

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF CORK CITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Ardmhéara Comhairleoir D. Forde.
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí J. Maher, T. Tynan, J. Kavanagh, O. Moran.
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí T. Fitzgerald, M. Nugent, J. Sheehan, K. Collins, D. Boylan.
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	Comhairleoirí D. Cahill, L. Bogue, M.R. Desmond, K. McCarthy.
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	Comhairleoirí M. Finn, D. Boyle, S. Martin, P. Dineen.
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	Comhairleoirí F. Dennehy, D. Canty, C. Finn, C. Kelleher, G. Kelleher, T. Moloney, E. Ryng.
<b>ALSO PRESENT</b>	Ms. A. Doherty, Chief Executive. Mr. B. Geaney, Deputy Chief Executive. Mr. P. Moynihan, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations. Ms. A. Rodgers, Director of Services, Community, Culture & Placemaking. Mr. D. Joyce, Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations. Mr. F. Reidy, Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development. Mr. T. Duggan, City Architect. Mr. J. Hallahan, Chief Financial Officer. Mr. J. Stapleton, Senior Engineer, Infrastructure Development. Mr. T. Rogers, Senior Engineer, Housing. Ms. K. Fitzgerald, Meetings Administrator. Ms. C. Currid, Staff Officer, Corporate Affairs & International Relations.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Comhairleoir T. Shannon.

An tArdmhéara recited the opening prayer.

1. **VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- The Moynihan family on the death of Patricia Moynihan.
- The McPolin family on the death of Pauline McPolin.
- The Murphy family on the death of Canon Michael Murphy.
- The Pierce family on the death of June Pierce.
- The O'Donovan family on the death of Tracey O'Donovan.
- The Martin family on the death of Noel Martin.
- The O'Brien family on the death of Bertie O'Brien.
- The Weston family on the death of Michael (Buddy) Weston.
- The Collins family on the death of Derek Collins.

- The Butler family on the death of Maura Butler.
- The Conway family on the death of Hannah Conway.
- The Kendellen family on the death of George Kendellen.

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

- Superintendent John Deasy and his team, and UCC Students Union on the success of Rag Week.
- Denise O’Sullivan on becoming captain of North Carolina Courage, and on her upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> cap for Ireland.

## 3. **LORD MAYOR’S ITEMS**

### 3.1 **CIVIC RECEPTION**

On the proposal of an tArdmhéara, An Chomhairle approved a Civic Reception for Sundays Well Rebels Mixed Ability Rugby team.

### 3.2 **ST. PATRICK’S DAY**

An tArdmhéara reminded An Chomhairle about arrangements for St. Patrick’s Day and encouraged Members to attend.

### 3.3 **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN CORK**

An tArdmhéara congratulated Cork City Council’s Local Enterprise Office on the launch of their booklet, Business Development in Cork: An Entrepreneur’s Guide 2023.

## 4. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S ITEMS**

### 4.1 **TWINNING GRANTS 2023**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by Comhairleoir S. Martin, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 on Twinning Grants 2023.

An Chomhairle noted confirmation from the Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, that the grant awarded to St. Finbarr’s National Hurling and Football Club would be increased to €5,000.

An Chomhairle further noted a declaration of interest from Comhairleoirí T. Moloney and T. Fitzgerald in relation to Foróige.

## 5. **MINUTES**

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

- Ordinary Meeting of An Chomhairle held, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

6. **QUESTION TIME**

6.1 **APARTMENT UNITS AWAITING CONSTRUCTION**

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

Can the CE advise how many apartment units have not commenced construction after receiving planning approval for more than 2 years?

**REPLY**

39 projects equating to 481 apartment units have not commenced construction after receiving planning approval for more than 2 years (2018,2019,2020)

An additional 7 SHD projects, equating to 1,454 apartment units have not commenced construction after receiving planning approval for more than 2 years (2018,2019,2020)

\* Figures taken from BCMS Register and for the purpose of this exercise included 2018, 2019 and 2020 only.

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

6.2 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**

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

Can the CE provide updated information on the Council's intention to provide Public Conveniences on March 17<sup>th</sup> within the City Centre as upwards of 50,000 people are expected to attend the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

I further ask if the CE can provide a fresh update on the Council's intentions to provide Public Conveniences throughout the City Centre into the future?

**REPLY**

As per the previous years, the St Patricks' Day Parade does not provide temporary public convenience within parade route of the City Centre. City Hall, specifically the Concert Hall and its facilities, is open for the 3,500 parade participants at the assembly and disassembly of the parade.

**Implementation of Cork City Council Public Toilet Policy:**

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 Policies:**

**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.

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

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

### **6.3 NOONAN'S ROAD**

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

Can the CE update Council regarding future plans for Noonan's Road?

### **REPLY**

The Housing Directorate has recently undertaken a detailed survey and assessment of the housing units at Noonan's Road with a view to the progression of its refurbishment (to include Deep Energy Retrofit). The Council is currently reviewing the survey findings in order to consider next steps to progression of sustainable and appropriate solutions to the renovation of this housing development.

Thomas Rogers,  
Acting Director of Services,  
Housing.

6.4 **BREAKDOWN OF NUMBER OF BEDS IN EACH CORK CITY COUNCIL HOME**

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

Can the CE provide me with a breakdown of number of beds in each home we own, broken down on apartment, semi-detached, detached and terrace along with number of tenants in each home, in tabular form?

**REPLY**

The table below details how 27,090 occupants are accommodated across the 10,577 properties owned by the City Council showing the general house types, the number of bedrooms in each property and the number of people registered as living in the property.

There is limited information available on the City Council database in relation to whether the property is a terraced, semi-detached or detached property; much of the properties are categorised only as two bed, three bed or four bed properties, etc.

Stock Type	No of Units	No of Occupants	Number of Bedrooms						Total
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
Apartment	374	745	457	0	0	0	1,576		
	343	1,059	1,208	0	0	0	2,610		
Bungalow	217	441	104	13	1	0	776		
	202	662	300	71	5	0	1,240		
House	184	1,065	5,987	967	20	2	8,225		
	165	1,722	17,744	3,476	118	15	23,240		
Total	775	2,251	6,548	980	21	2	10,577		
	710	3,443	19,252	3,547	123	15	27,090		

Thomas Rogers,  
Acting Director of Services,  
Housing.

6.5 **MERCHANTS QUAY CENTRE AND NORTH MAIN STREET SHOPPING CENTRE**

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

What plans are in place to redevelop Merchants Quay Centre and the North Main Street Shopping Centre?

**REPLY**

**Merchants Quay Centre:**

**22/41306** was granted on 05/12/2022 for Permission for development at Dunnes Stores, Merchant's Quay Shopping Centre, 1-5 Saint Patrick Street, Cork, T12X7X2. The development will consist of: Permission to change part of Dunnes Stores existing ground floor from retail to an off-licence use (61.1sqm) including all associated site works and services.

**19/38262** was granted on 02/07/2019 for permission. to carry out changes to upgrade the Merchants Quay Shopping Centre, 1-5 St. Patrick's Street, and Merchants Quay, Cork. The changes involve alterations to the elevations on the St. Patrick's Street and part of the Merchants Quay frontages. Permission is also sought for the change of use of the former Kylemore restaurant at first floor level to a licensed restaurant with a new direct pedestrian access from St. Patricks Street, which will incorporate a new access lift, and all necessary site works, including reconfiguration of existing fire escape stair, and plant area at roof level at 1- 5 St. Patrick's Street Merchant's Quay Cork.

**North Main Street Shopping Centre:**

No planning application on file for North Main Street Shopping Centre.

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

6.6 **MARYMOUNT TO MTU CYCLE PLAN**

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

Can I ask the CE for an update on the Marymount to MTU cycle plan?

**REPLY**

The Curraheen Road Pedestrian Safety and Cycle Improvement Scheme has been approved by Council and is currently at the detailed design stage. The design team is also currently examining the possible inclusion of complementary active travel improvements (along the connection from Rossa Avenue via Foxford and Allendale

to the Foxford/Melbourn Road junction) which could be delivered as part of the works.

The 2023 grant funding recently allocated by the National Transport Authority amounts to €100,000. This funding will enable the completion of the detailed design and tender documents in the coming months with construction to follow subject to continued NTA funding approvals.

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

6.7 **POLICY ON THE USE OF DELEGATED POWERS TO PURCHASE HOMES WITH TENANTS IN SITU**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to outline Cork City Council's policy on the use of delegated powers to purchase homes with tenants in situ who are HAP or RAS tenants facing eviction for reason of sale; and for the compulsory purchase of vacant properties, even when these dwellings are not suitable for social housing?

**REPLY**

Cork City Council has purchased 3 properties with tenants remaining in situ since June 2022. In addition to the 3 properties already acquired, there are 5 properties where the purchase is near to completion. There are 11 properties currently under technical inspection and progressing to valuation stage. 22 households identified have already sourced alternative accommodation either through an offer of social housing or by sourcing alternative private rental accommodation. In addition, there are 29 cases that are not eligible, 14 cases where the landlord did not wish to sell to the Council and there are 33 potential proposals still under review.

To date Cork City Council has received 117 initial contacts from either landlords or tenants regarding properties where tenants are at risk of becoming homeless due to the sale of a property. Each case is reviewed in detail and factors including, the status of the tenancy whether HAP or RAS, the issuing of a valid Notice to Quit, the housing needs of the tenant and the willingness of the landlord to sell to the Council among other pertinent matters are taken into consideration.

The Council is working closely with all tenants in receipt of social housing support who have received a valid Notice to Quit to determine their best future housing options and to address the risk of homeless.

Cork City Council has acquired 14 vacant and derelict properties that are not suitable for social housing. Business cases are being assessed for additional properties to be acquired in the short to medium term. This excludes vacant and or derelict properties acquired by Cork City Council for potential community purposes.



Thomas Rogers,  
Acting Director of Services,  
Housing.

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

6.8 **PROPERTIES BOUGHT BY COUNCIL**

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

To ask the CE the number of properties bought by the Council in the most recent calendar year, whose previous use was being privately let?

**REPLY**

When the City Council's Housing Directorate acquires any property under its capital delivery programme, it is the Council's requirement that the property is bought with vacant possession. The Council would not have any data on who previously occupied the property nor the tenure applicable to the property prior to purchase.

The exception to this would be where the Council acquires a property under the City Council's tenant-in-situ scheme, where a Notice to Quit has issued on a property and the Council deems the property qualifies for acquisition under the criteria applied to this scheme. The Council purchased 1 no. property under this scheme in the 2022 calendar year. This number will increase in 2023, with a further two properties acquired this year and five properties where the purchase is nearing completion.

Thomas Rogers,  
Acting Director of Services,  
Housing.

6.9 **PLAYGROUND SPACE AT OLD CORK WATERWORKS EXPERIENCE**

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

To ask the CE on the status of the playground space at the Old Cork Waterworks Experience being returned to Cork City Council from Irish Water.

**REPLY**

The works being carried out in the playground area to rear of the Old Cork Waterworks Experience by Uisce Éireann are a key element of a much larger two year Cork City Water Supply Project which aims to build resilience and modernise the City's water network.

Due to the large scale and complex nature of these works it wasn't physically possible to construct these works in the public roadway (as would normally be the case) but instead necessitated a route through the Old Waterworks Experience Playground.

Farrans Construction are delivering the project on behalf of Uisce Éireann and their programme date is the end of April to reinstate of the playground area on the Lifetime Lab lands (barring any unforeseen developments).

The design and installation of the playground to the required safety design and standards is specialist work. Therefore Cork City Council are tasked with the design, tender and construction of the playground area with Uisce Éireann funding the like for like replacement of the playground that was in place prior to their construction works.

Uisce Éireann and Cork City Council have further meetings arranged in the coming weeks to finalise these arrangements.

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

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

#### 6.10 **NEWTON HEIGHTS**

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

Can the CE advise me on when the approximate handover dates of each of the phases of Newton Heights and the number of applicants deemed ineligible across all affordable housing schemes in the city be reason for ineligibility in tabular form.

#### **REPLY**

*Part 1: Delivery Programme for Newton Heights Residential Development: (Affordable Housing):-*

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Construction Status</b>	<b>Nr. of Affordable</b>	<b>Est. Delivery</b>
1	Complete	22	Complete 2022
2	Complete	15	Complete 2022
3	Under Construction	22	Q4, 2023
4	Construction to commence	22	Q2, 2024
5	Construction to commence	36	Q4, 2024

*Part 2: Affordable Housing Schemes – Ineligible applicant stats post assessment.*

<b>Cork City Council Affordable Housing – Ineligibility Statistics Post Assessment</b>			
<b>Affordable Scheme</b>	<b>House Type</b>	<b>Ineligible applicants</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Newton Heights	3 Bedroom	7	Income above the eligibility income limits
Cluain Chaoin	3 Bedroom	3	Income above the eligibility income limits
	4 Bedroom	2	Income above the eligibility income limits
Crann Darach,	3 Bedroom	2	Income above the eligibility income limits

Thomas Rogers,  
Acting Director of Services,  
Housing.

6.11 **NORTHERN RING ROAD PROJECT**

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

Can the CE report whether recent funding announcements ensure the Northern Ring Road Project is still viable and also to update on the Northern Distributor Road Scheme?

**REPLY**

In 2021, Cork City Council appointed a design team for the Cork City Northern Transport Project (formerly the Cork North Ring Road) with funding support from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

A part of the phased delivery process for new infrastructure, a Strategic Appraisal Report was prepared for this project in 2022 and submitted to the Department of Transport for approval. This represents the first approval point under the Public Spending Code and Departmental approval is currently awaited.

The project can only progress to the next phase (which is the Route Options Assessment stage) when the Departmental approval is issued on the Strategic Appraisal Report.

The project was recently allocated grant funding of €100,000 for 2023. This funding will facilitate the completion of the Strategic Assessment stage only and would not be sufficient to enable progress on the Route Options Assessment Stage.

Cork City Council has also appointed a design team for the Cork Northern Distributor Road with funding support from the National Transport Authority (NTA). The Strategic Assessment Report for this project has been prepared. It is currently being refined to reflect input received from the NTA and in the coming weeks the report will be submitted for approval. Subject to the receipt of Departmental approval, the project will progress through the Route Options Assessment Stage in the coming months with the publication of an emerging preferred route for the scheme.

Members will be kept updated on the ongoing progress of these schemes.

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

## 7. **STATUTORY ITEMS**

### 7.1 **PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the reports of the Chief Executive, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 on the following property disposals:-

1. Disposal of the freehold interest in an area of ground (187.1m<sup>2</sup> approximately) situated adjacent to No. 58, Castlepark, Ballincollig, Cork, to Attracta O Neill c/o NMS Solicitors LLP, Joyce House, Barrack Square, Ballincollig, Cork for the sum of €500.00 plus costs in the sum of €1,500.00 plus VAT.

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

2. Disposal of freehold interest in an area of ground (6.12 hectares approximately) on land situated at Hollyhill, Knocknacullen West, Cork, to Industrial Development Agency (Ireland) c/o Susan Mollen, Strategic Property Division, IDA, Athlone Business & Technology Park, Athlone, Co. Westmeath for the sum of €1,890,000.00.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boylan, seconded by Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, An Chomhairle approved the disposal.

### 7.2 **CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME: NO. 22 LOWER JOHN ST., CORK – PETER MCVERRY TRUST CLG**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 in relation to a loan facility for Peter McVerry Trust CLG in respect of the provision of 2 no. 1 bed units, 22E and 22F and 2 no. two bed units, 22H and 22J at 22 Lower John Street, Cork.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir M. Nugent, seconded by Comhairleoir P. Dineen, 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 €1,083,700 be granted to Peter McVerry Trust CLG, subject to the terms of the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision of 2 no. 1 bed units, 22E and 22F and 2 no. two bed units, 22H and 22J at 22 Lower John Street, Cork.”

### 7.3 **PROPOSED CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENT TO THE ZEBRA CROSSING FACILITIES GRATTAN STREET, IN THE VICINITY OF CORK EDUCATE TOGETHER NS – APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994 (AS AMENDED)**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir D. Boyle, seconded by Comhairleoir C. Kelleher, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Operations, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed changes and improvement to the Zebra Crossing facilities on Grattan

Street, in the vicinity of Cork Educate Together NS, pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

7.4 **PROPOSED SIGNALISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITY ON OLD YOUGHAL ROAD IN THE VICINITY OF SCOIL CARA JUNIOR SCHOOL – APPROVAL UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994 (AS AMENDED)**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh, seconded by Comhairleoir K. Collins, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report and recommendation of the Director of Services, Operations, dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023, following public consultation, on the proposed signalised pedestrian crossing facility on Old Youghal Road in the vicinity of Scoil Cara Junior School, pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

7.5 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT CLOVER HILL COURT, BESSBORO ROAD, MAHON, 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 Clover Hill Court, Bessboro Road, Mahon, 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

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

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development at Clover Hill Court, Bessboro Road, Mahon, 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 Clover Hill Court, Bessboro Road, Mahon, 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 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.”

7.6 **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT NASH’S BOREEN, 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 Nash’s Boreen, 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 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir M. Nugent, An Chomhairle further agreed to adopt the following Resolution:-

“Now Council hereby RESOLVE THAT having considered the proposed development at Nash’s Boreen, 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 Nash’s Boreen, 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 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.”

8. **CORPORATE POLICY GROUP – 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group from its meeting held, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

8.1 **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES DATED 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023 IN RELATION TO INSOURCING CURRENTLY OUTSOURCED SERVICES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the A/Director of Services, Corporate Affairs & International Relations, dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council as a corporate entity will investigate the cost of insourcing currently outsourced services provided to Council staff such as cleaning and catering with a view to outsourced staff receiving better pay and conditions as Council employees rather than outsourced staff. This investigation should also extend to retaining water staff as direct employees.’

(Proposer: Cllr. L. Bogue 23/024)

The report of the A/Director of Services stated that Cork City Council outsources its catering requirements to acquire the viable catering management knowledge for its on-site canteen and catering requirements.

With regard to cleaning, there is a dual arrangement for the City Council campus. Council employees are hired to clean the City Hall building and following the opening of the New Civic Offices, and following consultation, this was outsourced and follows public procurement requirements.

In February 2021 the Government published their Policy Paper on Water Sector Transformation which laid out the transition to a national water services authority for the provision of water and waste waters services in Ireland. On the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, following a lengthy process involving the Unions, Uisce Eireann, the Department and the Local Authority Sector and facilitated by the Workplace Relations Commission, a Framework Document was agreed. This framework document will support the transition to a national water services authority, based on the full integration of public water services within Uisce Eireann and provides for Uisce Eireann to take full responsibility for the future delivery of water and waste water services in Ireland. A new Irish Water-Local Authority Agreement, replacing the existing Service Level Agreement arrangements, to ensure that Irish Water has full accountability for the delivery of water services is being put in place. Cork City Council will continue to

work with the Unions, Uisce Eireann and The Department to implement the Government Policy outlined above.

8.2 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31/01/2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the Financial Statement to 31/01/2023.

9. **PARTY WHIPS – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Party Whips from its meeting held, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

9.1 **NAMING OF THE NEW GRANGE TO TRAMORE VALLEY CYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the naming of the new Grange to Tramore Valley cycle/pedestrian bridge.

10. **ROADS & TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

10.1 **REPORT**

10.1.1 **PARKING PERMITS UPDATE REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations Directorate, dated 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023, regarding Parking Permits update.

10.2 **MOTIONS**

10.2.1 **SHARED ELECTRIC BIKE SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will pilot a shared electric bike scheme in a defined geographic area of the city not served by the TFI Bike Share Scheme, such as the city's urban towns (i.e. Glanmire, Blarney, Tower, Ballincollig), or the Urban North area of the North East ward and the Victorian Quarter.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 22/498)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council will bring forward a policy to support electric vehicles, including shared e bikes, in 2023. This will be aligned with, and informed by, the Traffic and Roads Bill 2021, as it may be amended by the Oireachtas as it passes through the legislative process.

In the interim, the provision of a pilot shared electric bike scheme will be considered in tandem with the planned delivery of new active travel infrastructure in the city and in suburban areas currently not served by the existing Transport for Ireland Bike Share Scheme.

#### 10.2.2 **MOBILITY ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT OF THE CITY CENTRE**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 7<sup>th</sup> February on the following motion:-

‘That this Council conduct a mobility accessibility audit of the City centre, as part of a review of street layout changes in recent years.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/511)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Roads Operations Division has carried out an audit of street furniture licenses on pedestrianised streets with the Cork Access Group in 2021 and 2022 to ensure accessibility for all street users and specifically those with disabilities. The audit did not find any significant accessibility issues but any minor recommendations which were identified have been actioned by the Roads Operations Division.

A further audit will be carried out in 2023 for the same purposes. The Roads Operations Division’s street inspectors continue to carry out day and night time audits of street furniture license to ensure compliance with the licenses and therefore ensure access for all street users. Where necessary enforcement proceedings are issued against street furniture license holders for non-compliance with street furniture license conditions.

#### 10.2.3 **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That a plan be brought together as to how all primary and secondary schools in this Council’s area have Safe Routes to Schools.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 22/512)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the NTA made funding available for a Safe to Schools Programme and undertook a process with An Taisce in 2021 to invite all schools (primary and secondary) to participate in the programme. A total of



24 schools in Cork City made an application, and all schools that made an application will remain on the list to be considered for the programme subject to continuing NTA funding. While the application process is currently closed, further opportunities may arise in the future for additional schools to apply for the funding.

#### 10.2.4 **IDENTIFY ARTERIAL PEDESTRIAN ROUTES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Roads & Environment Operations, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will identify arterial pedestrian routes outside of the city centre as part of the wayfinding project and that these will be salted in poor weather conditions to support commuting by foot.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/009)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the wayfinding project does not identify a comprehensive set of pedestrian commuter routes and cannot be used to prioritise pedestrian commuter routes for further intervention as the Roads Operations Division understands. Further the Roads Operations Division has limited human resources, financial resources, and equipment resources. For this reason, only during specific extremely cold weather events are certain high volume city centre footpaths salted / gritted as a safety precaution and not for reasons of promoting pedestrian commuting. The Council, like all other City/County Councils does not have sufficient human, equipment or financial resources to salt footpaths. For reference the cost of salting the priority sections of the road network is in excess of €15,000 per night.

#### 10.2.5 **DAMAGE CAUSED BY VEHICLES MOUNTING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That it be the policy of this Council where evidence exists of vehicles mounting pavements causing damage, particularly at corners of junctions, that prosecutions be sought and payment received by those who have caused such damage.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boyle 23/019)

The report of the Director of Services stated that where public realm infrastructure in the ownership of the Council is damaged by the public, usually through parking or road traffic accidents, the Council does and has in the past pursued individuals or their insurers for the cost of repair where there existed evidence to prove liability. This has more commonly been the case for damage caused due to road traffic accidents or other provable damage. It should be noted that where a footpath is damaged due to illegal parking the damage is usually due to repetitive illegal parking and it is difficult to attribute to one individual vehicle or event. If evidence was provided to the Council, the Council would / will certainly pursue any provable case of wilful or otherwise damage to public infrastructure (footpaths, railing, bollards, wall, etc). In some

instance the Gardai will notify the Council of damage to Council owned infrastructure, and these are followed up.

#### 10.2.6 **ABOLISH FARES ON BUS SERVICES IN THE CITY**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council calls on the Minister for Transport and the Environment, Eamon Ryan to instruct the National Transport Authority to abolish fares on bus services in the city.

A pilot initiative would encourage more commuters to move from cars to the bus service, as has happened in other countries where fares have been abolished.

In doing so it would reduce the level of CO2 emissions in the city and alleviate traffic congestion.’

(Proposer: Cllr. T. Tynan 23/001)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the provision of state subsidies to support public transportation services falls within the remit of the Department of Transport and agencies operating under its aegis. The motion seeking the introduction of a pilot initiative to abolish fares on bus services in Cork City will now be forwarded to the Department of Transport for consideration, as approved by Council.

#### 11. **STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Strategic, Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

#### 11.1 **HERITAGE COMMUNITY AND PUBLICATION GRANT SCHEMES**

##### 11.1.1 **THE COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANTS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir S. Martin, seconded by Comhairleoir D. Cahill, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the Community Heritage Grants.

##### 11.1.2 **THE HERITAGE PUBLICATION GRANTS**

On the proposal of Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, seconded by Comhairleoir K. McCarthy, An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the Heritage Publication Grants.

## 11.2 **CITY DOCKLANDS FRAMEWORK MASTERPLAN**

An Chomhairle considered and noted a presentation was given by Ketki Mudholkar, Hawkins Brown on the City Docklands Framework Masterplan.

## 11.3 **PROGRESS UPDATE ON DERELICTION**

An Chomhairle considered and noted a presentation was given on progress update on dereliction.

## 11.4 **MOTIONS**

### 11.4.1 **PLANS FOR THE OLD BUTTER EXCHANGE BUILDING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council Executive would arrange a briefing for Cllrs (Via SPC) in relation to the plans for the Old Butter Exchange Building in Shandon.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Sheehan 22/520)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council has been working with the local community and a social enterprise, Recreate Shandon, to bring forward development opportunities for the Butter Exchange. This is part of an overall approach being taken by the Council for the Shandon area, which included the completion of a Health Check with the local community and residents’ groups.

The first stage involved reviewing scope to develop the Butter Exchange in an appropriate manner. Following an assessment of good practice, it was concluded that this would involve development of an enterprise hub, building on the enterprise tradition and heritage of the building, with potential community, training and educational opportunities.

This was designed, and planning was approved for the development of the scheme. In addition, Cork City Council approved transfer of the site to the local community for this purpose.

The next step involved refining the operations and desired outcomes of the centre, through a feasibility study. Work is ongoing on this by Recreate Shandon, funded by Enterprise Ireland.

Recreate Shandon, working with Cork City Council and local partners, will seek to apply for funding for the implementation of the recommendations of this feasibility study. It is currently estimated that this will cost over €4million. This is a nationally competitive process and funding is not guaranteed.

As outlined above, this is one action for the Shandon area. The Community, Culture and Placemaking directorate undertook a Health Check which was informed by

extensive engagement with the local community. This identified a suite of initiatives designed to enhance quality of life in the Shandon area. Cork City Council will continue to work with local community groups to identify solutions to the implementation of these actions.

A further report, and full presentation will be made to the SPC once the Feasibility Study is completed.

#### 11.4.2 **DIGITISATION OF CORK CITY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGY BOOKS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That the Cork City Council archaeology team consider the digitisation of former Cork City Council archaeology books for the archaeology sub site of the Council’s website or Cork Past and Present sub site of Cork City Library.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. McCarthy 23/002)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Strategic Objective 8.1(f) in the Cork City Development 2022-28 is to improve and encourage access to and understanding of the architectural and archaeological heritage of the city. Cork City Council has a long established archaeological and historical publication record and the City Archaeologist is currently reviewing the existing archaeological publications with a view to making them more accessible. It is the intention that a number of the earlier hardcopy publications will be scanned and made available on-line this year.

#### 11.4.3 **DERELICTION ON CITY QUAYS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Strategic & Economic Development, dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council address the dereliction of the city's quay areas including Patrick's Quay and while forming the plan that we use the space in the meantime to create green and public spaces.’

(Proposer: Cllr. J. Maher 23/087)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council is constantly reviewing key areas throughout the City, including the City Quays for dereliction. There are a number of derelict sites on the quays and Cork City Council is actively working with land owners with a view to removing the dereliction. A number of sites along the keys were recently removed from the Derelict Sites Register. St Patricks Quay is part of our derelict sites targeted inspections programme.

“Meanwhile uses” are a range of temporary uses, including culture, creative and community uses, on land and property awaiting longer-term development. The City Development Plan 2022 supports appropriate meanwhile uses for vacant commercial

buildings and sites that add to the quality and character of the local neighbourhood. Meanwhile uses may require planning permission, and where permission is required, proposals will be assessed against the City Development Plan's development and placemaking objectives.

## 12. **HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee from its meeting held, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023.

An Chomhairle further noted that Comhairleoir T. Fitzgerald, Chair of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee, would liaise with the Director of Services, Housing, to determine if a special meeting of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee could be facilitated in advance of the lifting of the eviction ban on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### 12.1 **HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the Housing Progress report for December 2022.

### 12.2 **MOTIONS**

#### 12.2.1 **AVAILABILITY OF INTERPRETERS FOR HOUSING QUERIES**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That the CE gives an update on the availability of interpreters when dealing with housing queries from the Roma community.’

(Proposer: Cllr. C. Finn 22/518)

The report of the Director of Services stated that the Housing Directorate had not experienced a demand for a service of this nature from this community or from any other non-nationals. Generally, clients with language difficulties will attend with a family member, friend, advocate or support worker to assist them in accessing services. In the absence of such informal support, and where additional assistance might be required, clients may be referred to Threshold, Citizens Advice or NASC where such agencies could offer them other advice relating to their overall welfare needs.

If members are aware of any specific clients where such additional supports were sought, they can refer the clients directly to the Housing Directorate.

#### 12.2.2 **ENGAGE WITH LANDLORDS ON TENANT IN SITU SCHEME**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council will act on the instructions of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage of Ireland, and approach all landlords for which a notice to quit has been issued to HAP tenants and engage in a process with the express aim of purchasing the home under the tenant in-situ scheme.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. Ryng 22/479)

The report of the Director of Services stated that while no circular had issued from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) instructing local authorities to acquire HAP properties, a letter from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage was circulated asking local authorities to explore all possible avenues in an effort to prevent the possibility of homelessness occurring. To that end, Cork City Council, with support from the DHLGH, has engaged with landlords who have expressed an interest in exiting the rental market but are willing to sell to the City Council while retaining tenants in situ. An assessment procedure applies to each such application in order to determine suitability for acquisition, and where cases are suitable, these are being pursued as property acquisitions by the Housing Capital acquisitions team subject to valuation, property inspection and title. In many cases the landlord may not wish to sell the property to Cork City Council, and in such cases keeping a tenant-in-situ is not possible.

### 12.2.3 **PRIORITISE THE DELIVERY OF MODULAR AND PRE-FABRICATED HOUSING**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council, as a matter of urgency, prioritise the delivery of both modular and pre-fabricated housing as part of the solution to the housing issue. Where rapid build can be delivered this should be given fast track approval and any and all help required to enable delivery.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 22/502)

The report of the Director of Services stated that Cork City Council is at an advanced stage of developing schemes under its Offsite/Volumetric Construction programme, with plans to deliver two schemes at Cloverhill Court, Mahon and at Westside, Model Farm Road. The Part 8 planning for the scheme at Westside has received the approval of the elected members, and the Part 8 planning application at Cloverhill Court is being progressed for Council approval at the March meeting of An Chomhairle. The schemes in question are proposed to deliver 133 homes under 2D panelised and/or 3D modular or volumetric construction methods, under which a faster construction programme is envisaged, to expedite the delivery of housing in the City. Within the Housing Directorate’s capital delivery programme, the Council is also exploring the delivery of further schemes via rapid build methods, and all possible avenues for expediting delivery are considered as part of the capital programme.

#### 12.2.4 **HOUSING VOIDS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the report of the Director of Services, Housing, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council recognises:

- That they have the longest turnaround time for voids in the state according to the latest NOAC Performance Indicators.
- That 75 week is an unacceptable average turnaround time.
- That the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has stated that he believes local authorities are ready to move to a system of preventative maintenance.
- That there should be no Council home empty for longer than six months.

And agrees to:

- Compile, and lay before Council, a report on all voids vacant for longer than six months, by ward in tabular form with details on plans to re-let these units.
- Send a report to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage detailing all voids vacant longer than six months for which Cork City Council do not have sufficient funds to renovate.
- Provide Councillors with a strategic plan for the move to preventative maintenance with a timeframe for completion of this change.’

(Proposer: Cllr. K. Collins 22/504)

The report of the Director of Services stated that in 2022, the Housing Directorate set up a new structure and programme to address long term vacancy and turnaround times. 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. Although times have improved, it is acknowledged that it is 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 throughout 2023, with a very ambitious target to reduce the turnaround period for any new property becoming vacant to 32 weeks by the end of 2023.

It is important to note that the 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.

The programme consists of two delivery streams. The first will deal with existing vacant units to December 2022, categorising them by locality and assessing them for repair by Contract. There are currently four out of ten batches with Contractors for repair. The second stream sees all newly vacant units being assessed for repair by a dedicated depot team, upon becoming vacant. The dedicated team will be continuously monitored to ensure quick turnaround times and where necessary will be

supplemented by separate Contractors when demand is high. It is expected that significant improvements in turnaround times will be achieved in newly vacant units and that the existing backlog will be cleared by early 2024, funding permitting. It is programmed to return 400 vacant properties from repair, ready for allocation in 2023.

Cork City Council does communicate and update the Department in relation to voids throughout any year. The City Council also updates the Chief Executive's report on a monthly basis which is circulated to the Local Area Committees and are happy to work with the SPC to improve the format of this communication where deemed necessary.

13. **CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE – 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Climate Action Committee from its meeting held, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

14. **FINANCE & ESTIMATES COMMITTEE – 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the Finance & Estimates Committee from its meeting held, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

14.1 **FINANCE RELATED REPORTS**

14.1.1 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO END OF JANUARY 2023.**

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

15. **SOUTH CENTRAL LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South Central Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

16. **SOUTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

17. **NORTH WEST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North West Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

18. **NORTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the North East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



19. **SOUTH EAST LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE – 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and noted the minutes of the South East Local Area Committee from its meeting held, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

20. **CORRESPONDENCE**

An Chomhairle noted correspondence received.

21. **CONFERENCE/SEMINAR SUMMARIES**

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

- Comhairleoirí D. Boyle and S. Martin at Regions in Focus 2023 held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan, 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023.
- Comhairleoir S. Martin at AILG module 1 training, A briefing on the Electoral Reform Act held at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Limerick, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

22. **SECTION 141 REPORTS**

An Chomhairle noted section 141 reports as follows:-

- Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh – Leisureworld – January to December 2022.
- Comhairleoir J. Kavanagh – Cork Opera House – January to December 2022.

23. **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS**

None received.

23.1 **REGIONS IN FOCUS 2023**

An Chomhairle considered and retrospectively approved the attendance of Comhairleoir S. Martin at Regions in Focus 2023 held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan, 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

24. **TRAINING**

None received.

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

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

26. **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.

27. **MOTIONS**

27.1 **UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (UNCRPD)**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘We propose that Cork City Council write to both the Assistant Secretary General with responsibility for Disability and the Secretary General in the Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth to enact/expedite the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

This international Convention was ratified by the Houses of the Oireachtas in March 2018 and has only been partially implemented to date.’

(Proposers: Cllr. T. Moloney, Cllr. K. O’Flynn 23/108)

27.2 **FUNDING FOR THE NORTHERN RING ROAD**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council call on the Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan to engage meaningfully and commit real funding towards the realisation of the Northern Ring Road. The recent announcement of €100,000 towards this multi-million euro project is utterly unacceptable and shows the lack of commitment and care from the Minister to the plight of residential areas in the Northside of our city filled with traffic.’

(Proposer: Cllr. D. Boylan 23/110)

On the proposal of Comhairleoir O. Moran, the Chair of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee, Comhairleoir D. Cahill agreed to liaise with the Director of Services, Infrastructure Development to determine if a briefing on the North Ring/Northern Ring/North Ring Distributor Roads could be facilitated at the next meeting of the Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

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

27.3 **DEFAULT SPEED LIMIT OF 30KM/H ON URBAN ROADS**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council supports the Road Safety Authority in 30km/h being the default speed limit on urban roads and will forward this message to the Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan, and the Road Safety Authority.’

(Proposer: Cllr. O. Moran 23/127)

27.4 **SOLIDARITY WITH LIBRARY STAFF**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion:-

‘That Cork City Council stands in solidarity with our library staff who in the past number of weeks have experienced focused personal abuse; dealt with disruptive protests and endured intimidation in the course of their work. We must support our libraries who are places of diversity and inclusion offering access to all. Our libraries are a safe place for all ages and a centre for learning and work.’

(Proposers: Cllr. J. Maher, Cllr. O. Moran, Cllr. D. Boyle 23/133)

27.5 **EXTEND THE EVICTION BAN**

An Chomhairle considered and approved the following motion noting the dissention of Comhairleoirí S. Martin and G. Kelleher:-

‘That Cork City Council notes the recent statement by Threshold which states that;

“Unprecedented numbers of adults and children could now become homeless, as a result of the Government’s plan to lift the eviction ban for rented properties.”

Cork City Council also notes the statement by Threshold that "the organisation currently works with thousands of individuals with notices of termination, and the Coalition’s decision is likely to exacerbate the concerns – and situations – these renters find themselves in."

Therefore, Cork City Council appeals to the Government to reconsider their decision and, in line with opinion expressed by Cork City Councillors in February, extend the eviction ban.’

(Proposer: Cllr. E. Ryng 23/144)

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**ARDMHÉARA**  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**