# The Moore Street Report Securing History 3

A Report of the Moore Street Advisory Group to the Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform

5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

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#### **Foreword**

Mr. Malcolm Noonan T.D. Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform

Dear Minister,

I am pleased to present this Report of the Moore Street Advisory Group (MSAG). The MSAG acknowledges the readiness of the relevant stakeholders to engage with it in a manner that has been consistently respectful and constructive.

Moore Street is one of Ireland's most famous streets. Its open-air fruit and vegetable market is Dublin's oldest food market, a landmark on the northside of the city.

It is also of huge historical importance as the location where Irish Volunteers, commanded by Patrick Pearse surrendered to British forces from a terrace of houses on Moore Street at the end of the Easter Rising.

Much of the area is the subject of a proposed planning application by Hammerson for the redevelopment of the Dublin Central site (extending from O'Connell Street to Moore Street).

The MSAG has received detailed oral and visual presentations from Hammerson, of its updated plans, together with supporting narrative and documentation.

The MSAG also wishes to acknowledge the work of the Irish Heritage Trust who engaged with it. The Trust's presentations on its key suggestions for the National Monument were very positively received.

In addition, the MSAG wishes to acknowledge the contributions of a range of organisations of their particular visions for the area.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the members of the MSAG who have contributed their time, knowledge, insight, experience and guidance to the work of the MSAG. I would also like to acknowledge the work of the secretary to the MSAG, David Farrell.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Tom Collins, Chair 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 The membership of the Group is as follows:

| Nominees  | Representing  |
|---|---|
| Tom Collins                                     | Chairperson   |
| Neasa Hourigan, TD                              | Oireachtas  |
| Senator Mary Fitzpatrick                        | Oireachtas  |
| Aengus Ó Snodaigh , TD                          | Oireachtas  |
| Bríd Smith, TD                                  | Oireachtas  |
| Cllr Eimer McCormack                            | Dublin City Council                                     |
| Cllr Donna Cooney                               | Dublin City Council                                     |
| Cllr Nial Ring                                  | Dublin City Council                                     |
| Coilín O Reilly, Executive Manager (North City) | Dublin City Council                                     |
| Tom Holbrook                                    | Moore Street Traders<br>Association                     |
| Catherine Kennedy                               | Moore Street Traders<br>Association                     |
| John Daly                                       | Save No. 16 Moore Street<br>Committee                   |
| James Connolly Heron                            | Save Moore Street Committee                             |
| Brian O'Neill                                   | 1916 Relatives Association                              |
| Catherine (Carmel) Smyth                        | 1916 Relatives Association                              |
| Nessa Foley                                     | Department of Housing, Local<br>Government and Heritage |

#### Introduction

Any plan for the future of Moore Street, must address a constellation of challenges. The reports of two previous Ministerial Advisory Groups -Securing History (2017) and Securing History 2 (2019) both drew attention to:

- The central role of the area in the Easter 1916 Rising as the battlefield through which the GPO garrison retreated and from where the Provisional Government of The Irish Republic surrendered
- Decades of urban decay, dereliction and abandonment in the locality specifically, and in the north inner city in general;
- A myriad of social problems and anti-social behaviour in the area including drug use and illicit trading;
- A street market with a long and venerable tradition in Dublin but now in protracted decline to a point where there are less than 20 active licenced stall holders;

Given this context, a confluence of initiatives now underway provides a once in a generation opportunity to address these challenges and to reconcile the sometimes competing objectives they may represent. The area is now set to be the location for a range of mutually reinforcing initiatives which together have the potential to bring about a fundamental transformation of the neighbourhood. These are:

- The announcement in March of this year by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage of an allocation in excess of €12m under the URDF for the conservation and provision of visitor facilities at the National Monument at Nos. 14- 17 Moore Street and opening it up to visitors. The Department has confirmed that additional funding to meet 100% of costs will be provided.
- The completion of a plan from the Irish Heritage Trust for the conservation of the National Monument and an associated interpretation of its role in the pre-1916 period; during the Easter Rising and in the post-1916 period;
- The publication of the Dublin City Council Market Expert Group of their vision for the development of the market;
- The adoption of a motion by Dublin City Council in favour of designating the area as an Architectural Conservation Area;
- The decision by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to locate the central city MetroLink in the area on a site on the east side of O'Connell Street and the west side of Moore Lane. TII footfall projections suggest 20,000 passengers

- per day will use this station of which 30% (approx. 6,500) will use the Moore Lane entrance, thereby traversing the quarter;
- The soon to be lodged planning application by Hammerson for the redevelopment of the Dublin Central site (extending from O'Connell Street to Moore Street).

After decades, if not indeed centuries of decay, these initiatives can, in concert, combine to deliver a unique urban regeneration exemplar within a major urban blackspot. Together with the plans for the redevelopment of Parnell Square, and the by now well advanced re-purposing of Grangegorman as Dublin's fourth university, there is now an unprecedented opportunity for the revitalisation of a section of the north inner city stretching from the Five Lamps over O'Connell Street and as far as Cabra.

It should also be noted that the Green Party has produced a vision for the wider area which has contributed to the discussions of the MSAG. In addition, Sinn Féin has presented proposals for the Dublin Central site, along with introducing the Ceathrú Chultúir 1916 Bill 2021 in the Dáil. As with all non-government bills which pass second stage, the Bill must be scrutinised, on financial, legal and policy matters before it can progress to Committee Stage. The. The relevant Oireachtas Committee has also been asked to take account of the report of the MSAG to the Minister.

The MSAG also received a submission from the Relatives of the Signatories to the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic on the future development of Moore Street and its surrounding lanes of history.

Given the challenges and the complexities of such a major undertaking for any one area, it is inevitable, if there is to be an agreed position, that compromise between stakeholders on individual components of the total picture is necessary.

In approaching this work, the MSAG, has attempted to look at each component of the regeneration proposition, individually in the first instance, but also holistically in terms of their inter-relationships. The MSAG has worked to ensure that, where compromises have been made, they have been made on the principle that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts, and that all stakeholders gain more by working together in this exciting, transformational environment.

The MSAG recognises an immediate opportunity for a state-initiated regeneration of Moore Street where the state leads in the continuing protection of the National Monument and the creation of a state sponsored 1916 Commemorative Museum, education, cultural and community facility and rejuvenation of the market.

The MSAG had active and constructive engagement with Hammerson on the evolution of their emerging proposals for developments in the Moore Street area and which will be subject to planning permission.

The MSAG notes and comments on the potential for future planning applications for major developments from Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Hammerson for major infrastructure developments.

The MSAG by engaging with all stakeholders has secured support for a consensus vision for the Moore Street area that involves all stakeholders, public and private, and urges the Minister to champion continued stakeholder consensus for all future developments.

### **Recommendations-Summary**

#### 1. Expert Group:

The DCC Expert Group on the Market has completed its work and presented its findings to the MSAG as outlined in Section 3 of this report. The MSAG is completely committed to the long term regeneration of the market on the lines proposed by the Expert Group. The MSAG calls for the establishment of a Moore Street Market Regeneration Monitoring Group to include DCC elected representatives, Oireachtas Representatives, Street Traders and DCC Management to meet and report to DCC on the implementation plan.

#### 2. The Market:

The MSAG accepts that it will not be possible for the street traders to continue to operate on Moore Street while any major redevelopment scheme is under construction. As there is no suitable alternative location to where they could move temporarily while the works are in progress, the MSAG recommends that an adequate and appropriately structured compensation package should be put in place for the traders as soon as possible.

#### 3. The National Monument:

The MSAG endorses the vision for the National Monument as presented to it by the Irish Heritage Trust and now submitted to the Minister. It welcomes the grant of €12.17m recently secured within the Urban Regeneration Development Fund for the conservation of the monument and the development of visitor facilities. It proposes that the OPW and the NMS continue the process embarked on in order to proceed with works to the National Monument so that it can be restored and made accessible to the public as soon as possible. The MSAG calls for the urgent Ministerial and Government approval of the Irish Heritage Trust proposal for restoration of the National Monument, creation of a commemorative centre and historic trails.

#### 4. Management of National Monument:

The restoration and development of the National Monument has been a key focus of 1916 relatives and campaign groups for two decades. Clearly, 1916

relatives have a deep association with the Monument, the events that took place there during 1916, in particular the last meeting of the Provisional Government, and its significance in terms of the 1916 Rising.

Acknowledging that, the MSAG recommends that the Minister ensures that provision is made for the inclusion of 1916 relatives and volunteers from the local community on any future management committee for the proposed National Monument Visitor Centre. The MSAG is conscious that decisions have yet to be made by the Minister and relevant State Authorities on the operating and management arrangements for the Visitor Centre and as a result does not make any specific proposal as to how this can be implemented. The MSAG recommends that nobody with a commercial vested interest be appointed.

The National Monument must have full title and be unencumbered in its operations according to the recommendations of the MSAG and the IHT. The MSAG's discussions have been based on the assumption that the National Monument is in State Ownership and subject to full State management.

#### 5. Hammerson Plan:

The MSAG considers that Hammerson has made further significant progress in addressing recommendations and comments from all stakeholders in relation to remembrance and commemoration of 1916 events as an intrinsic component of their plans. They have also very substantially expanded the portfolio of pre-1916 fabric and buildings that will be retained as part of their development proposals. The MSAG would like to see the results of Hammerson's survey of buildings within their site being made available for the benefit and information of the public, the Minister and DCC prior to a planning application.

#### 6. TII proposal for MetroLink Station:

The MSAG welcomes the TII proposal for a MetroLink station. It considers it important that this is expedited in a timely manner and doesn't unduly delay the rejuvenation of the Moore Street area and market. It considers that the works are undertaken in a way that does not undermine the historic fabric of the area and that enabling works are legally agreed and incorporated into any planning application.

## Addressing our Terms of Reference:

The Terms of Reference as set out by the Minister for the MSAG are as follows:

- Reflect on the Report of the Expert Group on the market and provide any comments that Dublin City Council, as market authority, should take into account
- 2. Engage with and provide feedback to Hammerson on its development proposals
- 3. Consider the report of the Irish Heritage Trust on the scope, if any, for relevant state cultural and heritage bodies to locate in the area.
- 4. Provide input at a strategic level to my Department and the OPW on a vision for the National Monument buildings and site
- 5. Review progress in implementing the recommendations in Securing History Two

This section of the report addresses each of the above.

# 1. Reflect on the Report of the Expert Group on the market and provide any comments that Dublin City Council, as market authority, should take into account

The MSAG fully endorses the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Market with regard to the long term regeneration of the market. The street traders are in principle supportive of the redevelopment of Moore Street. Increased footfall will increase business opportunities, improve security and generally enhance the ambience of the market.

The MSAG, however, shares the traders' conviction that, in the short term, the onstreet market cannot function as part of a large construction site and that it will not be possible for traders to continue to operate with the disruption which protracted construction works in their immediate vicinity will inevitably represent. Working conditions on the street, already seriously compromised by security concerns and anti-social behaviour, will be further damaged by construction traffic, noise and dust. Health and safety concerns for traders and customers will need to be addressed, as will any concerns that may arise regarding food safety. The MSAG, therefore, accepts that street trading on Moore Street is likely to have to cease for the duration of the construction works

Consultation with the traders and DCC suggests that no suitable, mutually agreeable relocation site is available to the traders while acknowledging that construction may impact on all businesses in the area.

Given this set of circumstances the MSAG supports the establishment of a compensation fund for the street traders.

Currently there are 17 licence holders trading on the street. It is recommended that a process commences immediately involving these traders and the developers. The scale of any such fund will need to be agreed between the traders and the developers. Similarly the modalities of payment and the terms and conditions of payments will need to be agreed between the parties. The MSAG recommends that the preferred arrangement would consist of a once-off ex-gratia payment to each of the 17 licenced holders.

# 2. Engage with and provide feedback to Hammerson on its development proposals

The MSAG has received detailed presentations from Hammerson of its updated plans. Those members of this MSAG who were previously members of its precursor had also received a number of presentations from Hammerson as their vision evolved and had a number of opportunities to provide feedback to Hammerson in the course of their deliberations over the past three years. The July 2019 Report of the Second MSAG – *Securing History 2* - captures the agreed response of that Group as then current. It is the case, therefore, that in one guise or another the MSAGs have been in dialogue with Hammerson on their plans from as far back as 2017.

Finally, the MSAG was mindful that it is in no sense substituting for the rigours of the planning process or for the statutory powers of the relevant planning authorities, to which this Plan and the TII's Metrolink proposals must be submitted for determination. The input of the MSAG is one of providing a forum for key stakeholders in the area, particularly traders and relatives of the Easter 1916 combatants, to help to steer the direction of travel of Hammerson as they bring their proposals to planning application stage.

In considering the Hammerson plan, the MSAG used the following criteria:

- Vision for the area
- 1916 Heritage
- Recognition of architectural significance and aesthetic appeal
- Mix of uses
- Contribution to Economic and Social Regeneration of the area
- Plans for particular buildings and the terrace

#### Vision for the area:

The second MSAG took the view that the Hammerson plan represented a 'step-change' on the previous developer's proposals. Critically, in the view of the MSAG, the Hammerson plan had moved away from the indoor shopping centre proposal previously envisaged and was greatly more aware and cognisant of the historical significance of the area.

There is a broad welcome among the present MSAG for how the plan has evolved in the meantime, although there is not universal support for all aspects of it. Most of the MSAG feel that the proposal as it now stands preserves the urban heritage whilst simultaneously attempting to consider the need for modernisation in a culturally and historically sensitive manner. They are optimistic that the plan presented by Hammerson can be developed in a way that allows the full story of the area to be told, particularly if some of the suggestions made in this report are taken on board. Alternatively, there are members who feel that the heritage considerations in the plan are a gesture toward history but do not go far enough. The differences within the MSAG seem to pivot on the question of how the historical significance of Moore Street can be best captured in the future.

#### 1916 Heritage

All in the MSAG are agreed on the significance of the quarter to the events of Easter 1916 and the location of the last headquarters of the Provisional Government. Most members believe that the plans for the national monument, and the other historical resonances built into the Hammerson plan, adequately, properly and respectfully acknowledge the role of the area during the 1916 Rising. A minority of the MSAG feel that further State intervention is required to bring about adequate recognition of its historical and cultural significance.

#### <u>Positive aspects</u> of the proposal that are recognised by the MSAG include:

 The investigations conducted by Hammerson which have already confirmed the findings of the Dooley Hall report, conducted for the second MSAG concerning the pre-1916 provenance of the party wall between No's 12 and 13, the front façade of No's 20 and 21 and the post-1916 provenance of No's. 18 and 19.

- The appointment by Hammerson of a suitably qualified and prestigious architectural and heritage team which involves a number of globally acclaimed architectural firms, both Irish and international.
- The commitment to preserve a greatly expanded range of the pre-1916 fabric.
- The input of the relatives into naming EW Street, the memorial Square.
- The commitment to use of the Square for cultural events.
- The re-building of the terrace, with an archway at Nos. 18 and 19, including the restoration of post-1916 facades, in harmony with the National Monument (No's 14-17).
- The commitment to delineate on the pavement the historical footprints of buildings allowing visitors to stand in the location where the rebels gathered in 1916 to discuss their surrender.
- The creation of a history trail in the area and the possibility that this will be linked into a city wide trail of 1916 Rising locations.

#### MSAG discussions included:

- The E/W route at No's 18 and 19 is supported by most members on the basis
  of the improved access it will provide to the National Monument and how
  increased footfall on Moore St. will benefit traders and other businesses.
  However, some members feel that the breakthrough fundamentally changes
  the historical context of the site, albeit the evidence establishes that No 18 was
  derelict and No 19 was waste ground in 1916.
- History Trail the need for consultation with relative Groups on the history trail with the use of appropriate information/story boards and the possible cultural use of the reimagined White House.
- The proposal for a public square at the site of the yard where the Garrison gathered before surrender, although a minority does not support the selected location. Most members are satisfied that the proposal tells the story by delineating the plot lines in paving.

#### Recognition of architectural significance and aesthetic appeal

Those who are largely in favour of the current proposal point to:

- The appointment by Hammerson of the suitably qualified prestigious architectural and heritage team (referred to above).
- Retention of historic cobbled lane surface together with the general retention of laneways and lines of sight

#### MSAG discussion points:

• Those with reservations point to the current design proposals for the White House, O'Brien's Stables and the Bottling Stores.

#### Mix of uses

The MSAG welcomes:

- The commitment to use of the Square for cultural events
- Additional housing in particular, housing above shops
- Reduced commercial space in favour of residential and hospitality amenities which will help bring civic life back to the street.

The MSAG also recommends that shop uses should reflect those of the period or embrace the historical cultural tourism sector being attracted to the area in the future - cafes, bookstores, bakeries, butchers, and crafts.

### Contribution to Economic and Social Regeneration of the area

The MSAG is very conscious of the dereliction and neglect of the Street and it is accepted that action is required to redevelop the area. Anti-Social behaviour on the street is also a serious and ongoing problem.

While most are confident that the Hammerson proposals represent the best opportunity currently available to turn the situation around, others feel the State should have a greater role in redevelopment of the area. The Sinn Fein Bill, referred to above, envisages a much higher level of state involvement in the redevelopment than is the case with the plans being reviewed here.

In terms of employment, Hammerson asserts that the development could deliver:

- €450m capital investment into Dublin 1 (excluding MetroLink);
- Up to 8,600 job opportunities to be created (on-site, locally and within the supply chain);
- 50 skilled apprenticeships;
- €8m per annum in business rates;
- An estimated 2,200 office employees;
- An estimated 366 full-time retail employees.

The TII project team presented an overview of the metro north to the MSAG outlining the history of the project, timescales and their memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Hammerson for construction of the Metrolink Station. The MSAG notes the high degree of convergence between both plans and recognises the advantages inherent in their simultaneous realisation. The MSAG recognises the significant contribution the MetroLink project could make to reinvigorating and rejuvenating the commercial, social and cultural life of this area and the unique opportunity it presents to not only reverse decades of neglect but to bring visitors to the National Monument and the history trail, bringing the story of 1916 to a wider audience.

#### Plans for particular buildings and the terrace

#### • The Archway:

Hammerson has proposed the creation of the archway in the space currently occupied by No's 18 and 19 Moore Street as a direct response to their engagement with the MSAG. Some MSAG members welcome the principle of an archway, albeit not necessarily the Hammerson design, as an alternative to a complete break in the terrace and the access it would afford in terms of increased footfall to both the market and the National Monument. Others oppose any alteration of the streetscape or the demolition of buildings. Alternative suggestions to the Hammerson design for the archway are to incorporate housing for the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women Irish Defence Forces (O.N.E.) at first floor level over a ground floor

archway or to create an archway of similar scale to carriageway entrances existing in Georgian and Victorian architecture in Dublin.

The MSAG recognises that any alteration to No's 18 and 19 Moore Street will require Ministerial consent due to their proximity to the National Monument. The Dooley Hall Report commissioned by the second MSAG states that No's 18 and No 19 were derelict or in ruins in 1916 - indeed for some years prior to 1916. This Report goes on to draw a clear demarcation between the brickwork on No 18 and No 17 - a point equally supported by the Hammerson forensic analysis which, as reported by Hammerson, establishes that the façades of No's 18 and 19 are post-1916.

Hammerson sought input from the MSAG on naming the archway. Suggestions were made including that naming could be something the public could be consulted about. Plaques and storyboards could commemorate both Ireland's struggle for independence and also demonstrate how the insurrection which ended in Moore Street acted as an inspiration and catalyst for many other campaigns for independence and freedom throughout the world.

Consideration could be given to providing a Roll of Honour for the GPO Battalion on one side of the Arch and the Proclamation on the other side. This would have to be looked at in the context of what might form part of the future National Monument public offering.

# • O'Brien's Stables, No. 10 Moore Street, O'Brien's Bottling Stores and No. 10 Henry Place:

As with other aspects of the Hammerson proposals, there are those who welcome the retention and restoration of the fabric of these buildings and feel that the work proposed will enhance their profile and highlight their historical significance. Others are of the view that the Minister consider according National Monument status and are opposed to the works proposed to No. 10 Henry Place, The O' Brien's Mineral Water Works Building and the Bottling Stores.

No. 10 Moore St is of particular importance as it was at this location that the rebels entered the terrace to take shelter from the British bullets raining down Moore Street and Moore Lane. The commitment by Hammerson to retain No.

10, and the exposure of the entry break point, will add significantly to people's understanding of the property.

While it is noted and welcomed that the envelope of the bottling stores on the west side of Moore Lane is to be retained, concern was expressed regarding the removal of the bottling stores opposite and its replacement with an open space.

#### • Party Wall No's 12/13:

The Dooley Hall Report and Rudden Report (2014) drew attention to the likely 18th century provenance of the party wall between No's 12 and No 13. Hammerson has now indeed confirmed this and uncovered a creep hole in this wall used by the Volunteers. There is consensus among the MSAG that there should be public access to the creep hole. Hammerson's commitment to having No's 12 and 13 as public access amenities in their planning application is welcomed. However, some members would prefer see the buildings being incorporated into the National Monument to enhance visitor facilities for No's 14-17.

## • Main Square and plot lines and creation of a statue or piece of public art to commemorate historical events:

It is accepted that the creation of squares will interfere with the lines of traditional laneways. However, it also felt that there is merit in their design and availability in that they open up the wider battlefield area to the public in general and to public art in particular. They are also welcomed in that they will increase footfall to the area; enhance access to history; provide a place for visitors to take time out and enjoy the location; provide a space for public performance and enhanced safety for visitors. Support for the square is based on the view that it offers the opportunity for visitors to stand in the footsteps of the rebels through the delineation of curtilage/building footprints. It was felt that consideration must be given to the interaction of this space with the National Monument adjacent to it and any future Cultural Centre. They should operate to complement and enhance each other and the visitor experience.

The MSAG believes that any public artwork should be reflective of the emergence of Ireland as a sovereign state. It could, perhaps be undertaken by way of public suggestions and a consequent public design competition. The 1916 Relatives Association would be happy to assist in assessing such a

competition. One suggestion is for a revolving installation which might attract very positive attention/support.

#### • Historic Trail and ideas on design and type of materials:

The trail should be historically accurate and be linked to the National Monument and other relevant locations in the city. It is important that the trail and the National Monument enhance each other by identifying important locations within the area of significance. These can be done by way of story boards, trail markings, interactive media, etc. It was noted that there is a huge amount of evidence available via witness statements etc.

3. Consider the report of the Irish Heritage Trust on the scope, if any, for relevant state cultural and heritage bodies to locate in the area.

The Irish Heritage Trust (IHT) has engaged with the MSAG and its members on its suggestions on how to create a vision for the National Monument to complement the iconic status of Moore St with respect to both its 1916 and market trading history. The IHT has presented the MSAG with the details of its forthcoming report to the Minister which includes consideration of possibilities around museum space, cultural activities and educational programmes, the main theme being the various voices of the 1916 Rising and the potential for the stories of the Rising to be told through those voices.

The IHT report recognises the importance of connecting the different 1916 landmarks and museums within Dublin to the National Monument. It recommends the development of two walking trails which would work both independently and in tandem with each another. The first trail would trace the steps of the GPO evacuation and the Irish Volunteers escape towards Moore Street – 'the Evacuation Trail'. The second would connect the key 1916 landmarks that are located throughout Dublin City Centre – 'the 1916 Commemorative Trail'.

The MSAG welcomes the IHT recommendation for the buildings to be kept as close to their 1916 condition as possible and appreciates that, due to space limitations, a museum within the National Monument buildings would destroy their integrity.

While the MSAG understands the rationale for restricting access by tours to 15-20 people with a Guide, it believes that consideration could be given to the potential for tour Group sizes, particularly school Groups, to be increased.

There was widespread welcome for the ideas put forward by the IHT around Audio Visual interpretation. A possible interpretation space to the rear and a walking trail from the GPO to the National Monument and on to the site of surrender at Parnell Street with the incorporation of plaques at various pause points along the way was also welcomed.

It should be noted that, in addition to the National Monument, the recent adoption of a motion by Dublin City Council in favour of designating the area as an Architectural Conservation Area under the Planning and Development Acts, is welcomed by all in the MSAG - in particular in so far as it presents an additional safeguard and

reassurance on the historical and architectural heritage of the area as redevelopment gets under way. Hammerson has advised that its proposals already comprehensively meet and exceed ACA requirements.

There is unanimous agreement amongst the MSAG on the high potential for educational and cultural activity in the area. The IHT report affirms this view but considers it would be premature at this stage to look at the idea of relocating more heritage/cultural bodies to the area until such time as the redevelopment of the area is more advanced. They have, however, confirmed that Hammerson would welcome discussions in relation to such proposals in the future.

# 4. Provide input at a strategic level to my Department and the OPW on a vision for the National Monument buildings and site

The MSAG welcomes the announcement by the Minister for Housing, Heritage and Local Government of funding of €12.17 million secured for restoration works and visitor facilities at 14-17 Moore Street under the Urban Redevelopment Fund. The Department has confirmed that additional funding to meet 100% of costs will be provided by the Department. The MSAG is keen to see the pace of such works accelerate so that the monument can be restored and made accessible as soon as possible.

The MSAG is strongly supportive of the proposals of the IHT in its report to the Minister. The main recommendations of the final report were presented as follows:

- secure the existing buildings in as pure and authentic a condition as possible
- develop a commemorative centre to the rear of the monument
- interpretation at the National Monument to be framed through the overarching theme of 'Voices of the Rising' and the subthemes of 'Rags'(pre-1916 development of rag trade and market), 'Rebellion' (1916 Rising) and 'Rebirth' (post 1916 rebuilding in the aftermath)
- develop a visitor experience guide-led tours, audio visual displays, preserved tunnels and restored and reconstructed rooms, Evacuation Trail and 1916 Commemorative Trail
- develop an Education and Outreach programme
- provide a small coffee dock and retail space

# 5. Summary of the MSAG's assessment of the current state of progress on each of the recommendations in Securing History2:

| Recommendation from Securing              | Progress to date                       |
|---|--|
| History 2                                 |  |
| The MSAG is of the view that there is     | This is being progressed as quickly as |
| an urgency to securing the fabric of      | possible and there is now              |
| the national monument at Nos.14 to        | confirmation of the necessary funding  |
| 17 Moore Street. The MSAG confirms        | being available.                       |
| its support for the OPW in carrying       |  |
| out this process as soon as possible      |  |
| and to the opening up of the houses       |  |
| to limited tours not later than           |  |
| summer 2021.                              |  |
| The MSAG recognises that the              | The MSAG has had constructive          |
| Hammerson plan is a significant and       | engagement with Hammerson which        |
| welcome advance on the previous           | is outlined under section 2 of this    |
| plan with potential to develop a          | report.                                |
| positive vision for the inter-related     |  |
| elements of the market, the National      | As a result, there have been           |
| Monument and the Hammerson site.          | significant additional changes and     |
| That said, significant issues remain      | improvements to the Hammerson's        |
| and the MSAG resolves to address          | proposals.                             |
| these issues in continuing dialogue       |  |
| with Hammerson.                           |  |
| The vibrancy of the site, particularly in | The Department has engaged the Irish   |
| terms of its historical and cultural      | Heritage Trust (IHT) which has         |
| character will require a significant      | presented its findings to both the     |
| footprint from the statutory and state    | Department and to the MSAG as          |
| assisted voluntary sectors in this        | outlined in Section 3 of this report.  |
| domain. Accordingly, the MSAG             |  |
| recommends that the Department of         |  |
| Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht       |  |

develops a scoping document of possible state and state supported facilities in the area. This scoping document should, inter-alia, look at extending the state footprint on the terrace through discussion with relevant parties. It is further proposed that this document be developed by the State in cooperation with the MSAG before end 2019.

There is consensus within the MSAG on the need to support the Moore Street Market as Dublin's most historic street market. The MSAG notes with approval the intention of the Hammerson plan to support the retention and development of the market and considers that a similar commitment from the licensing authority, DCC, is now required.

The MSAG recommends the appointment of an Expert Group, as a priority of Dublin City Council, to lead the urgent regeneration of the market. This Group should consist of Moore Street traders and of people in Ireland and elsewhere who have experience of other markets and who have an in-depth understanding of the quality, product range and experience which street market customers now seek.

The MSAG notes the commitment of the Office of Public Works to consult with the Traders in relation to works to the National Monument and recommends that Hammerson would

DCC has commissioned an expert report on the market, the findings of which have been presented and endorsed by the MSAG. This report body includes а of important recommendations designed to ensure the future viability of the market which Hammerson has also committed to supporting.

The Expert Group has completed its work and presented its findings to the MSAG as outlined in Section 3 of this report. The MSAG understands that Dublin City Council intends to develop an implementation plan taking into budget elements and account timescales, and would like to progress with some elements on a pilot basis. The MSAG feels it is imperative that this implementation plan established by Dublin City Council as soon as possible.

The MSAG is of the view that there is a need for further and continuing detailed discussion and a formal agreement between the traders, Dublin City Council and Hammerson also establish dedicated liaison arrangements with the Traders to ensure that their operations and welfare are fully protected throughout the construction phase of the Dublin Central development.

on measures to ensure that the trader's livelihoods are protected during construction. The traders need to receive adequate and concrete assurances in this regard.

The MSAG recommends that the Minister would request that any planning application in this case would be subject to an archaeological and architectural assessment in accordance with regulations.

The Minister is a statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Acts and will be able to provide observations on the planning application.

The MSAG requests that this report be considered by Government as soon as possible and that a clear indication would be given to the reconstituted MSAG as to the outline of future government and state engagement with the totality of the project.

Recommendation implemented.

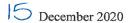
The MSAG recommends that, as envisaged in the Securing History report (page 36), the present MSAG be reconfigured with representation from the Oireachtas (5), Dublin City Council (3), representatives of all the participating Groups on the present MSAG (4) traders (2), and an independent chair. There should also be nominated representatives (either permanently or as required) of relevant Government Departments, state agencies and Dublin City Council.

The current MSAG was reconfigured as recommended.

### Appendix 1 - Terms of Reference, Ministers Letter 15/12/2020

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 8

Professor Tom Collins Chair Moore Street Advisory Group Thomascollins573@gmail.com



#### **Moore Street Advisory Group**

Dear Dr Collins,

Firstly, I would like to thank you personally again for agreeing to continue to act as Chair for the final phase of the work of the Moore Street Advisory Group. My sincere thanks also to each and every member of the Advisory Group – they have taken on an important task and are generously giving of their time to it.

When you and I spoke a few weeks back we agreed about the need for the Advisory Group to get going again as quickly as possible; happily the final membership nominations have now come in and the full list is attached. An early meeting is therefore now possible and indeed, against the background of the progress happening on other related matters mentioned below, it would be great if the process could get underway before Christmas.

With that in mind, I have drawn up the accompanying Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group which capture the key tasks to be addressed from Securing History 2 and the time that would be needed to deal with them.

In that latter context I am conscious of the progress being made in relation to the recommendations from Securing History 2 and also that Hammerson hopes to apply for planning permission early in the new year for the development area immediately around the national monument. All these actions are coming into play with a common timeline that should allow the Advisory Group to engage with them and to produce its final report within the timescale envisaged by the Terms of Reference.

Oifig an Aire Stáit don Oidhreachta agus don Athchóiriú Toghchánach Office of the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath, D01 W6X0 Custom House, Dublin, D01 W6X0 T+353 1 888 2425 | MOS@housing.gov.ie www.housing.gov.ie



I would like to look in myself at the first meeting of the reconfigured Advisory Group - albeit online - to express my thanks to the members for the work they are setting out to do and to outline the Terms of Reference and the thinking behind them. I hope you will be happy to facilitate this.

I wish the Advisory Group every success with the task ahead. One which I hope will culminate in a report that each member is happy with and that contributes to a way forward for the area to be regenerated in a manner that appropriately remembers and acknowledge its history and traditions, and that ensures a future for the Traders and others who make their living there.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Noonan, T.D.,

Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform

Please note: the Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on <a href="https://www.lobbying.ie">www.lobbying.ie</a>)

## Appendix 2 – Available Reference Documents

The Moore Street Report – Securing History

Securing History 2

Dooley Hall Report

DCC Expert Group on Market Report

Irish Heritage Trust – 'Bringing Places to Life'