

<p style="text-align: center;">COMMUNITY, LEISURE & EMERGENCY SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE</p>
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A meeting of the Community, Leisure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee was held in Council Chamber, Limerick City and County Council, Merchant's Quay Limerick, on Wednesday 21st June, 2017

The following were in attendance: -

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr. F. Foley

PRESENT: Cllr. J. Costelloe, Cllr. M. Hurley, Cllr. G. Mitchell, Cllr. L.M. Sheehy, Cllr. M. McCreesh, Cllr. S. Lynch, Cllr. B. Teeffy, Cllr. M. Sheahan, Cllr. J. Loftus, Cllr. B. O'Donnell
Ms D. Vumah, Ms E. O'Donovan

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. C. Kirby, A/Director of Service
Ms. S. Deegan, Arts Officer
Mr. D. Brady, City and County Librarian
Ms. P. Liddy, Senior Executive Officer
Ms. G. Dollard, Administrative Officer
Ms. A. Walshe, Clerical Officer
Mr. M. Packer Director of EVA International

APOLOGIES: Cllr. C.McMahon, C.Flynn, M.Vaughan Mullane, M.Ryan
M. Healy.

Item 1: Adoption of Minutes of Community Leisure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held on 26th April, 2017

Amendment to page 2 - speaker commending the Council for providing walkways and amenities under Smarter Travel was Cllr M Hurley and not M. Healy

Item 2: Presentation on EVA by Matt Packer, Director of EVA International

Matt Packer presented the above presentation and spoke of his pride on becoming Director of Eva which was first established in 1977. He gave credit to Limerick City and County for fostering a programme like EVA International.

Cllr. M.McCreesh wished M.Packer best of luck and queried the total funding costs of the Arts Council. He suggested that it could be more productive and did not appear to benefit the entire Community. Cllr. M Hurley praised the variety of locations used for EVA events and wished M. Packer well.

M.Packer advised that the budget was €22,000 with €10,000 coming from Limerick City and County Council. He stated that he was aware of the challenges but assured the members that he was trying to reach a "grass roots common" with an openness to change which he saw as crucial to the success of the project.

Item 3: Presentation on Creative Ireland Limerick Culture Plan

Sheila Deegan gave presentation on Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022 and advised the members that the Council have established an internal culture team.

Cllr. Foley commented that Arts is alive and well in the City and County and fully supports the publication.

Cllr. M.Sheahan thanked Sheila for her presentation and was pleased that it involved all communities. Cllr. J.Loftus agreed and stated that Limerick was a city of multiple cultures and he was proud to be a Limerick man.

Cllr. J.Costelloe felt that the Council missed an opportunity to honour members of the McNamara Band from New York City who were home recently as three of the band had lived in Mary Street originally. He also suggested a plaque could be restored on Mary Street.

Cllr. M. Hurley thanked Sheila Deegan on presentation and praised the travelling pop up Museum and thanked Damien Brady for his input in same.

Cllr. S.Lynch commended Sheila and her team on all their hard work and great passion. Cllr. B. Teefy thanked Sheila Deegan for presentation and felt the need for more emphasis on rural communities as they need the support. She asked for more presence in East Limerick as there was very little projects happening there at the moment.

Item 4 Update on Suicide Prevention

Cllr. L.M Sheehy gave an update on the last meeting of the Suicide Prevention group. She advised the members that Jigsaw gave a presentation at same and that they have now opened a centre based in Arthurs Quay shopping Centre which is aimed at early intervention for young people aged 12-25. It offers a range of services including counselling. Since 19th June there has been 16 referrals made to Jigsaw. Cllr.S.Lynch asked if Jigsaw had an after hours service. Cllr. L.M Sheehy advised that it was not a crisis service and that the Samaritans and A& E Department would be the 1st points of contact.

In relation to media guidelines Cllr Sheehy advised that the media would be invited to the next meeting to discuss same.

Cllr.L.M Sheehy will send out details of upcoming safe talk training for the members once dates have been confirmed with HSE.

The Chairperson assured Cllr. Sheehy that the SPC was very committed to the suicide prevention strategy and praised the sub committee for their good work to date.

Item 6 Any Other Business

Ms. C. Kirby, A/Director of Service thanked Cllr. F.Foley for his last meeting as chairperson. Cllr.F.Foley wished everyone the best of luck for the future

Minutes Proposed By:

Minutes Seconded By:

Minutes Signed By Chair: _____

Date: _____