



## Press Release

### How 3 Irish cities stand out in Europe tackling urban challenges

- **Dublin, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017** Local governments can now count on at least **97 Good city Practices** to learn from and adopt in their own cities. Singled out by **URBACT\***, the European programme fostering integrated urban development, these 97 selected practices meet criteria on integrated and participatory approach, on the evidence of positive change, and on the transfer potential to other cities.

**3 cities from Ireland** are proudly part of the selected URBACT Good Practice cities. These deal with unfinished housing developments, to establish pleasant places where people wish to live, work and visit ([longford](#)), an initiative that aims to promote all businesses and groups in Monaghan town, and to assist in the town's further economic development. ([Monaghan](#)), providing sheltered housing for older persons, and to provide on-site inter-generational facilities ([Naas](#)), Kildare.

Selected Good Practice Cities with the presence local elected officials will be awarded and will present their practices during the [URBACT City Festival](#) in Tallinn from 3 to 5 October 2017. This is one of the most significant urban events of the year under the Estonian presidency of the Council of the EU with more than 450 people from local governments and urban practitioners across Europe participating to discover the practices and take part in networking activities. During the Festival, the URBACT Secretariat will present a new call for city networks with the objective to transfer a number of good practices to other cities. As Adele Bucella, Head of Unit Projects and Programming in the URBACT Secretariat, puts it: "Cities can benefit from these good practices with immediate results without major investments".

Besides the URBACT City Festival, the Good Practice cities have the potential to act as advocates of change at European and international levels and contribute with their experience and knowledge to the work of the [Urban Agenda for the EU](#) and the [New Urban Agenda](#) respectively.

Registration to the URBACT City Festival is open on <http://urbactcityfestival.eu/>

More information on these and other Good Practices, as well as contact details for interviews are available on the URBACT webpage [www.urbactgoodpractices.eu](http://www.urbactgoodpractices.eu).

**\*URBACT enables cities to work together to develop** sustainable solutions to major urban challenges, through networking, sharing knowledge, and building capacities for urban practitioners. It is funded by the European Regional Development Fund and Partner and Member States of the European Union since 2002.

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