



'Learning Cities' Memorandum of Understanding

between

Cork City, Limerick City and County, Belfast City, Dublin City and Derry City & Strabane Region

with a shared dedication to strengthening friendly relations and enhancing cooperation between the peoples of the cities and city regions, have agreed to carry out Learning City exchanges focused on the principles of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.

AREAS OF EXCHANGE

By way of this Memorandum of Understanding, the undersigned agree that it is of mutual benefit to promote collaboration between Cork, Limerick, Belfast, Dublin and Derry & Strabane in the area of lifelong learning.

Through the cities' and city regions' participation in the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities and through involvement in related activities, Cork City, Limerick City and County, Belfast City, Dublin City and Derry City & Strabane Region are committed to sharing best practices on matters of lifelong and life-wide learning.

Through this Memorandum of Understanding, each of the cities /city regions commits to support the Irish Network of Learning Cities for sharing support, inspiration, know-how and best practice. Each city /city region commits to the implementation of UNESCO Learning City policies as defined in the Beijing Declaration on Learning Cities, the Mexico Statement on Building Sustainable Learning Cities, the Key Features of Learning Cities - to effectively mobilize resources in every sector to promote:

- Inclusive learning from basic to higher education
- Revitalize learning in families and communities
- Facilitate learning for and in the workplace
- Extend the use of modern learning technologies
- Enhance quality and excellence in learning
- Foster a culture of learning throughout life

And in the Cork Call to Action on Learning Cities - to implement lifelong learning strategies pertaining to the personal, social, civic, environmental and economic dimensions of the SDGs that promote:
·Equitable and inclusive learning and living environments ·Green and Healthy learning and living environments ·Opportunities for decent work and entrepreneurship

In identifying and carrying out exchanges in these areas, the cities and city/regions aim to enhance:

- Individual Empowerment
- Social Inclusion
- Economic and Cultural Prosperity
- Health and Wellbeing
- Sustainable Development

with an approach based upon using learning as a tool to tackle inequalities and to strengthen communities as the active foundation of a learning society.

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Each of the partners agree that the necessary expenses for mutual visits and exchanges of official projects under this Memorandum of Understanding will be decided through separate discussions between organisations concerning the areas of exchange and based on the differing conditions in the cities /city regions.

If any side encounters financial difficulties in the course of carrying out an individual project, a suitable adjustment or postponement of the project will be decided upon by consultation between the cities.

ENTRY INTO EFFECT

The Agreement will enter into effect on the day of signature and remains in effect for five years. The Agreement may be extended for a successive five years with the written consent of all parties hereto. The Agreement may be amended or terminated at any time with the written consent of all parties hereto.

Done in multiple on this day 18th May 2022, each text being equally authentic.

**For the City of
CORK**

**For the City and County of
LIMERICK**

**For the City of
BELFAST**

**For the City of
DUBLIN**

**For the City of
DERRY & STRABANE REGION**

**Deputy Lord Mayor
Councillor Tony Fitzgerald**

**Deputy Mayor
Councillor Tom Ruddle**

**Lord Mayor
Councillor Michael Long**

**Lord Mayor
Alison Gilliland**

**Mayor
Alderman Graham Warke**