



**Rialtas na hÉireann**  
Government of Ireland

**Meeting of Corporate Social Responsibility Stakeholder Forum  
22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018  
National Museum of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin 2**

**Minutes**

**Chair:** Catherine Heaney, DHR Communications  
Attendance and Apologies at Appendix A

**1. Welcome and Opening Comments**

The Chairperson, Ms Catherine Heaney welcomed attendees and thanked the National Museum of Ireland for the use of the Kildare Room.

Lynn Scarff, Director welcomed Forum members to the museum and encouraged all to take this opportunity to look at the various exhibitions.

The Chairperson called on Fergus Fitzgerald, ESB to update the Forum on 'Giving Tuesday'. Giving Tuesday is a relatively new concept, brought about to balance the consumerism of Black Friday/Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday is an opportunity for organisations to consider how they give back rather than take away (SDGs). Organisations and individuals can share their 'giving' stories.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The Minutes were agreed.

**Actions:**

The Minutes will be uploaded to CSRhub.ie

**3. Chairperson's Update**

The Chairperson updated the Forum on a number of points as follows;

*(1) SME Membership*

The Chairperson advised that the secretariat contacted a number of organisations including ISME, Chambers Ireland, SFA, Bord Bia, EI, LEOs and Forum members seeking SME nominations to the Forum. She was delighted to announce that there are now two additional members, Continuum and the Little Milk Company. The Chairperson welcomed the two new members. Mr Conor Mulhall, Little Milk Company was in attendance. She thanked both Enterprise Ireland and Bord Bia for the nominations.

*(2) Cavan Forum Meeting*

For those unable to attend the Forum meeting in Cavan the Chairperson recapped on the agreed Work Programme for 2018/2019.

New project teams have been established to reflect the seven work programme themes for 2018/2019 - SDGs, D&I, SMEs, Economic and Social Governance, Circular Economy, Environment and CSR in the Public Sector.

The Chairperson added that the Department has invested in this and the project teams appear to be working effectively. She asked those members not on project teams to contact the secretariat.

### *(3) Communications*

The Chairperson advised that a CSR ambassador e-pack issued to all members and asked that members use this pack when representing the Forum. All new members will receive the e-pack and additional information about the Forum. In addition, the Chairperson asked members to follow @csrhubirl and subscribe to the online newsletter.

The Chairperson advised that a 'media resource group' will be established during 2018/2019. The Group will include experts from various fields of media and they will be called on at various times throughout the year. She asked members to advise the secretariat if their business/organisation has people with media skills who are willing to assist the Forum throughout the year.

### *(4) Case Studies*

The Chairperson asked all members to submit a refreshed case study which will be published on csrhub.ie and be included in the Check 2019.

### *(5) Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation – CSR Ambassador*

The Chairperson advised the Forum that Minister Humphreys has written to Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland seeking their support for CSR with their clients and potential clients. The Minister has also written to Science Foundation Ireland.

The Chairperson added that the Minister contacted Minister Coveney, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade asking that his Department and Irish Embassies to use any opportunity to reinforce and communicate the key messages about CSR when they are promoting Ireland abroad, in particular, with the Global Footprint 2025.

#### **Actions:**

Members not on Project Teams asked to revert to the secretariat;  
 Members interested in Media Resource Group asked to revert to the secretariat;  
 Members asked to submit a case study;  
 Members asked to subscribe to Twitter and Newsletter;  
 Secretariat to contact new members with a copy of the Terms of Reference, epack and information about the Project teams.

## **4. SDGs Update**

*'Action 17 in the National Plan is 'Encourage businesses to align their CSR Strategy and activity to the Sustainable Development Goals'.*

The Chairperson said that the last SDG Stakeholder Forum meeting was held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October and all Forum members received an open invitation from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DCCA) to attend the meeting at the last Forum meeting.

The Chairperson called on Fergus Fitzgerald, SDG Project Team lead to update the Forum on the meeting.

Mr Fitzgerald advised that three members of the Forum presented at the Meeting

- Ms Deborah Dignam, Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) on CSR in Ireland;

- Mr David O’Flynn, Dawn Meats about sustainability in Dawn Meats; and
- Ms Elisha Collier O’Brien, Chambers Ireland on the links between the SDGs and Chambers Ireland.

Issues covered at the meeting included

- Appointment of SDG Champions in 2019 through the Inter Departmental Working Group;
- Communications Protocol under development;
- Development of linkages with other Fora e.g. sharing of resources (case studies) with DCCAE and CSR Stakeholder Forum; and
- Establishment of a SDG portal [www.sdg.gov.ie](http://www.sdg.gov.ie)

Mr Fitzgerald said that the first meeting of the SDG CSR Project Team will take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> January in ESB Office, East Wall, Dublin 3 and he issued an open invitation to members of the CSR Stakeholder Forum.

The Chairperson asked Mr Fitzgerald if he thought business was well represented at the SDG Forum. Mr Fitzgerald said that this meeting included all societal sectors. Mr David O’Flynn, Dawn Meats proposed that a greater input from business may be required.

The Chairperson suggested that this could a topic for the SDG CSR Project Team to review.

Ms Lorraine Corcoran, Afanite said that it was raised at a Forum meeting about linking case studies to SDGs. Mr Deborah Dignam, DBEI said that the new case study template includes a question about the SDGs e.g. 3fe.

## 5. Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and Inclusion is one of the Forum’s seven Project themes for 2018/2019. The Chairperson called on Mr Gerry Fitzpatrick, Deloitte Ireland to introduce the three presenters. The Diversity and Inclusion Project Team programmed the three presenters.

- Maria Quinlan, UCD - Photovoice - promoting the ethical use of photography for positive social change
- Deirdre Lynch, Not so Different - Inclusion of people with neuro diversity)
- Tom Tully, Bord Bia - Diversity and Inclusion Food and Drink Industry

All presentations are available on [csrhub.ie](http://csrhub.ie)

Due to the limited time Mr Fitzpatrick asked that questions could be forwarded to the team.

The Chairperson thanked all the presenters for their presentations and said that a copy of the presentations will be forwarded to the Forum.

### **Actions:**

Secretariat to upload presentations on [csrhub.ie](http://csrhub.ie) [*presentations uploaded*]

## 6. CSR in the Public Sector

The Chairperson introduced the four speakers and said that CSR in the Public Sector is important as a large employer.

The four speakers were

- Laura Mahoney, Principal Officer, in the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform - Public and Civil Service Reform Programmes. DPER has responsibility for modernising the Public Sector
- Úna Ní Dhubhghaill, Principal Officer in the Department of Justice and Equality who will speak about the Migrant Integration Strategy. *Action 11 of the National Plan – ‘Support Migration integration and Employment by Inviting the Department of Justice and Equality to present at the Forum’.*
- Deirdre Mortell, CEO, Social Innovation Fund about Fund. *Action 16 of the National Plan – ‘Support the Social Innovation Fund by inviting them to speak at the Forum’*
- Kevin Collins, Forestry Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine spoke about the newly launched Woodland Environmental Fund.

The Chairperson thanked all the presenters for their presentations and said that all of the work being carried out by the Public Sector needs to be recognised. She said that Ms Alexa Toomey, Enterprise Ireland is the Project lead of the ‘CSR in the Public Sector’ Project Team and she hopes that the team can progress this by showcasing various initiatives through case studies.

Mr Dignam, DBEI also thanked the speakers and advised the Forum that the Department is currently establishing a New Ways of Working team.

**Actions:**

Secretariat to upload presentations on [csrhub.ie](http://csrhub.ie)

## 7. AOB & Date of Next Meeting

### 1. Employer Disability Information Service

Mr Neil McDonnell, ISME advised the Forum that as ISME have not received confirmation from the Department of Justice and Equality about funding for the Employer Disability Information programme that this service will no longer continue.

The Chairperson said that Ms Seonaid O’Murchadha, HR & Disability Project Manager, EDI was a dynamic Forum member and wished her well in her future endeavours.

### 2. CEO/Leaders Breakfast Meeting June 2019 and CSR Check 2019

The Chairperson asked Forum members to reflect on the work of the Forum as the Department will be contacting Forum members and Project leads about starting preparations of the CEO/Leaders Breakfast Meeting and the CSR check 2019 early in the new year.

### 3. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the CSR Stakeholder Forum is scheduled for **Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March.**

## APPENDIX A

### Attendance:

Chairperson: Catherine Heaney, DHR Communications

### Members

Organisation	Attendee
Afanite	Lorraine Corcoran
BITCI	Elaine Stephen (on behalf of Bernadette Phelan)
Bord Bia	Anna Ryan (on behalf of Andrew Mullins)
Business to Arts	Andrew Hetherington
Chambers Ireland	Elisha Collier O'Brien
Danone	Claire MacEvilly
Dawn Meats	David O'Flynn
Deloitte Ireland	Gerry Fitzpatrick
Department of Communications, Climate Action, the Environment (DCCA)	Joe Gallagher
Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection (DEASP)	Kathryn McGinn
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Rory Geraghty
Department of Health	Biddy O'Neill
Department of Justice & Equality	Úna Ní Dhubhghaill
Department of Rural and Community Development	Deirdre Kearney
Enterprise Ireland	Alexa Toomey
Ernst & Young	Lorraine McCann
ESB	Fergal Fitzgerald
Grant Thornton	Alexandra Kintner
IBM	Deirdre Kennedy
ICTU	David Joyce
IDA	Tim Costello (on behalf of Breda O'Sullivan)
ISME	Neil McDonnell
Kemmy Business School UL	Dr Briga Hynes
LEO – Head of Enterprise Network	Oisín Geoghegan
Northside Partnership	Paul Rogers
Science Foundation Ireland	Cathy Foley
Transdev	Claire Egan (on behalf of Neil Menzies)
The Little Milk Company	Conor Mulhall
Ulster Bank	Suzanne Johnston
Vodafone	Natalie Hodgess

### Members Apologies:

Abbott	Daragh Fallon
Continuum	Colin Meagle
DBEI	Céline McHugh
Department of An Taoiseach	Mary Clare O'Sullivan
Green Business	James Hogan
Hotel Doolin	Aine Martin
KPMG	Karina Howley
LIDL	Deirdre Ryan

**Presenters:**

UCD	Maria Quinlan
Not so Different	Deirdre Lynch
Bord Bia	Tom Tully
Department of Public Expenditure & Reform	Laura Mahoney
Social Innovation Fund (SIF)	Deirdre Mortell
Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine (D/AF&M)	Kevin Collins

**Guests**

DCCAIE	Ashton Caffrey
DEASP	Evelyn Langan
DHR Communications	Louise Archbold
NTMA	P J Corkery
SIF	Anne Dermody
DAFM	Karl Goggins

**Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation**

Deborah Dignam	Helen Keane MacDonough
Kieren Mee	Deborah Quinn
Sandra Mullen	