

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE
12th November 2019

Item 10

Motion in the name of Councillor Mary Fitzpatrick

That the Central Area Committee acknowledge the efforts of City Council and private developers to try develop Parnell Square but recognising the lack of funding forthcoming from private funders we call on the Government to provide funding to commence the vital redevelopment of Parnell Square and creation of a new cultural city quarter.

Report

The Parnell Square Cultural Quarter development will make an enormous contribution to the cultural life of the city and to the redevelopment of the north inner city. Earlier this year the City Council was advised by Kennedy Wilson that the required private fundraising for the project could take over 3 years and that there was no guarantee it would be successful. On 25 July 2019, in response to this development, the Chief Executive advised Elected Members that he proposed to proceed as follows with the project:

1. the City Council would assume full responsibility for the development of the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter,
2. the feasibility of pursuing a two phased approach to delivering the overall project would be examined and
3. work would be undertaken to identify alternative funding sources.

The Phasing Feasibility Study has now been completed. Under this option, the new library building and all works to No 27 will be completed in Phase 1 together with limited works to the other Georgian buildings. Phase 2 would cover the full redevelopment of the other Georgian buildings and the completion of the public realm works. The Design Team has been instructed to complete the detailed design drawings for the Phase 1 works and to prepare tender documentation.

A detailed costing exercise is currently underway.

On 16 October 2019 the Chief Executive wrote to the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure & Reform seeking a meeting to discuss the possibility of Exchequer grant aid for the project.

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