



<b>Subject:</b>	Request for use of City Hall grounds for sleepout to raise awareness of homelessness.
<b>Date:</b>	22 September 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider requests from Price Waterhouse Coopers for the use of City Hall grounds
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• consider the request to use City Hall grounds on 20th October 2023</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<u>Background Information</u> Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee, and the requests set out below falls into this category.

Key Issues

3.2 Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) have approached the Council to seek permission for up to 100 PWC staff to sleep out in the grounds of City Hall on Friday 20th October 2023.

The Proposed event

3.3 A similar event took place in June 2014 to raise awareness of homelessness in the city centre, on this occasion participants sleep outside City Hall grounds along the cobbled area and footpaths.

3.4 This proposed sleep would take place along the West façade of City Hall, with participants sleeping overnight on the pathways, ensuring a safe distance from the intruder alarms situated along façade. Their preference is concrete rather than the grass lawns. City Hall building and grounds will be closed to the public as normal at this time.

3.5 The only Infrastructure onsite is portaloos, no catering provision is planned, and participants will bring their own sleeping materials. A wet weather alternative is not available inside City Hall.

3.6 PWC staff will fundraise in advance of this event and monies raised will be donated to charities helping with homelessness. PWC will provide all stewarding/marshalling staff & have first aiders present. PWC will risk assess the event and participants should complete medical checks in advance. PWC would have to comply with the usual conditions including indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan and insurance.

Point for consideration:

3.7 Committee are asked to note the city centre is very busy on Friday evenings and therefore there may be a requirement for the organised to pay for additional security depending upon the event management plan and risk assessment.

Financial & Resource Implications

3.8 There would be no costs for the council as the various organisers would bear any/all stewarding and equipment costs etc themselves. The normal event support in the form of electrical and water provision in the grounds is not required for this event.

There are no concerns from an asset management point of view, although the organisers would be required to provide the usual insurances, indemnities, and obligations.

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.9	There are no direct good relations or rural needs implications arising from this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None



**POETRY JUKEBOX**  
**Changing the Message!**

Push the button and listen  
to a poet read their poem

- Richard Longley
- Joan Newman
- Colin Deegan
- Eavan Boland
- Paul Keenan
- Stephen Sexton
- Paula Meehan
- Paula Meehan
- Katie Donovan
- Robert Flack
- Mary Montague
- Adrian Fox read by Matthew Rice
- David Brazier
- Olive Broderick
- Alic McGlinchey

The Poetry Jukebox has been commissioned and funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. It is a public art project to belong to everyone. The project was created by the poet and cultural project manager, Paula Meehan, in partnership with the artist, Michael Heacock. The project was funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The project was created by the poet and cultural project manager, Paula Meehan, in partnership with the artist, Michael Heacock. The project was funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.