

DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held remotely on Thursday September 23rd 2021 at 5.00 pm **Chairperson's Report**

PRESENT

Councillors:

Cllr Shay Brennan	Cllr Séafra Ó Faoláin
Cllr Michael Clark (Chair)	Cllr Denis O'Callaghan
Cllr Eva Elizabeth Dowling	Cllr Juliet O'Connell
Cllr Jim Gildea	Cllr Barry Saul
Cllr John Kennedy	Cllr Donal Smith
Cllr Patricia Kinsella	

Sectoral Representatives:

Dr. Josephine Browne
Ger Corbett
Aileen Eglinton
John O'Toole
Fardus Sultan

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Helena Cunningham (Director of Finance & Economic Development), Dave Lawless (Tourism Development Officer), Siobhán Broughan (Senior Economic Development Officer), Róisín Cronin (Senior Staff Officer, Economic Development Unit)

The Chairperson welcomed members and Council officials to the meeting. He welcomed Ger Corbett, Sandyford Business District, to his first meeting as a member of the SPC.

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee Meeting of June 24th 2021 were proposed by Cllr O'Connell, seconded by Cllr O'Callaghan and adopted.

Matters arising (if any)

None.

Information items submitted by Members for written reply (if any)

- (i) Can the Council confirm that the redevelopment of the Ferry Terminal will be advanced in a manner that will progress the economic objectives of the Dun Laoghaire town centre and its existing community of public co-working providers?
– Councillor Jim Gildea

Response:

This will be included in the commissioned Harbour Study which is due for publication in October/ November. It is expected that the Ferry Terminal will deliver 450-600 jobs at full capacity to the local economy including some marine based companies which is in line with our objectives. Further details will be provided in the report.

The response was noted.

- (ii) To report on the economic impact on Dunlaoghaire Businesses/Retail for the period of the trial pedestrianisation of a section of Georges Street since the 5th of July last. To include footfall, increased business/retail activity and any feedback from the business/retail sector. – Councillor Denis O’Callaghan

Response:

The trial pedestrianisation of a section of George’s Street Lower will end on September 30th 2021. A comprehensive analysis will be conducted once the trial has concluded. As part of this process, residents, pedestrians and businesses are being extensively surveyed. Businesses will be requested, where willing, to provide transactional data for the period, and the Economic Development Unit is engaging with Mastercard regarding the provision of detailed spending data.

Footfall data for the period will also be analysed and is currently available, published weekly, at <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/business/d%C3%BAAn-laoghaire-footfall>. Other non-economic factors will also be analysed including air quality and noise monitoring, sentiment analysis and Garda data.

The analysis of the trial will be made available as soon as it is completed.

The response was noted.

Business submitted by the Director of Services

- (i) DLR Local Economic and Enterprise Plan 2021-2024 – Owen Laverty, Head of Economic Development and Enterprise, delivered a presentation on the plan, after which he responded to members’ comments and queries.
- (ii) Food on the Edge Festival – John O’Toole, Airfield, gave a presentation on the upcoming Food on the Edge Festival and answered members’ queries.
- (iii) Collaboration with Sport Ireland – programme for elite sportspeople – Owen Laverty, Head of Economic Development and Enterprise gave a brief presentation on the programme.

Business referred from the Council (if any)

None.

Business referred from the Corporate Policy Group (if any)

None.

Future Work Programme

- (i) To ask the Council to facilitate a round-table discussion with relevant stakeholders in Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown to promote the night-time economy – Councillor Lorraine Hall

As Councillor Hall was not present it was agreed to discuss at the December meeting.

Any other business

The Chairperson thanked all the presenters for their contributions this evening and thanked the members for their engagement. It was noted that the next meeting will take place on Thursday, December 9th 2021.