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## EDITOR'S COMMENT

Dublin voters are being asked if they agree to having a Directly-Elected Mayor, or not, in a plebiscite (referendum) to be held next May, at the same time as the Local and European Elections.

Dublin's four local authorities are charged with coming up with a proposed role for a Directly-Elected Mayor and how this new position will work. That proposal will then go to the Minister at the end of December to form the basis of the plebiscite next May.

In this issue of 'Council Review', Dublin's Lord Mayor Cllr Oisín Quinn outlines the proposals for the new mayoral office. He has set up a forum and a steering group, which is comprised of members from the four local authorities, who met for the first time in July.

This was followed by a period of public consultation, including meetings, workshops, online surveys, and consultation with various stakeholders, as part of the process.

The aim, according to the Lord Mayor, is to get full public engagement on the debate, and to let them have their say on transferring certain powers from central government to a new mayor, directly elected by the people.

The forum has been looking at how the role has evolved in other countries. For example, across the water in the UK, Labour's Ken Livingstone was the first directly-elected Mayor of London in May 2000, who along with the London Assembly of 25 members, was accountable for the strategic government of Greater London. He was defeated by Conservative Boris Johnson in 2008 who has since held the position, following his re-election in 2012.

So, after many years of indecision on the issue here, this is finally a chance for Dubliners and those interested in Dublin to have their say on the kind of Directly-Elected Mayor they would like to see for the future.

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**COUNCIL REVIEW**  
JOURNAL FOR TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILS

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## 14 EURO FOCUS

## 18 FINANCE FORUM PREVIEW

'Council Review' is partner of the Infrastructure Finance Forum on 4-5 December in Dublin, which aims to provide an overview of recent developments in public private partnership projects.

## 21 CLEANTECH SUMMIT PREVIEW

'Council Review' is media partner of Cleantech Innovation and Investment Summit in Dublin on 20 and 21 November, which is targeting decision makers in the waste, water, climate, clean energy, finance and public service sectors.

## 23 LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICES

It is hoped that the transition from the City and County Enterprise Board model to the creation of Local Enterprise Offices within local authorities will be seamless.

## 26 SOUTH COUNTY DUBLIN MANAGER

Daniel McLoughlin's fundamental priority as the new manager at South Dublin County Council is to ensure the local authority works at all levels with key partners across business, community and state agencies.

## 30 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS

With entries now shortlisted for the 10th Excellence in Local Government Awards, 17 awards will be presented on 13 November by Chambers Ireland across a variety of categories,

## 31 DIRECTLY-ELECTED MAYOR

As plans for a Directly-Elected Mayor for the capital continue apace, Dubliners could get to decide on whether they want to elect their top city official as early as May 2014.

## 32 DUBLIN-BELFAST LINKS

A meeting between Dublin and Belfast's Lord Mayors has revived the prospect of the development of an economic corridor, which would have very real benefits for the cities.

## 34 COMMUNITY & COUNCIL AWARDS

Seven new community categories have been added to the LAMA Community and Council Awards 2014, to take place on 25 January, with nominations now open to the public for the very first time.

## 36 MUSIC GENERATION

Local authorities in Carlow, Limerick City and Offaly/Westmeath can now play a key partnership role in the Music Generation programme thanks to recent funding of €1.5 million.

## 41 ICSH CONFERENCE

Investing money saved from the IBRC promissory note in a major social housing construction programme could have the double benefit of creating jobs and taking people off local authority waiting lists, the ICSH National Conference heard.

## 44 INTEL LABS EUROPE

Martin Curley, vice-president of Intel Labs, discusses its instrumental role in Dublin City Council's digital innovation drive, notably through the CityWatch project.



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## 47 THE GATHERING 2013

With visitor numbers significantly up on 2012, The Gathering can be considered a massive success, which project director Jim Miley claims could not have been achieved without the support of the local authorities.

## 62 APP TECHNOLOGY

One of the latest IT trends in government at all levels is the move towards mobile apps. Richard Love, IS Project Leader with Mayo County Council, makes some best practice recommendations for local authorities as they seek to keep pace with changes online.

## 67 MARKETING LIMERICK

With just a matter of months to go until Limerick becomes Ireland's first City of Culture in 2014, the Gathering Ireland initiative is continuing to showcase the wealth and breadth of cultural activities ongoing in Limerick.

## 71 TEAGASC

The world's population is estimated to grow from the current seven billion to ten billion by 2050, so increasing food production to meet this rapid demand is a major challenge, according to Ger Shortle, Teagasc manager of the Agricultural Catchments Programme.

## 75 ARTHUR COX

Food Harvest 2020 and the second cycle of the River Basin Management Plans have set 2020-2021 as the date for reaching their respective targets. These parallel deadlines should provide a useful way to monitor the interaction of both policies.

## 77 BORD NA MÓNA

Water management is a key enabler to the sustainable development of Bord na Móna peatlands, writes Colm Ó Gógáin, Director of Strategic Infrastructure, and formerly Director of Bord na Móna Environmental and CEO of Bord na Móna Fuels Ltd.

## 81 CARLOW WATER REGULATIONS

Ray Spain, Project Co-ordinator of the South Eastern River Basin Project Office with Carlow County Council, outlines what has been done to date and what needs to be done in the future to implement the Good Agriculture Practice for the Protection of Waters Regulations.

## 83 KILKENNY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture and agri-business development should form a major part of the economic development activities of most counties and of their county councils, due to the immense economic opportunity which agri-business, agriculture and food production presents, according to Joe Crockett, County Manager, Kilkenny Local Authorities.

## 87 EPA INTEGRATED CATCHMENT

An adequate supply of good quality, safe water for drinking and sustaining ecosystems is needed to achieve Water Framework Directive objectives and Food Harvest 2020 goals, according to Donal Daly and Micheal Ó Cinnéide, EPA Office of Environmental Assessment.

## 88 BEST KEPT SMALL TOWN

Straffan's accolade as the 'Best Kept Small Town' follows its success in becoming Kildare's first gold medal winner in the National Tidy Towns Competition last year.



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