

The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation intends to hold a competition for the purpose of recommending a person as

Chairperson, Design and Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCoI)

Closing Date: Friday October 28th

The Mission of the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland is to promote and stimulate the creative and commercial potential of Irish design and craft and to work in collaboration with strategic partners in the ongoing development and growth of the sector.

Department with Responsibility: Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Meeting Frequency (avg.): 8 per annum

Board Meeting Location: Dublin, plus 1 regional

Remuneration: €11,970

Travel and subsistence is payable at the appropriate rates. It should be noted that in line with the 'One Person One Salary' principle, no public servant will be entitled to receive remuneration in the form of board fees, save for situations that are statutorily provided for e.g. Worker Directors.

Term of appointment: The Chairman of the Board of DCCoI shall hold office for 3 years from the date of their appointment. The Chairman is eligible for reappointment for a further term at the end of the 3 years. Where a Chairman has served 2 terms of office he or she shall not be eligible for reappointment.

Current composition of the Board:

DCCol has 12 directors on its board; 4 directors, including the Chair, are appointed by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and the remaining 8 are elected by DCCol's 69 member organisations made up of Guilds, Associations, Networks and Societies (GANS).

Board Member Selection Note	Board Member Names
Ministerial appointee, Chair	(vacant)
Ministerial appointee	Dermott Rowan
Ministerial appointee	Pat Hughes
Ministerial appointee	Stephen Hughes
Elected member	Michael Hanley
Elected member, Acting Chair	Sonya Lennon
Elected member	Mary Palmer
Elected member	Elaine Riordan
Elected member	Martina Hamilton
Elected member	Ray Power
Elected member	Rachel Quinn
Elected member	John O'Connor

Background:

The Crafts Council of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee established under and regulated by the Companies Acts 1963-2013. The objects are set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Crafts Council of Ireland Limited. The Company is trading as the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland.

The Design & Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCol) is headquartered in Kilkenny and was established in 1971. DCCol is the main champion of the design and craft industry in Ireland, fostering its growth and commercial strength, communicating its unique identity and stimulating quality design, innovation and competitiveness. DCCol's vision is that Irish design and craft is recognised and valued worldwide for its excellence in making, innovation and marketing.

DCCol has 3,243 registered client enterprises and it provides a range of programmes and services to enable them to develop and grow. In doing this, DCCol works with many public and private strategic partners such as retailers, colleges, LEADER, Local Enterprise Offices, Tourism Ireland, OPW and others. Our industry is made up of mainly small and micro enterprises dispersed throughout Ireland and Gross Value Added (GVA) is in excess of €500M¹. The overall design sector accounts for €38bn in exports². DCCol co-owns and operates Showcase, Ireland's Creative Expo, a significant international annual trade event for the sector.

¹ *Economic Significance and Potential of the Crafts Sector in Ireland, Indecon International Economic Consultants, 2010*

² *Policy Framework For Design in Enterprise in Ireland, DJEI, 2016*

DCCol's activities are funded by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation via Enterprise Ireland. It agrees its three-year strategic priorities with Enterprise Ireland and the Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation and has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Enterprise Ireland.

Irish Design 2015 (ID2015)

ID2015 was convened by the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCol), in collaboration with partner organisations, on behalf of the Department, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Enterprise Ireland.

The idea of designating a year to celebrating and promoting Irish design emerged from the Global Irish Economic Forum in 2013. The Government backed this proposal, supporting a comprehensive programme of national and international events and activities throughout 2015. The aim of Irish Design 2015 (ID2015) was to bring visibility to Ireland's dynamic design businesses, supporting them in trading in competitive foreign markets and ultimately creating jobs at home.

The comprehensive programme of events and activities for ID2015 played an instrumental role in positioning design at the heart of our creative economy and in growing Ireland's reputation abroad as a home for innovative design products and services. The reaction to the work of Irish designers at key international design weeks, architectural biennales and fashion weeks highlighted the success of ID2015 in promoting the breadth of Ireland's design talent on the world stage. Generating over €55 million in direct economic return to the Irish economy from a €5 million investment, including export sales generation of €25 million.

In closing out the ID2015 programme, the outcome of a research study into design in Ireland was announced. This was commissioned as part of the initiative and led by the Department in collaboration with ID2015/DCCol, Enterprise Ireland, Science Foundation Ireland and IDA Ireland. The study - Policy Framework for Design in Enterprise in Ireland - showed that:

- The Design sector accounts for €38bn in exports or 20% of total exports
- 48,000 people or 2.5% of the workforce are employed in design roles in Ireland
- Between 80% and 90% of firms cite the importance of design to innovation, customer service and profit
- Ireland's design-sector exports are higher relative to the UK.

For further information see [Policy Framework for Design in Enterprise in Ireland](#).

The Government's commitment to pursuing concrete actions on design is reflected in the [Action Plan for Jobs 2016](#). A number of design-focused actions will maintain the momentum created by the year of Irish Design and build on the legacy of ID2015.

Role of Chairperson:

- Lead the board in its strategic development of the DCCoI.
- Lead the development of the board.
- Convene and preside at regular and Annual Board meetings.
- Keep abreast of progress of implementation of the Annual operating strategy and Budget.
- Act as liaison and spokesperson for the Board, with the DJEI, the press and other media in co-ordination with the CEO.
- Represent the DCCoI at various functions.
- Work and collaborate with executive staff to ensure a good two-way flow of information between the Board and the executive management at all times.
- Have a clear vision on sustaining and developing growth in the sector.
- Ensure that the performance of individuals and of the Board as a whole and its committees are evaluated at least once a year and encourage active engagement by all the members of the Board.
- Ensure that minutes and records are completed and distributed among board members by the Secretary and, following review, are distributed in a timely manner.

Key Competencies:

The Chair is a key position and requires certain competencies both to promote the business development of the craft sector as a creator of local and regional employment and also to build on ID2015 and to promote the development of the design sector and the utilisation of design in Irish businesses as a source of differentiation, innovation and competitiveness.

Essential

- Experience and knowledge of Irish and international business development with good commercial acumen
- Executive/Managerial/Professional Experience
- Experience of business strategy development
- Strong leadership, communications and networking skills
- Experience of Board Membership with a sound knowledge of corporate governance and compliance

Desirable

- Understanding and appreciation of the craft sector
- Understanding and appreciation of the role of design in business development and innovation
- Appreciation of the potential of the design and craft sectors, including the role of the third-level sector
- Relevant sectoral / stakeholder expertise
- Ecommerce experience
- Ability to work with other enterprise and educational agencies in the development of the craft and design sectors in Ireland for the benefit of enterprise.

General qualities of a good Chairman:

- Provide strategic direction with the ability to develop the DCCoI strategy with full board contribution.
- Maintain open and transparent communication with the CEO.
- Be impartial and objective.
- Be prepared to work openly and honestly with other board members.
- Be experienced in dealing with the public, dignitaries and the media.

How to Apply:

Applications to be made by submitting a Curriculum Vitae and short cover letter or a personal statement which clearly specifies how your particular background and experience meets the requirements of the position as details above.

Please include the names and contact details of two people who can be contacted to provide a reference as to your suitability for the position. Referees will not be contacted without your prior consent.

Applications to be sent by email to jemma.lee@djei.ie on or before Friday October 28th.

Selection Process:

An assessment panel will:

- review applications received
- prepare a shortlist of candidates
- check references of shortlisted candidates as required
- submit a final shortlist of suitable candidates for consideration by the Minister

Confidentiality

Subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Acts, 2014, applications will be treated in strict confidence. All enquires, applications and all aspects of the proceedings are treated as strictly confidential and are not disclosed to anyone, outside those directly involved in that aspect of the process.

Certain items of information, not specific to any individual, are extracted from computer records for general statistical purposes.