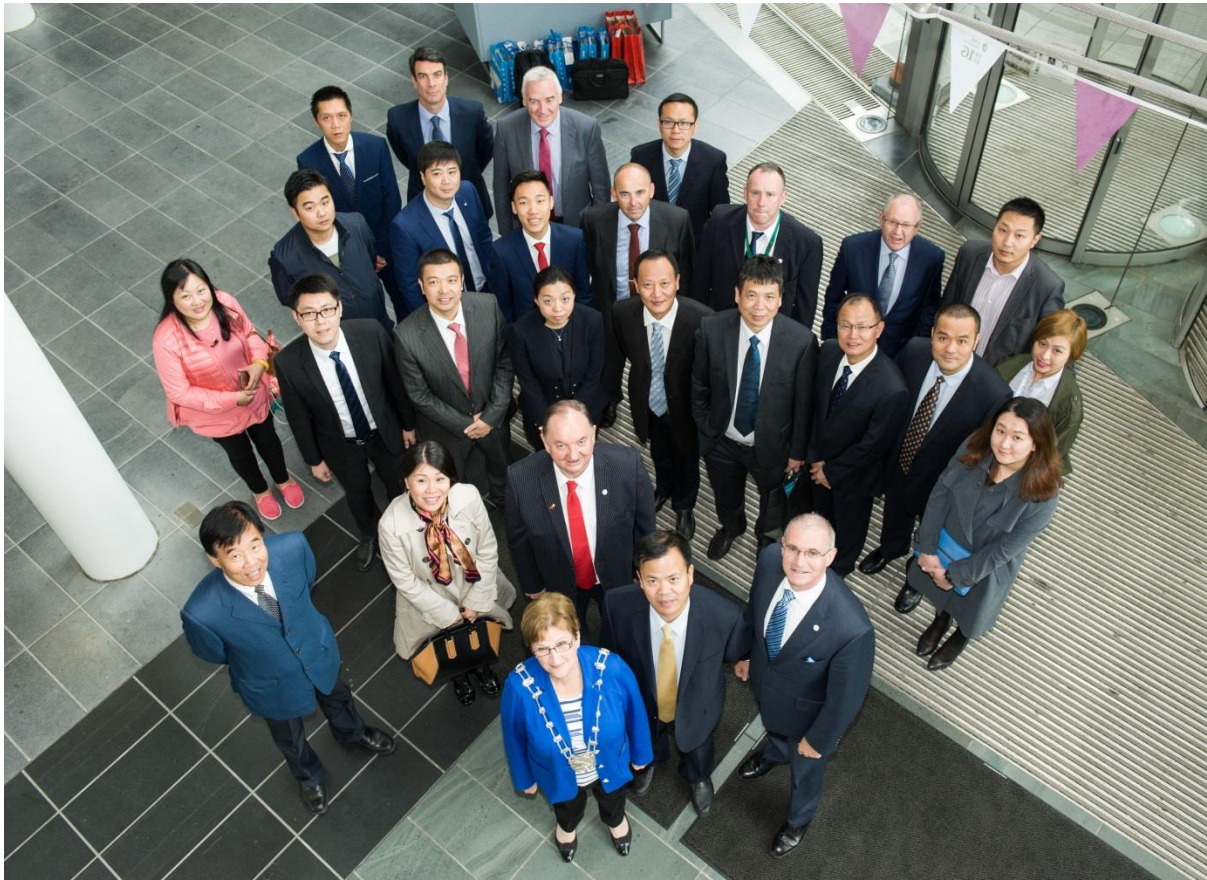


Deputy Mayor Welcomes Delegation From Fujian Province



Date: 9th August 2016

Deputy Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Eithne Loftus and Chair of the Fingal County Council's Economic Strategic Policy Committee, Cllr Kieran Dennison today welcomed a delegation from Fujian Province in South East China to County Hall, Swords.

The Chinese group, led by Deputy Director General Mr. Chen Shaohe from the Department of Commerce, were given an overview on Fingal, Ireland's fastest growing County. The delegation also received presentations on Fingal's Tourism Strategy, the Dublin Enterprise Zone and a talk in the Chapel on the conservation plans for Swords Castle.

The Chinese delegation of 15 gave the council representatives an overview on the growing Fujian Provisional economy as well as information of Fujian Intl. Exhibition Co. Ltd (FIE) and Fujian Dry Port. It emerged that they have a very

strong interest in overseas trade and already are conducting business into and from Ireland in foodstuffs, consumer electronic, commodities and leather.

Similar to Ireland their people travel extensively to live and conduct business all over the world including Europe and indeed Ireland. The Fujian Province represents some 37.7 million people with a number of major cities and towns including Quanzhou (8.1m), Fuzhou (7.1m) and Zhangzhou (4.8m) and Xiamen Shi (3.5m).

The delegation visit concluded with a visit to Malahide Village including a tour of Malahide Castle and Gardens followed by a coastal drive to Howth before they returned to Dublin City Centre.

Deputy Mayor Eithne Loftus said "This is a great opportunity for Fingal to present ourselves to this delegation from China and show the already existing levels of Commerce within the County as well as the potential for further economic development"

Cllr. Kieran Dennison stated "Fingal County Council has developed very strong links with China since 2011 and this visiting delegation only adds further to these links and gives Fingal greater opportunities for developing export networks and attracting foreign investment."

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