek to embed the principles of Doughnut Economics into Corks next Local Economic and Community Plan.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/387)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the LECP and Climate Action Plan will seek to find solutions that decouple climate impacts and growth. This will consider approaches to just transition, social inclusion, job creation and sustainable development.

#### 12.2.9 **HEAT HUB IN CITY HALL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will set up city hall as a 'heat hub' this winter. Context: A heat hub is a drop-in centre where people who can't afford heating can sit in a warm place for the day. This is an emergency measure that Councils are having to undertake due to Government inaction on the energy pricing crisis.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 22/378)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has instigated a number of responses to concerns around energy pricing and winter wellness.

All Cork citizens are encouraged to make use of community settings such as the ten City Libraries which are open to the public 5/6 days of the week. Libraries offer a comprehensive programme of events and community engagement opportunities, or provide a comfortable space to read newspapers and access multimedia in a warm and comfortable setting.

Homeless services have worked with community and voluntary sector partners to ensure that residential settings are being used for those experiencing homelessness, and that this group will not be impacted by increasing energy costs.

The Community Response Forum, previously concerned with COVID response and Ukrainian Response, have taken energy concerns and winter wellbeing into

consideration since early autumn, and have coordinated with partners in the Health Services Executive to gauge the most appropriate response to the needs of the elderly population this Winter. Considerable research has been carried out by HSE Community Healthcare, which determined that the primary needs of the older citizen centres around information re. Personal Safety Alarms, home upgrades, activities, supports and accessing the Fuel Allowance. As such, a comprehensive pamphlet assisting with all these components has been distributed to over 2000 households in the South Lee area, with a further rollout planned and a similar programme in the early stages in the North Lee area.

Cork City Council Community team will continue to engage with partners both within and outside of this organisation to ensure that assistance is being given where the need arises.

12.3 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

12.3.1 **CORK PUBLIC MUSEUM STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019-2022**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Shannon, seconded by Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services and approved the extension of the Plan by one year.

12.3.2 **CORK CITY LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking.

13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

14. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

15. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

16. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.



17. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

18. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its special meeting held, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022.

19. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

20. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

21. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

22. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

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

- Cllr. T. Shannon at AILG Autumn Training Seminar 2022, Celebrating Local Government, held at Knightsbrook Hotel and Spa, Trim Co. Meath, 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- Cllr. C. Kelleher at the European Maritime Day Conference, held at Ravenna, Italy, 18 - 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
- Cllr. D. Cahill at ECAD Mayors Conference and World Forum, held at Gothenburg, Sweden, 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- Cllr. T. Shannon and Cllr. S. Martin at LAMA Autumn Seminar, Cost of Living Crisis, held at Monaghan, 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- Cllr. T. Shannon and Cllr. S. Martin at AILG Module 6, Data Protection, What Councillors Need to Know, held at Tower Hotel, Waterford City, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- Cllr. T. Fitzgerald at WHO European Healthy Cities Meeting, held at Copenhagen, Denmark, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

23. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

An Chomhairle noted section 141 reports as follows:-

- Cllr. D. Cahill – ECAD – January to December 2022.

24. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

25. **TRAINING**

None received.

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

An Chomhairle noted the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Reports for October 2022.

27. **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.

28. **MOTIONS**

28.1 **SLIPROAD FROM DUNKETTLE TO THE M8 (DEFERRED FROM THE ORDINARY MEETING OF AN CHOMHAIRLE HELD 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022)**

An Chomhairle advised that Comhairleoir G. Keohane withdrew the following motion.

'Dear Cork City Council would it be possible please to contact the NTA and ask them to reopen the slip road which was closed recently leading from Dunkettle on to the M8 motorway. Since the road closure traffic through Glanmire is gridlocked and causing major delays. The alternative route through Little Island is not working and the closure of the slip road is premature and should be closed on completion of the Dunkettle interchange.'

(Proposer: Cllr. G. Keohane 22/454)

28.2 **IRISH WATER NOTIFICATIONS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

'That Irish Water be directed by Cork City Council, while it still has a role in water supply and maintenance, to notify residents properly in areas where scheduled shut-offs are due to occur and not call on them to rely on random website updates for information which is not operable.'

(Proposer Cllr. M. Finn 22/494)

### 28.3 **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council supports the provision of additional public transport services (e.g. increased number of commuter rail carriages, additional city bus services, etc.) and free public transport from the city centre to event venues (e.g. Páirc Uí Chaoimh) during high-attendance events and will write to the National Transport Authority on the matter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/500)

### 28.4 **REPLACE RETIRING GP AT ASHDALE MEDICAL CENTRE, BLARNEY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will write to the H.S.E seeking an update on the process to replace the retiring GP at Ashdale Medical Centre, Blarney, and on arrangements for patients in the interim, considering the importance of ensuring a full-time practice remains going forward.’

(Proposer: Cllr. M. Nugent 22/508)

### 28.5 **“MEANWHILE USE” PROJECTS**

An Chomhairle considered the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council recognises that:

- ‘Meanwhile Use’ has potential as a legitimate source of employment and temporary regeneration in brownfield sites.
- The Marina Market has highlighted a desire within Cork City for vibrant, innovative ‘Meanwhile Use’ projects.
- Cork City will be transformed through Project 2040 but that much of this development will take long periods of time.
- Cities like Paris and London have seen huge success in ‘Meanwhile Use’ project.
- ‘Meanwhile Use’ currently exists within a policy and legislative vacuum which is acting as a barrier to the success of project.
- Discourse around ‘Meanwhile Use’ has been overwhelmingly positive but this hasn’t been matched by action.
- Cork City represents a unique opportunity for ‘Meanwhile Use’ projects given population and development projections and high levels of brownfield sites in central locations.
- The post-industrial nature of Cork City leaves large centrally located areas vacant with future plans intending to change use depending on footfall into these areas.

- ‘Meanwhile Use’ is an opportunity to increase footfall in new central areas.
- The Heritage Council work ‘Leaba Te’ on ‘Meanwhile Use’ provides a clear argument for the potentially transformative impact of these projects.

And agrees to:

- Commission a report on sites with potential for ‘Meanwhile Use’, with a focus on brownfield sites earmarked for regeneration.
- Write to the Oireachtas Housing Committee identifying the gap in policy and legislative frameworks for ‘Meanwhile Use’ and requesting they undertake the drafting of a report into this.
- Write to the Minister for Housing to request that Cork City Council be considered for a pilot of ‘Meanwhile Use’ policy and that provision be made in the proposed revised planning legislation to reflect this.
- Engage with the Meanwhile Foundation to explore potential ‘Meanwhile Use’ projects in Cork City and learn from their experiences.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. Ryng 22/519)

On the proposal of An t-Ardmhéara, An Chomhairle agreed to refer the motion to the Strategic & Economic Development & Planning Strategic Policy Committee.

## 28.6 **WATER QUALITY CHECKS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council ask Irish Water to carry out a water quality check on Cork’s Northside as the residents in Mayfield, Ballyvolane, Shanakiel, Farranree, St. Luke’s have ongoing issues now for months with residents paying for bottled water and many residents being put at risk with constant water quality issues.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 22/522)

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA**  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**