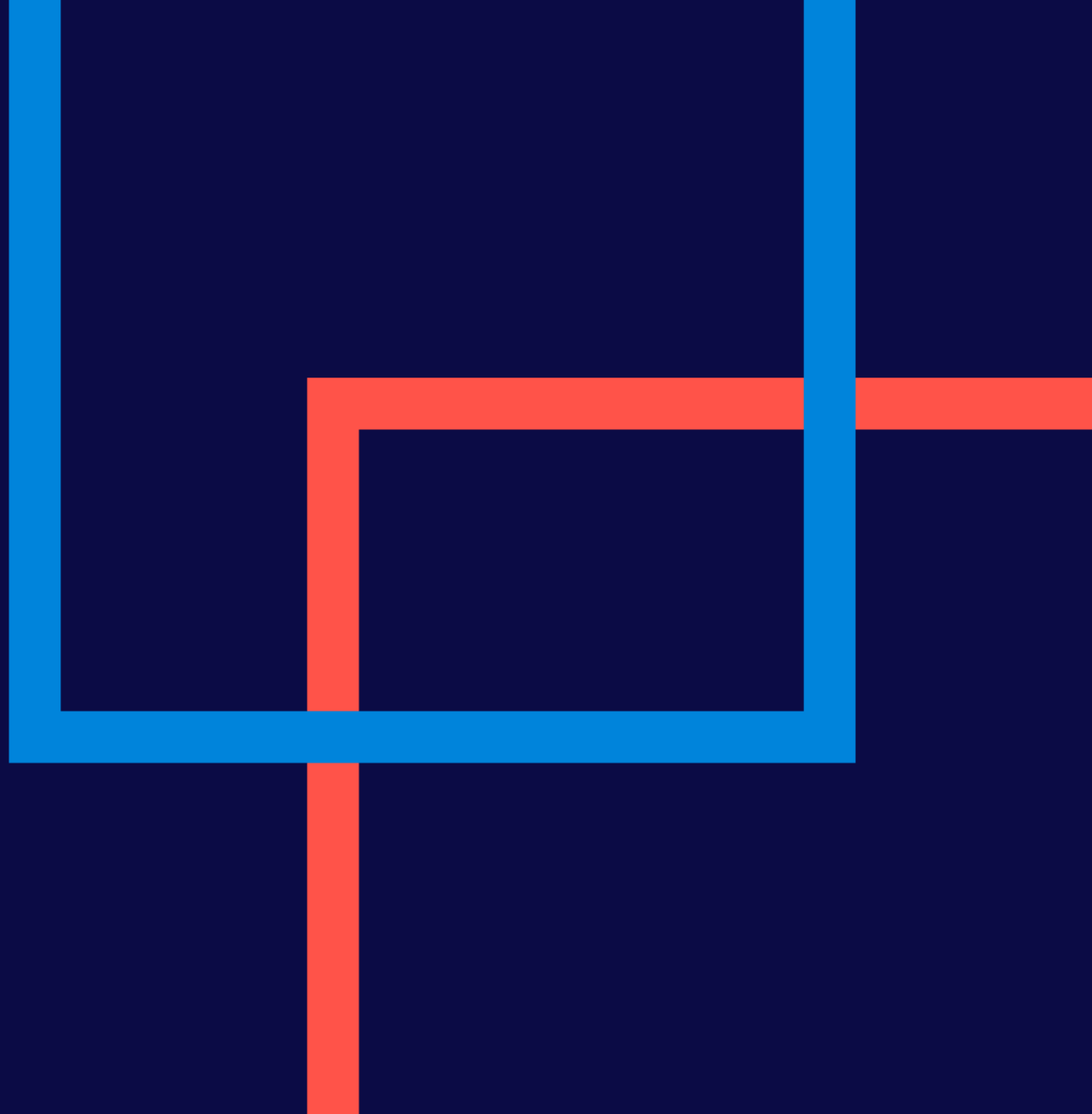


# Local & EU Agenda



# European Agenda

## Background

Dublin Chamber feeds into EU policy through Eurochambres, where Chambers Ireland CEO, Ian Talbot sits on the Board, and through our nominee on the European Economic and Social Committee, Peter Byrne.

## Current Status

We met the Permanent Representation in Brussels in November. Ireland is hosting the EU Presidency in H2 2026. Our priorities for Ireland's Presidency are summarised [here](#). We are calling on Government to advance the EU's competitiveness agenda, prioritising regulatory simplification in particular, as well as supporting energy security and affordability.

## Our Lobby

The main focus of the Chamber movement at EU level is to advocate for continued progress in the implementation of the recommendations from the Draghi and Letta reports regarding competitiveness and the Single Market and this is reflected in our lobbying at national level. Events in line with the priorities for Ireland's EU Presidency will be held throughout 2026.



# Local Authority Topics

## Background

The CEOs of all four Dublin local authorities and the Lord Mayor of Dublin sit on our policy Council.

## Current Status

Dublin Chamber sits on a number of DCC working groups, and SPCs and the DCC Coordination Committee which is tasked with the implementation of the Dublin Taskforce recommendations.

## Our Lobby

We meet with councillors and the CEOs of the four Dublin local authorities on a regular basis. Members met DCC CEO, Richard Shakespeare in September and AnnMarie Farrelly, CEO of Fingal County Council in November 2025. A meeting with DLR CEO Frank Curran will take place in June 2026.



# Directly Elected Mayor (DEM)

## Background

The Citizens Assembly on a DEM reported in 2023. Dublin Chamber made a submission and presented to the Assembly, see [here](#). Dublin Chamber also met with the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing and Local Government regarding DEM.

## Current Status

The Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing and Local Government report has been sent to Government asking that Government provide clear details on the proposal to be voted on in a plebiscite. No date for this vote has been set, and the report of the Citizens Assembly has not been actioned. The Programme for Government commits to considering a plebiscite in Dublin.

## Our Lobby

We support a strong regional leader with powers around transport, land use and planning for Dublin. This could be in the form of a DEM with appropriate powers (not like the Limerick model) or a Minister for Dublin.



# Crime

## Background

Dublin Chamber has highlighted its concern at the growing sense of menace across many parts of Dublin and in the city core in particular.

## Current Status

We argue for more Gardaí on the streets, improved lighting and street cleaning, as well as investment in the public realm to make Dublin's streets attractive to people to use and congregate safely. Budget 2026 provides funding for the training of 1,000 Gardaí in 2026 and for Garda overtime to support frontline policing.

Arising from our lobby on safety in the city, Government established a Dublin Taskforce that produced a series of recommendations to rejuvenate the city centre. While the Government committed to establishing a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to implement the Dublin City Taskforce recommendations, it has yet to become fully operational and there is no clearly defined, ring-fenced funding in place to support delivery.



# Crime

## Our Lobby

We have met several times with Department of Justice officials, including Minister Jim O'Callaghan, the Deputy Commissioner of An Garda Síochána and the Chief Executive of Dublin City Council. Minister Jim O'Callaghan addressed Chamber members in January 2026 and the Assistant Commissioner DMR addressed Council in December 2025. We support the increase in Garda numbers in Dublin. We sit on the DCC implementation group of the Taskforce recommendations. We also hold regular meetings with local government officials and An Garda Síochána, most recently Assistant Commissioner for the Dublin Metropolitan Region Clíona Richardson addressed Dublin Chamber Council in December 2025.



## More Information

- [Submissions](#)
- [Roundtable Reports](#)
- [Business Outlook Surveys](#)
- [Press Releases](#)



# Thank You

