

Location: Fire Station Artist Studio, Buckingham Street, Dublin 1

Time and date: 8.00am, 29th November 2017

Attendance: Chair – Michael Stone, Conor Rowley (DCYA), Irene Crawley (NICCC), Caitriona O’Brien (DES), Chief Superintendent Sean Ward (Garda Síochána), Feargal O’Rourke (PwC), Karl Mitchell (DCC), Brendan Kenny (DCC), Mary Walshe (HSE), Ursula Donnellan (DCC/Programme Office), Denis Breen (DOT), Mary Walshe (HSE), Karl Mitchell (DCC), Clare Butler (DOT/Programme Office), Michael O’Riordan (Programme Office).

Apologies: Fergus McCabe (NICCC)

1. A presentation was made on the work of the FIRESTATION Artist Studio by Helen Carey, Director. The mission of the FIRESTATION Artist Studio is to enable contemporary visual artists with recognised potential to sustain a practice of quality and integrity. This is achieved by providing affordable residential and studio spaces, practical and evolving resources, professional and development opportunities in the FIRESTATION building.

The Chair thanked the FIRESTATION staff for hosting the meeting and for the presentation.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed: Brendan Kenny

Seconded: Sean Ward

3. Sub Group Reports

Group 4 – Physical Refurbishment

- Green Ribbon - The two vans have been wrapped and are operational.
- Covent lands - DCC have reached agreement with the preferred bidder in relation to the sale of the site. This will be presented to the city councillors on 8th January. There is concern that there may be opposition to the sale of the site. The Community representative sought clarification regarding proof of excavations, plans for a memorial and securing local jobs. DCC agreed to publish on the NEIC website, the report of the ground survey undertaken along with information on the future plans covering the issues raised. The Board requested the community reps to engage with local councillors and build support for the proposed sale, given the requirement for 50% of the sale proceeds will be used towards the cost of the new community hub at Rutland Street School.
- The Board was briefed on the outcome of the recent SICAP process, with some disappointment expressed that the bid submitted by Dublin City Community Co-op was unsuccessful and they heard this through media sources in the first instance. Following an update from DCC the NEIC Board noted that there is now an opportunity for the Co-op to enter into a negotiated procedure with funding assured for the next 3 months to allow this

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- to take place. Feargal O'Rourke, PwC, offered to source relevant professional input, pro bono, to support the Co-Op in this negotiated procedure should they wish to avail of it.
- Currently 74 derelict/unsightly commercial/housing sites in the area which are being pursued by DCC using a range of options open to them including acquiring ownership. (Chair to meet DCC on this issue)
 - 44 housing voids in the area. 38 are in process of being renovated. Process in place to appoint contractors to renovate remaining locations.
 - Mountjoy Square Park – DCC are currently engaging with sitting tenants with plans to seek Part 8 planning in 2018 to undertake a range of improvement works. An update will be provided for the next meeting.
 - Seville Place – Existing light fittings have been replaced with LED fittings – light has improved but further enquires made in relation to scope for additional lighting.
 - Folklore Museum – this matter was raised by Community Rep in the context of an update. An application for funding has been submitted for staffing and running costs for 2018. Commitment in place for rent of premises in 2018 as for 2017 on the basis that the project would generate some income to cover any additional costs. A researcher has been engaged by DCC to assist with cataloguing the items that they are in possession of. The Chair offered to meet with project to discuss further.

Group 1 – Crime and Drugs.

- A seminar for the group was held on Nov 2nd in Store Street.
- An overview of responses to public engagement questionnaire is being developed.
- **ACRG** – proposal was discussed and recommended for support for building of additional room (amount €56,000) subject to the supply of notification from the landlord that there is no objection to the development in the context of their current 10 year lease.

Approved by PIB.

- Training programme for new Gardaí being developed – this will include inputs from local groups. Proposed start date December 2017.
- Plan in place for improving relationships between youth and Gardaí - invitation to community groups to be involved.
- Link between divisional Garda youth services and Sub Group 3 to be established.
- **National Family Support Network (NFSN) confirmation of funding approved**
- €3,500 to hold seminar in 2018
- €3,500 to publish anti-intimidation leaflet, post seminar. Sub Group chair to follow up with NFSN
- Chief Super Sean Ward meeting with Garda Head of Accommodation to discuss progress on Fitzgibbon Street.
- 14 additional Gardaí due on 22nd December.
- CCTV fully approved – awaiting approval certificate for work to commence.

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- Mobile Unit fully approved – vehicle identified and purchase in progress. Communication piece required to inform community its primary purpose is to assist community engagement.
- Name of sub group is under discussion in view of its wider community engagement remit.
- Gardaí and DCC working closely together on targeted use of exclusion orders and eviction orders in the area.

Group 2 – Employment, Training and Education

- Group are finalising a mapping document of services which will be used to identify gaps and blockages
- DEASP have forwarded proposal in relation to local Community Employment supported services to DPER for consideration with a response expected shortly.
- Career LEAP programme has proved to be very effective and deals with a wide range of young people. Consideration to using this model and investigating if it could be scaled up for the area in terms of numbers – detailed proposal awaited.
- Employment Forum involving the Business Sector in NEIC area is planned for early 2018.
- Leaving Cert pupils in local school are not all from the area. A geo mapping exercise is being undertaken in Dept of Education.
- CDET are currently recruiting 2 outreach guidance workers to provide an out of school service for NEIC area. Due to be in position for early 2018.
- 3rd level access – reports have been received from five 3rd level colleges in relation to their engagement with local schools. Further follow up required on this report.
- The importance of bringing role models into schools to speak to students was highlighted especially in terms of encouraging ambition among local young people.
- Board noted lack of response from schools in relation to progressing TY Work Experience offers from local employers.
- Some follow up with schools to be undertaken and meetings with Boards of Management to be arranged if deemed necessary.
- Need for an Education Coordinator for the area was raised – Board noted plans for upcoming meeting of local Schools Principals network as an appropriate forum to discuss some of these important strategic issues.

Group 3 – Family, Children and Youth Services.

- Significant discussion at sub-group arising from a presentation from Dept of Children and Youth Affairs on Review of Youth Funding Schemes. While a need for an overhaul of the scheme has been signalled, the main objective is to help and not disrupt youth service delivery in the area.
- Enhanced outreach provision has begun in the area funded by the Board.
- Sub group will invite the Local Drugs and Alcohol Task Force to present at its next meeting given the many questions arising about the drugs issue.

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- The recent Drug Education seminar organised by the local drugs task force was highlighted as a good example of gathering services together to discuss a specific issue.
- Mapping of services – tender being finalised and due to issue in the near future.
- In response to questions regarding linkages between existing outreach services and Anna Liffey drug outreach service – the project is meeting monthly with Gardaí and DCC. Presentation to be made to PIB.

4. Business Update

- Companies are willing to provide to assist community groups in NEIC area with professional support. Opportunities to be identified.
- Employment/Jobs are a slow burn – there is currently some engagement ongoing in this regard.
- Tall Ships event in Dublin - June 2018. Opportunity for engagement with business community to be involved with training element of project and to support this financially.
- AIG have agreed to sponsor a GAA Academy in the NEIC area, this planned for March/April 2018.

5. Community Grants:

- 63 applications received – seeking total of €265,345
- Evaluation panel:
 - Ursula Donnellan, Dublin City Council / NEIC Programme Office
 - Michael O’Riordan, NEIC Programme Office
 - Clare Butler, Department of the Taoiseach / NEIC Programme Office
 - Paul Rogers, Chief Executive, Northside Partnership (External)
- Evaluation panel process took place on Wednesday 8th November.2017
- Scheme was oversubscribed – panel agreed a number of applications outside the scope of the scheme and/or not fully in keeping with the overall objective of the scheme as stated in the guidelines i.e. *“to financially support north east inner city communities in delivering their own eligible projects / proposals at local level.”*
- Ineligible applications included those that were e.g.
 - Outside the NEIC administrative area
 - Seeking funding in excess of maximum grant available
 - Seeking funding for staff training
 - Seeking funding for research projects
 - More appropriate for funding from other sources e.g. directly from DCC
- 37 applications (total value - €123,490) were recommended by evaluation panel to PIB for support.
- Evaluation panel requested an increase in funding from €100,000 to €123,490 to support all recommended projects.

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- PIB approved additional funding of €23,490 for the community grants and approved all funding recommendations of the evaluation panel.
- Chair requested that all applicants be contacted to advise them of the outcome the process immediately and then that the list of successful applicants be posted on the NEIC website.
- The Board noted the additional €23,490 required, along with €56,000 approved for ACRG and previously approved €8,800 + vat for joint Irish Rail works and €12,500 Larkin Community College Bike maintenance project will be met from the following under spends in 2017..
 - Action 1.9 - €13,000
 - Action 2.10- €20,130
 - Action 3.5 - €50,000
 - Summer provision - €9,000
 - Action 4.7 - €8,800 + vat
- The Board also noted that €47,000 has been allocated towards the cost of new playground on Sheriff Street and €5,000 to Waterways Ireland towards the cost of cleanup of the Cottage on the canal bank from unused portion of the Programme Office Budget for 2017.

6. AOB

- **LUAS Cross City** is launching on 9th December – children from the local dance school will be performing at the launch.
- **St Mary’s Mansions redevelopment** – contractor due on site during December.
- The Chair asked for suggestions as to how Trade Unions in the area might contribute to the process?
- The Chair requested community reps to follow up on two items that were raised with him at a recent meeting with the North Inner City Community Coalition
 - The difficulties posed for community groups receiving funding from a number of sources by different Govt Departments having different reporting requirements.
 - Difficulties local groups are experiencing in accessing local sports facilities.

Examples of both were requested

- A draft of proposed “NEIC Funding Approval Process” was circulated for consideration and discussion at next meeting.

Next meeting: 20th December 2017 @ 8am

Venue: Department of an Taoiseach, Govt Buildings, Upper Merrion St, D2

Summary of agreed actions for next meeting:

	What	Who
1.	Update on Derelict sites/ Mountjoy Square redevelopment.	DCC
2.	Update website with re Community Grants.	Clare butler
3.	Contact applicants re outcome of Community Grant process	MOR
4.	Follow up re no reply to work experience support offer to Transition Year students	Caitriona O'Brien
5.		