



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council



Draft Annual Report 2010

DRAFT

Table of Contents

Section 1

Message from the Mayor
Message from the County Manager
Elected Members & Electoral Areas
Area Committees
Strategic Policy Committees
Corporate Policy Group & County Development Board
Council Membership of Committees and Statutory Bodies
Events 2010
Conferences 2010
Awards 2010

Section 2

Community Services
Parks
Libraries
Economic Development
Environmental Services
Housing
Planning
Roads Traffic and Transportation
Architectural Services

Section 3

Corporate Services
Human Resources
Law Department
Information Technology
Finance

Appendices

Finance Graphs
National Service Indicators

Message from the Mayor- Councillor Eamonn Maloney



It gives me great pleasure to present the South Dublin County Council Annual Report, on behalf of my fellow Councillors. The last twelve months has been very challenging and when elected Mayor in 2010, I wanted to concentrate on job creation and promoting South Dublin County as a prime location for new industry. South Dublin County Council is one of the most progressive Councils in Ireland and during my term in office, I aimed to promote South Dublin as a vibrant, dynamic and innovative place, where businesses and workers thrive. I believe through collaborative working with our partner agencies at national and local level we can raise the County's profile regionally, nationally and internationally to attract inward investment.

On a personal note, I have had a very busy and interesting year as Mayor and have been greatly privileged to meet so many inspiring people; most importantly this year has confirmed my belief in the tremendous community spirit we have here in South Dublin County. Those who actively participate in their community make a very important contribution to the places where they live. I am delighted that in 2010, the Council introduced a Social Credit Scheme to reward community groups who improve their environment by carrying out pro-environmental actions such as litter cleanups, maintenance of community gardens and removal of graffiti. The system provides practical assistance and advice to groups who undertake these actions and rewards them for their efforts.

I was very pleased to attend so many wonderful events organised by the Council during my term, including highlights such as the Christmas Unwrapped Event, Engineers Week, Social Inclusion Week, Innovation Dublin Event and the Civic Receptions for members of the winning Shamrock Rovers and Dublin Ladies Gaelic Teams.

In particular I would like to mention the many wonderful events that are organised by South Dublin Library Services. The Library services offer all citizens of the County a gateway to learning, study, information, literacy and the history and heritage of our County.

I would like to end by thanking my fellow Councillors, County Manager and the staff of South Dublin County Council for their continuing support during my term as Mayor.

Eamonn Maloney

Message from the County Manager



The Annual Report 2010 sets out South Dublin County Council's achievements over the past twelve months, and highlights our performance against the priorities set out in our new [Corporate Plan 2010 - 2014](#) and [South Dublin County Development Plan 2010-2016](#)

These are very challenging times across the whole local government sector with the ever increasing need to achieve significant savings and greater efficiencies.

A number of initiatives to reduce costs have been instigated by this local authority, including a 10% reduction in staff between mid-2008 and 2010. The reduction in numbers over the last two years has resulted in increased productivity, revised work practices and other major change initiatives that are essential to mitigate against any impact on priority frontline services as a result of staff reductions and limited resources. More must be achieved by fewer staff with smaller budgets.

Despite these challenges, management and staff are working together to achieve more effective and citizen focused services. There have been many success stories and throughout this document you will see that there were many highlights in 2010:

- Rua Red Arts Centre won three awards including the Grand Prix at the LAMA Awards 2010
- Innovation Dublin Week (Ted- Ex Tallaght Event)
- Opening of the Grand Canal, Green Route
- Introduction of the new Brown Bin Waste System
- Opening of Ballyroan Youth and Community Centre and Neilstown Centre
- Social Media Workshops

- Launch of Bulbs not Bonfires Campaign and Social Credit Scheme
- Halloween Spooky Walk, Un -Wrapped and Christmas Wonderland Events
- Link2BActive won Excellence in Government Award at Chambers Ireland Awards 2010
- Tallaght Stadium won Airtricity League Pitch of the Year 2010

The Council has been conscious of the difficulties that local businesses and residents are facing in the current economic climate. Looking forward to 2011, the Council's main focus will be on developing the new and innovative Business Support Initiative. This interagency initiative includes actions aimed at infrastructure improvements, incentivisation, mentoring, work placements, environmental sustainability and a Creative Village/Year of Craft project for 2011.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by former Mayor Duff and Mayor Maloney, the elected members, the management and staff of South Dublin County Council for their valuable contribution during 2010. The Council faced extreme weather conditions in the early part of the year and again in November/December. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all staff in dealing with the impact of the weather on our roads, footpaths and water supplies. In particular we would like to highlight the co-operation of a number of departments in tackling the issues arising from these exceptional circumstances in such a collaborative manner. It was a difficult time, but we can be proud of the way the staff from South Dublin County Council responded.



Joe Horan

ELECTED MEMBERS/ IMAGES AND THEIR ELECTORAL AREAS

Clondalkin

Name: Cllr. Gino Kenny
Party: People Before Profit Alliance
62 Cherrywood Avenue
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
085 7211574 / 414 9247
gkenny@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Matthew McDonagh
Party: Sinn Fein
Clondalkin Civic Offices
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
087 7401854 / 414 9069
matthewmcdonagh@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Robert Dowds
Party: The Labour Party
Clondalkin Civic Offices
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
087 6520360 / 414 9248
rdowds@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Therese Ridge
Party: Fine Gael
4 St. Patrick's Avenue
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
457 3438
tridge@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Tony Delaney
Party: Fine Gael
Clondalkin Civic Offices
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
086 6694471 / 414 9002
tdelaney@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Trevor Gilligan
Party: Fianna Fail
Clondalkin Civic Offices
Clondalkin
Dublin 22
085 7145005
www.trevorgilligan.com
tgilligan@sdblincoco.ie

Lucan

Name: Cllr. Caitriona Jones
Party: The Labour Party
21 Esker Wood Drive,
Lucan,
Co. Dublin.
087 2034427
cjones@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Derek Keating,
Party: Fine Gael
66 Beech Park
Lucan
Co. Dublin
087 2857435
dkeating@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Eamon Tuffy
Party: The Labour Party
22 Liffey Wood
Liffey Valley Park
Lucan
Co. Dublin
086 3863173 / 6109313
etuffy@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Guss O'Connell
Party: Independent
47 Palmerstown Green
Palmerston
Dublin 20
6268554 / 087 6838254
goconnell@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. William Lavelle
Party: Fine Gael
16 Lána na bPáirce
Ballyowen Lane
Lucan
Co. Dublin
087 4107885 / 414 9050
wlabelle@sdublincoco.ie

Tallaght Central

Name: Cllr. Colm Brophy
Party: Fine Gael
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
086 2509223 / 414 9015
cbrophy@sdublincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Dermot Looney
Party: The Labour Party
80 St. Columba's Road
Greenhills
Dublin 12
085 7089955 / 414 9073
dlooney@sdublincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Eamonn Walsh
Party: Fianna Fail
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
087 9952211 / 414 9043
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Name: Cllr. Mick Duff
Party: The Labour Party
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
087 8865570 / 414 9031
mduff@sdublincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Pamela Kearns
Party: The Labour Party
203 Orwell Park Heights
Templeogue
Dublin 6.W.
087 7756718 / 414 9077
pkearns@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Seán Crowe
Party: Sinn Fein
16 Raithéin Na Faiche
Tamhlacht
B.A.C 24
086 3864303
scrowe@sdblincoco.ie

Tallaght South

Name: Cllr. Brian Lawlor
Party: Fine Gael
5 Killakee Gardens
Firhouse
Dublin 24
087 6445472 / 414 9082
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Name: Cllr. Cathal King
Party: Sinn Fein
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
4149063 / 086 3186098
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Name: Cllr. Eamonn Maloney
Party: The Labour Party
84 St. Maelruan's Park
Tallaght
Dublin 24
4525298
emaloney@sdblincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. John Hannon
Party: Fianna Fail
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
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Name: Cllr. Marie Corr
Party: The Labour Party
35 Sundale Park
Mountain View
Jobstown
Dublin 24
085 7359200 / 414 9075
mcorr@sdublincoco.ie

Rathfarnham

Name: Cllr. Cait Keane
Party: Fine Gael
c/o South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
4149064 / 087 8117824
<http://www.caitkeane.com> ; <https://twitter.com/cllrcaitkeane>
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Name: Cllr. Emma Coburn
Party: Fine Gael
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County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24
087 0628484 / 414 9062
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Name: Cllr. John Lahart
Party: Fianna Fail
6 Orlagh Grange
Scholarstown Road
Rathfarnham
Dublin 16
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jlahart@sdublincoco.ie

Name: Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave
Party: The Labour Party
25 Orchardstown Drive
Rathfarnham
Dublin 14
085 1742709
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Lucan/Clondalkin

Chairpersons: Cllrs Eamonn Tuffy / Matthew McDonagh

Members: Derek Keating, Trevor Gilligan, Therese Ridge, Tony Delaney, Caitriona Jones, Robert Dowd, Guss O' Connell, Gino Kenny, Matthew McDonagh, William Lavelle

In September 2010 it was agreed to conduct a pilot for a period of three months, of two separate Area Committee Meetings in respect of Lucan Electoral Area and Clondalkin Electoral Area. This pilot is to be effective from November 2010 to February 2011 and will be reviewed thereafter.

Tallaght

Chairperson: Cllr. Marie Corr

Cllr. Members: Cathal King, Eamonn Maloney, Colm Brophy, Mick Duff, John Hannon, Pamela Kearns , Dermot Looney, Eamonn Walsh, , Brian Lawlor, Sean Crowe

Rathfarnham

Chairperson: Cllr. Cáit Keane

Members: John Lahart, Emma Coburn, Paddy Cosgrave

Strategic Policy Committees

Economic Development & Planning

Chairperson: Cllr. Eamonn Tuffy

Councillors: Cllr Colm Brophy, Cllr Emma Coburn, Cllr Marie Corr, Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr Trevor Gilligan, Cllr Pamela Kearns, Cllr William Lavelle, Cllr Guss O'Connell, Cllr Cathal King, Cllr Caitriona Jones

Nominee(s)	Group
Neil Durkin, 1-3 Sandford Road, Ranelagh, Dublin 6	Development/Construction
Garrett Robinson, SIAC Construction, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22	Business/Commercial
Jim Fay, 20 Glenview Drive, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Trade Union
Sean Giblin, 2 Finnstown Fairways, Lucan, Co. Dublin	Environment/Construction
Donie Anderson, Castlekelly, Glenasmole, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Farming & Agriculture
John Kearns, Bolbrook Enterprise Centre, Avonmore Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24	Community/Voluntary

Arts,Culture, An Gaeilge, Education and Libraries

Chairperson : Cllr. Marie Corr/Paddy Cosgrave

Councillors: Cllr Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Tony Delaney, Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr John Hannon, Cllr Caitríona Jones, Cllr Cáit Keane, Cllr. Éamonn Walsh, Cllr Guss O' Connell

Nominees

Ann Fitzpatrick
49 Bawnlea Avenue,
Jobstown,
Tallaght, Dublin 24

Breda Bollard
replaced by Ms Meg Murphy,
6 Glenmore Court,
Ballyboden,
Dublin 16

Jim Fay,
20 Glenview Drive
Tallaght, Dublin 24

John Conroy,
2 Tamarisk Drive,
Kilnamanagh,
Dublin 24

Group

Community/Voluntary

Community/Voluntary

Trade Union

Culture

Housing & Social Strategic Policy Committee

Chairperson: Eamonn Moloney/Marie Corr

Councillors: Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr Trevor Gilligan, Cllr Pamela Kearns, Cllr Gino Kenny, Cllr Cathal King, Cllr Brian Lawlor, Cllr Dermot Looney, Cllr Matthew McDonagh

Nominees
Ben Healy,
Glenbrook Park,

Group
Environment/Conservation

Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

Tommy Gilson,
17 Bawnlea Avenue,
Jobstown,
Dublin 24

Community/Voluntary

John Murphy,
Highdown Hill, Newcastle,
Co. Dublin

Farming & Agriculture

Betty Tyrell Collard,
Room 417A,
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment,
23 Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Trade Union

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Sport, Recreation, Community & Parks SPC

Chairperson: Cathal King

Councillors: Cllr Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Tony Delaney, Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr Derek Keating, Cllr Gino Kenny, Cllr Brian Lawlor, Cllr Dermot Looney, Cllr Matthew McDonagh, Cllr Therese Ridge

Nominee

Carmel McCartney,
6 Muckross Green,
Perrystown,
Dublin 12

Sean Reid,
Community Centre,
Main street,
Rathcoole, Co. Dublin

Cecil Johnson,
Killinarden Community Council

James Coughlan,
Astropark,
Greenhills Road,
Dublin 24.

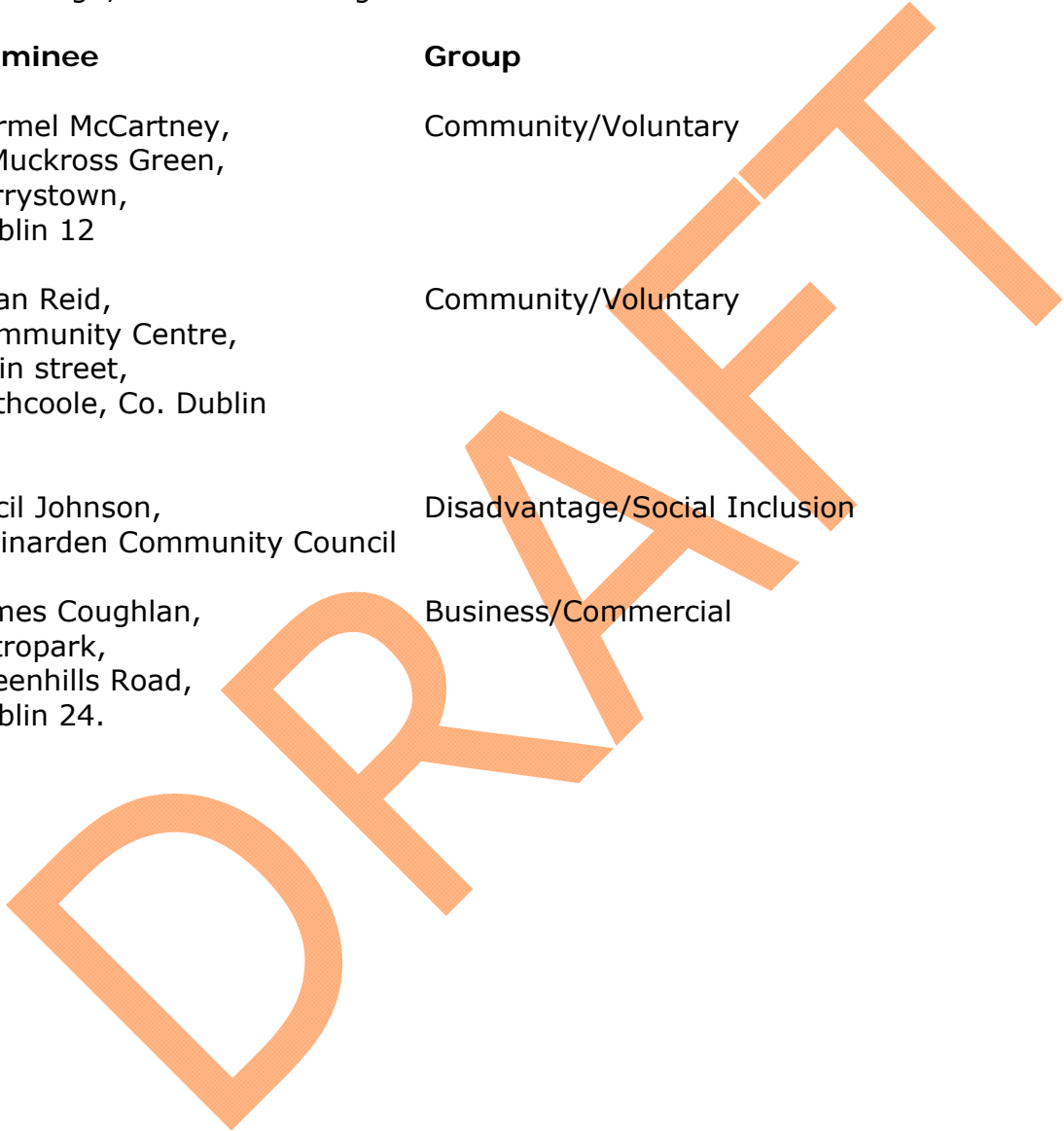
Group

Community/Voluntary

Community/Voluntary

Disadvantage/Social Inclusion

Business/Commercial



Transport Strategic Policy Committee

Chairperson: Cllr. Derek Keating

Councillors: Cllr Colm Brophy, Cllr Emma Coburn, Cllr Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Caitríona Jones, Cllr Cáit Keane, Cllr John Lahart, Cllr William Lavelle, Cllr Therese Ridge, Cllr Eamon Tuffy

Nominee

Group

Matt Moran,
IBEC,
Confederation House,
Dublin 2

Business/Commercial

Tom Newton,
7 Meadow View Grove,
Hillcrest,
Lucan, Co. Dublin

Community/Voluntary

Kevin Farrell,
6 Tullyhall Crescent,
Lucan, Co. Dublin

Environment/Conservation

Betty Tyrell Collard,
Room 417A,
Dept. of Enterprise, Trade & Employment,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Trade Union

Nuala Maher,
47 Garville Avenue,
Rathgar,
Dublin 6.

Business/Commercial

Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Chairperson: Cllr. John Hannon

Councillors: Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr John Lahart, Cllr William Lavelle, Cllr Éamonn Maloney, Cllr Guss O'Connell, Cllr Eamon Tuffy, Cllr Éamonn Walsh

Nominee

Group

Pat Lee,
St. Anne's,
Bohernabreena,
Co. Dublin

Farming & Agriculture

Sherri Brennan,
Skips Trans,
Unit 518B Greenogue Business Park,
Rathcoole,
Co. Dublin

Business/Commercial

Connie Kiernan,
187 Wheatfield Road,
Palmerston, Dublin 20

Environmental/Conservation

Una Ruddock,
6 Tullyhall Crescent,
Lucan, Co. Dublin

Environmental/Conservation

Mary Clare Wallace,
Killinarden Business Park,
Killinarden,
Tallaght, Dublin 24

Community/Voluntary

Corporate Policy Group

Joe Horan
(County Manager)

Eamonn Maloney
(Mayor)

Eamonn Maloney/Marie Corr
(Chair Housing and Social)

Marie Corr/Paddy Cosgrave
(Chair Arts, Culture and Gaeilge)

Eamonn Tuffy
(Chair Economic Development and Planning)

John Hannon
(Chair Environment)

Derek Keating
(Chair Transport)

Cathal King
(Chair Sports and Recreation)

County Development Board

Mayor Eamonn Maloney

Local Government Sector

Cllr. Eamon Tuffy- CDB Chair- Economic Development SPC Chair

Cllr. John Hannon- Environment, SPC Chair

Cllr. Marie Corr- Housing and Social Policy, SPC Chair

Cllr. Cathal King- Sport, Recreation, Communities and Parks, SPC Chair

Cllr. Derek Keating- Transportation SPC Chair

Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave- Arts, Culture, Education Libraries and Gaeilge

Joe Horan – County Manager

Local Development Sector

Aileen O' Donoghue- CPLN Partnership

Anna Lee- Dodder Valley , Partnership

Loman O' Byrne- South Dublin Enterprise Board

Ruth Shortthall - South Dublin County Childcare Committee

Michael Mc Bennett- Rural Dublin Leader

Alan Breathnach- South Dublin Enterprise Board

State Agencies

Frank Donnelly - FAS

Ruth Croke- I.D.A Ireland

Marie Griffin Donnellan- Co. Dublin V.E.C

Corinne Lincoln- Dublin Tourism

John Moloney- Department of Education and Science

Julie Cruickshank- Health Services Executive

Vacancy - Enterprise Ireland

John Manley - An Garda Siochana

Pat Ryan -Department of Social and Family Affairs

Lorcan O'Toole- Teagasc

Social Partners

Barney Joyce- South Dublin Community Platform

Peter Byrne- South Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Christy Mc Donnell - South Dublin Community Forum

MEMBERSHIPS OF LOCAL AND STATUTORY BODIES JUNE 2009 TO DATE

Association of City and County Councils

Councillor Robert Dowds
Councillor Cathal King
Councillor Colm Brophy

Audit Committee

Councillor John Lahart
Councillor Gus O'Connell
Councillor Derek Keating

Civic Theatre Committee

Councillor Eamonn Maloney
Councillor Therese Ridge

Clondalkin Drugs Task Force

Councillor Matthew Mc Donagh
Councillor Gino Kenny

CPLN (formally Clondalkin Partnership)

Councillor Matthew Mc Donagh
Councillor Gus O'Connell
Councillor William Lavelle

Dodder Valley Partnership (Formally Tallaght Partnership)

Councillor Pamela Kearns
Councillor Colm Brophy
Councillor Eamonn T. Walsh
Councillor Mick Duff

Dublin Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum

Councillor Mick Duff
Councillor Eamonn T. Walsh
Councillor Emma Coburn
Councillor Tony Delaney
Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Cathal King
Councillor Guss O'Connell

Dublin 12 Drugs Task Force
Councillor Pamela Kearns

Dublin Bus Forum
Councillor Mick Duff
Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Cathal King
Councillor Brian Lawlor

Dublin Regional Authority
Councillor Pamela Kearns
Councillor Guss O'Connell
Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Brian Lawlor
Councillor Eamonn T. Walsh

Dublin Regional Tourism Authority
Councillor Colm Brophy

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance
Councillor Colm Brophy

Liffey Valley Advisory Committee
Councillor Trevor Gilligan
Councillor Gino Kenny
Councillor Matthew Mc Donagh
Councillor William Lavelle
Councillor Derek Keating
Councillor Cathriona Jones
Councillor Therese Ridge
Councillor Tony Delaney
Councillor Guss O'Connell
Councillor Robert Dowds
Councillor Eamon Tuffy

Local Authorities Members Association
Councillor Cait Keane

Meath Foundation at Tallaght Hospital
Councillor Eamonn Maloney

North Clondalkin Rapid Implementation Team

Councillor Gino Kenny
Regional Drugs Task Force
Councillor Mick Duff

South Dublin County Council Heritage Forum

Councillor Eamonn Maloney
Councillor Eamon Tuffy
Councillor Tony Delaney

SDCC Joint Policing Committee

Councillor Robert Dowds
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave
Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Gino Kenny
Councillor Matthew Mc Donagh
Councillor William Lavelle
Councillor Brian Lawlor
Councillor Guss O' Connell
Councillor Cait Keane
Councillor Emma Coburn
Councillor John Lahart
Councillor Eamonn T. Walsh
Councillor John Hannon
Councillor Pamela Kearns

Southern and Eastern Regional Authority

Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Pamela Kearns
Councillor Brian Lawlor

South Dublin County Enterprise Board

Councillor Paddy Cosgrave
Councillor Pamela Kearns
Councillor Trevor Gilligan
Councillor Tony Delaney

South Dublin County Tourism Board

Councillor Sean Crowe
Councillor Robert Dowds
Councillor Eamonn T. Walsh
Councillor Colm Brophy

Tallaght Community Arts Centre
Councillor Mick Duff
Councillor John Hannon

Tallaght Drugs Task Force
Councillor Eamonn Maloney
Councillor Marie Corr
Councillor Brian Lawlor
Councillor Colm Brophy

Tallaght West RAPID Area Implementation Team
Councillor Marie Corr

Vocational Educational Committee
Councillor Guss O' Connell
Councillor Cathriona Jones
Councillor Dermott Looney
Councillor Therese Ridge
Councillor William Lavelle

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Events 2010

List of Events 2010

January

The BHAA South Dublin County Council cross-country race, Tymon Park
The Launch of Community CD, Jobstown Community Centre
Bini Community Volunteers are presented with Volunteer Certificates, Greenhills Community Centre
Virginia Heights Residents receives prizes from Mayor, County Hall
Open Day of Threshold Training Network, Bruce House
CLICK-CLICK an integrated arts project undertaken by young people from the Irish Wheelchair Association, Rua Red
LAMA Awards, Burlington Hotel

February

The Irish Dancing Presentation, Louis Fitzgerald Hotel
The Launch of World of Wonder Engineers Ireland, Rua Red
The Opening of Energy Seminar, Civic Theatre
The eGovernment Awards, Dublin Castle
The Launch of Community Literacy Project based on Tom Crean/Arctic and Antarctic, County Library
The Launch of Chamber T.V. Big Picture

March

The Cluid Housing Association, Newcastle
Empowering Communities through Collaborated Ownership, Brookfield Community Centre
Empowering Communities through Collaborated Ownership, Balgaddy
Launch of Seachtain na Gaelilge, Aras Chronain
National Tree Week in St. Joseph's Special School, Balrothery
Launch of Weavers Court Aftercare Services
Food Fair
Seachtain Na Gaige – Teachers
Green Dream Drama Art Competition, The Big Picture
50 th Anniversary of Scoil Rince Bastable, The Louis Fitzgerald Hotel
Primary Schools Soccer Blitz, Clondalkin
Young Social Innovators, Red Cow Hotel
Young Social Innovators, Red Cow Hotel
Seachtain Na Gaige – Fashion Show
Institution of Revd Alan J Rufli as Rector, St Johns Church, Clondalkin
Launch of Water Conservation Road show, County Hall
Citywise – presentation of Achievement Awards, Jobstown

European Week Against Racism's Soccer Blitz, Clondalkin Leisure Centre
Meet the Neighbours, Brookfield Community Centre
Launch of ITT Dublin Volunteering Initiative, Institute of Technology, Tallaght
Irish Falun Dafa Association (Shen Yun Show), Grand Canal Theatre
Oireachtas Meeting, County Hall
All Ireland & International Irish Dancing Championships, Citywest Hotel

April

World Irish Dancing Event
Launch of Appus+, Greenhills NCT Centre
Art Exhibition, Lucan Library
Marking our Mark by Dodder Valley Partnership, County Library
Green Flag Ceremony, Scoil Ide, Clondalkin
St. Kevin's Open Day
Faughs GAA (125 TH Anniversary), Fagh's GAA Club
Launch of ECO week, The Big Picture
Green Flag Ceremony, Scoil Naomh Padraig
Joint L.A.I and C.I.L.I.P. Conference
Prizes Presentation for European Week against Racism Competition
Youth Dance Festival, Civic Theatre
Presentation of IT equipment funded by the sales of the book called (the Dublin to Blessington Stream Tram by Aidan Cruis), Blessington
Photo-Shot (Heineken Cup), Collinstown Community Centre
Homeless Street Soccer League, Clondalkin Sports Centre
Olympic Handball Tournament , Colaiste de Hide
CDI "Think Local Campaign", The Big Picture
Green Flag Ceremony, Scoil Mhuire, Clondalkin

May

Opening Ceremony of the BRC International Shoot, Bohernabreena
Launch of 2 nd level Social Inclusion Award Ceremony, County Hall
"Lighting the Edges" Tallaght Travellers Youth Services, County Hall
Flash Quartet! RTE Vanbrugh Quartet Performance, County Hall
CASA Soccer Classic - (Jimmy Magee and Bernard Dunne to be in attendance), Tallaght Stadium
CASA Celebration dinner, Citywest Hotel
Green Flag Ceremony, St. Martin de Porres, Aylesbury
02 Ability Awards, Royal Hospital, Kilmainham
Unveiling Irish Dancing Trophy, County Hall
Walk along the canal for Deansrath Community

Opening of Centre for Immigrants Intercultural, Ballymount Industrial Est
Jane Austens Sewing Kit, Tallaght Library
Green Flag Ceremony, Killinarden
Green Flag Ceremony, Scoil Naomh Pdraig NS, Ballyroan
Green Flag Ceremony, St. Marys NS, Greenhills
Local History Celebration, Collinstown Community College
An Cosan Africa Day Programme, Tallaght
School Graduation, St. Aidans Community Centre
Celebration of Older & Active in South Dublin County, County Hall
Launch of Connect School of Evaluation Report, The Big Picture
Graduation Night, TCS
Official Opening T.W.S. to Trustus – Whitestown

June

Launch of " Report on Community Participation in Primary Care Teams" and is a joint initiative of RAPID and the HSE
Presentation of Certs to Dominics VTOS Students
Peamount Sli Na Slainte Launch
EVE Ltd Cherryfield Art Exhibition, County Library
Art Exhibition, Lucan Library
Social Inclusion Event, County Hall
Celebration of Learning Programme, Tallaght
Celebration of Learning Programme, Tallaght
Green Flag Ceremony, St. Maelruans JNS
Photo Shoot, Tallaght Stadium
Green Flag Ceremony, Sacred Heart JNS, Killinarden
World Annual Congress of the International Federation of Spina Bifida, Citywest Hotel
Launch of National Bike Week
Old Folks Lunch (St. Vincent de Paul)
Doodle Den - CDI
I.T. event
Prize giving for National Bike Week
Irish Dancing Trophy Ceremony
Opening of the Canal Green Route
Photo shoot in The Square for their 20 th Anniversary
Prize presentation for Newtown Rangers Mini World Cup Teams
AGM of South Dublin Tourism
LGBT Event- County Library
Annual Meeting

July

Meeting of the Oireachtas Members, County Hall
Arts Bursary Awards Photo shoot, County Hall
Opening of the Astro Park playing pitch, Killinarden
Photo-shoot with Deafhear, Chamber Square
Presentation of Film Projects – National Learning Network, County Library
Conferring Ceremony for Graduates of Arts & Disability Training Programme, Civic Offices, Clondalkin
Presentation of certificates to IACI students, St Maelrunas
Presentation of Certificates to Ballet Classes, Civic Theatre
Opening of the Allotments Day, Bohernabreena
Photo shoot for Camogie Association re Marie Keating Foundation, Thomas Davis, Tallaght
Press Conference for the Shamrock Bowl XXIV Irish American Football League, Tallaght Stadium

August

Shamrock Bowl XXIV Irish American Football, Tallaght Stadium
Opening of New Club House for Newtown Rangers, Ballymana Lane
I.T.T. to meet Kenya Ambassador, ITT
Mayor meeting the children of Chernobyl, Killarden
Photo Shoot for South Dublin Chamber, Citywest Hotel
Photo Shoot on the History & Heritage, County Library
National Learning Centre event, Maldron Hotel
Retirement event for Michael Reynolds of Threshold Tallaght
Diaspora Women's Initiative – HIV Education Project
Launch of an Exhibition of Urney's Chocolate Factory, County Library
Launch of Joe Williams Book, Clondalkin Library

September

The Up-Grade of the M50, Blanchardstown
Launch Exhibition work of Marie Hanlon and Margaret Tuffy, Rua Red
People of the Year Awards, Citywest Hotel
Presentation of FETAC Certificates to Adults who have qualified, Whitechurch Library
Photo Shoot to Launch the F.B.D. Awards, DCU
Tallaght Drugs Task Force, St Thomas' Church, Tallaght
Community Awareness by Walkinstown/Greenhills Network, Greenhills Community Centre
Opening of Craft Fair, St Dominics Community Centre
Le Brocquy Art Exhibition, The Square

Beautiful South Dublin County Competition press conference, County Hall
South Dublin Arts Consultations, Rua Red
The Launching of Programme of Activities of Show Racism the Red Card, Tallaght Stadium
The Launch of Chinese Drawings by Yan Zhuang, County Library
Lauch of Camera Club's Annual Exhibition, Civic Centre
The Square's 20 th celebrations – Garda Band Concert, The Square
Launch of the Active Citizenship Week, The Big Picture
CDI event, Tallaght Stadium
Photo shoot for Launch of "Bulbs not Bonfires" Sean Walsh Park
Volunteer Celebration Celebration, County Hall

October

Sporit Teic event, Council Chamber
Children's Book Festival, Ballyroan Library
Presentation of Certificates to the Students, St.Roses NS
Official opening of Ballyroan Community & Youth Centre
Box Stories Exhibitions, County Library
National Symphony Orchestra, The Square
Photo Shoot with the Fire Services, Sacred Heart NS
Green Flag Ceremony, Scoil Nano Nagle
ITT Scholarship Awards, County Hall
Active Citizenship Week, Tallaght Hospital
Green Flag Ceremony, St Marys JNS
Launch of Community Café discussion on poverty, Fettercairn Community Centre
Ninth Annual Leo Swan Memorial Lecture, County Library
Opening of Comhairle AGM, Tallaght Stadium
2010 Excellence in Local Government Awards, Burlington Hotel
Project with Learners from the National Learning Network,
Present winner Carolyn Akintoa of Carers Association Regional Award, Maldron Hotel
Craft Fair, St Domincs
Launch of Dublin Mountains Way and Map

November

Launch Social Inclusion Week 2010, County Hall
Seminar for the Unemployed, Tallaght Stadium
Officially open the Crookfield Youth & Community Centre, Brookfield, Tallaght
Tea Dance, Red Cow Moran Hotel
Digital Treasure Hunt, Sean Walsh Park
Launch of the DVD "Voices of South Dublin, County Library
Presentation of Prizes for children who participate in the competition for "Poverty and Social Exclusion" Council Chamber

Readers Day, Maldron Hotel
Faughs GAA Club 125 years Celebration, Faughs GAA Club
FAI Cup Final, Avivia Stadium
T Factor Talent Show, Civic Theatre
Launch of Aprovation, Rua Red
CE Schemes Event, Knockmitten Community Centre
Shamrock Rovers Civic Reception, County Hall
Shamrock Rovers Game, Tallaght Stadium
Annual Retired Staff Dinner, Interval Café
Launch of Enfo Point, County Library
Launch of Tallaght Camera Club Annual Exhibition, County Library
Dragons Den, County Hall
Photo Shoot with John Tracey and Girls GAA, County Hall
Launch of South Dublin County, Rua Red
Mayor Presents Certificates, St Basils
Innovation Week - Primary Schools, ITT Tallaght
Fettercairn Horse Project
Opening of Bawnogue Community Centre
Kingswood Kenpo Karate night, Green Isle Hotel
TV-programme Cookery Competition, St. Josephs School
Open Day in St. Pats Palmerston
Official Opening of South Dublin Taekwondo
Launch of National Accessibility Week 2010, County Hall
Annual Photo Competition and Presentation of Prizes, County Hall

December

Dominics Community Centre, St Muirins House
Active Christmas Function, St Aengus Community Centre
Senior Citizens Christmas Party, Penny Black Pub
Briefing and Discussion session on Universal Design, County Hall
Sport Arts and Culture Scholarships, Tallaght IT
Official Lighting of the Christmas Tree and the Unwrapped Event, County Library
Fettercairn Horse Project 10 th Anniversary, Fettercairn Tallaght
Citywise Special Event, Fortunestown Way
Launch of the book "Rathfarnham's Top 5", Ballyroan Library
Fair Trade Fair, St McDara's Templeogue
Christmas Tree Lighting, Cheeverstown
Community Carol Service by Dublin Gospel Choir, Pearse Museum Courtyard
Official Opening of the extension to St. Brigid's Girls National School, Palmerston

Conferences attended by Councillors in 2010

Conference: Planning Seminars for Councillors.
Venue: Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick.
Theme: Planning Issues.

Conference: Antrim Tourism Conference.
Venue: Dunadry Hotel, Co. Antrim.
Theme: Tourism in the 21st Century – A Challenge for All.

Conference: Mid-West Regional Authority 16th Annual Conference.
Venue: Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Limerick.
Theme: Environmental Designations – Barriers or Opportunities.

Conference: Media 2010 Training & Communications for Councillors.
Venue: Clonea Strand Hotel, Clonea, Dungarvan, Co Waterford.
Theme: Communications.

Conference: Elected Members Training Seminar.
Venue: The Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City.
Theme: Managing Stress and Promoting Positive Mental Health.

Conference: Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland.
Venue: Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo.
Theme: Perspectives on National Recovery.

Conference: Elected Members Training Seminar.
Venue: Westport Plaza Hotel, Spa and Leisure Resort, Castlebar Street, Westport, Co. Mayo.
Theme: Change Management in Local Government.

Conference: 21st Colmcille Winter School.
Venue: Gartan, Church Hill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
Theme: The Role of Small Enterprises in over coming recession.

Conference: Association of City and County Councils.
Venue: Ballykisteen Hotel, Limerick Junction, Co. Tipperary.
Theme: Rebuilding Confidence in Urban and Rural Communities.

Conference: 18th Annual Kerry Environmental Recognition Conference.
Venue: Manor West Hotel and Leisure Centre, Tralee Co. Kerry.
Theme: Various Issues.

Conference: Training Seminar for Elected Members.
Venue: Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.
Theme: Public Liability, Health and Safety issues in Local Government.

Conference: LAMA Spring Conference.
Venue: Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo.
Theme: Councillors Role in Changing Climate.

Conference: Nuclear Free Local Authorities Seminar.
Venue: County Council Offices, Newry Co. Down.
Theme: The Nuclear Challenge and Ireland - The Key Issues for Ireland of Nuclear.
Developments across the Irish Sea.

Conference: Irish Planning Conference.
Venue: Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.
Theme: Planning For a Smarter Ireland.

Conference: Elected Members Training Seminar.
Venue: Carlton Hotel Tralee, Dan Spring Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry.
Theme: Banking, Insurance and NAMA - The effect on Local Government.

Conference: New EPA Guidelines for Single Houses.
Venue: The Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Co Galway.
Theme: The Implications to Local Government.

Conference: BIDS Conference.
Venue: Ballmascanlon Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth.
Theme: Challenges to be attractive and Competitive.

Conference: The Cost of Insurance and Claims to your Local Authority.
Venue: The Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City.
Theme: What can we do to minimise?

Conference: Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly.
Venue: Carlton Kinsale Hotel, Kinsale Co. Cork.
Theme: Supporting Renewable Energy opportunities in the Southern and Eastern Region.

Conference: Ards Tourism Conference.

Venue: Portaferry Hotel; Exploris, Portaferry; Ballywalter Park, Ballywalter.

Theme: A Taste for Tourism .

Conference: Douglas Hyde Summer School.

Venue: St. Nathy's School, Ballaghdereen.

Theme: Traditional Irish.

Conference: Magill Summer School.

Venue: Glenties, Co. Donegal.

Theme: Reforming the Republic-Issues of Politics, Economics and Accountability.

Conference: Training for Elected Members.

Venue: Maldron Hotel Galway, Oranmore, Galway.

Theme: Health and Safety, Risk Assessment and Insurance in Local Government.

Conference: Yates Summer School.

Venue: Sligo.

Theme: Topics on Yates poetry.

Conference: Humbert Summer School.

Venue: Harlequin Hotel, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

Theme: Catholic Church Reform, Ryan and Murphy Reports.

Can the EU survive the euro crisis?

Conference: AMAI 97th Annual Conference.

Venue: Bunrana, Co. Donegal.

Theme: Where We See Town Local Government in the Future.

Conference: Report of Local Government Efficiency review Group.

Venue: White's Hotel, Co. Wexford.

Theme: Local Government Issues.

Conference: National Youth Conference

Venue: Croke Park, Jones Road, Dublin.

Theme: Youth Issues.

Conference: LAMA Autumn Seminar.

Venue: Listowel Arms Hotel, Listowel, Co. Kerry.

Theme: Local Government Efficiency and Financing.

Conference: Planning and Development Amendment Act 2010.

Venue: Hannon's Hotel, Athlone Road, Roscommon.

Theme: Amendments to the Planning and Development Act.

Conference: Criminal Law (Defence and the Dwelling) Bill 2010.
Venue: Maldron Hotel Galway, Oranmore, Galway.
Theme: Insurance Issues for the Home and Business Enforcement of Social Standards in Local Authority Housing.

Conference: Exploring Options for the Unemployed.
Venue: Carlton Atlantic Coast Hotel, the Quay, Westport, Co. Mayo.
Theme: Training Schemes, Income tax and other issues.

Conference: Council Budgets 2011.
Venue: Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
Theme: Council Budgets.

Conference: Clare Tourism Conference.
Venue: Falls Hotel, Ennistymon.
Theme: Achieving World Class Tourism.

Conference: Budget 2011
Venue: Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.
Theme: Budget Issues.

Conference: Building Regulations, Renewable Energy Requirement, Home Insurance.
Venue: Manor West Hotel Spa & Leisure Club, Killarney Road, Tralee, Co Kerry.
Theme: Building and Home Issues.

Total Spent on Conferences in 2010 €22,348.60

Awards & Achievements 2010

South Dublin County Council can be proud of our many achievements in 2010; there have been some excellent examples of projects /initiatives that have been recognized for their excellence during the year, highlights which include:

LAMA Awards

Rua Red Arts Centre won 3 awards at the LAMA Awards in the following categories

- Best Public Building
- Best Arts Building
- Grand Prix Award

Chambers Ireland's Excellence in Local Government Awards

South Dublin County Council was shortlisted for **9 awards** in the Chambers Ireland's Excellence in Local Government Awards 2010.

- *Connecting to the Past: Mapping South Dublin in Time*
- *Jobot's Access All Areas*
- *Green Pedestrian & Cycle Route along Grand Canal*
- *Bids Presentation Team, South Dublin County Tourism*
- *Link 2 B Active*
- *Think Local*
- *Corkagh Regional Park, Corkagh Demense*
- *Local Authority of the Year*

South Dublin County Sports Partnership's Link 2 B Active Programme won the award in the category for best Sports and Recreation Initiative

Irish Healthcare Awards 2010

South Dublin County Sports Partnership received a commendation in the Best Public Healthcare Initiative category for the Link 2B Active Program

Airtricity League Pitch of the Year 2010

Tallaght Stadium won the 2010 Airtricity League Pitch of the Year award, following an inspection by the Irish Institute of Sports Surfaces (IISS).

E- Government Awards

Special Certificate of Merit for the Accessible Award 2010 for improving access and online library services for all - South Dublin Libraries New Website

SECTION 2

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Community Services Department has in the main, responsibility for the County Development Board, the RAPID Programme, the Social Inclusion Unit, the Community Development Teams the Sports and Arts Offices and Tallaght Stadium. The Department also continues to administer its traditional role of promoting and assisting ongoing development of community activity at a local level throughout the County as well as being responsible for the day to day running of a number of community facilities in the County. The Department supports the Area Committees of the Council and two Strategic Policy Committees viz. Sports, Recreation, Community and Parks and Arts, Culture, An Gaeilge, Education and Libraries. The main achievements of the Department during 2010 are set out hereunder under each Unit heading.

South Dublin County Development Board

The Implementation Plan was reviewed in 2009 and work began immediately on the implementation of this revised plan. The County Development Board met five times in 2010 and its subgroups met and reported to the Board.

- Interagency Traveller / Children's Services Committee Initiatives
- Promotion of services for older people in the County
- The Social Inclusion Measures/Monitoring of RAPID Programmes
- The coordination of relevant service providers with regard to disability in the County
- Active Citizenship Week 2010 included a night of celebration involving all the volunteers managing community centres throughout the County

2010 was a difficult time for residents and businesses in this County. The Economic Development Working Group while reviewing and implementing the Integrated Economic Development Strategy responded to these difficulties and began a campaign entitled 'Think Local'. Think Local 2010 helps create and develop community awareness of the advantages and benefits of supporting local businesses and community facilities.

Interagency Group for Traveller Services

South Dublin County Traveller Interagency Group met on five occasions in 2010. The Strategy is divided into nine actions and each of these nine actions is progressed by a lead agency. The CDB Executive organized an interagency debate around the subject of employment and the Travelling community. Interagency meetings for frontline staff were held quarterly.

In the summer of 2010 the CDB on behalf of the inter-agency group reviewed the current strategy and produced a new document which will ensure greater cooperation and inter-agency cooperation in the delivery of services to Travellers.

South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee

South Dublin County's Joint Policing Committee is a forum where the Local Authority and the senior Garda officers, Oireachtas members and community interests meet, consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting community policing and community safety. The Committee met 4 times in 2010.

A subgroup was set up to look at safety in our public parks and a report entitled 'Reclaiming our Parks' was produced and the recommendations will now be implemented where appropriate by the various agencies involved.

The JPC support the SDCC/FAI – Late-night leagues which use football as a tool for the prevention of anti-social behaviour.

Crime Rates/Statistics in South Dublin County Administrative area are circulated CCTV Schemes are now operating and monitored in areas of South Dublin County. Four Local Policing Fora are now in place, meeting regularly and holding public meetings which allow residents to voice issues of local concern.

RAPID Programme

Themes

Community Safety and Anti Social Behaviour

3 local policing fora have been established, 2 in Clondalkin and 1 in West Tallaght. Management Committees have been established and several public meetings have been held.

The Community CCTV schemes in West Tallaght are now being monitored in Tallaght Garda stations resulting in numerous successful detections. Monitoring of the North Clondalkin Scheme through Ronanstown Garda Station is also being progressed.

Health

The suicide prevention strategies in both Tallaght and Clondalkin continue to provide comprehensive resources to the communities in the areas of prevention training (*ASIST* and *Safetalk*), direct intervention (Pieta House crisis counseling) and positive mental health promotion (*Headstrong* Programme development).

The community consultation into Primary Care in West Tallaght was completed in 2010 and a report was produced. A series of feedback sessions for the community have been organised.

Family Support

The *Acorn* Programme of parent coaching, initially funded in Tallaght by RAPID in 2007, has now been mainstreamed by the delivery agents, Barnardos. The future of

the *Six Steps Parenting Together Programme* is now secure through the innovative adoption of a parent intern model, which will train a new parent to act as coordinator every year. The *Incredible Years* parents module was delivered in 2 schools in Tallaght in 2010.

Physical Environment

A physical environment sub group, focusing specifically on the issue of litter was established in 2010.

Employment and Training

4 FÁS funded training courses took place in 2010. These courses were specifically designed to meet local needs and improve the employment prospects of young people living in the RAPID areas.

Programme Evaluation

A comprehensive evaluation of all RAPID funded actions since 2001 commenced in 2010 and will be completed in early 2011.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Clondalkin/ Lucan/ Newcastle/ Palmerston Area Team

- Clondalkin & Palmerston Profiles – Presentation on the profile of Clondalkin These presentations have been delivered to local schools, residents and older groups. These presentations have developed great interest among the general public, schools and Libraries Department.
- Annual Adamstown Christmas Party – Adamstown party was attended by over 300 children and families.
- Adamstown Film Club – On the Block by RTE 2. This programme showcased young Adamstown people, having a voice by expressing their own feelings and attitudes about living in the area.
- Griffeen Community Development Group – the Parent and Toddler Group has over 100 families registered. They provide a welcoming environment for Toddlers & Parents to meet other families. GCDG have carried out programmes with the parents such as “Healthy Eating” and “First Aid”.
- Adamstown Parent and Toddler Group is currently up and running in the Adamstown Area. This group is slow to start as many parents are reluctant to

get involved in the organising and running of the group. The community team are working with parents to encourage and support them to take ownership.

- Griffeen Women's Group – a new women's group supported by the GCDG and SDCC is in the process of starting up in the Griffeen area of Lucan. First meeting took place in November. 17 local women have currently shown interest in getting involved in the group.
- Palmerston Walking Route was established in February. 67 older people turned up for the 1st walk of the route. Since the great success of the inaugural walk, the community team developed a committee to organise a walking group and since then they meet on a weekly basis and the group is growing in numbers each week.
- Adamstown Walking Groups – in the past year there has been two walking groups set up in the Adamstown area. One in the Castlegate Area and one in the Paddocks Area.
- Palmerston, Adamstown, Deansrath and Newcastle Lyons have all hosted coffee mornings. These mornings provide a platform for community groups/ organisations to highlight and promote their positive contribution to the locality while providing individuals with information.
- Adamstown Summer Project and Adamstown Community Games public meetings took place throughout the year to engage residents to volunteer and participate.
- Smarter travel Adamstown – SDCC was commissioned by the DTO to develop and implement a personalised travel planning pilot in Adamstown. This we hoped would help imbed sustainable behaviour into new residential developments in Ireland. This study was carried out by going door to door and engaging residents. Much information was given out to residents and a report was compiled and presented to the DTO.
- Palmerston Youth Club is been supported by the Community Team. Some of the supports offered are as follows:
 - organising events and competitions within the club
 - Organising youth club committee to meet with other youth groups to see how they are organised.
- Neilstown Boxing Club - many meetings took place with the community team on the new extension of the Neilstown Community Centre. Boxing club was completed and opened in October.

- Older and Active in Palmerston took place in May. This event was run in conjunction with the Sports Officer. 60 older people attended and it was a great success.
- Older and Active seminars took place on the 27th of April, 4th of May, and the 18th of May. 50 older people attended. An example of issues that arose at meetings included, information board, drop - in - centre, safety, transport and communication and networking. One of the responses to these seminars by SDCC was to develop an Active Retirement Association in the Clondalkin Area. This Association currently has over 300 members spread out over 15 active groups.
- Unemployment information day took place on the 19th of April in Lucan. This event brought many local agencies together and gave them a platform to get information out to the local unemployed people. This event was well attended.
- Palmerston Community Festival took place the 20th – 27th of June. This event included activities such as bands, face painting, bouncy castles, and 5k race. This festival was a success and a very positive initiative which is lead by the community and supported by SDCC. This initiative boosts community spirit and participation in Palmerston.
- Lucan Community Festival took place for its second year from the 20th – 26th of September. This event was a huge success with over 5000 people turning up to the family day alone. This event included activities such as cinema mobile, historical walk, cricket tournament, and multi cultural event on the Sunday. This festival is a very positive initiative for the local people of Lucan. A committee has been set up by the community team with the majority of members been local residents to organise and run the festival.
- Lucan Community Festival Fundraising events took place on the 22nd July and the 2nd of September to raise money for the festival. These events were organised by the festival committee and showcased local community groups.
- Balgaddy clean up days have taken place in the Balgaddy area. These days were organised by the Balgaddy working together group and supported by SDCC
- Balgaddy Summer Family Day was a huge success with many residents turning out to enjoy the day. This was an initiative by the local residents, SDCC and CPLN.
- Balgaddy Gardening Workshop organised by SDCC and An Taisce took place in March.
- Palmerston Artist in the Community Project – this is an innovative project with SDCC taking the lead as the first local authority in the research and development of Sap navigation technology. SDCC’s major road networks, particularly the M50

toll bridge will be linked with the natural environmental sounds of the Waterstown Park, to provide drivers with a more relaxing and pleasurable driving experience.

- Arts and disability conferring ceremony took place on the 24th of June. The pilot training programme is the first council project for graduates to be awarded a 3rd level certificate.
- Older and Active in Clondalkin Summer Project ran from the 23rd – 29th of August. This event was run by Knockmitten Youth and Community Centre and supported by SDCC. The programme had many activities of an interest to older people. This project was very successful and can be used as a blueprint for future older person's projects throughout the county.
- The Phoenix Clubhouse BBQ and Art Exhibition took place on the 13th of July. This event was supported by the Community team and the purpose of the event was to celebrate the successful completion of the clubhouse improvement works to the appearance of the premises.
- Palmerston Family Cycle took place on the 20th of June. This event was run by SDCC and was successful with 40 local people of all ages taking part in the event.
- Adamstown Family Cycle Event took place on the 19th of June. This event was run by SDCC and was a very successful event with over 250 residents participating in the family cycle and the activities on offer by SDCC and the Community Gardaí.
- Griffeen Community Teddy bears picnic took place in Corkagh Park in June. Over 32 adults and 50 Children turned up to enjoy the picnic. This event was a joint initiative by Community Team and Griffeen Community Development Group.
- Adamstown 10k Road Race took place on the 11th of September. This is an initiative of the Adamstown Community Partnership. 300 Residents took part in the race.
- Newcastle Retirement Active Men's Social was established in September by the Community Team. The purpose of the men only group is to provide services, activities and social access to the high number of older men living in this semi – rural area. There are currently 48 members and is growing each week.
- An Art and Disability Seminar took place on the 15th of September. Approximately 50 artists and local services providers attended.
- Summer projects – the community team are working on a committee to develop new ways to engage communities and volunteers to develop and deliver local area Summer Projects. A series of local community summer projects meetings will take place across the South Dublin County to encourage local volunteerism and community assets building.

- South Dublin Dragons event took place on November.
- Comhairle Na Nog AGM took place on the 3rd of November. Over 75 young people attended. There has been a recent hand over to the Youth Service to be the lead agency of Comhairle Na Nog.

Tallaght, Terenure & Rathfarnham Team

- Completion of construction and hand over of the Ballyroan Community and Youth Centre in March 2010 and was Officially Opened by the Mayor on the 1st of October
- The official opening of Brookfield Youth and Community Centre took place on November 10th.
- In September 2010, Belgard Community and Youth Centre reopened after extensive refurbishment by both South Dublin County Council and the Management Committee of the centre
- Facilitated and assisted the organisation of the Ashling Alainn Arts & Cultural Festival with number of events successfully held during the summer of 2010
- Organised and facilitated the first Rathfarnham Community Christmas Festival, with a number of events organised including a Family Day/Childrens Christmas Festival with 200 children and their parents attending and meeting Santa Claus, a Senior Citizens tea Dance, a number of art and musical events and culminating in a Community Carol Service by the Dublin Gospel Choir in the grounds of the Pearse Museum
- Establishment of the Dominic's Community Centre (which was constructed and officially opened in 2009) as a busy dynamic multi-purpose community facility and a hub within the local St Dominic's community.
- Continued Sponsorship and Management of a number of Community Employment Schemes providing local people with the opportunities to gain work experience and training and the opportunities to progress back to employment
- The continued management of numerous community projects and community facilities responding to the needs identified by local communities and providing a wide range social, recreational and educational activities and services. These community facilities also all offer employment opportunities for a significant of

local residents employed in management, centre attendant and childcare positions.

- Worked with a number of other local authorities to re-establish the Community Regional Forum
- 6 Community Employment Schemes, 1 Job Initiative Scheme sponsored by South Dublin County Council.
- 14 Deputation Meetings were serviced.
- Children in 25 Primary Schools were provided with sandwiches, fruit, yogurt drink and milk through the School Meals Scheme
- Management Assistance Grants were paid to 15 Community Centres.
- 99 grant applications under the Community Grants Scheme were processed.
- 22 Summer Projects availed of Summer Projects Funding
- Funding was provided to support the Access to Third Level Scholarship Programme in conjunction with Institute of Technology Tallaght.

ARTS OFFICE

- RUA RED South Dublin Arts Centre achieves over 40,000 visitors during 2010 in exhibition visits and workshop participation.
- The Civic Theatre presents an annual programme of over 200 productions each year in Drama, Contemporary Dance, Ballet, Children's Theatre and Musicals. The year saw over 50,000 patrons attend the theatre. Almost 80% of those come from the South County Dublin catchment area.
- Involvement in the St. Kevin's Integrated Arts Project, in conjunction with Irish Wheelchair Assoc, St. Kevins, and Tallaght Youth Service/Foroige which realized a dance performance at the Civic Theatre initiated with funding from the Dept of Social and Family Affairs, and continued to a second project Click-Click.ie which was supported by the Artist in Community Scheme. The Project has recently received funding from the Young Ensembles to assist the groups to form into ONE integrated youth arts group.

It establishes a model of sustainability that champions the leadership of (integrated) young people in their own arts projects that can be tested out for similar groups. Funding wise and impact wise, this is one of our most significant collaborations between, agencies, artists and young people to date and demonstrates the ways in which a local authority arts office can really support arts initiatives.

- NOISE Festivals provided a platform for young people to show their work in film, dance and music in a programme that is linked to the NOISE website which is an online cultural space for young people in the county.
- South Dublin Music Education Service is continuing to grow as one of the most significant arts resources in the county directly delivering music tuition to a number of second level and primary schools in the county. 245 young people are currently participating in instrumental and vocal tuition. It provides curriculum support for teachers in the teaching of music and the teaching of other curriculum subjects through music, and music tuition contact for schools.

The Music Education Partnership brings together music providers, educators and local development agencies in a steering group which connects music interests in the county and it is preparing a tender document for the Music Education/U2 Fund to support further development of the programme in the county.

- Contact Studio is a mobile recording facility created in 2009 to record music, speech, or any cultural or art form that would benefit from sound recording. In 2010 the studio collaborated with the county's music education programme, to create activities and projects that will introduce people to the crafts involved in music's creation. It engages with youth and community services around the county (including the Noise project), and it collaborates with local artists, who are eager to record their work. It also introduces young musicians to various aspects of the recording and music industry early in their development. As well as commercial and subsidized recording terms, the studio also operates a social credits system.
- The Arts Office supported the commissioning of public art in the County by providing support to two primary schools in the County, Lucan East Educate Together and St. Brigid's NS, Lucan to commission public artworks for their schools.

It initiated a new commission in conjunction with the Dublin Local Authorities and the National Transport Authority based on the theme of mobility.

- Individual Artist Bursary Awards were awarded in 2010 to five artists working in music, visual arts and literature. A new Award introduced in 2010 *Annette Halpin Memorial Award For Young Musicians*. 3 awards were made. Under the *Project Award 2010 - Amateur, Voluntary and Community Arts*, 3 awards were made.

Events 2010

- NOISE Flicks Film Festival
 - NOISE Moves Youth Dance Festival
 - NOISE Battle of the Bands
 - Tenderfoot
 - Click Click
 - Readers day
 - Ruaille Buaille Childrens Music Festival
 - Unwrapped
-
- South Dublin Council Dance Residency continued during 2010 offering a programme of introductory dance activities which engaged children, young people, adults, traveller groups and people with special needs, a youth dance company *Animotion*, and youth dance festival *Noise Moves* established. Over 300 young people have participated in the programme in 2010.
 - Tallaght Young Filmmakers, this award winning group of after school filmmakers initiated by South Dublin County Council, with the support of the Library Services, completed three short films which have been submitted to youth film festivals around the country.
 - The theatre in partnership with the Arts Office produced the fourth year of **Tenderfoot**, a programme of playwriting and stagecraft for young people in South Dublin County. Over 40 young people participated in the programme in 2010. The programme has achieved matching funding from the Arts Council Young Ensemble Scheme for the second year in a row.
 - Creative Schools Initiative
In response to Arts Council strategy for arts in schools, the Arts Office has been working with secondary school teachers throughout the County to develop creative and cultural practices across the curriculum for teaching and learning. A professional development day was held in 2010 for teachers, TY coordinators, home school liaisons, school completion programme coordinators and other informal educators as well as artists. Participants attended practical workshops in dance/movement, music and visual arts and IT to explore ways in which creative techniques could be employed to promote active learning across many subjects including history, English, foreign languages, arts, geography, and IT. Participants have since utilized these techniques in their own practice.

- The Arts Office is involved in realizing a number of collaborative projects
 - The Tower Textile Project
 - NALA Multimedia Literacy Project
 - Comic Arts Project
 - Encore Project
 - Suburban Sounds
 - Tower Childrens Choir
 - Open House Architecture Project

Social Inclusion

The Social Inclusion Unit continued to coordinate and support the Council's Social Inclusion Measures Sub-Group of CDB, Intercultural Working Group and the South Dublin County Social Inclusion Network.

List of Achievements for Social Inclusion Unit 2010:

- Unemployment Seminar '**Pathways Through Unemployment**', aimed to engage people in an active discussion about their needs, struggles and ambitions during times of unemployment. The seminar was an opportunity for people to see what supports were available to them, to meet with others to discuss ideas, hopes and aspirations and to feedback these ideas and opinions to South Dublin County Council.
- New Communities Café Discussion
- How to Cook a meal for a family of four on a Budget
- Fetteracairn Horse Project towards Integration
- Golf Programme for Young Children in Hazelgrove and Grange Castle Golf Course
- Social Inclusion Week 2010 – Spotlight on Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Horticultural Therapy in Sean Walsh Park Tallaght for Disabled People
- 2nd Level Schools Social Inclusion Project
- Internship Scheme: an opportunity for members of the new community to gain work experience in an office environment
- Digi Art Classes
- The T Factor Talent Show
- European Week against Racism – an opportunity for everybody to convey their message against racism
- IT Classes for the Active Retired, New Communities and Disabled People
- Tea Dance for Older People
- Community Café Style Discussion on Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Interculturalism and Diversity Training
- Poverty and Social Exclusion Competition for Young Children

- Competition for the Active Retired to Celebrate Bealtaine
- Link on Social Inclusion Website for the European Year for Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Celebrating LGBT Week in June
- Box Stories in partnership with Tallaght Community Arts

COMHAIRLE NA nÓG South Dublin

2010 was an exciting year for South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg. Seven members of Comhairle attended Dáil na nÓg in Croke Park in March 2010, where Neil Douglas was elected onto Dáil na nÓg to represent South Dublin. During 2010 SDCC went into partnership with Catholic Youth Care and Fóroige, it was agreed South Dublin County Council would continue to manage Comhairle but would now be coordinated by SDCC and a representative from each Youth Service. This is proving very successful. Our AGM took place in October with 21 newly elected members made up of representatives from each geographical area to join our five 2009 / 2010 members who agreed to remain on. This event took place in Tallaght Stadium, 75 young people from around the County attended on the day.

South Dublin Dragons

South Dublin Dragons took place on Wednesday 17th November in South Dublin County Council Chambers – this event was organised as part of Innovation Dublin 10th-21st November 2010.

The event organised by South Dublin County Council and Comhairle na nÓg allowed young people to pitch an idea to the South Dublin Dragons in an innovative and creative way. This event affords young people living in South Dublin County to influence what happens in their area. The brave entrepreneurs were requested to come up with realistic, innovative ideas to improve life in their County. Each group or individual was given ten minutes to impress the Dragons. After their presentation the Dragons asked questions about the idea put forward. When all pitches were presented, the Dragons retired to their lair to choose an overall winner based on most innovative idea that was well researched and presented. Ideas such as Environmental projects, Educational, Community Projects were presented. Our Dragons included, Joe Horan County Manager, South Dublin County Council, Sean Gallagher Entrepreneur, of RTE's Dragon's Den fame, Sherri Brennan, Chair of the Waste Management Committee of South Dublin Chamber's Waste Management Group and the Greenogue B2B Network and Brian Corrigan, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Pfizer.

The 2010 winning Entrepreneurs were:

First place Deansrath Community College, Community Garden

Second place St. Colmcille's Community College, Cosy Hats to compliment their uniform
Third place Popcorn Film Crew, Roland Omisore, Oldbawn Community School

SPORT AND RECREATION OFFICE

The Sports & Recreation office promotes sport and recreational activities among all ages and abilities within the county.

- European Week Against Racism – Schools Soccer Blitz
- Gaelic for Girls Programme in Clondalkin, Tallaght and Lucan
- National Recreation Week 29th October – 5th November
- Late Night Soccer League – Spring & Winter Programmes in Clondalkin, Tallaght & Collinstown
- Spooky Walk Corkagh Park Halloween Evening
- Football in the Community Development Officers deliver programmes in the community & clubs & schools throughout the county
- Rugby in the Community Development Officer delivers programmes in Schools and Clubs
- Golf Programme for Young Children based in Hazelgrove and Grange Castle Golf Course
- South Dublin Gladiators Sports Disability Programme
- Bealtaine Festival (month of May) promoting physical activity among older adults in the county
- Intergenerational dance programme
- Walking programmes & Physical Activity programmes for older adults
- Sports Activity Days and Recreational Activities offered to Summer Projects countywide
- Fettercairn Horse Project towards Integration
- Social Inclusion week – sport & disability programme delivered,
- Disability awareness training offered to Transition year students countywide.

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

2010 saw the continued roll out of the Buntús programmes where training and equipment was provided to crèches and primary schools to help teachers and leaders in their efforts to get children physically active.

Other activities assisted by the Sports Partnership included the development of activity programmes targeting Travellers and women, the provision of soft play equipment for toddlers in Killinarden and Jobstown community centres and support for school activities and equipment for secondary schools in West Tallaght. On top of that SDCSP provided approximately €18,000 in local grant assistance to local sports

clubs and community groups to help them in their efforts to promote increased participation in sport and physical recreation.

SDCSP partnered with the other 3 Dublin Sports Partnerships (Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown & Dublin City) to jointly organize a club development seminar in the new Aviva Stadium. Over 200 delegates from over 100 clubs and 31 different sports attended the seminar which featured expert presentations on garda vetting, fundraising, committee structures and how to identify and partner with other agencies for common goals.

A comprehensive training programme took place for coaches, mentors, teachers, youth leaders and more in areas such as child protection, managing challenging behaviour, disability awareness, diet and sport specific ones such as Olympic handball, dance etc.

A new orienteering site was installed in Corkagh Park where groups or individuals can discover what the park has to offer while taking part on any of the 3 distances marked out.

The Link 2B Active programme launched in South Dublin County in 2009 which seeks to get reduced rates in local leisure facilities for people out of work became very successful in 2010. By the end of the year over 1,500 people were participating on the programme, the Irish Sports Council had decided to support its national rollout and the programme was nominated for 2 national awards (Chambers of Commerce Ireland for Excellence in Local Government and the Irish Healthcare Awards for Best Public Health Initiative).

The Sports Partnership's Strategic Plan 2010-2016 was launched by the Chief Executive of the ISC John Treacy and the Mayor Eamon Moloney in the presence of the Co. Council's Strategic Policy Committee for Sport and Recreation.

SDCSP gave presentations to SPHE classes from a number of secondary schools on the importance of and benefits of sports participation. It also assisted SDCC with events such as Bike Week, National Recreation Week and Bealtaine.

A forum for private and publicly owned facilities was hosted by the Sports Partnership so that issues can be learned on what may be affecting participation in them, how the Sports Partnership can be of assistance and how greater all round partnership between different parties can be promoted. It is planned that this forum will be continued with a number of meetings annually.

The 2nd Amateur Sports Award sponsored by SDCSP in partnership with the Echo Newspaper and the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel were held in December and this event is now becoming a highlight in the sports communities agenda. New to the event this year was the Hall of Fame awards won by Palmerston native Ollie Kelly a former national and European cycling champion and Gerry O Toole a former Dublin GAA footballer and Thomas Davis clubman.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

South Dublin County Council is committed to the protection and sensitive sustainable development of its physical and natural amenities, to promote access and to maximise their recreational value while protecting the county's environmental assets. The parks, open spaces and landscaped roadside margins of South Dublin County are an invaluable resource for active and passive recreational facilities, providing aesthetic enhancement and environmental improvement, thus contributing significantly to the quality of life for citizens and visitors alike. In this regard the Council's strategy, to provide for recreational, amenity and environmental pursuits and values, continued through the maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and the provision of new amenities and facilities.

Sports and Recreational Facilities

The following recreational facilities are available to the community:

- 5 Regional Parks and 50 Neighbourhood Parks
- Over 1,700 hectares of parks and open spaces for active and passive recreation
- 160 playing pitches are available to cater for the 86 sports clubs based in the county comprising 742 teams and approximately 16,000 players who use these pitches on a weekly basis during the playing season.
- 18 Tennis Courts provided at 5 locations – some 1,000 children use these Courts through the Dublin Parks Tennis League each summer.
- 2 All Weather Athletic Tracks under local club Management
- 11 All Weather Pitches at Astropark, Bancroft Park in conjunction with private sector together with 4 all weather pitches at Clondalkin Sport and Leisure Centre
- All Weather Hockey Pitch at Lucan
- All weather/multi use facilities in Jobstown Tallaght, Collinstown Clondalkin and in Deansrath Community College, Bawnogue.
- All weather Bowling Green Greenhills
- Cricket Grounds, Corkagh Park
- 13 Playgrounds and 4 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)

- Ireland's only purpose built baseball facility in Corkagh Park.
- Skate Park at Lucan Sports and Leisure Centre
- The National Basketball Arena in Tymon Park continues to enjoy a high profile and hosts many major sporting and cultural events.

Grange Castle Golf Course:

The Council's municipal 'pay and play' facility which opened in 1998, continued to be well used with approximately 41,111 rounds of golf being played over the year 2010. Grange Castle Golf Club was affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland in 2002, and now has a vibrant club membership of 750.

Camac Valley Tourist Caravan & Camping Park:

In 2010, some 15,246 visitors from over 11 different countries stayed in South Dublin County's municipal facility for caravan and camping holidays. This is the only municipal facility of its kind in Ireland.

Corkagh Park Fishery:

The fishery provides an interesting recreational/visitor attraction and it continues to attract anglers, fishing enthusiasts and the general public to this part of the park. In addition to the fishing lakes, the facility includes a tackle shop, fishing rod hire, coffee shop, public toilets and an outdoor timber deck and seating area. The fishery is under new management who are actively promoting and marketing the recreational potential of this fine amenity.

Parks Improvement Schemes

During 2010, a number of improvement schemes were undertaken in parks and open spaces throughout the County. The schemes were advanced with financial provision in the Council's Budget, supported by funding from development levies and grant aid provided through the Sports Capital, RAPID and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government grant programmes. These works included the following:

Woodford, Clondalkin

- Open Space reinstatement following main drainage works

Camac Valley Caravan Park

- New vehicle control barrier installed and CCTV upgraded.

Ard More Estate, Jobstown

- Major scheme of open space boundary improvements in consultation with local residents.

MacUilliam Estate, Jobstown

- Preparatory works for provision of MUGA.

Butler McGee Park, Jobstown

- GAA pitch drained and reinstatement works carried out.

Corkagh Park, Clondalkin

- Extension of Corkagh Pet Farm including construction of stone chicken house and installation of CCTV and visitor no. counter system. Installation of CCTV and visitor counter at pet farm.
- Relocation of Art Studio in Corkagh Park for Artist in residence.
- Upgrading of entrance to Corkagh Park at Cherrywood Crescent
- Development of Cricket Grounds at Corkagh Park

Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght

- Reinstatement works carried out resulting from Boherboy Scheme.
- Installation of floodlighting scheme and repair of fountain

Tallaght Stadium

- Installation pitch drainage scheme, Tallaght Stadium
- Tallaght Stadium won the Airtricity League Pitch of the Year award in 2010.

Kiltipper Park

- Pathway completed to link Tallaght Town Centre to Dublin Mountain Way.

Mount Andrew, Red Cow Interchange

- Construction of new car park at Mount Andrew, Red Cow Interchange

Tallaght Town Centre

- Landscaping of site adjacent to Topaz Garage, Tallaght town centre

Greenhills Bowling Green

Construction works were completed on the Council's first All Weather Bowling Green located in Greenhills Park adjacent to Greenhills Community Centre. In the Autumn, Greenhills Outdoor Bowls Club commenced using the facility. It has received much praise from all who have played there.

Willington Roundabout

- Landscape upgrade completed

Scholarstown

- Planting of semi-mature trees at Gantry locations along M50 upgrade

Griffeen Valley Park, Lucan

- Cycle-paths and associated lighting and CCTV under construction as part of the Griffeen Valley to Grand Canal Green Route Project,

Lucan Demesne

- River side path completed and surfaced, designated car parking spaces provided for disabled driver permit holders.

Lucan Weir Park

- Completion of Phase 1 Lucan Weir Promenade

Hermitage Park

- New footpath linking Hermitage Park Green with Ballyowen View.

Waterstown Park

- Provision of anti-slip surfacing, lighting and marking of car park.

Griffeen Valley Park

- Designated car parking spaces provided for disabled driver permit holders

Lucan Sports and Leisure Centre

- Upgrading of car park and drainage installed

Seasonal Works Programmes 2010

Seasonal works were carried out under the following programmes:

- Arboricultural Programme.
- Grass Cutting Programme.
- Halloween Bonfire Clean-up
- Seasonal Bedding Displays.
- Civic Christmas Trees Programme.
- Christmas Tree recycling Programme.

National Disability Strategy

In 2010 the Parks Department commenced works on improving the toilet facilities in Camac Valley Caravan Park, the Corkagh Visitor Centre and the Put & Take Fishery in Corkagh Park.

Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws

Parks Department administer the operation of the South Dublin County Council Bye-Laws prohibiting the consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Public Places as introduced in August 2001. During the year 2010, 175 offences were prosecuted under the Bye Laws following detection by the Gardaí.

South Dublin Libraries

South Dublin Libraries offer all citizens of the County a gateway to learning, study, information, literacy and the history and heritage of the County. Libraries act as catalysts for the development of social and intellectual capital across the myriad of communities which make up South Dublin. The innovative use of technologies gives access to the ever expanding digital world from www.southdublinlibraries.ie and the strong customer service ethos of the library service has been recognised and rewarded nationally during 2010.

Since 2008 the usage of libraries across the County has risen exponentially and continues to grow with computer usage up 60%, visitor numbers up 28% and loans up by 20%. This significant increase has been managed within existing staff levels by the implementation of streamlined business processes and through the delivery of a state of the art website. During 2010 over two million hits were recorded on the site with a significant number of these centred on digital books, business information services and web pages for students and younger children.

Key Indicators for 2010

Number of Libraries	7
Number of Mobile Libraries	4
Number of visitors	1,492,608
Number of items borrowed	1,280,479
New Items added to stock	68,906
Number of events/exhibitions	3865
Number of internet sessions	242,085
Web Hits	2,314,064
Wi Fi sessions	5663

An Innovative and Creative Service

During 2010 South Dublin Libraries delivered Ireland's first digital library archive using open source software. This archive, entitled Source, <http://source.southdublinlibraries.ie> offers collections including audio, books, ephemera, exhibitions, historic maps, newspapers, pamphlets and photographs of South Dublin dating back through centuries. Members of the public can also submit material for inclusion in this archive which is unique amongst local authorities and provides free access to a wealth of material for study and investigation.

Library Online Anytime

During 2010 South Dublin Libraries became the first Irish public library service to offer customers 'anywhere anytime' registration from the library website. The introduction of paperless online registration results in instant access to online

resources such as Encyclopaedia Britannica and Credo Reference Services both of which are heavily used by primary and post primary students for homework support.

Capsule Library for Traveller Families at Lynch's Park

During 2010 South Dublin Libraries, working in conjunction with Clondalkin Travellers Development Group and South Dublin County Council's Traveller Accommodation Unit developed a library for traveller adults and children located in the Community Centre at Lynch's Park. Funding for the project was delivered through the Public Library Research Fund – an initiative of the Library Council of Ireland. The library which offers a capsule collection of stock, full internet access on 5 PCs with links to homework help and information sources provides a focal point in the Community Centre, where residents are offered educational and recreational activities. The library works in conjunction with a homework club staffed by Tallaght Travellers Development Group.

Connecting with Communities

During 2010 services to communities were expanded to include an enhanced Home Delivery Service providing library access to citizens who have difficulty visiting their local branch library. Delivering to nursing homes, crèches, day care centres and individual homes on a regular basis this service caters for the personal interests, needs and requirements of individuals. The use of 3G on laptops delivers access to the library website, online catalogue and customer accounts.

Social Media and Customer Dialogue

During 2010 South Dublin Libraries embraced social media and Web 2.0 tools through Facebook and Twitter and a range of other digital communications platforms. The Library service is now using social media not only as a marketing tool but also to monitor what local communities are saying about services on offer. As the world becomes increasingly mobile and interconnected the library service in South Dublin is keeping pace and engaging in dialogue with local communities in a more immediate manner than ever before.

Supporting Job Seekers across the County

Fás eLearning programmes delivered across Lucan, Clondalkin and the County Library in conjunction with Fás during 2010. The target learners are people with low levels of education; people with low skill levels (e.g. non-transferable skills); people 35 years of age and under who are one year or more on the live register; people unemployed as a result of restructuring of industries (e.g. construction, retail, traditional manufacturing), and people aged 17-19 years who have never worked. Over 300 people availed of this service during the year.

Throughout the year ongoing events for job seekers also included training and information sessions on job seeking skills, start up business information sessions, financial information workshops with MABS, programmes delivered for high skilled job seekers in association with IEZ as well as free access to Lexis Nexis the world's largest collection of news and business information and Vision Net a website which provides company information for Ireland and the United Kingdom. These free resources are available on library PC's across the branch network.

READISCOVER Festival 2010

South Dublin Libraries were invited to host the showcase event of READISCOVER 2010 a festival celebrating books and reading and sponsored for the first time by Bord Gais Energy. During the festival in April 2010 the County Library became a studio for the live broadcast of the George Hook Newstalk show. During the festival Colm McCann, the author of Let the Great World Spin, who had just been awarded the prestigious National Book Award in the USA, gave his first public reading since receiving the award in the County Library where he was interviewed by John Kelly of RTE's The View. The event was streamed and made available as a podcast through the library website.

TEDxTallaght

South Dublin Libraries once again played a significant role in the delivery of the Council's programme for Innovation Dublin November 2010. During the week South Dublin County Council became the first Irish local authority to present an event under the internationally recognised TED organisation whose mission is "ideas worth spreading." The program is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue across many themes at the local community level. TEDxTallaght, organised and planned by South Dublin Libraries was held at RUA RED Arts Centre. A new website www.tedxtallaght.com/ helped market the event which drew attendees from across Ireland. Speakers on the night were Katherine Zappone, Director at the Centre for Progressive Change; Darragh Doyle, communications manager with Boards.ie and serial blogger; Merritt Bucholz, award winning architect and founder of the School of Architecture at UL and author and success coach Judy May Murphy. As well as the live speakers, two talks were also chosen from the prestigious www.ted.com and shown in the auditorium.

Community Literacy Project - One Book, One Killinarden

In February 2010 the County Library Tallaght embarked on a Community Literacy Project with 5 schools in the Killinarden area. Working with home school liaison teachers from each school, library staff developed a project based on Tom Crean and his exploration of the Antarctic. Three hundred children in Killinarden read 'Tom Crean's Rabbit A True Story' from Scott's Last Voyage by Meredith Hooper as part of the initiative. During the project each participating school was visited by Children's

Services Librarians - promoting the library service and the new children's website. In addition throughout the project a variety of family learning workshops were held in the library based on the Antarctic theme and all children and their parents became registered members of the library. The project ended with a grand finale in Killinarden Community Centre on Friday 19th March 2010 with all 300 young readers and their families in attendance.

Urney Chocolates Exhibition & Book Launch:

South Dublin Libraries collaborated with Karen Nolan in the production of the book *Sweet Memories: the Story of Urney Chocolates*. The Urney factory on the Belgard Road manufactured confectionary from 1924 to 1960 and was at one time, the leading chocolate manufacturer in Ireland. The book, and the exhibition which accompanied it, were launched in the County Library during Heritage Week in August 2010. Over 200 people attended and the exhibition attracted considerable attention during its five week stay at the County Library. The exhibition has since been displayed in Clondalkin & Castletymon Libraries.

As part of the project, Irish Life and Lore were commissioned by South Dublin Libraries to interview former Urney workers. This resulted in a collection of 16 recordings which are now available for download on Source- the libraries digital archive. Work on the Urney project resulted in valuable contacts being made within the local community. Material relating to Urney, including photographs and artefacts, were acquired for the Local Studies Collection through public donation as a result of the exhibition.

DEVELOPMENT

The Development Department works with State Agencies, Area Partnerships, other Council Departments and the County Development Board to promote the potential of South Dublin in line with the County Strategy for tourism, arts and culture, sports and leisure and urban and village initiatives.

The role of the Development Department is fulfilled through the provision of sites for major investment and by support of local enterprise, and through the Property Management function, lands are acquired and disposed of to facilitate construction of Roads and Sanitary services, Housing and Community services. The Council's role in controlling dereliction is also carried out by the Department.

Grange Castle Business Park

The Council supports commercial and business development both indirectly by providing essential infrastructure and services, and directly by the provision of serviced and zoned lands.

Over the last number of years, South Dublin County has experienced continuing commercial and industrial development by the private sector. The park is considered one of the four parks nationally that is suitable for large scale Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). However, this stage is becoming more crowded with competitors from Eastern Europe and Asia competing on a global basis with lower labour and service costs. To counteract the competition Grange Castle Business Park markets itself based on its strategic location and the quality of service that the Council and the Facilities Management Company can offer a client company.

Pfizer, Takeda, Microsoft and Arysza AG (Cuisine de France) facilities are now well established in the Park. Works are in place in Takeda to expand their operation and are due to be completed in 2011-

These major clients have delivered high quality sustainable investment and employment in South Dublin County.

The CCTV has been expanded and upgraded to incorporate the Green Route, which was officially opened in June 2010. All major services are now in place through the entire Business Park.

Grange Castle Facilities Management Ltd (a Management Company under the auspices of South Dublin County Council) continued its role in 2010 of overall responsibility for the management and maintenance of the entire Park including security and landscaping.

South Dublin County Tourism Company

South Dublin County Tourism is the marketing, promotional and development Company for tourism in South Dublin County. South Dublin County, now established as one of Ireland's premier business, sport and leisure destinations with its state of the art conference, hospitality and entertainment facilities. South Dublin County is home to several conference centres (the IECC at Citywest and the Victory Centre, Firhouse) which have the capacity to accommodate over 4,000 delegates. With onsite accommodation of 1,169 rooms and working closely with the 12 premier hotels within a 7 mile radius, South Dublin County has bedroom capacity of 2,900 beds per night.

Overlooked by the Dublin Mountains and positioned right in the heart of South Dublin County, Tallaght Stadium has quickly become a household name in Irish sport. Tallaght Stadium will not only host international sports fixtures but with the facility capable of holding 20,000 spectators we expect to see world famous music stars take to the stage.

During 2010 South Dublin County Tourism implemented and took part in a number of key initiatives in order to promote the County:

- To date the company has assisted in securing €56 million of new business for South Dublin County of which €6.5 was delivered in converted business in 2010.
- Launch of eBay shop – the first Irish accommodation and activities presence within eBay.co.uk.
- Development of bespoke iPhone application, iGuide South Dublin
- Completion of a dedicated booking engine representing the twelve member hotels and accessing external site location in the county.
- An expanded Halloween Festival 'Hallowfest' with a reduction in spend of 75%
- Expanded internet presence through the eCommerce team and monthly eCommerce meetings.
- Development of presentations packs as a recruitment tool and as presentation material.
- South Dublin County 3 minute promotional video with original soundtrack composed by local traditional Irish musicians has been developed. The video will be hosted by every member of the company on their home site
- Launch of new website under the domain of www.dublingolfhotels.ie. Traffic to the site is now average 50,000 visits per month.
- New defined member benefits and code of conduct for members of the company.

For more information visit www.dublingolfhotels.ie

Completed New Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route

The 8.5km Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route along the southern towpath of the Grand Canal from Inchicore to the 12th Lock was completed and officially opened in June 2010. The completed Green Route is a tangible example of interagency working in practice. This key piece of infrastructure was delivered by South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Council, Waterways Ireland, and the Electricity Supply Board. The route also incorporates two 110kV power circuits which reinforces ESB Network's existing 110kV network in West Dublin and accommodates existing and future 110kV substations. The project has delivered in a green, sustainable and cost effective manner the following components:

- Power
- Pedestrian and Cycle route
- Impaired Mobility Access
- Public lighting
- CCTV
- Information and signage
- Leisure – fishing, jetties, seating
- Litter bins
- Protection and enhancement of wildlife including bats and otters
- Protection and enhancement of flora

The construction of this Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route along the Grand Canal provides a high quality facility for use by residents, schools, businesses, impaired mobility users and for leisure purposes. The Grand Canal Way has been enhanced by the provision of a sealed stone finished surface, CCTV, public lighting, signage, seating, fishing points, litter bins, jetties and native landscaping providing a safe, secure, environmentally friendly surrounding for walkers, cyclists, wheelchair users and anglers. The facility is being widely used on a daily basis by commuters, leisure walkers and cyclists.

The route forms part of a proposed/under construction network of cycle and walkways throughout the greater Dublin areas with linkages to routes such as the Grand Canal basin, Portobello to Contarf route and Howth

Land Acquisition

The Council acquires land and property by Agreement or by Compulsory Purchase Order to fulfil the Council's requirements for the provision of motorways and roads, housing, community facilities, industrial development and parks, environmental services and by Deed of Dedication for open spaces.

While there were no Compulsory Purchase Orders made in 2010, throughout the year the Council continued to negotiate and process compensation claims on lands acquired under earlier Compulsory Purchase Orders and by agreement, in previous years.

While most claims are successfully agreed between the Council's Valuer and the Claimant's Valuer, an increase in the number of complicated claims being referred to the Property Arbitrator has been experienced in recent years. Skilful preparation of reports etc. by Council staff for appearance before the Arbitrator and valuable experience of the technical and administrative staff involved has resulted in some cases being resolved before these cases are actually heard. In 2010 however, three of the larger cases were referred to the Property Arbitrator. Two of these cases have now been closed and the third is still pending following Arbitration hearing and award.

Land Disposal and Asset Management

The Council disposes of lands which are required for community facilities, educational facilities, or for housing or commercial development. Disposals range from large housing sites to small areas of land to be incorporated into adjoining properties to eliminate incidences of anti-social behaviour or required by land owners to consolidate their ownership.

Given the current market value of land, the Department carefully evaluates, in conjunction with the Chief Valuer's Office, whether or not it is prudent or appropriate to recommend a disposal of land to the Council.

Property Management

Property Management is responsible for the management of the Council's property portfolio including the updating of our property register. Staff regularly monitor the property market in the County and surrounding area for indicators of price and identify potential strategic acquisitions that the Department may consider. Lands acquired by the Council and not required for immediate use are sometimes let for grazing and tillage purposes. The management also involves the granting and renewal of leases/licences for Council lands. Temporary Convenience Lettings of properties are also granted until such time as the property is required for the Council's statutory purposes.

The referencing of lands in the Council's administrative area in relation to a range of property management and development projects is carried out by this Department. The Referencers carry out works on behalf of several Departments including Planning (planning applications, enforcement action, development plans), Roads (road schemes, C.P.O.'s) Finance (rates arrears, public liability claims) and Environmental Services (land acquisition and wayleaves).

Allotments

Allotment plots are allocated in accordance with the Allotment Scheme which was adopted by the Elected Members in September 2005. Allocation of plots in all sites is in accordance with placing on a waiting list, at present there are over 500 on the overall waiting list for the four facilities, which highlights the demand for this type of recreational facility.

The Allotment Scheme involves the allocation of a plot for eleven months to individuals wishing to enjoy the pleasure of growing and nurturing vegetables and fruit for personal family use and consumption. The following table shows the sites, plot sizes and current fees:

Location	Size	Cost
Tymon Park, Tallaght	100 Sq Mtrs	€100.00 €50.00 Reduced Rate
Friarstown	100 Sq Mtrs	€100.00 €40.00 Reduced Rate
Friarstown	120 Sq Mtrs	€120.00 €60.00 Reduced Rate
Friarstown	250 Sq Mtrs	€250.00 €125.00 Reduced Rate
Mill Lane, Palmerston	120 Sq Mtrs	€120.00 €60.00 Reduced Rate
Corkagh Park, Clondalkin	100 Sq Mtrs	€100.00 €60.00 Reduced Rate

Applicants whose **sole** income is one of the following, maybe entitled to a reduced rate of 50%:

- Job Seekers Allowance
- Job Seekers Benefit
- OAP Contributory
- OAP Non Contributory
- One Parent Family
- Disability Allowance
- Disability Benefit

It is hoped to extend the current programme in the current year. However, this can only be done in the context of available resources and budgetary implications.

The allotments sites have storage and composting facilities on site, water is provided. Parking areas have been created and toilet facilities provided for the convenience of the plot holders.

Derelict Sites

Since the enactment of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, the Council has had considerable success in counteracting land dereliction and the Council is committed to maintaining this impetus in the interests of enhancing the County through addressing dereliction. During 2010, 80 inspections and re-inspections were carried out on alleged derelict sites. Section 11 Notices under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, were served in 23 cases where the properties were considered derelict within the meaning on the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. Failure to comply with a Section 11 Notice may the site being entered onto the derelict sites register.

DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Water Services

The Council operates as part of the Greater Dublin Regional Water and Drainage Steering Groups. This approach enables a consolidation of resources which reduces costs and ensures high quality of service provision to the people of South Dublin. However, water is a limited resource and there is a major study underway to identify new water sources for Dublin. This work will be a priority in the coming years and reports have already been made to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

Water Maintenance and Operations

South Dublin County Council purchases approximately 70ML/day of treated water from Dublin City Council's water treatment plant at Ballymore Eustace and approximately 1ML/day from Fingal County Council's water treatment plant at Leixlip. This water is distributed throughout the county via some 1,500km of watermains and our 3 main storage reservoirs at Belgard, Peamount and Saggart. The water is distributed to over 89,000 households and over 5,400 metered commercial customers. South Dublin has one public water supply from a borehole in Brittas which supplies approximately 120m³ per day.

Civil Engineering works continued throughout most of 2010 on the Boherboy Water Supply Project until November 2010 when the Contractor went into liquidation with approximately 90% of the contract completed. A completion Contractor will be appointed in 2011 and this project is due for completion in early 2012. This project involves the construction of a new 24ML reservoir at Saggart, a new 17.5ML reservoir at Kiltalown, 45km of new watermains, and linkages and controls to incorporate all new works into the existing water network.

The quality of water is monitored and analysed regularly and complies with all the requirements of the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No. 2) Regulations 2007. 3,941 tests were carried out on the water in 2010 and 99.8% of samples were in compliance, which is above the national average as reported by the EPA. There were no significant non-compliances or water quality issues in 2010.

During 2010 the Water Section repaired 195 burst mains, and carried out maintenance or replacement of 45 no. fire hydrants, 55 sluice valves and 378 services. 39 of those services where work was carried out were lead. The metering project was completed which has replaced nearly all meters with automatic meter reading equipment, and completed a project to install pressure reducing valves in the county.

The Water Section provides a key support to developers, other Council Departments and outside agencies, through the implementation of the Council's Specification for the Laying of Water Mains and Drinking Water Supply, the Council's Water Bye-laws

for the Management of Water Services and Conservation of Drinking Water 2004, and the Water Services Act 2007.

The Mechanical Section working in conjunction with the Water Maintenance Section has continued to implement energy efficiency measures in the Water pumping station network. This has consisted of replacing pumps with intelligent variable speed drives, thereby adjusting the pumps speed to the water demand required at any given time. This has reduced electricity bills, plus reduced maintenance costs, with an additional benefit of increasing the particular pumps life.

Water Network Management

The Council continues to participate in the Dublin Region Water Conservation Project (DRWCP) which commenced in 1998. The current phase of this project is at maintenance and rehabilitation stages and day to day water management is undertaken by a small dedicated team.

The watermains infrastructure is recorded on a Regional GIS system which is maintained by each of the Dublin Local Authorities within the Greater Dublin Area. 1,485 km of South Dublin County Council's watermains are digitally recorded to end of 2010 and over 94 km of new mains were mapped within the South Dublin County Council area in 2010.

Water distribution is managed using Logica Telemetry which remotely monitors the flows and pressures at 120 locations across the county and facilitates efficient weekly programming of leakage surveying works. Unaccounted for Water (UFW) losses in South Dublin County averaged 20.85% in 2010. During 2010 this section identified 163 repairs and 43 enabling works which were issued to Maintenance Section.

The implementation of pressure control measures are assisting the Council to achieve the 2016 UFW targets of 16%, as set by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. 33-new Pressure Reducing Valves (PRVs) were commissioned in 2009 under the Water Conservation Programme in order to reduce mains pressure locally and thereby reduce leakage. The average reduction in pressure across the 33-areas was 12.5m. Further Day-Night pressure control measures were fitted on these PRVs during 2010 to maximise water savings at night. An additional 7.5m pressure reduction was achieved in 25 of the 33-PRVs. The total saving in water within these 33-PRVed areas is 2,200 cum/day. An additional 27-PRVs will be commissioned during 2011/12 as part of the Boherboy project. These measures will optimise the management of scarce water resources.

During 2010 there were two severe weather incidents which resulted in water shortage. The Council used the PRVs to ration water across the County in order to conserve water. All premises – domestic and non-domestic should have twenty-four hours storage and the Council used its conservation regime to ensure no area of the County was left without water for over 24 hours. Specific issues with regard to frozen services caused further disruption and will be addressed/ highlighted in future.

The Dublin Region Watermain Rehabilitation Project phase of the DRWCP commenced in 2007 and its primary objective is conserving water across the Greater Dublin Region. 5-SDCC schemes are listed in the WSIP2010 and will commence in Jan 2011.

The Non-Domestic Metering Project is complete. This project will ensure that all commercial customers are metered and charged for their water usage in a fair manner in compliance with the EU and Government Water Pricing Policy.

Drainage

Drainage Maintenance and Operations

Drainage Maintenance and Operations Section maintains and improves the foul sewer and surface water infrastructure across the County. In 2010 this work consisted mainly of

- Constructing new foul and surface water pipelines, to cater for increased drainage capacity and flood management i.e. (a) Monksfield, Clondalkin (b) Cromwellsfort Road, Kimmage (c) Bancroft, Tallaght (d) Orlagh Grove, Knocklyon and Kilvere Estate off Butterfield Avenue.
- River and stream flood management works such as screen maintenance
- Unblocking and freeing up of public sewers
- Remedial work on sewerage infrastructure
- Upgrading and refurbishing pumping stations ie Spa PS, Lucan, Johnstown PS, Palmerston and Quarryvale PS, Clondalkin.
- Maintenance of network of pumping stations
- Emergency call outs
- Taking over the drainage maintenance of new estates that have been "taken in charge" by the Council
- Providing advice on the Dublin Regional Drainage Code of Practice for Drainage Works.

Water Pollution Control

The River Basin Management Plan was prepared and adopted by South Dublin County Council in November 2009. The plan has been adopted by the other counties participating in the ERBD and is in force since June 2010. South Dublin County Council is now implementing the agreed Programme of Works.

Recent Legislation of note has been the enactment of S.I. 272 of 2009 dealing with surface water quality objectives. This broadens the number of parameters that have upper [and in some cases lower] limits with regard to water quality. These limits directly relate to water quality status e.g. high or good, as aimed for in the ERBD Plan.

New regulations SI No. 101 of 2009 EC (Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters) Regulations 2009 were enacted and as a consequence the previous 2006

and 2007 Regulations were revoked. Some changes of note are contained in the new regulations but its business as usual for the Water Pollution Control section with regard to this legislation.

The EPA issued a Code of Practice for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems for Serving Single Houses (p.e. ≤ 10). This has been included in the new county development plan as the document of reference for appropriate wastewater treatment not on the public sewer system.

The Water Pollution Control Team is responsible for the monitoring, reviewing and issuing of trade effluent licences to businesses. In 2010, a total of 128 licences were in force under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 & 1990, the EPA Act 1992, and the Waste Management Act 1996.

Water and Drainage Design/Projects

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government approved the following schemes to advance through planning under the Water Services Investment Programme 2010 – 2012:

South Dublin Sewer Scheme 9B
Dodder Valley Sewerage Scheme
Saggart/Rathcoole/Newcastle Sewerage Scheme
Water Conservation Stage 3 Works

Management of the Council Fleet

The Council maintains a fleet of vehicles and machinery in order to provide its broad range of services. This fleet is maintained by the Council's Mechanical Section who are also responsible for the development and upkeep of the Water and Drainage Pumping Stations. The fleet comprised approximately 375 vehicles in 2010. Each Department using the fleet is charged for their vehicles as well as providing for future replacement of the vehicles.

Waste Management

South Dublin is part of the Dublin Regional Waste Management Plan in conjunction with the three other Dublin Local Authorities. The current plan runs to the end of 2010 and sets out the full range of infrastructure required to deliver integrated waste services in the region. It also provides for the range of services which support this delivery including recycling, awareness, enforcement, cleansing.

Waste Management Plan

During 2010, the Council continued the implementation of the Waste Management Plan for the Dublin Region 2005-2010. The Plan, which can be viewed on www.dublinwaste.ie is based on the priorities of waste minimisation, on maximising recycling and minimising landfill by recovery through thermal treatment.

Waste Management Operations

The Council continued to provide an integrated waste management service in 2010.

- A weekly collection of domestic refuse was provided for over 76,000 households and commercial customers throughout the County up to June 2010.
- In June 2010 the Council introduced the Brown bin Collection service. Each Household received a 140 litre Brown Bin and an information pack explaining the Environmental Requirements for the introduction of the bin system and a calendar detailing the new alternating presentation schedule for black bins and brown bins. Over 75,000 brown bins were delivered to customers and in 2010 2,570 tonnes of compostable waste was collected.
- Residual Waste continued to be baled at the Council's Baling Station at Ballymount and disposed of in the Council's engineered landfill at Arthurstown.
- The Compostable waste was brought to the Council's Baling Station at Ballymount and the waste stream transferred to a private contractor to produce compost that can be used as a soil improver for agriculture, horticultural or soil improvement.
- Bye Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Collection of Household Waste continued to be implemented to encourage good practice by both householder and Waste Collection contractors in the county.
- Facilities available at Ballymount Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre continued to operate in 2010.
- The Green Bin collection service continued to operate a fortnightly service with all clean plastics being included which has led to a considerable reduction in residual waste generated with 16,483 tonnes of waste collected from households in the County in 2010.
- A total of 34,320 tonnes of recyclable material was collected in South Dublin County through Green Bins, Bring Banks and other services.
- The Council now provides 48 Bring Bank facilities around the County.
- The Council's landfill at Kill co. Kildare closed on 21st December 2010.

Environmental Waste Charge

South Dublin operates a system of Pay-Per-Use and it has resulted in a continuing reduction in the percentage of residual waste being presented for disposal at landfill as customers remain in control of their own waste charges

The advance credit system for waste charges collection introduced in 2009 provides for greater flexibility on payment and account management methods.

Cleansing and Litter Control Service

The Council's Road Sweeping Programme continued in 2010:

- Main roads swept a minimum of 12 times a year and industrial estates swept at least twice a year and housing estates being swept on a regular basis by a Private Contractor.
- Leaf clearance is done in conjunction with the sweeping schedule and completed between a period commencing 1st October to December 31st.
- Gully cleansing is done once a year on all streets main roads, dual carriageways and motorways except in some locations that are prone to flooding. These are cleaned 2-4 times a year.

The Council's six Litter Wardens enforced the litter legislation and also provided advice and assistance to Residents Associations in organising clean-ups etc. including assistance during National Spring Clean Week. A total of 578 Litter Fines were issued during 2010 and 146 Direct Prosecutions were also initiated.

The Council removed a total of 5,581 tonnes of waste in 2010 and 6006 incidents of litter and illegal dumping were responded to by the Cleansing Section which also provide an emergency response when required.

The Council continued to employ a graffiti crew to deal with graffiti throughout the County. Over 180 tasks have been undertaken by the crew in 2010.

Waste Enforcement

During 2010, South Dublin Council identified and registered 15 unlicensed Historic landfills. Walkover surveys were conducted on these sites and they were categorised into low, high and medium risk according to the EPA code of practice for Environmental Risk Assessment for Unregulated Waste Disposal Sites.

In the area of statutory inspections under RMCEI, Waste Enforcement and Regulations Section planned 113 inspections. They achieved 148 inspections

Bon Fire Prevention

As part of its overall strategy for keeping the county clean a programme was developed which comprised "Bulbs Not Bonfires" and a free day in Ballymount Civic Amenity on the eve of Halloween as well as a special WEEE collection in conjunction with CCRI. There was a reduction in the number of bonfires in 2010.

Environmental Awareness

Eco Week is a week long festival, which took place 19th – 24th April, that aims to raise awareness of environmental issues and provide some solutions in an engaging, enjoyable and practical way. All events are free and range from exhibitions, workshops, seminars to storytelling and much more to raise awareness of environmental issues and solutions in a fun and practical way. There was a special emphasis on Water Conservation with the “Water Conservation Roadshow” visiting shopping centres around the county providing information on where your water comes from, how much water every person uses each day and simple ways we can conserve our precious water resources.

An Taisce Green Flag Awards

In the past school year (September 2009 to June 2010) twenty eight schools in South Dublin County were awarded green flags by An Taisce as follows

- 8 Litter and Waste
- 9 Energy
- 7 Water
- 4 Travel

This year St. Mary’s BNS, Rathfarnham was the 2,000th school to receive a green flag and they were presented with a special certificate in recognition of this.

Environmental Schools Anti-litter Competition

There were over 1000 entries in the Environmental Schools Anti-litter competition. Anti-Litter posters and slogans were designed and submitted from all round the County by pupils of all ages, from young children in Junior Infants up to teenagers in Secondary Schools. Winning Anti-litter posters were printed and distributed to all Schools, Community Centres and libraries in the County

National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean is Ireland’s largest Anti-Litter Initiative. April is National Spring Clean month during which a series of clean-ups take place through out the County.

Beautiful South Dublin County Competition

The Beautiful South Dublin County Competition aims to encourage participants to become more aware of and responsible for their local environment and to develop more sustainable communities. The competition gives South Dublin County Council an opportunity to publicly thank and acknowledge the great effort put in by communities in striving to improve their local areas. The Competition is judged under the following headings:

- Effort and Community Involvement - including local participation, community clean ups and campaigns for improvement of areas
- Litter Management - Absence of litter, graffiti, illegal dumping, abandoned cars

- Planting and Floral Enhancement - Neatness of areas and maintenance of natural habitats or plantings to attract wild-life
- Environmental Management -Water conservation & composting practices
- Overall general impression

Water conservation road show

The roadshow is aimed at the general public to raise awareness about South Dublin County's water supply and the importance of conserving it. The roadshow informs people about where their water comes from, how much water every person uses each day (148 Litres on average) and simple ways they can conserve our precious water resources. The Roadshow is available on loan to schools, community centers and other venues to display.

STOP Food Waste initiative

The STOP Food Waste programme promotes food waste prevention and home composting and shows how to prevent this through rethinking how we shop, store our food, cook it and reuse the leftovers it is part of an EPA waste prevention programme.

Food Waste Regulations Awareness initiative

A food waste regulations initiative was developed and every business in the County was contacted regarding the new Food Waste Regulations.

Introduction of the Brown Bin system

The brown bin system was launched in South Dublin County and an awareness initiative was developed to create awareness around the brown bin and what can and can not go in the bin. Information on the brown bin was contributed to all of SDCC's waste management customers

Drainage initiative

A drainage awareness initiative was developed to address the issue of improper disposal of items down a toilet which resulted in blocked drains and broken water pumps.

A WEEE to work recycling day

A WEEE to work recycling day - All employees were invited to participate in a WEEE to work to day. Anything with a plug or a battery was accepted, from battery-operated kids' toys to TVs to American-style fridge-freezers. Batteries were also collected on the day, Collection points were set up in the car park and lobby of the county offices in Tallaght.

Earth Hour

So Earth Hour 2010 took place on Saturday 27th March from 8.30pm-9.30pm. Earth hour is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community to turn off lights and appliances and use less energy. As part of Earth

Hour South Dublin County Council switched off all none essential lights and appliances in offices and libraries from 8.30pm-9.30pm on Saturday 27th March.

| **General Environmental Services**

| **Fire Services**

The Fire Service is provided as a shared service across the four Dublin Authorities and is run by Dublin City Council and includes the emergency ambulance service in the County. The primary fire station for the County is located at Belgard Road, Tallaght with back up from Dolphin's Barn, Blanchardstown and Nutgrove Avenue stations as required.

Emergency Planning

The Council as a Principal Response Agency (PRA), operates the Emergency Plan for the County. A new framework published in 2006 led to a more comprehensive Plan for the county being produced in late 2008. A number of exercises have been conducted and will continue to be developed to ensure the Council is in a position to respond as a lead authority in conjunction with the other PRAs. The plan is constantly revised to ensure that it is up-to-date at all times.

The Mayor Emergency Plan was updated in October 2010 and new version of it was issued in 2010. The current version is now version 2 which became valid from 19th October 2010. The Appendices to the Major Emergency Plan was also updated in July 2010 and new version was issued (Version 2). The Risk register for the plan was also updated in November 2010.

The setting up of Local Coordination Centre and buying of equipment for the centre was completed in 2010.

Training for the various responsibilities in the Major Emergency Plan continued in 2010 as follows:

- Health and Safety Adviser attended a two day course on Planning, Staging and evaluating Major Emergency Planning Exercises on 29th and 30th April 2010.
- Two Directors of Services attended the Mass Casualty Workshop on 30 Sept 2010.

The Council also attended meetings organised by the Easter Region Major Emergency Management Group.

Veterinary Service

The Veterinary Service, through Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, is responsible for the supervision and approval of slaughterhouses, meat cutting and meat processing plants. The funding allocation from the FSAI to the Council for 2010 was €277,523. The Council runs this service on behalf of the the four Dublin Local Authorities.

In addition, veterinary officers carry out regular inspections of the Council's Dog Pound and Horse Pound, as well as assessing stabling prior to issuing of horse licences.

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Officer service for the County provides services to a range of Departments in matters such as housing, planning, air and noise complaints.

Control of Dogs

The Council employs two full time Dog Wardens who monitor dog control under the Control of Dogs Act. The Wardens patrol the County and issue fines for offences such as keeping a dog without a licence or not keeping a dog under effectual control. They also impound stray dogs and dogs which are surrendered by their owners. In 2009, 10,296 dog licences were issued and 842 "on the spot" fines were issued. The Council's dog pound is located at Dunboyne, Co. Meath. The on-line dog licensing system is now fully operational with approximately 20% of dog licenses being purchased on-line.

Control of Horses

The Council's horse pound is located in The Curragh, Co. Kildare. Wandering horses are rounded up by the Council's Parks Department staff and transferred to the pound. 133 animals were impounded during 2010. The Department also processes applications for horse licences of which there were 5 licenses issued in 2010.

Council Policy

The Environment Strategic Policy Committee met on four occasions in 2010.

Presentations and reports were received on:-

January

Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012 Needs Assessment 2009
Beautiful South Dublin County - Proposal for Voluntary Involvement
Water Conservation - Discussion Initiatives
Social Credits Proposal - Presentation

Dublin Waste Management Plan

May

Review of Waste Bye-Laws (in context of introduction of brown bin)
Dublin Waste Management Plan - (deferred from last meeting)
Water Conservation sub - committee (update report)
Beautiful South Dublin County - (update report)

September

New Water Source Report
Draft National Waste Policy - Call for Submissions.
Litter Fines and Enforcement - Discussion on Level of Enforcement and Collection Rates.

November

Litter Fines and Enforcement - Discussion on Level of Enforcement and Collection Rates
Forestry presentation - Coillte
CFRAMS (Catchment Flood Risk and Assessment Management) in South Dublin - OPW

DRAFT

HOUSING

Housing Construction Programme

The Multi-Annual Housing Construction Programme delivered the following in 2010: Completions (including Part V, Voluntary and House purchases): 97

Key indicators

- 99 families houses in newly built/acquired dwellings
- Total Voluntary Housing Stock in the County at the end of 2010 is 952 units
- 201 Voluntary Homes being planned or under construction
- 3 applicant housed in Specially Adapted Accommodation

Affordable Housing

The sales of 22 Affordable Homes were completed to eligible Affordable Housing applicants in 2010. In addition 44 unsold Affordable Homes were leased on a 5 year basis under the Social Leasing Initiative introduced by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. 10 Tenant Purchasers completed the purchase of their homes through the Tenant Purchase Sales Scheme. The foregoing was achieved through a very difficult economic period in the overall housing market. There are 2051 approved affordable housing applicants on our Affordable Housing List as at February 2011.

Part V

In 2010 the Housing Department continued to monitor development and engage with developers in the county to reach agreement for compliance with Part V of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Council's current Housing Strategy for the provision of the 15% requirement for social/affordable housing in new residential developments using all available options in tandem with prevailing housing market conditions. Agreements were finalised in respect of two developments in the county.

Social Housing Leasing Initiative

The roll out and active promotion of the Social Housing Leasing Initiative commenced in June 2010. The Initiative provides a mechanism whereby the Council can lease property from private property owners over an agreed term and conditions for the provision of social housing. At the 31/12/10 the Council recorded 360 expressions of interest in leasing options from property owners across a range of property types throughout the county of which over 200 were made available by the owners for inspection in compliance with leasing standards.

In 2010 lease agreements were formalised in the case of 19 properties and they were made available for allocation to persons on the social housing lists.

The pilot [ASH](#) (Applicant Sourced Homes) programme was introduced in 2010 to support the leasing initiative. The ASH scheme provides an opportunity for housing applicants to source their own home which, subject to suitability of the property and reaching agreement with the property owner, will be leased by the Council.

Rental Accommodation Scheme

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) continued to be implemented with a total of 1232 families transferred to RAS homes at the 31st December 2010. There were 313 transfers during 2010.

Standards in Private Rented Accommodation

The inspection of private rented accommodation under the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008 (as amended) continued. The inspection programme is managed by the RAS Unit and inspections are carried out by the Environmental Health Officers who also enforce the standards. A total of 917 properties were inspected during 2010.

Dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour

The Anti Social team responded to 1,052 complaints and the following activities were carried out:

Housecalls made	1,728
Interviews conducted	492
Warnings given	67
Eviction notice served	5
Clinics held (Attended by Community Garda & Allocations Support Officers)	223

Work continued on the elimination of anti-social blackspots. The type of works undertaken included

- Installation of CCTV
- Re-enforcement of walls
- Installation of railings
- Elimination of laneways
- Additional lighting within estates
- Stub wall construction
- Installation of anti-vandal mechanisms
- Re-instatement of areas
- Improvement of areas prone to dumping

- Landscape design and development
- Ground cover redevelopment
- Footpath repairs
- Enhancement of entrance areas (improve access)
- Improvements through Painting programmes
- Boundary treatments and fencing Improvements

Estate Management

The Estate Management Section continues to assist in the overall running and management of the Community Centre for Senior Citizens in Liscarne Estate, Clondalkin.

There are approximately 60 Resident Associations / Groups in Local Authority Estates throughout the County with whom the Estate Officers are in regular contact.

New Estates

The new housing estates at Balgaddy, Lucan and MacUilliam, Tallaght were given special assistance in the setting up of their Resident Associations.

The work of enhancing Community Development within Balgaddy is currently being undertaken by the Estate Officer, Community Worker and residents from the Local area. Various events were held throughout the year which fostered community development which was further helped by the establishment of the Balgaddy Working Together Group and support of the Mayor's Initiative in Balgaddy and Macuilliam Estates.

Liaison Committees

The liaison committees comprise of Community representatives, the Gardai, Mediation Service and various representatives of the Council. The purpose of these committees is to ensure an integrated response to local service delivery. The Liaison Committee Initiative was established in 2007 with MacUilliam and Daletree and has now been extended to include the emerging community of Balgaddy.

Housing Projects

- 282 housing units were completed ready for allocation, 48 of these were completed under the energy efficiency programme.
- All the timber framed windows in Liscarne Dale were treated and painted and the common area in the apartment block was also painted.
- All of the timber framed windows, facias and soffits on the bungalows in Kilmahuddrick Crescent and Airlie Heights were treated and painted, and repaired where necessary.

Adopt Best Practice in Estate Management

- 21,545 maintenance responses delivered to end of December 2010
- Average cost per maintenance response €285.91
- 26 Fire damaged houses re-instated at 31/12/2010
- Windows and doors replaced in 203 houses, average replacement cost of €4,930.
Fire blankets installed in 6,700 houses representing two-thirds of the Council's housing stock.

Traveller Accommodation Unit

- 31 Traveller families were accommodated by South Dublin County Council.
- New Library Service opened in Lynch's Park Community Centre. The Mobile Library continues to visit other Traveller Specific Developments.
- The Traveller Inter Agency Strategy was reviewed and redrafted in 2010.
- 8 new housing units were completed at Coldcut Road, Clondalkin.

The Traveller Accommodation Support Service

The Traveller Accommodation Support (TAS) Team has continued to provide a intensive support service to Traveller families who have social difficulties that are impacting on their tenancies. The team dealt with a total of 78 cases in 2010. 49 of these were new referrals and 29 were ongoing cases. The cases which require an inter-agency response were subject to quarterly review meeting which were chaired by the HSE.

The Housing Welfare (Social Work) Section

The Housing Welfare Section received 264 referrals in 2010. The team worked with the Housing Department in relation to a wide range of issues including: home management problems, rent arrears, parenting difficulties and emotional issues (that are impacting on a client's tenancy).

Homeless Services

Implementation of the Action Plan on Homelessness 2007-2010:

- 20 homeless applicants were housed in Council Housing , a further 5 housed in supported voluntary housing, 4 in housing co-operatives and a further 10 in RAS and other leased housing
- 27 transitional accommodation units (providing 94 beds) managed by Sophia and Somas in the Tallaght and Clondalkin areas in 2010.
- A Women's Refuge in Tallaght which is managed by Satires Housing Association continued to operate in 2010.
- 24 permanent housing units in Tallaght, primarily for homeless applicants with support from Focus Ireland continued to operate in 2010.
- An 'after care' temporary accommodation facility for young adults released from care upon reaching 18 years of age continued to operate in Clondalkin in 2010 and is managed by Focus Ireland.
- The Council continued its outreach and tenancy sustainment services as part of its overall response to homelessness.

Allocations Section

The revised scheme of Letting Priorities approved by the Minister for Housing and Urban Renewal on 21/12/2006 is based on Time on List rather than points. It continued to operate during 2010.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government granted approval to South Dublin to operate two pilot schemes namely CBLS (Choice Based Letting Scheme) and the ASH (Applicants Sourced Housing) in support of the Social Housing Leasing Initiative which commenced in July 2010. The two pilot schemes represent a new and exciting method in the allocation and provision of social housing to persons on the housing list.

In 2010, 400 applicants on the housing list were contacted with full information on both schemes and requested to submit a preference for either option.

South Dublin Children's Services Committee

South Dublin Children's Services Committee (SDCSC) has been working since late 2007 to promote interagency working and integrated service design by all organisations involved in the provision of services to children and families. The initiative was established in South Dublin by Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA). Committee membership is drawn from a number of key organisations responsible for the delivery of services to Children and Families. These include South Dublin County Council (SDCC), Health Services Executive (HSE), National Education Welfare Board (NEWB), National Educational Psychological Services (NEPS), National Council for Special Education (NCSE), and the County Dublin VEC, Gardai, Probation services, Barnardos, CPLN and Dodder Valley Partnerships, AMNCH and the Childhood Development Initiative (CDI)

The committee also operates a number of sub-groups whose membership is drawn from a wide range of personnel working in the County. Each sub-group has developed a number of projects designed to aid interagency working through the development of a number of protocols and test interagency working through demonstration projects.

A number of important initiatives were completed in 2010 including the publication of protocols on Data Sharing, Sharing information on case work and Interagency Cooperation. The implementation phase of the protocols begins in January 2011 with the roll out of training in interagency working for frontline staff in a number of agencies.

The Directory of Services for Frontline staff was sent to the printers for publication in early 2011.

The Quality of Life project continues to map data critical to the development of informed planning and service delivery in relation to services for Children and Families.

The Alternative Response Model (ARM) project completed its first demonstration and evaluation phase. Best described as an interagency approach to solving the often complex needs of families, members of the project team, drawn again from a range of services in South Dublin such as HSE Social Workers, Community workers, South Dublin County Council, Gardai, Probation, Barnardos etc. examined a number of family cases, examining the range of needs and services required and acting then, collectively to address those needs. It is hoped to extend the scope of this pilot in 2011

For further information please contact the Children's Services Office
childrensservices@sdblincoco.ie

Key Indicators

- 99 families housed in Newly Built/Acquired dwellings.
- 224 families housed through Casual Vacancies.
- 73 Transfer requests granted.
- Total Voluntary Housing stock in the County at the end of 2010 – 952 units.
- 201 Voluntary Homes being planned or under construction.
- 22,610 maintenance requests received with 95.28% completed within target time-frames.
- Housing Maintenance budget for 2010 was €8,200,000
- Rent collected for 2010 was €19,799,242 and the average weekly rent was €48.
- 1,367 live loans on our portfolio with collection of €6.1m
- 139 Local Authority dwellings were adapted under the Disabled Persons Grants Scheme in 2010 and expenditure for above was €965,428.52.
- 1 Private Disabled Persons Grant was paid out at a cost of €4,915.50.
- 174 Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability were paid out at a total cost of €1,759,415.41
- 31 Mobility Aids Housing Grant Schemes were paid out at a total cost of €101,542.10.
- 90 Housing Aid for Older People grants were paid out at a total cost of €431,025.62

Housing and Social Development SPC

During 2010, a number of reports and issues were discussed and considered:

- Review of the Council's Anti Social Behaviour Policy document entitled **A Safe and Peaceful Place to live**
- Review of the Council's Tenancy Agreement together with the Scheme of Letting Priorities.
- Report on Affordable Homes
- Update on Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Planning Department plays a pivotal role in the physical, economic and social development of South Dublin County. Together with its traditional roles of Development Plan preparation, Development Management and Planning Enforcement, the Department is now pro actively involved in the physical development of the County, implementing the Adamstown and Balgaddy/Clonburris SDZ Planning Schemes, resolving issues of Urban

Design and Conservation, the realization of the objectives of Integrated Area Plans, the development of Local Area Plans and major project development and management

In 2010, the Department secured external funding for Projects in the areas of energy planning and sustainable travel in particular, which have enabled diversification into complementary fields of work and have leveraged investment of is of benefit to the County.

The IEZ initiative became a regional project under the Dublin Regional Authority in 2010 and was re-launched as the Innovation Enterprise Zone.

County Development Plan

The Development Plan provides the strategic framework and policy context within which the Local Authority's planning decisions are made. Following a review of the County Development Plan 2004-2010, and a pre-draft public consultation, a draft Development Plan 2010-2016 was approved by the elected members and placed on public display in late September to early December 2009. In 2010 the continuing process involved consideration by the elected members of the Manager's Report on the submissions received. Material amendments to the draft plan were then placed on public display, and following further meetings in September the County Development Plan 2010-2016 was adopted on 8th September 2010.

County Development Plan SEA

The Environmental Report of the County Development Plan was produced as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process. This was the first formal assessment of the environmental impacts of the policies and objectives contained in the South Dublin County Development Plan since the introduction of the SEA process into national legislation in 2004. The SEA process has both statutory and public consultation built into the process. The overall intention is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to provide for the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of Plans with a view to promoting sustainable development.

Adamstown SDZ

Adamstown was designated as a 'Strategic Development Zone' in 2001. As 'Development Agency', South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that Adamstown is a sustainable urban community and that development occurs at a pace whereby it is supported by all necessary facilities and infrastructure. The roll out of Adamstown is ongoing, based on an approved Planning Scheme.

At the end of 2010, approximately one-third of potential housing is permitted, with nearly 1,200 new homes occupied. The pace of new residential commencements moderated in 2010 due to a contraction in the construction industry. The main focus during 2010 was completing existing development in the 'Paddocks' and Adamstown 'Square' areas. Progress was also made in the 'taking in charge' process.

The Adamstown Developers have delivered public playing pitches, to accommodate sporting activities in Adamstown pending the completion of permanent facilities at Tandy's Lane Park and Airlie Park. The Developers also maintained discussions with potential commercial tenants for the District Centre during 2010. During the course of 2010 one planning application was submitted, for 177 no. residential units, the focus of which is on a compact family housing model in the 'Adamstown Square 3' area.

Adamstown PTP Smart Travel Project

South Dublin County Council, with the support of the National Transport Authority launched Smarter Travel Adamstown, a sustainable travel programme in 2009 and The Adamstown Personalised Travel Plan (PTP), a pilot project, was delivered in March 2010. The primary aim of the Adamstown Personalised Travel Planning pilot was to develop a community based travel planning toolkit to assist in establishing sustainable travel behaviour in new residential developments, set in an Irish context.

The overall response to the pilot was very positive and generated a shift in travel behaviour, with walking and the bus ranking highest in terms of alternative modes trialled. The outcome of the Adamstown PTP pilot further contributes to the body of evidence which supports the positive benefits that can be gained through suitable approaches and mechanisms used in generating modal shift.

Not only did the pilot succeed in creating behavioural and attitudinal change, it also explored what motivated participants to change travel behaviour. The delivery of the Smarter Travel Adamstown PTP directly by staff of the Planning Department has proved very beneficial. This approach allowed the Planning Department to steer the project and to utilise established knowledge of the area. Critically, this approach has also built capacity and skills that have enabled the Council to secure NTA funding for a PTP project elsewhere in South Dublin

Smart Travel Extension of Grand Canal Pedestrian/Cycle Route from Inchicore to Adamstown and Griffeen Ave.

The Planning Department secured more than €2m in funding from the Department of Transport's Smarter Travel Programme, to extend the Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route that runs along the Grand Canal between Davitt Road, Inchicore and the 12th Lock, to Adamstown and Griffeen Avenue, Lucan South.

The extension of the Greenroute to Adamstown and Griffeen Avenue includes the construction of a significant new canal bridge for pedestrians and cyclists, footpaths, cycleways, public lighting and CCTV. The route will enhance the accessibility of the Grand Canal from surrounding areas and will create a first class pedestrian and cycle route between Adamstown, Lucan South and Dublin City, that will facilitate secure, safe and attractive connections for school, work and leisure purposes.

Construction work on the construction of the cycle / pedestrian paths and the installation of the CCTV and Public Lighting began in July 2010. An application to Waterways Ireland for permission for the construction of a bridge over the Grand Canal was made in August 2010 and following a tender process construction of the bridge is scheduled for early 2011. The project is on target to be fully complete by mid-May 2011.

Clonburris LAP and SDZ

The Clonburris area is one of the most significant areas zoned for development within South Dublin County. Two-thirds of the area was designated a 'Strategic Development Zone' or 'SDZ' in 2006. As Development Agency, South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that Clonburris develops as a sustainable urban community. The roll out of Clonburris will be based on the Planning Scheme approved by An Bord Pleanála in November 2008 and an approved Local Area Plan adopted by the Council in April 2008. During 2009, a Project Implementation team was engaged in follow-up work required further to the An Bord Pleanála decision including the preparation of an *Urban Form Development Framework* which must be agreed prior to any built development taking place in the centre of the Clonburris SDZ Planning Scheme. This process was finalised, following consultation with landowners and stakeholders, at the end of 2010, and agreement of a final document did not emerge from the process and therefore the UDFD has now been referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

In February 2010 South Dublin County Council granted planning permission for in excess of 850 no. dwelling units in the first proposal for development on the Local Area Plan lands. This decision was appealed to An Bord Pleanála, with a decision scheduled for early 2011.

Smart Travel National Street Design Guide

Several Planning Department staff are at the core of a working group that also includes representation from Kildare and Fingal County and Cork City Councils, in the production of a National policy and technical guidance document for the design of roads and streets in urban areas i.e. where the speed limit is 50kph and below. This work is being undertaken on behalf of and is funded by the Department of Transport, who prepared the Project Brief and is overseen by a Steering Group that also includes DoEH&LG representation. The SDCC role includes hosting project meetings and project administration as well as technical input to and co-ordination of the draft document.

Local Plans

Clondalkin Town Centre Framework Plan

Special Local Objective 43 of the South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2010-2016 sought the preparation of a Clondalkin Town Centre plan. A non-statutory draft Framework Plan was prepared in 2010 and placed on public display in early 2011.

Naas Road Development Framework

The Naas Road Development Framework Study was noted by the elected members of both the Lucan-Clondalkin and Tallaght Area Committees on the 19th May 2010 and 26 April 2010, respectively. The Development Framework provided the informed basis for a number of Development Plan policies and objectives and does provide the overall strategic planning framework for the area.

Sustainable Energy/ Energy Planning Projects

EU Local Energy Action Leadership (LEAP) Project

In 2010, the Planning Department secured funding under the 'Intelligent Energy Europe 2' (IEE2) Project Fund for the preparation of a sustainable energy action plan (SEAP) for the County and the implementation of specific measures (actions) that arise out of the Plan. The aim of this work will be to reduce CO2 emissions below a baseline level, identified at an early stage in the process. The Project includes an SDCC commitment to signing the EU 'Covenant of Mayors' during the course of the Project.

Energy Map

The SEAI supported Energy Map system which provides a programme of mentoring for improving energy efficiency across the organisation has been established with the County Architect appointed as Energy Champion. The Planning Department is represented on the Energy Map team and has a central role in identifying and progressing projects.

Tallaght Pilot Energy Study: Review of Space Heating Options

In order to inform the energy policy elements of the County Development Plan, the Planning Department carried out a pilot energy study in the Tallaght area. The purpose of this study was to attain information on the existing costs of energy provision (space heating) in the Town Centre area and to compare these costs to the costs of other long term options for energy provision. This information will allow the Council to include real policy statements in the County Development Plan. They also provide a basis for the development of a sustainable energy zone within the Town Centre allowing interested stakeholders to work together on energy projects which benefit the entire area. This includes the examination of the possibility of developing a District Heating System within the Town Centre

Integrated Area Plans (IAPs)/Urban Renewal Scheme

The tax incentive Integrated Area Plans (IAP's) for both Tallaght and Clondalkin have come to an end and final reports have been issued for both areas for the period of operation 1999-2008. The schemes generated direct private investment in excess €800 million between the two areas and have generated an additional €15million that is being expended in the disadvantaged neighbourhoods on Community Infrastructure and Community Projects. Both Plans have significantly contributed towards addressing the physical, economic, social and environmental regeneration of the town centres and in the adjoining disadvantaged residential areas. While around 2,500 apartments were constructed in the Tallaght Town Centre area, the occupancy rate is approximately 60%.

Conservation

South Dublin County Council's Record of Protected Structures contains 544 Protected Structures, 105 of which are public authority owned. The Conservation Grants Scheme for Protected Structures is funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The grant scheme is administered by the Council's Conservation Officer/Section and has been successful to date in ensuring owners of Protected Structures are provided grant assistance to undertake necessary conservation and repair works to secure and protect their structures.

The Grant Scheme allocation for Protected Structures received from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government for 2010 was €87,000 eight Conservation Grants were provided with grant aid based on the scheme of priorities and the full amount of our allocation was spent. The works completed under the grant scheme for 2010 included repairs/replacement and treatment of roofs, repairs to chimneys, repair to rainwater goods and repair of external renders. Examples of grant aided projects are shown below.

(1) Muintir Na Tire, Lucan was grant aided for roof repairs (2) Bolton Hall, Rathfarnham was grant aided for the reinstatement of the entire roof to its original after fire damage (3 & 4) St. Anne's Church, Bohernabreena was grant aided for repair of rainwater goods and treatment of interior roof timbers.



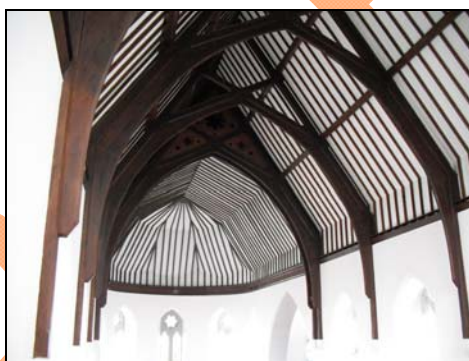
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

The Civic Structures grant scheme was launched in 2007 by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Conservation Officer/Conservation Section provides information and advice to other Council Departments in relation to this grant scheme and ensures the works being carried out are in accordance with good conservation practice. South Dublin County Council was successful in obtaining grant aid of €20,000 for remedial repair and conservation works to the Roman Arch, Rathfarnham.

There are 5 designated Architectural Conservation Areas within South County Dublin, Tallaght Village, Rathfarnham Village/Willbrook, Lucan Village, Clondalkin Village and Palmerston Mills. This designation has been very successful in the conservation; protection and enhancement of those areas South Dublin County Council consider of great architectural quality and character.



The Planning Departments Conservation Officer/Section assisted the Development Plan review team in assessing the submissions received during the County Development Plan review process in relation to Archaeological and Architectural Heritage and conservation of built environment.

The Planning Departments Conservation Officer/Section also provides reports on planning applications and Section 5 Declarations that affect Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas, Recorded Monuments and Zones of Archaeological Potential.

- Pre-planning and general conservation advice is also provided to occupiers/owners of Protected Structures. The Conservation Officer/Section issues Section 57 Declarations in respect of Protected Structures.
- Section 59 Endangerment Notices are also initiated by the Conservation Officer/Section to include details of specific works that owners of a Protected Structure must undertake to ensure the structure is being safeguarded.
- Reports are also prepared for the Enforcement Section with regard to unauthorised development to a Protected Structures or within an Architectural Conservation Areas.
- The Conservation Officer/Section also provides advice to other Council Departments in relation to Protected Structures and other historic buildings/features and general conservation issues. This also includes providing reports or comments in relation to dangerous buildings and Part 8 notices.

Heritage

The South Dublin County Heritage Plan 2010-2015 was agreed and adopted by Council in June 2010. This preparation of the Plan was undertaken by the Council's Heritage Officer in conjunction with the County Heritage Forum. Two phases of public consultation were undertaken during the preparation of the document which included five public meetings and invitations for written submissions.

The Heritage Plan is a realistic cross-agency strategy, with reference to agreed delivery and monitoring mechanisms for the identification, protection, conservation,

management, enhancement, and interpretation of all aspects of heritage including the historic, built, natural, and cultural environments. It is a strategic statement detailing what South Dublin County aims to achieve in terms of heritage management over a 5 year period, while also being a list of achievable actions which will be undertaken to achieve these objectives.

The incorporation of heritage advice and information to the Council's forward planning process featured significantly in the preparation of the County Development Plan, particularly in relation to requirements for the implementation of the EU Habitats Directive. These requirements culminated in the preparation of a Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment for the CDP which accompanied the CDP's Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Heritage advice and contributions were also made to other Council Departments and to the following meetings and events: the Arts and Culture Development Working Group; the Cultural Quarter Committee Meeting; the Clonburris UFDF Biodiversity Study; Lucan Luas RPA meetings; planning and development applications; students and post-graduate students; Heritage Week event at the 12th Lock; the Aviation Museum in Baldonnell; heritage tour guide; and Dublin Zoo. In addition, the Heritage Officer hosted three heritage-related radio programmes produced by Radio Tallaght.

Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP)

The Dublin Mountains Way was officially opened on 31st October 2010 at an event in Ticknock Forest. It is a new long distance walk linking Tallaght in the west to Shankill in the east, 43km of trail.

Dublin Mountains Way at Cruagh, South Dublin

This has long been a long standing objective in the Local Authorities' County Development Plans and has now been delivered. It is an excellent example of how projects can be delivered through partnership. Through the hard work and cooperation of the Local Authorities, private landowners and over 300 volunteers, the Dublin Mountains Way is now on the ground.

An ongoing programme of trail improvement is in place and a number of sections of trail have been newly built, upgraded and waymarked during 2010 totalling 19.4 Km. Four new looped walks have been waymarked across the Dublin Mountains at the Hell Fire Club, and Glenasmole. Signage with site information and maps is installed at forest entrances and car parks and provides valuable information for visitors on the trails, points of interest and the Leave No Trace message.

Improving information on the mountains and how visitors can access and make use of the resource is a key area for the DMP. The use of the website www.dublinmountains.ie is continuing to grow throughout 2010 and is proving a very popular source of information on the mountains and events taking place. It is

regularly updated with news and upcoming events, and provides visitors with maps and information about the recreation sites. A new page for the Dublin Mountains Way with downloadable maps was added in 2010. A "Dublin Mountains Public Lands Access Map" highlighting land accessible to the public, access points, car parks, recreation facilities and the Dublin Mountains Way and Wicklow Way was published in association with EastWest Mapping was officially launched on 31st October. It is available in bookshops and outdoor shops and online.

From the outset, the DMP has been keen to develop the role for volunteers as an important part in the management and improvement of recreation in the Dublin Mountains. It works with a number of organisations and individuals to achieve this goal. As part of its programme to provide an enhanced recreation experience for the users of the Dublin Mountains, the DMP developed a Volunteer Ranger Service. Volunteer Rangers play an important role in management of outdoor recreation in many other countries including the U.K. and the U.S. The duties undertaken by Volunteer Rangers include assisting visitors to the DMP area, opening and closing car parks, leading guided walks and helping with DMP organised events, promoting responsible use through the Leave No Trace programme, litter picking and trail maintenance.

The DMP Volunteer Rangers play an important role in management of outdoor recreation in the public lands of the Dublin Mountains. The duties undertaken by Volunteer Rangers include assisting visitors to the DMP area, opening and closing car parks, leading guided walks and helping with DMP organised events. The DMP Volunteer Ranger Service was expanded in 2010 and now has a team of 30 volunteers in place.

A consultative forum for stakeholders in the Dublin Mountains has been set up. This will meet 4-5 times per year and will provide an opportunity for interested locals to be informed of the work of the DMP and for the DMP to listen to the ideas and concerns of locals.

Three additional permanent orienteering courses were established in 2010 bringing the total to five courses in the Dublin Mountains. On all five sites, there are three courses of varying lengths for the public. There are additional educational resources available for both primary and secondary schools and are designed to enhance the orienteering experience for both teachers and pupils. The orienteering maps, instructions and school workbooks are available to download on the website www.dublinmountains.ie.

Mountain biking is very popular in the Dublin Mountains and encourages many new and younger visitors to the forests and mountains. The first section of a new 8km mountain bike trail system commenced construction at Tiknock Forest. The design of the trails will be sustainable and will appeal to a broad range of mountain bikers and will be graded moderate to very challenging. The trails will be fast and fun with large rock slabs, big grade reversals, technical twisty bits and fast flowing descents. This is the first phase of the mountain bike trail development.

The work of the DMP has received excellent coverage in both national and local media sources. The Dublin Mountains Way was featured as a full episode of the RTE One Tracks and Trails TV Series. This highlights the interest in South Dublin's Mountains and in the work and achievements of the DMP in demonstrating that partnership between different organisations with similar objectives works and achieves results. This widespread and regular media coverage also encourages many more visitors to get out, get active and explore the mountains.

Planning Applications

In 2010, the Council received 813 valid planning applications. This represented a decrease of 11% on 2009. There were 771 decisions made in relation to planning applications during 2010, 666 grants of permission, 105 refusals. 23 applications were declared withdrawn during 2010. There were 64 invalid applications received in 2010 and a further 20 applications deemed invalid due to the Site Notice not being in accordance with the regulatory requirements. 115 applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2010.

Enforcement

A total of 309 new enforcement files were opened in 2010. Warning letters were issued in 304 cases during 2010 and Enforcement Notices were served in 141 cases. District Court proceedings were initiated in 31 cases and Circuit Court proceedings were initiated in 1 case. 6 Convictions were obtained in the District Court, and 1 Circuit Court Order was obtained, 25 cases were resolved following the issuing of District Court proceedings. 136 cases were resolved without the necessity to apply to the Courts

Development Contributions

South Dublin County Council's Development Contributions Scheme was adopted by the elected members on 14th December 2009 and is applicable to permissions granted from January 1st 2010 to 31st December 2017. Since the adoption of the scheme over 750 grants of permission have been assessed for the purpose of development contributions.

The total development contributions received under this scheme in 2010 were €4million.

The Council also operates the Supplementary Development Contributions Scheme for the Metro West line (on behalf of the Railway Procurement Agency) and the Kildare Route Project Supplementary Development Contributions Scheme (on behalf of Irish Rail).

ROADS

In 2010 the Roads Department continued with its Maintenance, Traffic Management, Design and Construction of National, Regional and Local roads.

National Roads

Following the completion and opening of

- 1 The additional lanes in both directions on the N4 and the grade separated junction between the N4 and the Newcastle Road.
- 2 The additional lanes on the M50 and the upgrades of the Ballymount, Tallaght N81, Red Cow and N4 Junctions.

a substantial part of 2010 was dedicated to negotiating and agreeing the final accounts for these very significant projects.

Non-National Road Programme

Construction

Luas Line A1 Extension – Belgard to Saggart

Enabling works for the Luas Line in partnership with the Rail Procurement Agency continued in 2010 with the completion of a new junction at Cookstown.

Construction of the City West Link Road and Park and Ride facility completed ahead of Luas Line A1 programme.

Civil works for the Luas Line commenced in April 2009 with a completion date of December 2010.

Embankment Road, Belgard Road to Outer Ring Road

Link from Belgard Road to Outer Ring Road (Part of Walkinstown/Embankment Route).

Construction Contract awarded.

Construction commenced in December 2010.

NON-NATIONAL ROADS – DESIGN

Greenhills Road QBC

Forward Land acquisition is being progressed.

Detailed design / Site investigations were undertaken in 2010.

Ballycullen QBC

Construction progressed in 2010 with a target completion date of March 2011.

Tallaght QBC

Part 8 approval completed in 2010 and an application for funding was made to the National Transport Authority. The construction of phase I will begin in 2011 subject to confirmation of funding from the NTA.

Rathfarnham QBC

The Part 8 was advertised during 2010.

Bus and Luas Interface at the Square Tallaght

Consultations between the Council, the National Transport Authority and the Rail Procurement Agency continued during 2010 with a view to developing a bus and Luas interface at the Square Tallaght.

Nangor Road

The detailed design is currently being progressed for the reconstruction and upgrade

Stocking Lane

This project involves the provision of safety measures including provision of new footpath/cycle track.

Funding was sought in 2010 and following confirmation of the availability of funding it is planned that the project will proceed to the construction stage in 2011.

Maintenance

National Roads

The National Roads Authority provided finance in 2010 for the maintenance of the National Primary and National Secondary Roads as follows

- National primary maintenance €141,600 (N7 & N4)
- National secondary Maintenance €68,800 (N81 & N82)
- National secondary special works €550,000 (N82 & Ramps City West)
- Public Lighting €259,400

Interdepartmental Maintenance Projects

The Maintenance Section worked in conjunction with the Parks Department to carry out the yearly grass cutting of margins and medians on the N4 and the N81 as well as hedge cutting on the N4.

The Parks Department carried out the grass and hedge cutting while the Roads Department provided the traffic management.

Non- National Roads

An allocation of €3,907,000 for road maintenance work was provided by the Department of Transport. The following roads were included under the improvement programme in 2010

- Cromwellsfort Road
- Grange Road
- Rockfield Avenue
- Riverside Cottages
- Edmondstown Road
- Stone Cross Shankill Road
- Old Belgard Road
- Fairways Road
- Kiltipper Road
- St. Peters Crescent
- Heatherview Close
- Cherryfield Avenue
- Smiths Lane
- Avonbeg Gardens
- Ballymount Ind Estate
- OldCourt Road
- Crannagh/Ballytore
- Ballymount Roundabout
- Leixlip
- Dodsboro/Old TandysLane
Aylmer Road
- Baldonnel Road
- Ballyowen Road
- Cloverhill Road
- Kennelsfort Road Upper
- Lucan Newlands Road
- Melrose Avenue
- Nangor Road
- Neilstown Road
- Coldcut Road
- Stoney Hill
- Tandy's Lane
- Athgoe Road
- College Lane
- Rowlagh Avenue
- Deansrath Road

- St. Anthony's Crescent
- Glassamucky Road & Cunard Lower/Upper/Brakes
- Ashwood Avenue
- St. Ronans Avenue

The following are details of other works undertaken in 2010 as part of the Road Works Program

Restoration Maintenance	19 projects
Discretionary Maintenance	31 projects (this includes an allocation for winter maintenance and for patching due to winter weather)

The restoration and improvement programmes above involved works being undertaken on over 121,000 sqm of carriageway.

Footpath Programme

In 2010 €400,000 was spent on replacing bays and removing trip hazards within the County. A total of 5,600 sqm of footpaths were replaced and 7,000 m of trip hazards were removed.

Winter Gritting

For a second year in a row the demands made on the Roads Winter Gritting Crews was almost doubled due to the weather conditions in the period January to March and the exceptional weather experienced at the end of 2010 which continued into the early part of 2011. Again heavy snowfalls and extended periods of sub-zero temperatures as well as shortages of salt and gritting materials placed enormous pressure on the resources of the Council. Despite these difficulties the Council were able to manage its stocks so that at all times we were able to keep the main commuter routes open. The co-ordination of the Council's response by using the up to the minute information from the Traffic Management Centre helped our front line maintenance staff target the most problematic areas during this period. Plans for the provision of additional storage facilities in the County for salt were progressed during 2010 and the construction of the facility is due to be completed by the end of March 2011. This new storage facility will give the Council greater flexibility should a similar weather pattern hit the County in future years.

Staff Training

Training of staff within the Roads Department continued in 2010 with further staff attending Signing, Lining & Guarding; Health & Safety at Road works, Location of underground Services and Designers of Temporary Traffic Management Plans as part of the Health & Safety programme.

Other notable statistics for the Roads Maintenance area are

494 abnormal load permits were issued.

3,429 online Roadmap applications were made.

Roads Traffic

Traffic Management Centre

The Traffic Management Centre now utilises Twitter as well as SMS (51678), live traffic images, actual journey times plus profile journey times to assist road users.

The centre was also invaluable during the extreme weather experienced in 2010. It could provide up to date information to the general public about road conditions throughout the County as well as providing important information, from the network of cameras strategically placed throughout the County, to the gritting crews so that the response was delivered in an efficient and effective manner.

Traffic Signals

Following the installation of a pilot traffic light linkage system, the results of which showed a 14% journey time improvement, an application was made in 2010 to the National Transport Authority for funding to extend this system to other areas.

1300 repairs/adjustments were carried out on the traffic signal network in 2010

The Traffic Section is currently working with the Rail Procurement Agency to install the latest traffic signal equipment to synchronise rail and road signals to optimise traffic flows on the Saggart Luas Line.

MOVA was installed at a further 3 sites in 2010 and traffic counts undertaken at these locations indicated increased capacity in the range 3% to 12% with an average of 7%.

Pay and Display

New Pay and Display Bye Laws were prepared and adopted in 2010. Pay and Display was extended to Templeogue, Tallaght \ Oldbawn and Fortfield with charges for Saturday parking introduced in certain areas.

Mobility Management

The Roads Department organised activities to promote alternative ways of travelling emphasising walking, cycling and public transport as part of National Bike Week and European Mobility Week

The promotion of the Bike Purchase Scheme continued in 2010
The now yearly Pedometer Challenge was also organised during 2010 and the number of teams participating increase again this year.

The highlight of the cycling year was the contribution made to the official opening of the Grand Canal Route where a cycle tour of the route was held to mark its opening.

Road Safety and School Wardens

The School Warden service continued at schools and selected crossings throughout the County.

The Road Safety Section supported courses in cycle training for 1,200 national school children.

In conjunction with the Traffic Section a number of locations were identified for the installation of additional safety features and signage.

ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

The Architectural Services Department continued to produce a range of innovative and attractive projects and ongoing development programmes in 2010 despite the continuing downturn.

- The Neilstown Boxing Club was completed including a rooflit boxing-hall, gymnasium and changing facilities as well as a new community meeting-space and other improvements for Neilstown Community Centre adjoining. A small urban space to the front and side of the scheme was added to the project to improve its setting under the Public Realm Initiative. This has proved successful and is well-maintained.
- Work commenced on site on the refurbishment and extension of the Tallaght Welfare Society building in the Village Green. This will extend their capacity to offer services in a bright and airy renovation of their premises, including a garden.
- An extension to and reformatting of Rowlagh Community Centre was issued to tender in 2010. The scheme includes a new crèche, club rooms, dance studio and internet café. Its slim tower to Neilstown Road will become a colourful urban landmark when work is completed in 2011.
- South Dublin County Council was successful in a DoEHLG-sponsored competition to design an Energy-efficient Housing Scheme under the Towards Carbon Neutral Programme. The winning entry, Valhalla Special Needs Housing in Clondalkin, will feature a broad range of renewable technologies including solar collectors (electrical and heating), ground-pumps, super-insulation and grass roofs. The project will commence on site in 2011 with completion due in mid-2012.
- A joint project with Planning Department saw the design of a cycle / footbridge over the Grand Canal linking Adamstown to the new pedestrian route along the Grand Canal. The bridge is an elegant shape and will be a new landmark in Griffeen Park. It is designed in conjunction with Clifton Scannel Emerson Engineers and will be completed in mid 2011.

- Tenders also issued for 3 Traveller houses in Turnpike near the Red Cow Junction. The project will be completed at the end of 2011.
- Tenders were received for an infill scheme of 9 houses – 4 on lands at Kingston Court and 5 on lands at the junction of Glendoher Drive and Taylors Lane, Rathfarnham. Work is expected to commence in mid-2011.
- Scheme approval was sought from the DoEHLG for a refurbishment and energy upgrade proposal for 22 apartments at Pearse Brothers Park and Palmer Park, Ballyboden
- The refurbishment and upgrading of existing Council Housing Stock continues to be an important element of the department's portfolio. The aim is to improve tenants' quality of life while reducing the carbon footprint of South Dublin County.
 - The next phase of refurbishment in Cushlawn and Greenfort / Shancastle Estates was approved for funding by the Department of Environment;
 - The tender for Cushlawn Phase 3 Refurbishment of 77 dwellings was returned in late November and, subject to Departmental Approval, will start on site in 2011.
 - Tender documents are in progress for 75 Dwellings in Greenfort / Shancastle Estates.
 - Government funding allowed the energy-upgrading of 48 voided dwellings while under relet-repair in 2010.
 - 6,000 Council dwellings had their boilers serviced under the supervision and management of the Council's Mechanical & Electrical section.
 - The Small Works programme continued with 1 special needs extension completed in 2010, 5 extensions currently on site and due to be completed in the first quarter of 2011 and a further 6 extensions at varying stages of the process.

The Architects Department continued their collaboration with the Planning Department in the area of Energy Management and the promotion of sustainable initiatives at every level. The Council continues its own BER and DEC evaluations of buildings using its clerk of Works staff, specially trained for this work.

The project management and procurement of the Housing Construction Programme provided 99 families with new houses in 2010 including units procured by direct contract and under Part V arrangements in private developments. This figure includes 44 families who were housed by Voluntary Agencies and 3 families in Specially Adapted Accommodation procured through the Construction Programme. The direct provision of social housing units by SDCC-managed construction contracts is decreasing year-on-year with social housing needs being met primarily by RAS and leasing schemes. All inspections on these programmes are carried out by Council staff directly. Smaller infill schemes will be directed into areas of anti-social behaviour and special-needs families where departmental approval and funding allow.

The Architectural Services Department manages the monitoring of Dangerous Structures in the County. 85 reports and evaluations were carried out in 2010 including serious fires and structural collapses.

In addition to construction, design and urban-design, Architects Department offers advice to other council Departments on a wide variety of technical issues.

With Continuing Professional Development now a legal requirement for Architects under the Registration Section of the Building Control Act 2007, training was acquired in 2010 from SEI, UCD, RIAI, on BER Assessment (including Public Buildings), New Contracts, Sustainable Energy and 9 accredited CPD lunch-time sessions over the year. The staff of the department remains committed and flexible and looks forward to new challenges in 2011.

SECTION 2- Organisational Matters

CORPORATE SERVICES

Corporate Services Department continues to make improvements and better use of resources to ensure the provision of quality information, improved customer service to residents of the County and support the Members of the Council in delivery of their obligations to the electorate.

Corporate Services interacts and provide support to all Council Departments and has general responsibility for Mayor and Members support, Communications, Customer Care, Internal Audit, Civic Buildings, Staff Facilities, Procurement, Register of Electors, Higher Education Grants, Events Management, Twinning and Freedom of Information.

Register of Electors/Local Electoral Areas

Corporate Services Department compiles the Register of Electors on an annual basis. The total number of electors registered on the 2010/2011 Register of Electors, was 181,026 and the breakdown of this figure across the five local electoral areas was as follows.

Local Electoral Areas

Clondalkin:	36,720
Lucan:	31,307
Tallaght-Central:	44,975
Tallaght-South:	35,832
Rathfarnham:	32,192

Higher Education Grants

Higher Education Grants are awarded to students who are residents of South Dublin in accordance with the Local Authorities (Higher Education Grants) Acts, 1968 – 1992 and the relevant annual Scheme under guidelines of the Department of Education and Skills and as adopted by the Council.

Under the Higher Education Grants Scheme for the 2010/2011 academic year approximately 1280 students were awarded grant assistance in respect of Maintenance and/or Fees. A total amount of €4.5 million was paid out in Higher Education Grants during the 2010 calendar year.

During 2010 South Dublin County Council continued to make payments to students by way of EFT. This method of payment was introduced in 2009 as a pilot scheme involving the four Dublin Local Authorities to make payments of maintenance grants directly to Students by way of Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). The project was highly

successful. This project was undertaken with the full backing of Colleges and Students Unions.

Freedom of Information

In 2010 SDCC received 46 Freedom of Information requests. This compares to a total of 59 FOI requests in 2009. Of these 46 requests 93% were granted or part granted. Enquiries received were mainly for our Housing and Planning Departments. Of the 46 enquiries received 10 of these requests came from Journalists and 22 came for Clients/Customers of the Council.

Reform of Procurement Policy

Extensive work was undertaken during 2010 on updating the Council's procurement procedures manual. Advances were also made in modernizing and updating the internal purchasing limits. Information meetings on the rollout of the procedures and limits will be rolled out during 2011.

Training and up-skilling in procurement efficiencies continued during the year. A key group of procurement staff received tailored in-house training by external procurement consultants and further similar training is scheduled for 2011 on European and national procurement regulations. This training will be focused on the needs of procurement staff and ensures that the organization is equipped with the skills and tools to award contracts in a compliant manner with particular emphasis on best practice and value for money.

Internal Audit & Efficiency Unit

A key element of corporate governance is the control environment and the control framework within which the organisation operates. During 2010 Internal Audit through its audit plan objectively examined and evaluated the effectiveness of controls in the organisation while promoting continuous improvement in relation to efficiency and effectiveness of operations and thereby contributing to the corporate governance framework in place in the organisation.

Within the criteria set out, audits were identified to provide maximum departmental coverage. Nine of the Council's thirteen departments were subject to at least one audit review.

An important measure of the effectiveness of Internal Audit is the acceptance and implementation by Management of recommendations made. All recommendations made were accepted by management.

Work was also carried out on the development of a risk register.

The unit aims to operate to a high quality standard by having regard to *the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing while carrying out its reviews.*

Health and Safety

South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that all its services and operations are carried out and delivered, as far as possible, safely and without any risk to staff and members of the public. The Council has two professional Health and Safety Officers who deliver advice, train staff and carry out inspections and risk assessments. All the Council's workplaces have a separate Safety Statement which are reviewed regularly to take into account any changes to work practices, legislation and personnel.

A comprehensive programme of safety training is in place, to ensure staff are qualified and competent to work safely and the programme includes the FAS and FETEC national training requirements. In addition 2010 saw the commencement of training of South Dublin County Council staff as manual handling instructors. These trained instructors will be used regularly to deliver the manual handling course in-house to Council staff.

Customer Care

Customer Care Centres at Tallaght and Clondalkin continue to provide a frontline service in relation to all Council services. A highly qualified team provides informed and professional advice and work to the principles and response times set out in our Customer Charter. The staff has access to databases that in use throughout the Council. This enables them to deal with enquiries instantly for over 80% of our customers.

Often, it is customer care staff who first raise alerts and identify issues when they occur. Examples of this were difficulties experienced by customers due to extreme weather conditions in 2010, when roads and water supplies were affected. Reports of problem areas were reported directly to teams on the ground and feedback to customers provided by phone, email and web information postings gave relevant updates and timesframes for resolution.

Customer relationship management systems, developed in house, record customer enquiry information and allow fast access to back end data. Tracking and monitoring of these enquiries ensure quality and efficient service. In addition, statistics show continuous increase of enquiries year by year. 170,000 queries were resolved during 2010, this showed an increase of 20,000 over the previous year. Since 2009, emphasis has been on offering more choice to our customers, to access services, make payments, or request information using online services. There was increase of 20,165 online queries during 2010.

Customer Care also runs the payments office in Clondalkin Civic Centre, making it possible for customers to access the same services and information and also make payments on a variety of Council services. The footfall to this office is on average 2,000 customers a month. The Centre also provides accommodation to local organizations for meetings/public consultations. A nominal charge is made to cover security and utility costs.

Ongoing Customer surveys by the staff of the centre, provide information on service improvement but also give valuable feedback to the Councils training programme. In 2010, a training programme commenced with the aim of providing all Clerical Officers with frontline experience. This was well received by the 25 staff who had the opportunity to take part in the programme, 3 opted to remain in the section whilst the remainder provide back up on phones and front line during peak business if required.

Customer care and the Porter staff are also involved in monitoring post levels and ensuring discounts are availed of through An Post on bulk postings. In 2010, a saving of 14,000 euro was recorded on post presented for discount.

Telephony

Telephone communications is managed by Customer Care and Statistics generated by the system for resource management and departmental performance purposes. This enables managers to manage staff deployment. It also highlights recurring business issues allowing resolution of more common type of queries faster.

Major cost reductions have been achieved in the areas of mobile and landline business. Best deals in running cost and service delivery on the mobile phone account were sought by tender in 2010. In addition, the installation in 2010 of a Quintum box on the Councils PRA's has meant a 33% reduction of central landline bills.

2011 will see landline business being tendered through a central landline framework for Government Departments and Local Authorities agreed by the Department of Finance. It will also see the phone systems in Depots and other outlying Council buildings being centralized through the Councils main contact number to avail of cost savings and to allow business levels and trends to be mapped and reported on through the Customer Care centre.

Mayors Office

Councillor Eamonn Maloney was elected Mayor at the Annual Meeting of the Council held in June 2010 and was presented with the Chain of Office by outgoing Mayor Councillor Mick Duff. Councillor Cathal King was elected Deputy Mayor.

Civic Events

Over 200 events were organised through the auspices of the Mayor's Office reflecting the Council's interaction with communities throughout the County. Highlights included the Civic Receptions for Shamrock Rovers FC, Airtricity League Champions and members of the Dublin Ladies Team, All Ireland Football Champions. Innovation Dublin Week, Social Inclusion Week and the Christmas 'Unwrapped' Event.

Twinning

South Dublin County Council has formal twinning arrangements in place with the London Borough of Brent and Kreis Segeberg in Germany. The Council also supports the community twinning arrangement between Rathcoole and Ecole Valentine in France.

Communications Unit

The communications team play a key part in making sure accurate, timely and relevant Council information is made available to members of the Public, Elected Members and Council Staff. The Council uses a wide range of communication channels to make information accessible to all:

Media monitoring/ Press Releases: The Communications Unit aims to develop good relationships with the national and local media and in 2010 over 500 media queries were processed and 170 Press Releases issued.

Corporate Publications: During 2010, the unit produced the new [Corporate Plan 2010-2014](#), Annual Report 2009. [South Dublin County Today Magazine](#) which was delivered to over 80,000 households in the County.

Website /Social Media: Elected Members, Staff and representatives from Partner Agencies took part in a social media workshop in June 2010. Social Media is a very cost effective medium which enables the Council to implement awareness campaigns and receive direct feedback from customers. During the adverse weather conditions in November/ December, this form of communication kept the public updated with the latest news. You can now follow SDCC on [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) and [YouTube - southdublincoco's Channel](#)

Staff Newsletter/Intranet: The Communications Unit manages the compilation of distribution of the internal staff newsletter '*South Circular*'. In addition the unit provides information for the staff intranet, to ensure that staff are kept up to date with important Council news. During 2010 awareness sessions on the new [Corporate Plan 2010-2014](#) objectives were arranged by the unit for staff.

Brand Management: The Communications Unit provides advice and guidance to all departments to ensure that Council services and property are clearly branded in the corporate style.

Irish Office - Oifig na Gaeilge 2010

2010 was another eventful year in the Irish Office of South Dublin County Council.

- A new Irish Language was drafted and accepted by the County Council, while all obligations under the Irish Language Scheme 2006-2009 were ongoing.
- The correction of Irish road names and signage is ongoing and being completed on a phased basis.
- We hosted another active Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas, (SnaGÁct), a county wide celebration of the Irish language and culture, which hosted 113 events, which was again well received, with something for everybody, young or old, with little or fluent Irish!
- Launch of a new and innovative website, www.ging.ie, which encourages and supports private business in the County to use a cúpla focal on signage, menus and advertising etc, to encourage the visibility of Irish in the County.
- Launch of [Irish website of South Dublin Libraries](http://www.abairleat.ie)
- Launch of www.abairleat.ie a new and creative way of online teaching and learning, to be used in classes, held weekly, free of charge in the County Library Tallaght
- implementation of the Official Languages Act 2003
- dealing with queries in relation to Irish and the Council and queries submitted through Irish.

As per the Irish Language Scheme of South Dublin County Council all queries through Irish are welcome or if you would like to be on our contact list in relation to events etc being held in the county, just send an email to Gaeilge@athcliaththeas.ie
For more information see www.athcliaththeas.ie

Disability Liaison / Access Office

During 2010 the Disability Liaison / Access Office continued to:

1. Monitor and support the implementation of the Council's Disability Act Implementation Plan;
2. Co-ordinate expenditure of the Councils 2010 National Disability Strategy funding allocation of €310,629 received from DoEHLG;
3. Carry out Access Officer, Liaison Officer and Inquiry Officer functions as defined in the Disability Act 2005.

Key achievements of 2010 include:

- Improved accessible toilet access across the County's parks network

- Significant access improvements in the Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park including installation of 7 level access showers, upgrade / installation of 6 accessible toilets and installation of Braille and tactile way finding signage;
- Clondalkin Civic Offices Payments Office made accessible;
- Significantly improved access for disabled people in Tallaght Stadium including installation of an FM Loop System, internal induction loop facilities within the main building, upgrade of the 10 accessible toilets and 14 accessible parking spaces and installation of Braille and tactile way finding signage;
- Installation of visual fire alerts in accessible toilets in Clondalkin Civic Offices.
- Improved pedestrian access in Palmerston, Clondalkin, Tallaght, Saggart, Rathfarnham Village and Lucan;
- 'Designing for Accessibility' training and handbook developed for Library staff in order to maintain high levels of accessibility throughout www.southdublinlibraries.ie
- Celebrated the first anniversary of the establishment of the County Disability Advisory / Consultative Panel (in partnership with the SDCDB) by hosting the 'Universal Design: Building Sustainable and Vibrant Communities' seminar.
- Access works undertaken in County Library as per ETA assessment report;
- Online Accessible Parking search facility went live as part of Local View, Connect Me. This facility enables motorists to search for the location (and GPS co-ordinates) of accessible parking spaces across the County;
- 'Park Right' poster and information leaflet promoting Jobot's Access All Areas and the Access Office distributed to every school and community facility in the County as part of National Accessibility Week;
- New Braille Printer installed in County Hall Customer Care Centre;
- Access works to courtyard shared by the County Library and Rua Red to enable disabled young people to participate in shared learning activities with their non disabled peers;
- <http://accessible.southdublin.ie> further developed. Site had 1378 New Unique Users between January and December 2010 (compared to 730 in 2009);
- Jobot's Access All Areas short listed for Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards (Outstanding Customer Service category).
- Disability Liaison / Access Officer selected for a second term as Vice Chair of National Access Officers Network;
- South Dublin County Council is working with the other 3 Dublin local authorities to redevelop and expand Dublin City Council's [Access Matters](#) initiative to cover entire Dublin region;
- 23 cases dealt with by the Access Officer Service whereby disabled people required assistance navigating Council services.

ETHIOPIAN PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

This is a joint project funded by Irish Aid (the overseas development arm of the Department of Foreign Affairs) and South Dublin County Council which partners the Council with two Ethiopian towns – Butajira and Werabe. In late 2007 a proposal was accepted by Irish Aid to grant-aid the project in the sum of €320,000 per annum over an initial period of 3 years. SDCC part funds the project (currently to the extent of

€50,000 per annum) and both Ethiopian partners are committed to contributing an overall 15% of the total project expenditure supplemented in some cases by additional provision of local labour or materials.

The basis of our project is of building the capacity of the two town administrations through targeted training delivered by both SDCC staff and local management consultants coupled with the development of a 3-year rolling programme of infrastructural works and community development initiatives (based on locally determined priorities) which are aimed at building and consolidating a strong and sustainable base for both communities while at the same time building municipal capacity in the area of project and financial management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting.. The project elements cover a very wide range of areas mirroring those of local authority responsibility in Ethiopia.

These include:

- Management Training for Municipality Politicians & Staff
- Technical Training delivered by SDCC Staff
- Water supply networks and standpipes
- Public & School Sanitation blocks
- Waste management
- Street Paving
- Surface Water Drainage
- Urban Planning
- Upgrading and Provision of New School Buildings & Equipment
- Provision of Health Facilities & Training
- Gender Equality Programmes
- Child Support Programmes
- Youth Recreational Facilities
- Computer Provision & ICT Training
- Library Development

For more information, annual reports, photos and videos outlining our work, visit the project website at <http://ethiopianproject.southdublin.ie/>.

Connecting with the Citizen

Connect is supporting local web-based content and promoting new innovative uses of technology across citizen, business, educational and community services. Connect envisions a future where everyone in South Dublin County uses the internet as an everyday tool to improve their quality of life and where opportunities are developed for lifelong learning, leisure, personal, social and civic development.

The Big Picture: is a multi-media permanent public exhibition space in Tallaght, Town Centre bringing the future of South Dublin County to life in a visual and engaging manner. Tours of the Big Picture can be booked and are available to community, business and school groups. A number of events including launches in the Big Picture by South Dublin County Council and our partner agencies took place throughout 2010 including Engineer's Week, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Eco Week and South Dublin County Active Citizenship Week.

Connect School: St. Aidan's Community School, Brookfield, Tallaght had a number of very significant milestones in 2010 including:

- The Connect Education Community of Practice was launched in March and continues to grow apace. The CoP allows teachers to come together to create and share digital resources for use in the classroom.
- In May the [Connect School Evaluation Report](#) carried out by Farrell Grant Sparks was launched in the Big Picture by Minister Eamon Ryan.
- With September's rollout of netbooks to 1st Year students St Aidan's became Ireland's only one-to-one computing school
- In September St Aidan's partnered with Camara for the provision of second use laptops to St Aidan's Teacher and this partnership allows for the ongoing provision of hardware to the school in a sustainable manner.
- The Connect Education 2.0 Seminar held in November as part of Innovation Dublin was a great success with presentations from Microsoft, Google, Camara, An Cosan, St Aidan's School and UCD

Connect Web

[Connect Web](#) is supporting local Community Groups and Schools to develop and maintain their own Community Websites over 160 websites are now live. This is a free, easy to use service where the groups are trained to develop the site content themselves and the sites are hosted by Connect

Connect Centres

The establishment of a Community Centre Network in 2009 allowed for the sharing of information between centres and the development of a Community Centre Network

Website to share information through a Members Area and promote Community Centre activities in the South Dublin County area. www.connectcentres.ie was launched in September as part of South Dublin County Active Citizenship Week 2010

Connect Me

Connect Me continues to be the primary hub of publicly accessible spatial information. Corporate information such as planning applications and bin routes are amalgamated with business and community related information. The connect me system has now been deployed for the past 5 years and will during the course of 2011 be further updated. Our strategy in starting out to provide a one stop shop of publicly accessible information lends to an environment whereby we can update and enhance the user interface whilst maintaining the core and critical data infrastructure. Our spatial data team continues to manage the various data stores and provide regular updates. Connect me also allows our corporate data to be spatially referenced. To date it has been used effectively in mapping the activity of the council under the organisation change objective of data which is classified under the criterion of function, location, and activity date.

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HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department manages all Human Resource functions for our staff and throughout 2010 the department strove to address the ongoing staffing needs of the organisation in the face of the ongoing recruitment embargo and declining staff numbers.

Our focus on retention of staff, workforce planning, staff welfare, employee relations, training and development and management of benefit and entitlement schemes remained key activities of the department. The department were heavily involved in working with our Finance Department in seeking cost savings and payroll reductions through offering flexible working arrangements to staff as well as streamlining work practices.

The opportunities offered by the Public Service Agreement 2010 -2014 [Croke Park Agreement] to implement real and effective change led to the development of a Local Action Plan setting out change objectives and identifying cost savings where relevant. The headings set out under the PSA and reflected in the Local Action Plan are :-

- Restructuring
- Shared Services
- Procurement
- E government
- Productivity and Performance

Human Resources co-ordinated the compilation of the local action plan and continue in a co-ordinating role in terms of follow up scheduling of meetings /issuing of change proposals to staff unions. The first review of delivery of actions under the Local Action Plan as well as the various National Level Actions is due in March 2011.

The delivery of an **Integrated Human Resource system** through the implementation of CORE HR is at final stage. The Time and Attendance module went live in early 2011, the system offers us:-

- Employee self service for leave, payroll and training functions. The issuing of payslips will be phased out by the Finance department arising from the implementation of this aspect of the system
- Workflow Management through the automation of business processes leading to better process control and improved efficiencies.
- Managing employee resources through capturing all relevant employee details in a live working environment
- Training management and profiling.
- CORE BI (Business Intelligence) reporting
- Health and Safety records
- Full Integration with payroll and pensions

An added significant benefit of the system is a comprehensive and integrated management reporting and analysis option.

The available budget for **Staff Training** was considerably reduced for 2010 but a corresponding reduction in costs from suppliers and greater competitiveness in the market place meant that a high level of training was delivered in the following areas:

Total of 341 training days were provided attended by 2536 staff.

Breakdown as follows:

Health and Safety – 171 training days attended by 1186 staff

IT – 11 training days attended by 64 staff

Specialist training/ Personal Development/Management Skills/Customer Service – 159 training days attended by 1286 staff

Seven in-house staff undertook Train the Trainer programmes and are now fully trained to deliver VDU assessment and manual handling training programmes for staff.

Corporate and Mandatory training requirements were also addressed and delivered on to ensure ongoing up-skilling of staff and compliance with Health and Safety requirements. The CPD Licence requirement arose during the year and arrangement and support were put in place to train relevant staffs.

The retention of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accreditation was achieved in 2010. This continues to offer benefit for our engineering/technical staff and for the Human Resources Department. Retaining the accreditation will involve ongoing mentoring for staff, implementation of the CPD policy and centralised knowledge management through the Learning Circle. In addition seminars and information sharing sessions are arranged on a monthly basis. Ongoing rigorous annual audits will take place to ensure retention of the standard.

The **Time & Attendance Unit** monitor absenteeism through the year and employed a proactive approach to intervening with a view to minimise absenteeism levels.

Human Resource Service Indicators

In 2010 there were 2,543 days lost to USL and 13,998 Days lost to CSL.

The Service Indicator figures for 2010 for Uncertified Sick Leave was 0.81% and for Certified Sick Leave was 3.89%.

The department has applied best practice in this area for some time now and statistics compare favourably with National averages.

The services of two occupational health physicians are retained for staff referral in the management of absenteeism. The **Staff Welfare** service continues to provide discrete, confidential professional support to staff it consists of two qualified staff welfare officers. During 2010, Staff Welfare delivered a Mindfulness program to staff which is based on the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Programme, this program has an evidence base which indicates that the practice is effective in managing stress more effectively.

The **Pensions Unit** which was established within the Human Resources Department in 2007 is continuing to operate very effectively. The unit provides an enhanced level of service on pension and retirement related matters. The Pensions Module of the core HR system became operation in 2009.

The **Employee Relations Unit** continue to maintain communication with the relevant trade unions on a regular basis on issues of concern and through the unit the Council is committed to utilising the industrial relations mechanisms available including the Rights Commissioner, the Labour Relations Commission and the Labour Court where necessary. With the advent of the Public Service Agreement, all change proposals are channelled through the ER unit and brought to meetings with relevant unions for discussion and agreement/referral. The process of referral is to the Local Government Implementation Body initially and onto the National Implementation body if necessary. Implementation of agreed National Level actions is communicated through the ER Unit on notification from the Local Government Management Services Board who are the co-ordinator for the sector.

The **Partnership** office continued with a programme of work and activities including services to retired staff, return to learning programmes, literacy programmes, staff newsletter and managed the CPC driver training programme fully. Partnership committee meetings made up of staff representatives and management met throughout the year and approved a number of new policies.

LAW DEPARTMENT

The provision of legal services to the Council was again very broad ranging and challenging and 2010 was another very busy year in the Department. In addition to the existing cases already being handled by the Department approximately 2000 new instructions were received by the Department. Mr. John C Healy was appointed as the new Law Agent in September 2010

The Law Department continued to be proactive in the pursuit of prosecutions for Litter, Control of Dogs, Liquor Bye-Laws and Anti-Social Behaviour, Rent Arrears and collection of Rates. The Judicial Reviews of administrative decisions were also prevalent especially in the area of challenges in respect of Housing Matters. In addition the Law Department is engaged in re-establishing Court Services Committees on which members of the Law Department will sit, which will assist in maintaining good work practices between the Courts Services and the Law Department..

While there has been a slow down in conveyancing generally in the legal profession, the Law Department continued to experience an increase in the transfer of voluntary housing to voluntary organisations and matters pertaining to the provision of grants, funded by the Minister for Arts, Sports & Tourism to local sporting clubs.

Finally, the adoption by the Law Department of e-stamping and e-direct means that applications for the registration of property may now be submitted on-line.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Information Systems

The impact of the Web

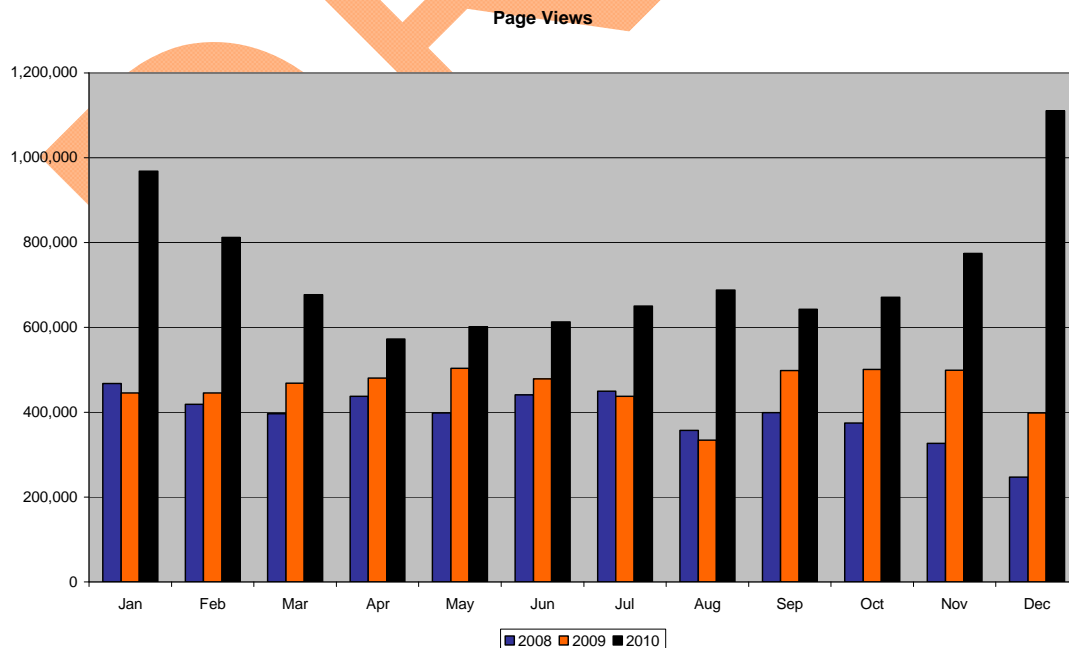
Behind organisational change in South Dublin County Council is a core belief that information should be easy to find and interpret. It should be relevant to the customer's business. It should be interlinked as appropriate with other relevant data. And information should be in its dynamic and electronic form. Thus, the internet continues to be a critical resource for the Council to harness to the fullest of its extents. It is cost effective to communicate with the staff, the elected member, and customers of the organisation.

In particular, we measure 3 critical components – the number of page views, the number of unique users which have availed of our services and the number of user sessions which have been availed of.

Page views:

Page views represent how many times a certain page is accessed during a specific period and is measured using the definition of page impressions provided by IFABC Global Web Standards i.e. a file or a combination of files sent to a user as a result of that user's request being received by the server. A valid User visiting a page on the website results in one page view.

The graph below represents the 3 year comparison 2008, 2009, and 2010.



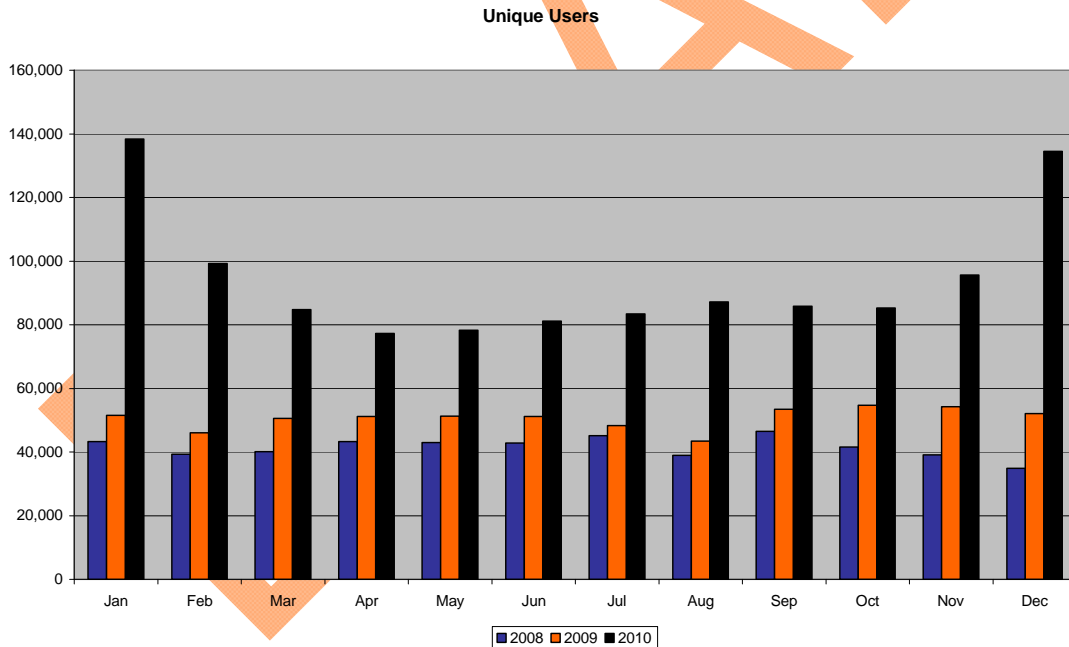
The 2010 results fare exceptionally well and demonstrate the ability of the web to respond to the dynamic changing needs of the environment in which we work in. In total during 2008 the Council’s web services delivered 4,714,836 pages of information to our customers. In 2009 we delivered 5,490,505 pages and in 2010, the Council’s web systems (recorded) delivered a staggering 8,781,041 pages of information.

Unique Users:

Unique user measurement represents the total number of unique users who have visited the site during a reported period. The definition of unique users used by our analysis system is based on the definition set by IFABC Global Web Standards being the the total sum of all unique users visiting the site during a specific period (new visitors + returning visitors).

The chart below demonstrates the trends in unique users over the period 2008 – 2010.

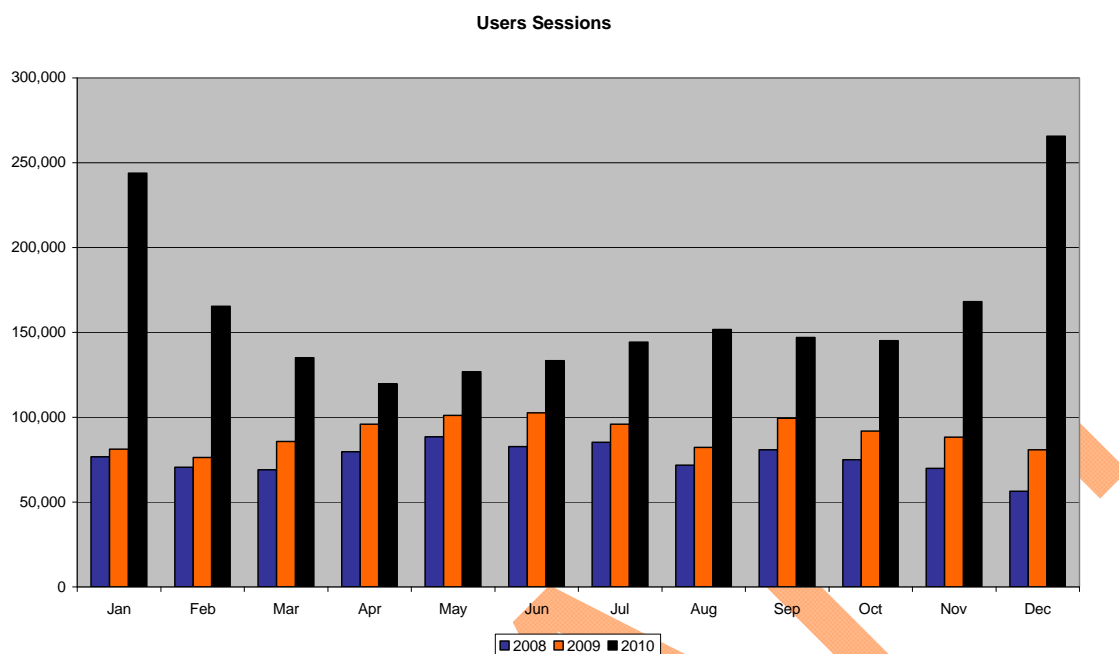
In 2008, a total of 498,098 unique users availed of information and services from South Dublin County Council’s web systems. 2009 exceeded these values to amount to some 608,095. The trend has continued into 2010 with a total number of unique users being 1,130,887.



User Sessions

The other statistic which is particularly useful is the user sessions which tells us the number of times that users visit the web services which we offer – Its definition is the presence of a visitor with a specific ‘cookie’ (technical term for an identifier) who has not visited the site within the past 30 minutes. So a visitor who visits one of our web

sites at 9 o'clock and then again at 11 o'clock counts as two user sessions i.e. they have been to the site on two occasions to request information from it.



Once again we see a very strong comparative performance in terms of user sessions over the years shown. In 2008, the total number of sessions amounted to 906,180 and slightly increased in 2009 to 1,080,809. However, 2010 has seen a dramatic increase to 1,946,026 user sessions for the period to the end of November.

The statistics presented demonstrate capacity and capability of the council to respond to the needs of its customer base. A continuous increase in the levels reported are encouraging but don't necessarily mean success of the particular service. Moreover, the ability of our systems to deliver 7,6 million pages, to almost 1 million users, over 1.6 million user sessions demonstrates the value of providing information and services in this manner.

On-line Customer Interaction

Integrated applications and services for social network computing, including RSS feeds, wikis, blogs, twitter, facebook, web conferencing and other social networks are joining the toolbox of collaboration tools available to the Council to interact with the public, as they become more secure and manageable within our organisation. The use of such tools by the citizen is growing rapidly and the Council will continue to embrace such new methods of engaging with our customers.

Adapting to Change

Transformational changes such as 'Web 2.0' and 'Cloud Computing' are challenging traditional technology architectures and the need for ever increasing organisational

productivity has led South Dublin County Council to investigate and implement the benefits cloud computing in the form of virtualisation and consolidation. Cloud services have also afforded the Council a more flexible way to grow and operate. The convergence of these trends has forced a radical change in the way technology is deployed.

Research and development by the Information Technology Department in the past year are reducing the cost associated with managing and operating technology across the entire organization. We use newly created capacity to drive innovation and creativity within the Council.

New media affords the Council the ability to respond and adapt quickly to change and improve service delivery quality. It offers many benefits to South Dublin County Council into 2011 and beyond.

The rapid pace of social, political and technological change means that the public sector organisation of the future will need to be more citizen-focused, more in touch and smarter in its use of technology. South Dublin County Council will continue to implement flexible technology solutions to quickly embrace, adapt and support the challenges of the changing financial landscape and increasing expectations – this for better service delivery and quality customer services.

Cloud Computing

By updating our technological environment to on premise and SaaS (software as a service) cloud solutions with archiving during 2011, South Dublin County Council will provide its staff, the elected members, and it's customers with secure and reliable information technology provided services. Such services can be accessed in the office, at home or while travelling which enhances flexibility, productivity and customer service. The converse side of this strategy is that we reduce the cost of on-premise traditional systems deployment and their management and security.

Cloud and web-based applications, solutions and services will empower our staff to share critical information and serve our customers more efficiently. We will continue to explore a range of collaboration tools, allowing users to work securely from wherever they might be. Cloud computing will be a paradigm shift in how we architect and deliver highly scalable corporate applications.

Infrastructure Consolidation & Virtualisation

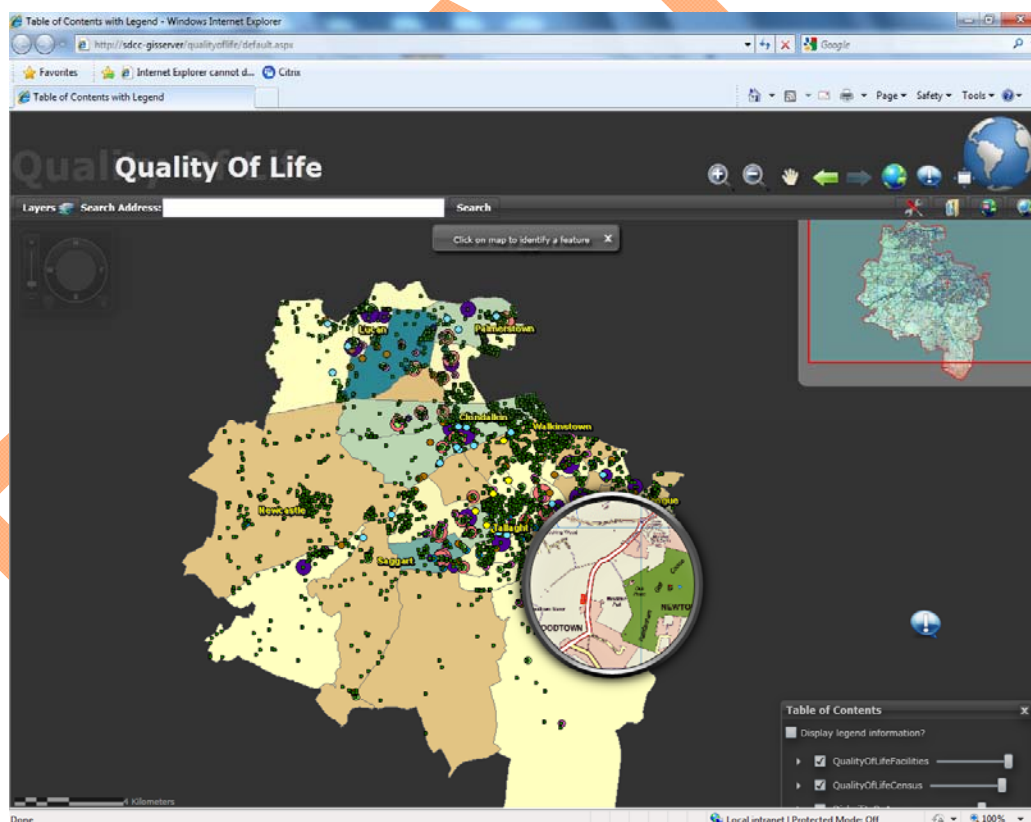
South Dublin County Council's I.T. Department has embarked on the virtualisation and consolidation of its Data Centre to address these issues. Flexibility, manageability and performance will be greatly improved and as a result the ongoing cost of administering and supporting our server infrastructure will be significantly reduced. A new off-site disaster recovery facility will also be commissioned during 2011 which will provide full failover and resilience for critical corporate systems. The server footprint has already been reduced by approximately 65% with further

consolidation scheduled for early 2011. These initiatives significantly impact on the power consumption by such parts of the infrastructure.

Interconnected & Spatial Data

We continue to responsibly connect and share relevant datasets. Where appropriate and taking data protection into consideration the Council may collaborate on a shared protocol basis with partner agencies in carrying out our statutory obligations - this in respect of the planning, delivery and management of efficient, effective and equitable public services. This approach will result in providing an integrated and seamless delivery of services in line with our policies, government initiatives and public expectations. It will also support a proactive problem solving approach to improve community life for the citizens of South Dublin County. All of this is predicated on strong and proactive understanding and implementation of our data protection obligations.

Below is a screenshot of the Council's Quality of Life Viewer which is a web-based GIS application for mapping broad based trends using South Dublin County Council's own data, Census data and data from partner agencies.



By continuing to expand and further develop our use of GIS technologies, we aim to provide definitive baseline data which will facilitate on-going mapping, demonstrating significant shifts in trends in terms of citizens' experiences of living in the county. The technical specification will enable the data to be shared across the organisation

and ultimately, through the use of secure 'extranets', shared with partner organisations, and the public, as appropriate. Once again, all of this activity is predicated on strong and proactive understanding and implementation of our data protection obligations.

Such projects are underpinned by the principles of organisation change;

- *Browser-ability*
- *Function/Location and Activity Date*
- *Electronic Document Management, and*
- *Interconnected Data.*

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FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the financial operations in the Council and in particular ensures that adequate arrangements are in place to finance revenue and capital activity. Responsibilities include budgeting, financial reporting, treasury and cashflow management, the implementation of a framework of internal controls to minimise financial risk and liaison with external audit.

The range of services provided by Finance include:

- Financial control, cashflow & treasury management
- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of the Annual Financial Statement
- Administration of general ledger and main financial systems
- Payroll administration
- Commercial Rates - billing & collection
- Non-Domestic Water Charges - billing & collection
- Entry Year Property Levy - billing & collection
- Non Principal Private Residence Charge - collection
- Management of the purchase to pay process
- Insurance and claims administration
- Cash office operations

The Finance Team

The operational plan for the Finance Department included the following objectives in 2010:

- The timely preparation of the 2010 Annual Financial Statement in the standard format specified by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and in accordance with Local Authority Accounting in Ireland, Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations
- To liaise with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and provide financial and non-financial information as required
- To monitor, control and report the council's activities in the context of EU/IMF financial requirements and the General Government balance (GGB).
- To prepare the Annual Budget 2011 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002
- To manage cashflow so that funding is available as required for day-to-day expenditure on the Revenue and Capital Accounts and investment opportunities are maximised.
- To liaise with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government when opportune to maximise allocations from the Local Government Fund and other state funds
- To manage, maintain and develop the Agresso Financial Management System

Annual Financial Statement

The Annual Financial Statement 2009 was presented in a web enabled format to the Members at the July 2010 council meeting and subsequently submitted to the Department of the Environment, Community, and Local Government. The 2009 audit opinion and report were considered by the members in committee in January 2011 and noted by members at the February 2011 council meeting.

Annual Budget

The Annual Budget for 2011 - prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001, and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002 - was adopted by the Council on 21st December 2010.

Commercial Rates

Income from commercial rates was €124,313,660 for 2010. The total collected during 2010 was €112,063,348 leaving arrears of €27,360,625 for collection at year end. The 80.4% collection for this income source in 2010 was consistent with the national trend and reflected the difficult economic climate for business and business dependant incomes.

Entry Year Property Levy (PEL)

Entry year property levies of €506,606 were billed in 2010 for newly constructed properties. The collection from this source was €698,539 representing 63% of the total to be collected in 2010.

Non Domestic Water Charges

The total value of water bills issued for 2010 was €7,587,331 and cash collection was €7,703,925.

Non Principal Private Residence Charge (NPPR)

The Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 introduced a €200 annual charge for Non-Principal Private Residences. The €200 charge is payable to the local authority in whose area the Non-Principal Private Residence is located. The charge is self-assessed and owners are obliged to register the property and pay the charge. The legislation also provides for the imposition of late payment penalties which accumulate monthly once the charge is overdue.

The amount collected in 2010 in respect of the NPPR Charge was €2,389,622.

VAT

A significant change to VAT legislation for public bodies was introduced on 1 July 2010 which resulted in the charges for a range of services becoming subject to VAT. A full review of services was carried out to identify income sources affected by the VAT

changes. Procedures were then put in place to include VAT in qualifying incomes, identify VAT related expenditure and report to the Revenue Commissioners. Software was developed, tested and implemented to facilitate VAT reporting.

European Communities

(Late Payment in Commercial transactions) Regulations 2002

EU Regulations governing late payment of commercial transactions were enforced with effect from 7 August 2002. These Regulations partially replace the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997, and provide that interest, if greater than €5, be paid where an invoice remains unpaid for more than 30 days. The total amount of interest paid in 2010 was €3,174.60

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Appendix 1

Financial Charts and Graphs

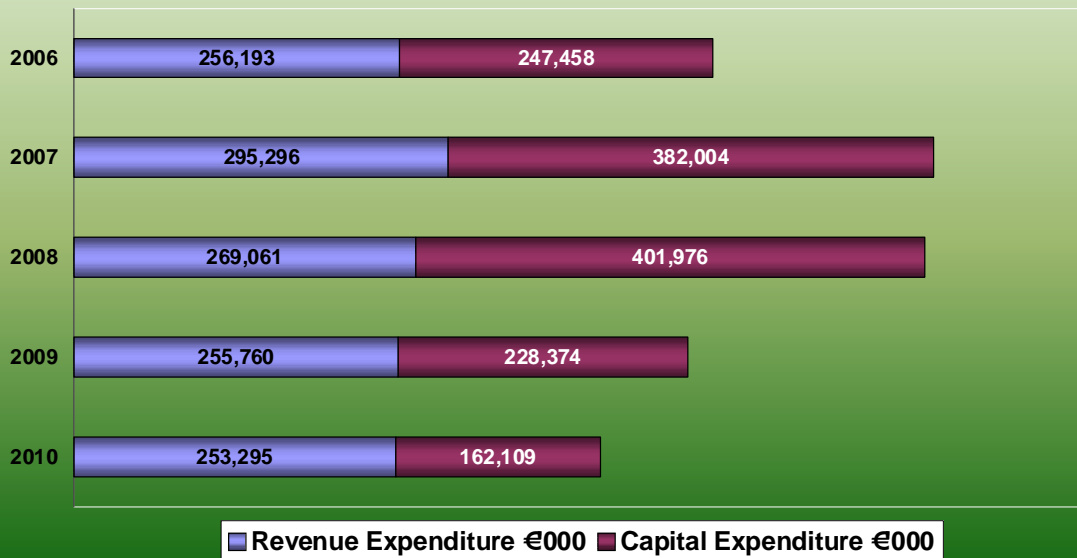
South Dublin County Council Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2010 (Draft)

	2010 €000	2009 €000
Fixed Assets & Work in Progress	3,737,652	3,741,152
Long Term Debtors	214,473	214,212
Net Current Assets	82,399	74,907
Long Term Creditors	<u>(269,634)</u>	<u>(264,886)</u>
Net Assets	<u>3,764,890</u>	<u>3,765,385</u>
<i>Financed by:</i>		
Work in Progress & Capitalisation Account	3,696,721	3,695,604
Revenue Reserve - Specific	11,528	11,528
Revenue Reserve - General	12,083	12,070
Other Balances	<u>44,558</u>	<u>46,183</u>
	<u>3,764,890</u>	<u>3,765,385</u>

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT
FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2010 (DRAFT)**

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Cost
	2010 €000	2010 €000	2010 €000
Housing & Building	43,078	42,973	(105)
Roads Transportation & Safety	26,025	8,061	(17,964)
Water & Sewerage	35,629	6,619	(29,010)
Development Incentives & Controls	12,746	2,571	(10,175)
Environmental Protection	56,092	30,693	(25,399)
Recreation & Amenity	30,219	5,529	(24,690)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	6,527	5,458	(1,069)
Miscellaneous	25,585	3,529	(22,056)
Total Expenditure/Income	235,901	105,433	
Net cost of programmes to be funded from Rates & Local Government Fund			(130,468)
Rates Income			124,050
Local Government Fund - Grant Income			19,625
Pension Related Deduction			3,542
Net Transfers to/from Reserves			(16,736)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			13
General Reserve @ 1st January 2010			12,070
General Reserve @ 31st December 2010			12,083

Total Expenditure, Revenue & Capital (€000)



NOTE: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/from reserves

Revenue Expenditure 2010 by Division (€000)



NOTE: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/from reserves

Appendix 2

National Service Indicators for South Dublin County Council 2010

	CP: Community Participation		
1	Involvement by Schools in Youth Councils/Comhairle na nÓg	Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na nÓg scheme	
2		Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	
	C: Corporate Issues		
1	Percentage of Working days lost to Absenteeism	Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	
		Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	
2	Expenditure on Training and Development	Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs	
	E: Environmental Services		
	Water		
A	Water	Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	
A	Drinking Water - Compliance with statutory Requirements	Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	
	Waste Management		
A	Percentage of Households Provided with Segregated Waste Collection	Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	
B		Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	
A	Household waste collected and sent for recycling	Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	
B		Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	
C		Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling	

		facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centers, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	
A	Household waste collected and sent to landfill	The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	
B		The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	
.1	Recycling Facilities	The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	
.2		The total number of Civic Amenity Centers in the local authority area	
A	Recycling facilities GLASS	The total number of Bring Sites	
B		The total number of Civic Amenity Centers	
C		The total number of facilities for recycling	
D		The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	
E	Recycling facilities CANS	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	
F		Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	
G		Total number of Facilities for recycling	
H		Total number of locations per 5,000 population	
I	Recycling facilities TEXTILES	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	
J		Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	
K		Total number of Facilities for recycling	
L		Total number of locations per 5,000 population	
M	Recycling facilities BATTERIES	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	
N		Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	
O		Total number of Facilities for recycling	
P		Total number of locations for recycling per 5,000 population	
Q	Recycling facilities OILS	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	
R		Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	
S		Total number of Facilities for recycling	
T		Total number of locations for recycling per 5,000 population	
U	Recycling facilities OTHERS MATERIAL	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	
V		Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	
W		Total number of Facilities for recycling	
X		Total number of locations for recycling per 5,000 population	
A	Litter Wardens Employed	Total number of full-time litter wardens	
B		Total number of part-time litter wardens	
C		Total number of litter wardens (both full and part-time) per 5,000 population	
D	Enforcement of Litter Laws	Number of on-the spot fines	
E		Number of on-the-spot fines paid	

F		Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	
G	Litter Enforcement – Prosecutions and Notices	Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	
H		Number of notices issued (under sections 9,15,16,17, and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	
I		Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	
J		Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	
K	Litter Pollution	Percentage of areas that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	
L		Percentage of areas that are slightly polluted with litter	
M		Percentage of areas that are moderately polluted with litter	
N		Percentage of areas that are significantly polluted with litter	
O		Percentage of areas that are grossly polluted with litter	
A	Environmental Complaints and Enforcement	Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	
B		Number of complaints investigated	
C		Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	
D		Number of enforcement procedures taken	
A	Schools participating in environmental campaigns	Primary schools	
B		Secondary schools	
	F: Fire and Emergency		
A	Total number of fire safety certificate applications received and processed	Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	
B		Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	
C		Total number of applications deemed invalid	
	H: Housing		
A	Housing Vacancies	Total number of dwellings in local authority stock	

B		Total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	
C		The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	
D		The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	
E		The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	
.1	Average Time Taken to Re-let Available Dwellings	Average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	
.2		The Average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	
3	Housing Repairs Completed by Local Authorities	Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	
	Traveller Accommodation	Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets sent in the local traveller accommodation programme	
A	Enforcement of Standards in Private Rented Sector	Total number of registered tenancies	
B		Number of dwelling units inspected	
C		Number of inspections carried out	
D		Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. H5B as percentage of H5A)	
A	Grants to Adapt Housing for the Needs of People with a Disability	Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	
B		Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt to the date of decision on the application	
A	Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Course	Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses: Total number of new local authority tenants	
B		Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarization courses	

	L: Library Services		
A	Library Public Opening Hours	Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	
B		Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries	
C		Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	
D		Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	
E		Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	
	Library Visits	Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000	
A	Library Stock	Annual expenditure on stock per head of population	
B		Number of items issued per head of population for books	
C		Number of items issued per head of population for other items	
F	Internet access through libraries	Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	
	M: Motor Taxation		
	Motor Tax services are provided by Dublin City Council for the four Local Authorities in the Dublin Area		
	P: Planning		
.1A	Planning Applications - Decision Making INDIVIDUAL HOUSES	Number of applications decided	
.1B		Number of those decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	
.1C		Number of those decisions which required the submission of further information	
.1D		Number of those decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	
.1E		Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	
.1F		Percentage of applications granted	
.1G		Percentage of applications refused	
.1H		Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála	

.1I		Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	
.2A	Planning Applications - Decision Making NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	Number of applications decided	
.2B		Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	
.2D		Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	
.2E		Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	
.2F		Percentage of applications granted	
.2G		Percentage of applications refused	
.2H		Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	
.2I		Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	
.3A	Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA	Number of applications decided	
.3B		Number of those decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	
.3C		Number of those decisions which required the submission of further information	
.3F	Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA	Percentage of grants	
.3G		Percentage of refusals	
.3H		Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	
.3I		Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	
.4A	Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: REQUIRING EIA	Number of applications decided	
.4B		Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	
.4C		Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	
.4D		Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicants, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	
.4E		Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	

.4F		Percentage of applications granted	
.4G		Percentage of applications refused	
.4H		Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	
.4I		Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	
.1A	Planning Applications by Category	Number of applications decided (individual houses)	
.2.A		Number of applications decided – New Developments	
.3.A		Other: Not requiring EIA: Number of applications decided	
.4.A		Other: Requiring EIA: Number of applications decided	
.A	Planning Enforcement	Total number of cases subject to complaints that are investigated	
.B		Total number of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed	
.C		Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	
.D		Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	
.E		Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	
.F		Number of prosecutions	
.3	Public opening hours	Average number of opening hours per week	
.A	Pre-Planning Consultations	Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	
.B		Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	
.5	New Buildings Inspected	Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	
.A	Taking Estates in Charge	The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	
.B		Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	
.C		Number of dwellings in respect P6B above	
.D		Percentage of estates in P6A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	

E		Number of estates in P6D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question	
F		Number of estates in P6D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	
	Rec: Recreational Services		
c.1	Children's playgrounds	Number of children's per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	
		Number of children's per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	
c.2	Local Authority-facilitated Leisure Facilities	Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	
	Rev: Revenue Collection		
v 1A	Finance - House Rent	Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	
v 1B		Percentage of arrears on house rent that are 4-6 weeks old	
v 1C		Percentage of arrears on house rent that are 6-12 weeks old	
v 1D		Percentage of arrears on house rent that are more than 12 weeks old	
v 2A	Housing Loans	(a) amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	
v 2B		Percentage of arrears that are 1 month old	
v 2C		Percentage of arrears that are 2-3 months old	
v 2D		Percentage of arrears that are more than 3 months old	
v.3	Commercial Rates	Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from commercial rates	
v.4	Refuse Charges	Percentage of households paying refuse charges levied at year end	
v. 5	Non-Domestic Water Charges	Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	
	R: Roads		
.A	Roads	Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the restoration programme per annum	
.B		Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grant scheme per annum	

Source: Service Indicators in Local Authorities 2010
Published by the Local Government Management Services Board

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