

Lord Mayor's Charity Ball raises over €170,000

The Lord Mayor of Dublin Councillor Ray McAdam is delighted to announce the Lord Mayor of Dublin's Charity Ball 2026 held on Saturday 18th April 2026, raised €170,480.58 for the three nominated charities – ChildVision, Down Syndrome Ireland and FirstLight.

The Lord Mayor's Charity Ball was sponsored by EHL Experiences and the Office of the Lord Mayor. Thanks to this sponsorship all monies raised through ticket sales and on the night went directly to the three charities.

Lord Mayor of Dublin Councillor Ray McAdam said "The Lord Mayor's Charity Ball shows what Dublin can do when we come together with generosity, purpose and heart.

I am proud that this year's Ball raised €170,480.58 for three exceptional charities: ChildVision, Down Syndrome Ireland and FirstLight. Their work supports families, changes lives and reminds us that a great city is judged not only by its ambition, but by its compassion.

That is what Celebrating Dublin is all about. A city of inclusion. A city of opportunity. A city of dignity. A city where every child, every family and every community matters.

I want to thank everyone who supported the Ball, everyone who gave so generously, and EHL Experiences for their sponsorship, which ensured that every euro raised went directly to these three remarkable charities. Together, we have shown the very best of Dublin."

Padraic O'Kane, CEO of EHL Experiences said "We are absolutely delighted to see such a phenomenal amount raised through this year's Lord Mayor's Charity Ball. As annual sponsors, EHL Experiences is privileged to support an event that makes such a meaningful difference. We are especially proud to see FirstLight, our nominated charity, benefit from the funds raised. Their work is deeply valued by the extended EHL family, and we are honoured to play a small part in supporting the vital services they provide to families throughout Ireland."

Attending the cheque handover was Lord Mayor Councillor Ray McAdam, Padraic O'Kane and Nora Murrin representing sponsors EHL Experiences, Barry Sheridan and Aisling Shanley of ChildVision, Mark Doyle from Down Syndrome Ireland and Andrew Mernagh from FirstLight.

*****Photographs will be circulated to picture desks by Fennell Photography**

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Notes to the Editor:

The Lord Mayor's Charity Ball took place on Saturday 18th April 2026. The Lord Mayor Councillor Ray McAdam chose ChildVision and Down Syndrome Ireland as his two charities and EHL Experiences who sponsored the Lord Mayor's Charity Ball chose FirstLight.

About the charities

ChildVision

ChildVision is Ireland's national education and therapy centre for children and young adults with sight loss and complex disabilities. For nearly 160 years, the organisation has evolved, innovated, and expanded to ensure every young person in its care receives the support they need to live a life of dignity, independence, and hope.

Website: www.childvision.ie

Down Syndrome Ireland

Down Syndrome Ireland (DSI) provides lifelong support and services to people with Down syndrome and their families through its national office and 25 branches. Working across health, early development, education, independence, and adult support, DSI enhances the lives of thousands of children and adults nationwide.

Website: www.downsyndrome.ie

FirstLight

Founded as the Irish Sudden Infant Death Association, FirstLight provides professional crisis intervention, counselling, and therapeutic services to families experiencing the sudden or unexpected death of a child. For 50 years, their accredited team has offered nationwide support free of charge, relying heavily on fundraising to maintain their essential work.

Website: www.firstlight.ie