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11th September, 2019.

## To: The Cathaoirleach and Each Member of the Metropolitan District of Limerick

Disposal of Property at 36 Cecil Street (Former Red Cross Building), Limerick.

## A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

It is intended that the following proposed disposal of land will be included on the Agenda for the September Council Meeting:

 Disposal of Council Property at 36 Cecil Street for €90,000 to Tait House Community Enterprise CLG.

The sale of this property was undertaken by way of an Expression of Interest process which was widely advertised. A signboard was erected on the property. An advert was placed on Power Property website, daft.ie and my home.ie. An advert was placed in the Limerick Leader and also in the Irish Independent in January, 2019. A final date for receipt of submissions was set for 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.

The following is information relevant to this building:

Date of Acquisition: Year 2000

Original Intended Use: Hostel Type Accommodation

Funding: Departmental Funding

Guide Valuation: €80,000-€90,000

Zoning: Commercial

Current Use: Occupied by The Limerick

Theatre and Performance HUB

Ltd. - The GAFF

Eight applications were received and accessed by the Evaluation Committee on the 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 and again on the 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.

One application was subsequently withdrawn in April, 2019.

The applications included a mix of proposed uses ranging from commercial, residential, youth theatre, hostel, performance area, arts and cultural use, recording studio.

The recommendation of the Evaluation Committee was to accept the offer made by Tait House Community Enterprise CLG for the property subject to the standard approval procedures.

The Expressions of Interest received were analysed based on the following criteria:

No.	Description	Scoring %
1.0	Financial Bid	40%
2.0	Timeframe for Development and occupation	30%
3.0	Support of the Development Plan	30%

The opportunity to purchase this property would enable Tait House to create a link to the City (City Centre Hub) and vice versa for the residents of Southill and its hinterlands through

the engagement in its expressive arts programmes which began in 2017. Tait House has a long track record in training provision and has been the vehicle for training innovation in partnership with key stakeholders including the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection and the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.

The current occupant of the building - the Limerick Theatre and Performance Hub Ltd., t/a The GAFF, has been in occupation of the building since 2014 and it is proposed that they will remain in the building under a licence agreement from Tait House. The Council has received correspondence dated 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019, from the GAFF, stating that they fully support the Expression of Interest submitted by Tait House Community Enterprise CLG (THCE).

Tait House are proposing to undertake repairs and refurbishments works in year 1 to the value of €50,000.

Tait House is working with the Gaff and other groups such as the College Players, 061 Recordings, Music Generation, to build cultural capacity in regeneration areas. Movement between these city spaces and community spaces will create a physical connectivity and reduce gaps between regeneration and the City as a whole.

The property in question is not required by the Council for any of its functions.

The consideration for the property is €90,000.

Is mise le meas,

Jayne Leahy,

**Head of Property Services.**