

## September Council Report

Update On Annual Service Plan - 05/10/2015

### Corporate Performance and Change Management

**Objective 1: Support local democracy including the policy making and representation role of our Elected Members**

Local Authority Commemorations Plans were launched nationally by the Taoiseach on the 8th October. The county launch of SDCC's plan will take place at the end of Oct/early Nov with the Ireland 2016 Project Office. The 'Shadow the Mayor Initiative' will recommence for 2015/2016 for work experience 2nd Level Students in the County

**Objective 2: Provide robust financial management, risk management, audit and corporate governance systems**

Capital Programme report provided to reflect activity to August 2015.

**Objective 3: Exploit advances in information and communications technology (ICT) to become more efficient and to improve services for local people**

The upgrade of the Council's email and office desktop software (to 824 devices) is almost complete. A tender in respect of the Council's website requirements is being pursued and expected to issue soon. Consideration of an electronic consultation portal is being undertaken as part of the External Communications Plan. Significant upgrade to the Planning administration system has taken place which will pave the way for online planning applications on a shared service basis. In conjunction with regional colleagues (FCC, DLR, and DCC), the Smart Dublin initiative under the auspices of the Dublinked project office has been initiated – co-ordinator and data officer roles have been assigned. Map Gallery has been relaunched and available on both the Council's intranet and website. This will become a home for all mapping and spatial data requirements which the council will have. Favourable results achieved by SDCC with regard to Eircode matching with both Voters Register and Rates Systems. The Council initiated Public Wi-fi project is regularly exceeding 2000+ unique users of the service daily throughout the County's towns and villages. A significant upgrade/replacement mobile web app has been developed in advance of the requirement to collate and collect bonfire data.

**Objective 4: Develop and maintain appropriate communication channels that enable proactive citizen engagement**

Halloween Infographic and Communications Plan developed in partnership with the Clondalkin Halloween Steering Group Project initiated for the development of a 'Citizen Space' which will provide on an line consultation hub for the citizens of South Dublin on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie) as part of the Council's external communications strategy. Social Media Plan at draft stage. This plan outlines how the council can use social media to engage with our citizens and promote Council services and Initiatives and promoting citizen engagement.

**Objective 5: Support staff and organisational development and performance through the implementation of best practice in Human Resource Management**

As part of the Occupational Health and Staff Welfare Programme over 70 employees participated in the 8 week Healthy Workforce Challenge.

### Land Use Planning & Transportation

**Objective 1: Implement an Annual Road Works Programme of maintenance and improvements**

The Road Maintenance Section is currently preparing the 2015/2016 Winter Service Plan. Winter Service Operations, i.e. salting of public roads, will commence on 19th October, from which time roads will be treated on nights when

weather conditions warrant it. Resurfacing works have recently been completed on the N81 at Jobstown following the receipt of funding from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII - new name for NRA). Discussions are ongoing with TII about additional resurfacing on the N81 in 2016. As part of the Public Lighting investment strategy an LED Upgrade in Castletymon Shopping Centre Car Park will be completed beginning of October. Under the Better Energy Community Projects 2015 – LED lamps will be installed in Willbrook Park (off Ballyboden Road) once ESBN have finished ongoing overhead works at this location. An LED upgrade to Lighting on the walkway at Knocklyon is also now underway. The LED Upgrade Programme for public lighting in Villages commenced on 10th August and is due to be finished by 1st December. Programme is already 60% complete

#### Objective 2: Maintain a professional planning and development management structure and processes

The Closing Date for submissions on the Draft County Development Plan was 24th September. The submissions are currently being compiled into a Chief Executives Report on the public Consultation Process which will be issued to Councillors in early December. It is intended to hold the meetings of the Council in February 2016 to agree the report. The Draft Development Contribution Scheme has gone on public Display and a report and recommendation will be returned to the Council in December. The Planning Section has seen a c30% increase in the number of Planning applications year to date compared to the same period in 2014, which is considered a general indicator of an increase in construction related activity.

#### Objective 3: Promote all modes of transport including walking and cycling to improve the movement of people within and beyond the county

Construction Works continues on the Tallaght to Templeogue Cycle Scheme. Activities continue to be closely monitored by Council Staff. Design work continues on other elements of the Greater Dublin Area Cycle network including Tallaght to Liffey Valley, Dodder Regional Cycle route, Grange Rd, and Tallaght to Ballyboden.

#### Objective 4 : Invest in Sustainable Communities and Quality of Life Initiatives

Village Enhancement Works have commenced in Rathcoole and are expected to be complete by the end of the year. Design/Tender Documents are being prepared for Newcastle and the footpath extension works on Alymer Road. The "Spatial Energy Demand Analysis" report prepared as part of the County Development Plan Review has been shortlisted for a Sustainable Energy Award from SEAI. The Results of the process are due in November.

### Housing, Social & Community Development

#### Objective 1 : Put in place a three year programme to supply social housing in the context of the Social Housing Strategy 2020

Letts Field Part 8 for 37 units passed at the September Council Meeting. 3 Projects through Part 8. Part 8 on Owendoher for 40 Units had closing date of 17th September. Meeting with Local Councillors and representatives from local community Wednesday 30th September. Killinarden Part 8 proposal on display for 26 Units had a closing date 24th September. Proposed to present Part 8 report to October Council Meeting. Two projects are already tendered and on site – • Suncroft Tallaght 10 dwellings • Belgard Road Tallaght 3 Dwellings St Finians 2 units due on site October 2015 Three projects are already Part 8 approved, costed and sanction to proceed to tender by DECLG in respect • St. Marks Green 11 dwellings • Mayfield 18 dwellings • Mac Uilliam 28 dwellings 57 Oaklee completed purchase and contracts signed on 45 units at Cookstown. Nominations for allocation submitted. A further 17 at Millrace in Saggart will be completed and tenanted by year end. 7 of these completed. 361 on HAP at 28th September 2015. 20% increase on rent caps applicable from 20th July. Request issued to DSP for further increase on cap for Homeless HAP project. 16 Acquisitions completed – a further 29 acquisitions projected to year end. CAS – 47 units approved and mostly acquisitions (35 acquisitions and 12 build) but due to delay in approval likelihood that only 17 acquisitions will be delivered. AHBs allowed to source alternatives but issue is that prices higher now than those sourced previously. 37 Voids to be claimed by end November 2015. 65 Units at Tallaght Cross West has now full occupancy with families moving in on 30th June and 7th July. In keeping with the agreed model/ approach, this is temporary accommodation for families coming from commercial hotels where the key emphasis being that Focus Ireland's main task is housing move on/ sourcing, etc under the direction of SDCC and DRHE. Viewing of Modular Housing for Homeless demonstration models was arranged for Councillors during week beginning 14th September at East Wall Road. Members briefing held on 2nd October 2015.

## Objective 2: Take a leadership role in social inclusion and interagency co-operation

New 'Super LAG' (Local Action Group) will be established made up of the Fingal LCDC and representatives from SDC and DDL LCDC. The LAG is made up of the 19 Fingal LCDC members plus 8 additional members from LCDCs of the administrative areas of South Dublin County Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. Meeting on 14th September. Because of the large size of this group, agreed to create an advisory and oversight subcommittee of this LAG which has met on two occasions. The role of this group is to oversee the creation and rollout of the Local Development Strategy (LDS). The Terms of Reference document for this subcommittee is agreed. The key dates for the creation of the LDS are: September 24th - this is the date for completion of the first three chapters, which contain: • LDS Area Profile • Participative Planning: Consultation and SWOT analysis • LDS Action Plan December 24th, the date for completion and approval by the LAG. A number of meetings will be required for discussions, consultation, evaluation and issuing of recommendations. It is expected that a Draft Local Development Strategy (LDS) for the Dublin Rural Area will be submitted to the Department by the 24th December, 2015 and the final LDS will be submitted by 16th January 2016. Fingal Co. Co. will become the financial partner and a development company from Fingal will be the main implementer with support from the other development companies. SDCC had a small working group to support any projects in the County and this is expected to stay in place. SICAP – LCDC. SICAP- Midterm review completed and agreed with LCDC at its meeting of 24th September. POBAL parallel review also positive in terms of delivery and targets met in areas of Targeting Geographical Disadvantage and Targeting Disadvantaged Groups. 64 Groups targeted – (49) 695 Individuals targeted – (631) Issue with IRIS System continue. LECP Community element pillar of plan agreed – AIRO completing work on mapping of data and graphics for Plan. To be presented to the Regional Assembly in November and to Council in December 2015. LCDC meeting of 22nd October for formal approval of Plan. Joint meeting of LCDC and Economic Development SPC to be arranged.

## Objective 3: Promote health, wellbeing, recreation and activity to improve quality of life

SPORTIVATE the Councils new Sports Development Programme agreed with DDLETB and with DSP as partner has finalised the 19 participants and the programme started on 14th September 2015. The programme will be based in Brookfield Youth and Family Centre. Work is continuing on identifying a Catering programme in partnership with DSP, ITT and ETB. The Councils Community teams assisted with a number of committees on summer projects, festivals and preparation for Halloween events. Work on preparation for Social Inclusion week near finalisation.

## Objective 4: Facilitate community leadership and development through community engagement and empowerment

Community Initiative Fund advertised and Launched on 2nd June with a Fund of €170K. The 'Internal CIF Shortlisting Committee' shortlisted applicants down to 22 Projects that have merit for further consideration and should all progress onto the next step of the evaluation process – an external Judging Committee selected. The Committee's final decision to be announced week beginning 5th October 2015. The Endeavour Awards as presented to Social and Community SPC will be formally launched in early October 2015. The Endeavour Awards has the objective of recognising and rewarding particular categories of endeavour. The aim of the Endeavour Awards is to promote and support the Community of South Dublin and recognise community achievement. An awards ceremony will be held on 11th December at the Red Cow Hotel. The PPN had a new drive for members and following expressions of interest sought from interested organisations to host the PPN Support Worker the South Dublin Volunteer Bureau was selected. The Support Worker to the Secretariat of the PPN has taken up duty and will be located with the South Dublin Volunteer Bureau. The DECLG announced additional funding to support PPN's nationally. The PPN is utilised for all notifications from Council.

## Environment, Water & Climate Change

### Objective 1: Improve the appearance of our county in the interest of economic development

• Tree Management Strategy:- The Tree Management Strategy will be formally launched by the Mayor Cllr Sarah Holland on National Tree Day which takes place on Thursday, October 8th. The event is scheduled to take place at 3pm in Rathfarnham Castle and will involve a tree planting ceremony in conjunction with a local 'Green School'. The Strategy will be published on a dedicated 'Trees' page which is being set up on the Council's website. • Litter Management Plan:- Public Consultation period for Draft Litter Management Plan extended to 4th September and deadline for submissions extended to 11th September 2015. Eight (8) submissions have been received with 66

responses to the online survey submitted. A report was prepared for the September SPC which took place on 29th September 2015. • Litter/Illegal Dumping:- A new innovative technology, developed to counter the problems of illegal dumping and dog fouling, was installed on a pilot basis in late July for a 3 month period at six (6) Locations selected in relation to illegal dumping were the Scenic Viewing Area at Kilakee, and the Bring Banks at Ballyowen Shopping Centre and Bohernabreena. Average Reduction 82.5% • Three (3) Parks which were particularly prone to dog fouling were chosen - Dodder Valley, Tymon (Limekiln entrance) and Corkagh. Average Reduction 63% • Reports confirm that a high level of success was achieved with a considerable reduction in the number of dog fouling and illegal dumping incidences recorded, following the installation of the Audio Devices – • Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme and N81 Improvement Scheme:- N81 Landscape Improvement Scheme – Expressions of Interest was advertised on 28.08.15 on eTenders seeking services of landscape architect to prepare and oversee the implementation of an innovative design proposal of hard and soft landscape works along the N81 road corridor.

#### Objective 2: Incorporate environmental sustainability in all policy-making and implementation programmes

• The OPW has approved the Draft Design Brief for the River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme. As this project straddles both Dublin City and South Dublin, DCC will co-ordinate the tender process for consultants on behalf of SDCC. • Roughan O'Donovan have been appointed as consultants for the detailed design of the Ballycullen Flood Alleviation Scheme. • Works on River Dodder bank stabilisation at Templeogue Tennis Club have been completed. • Climate Change:- SDCC in conjunction with the EPA has hosted a number of workshops on Climate Change Adaptation Plans and recommended changes and agreed the information collated for the Adaptation Strategy. Regional Seminars on Adaptation Plans to be held in November.

#### Objective 3: Manage our regulatory, licensing and enforcement roles together with the Environmental Protection Agency

Continued active enforcement of the provisions of all environmental legislation and regulations with continued legal proceedings. Scheduled Inspections and Audits/Reviews being routinely undertaken on the permitted facilities. - Eleven files referred to Law Dept for initiation of legal proceedings, pursuant to the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, including: • two (2) for burning of waste • three (3) for contravention of Section 14 Directions • three (3) for illegal waste collection • three (3) for contravention of Packaging Regulations - Eleven (11) Section 14 Directions and one (1) warning letter issued. - One (1) conviction secured for the illegal holding of waste. • Control of Animals legislation being actively enforced with regular inspections of horse pound and dog pound, ongoing monitoring of contractual performance and recoupment of monies from DAFM. • Survey circulated by LGMA, on Dog Licence Systems in use by Local Authorities, to inform the development of a National Dog Register completed and returned on 17th September 2015. • Application for funding for an Urban Horse Project has being finalised and a meeting with representatives of the DAFM will be convened to discuss the application. Part 8 drawings have been prepared by the Architectural Services Dept., and it is intended that a report will be presented to the Elected Members of the Clondalkin ACM at an informal meeting prior to presentation of the Part 8 proposal at the October Council Meeting.

#### Objective 4: Maintain and improve our parks and recreation areas to enhance our quality of life

Consultation in respect of the 2015 Play-space Programme is ongoing. In respect of 2014: Planned-10, Completed-7, Under construction-1, Due to commence-1, Tender stage-1, Site not possible-3, Substitute-2. In respect of 2015: Planned-14, Under construction-2, Due to commence-2, Design Stage-4, In consultation-8, Site not possible-2, Substitute-2. - Pavilion Programme Pavilion Construction Strategy was presented at the June Council Meeting which included current position, locations identified, order of construction and procurement process to be agreed. Tender documents being prepared. Part VIII's for Dodder Valley Old Bawn, Griffeen Valley & Corkagh Park Pavilions to be initiated in October. In line with the application for funding through the DTTAS Sports Capital Grant Scheme 2015 submitted, a Part 8 Plan is being prepared for public consultation in respect of Mt Carmel Park Dodder Valley to include a Grass Athletics Track, Football Pitch, and a BMX Track. The BMX proposal for Jobstown Park in conjunction with DSBMX Club is being progressed

### Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

#### Objective 1: Maintain a supportive business environment with job creation and retention at its heart

LEO training schedule for Autumn, started 3rd September 2015. Next Evaluation and Approvals Committee Meeting

29th September 2015. Business Support Helpline launched 24th September 2015, 1800 313 947, in conjunction with South Dublin Chamber. Results of Business Training Survey undertaken by South Dublin Chamber released 24th September 2015.

#### Objective 2: Work with enterprise support agencies to increase foreign direct investment in South Dublin County

Final draft version of brochure complete. Revised and approved website for Grange Castle Business Park live. All presentations revised to adhere to consistent branding and messaging. Ongoing development of electricity network within Grange Castle Business Park.. Work access road to the Grange Castle South at an advanced stage of completion.

#### Objective 3: Manage the assets of South Dublin County Council in a way that supports economic development

Contact ongoing with local business, programme or proposed projects identified. Clondalkin Round Tower Interpretive Centre; Design Team appointed and at work on tender. Interpretative spaces and research focus identified and ongoing meetings scheduled to agree work plan to complete interpretaton materials and media. Training survey launched. Economic elements of LECP agreed by SPC members. Freephone LEO helpline launched, telephone number is 1800 313 947

#### Objective 4: Maximise the contribution of arts, libraries, heritage and the Irish language to quality of life and our tourism experience

September 2015 Red Line Book Festival 2015 is our annual celebration of the joy of reading and writing, packed with delights for book lovers. Now in it's forth year, the festival will be on from 11-17th October. Highlights this year are TedX Tallaght on Wednesday 14th October, History Ireland Hedge School - a special historical reflection involving a panel discussion with internationally renowned historians on the contribution of Padraig Pearse to 1916 on Thursday 15th October and Readers Day with acclaimed Irish writers on Saturday 17th October. Health and Wellbeing programme The Living Well – This series of talks will take place across library venues for October 2015 – April 2016 covering topics from good nutrition to mental health and caring for the carer. Events for children Children's Book Festival 2015 - Imagine, Discover, Create will be launched on Tuesday 6th October in the County Library. This year promises to be another exciting year with over 50 events organised in libraries and schools. International and emerging writers, storytellers, illustrators and historians are all lined up to encourage and entertain the children of the county.

#### Objective 5: Put in place a tourism strategy focussed on new product and brand development

• Research ongoing on festivals/events, tourism website and marketing strategy. Grow Dublin: • Launch of new Dublin brand though FI and Grow Dublin scheduled for October. Tourism Strategy Flagship: • Dublin Mountains Flagship Steering Group established and MOA signed with Coillte • Consultants appointed for developing masterplan for Dublin Mountain Flagship. Work ongoing. Trails: • Ongoing development for Tallaght Walks enhancements • Negotiation on progression of Slade Heritage Trail ongoing. • Letters issued to other LAs inviting re-formation of Liffey Valley Advisory Cttee Marketing: • Review of all printed tourism related brochures and collateral ongoing, trial locations for stands identified. • Development of brief for marketing strategy ongoing