

04/10/2021

**Development Plan Submission** 

Cork City Council

Strategic and Economic Development

City Hall

Anglesea Street

Cork T12 T997

RE: Daft Cork City Development Plan –Public Consultation

Dear Sir / Madam,

We welcome the opportunity to make this submission to the public consultation on the Draft Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028. Cork Local Sports Partnership CLG (Cork LSP) as an initiative of Sport Ireland has a long and proud history of supporting and inspiring the people of Cork to get active.

Cork LSP is responsible for the development and participation in sport and physical activity within Cork supporting, communities, clubs, and schools with a targeted remit of inclusion to support inclusive and equal access to sport and physical activity opportunities for all. To date, Cork LSP in partnership with Cork City Council has been successful in providing a wide range of opportunities for the people of Cork to get active, most recently through the joint Active City project funded through Sport Ireland.

Minister Catherine Martin TD for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media recently launched a study examining the "Benefits of Sports on Irish Society and Economy". The study highlights the significant value and impact sport has on the Irish society and the economy. The study clearly illustrates the following key points.

- Participation in sport and physical activity prevents nearly 100,000 cases of disease annually, generating savings to the Government of nearly €0.4bn
- Sport-related jobs accounted for 2.8% of all Irish employment in 2018
- Sport volunteering in Ireland valued at €1.5bn
- Consumers spent €3.3bn on sports related goods and services in 2018

https://www.sportireland.ie/news/benefits-of-sport-on-irish-society-and-economy-confirmed-by-new-study

Given this research and the value of sport and physical activity to the people of Cork we would like to highlight the following points for consideration in relation to this plan.

- 1. We believe that Sport and Recreation should be considered under a combined heading. Sport does not feature as a key heading in the plan Arts/Culture/Recreation is reflected, Objectives 6.20 outlines active recreation. We kindly suggest this could also be considered under the heading Sport.
- 2. The plan at this stage does not refence Sport in a co-ordinated way e.g., the value/benefit of sport events/employment to the city. Sport provides promotional value to the City of Cork with athletes and teams performing, winning, and hosting major sporting events and competitions.

We trust that appropriate consideration will be given to this submission and look forward to the continued support and partnership with Cork City Council in working together to keep Cork active.

If you require any further information or clarification regard this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Kristine Meenaghan, Coordinator, Cork LSP.

Yours sincerely

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Coordinator

**Cork Local Sports Partnership**