



Designated Urban Centre Grants Scheme – Information request re Dublin Projects

As part of the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme, the Regional Assembly has approved grant aid of 50% of eligible public costs up to a limit of **€7,000,000.00** in grant aid for the completion of the following projects:

1. Dublin City Council Project:

In late 2016 Dublin City Council were obliged to remove the project initially submitted for Forbes Street Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge and replace that project with the College Green Project. Following the refusal of this scheme by An Bord Pleanála Dublin City Council were obliged to remove College Green and replace it with the Liffey Street, Wolfe Tone Square and Temple Bar Public Realm Improvements (detailed below)

Public Realm works under investment priority 6(e) of the ERDF Regulation (EU) 1301/2013 split over these areas

	OVERALL COST	ERDF Allocation
Temple Bar Square	€3,750,000	€1,000,000
Liffey Street	€4,000,000	€1,000,000
Wolfe Tone Square	€2,250,000	€900,000
		€2,900,000 ERDF allocation

This replacement project received final approval from the DUCGS Steering Committee in late September 2019. No declarations have been declared yet, but the MA has been advised that considerable progress has been made on both the Liffey Street and Wolfe Tone square areas. A claim is anticipated in late 2020.

At the request of Gardai, DCC have been requested not to carry out construction works in Temple Bar square until after the Euro 2020 football championships are complete in July 2020 as the area is one of 2 main fan zones in the city. This will then progress at pace.

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2. **Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Project:** Dun Laoghaire Baths under investment priority 4(e) and 6(e) of the ERDF Regulation (EU) 1301/2013 – Total Investment of €2,700,000.00 (**€1,100,000.00 ERDF**);

The project includes a new public café with views over the Bay, new studio workspaces for artists and new lifeguard facilities. It will also include new public toilet facilities that will be fully accessible for the mobility impaired and most importantly a new jetty and changing areas that will provide access to the water's edge for swimmers and landing points for canoes and kayaks. It is expected that the development will be substantially complete by late Spring 2020.

Grant funding of €1.1m has been made available from the European Regional Development Fund for Dun Laoghaire Baths Project under the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme (DUCGS).

Project costs substantially increased following a public procurement competition, however the ERDF allocation of €1,100,000 remained unchanged.

This allocation has been drawn down by DLR County Council following the Art 125 Verification process undertaken by the MA in late 2019 and a declaration has been made to the EU Commission.

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3. **South Dublin County Council Project:** Dodder Valley Greenway under investment priority 4(e) of the ERDF Regulation (EU) 1301/2013 – Total Investment of €3,000,000.00 (**€1,500,000.00 ERDF**);

The Dodder Valley Greenway is a strategic route in the National Transport Agency Greater Dublin Area cycle network plan. The aim is to install and extend cycle and pedestrian routes allowing for improved connectivity, and thereby enhancing the potential for leisure & tourism. The Greenway route is approximately 14km in length and passes along the Dodder Valley from Orwell / Terenure through the outer suburbs of Tallaght to rural and upland Dublin to the entrance to the Bohernabreena reservoirs at Glenasmole

The project work is progressing 'on the ground' but no claims have been made to the MA in respect of this project thus far. We anticipate that a claim will be forthcoming this year.

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4. **Fingal County Council Project:** Swords Castle Cultural and Civic Quarter under investment priority 6(e) of the ERDF Regulation (EU) 1301/2013 – Total Investment of €3,000,000.00 (**€1,500,000.00 ERDF**).

The Council in making its application, proposed three key elements of the Swords Castle development. The first of these include works to up-grade Swords Castle as an all year-round venue capable of hosting planned events which will be more accessible as both a heritage tourist attraction and public amenity.

Secondly, derelict buildings on North Street which partially block access around the Castle will be redeveloped to provide public facilities including interpretation of the cultural significance of the Castle area, tourism information and a pedestrianised heritage route along the East wall of the Castle.

Thirdly, a public realm strategy will be developed and implemented in front of the Swords Castle at the junction of Main Street and North Street.

The projects will be completed within the 3-year programme of the scheme with a combined cost estimate of €3million.

An expenditure claim of €1.7m (approx) (€ 850,000 ERDF) is currently on hand with the Managing Authority with an Art 125 verification check to be arranged. This will then be included in an aggregate Declaration by the MA. It is anticipated that the remaining expenditure will be declared later this year,

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