

Motions for LAI AGM 2022

Motion 1

Following the Library Association of Ireland's (LAI) statement on the invasion of Ukraine, this meeting is horrified that the atrocities in Ukraine are ongoing. This meeting reiterates the LAI's support for our Ukrainian colleagues and offers our support and sympathy to the many users of Irish libraries from Ukraine, whose lives are affected by the ongoing conflict.

Proposer: Council

Motion 2

This meeting calls on the Irish Government, publishers and other stakeholders to recognise the challenges associated with the current dysfunctional nature of the ebooks market and to work with librarians to devise a fairer and more sustainable approach.

Proposer: Council

Motion 3

This meeting calls on Council to adopt a plan to actively promote and facilitate membership of groups and sections to members.

In the past, the application form for new and renewing members explicitly facilitated the joining of LAI groups or sections. This is no longer available, so it is difficult for members to see their options and to easily join groups or sections. It is also very challenging for committees to recruit new members and maintain a valid membership list with whom we can communicate. We respectfully ask the Council to provide clear and simple instructions for new and renewing LAI members on how to join the various groups and sections of interest to them.

Proposer: HSLG Committee

Motion 4

Ireland lags behind the rest of the developed world in terms of school library provision. While most fee-paying schools in Ireland have school libraries staffed by professional librarians, only 30 publicly funded schools have funded and professionally staffed school libraries. These 30 schools are part of the JCSP Demonstration Library Project. Set up as a research project in 11 schools in 2002, the evidenced impact of the initiative (Room for Reading Report 2005) on student engagement, retention and literacy development led to a commitment in the 2005 DEIS Action Plan to expand the Project into 50 DEIS schools by 2010, with further expansion to be considered thereafter. On 9th March 2022 the Minister for Education announced the expansion of DEIS supports to schools, which to our disappointment, still failed to deliver on the 2005 DEIS Plan to expand the JCSP Demonstration Library Project.

This meeting calls on the council to support the statement we released in response to this announcement by writing to the Minister for Education and calling on the government to immediately put in place the structures and funding needed for JCSP Demonstration Library Project expansion – as committed to in 2005.

Proposer: School Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland