



**12<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Statement from the Solas Project Board of Directors announcing the successful appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO):**

Following the completion of a robust and competitive recruitment process, the Board of Directors of Solas Project are pleased to announce the successful appointment of Amy Carey as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the organisation. Amy is the current Cultivation (Programmes) Manager at Solas Project and comes to this new role with 20 years of experience working and volunteering among disadvantaged communities, including in Dublin through her extensive practical and leadership experience at the Project. In her current role, she has overseen the development and expansion of Solas Project's programmes, working as part of senior management with staff, the Board and key stakeholders to ensure the Project's continued reach and scale overall.

After four years leading Solas Project, current CEO Eddie D'Arcy will be retiring at the end of this year, formally handing over to Amy as incoming CEO on 1 December 2020.

**Alice Dawson-Lyons, Chair of the Board of Directors, said:** "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am delighted to update you on the successful appointment of Amy Carey as the new Chief Executive Officer of Solas Project. Across her academic and professional career, Amy has shown an unwavering dedication and passion for working with disadvantaged communities, as well as a particular commitment to the children and young people of Dublin. As Cultivation (Programmes) Manager at Solas Project, she championed innovative approaches that put the children and young people first and embodied the "never give up" nature that has become synonymous with Solas Project and its unique vision, mission and ethos.

"We want to take this opportunity to heartily congratulate Amy on her successful appointment to the role and we look forward to working with her as she leads on setting the strategic direction for this exciting new chapter for Solas Project.

"We also want to sincerely thank outgoing CEO Eddie D'Arcy for his steadfast commitment and tireless efforts in support of Solas Project and most importantly, the children and young people it serves over the last four years. Eddie leaves an incredible legacy across his long history in youth work and community development and has established a strong staff team as well as robust structures and systems at Solas Project. We are confident that under Amy's leadership as CEO, the team will be able to further develop these to continue the vision and mission of the organisation in effective and innovative ways. We wish Eddie every blessing and enjoyment as he enters retirement and commend him on a life-long career which contributed so much to so many."

**ENDS**