

Downtown Liverpool In Business

DLIB

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“Don’t Rush Cloud Replacement” Urges Downtown

Private Sector Champion Downtown Liverpool In Business (DLiB) has called on city leaders to take their time in choosing an alternative development to replace the recently axed cloud project on the Fourth Grace site.

Following news that plans for a proposed new waterfront theatre and arts complex must be lodged within eight weeks to qualify for European monies, the Chairman of DLIB, Frank McKenna, commented:

“This is an example of where access to objective one cash can be more of a hindrance than a help. If we are not careful, we will be saddled with a second rate, rushed proposal, just in order to draw down European grant. That is not the way a decision on the future of this key strategic Liverpool site should be made.

“Finding a quick fix development without a full and transparent debate by Liverpool City Council Members, and the city’s stakeholders, including the private sector, should not be an option, given the recent debacle over the original Fourth Grace proposal. Have no lessons be learnt by the public agencies?

“We need time for reflection, and time for Liverpool to find a first class quality design, and a relevant initiative that the city can get behind – and one that is in keeping with our beautiful waterfront.

Mr. McKenna warned:

“The self imposition of unnecessary deadlines such as qualifying for EU cash, or indeed the Capital of Culture year 2008, will potentially lead to bad decisions and sub-standard development proposals.”

ENDS

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