



... South Dublin communities online

Our Vision — Connect sees a future where everyone in South Dublin County uses the internet as an everyday tool developing opportunities for personal, social and community development.



Paul & Christina from St Aidan's Community School Brookfield of the Connect School project promoting Connect to two interested customers.

"Time to Connect" was a fortnight of events, demonstrating, using and discussing Technology in our lives. Over 300 people attended forty-eight different events that were organised in the mornings, afternoons and evenings of each weekday across Ballyroan, Brookfield (St. Aidan's Community School), Clondalkin, Jobstown (An Cosan), Lucan, Tallaght, and in a mobile 'Computer Gym'. The programme of activities for the fortnight included workshops on Searching the Internet, The Wonders of Google Earth, Techie Toys for Christmas, Bebo Awareness for Parents, Video Games of the 1980s, Tours of South Dublin County Councils Traffic Management Centre, Guides to Photoshop, Digital Photography and Web Design, Skype Demonstrations, Website Training for Community Groups, and a Mobile Computer Gym. Along with this busy programme of activities, local groups who have developed websites on Connect Web showcased their work over the fortnight in the County Hall, including Clondalkin Citizen's Information Centre, Tallaght West Childhood Development Initiative, Swan Family Support Project, the Integration of African Children in Ireland, An Cosan, St Aidan's Community School, Brookfield, St Basils Traveller Group, and the Institute of Technology, Tallaght. The programme was launched by Mayor Eamonn Moloney on 16th November, which also presented the newly developed Connect Website at www.southdublin.ie/connect

Connect's mission is to deliver a free, easy to use service that enables local communities to use technology in innovative ways to achieve their goals and to put local content on the world wide web.

- ▶ Me ... presents an extensive range of local information using online interactive maps where people can find accurate information easily and quickly about their community.
- ▶ Web ... supports all community groups in South Dublin County to create their own internet content that will facilitate improved information management and develop new methods of collective engagement.
- ▶ Centre ... creating a network of Community Technology Centres (Connect Centres) where people can access and learn how to use technology in their own community
- ▶ School ... St. Aidan's Community School, Brookfield, is developing student centred technology in an innovative learning culture in order to improve school attendance, participation in class and educational outcomes for the students.

Are you new in your community and still finding your way around?

Then visit Connect Me at www.southdublin.ie/connect to find information on all businesses and services in South Dublin County!

Are you in a Community group and want to find better ways to get connected with your members and other groups?

Then visit Connect Web at www.southdublin.ie/connect to learn how to create and maintain a website for your group for free.

You gotta get connected!

www.southdublin.ie/connect
Email us at: connect@southdublin.ie
Talk to us at 01-414 9009

Connect, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Connect is an initiative of South Dublin County Council.

South Dublin County Council — Local Authority of the Year



The South Dublin County Council team of Mayor Eamonn Maloney, Joe Horan, Michael Keyes, Brian Brennan, Tom Doherty, Marie Morris and Mary O'Shaughnessy pose with Robin O'Sullivan, President, Chambers Ireland, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Dick Roche, T.D., and Neil Murphy, President of the South Dublin Chamber).

South Dublin County Council takes major awards at the Chambers Ireland — Excellence in Local Government Awards

Chambers Ireland has named South Dublin County Council Local Authority of the Year 2006 at its annual Excellence in Local Government Awards for its "innovative approach to economic and social development in the county using innovation and technology to ensure that challenges are overcome."

The awards were presented at a ceremony in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin on 9th November in association with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

South Dublin County Council also won awards in three specialist categories:

Social and Community Development for its Traveller Training Employment Programme - "Removing the Margins," providing new opportunities to a marginalised community and assisting participants to realise their own potential and gain employment.

Environment for its "energy efficiency project benefiting residents, the County Council and the environment."

Best Planning Service for its "efficient, transparent and inclusive planning service systems, serving the needs of individual customers and the community."

The Council also received commendations in two further categories:

Customer Service for the "affordable Housing initiative (Property Path), developing new approaches to encourage purchasers, to ensure widespread understanding of the affordable concept and to create ease of access for customers to a new housing option."

Technology for the "ANPR/ITISS (Intermodal Traveller Information System utilising Automatic Number Plate Recognition) providing much-needed traffic and travel information in a readily accessible manner to consumers."

This is the third year of Chamber Irelands awards in association with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The awards aim to acknowledge and encourage innovation and best practice among Irelands local authorities.

South Dublin County Manager Joe Horan expressed his delight at the Council taking four awards (including the overall award) and commendations for being short listed in two further categories out of a total of eleven categories. "When staff go the extra mile in providing innovative and excellent service it is vitally important that this is recognised and acknowledged. All staff are to be congratulated on their efforts which led to these prestigious awards."

Mayor of South Dublin County, Councillor Eamonn Maloney who accepted the overall award on the night was also extremely pleased at the outcome. "After four and a half months of my term of office as Mayor of the county, I am in a unique position to appreciate the tremendous work rate, dedication and innovation of both staff and members of this Council in tackling the challenges with which we are faced in the interests of the communities which we serve. I am very proud of our achievements and see these awards as important recognition of our work."

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New Swimming & Leisure Centre for South Dublin County

South Dublin County Council opens new State of the art swimming pool in Tallaght.

IN 1998, Tallaght had a population of 60,000 but only one swimming pool. It was part of a secondary school complex, it was not accessible to the general public. South Dublin County Council took the initiative and a research project to investigate the needs of the county from a water sports requirement perspective was launched.

Following recommendations of Price Waterhouse Coopers in April 2000 South Dublin County Council formally adopted the "South County Dublin Water Leisure Strategy". The aim of the strategy was to provide enhanced swimming opportunities at three main locations in the County. West Tallaght was deemed to be the most urgent and the refurbishment of the pool in Clondalkin was to follow. Funding available from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism at that time amounted to €45million and the Tallaght and Clondalkin proposals submitted were successful.

Tallaght being the first and most urgent location, a site in West Tallaght strategically located for all the residents was selected at Fortunestown Way off the Tallaght Bypass.

Work commenced in 2004 and the Tallaght Centre is now open. It has a state of the art 25 metre eight lane swimming pool with a movable floor which allows the operators adjust the dept to suit the ability and needs of the customer/class.

The facility has a poolside sauna and steam room, a changing village, a fully equipped gym on the first floor and also has a separate sauna and steam facility.

There's an express fitness suite for those in a hurry, then there's the full size basketball hall which can also accommodate badminton, football and many more indoor activities. South Dublin County Council provides



The swimming pool in the new centre.

outdoor dressing rooms for the local clubs that play on three adjoining pitches.

The final cost of construction was close to €17 million of which the Dept. of Art, Tourism and Sports contributed €3.8million. The balance was resourced by the Council.

Prices for a public swim are as follows:

A swim ranges from as little as €2 for the over 55s at selected times to €6 for adults. Prices for a child swim is €4 but special offers of just €2 are available also.

Annual Memberships for pool and gym are kept low and people from all walks of life are being encouraged to join and "commit to be fit".

The Centre also operates a comprehensive sports education training course "Sporiteic Tamhlacht" catering for 26 young people in partnership with FAS and South Dublin County Council.

A sports academy is being established which will see local children receive special coaching in a range of different sports over a three year period.

As part of the project, the centre is undertaking comprehensive longitudinal research into the effect the centre has on the lives of the local population over a five year span.

Busier times are ahead, A new pool will open in Clondalkin in June 2007 and work on design of a new pool for Lucan has just begun.



South Dublin County Councils' Customers Give Top Rating

Congratulations to the winner of our Customer Service Week Draw

The Council recently celebrated National Customer Service Week with the theme *Serving the Customer Better*

During the week the emphasis was on even higher quality service to Customers, communication and information programmes on the 400 approx. services the Council provides, encouragement to all our customers to visit our website at www.southdublin.ie which offers 24 hr service to you, and publicising initiatives that make our services more accessible to all.

During the week also the New Customer Service Action Plan, that details what our customers can expect from us, was launched and is available both on our website and also from our Customer Care Centre at County Hall.

Customer surveys were conducted and our customers overall satisfaction ratings were high. All

our services were assessed by the people who use them. As many as 59.5 % gave the Council services a maximum score of 5, 24.39 % gave us 4, 35% scored the Council at 3, 6.5% gave a rating of 2 and the remaining balance of 6.5% did not give a score.

Thanks to all our Customers who completed the survey either at our offices or online and we are pleased to congratulate the winner of the customer draw. Mr. Jason Lee from Clondalkin was the lucky winner and we hope our Shopping Voucher Prize of 200 euro will come in handy for Christmas.

Mr Lee gave South Dublin County Council a very favourable comment in relation to efficiency and information provided. The Council would like to congratulate our winner and thank all who completed the survey.



A Message from Mayor Eamonn Maloney



I consider it an honour to be elected Mayor of South Dublin County Council and thank most sincerely the Councillors who supported me.

This Council is the second largest in the country, it is also, I believe, the most progressive and active. The most valuable asset of this Council is its dedicated staff, who strive to make this county a better place to live in and a place to be proud of.

Our Council continues to assist in encouraging investment and enterprise within the county.

We endeavour to provide housing for those who are in need of housing, particularly, those who are homeless.

We strive to protect the natural environment, and cherish the rich heritage of our county.

The year 2007 will bring new challenges for the citizens of this county and for the staff, management and elected members of this Council, working in partnership we can make our county a better place.

Eamonn Maloney
Mayor South Dublin County Council



Joe Horan, Manager South Dublin County Council.

Council Members



ELECTORAL AREAS

1. Lucan
2. Clondalkin
3. Tallaght Central
4. Tallaght South
5. Terenure/Rathfarnham

MAIRE ARDAGH (FF) 168 Walkinstown Road, Dublin 12. Tel: 456 8736 (O) Tel: 490 4182 (H)	CAIT KEANE (PD) 26 Rushbrook Court, Templeogue, Dublin 6W. Tel: 450 9878 (H)	JOHN LAHART (FF) 6 Orleigh Grange, Scholarstown Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 Tel: 493 9608 (H)	STANLEY LAING (FG) 86 Templeville Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W. Tel: 490 5571	TONY McDERMOTT (GP) 31 Westfield Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12 Tel: 086-8327450	EAMONN WALSH (LAB) 133 Limekiln Green Walkinstown, Dublin 12 Mobile: 086-8169917	ALEX WHITE (LAB), Deputy Mayor 30 Fortfield Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W. Tel: 490 3889 (H) Mobile: 087 2208533

DEREK KEATING (IND) 66 Beech Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin. Tel: 087 285 7435 Tel: 628 1053 (H) Fax: 610 0716	BILL GOGOARTY (GP), 34 Cherbury Park Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin Tel: 087-6172290 (M)	GUSS O'CONNELL (IND), 47 Palmerstown Green, Palmerstown, Dublin 20. Tel: 626 8554 (H) Mobile: 087-6838254	EAMONN TUFFY (LAB) 22 Liffey Wood, Liffey Valley Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin. Mobile: 086-3863173

ROBERT DOWDS (LAB) 43 Castle Park, Clonsilla, Dublin 22. Tel: 459 4583 (H)	TREVOR GILLIGAN (FF), 112 Cappaghmore, Estate Clonsilla, Dublin 22. Mobile: 085-7145005	SHANE O'CONNOR (SF) 170 Cherrywood Park, Clonsilla, Dublin 22. Tel: 4575668 (H) Mobile: 087-2407922	THERESE RIDGE (FG) 4 St. Patrick's Avenue, Clonsilla, Dublin 22. Tel: 457 3438 (H)	GER CULLEN (PD), 5 Glabe Heights, Newcastle, Co. Dublin. Tel: 087-1339221

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MARIE CORR (LP), 35 Sundale Park, Mountain View, Jobstown, Dublin 24. Mobile: 086-7359200	JIM DALY (FF) 59 Coolamber Drive Rathcoole, Co. Dublin. Tel: 458 9782 (H) Mobile: 087-2542454	JOHN HANNON (FF) 11 Knocklyon Heights Firhouse Road, Dublin 16 Tel: 494 2045 (H) Mobile: 086-2577213	CAITRIONA JONES (LP), 26 Allenton Drive, Ballycragh, Dublin 24. Mobile: 087 2034427	CATHAL KING (SF), c/o SDCC, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24. Tel: 4149063 (O)

Buying your first Home — Talk to Property Path

BUYING your first home is a big step and is possibly a daunting task, but it can be exciting too. The Property Path, an initiative of South Dublin County Council, helps you to find and purchase your first home at an affordable price.

sort out their conveyancing and get their front door key all in one place.

Local authority tenants can also purchase their rented property at a discounted price.

www.propertypath.ie — our web-site will provide people with the chance to carry out their own research and access the services anytime they want from anywhere they are.

In addition our Property Path Office, located at County Hall in Tallaght is open Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & from 9 a.m. until 4.30 p.m. on Fridays.

If you have any questions please email us at info@propertypath.ie or call on our direct line 01 4149092.

Properties currently being sold are 20 units in the highly sought after Loftus Hall in Tallaght Town Centre and 18 units in Rathgael, Clonsilla.



Rath Gael development, Clonsilla.

This contemporary new sales office located at County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, is a modern, welcoming and helpful environment to people buying their first home. Purchasers can get their finance, select their home,

Facts & Figures

- Property Path offers homes for sale through Affordable Housing, Shared Ownership Scheme and also the sale of rented houses to tenants under the Sales Scheme.
- 90 houses sold to tenants through the sales scheme in 2006.
- Since it opened in October 2005, over 9,000 people have called to the Property Path.
- From 2003 to date the sale of 596 affordable housing units have been completed and there are a further 40 units at different stages of the process.
- 193 units have been sold under the Affordable Housing initiative in 2006 with a further 191 units launched for sale in October.
- The council maintains 8,370 rented dwellings.
- 110 disabled persons grants and 87 essential repair grants were given in 2006.
- Cushlawn, Moorfield and Quarryvale Phase 1 refurbishment programme of 326 dwellings is completed.
- A pilot programme of window replacement in Killinarden, Drumcairn, St. Marks and Kilcarrig, 670 dwellings has commenced.



OTHER ONLINE USER SERVICES

INFORMATION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

www.southdublin.ie
You can also contact us by SMS - text "counter" and your message to 086 1731707
email: cccounter@sdblincoco.ie

At South Dublin County Council, we make information available to you the citizen through our website at www.southdublin.ie

Through this portal you can access a wide range of services, from **PLANNING to VOTERS REGISTRATION**, from **BILL PAYING to JOB OPPORTUNITIES**, information on all of the most up to date **COUNCIL PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES, NEWS AND COMMUNICATIONS, WHATS ON IN YOUR AREA?** . . . as well as **ROADS, DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.**

Using technology we endeavour to reach out to citizens, businesses, community groups and organizations and our **PLANNING INFORMATION**

available **ONLINE** has been a very successful example of how this works. For the first time detailed Planning information across the county is available to you.

USE OUR SEARCH ENGINE search by location, applicant name, reg. number and or date. Site notices, location maps, plans, correspondence and decisions are there **NOW** for access by you.

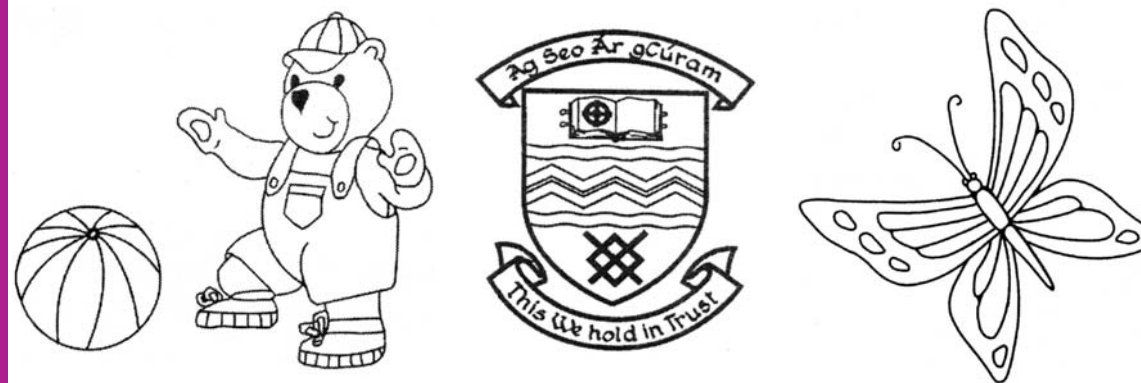
Make the most of your PC — Our service is Online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Tell us what you think of this online service . . . contact us through the Customer Care Section of our Website

CHILDRENS PAGE

Colouring Competition

Here is a chance for you to put your colouring skills to good use. All you have to do is colour in the picture below and you could win a prize. — You must be 10 years old or under to enter.



Name: _____
Address: _____
Age: _____ Phone No: _____

Completed Colouring Competition and Quiz entries to PR Unit, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24. All entries to be marked "Children's Colouring/Quiz Competition". Closing date is 31st January 2007. Great prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

QUIZ

1. What County Council won Local Authority of the Year?
2. What is the name of the Mayor of South Dublin County Council?
3. Where is our County's new Swimming Pool located?
4. What is the name of the Children's Council in South Dublin County Council?



2006 IN FOCUS



County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24.



Hallowfest celebration at County Hall. Cllr. Karen Warren with young friends.



Fused Festival Summer 06



Science Week at County Library.



Family Days in the Parks.

2006 has been a year of achievement and celebration of new infrastructural and community developments and initiatives throughout our County.

Connecting with Communities is the theme for our Council and a commitment is given to fulfilling this role and providing a support for businesses, local community groups and partner agencies.

The services provided by the Council are many and varied, they range from housing provision, initiatives



SOCIAL INCLUSION SLOGO COMPETITION

The highlight of Social Inclusion Week was the Awards Ceremony for the SLOGO Competition which was held on Wednesday 22nd November 2006. There were approximately 200 entries from all over the County.

The idea behind the competition was to raise awareness and enhance understanding of some of the issues around poverty and inequality in our society. It was to give everybody the opportunity to develop their leaning through working on an artistic symbolic interpretation of the concept of social inclusion. It was to be considered under the themes of equality, quality of life for all and access to opportunity.

Every Logo submitted was reflective of the concept behind social inclusion and demonstrated an awareness of exactly what Social Inclusion means to each and all.

The winning design will be developed and used on the Social Inclusion Unit's promotional material and will be widely recognised.

Runners Up:

- Marian Said Mohammad, Firhouse Community College
- Owen Keating, Templeogue College
- Morgan Boland, Templeogue College
- Cathal Bruton, Templeogue College
- Ethan Begley, Templeogue College
- Paul O Sullivan, Templeogue College

Third Prize:

- Brian Kearney, Templeogue College

Second Prize:

- Keith Hall, Jobstown Community College

First Prize:

- Stephanie Ojo, IACI (Integration of African Children into Ireland) pictured above with Mayor Eamonn Maloney and County Manager, Joe Horan.

The logo that won held the caption "Flowers are beautiful no matter the colour and so are people."

to help people provide their own accommodation, roads infrastructure and development, environmental protection, provision of waste collection and disposal resources, promotion of recycling and provision of recycling facilities, water supply, drainage, community, sports and parks facilities.

In addition its responsibilities involve looking to the future development of the County through forward planning, and the promotion of inward economic investment.



Civic Centre, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.



Her Excellency President Mary McAleese visits Kiltalown House in Tallaght.



At the opening of the new leisure centre in Tallaght were from left: Pat Smith, Oryanna Hynes (Centre Manager), Mayor Cllr. Eamonn Maloney, Richie Williams and Kevin Kane.



Elvis (Kevin Doyle) in concert at County Hall Ethiopia Fundraising project March 06

Our arts and education programmes, our youth and play policies, our sports and recreation strategies are areas where the Council has focussed attention throughout this year.

Our "In Focus page 2006" represents the successes of many of our projects and initiatives.

In 2006, we celebrated with our communities throughout the County and in doing so recognised our achievements in these areas.



GRANGE CASTLE BUSINESS PARK

THE two existing clients situated in Grange Castle Business Park are Wyeth and Takeda. Construction is complete on the Wyeth BioPharma Campus and commercial production has commenced. The 1.2m square feet campus will employ a total of approximately 2000 people.

Construction of Takeda Chemical Industries Ltd. facility is virtually complete. Takeda Chemical Industries Ltd is one of the top twenty pharmaceutical companies world-wide. The new Irish subsidiary, called Takeda Pharma Ireland Ltd (TPI), will be the first bulk pharmaceutical plant constructed overseas by Takeda. The Takeda Pharma Ireland Ltd development consists of 8500sq metres of buildings on a site of approximately 20 acres. This investment of €100m, has resulted in the creation of 60 high quality jobs plus additional full time contracted service positions bringing the total employment of Takeda in Ireland to over 300.

The aims and objectives of the project are to provide employment opportunities for the residents of South Dublin and to create a world class Business Park to provide choice location to multi-nationals and indigenous investors.

In addition a marketing plan for the Grange Castle Business Park lands and a leisure/residential development adjacent to the Grange Castle Golf Course has been published.

Late in 2005 pre-planning discussions started with IDA Ireland on an advance planning application for an integrated circuit manufacturing and research campus at Grange Castle. Planning Permission was granted in March 2006 without objections and IDA are currently marketing the site with full planning to its international clients.

In addition, the Council approved the disposal of a site to IAWS GROUP plc whose business is focused on food and nutrition/agribusiness. The Minister for Agriculture and Food, Mary Coughlan, TD has stated that support of €4.85 million by Enterprise Ireland towards investment of some €20 million by IAWS in R&D and strategic development will underpin flagship investment in the region of €200 million by the IAWS group in a purpose built "Centre of Excellence" at Grange Castle Business Park.



This flagship investment in the region of €200 million by the IAWS Group will be one of the largest projects ever in the Irish food processing sector and will generate employment and business for the entire area of Dublin Mid West. Planning is in place and construction has commenced.

This will mean a further 124 new manufacturing jobs and 10 new R&D jobs at the Grange Castle site and €35million in exports by 2011 in world class, innovative production of high quality bakery products.

Easy accesses to markets, as well as a well trained local workforce are the main reasons Grange Castle was chosen above any other location in Europe.

Grange Castle Business Park is an initiative by South Dublin County Council. The Park is a practical example of the Councils' commitment to developing South Dublin Countys' long-term competitiveness.

Tuairisc ón Oifig Gaeilge

Theas. Beidh sé seo á sheoladh freisin le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Má tá comhairle ar bith agat le cur orainn seol do chuid tuairimí chugainn ag an seoladh ríomhphost thíos.

Tá ranganna ar siúl sa Chomhairle faoi láthair don fhoireann atá againn anseo ionas go mbeidh muid in ann seirbhís níos fearr a chur ar fáil i nGaeilge. Tá ag éirí go maith leo agus an-suim ag an bhfoireann iontu.

Tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas, Suirbhéireacht Ordnáis Éireann agus an Brainse Logainmneacha, An Roinn Gnóthaf Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ag obair le chéile faoi láthair chun na comharthaí bóthair agus na logainmneacha atá ar fud an Chontae a cheartú. Beidh liosta logainmneacha le fáil go luath. Tá stíl againn aon dearmad atá ar na comharthaí bóthair a bheith ceartaíte ag ainm roimh 2010 agus tá stíl againn chomh maith leabhrán eolais a fhoilsiú a mbeadh an t-eolas sin go léir agus beagán eolais faoi chúlra na logainmneacha agus faoi stair an Chontae ann.

Dá mba mhaith leat aon eolas breise a fháil aon ní eile nó dá mbeadh ticéid ag teastáil uait do Sheachtain na Gaeilge, nó dá mbeadh tú ag iarraidh a bheith ar liosta teagmhála na hoifige seo chun cóip den scéim, de bhróisiúr Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus araile a fháil seol ríomhphost, le do thoil, chug gaeilge@southdublin.ie

Tá obair mhór ar siúl faoi láthair chun leagan Gaeilge a chur ar shuíomh grásáin Chomhairle Contae Átha Cliath

Guím Nollaig Shona agus Blain Nua faoi mhaire oraibh go léir.

ADAMSTOWN PLANNING SCHEME WINS EUROPEAN PLANNING AWARD

At a ceremony in Seville, Spain, on Thursday 16 November 2006, the European Council of Spatial Planners presented South Dublin County Council with an award that recognises the Adamstown Strategic Development Zone Planning Scheme's "integrated and holistic approach to planning for large-scale new residential populations".



The Project was nominated for the European Award after winning the Irish Planning Institute's overall Planning Achievement Award in 2005.

The Council won the European and National Planning Awards for its work in preparing and facilitating the implementation of the Planning Scheme for the development of a new residential community at Adamstown near Lucan, Co. Dublin.

The Adamstown Planning Scheme aims to secure a high quality urban environment with the necessary infrastructure and amenities provided in tandem with development.

To date, over 1,000 homes and two primary schools have been permitted together with significant supporting infrastructure. Approximately half of these houses are under construction and a small number of dwellings have been occupied. A new railway station due to open in 2007, park and ride, 3km link road and busway are nearing completion. The first school is due to open in September 2007.

Walking Bus

20% of all car journeys during morning peak hour are related to the school journey. The Walking Bus is an initiative being piloted by the Council in conjunction with schools in our area. The Walking Bus scheme in Scoil Naomh Pdraig, Ballyroad is now in its second year. It is run by the pool of dedicated volunteers, mainly parents and carers, who accompany the bus on its journey to school every day. Feedback from the children tell us they enjoy using the bus and consider it part of their daily routine.



The Walking Bus provides an opportunity for everyone to take part in regular exercise. Detailed information on setting up a Walking Bus can be found at www.dto.ie.



Tallaght Town Centre

THE County Development Plan commits to secure the future development of Tallaght Town Centre as the County Town of South Dublin County.

The Tallaght Town Centre Plan is designed to encourage a mix of different uses and improvements, including:- A better range and choice of shopping, not all of which is closed off within the Square, high quality connected pedestrian routes and new public spaces, a link from a new town to Sean Walsh Park via a wide pedestrian landscaped landbridge over the bypass where the Square faces the mountains. It also provides for at least two new schools, childcare facilities and a new primary health care centre. It will establish safe, well-lit, areas with good access to public transport as the focus of entertainment, cultural and social activities for all types of people, such as sit-down restaurants, cafes, pubs, and cinemas in addition to the existing theatre and proposed arts centre, gallery and extended library. There will be a more connected network of streets within the central area, new links to the wider road network, and a vehicular underpass that allows traffic to access the Square direct from the N81.



issues, many of which have resulted in amendments to the draft Plan.

In a submission on the proposed Local Area Plan by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Council was commended for preparing a draft local area plan which emphasizes in a practical way the importance and sustainability of good urban design.

In keeping with Council policy, all documentation charting the process of this project from initiation to date, is available on the Planning section of our

website www.sdblun.ie



GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

Comhairle na nÓg, South Dublin County Council's Youth Council is a formal gathering of young people in South Dublin County, who meet to discuss the issues that affect the daily lives of young people. The first aim of the Comhairle na nÓg structure is to give children and young people a voice on issues that affect them at a community level and to provide them with a platform from which to feed into the development of national and local policies

At the Young Voices seminar on 15th November a new Comhairle na nÓg was elected. Five sitting members were returned at the election leaving twenty one new elected members, making up the total of twenty six members.

Over 100 young people, from across the whole county, between the ages of 12 -17 participated and discussed topics on Facilities for young people and the Rights of the young person during workshop sessions. This gave an opportunity to focus on important topics as well as a chance to get informed and to voice opinions.

A full report from the seminars work will be launched at the first meeting of the new term of office shortly.

For more information contact 4149270 or email comhairle@sdbluncoco.ie



This means that even if all the residential development currently under construction and permitted could be fully occupied by tomorrow, the residential population of the area would barely reach the 1996 level. The maximum level of development envisaged by the Tallaght Plan over the next six years, if fully achieved and occupied, may return the population of the Town Centre area to its historic 1986 peak, but this will not happen until 2014 or so.

Development must continue to take place to simply maintain residential population. This is critical in order to sustain ongoing investment in facilities and infrastructure and ensure their viability as well as to encourage a more lively and safer, mixed use Town Centre.

The process in developing, consulting and deciding on the content of the Tallaght Town Centre Master Plan has involved an unprecedented level of consultation by staff with the public and elected members. These consultations were entered into in a very open and democratic fashion and have raised serious

Congratulations to Beautiful South Dublin County award winners

THE Mayor Eamonn Maloney and the County Manager Joe Horan presented the awards in the Beautiful South Dublin County Awards / Átha Cliath Theas go Deas competition on Thursday 16th November in the Green Isle Hotel. The overall winner of the Beautiful South Dublin County Awards 2006 was Castle Park/Castle Lawns Estate, Tallaght.



Mary Pyne, South Dublin County Council, Mayor Eamonn Maloney, Pearl Kearns, Angela Donohue, Kathleen Campbell, Bernie Mulreaney Castle Park / Castle Lawns Combined Residents' Association, overall winners, County Manager Joe Horan and Maire Ni Dhomhnaill, South Dublin County Council.

There were over a hundred entries from resident groups, businesses, youth groups and individuals throughout the County.

The competition had three new sections this year - Best Waste Management Initiative, Local Green Hero, Best Apartments.

"I congratulate you all not only are you making a difference to the place where you live, you are creating a sense of community and place that makes a difference and creates a sense of belonging. The difference this competition makes is plain to see — A County that is free from litter, has an improved natural and built environment and greater community involvement resulting in a better place to be." said the Mayor Eamonn Maloney in his speech.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2007 – 2011

SOUTH Dublin County Libraries are commencing the preparation of a Library Development Plan to cover the period 2007 – 2011.

The county includes the areas of Rathfarnham, Knocklyon, Firhouse, Templeogue, Tallaght, Lucan, Clondalkin, Palmerstown, Saggart, Rathcoole, Brittas and Newcastle.

The Libraries Development Plan 2007 – 2011 will prioritise the direction of service. The objectives of the plan are to provide a structure for the continued improvement of the library service. It will look to build on the past achievements of the library service and seek to provide a space for all citizens.

The Libraries Department would like to invite submissions from the public regarding their views on the future direction of the library service.

Everyone is welcome to make a submission – whether they are library users or not. Submissions are welcome from individuals and groups

If you wish to make a submission or obtain further details you should contact:

South Dublin Library Headquarters, Unit 1, The Square Industrial Complex, Tallaght, Dublin 24. OR Tel 4597834 or e-mail library@sdbluncoco.ie - before 5pm on Friday 23rd February 2007.

M50 Update —

THE M50 motorway was completed in 2004 when the final section known as the South Eastern motorway was opened. The motorway was built with an extra wide median so that it could be widened to 3 lanes in each direction as traffic volumes increased.



As the Celtic tiger developed this increased volume of traffic happened much more quickly than expected. It is now necessary to carry out widening works.

The entire 32km of the M50 motorway between M1 Interchange and Sandyford Interchange is undergoing a major upgrade such that:

By 2010

- ▶ There will be three lanes in each direction along the entire length.
- ▶ An additional fourth lane linking each junction.
- ▶ Barrier Free Tolling.
- ▶ Freeflow junctions at major junctions.

South Dublin County Council is the authority with responsibility for:

- ▶ Widening of the M50 between the N4 Interchange at Palmerstown to Ballymount Interchange.
- ▶ Upgrading of the N4, N7 and Ballymount Interchanges.

This 8km stretch of the M50 is the most heavily trafficked part of the route and will be completed in 2008.

Work on the remaining part of the Motorway will commence approx 1 year later.

As traffic impacts are unavoidable South Dublin County Council tries to minimise this disruption.

- ▶ Two lanes of traffic will be open in each direction on the M50 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. each day.
- ▶ During night time hours when traffic is at a minimum the number of lanes may be reduced when construction work is underway.
- ▶ At no stage will the M50 be closed to traffic.
- ▶ For safety reasons a 60km/h speed limit will apply to protect road users and workers.

All Traffic Management details are available from the project website www.m50.ie with major changes announced in advance on national and local media.

We would ask the public and all road users to bear with us while we carry out the work. There will be disruption to traffic and the local residents but we are confident that disruption will be kept to a minimum and work will be complete in 2008.

More information available from:

www.southdublin.ie/roadsandtraffic/newroadschemes/m50upgrade/

NEW SKATEBOARD PARK



Skate on over to South Dublin Countys first dedicated Skatepark at Griffeen in Lucan. The facility is now open and is being enjoyed by skaters from all across the County.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Waste & Recycling:

1. One third of all waste can be composted successfully. Purchase a subsidised home composter from South Dublin County Council for €40.00. What's good for your garden is good for your environment! www.southdublin.ie/environment
2. The average child uses up to 5,000 nappies on his or her way to being potty trained. 4% of our waste consists of disposable nappies. Help the environment and save yourself some money - use eco-nappies for your baby.
3. In just five months, 20 tonnes of textiles have been recycled in the textile banks around the county. You can help by taking old saleable clothing to your local charity shop.
4. In Ireland one ton of waste is generated per household per year. Choose products made from recycled materials.

Energy:

water consumption per person in Ireland is over 148 litres! We can reduce the amount we use quite simply, by following these straightforward tips. Water is precious. Let's conserve it.

1. Keep a jug of water in the fridge. Instead of letting the tap run for cold water, fill a jug of water and keep it in the fridge.
2. Use a basin to rinse/clean your fruit and vegetables. Instead of letting the tap run, use a basin to rinse/clean your fruit and vegetables. Why not use the leftover water to give your pot plants a drink?
3. Use a bucket of water not a hose. A running hose will use about 9 litres of water per minute. The car will be just as clean using a bucket of water. When cleaning your windows or washing your car, use a bucket and sponge instead of a hose. The same goes for your garden flowers, try using a watering can instead.
4. Lawns don't need to be hoses. Use good mulch on your flowerbeds to reduce watering.
5. Fix leaking taps as soon as you hear them. Remember to check that your home is leak free and fix those dripping taps. Phone and report water leakage from burst pipes to your local authority.
6. Don't leave the tap running while brushing your teeth. A running tap will dispense up to 6 litres of water a minute. Don't leave it running while shaving or washing your hands.
7. In the Shower. Reduce the time you spend in the shower. A power shower will use over 125 litres in less than five minutes (a bath takes 80 litres of water).

For more information on conserving water In the Home, In the Garden and In Work, please visit www.taptips.ie

Ethiopian Partnership Project — 2006 -2008

The South Dublin County - Ethiopian Partnership Project is a unique engagement of an Irish local authority with two sister towns, Werabe and Butajira, in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries on Earth (170th out of 177, according to the UN Human Development Index which gives a comparative measure of life expectancy, literacy, education, and standards of living for countries worldwide). Ireland is in 4th position in the Index.

The broad objectives of the project are to increase the capacity of the two Ethiopian local authorities through training, guidance on public service delivery and increased access to resources such as Information Technology etc., in order to enable them to provide a higher standard of public service to their population. Service improvements in areas such as water supply, sanitation and waste management will, in the longer term, impact positively on incidence of disease and child mortality.

South Dublin Libraries Local Studies Service

The area of South Dublin County has a long and varied history and possesses a rich heritage.



In order to serve users who wish to study the history and development of South Dublin County, South Dublin County Council has developed a Local Studies Collection, housed at the County Library, Tallaght. There are over 5,000 items in stock, including books, maps, images, newspapers, special collections by South Dublin authors and genealogical material. We run exhibitions, events and lectures throughout the year, but especially during History and Heritage month in September.

For further information, please see

www.southdublinlibraries.ie, or contact Kieran Swords or Sile Coleman at the County Library on 4620073 or email localstudies@sdbluncoco.ie.

An application has been made to Irish Aid for funding for an initial three-year engagement. In 2007, the business community in the county will be invited to join us as funding and delivery partners. A community / schools education and awareness programme will also be launched.

For further information www.southdublin.ie

