**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

 **Minutes of South Dublin County Council Meeting held on 11th January 2016.**

 **PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bonner, B. |  | Kenny, G. |
| Brophy, C. |  | Lahart, J. |
| Casserly V. |  | Lavelle, W. |
| Coules, N. |  | Leech, B. |
| Dermody, A-M. |  | Looney, D. |
| Devine, M. |  | McMahon, R. |
| Donovan, P.  |  | Mahon, K. |
| Duff, M. |  | Murphy, M. |
| Duffy, F. |  | Nolan, R.  |
| Dunne, L. |  | O’Brien, D.  |
| Egan, K. |  | O’Brien, E.  |
| Foley, P.  |  | Ó’Broin, E. |
| Genockey, M. |  | O’Connell, G. |
| Gilligan, T. |  | O’Connor, C. |
| Gogarty, P. |  | O’Donovan, D. |
| Graham, J. |  | O’Toole, L.  |
| Higgins, E.  |  | Richardson, D. |
| Holland, S. |  | Timmons, F. |
| Kearns, P. |  | Warfield, F. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin. |
| Directors/ Heads of Function | L. Maxwell, E. Taaffe, S. Dunne,F. Nevin, T. Walsh, B. Coman. |
| County Architect | E. Conroy, |
| Senior Executive Officers | H. Hogan, M. Maguire, Y. Dervan,P. Murphy, L. Leonard.  |
| I. T Research and Development Officer  | R. Herron. |
| Administrative Officers | T. O’Neill, E. Leech. |
|  Staff Officer Clerical Officer  | P. Brennan.M. Dunne. |
| Sord | A. O’Brien. |
|  |  |

Apologies were received from Councillor B. Ferron and Councillor C. King.

The Mayor, Councillor S. Holland, presided.

**H1/0116** **CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of Meeting of South Dublin County Council 14th December 2015 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor F. Timmons seconded by Councillor S. Holland.

**H2a/0116 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE- TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE HELD 8TH DECEMBER 2015**

*- Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation) Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

 It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this heading

**H2b/0116 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - CLONDALKIN AREA COMMITTEE HELD 9th DECEMBER 2015**

*- Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation. Economic Development, Libraries & Arts**Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this heading

**H2c/0116 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES- TALLAGHT COMMITTEE HELD 15TH DECEMBER 2015**

*- Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation. Economic Development, Libraries &* ***Arts (1 report - Arts Grant)****, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. F. Nevin, Director of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development, and was **CONSIDERED**:

“Applications for an Arts Grant under Section 6 of the Arts Act 2003, has been received from the organisations listed below. Payment of this grant, in accordance with the conditions of the Scheme and in the amount set out hereunder, is recommended for approval:-

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ref: | Name of Group | Type of Application – Grant | Date Received   | Amount € |
| AGF856 | Saggart Literary Project | Project Grant | 10/12/2015 | 1000 |

 It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **RESOLVED:**

“That this Committee recommends that South Dublin County Council approve payment of the above grants recommended in the foregoing report.”

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor M. Duff, seconded by Councillor S. Holland and **RESOLVED**:

“That the recommendations contained in the foregoing report of The Tallaght Area Committee 15th December 2015 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

**H2d/0116 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - LUCAN AREA COMMITTEE HELD 16TH DECEMBER 2015**

*- Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation. Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

 It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this heading

**H3/0116 STANDING COMMITTEES - ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading

**H4/0116 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading

**H5/0116 REPORTS REQUESTED FROM AREA COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading

**QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor S. Holland, seconded by Councillor J. Lahart and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q15 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

**Q1/0116 ADVERSE WEATHER AND FLOODING**

**QUESTION: Councillor M. Devine**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update on areas that are known flood risks and the extent of damage caused in the first months of winter?

**REPLY:**

“Crews from Roads, Water and Drainage, Housing and the Public Realm are on call 24/7 to deal with flooding, fallen trees, frozen/burst pipes and other weather related incidents.

In the event of adverse weather the public and business community will be kept advised of the ongoing situation using the Council’s Website, Customer Care Team, Twitter, Facebook, E-Mail, SMS text and regular press releases. Throughout the adverse weather period the Council will give daily and sometimes hourly updates to the National Task Force that was set up to co-ordinate responses nationally. These meetings were attended by the Ministers and officials for Transport, Defence and Environment, Met Eireann, Dublin City Engineer (on behalf of the Dublin LA’s), the NRA, the HSE, the HSA, Bus Eireann, Dublin Bus, LUAS, Irish Rail and the CCMA.

**The attached is an account of the flooding which has occurred in the last three months during heavy rainfall, there was no fluvial flooding incidents in this period.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Flooding** | **Description of incident** | **Approximate Start time of Incident**  | **Address** | **Immediate Corrective actions Taken** | **Proposed Preventative Actions**  |
| Foul | Foul came up toilets/ shower units . Back gardens were flooded also. | 03/12/2015 | 3 Units in Bolbrook Drive | Attended Site and cleaned gardens | A non-return valve will be installed on the discharge connection of the foul drain to the public foul sewer in the footpath.  |
| Foul | Gardens flooded | 03/12/2015 | 5 Units at Glenview park | Attended Site and cleaned gardens | IW Capital Works required to address this problem, SDCC to present options. |
| Foul | Backing up of foul drain and overspill onto driveway | 03/12/2015 | Tamarisk Avenue | Attended Site and disinfected spill area. | IW Capital Works required. SDCC to present options.  |
| Foul | Foul drain backed up and flooded the garden due to a problem on foul sewer | 03/12/2015 | Whitehall Road | Attended Site, unblocked sewer and cleaned up garden | Further Investigative work has been carried out by SDCC, stones were removed from sewer in road. Further works required to remove stones and grease in the 225mm foul sewer which runs the length of Whitehall Road. |
| Foul | Gardens flooded with foul | 03/12/2015 |  6 Units at Monalea Wood | Attended Site, unblocked sewer and cleaned up gardens. | Tree roots to be removed |
| Foul | foul sewage in driveways and front gardens | 03/12/2015 | Millbrook Lawns | Attended Site, unblocked sewer | Further clearing work (of tree roots) on the sewer by SDCC staff should sort problem out |
| Surface Water | Carpark was flooded | 03/12/2015 | St Jude’s GAA Club | Flood waters were released from the site | New Surface water outlet pipe laid and flows diverted away from the site. |
| Surface Water | Camac River Screen Blocked | 03/12/2015 | Old Nangor Road | Screen was cleared | Screen to be modified to pass larger objects |

**Q2/0116** **HOUSING OFFERS**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive, arising from the recent statement on the subject by Alan Kelly TD Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government, if he would confirm the number of Council Housing offers refused in 2015.

**REPLY:**

As at the 31st October 2015, there have been 23 refusals

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Refusal reason**  | **2015 - 23**  |
| Wants another area  | 13  |
| Location of property in estate  | 3  |
| Wanted a property with garden  | 1  |
| Wanted a Council owned property not RAS  | 1  |
| Wanted a house not apartment  | 1  |
| Feuding with others in area  | 1  |
| Did not specify  | 3  |

Households who refuse two offers of housing within twelve months are suspended from list for one year – no application to date has been suspended in 2015 on these grounds.

**Q3/0116 CLIMATE CHANGE**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he has studied the reports from the climate change summit in Paris and if he has any plans to promote the recommendations among the population of the South Dublin County Council Administrative area.

**REPLY:**

On the 3rd of December 2015 the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2015 was passed by both Dáil and Seanad Éireann, The Bill is being referred to the President for signature and early enactment.

The Climate Bill provides a statutory basis for the national objective of transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by the year 2050.  Among the key provisions of the Bill are the preparation and adoption of successive 5-yearly National Mitigation Plans which will specify the policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Ireland; and successive 5-yearly National Adaptation Frameworks which will specify the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities to adapt to the effects of climate change in Ireland.

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. At EU level a performance indicator type Climate Change Adaptation Scorecard is being developed. It is envisaged that Ireland’s performance will be commented on in 2017 based on 2016 data.

A presentation on Climate Change Adaptation Measures was given to the Environment SPC in November which focused on the following:

* Impacts of climate change
* Risks of climate change can be reduced and managed
* Assessing & Managing the risks
* An outline of Climate Change for Ireland
* EU Adaptation Strategy (April 2013)
* Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2015
* Adaptation and Planning
* Resources for SDCC
* Adaptation Guidelines - 6 simple steps

**Step 1** Forming an Adaptation Team & preparing the ground

**Step 2** Assessing the Current Adaptation Baseline

**Step 3** Assessing Future Climate Risk

**Step 4** Identifying, Assessing & Prioritising Adaptation Risks

**Step 5** Developing an Adaptation Pathways Map & Drafting the Strategy

**Step 6** Mainstreaming, Monitoring & Reviewing

Next Steps following enactment of the Bill were discussed.

In line with all other Local Authorities, South Dublin County Council is required to achieve 30% energy savings by 2020 under the natural Energy Efficiency Action Plan. To this end the Council has participated in Energy Management Action Plan (MAP) training by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland. All the Council’s major buildings are linked to the SEAI database who issue an annual evaluation of the Council’s performance towards its 2020 targets.   The 2014 annual review confirmed that:-

* Energy usage showed a reduction of 11.1% on the 2013 figures.
* Energy usage is already 27.6% better than the baseline year.
* Energy usage is 14.8% below the target global path necessary to meet the 2020 requirements.

SEAI in its first annual report on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance places South Dublin Council in its Group 1 with an energy consumption of greater than 50gh/hr. and demonstrative savings of 20%.

South Dublin continues to audit its buildings – including libraries, swimming pools, County Hall and stadium – to achieve ongoing savings in energy and cost. The Council has an ongoing scheme of fabric upgrade of its housing stock funded by DECLG. This programme has increased its numbers year on year and in 2015, 700 Council dwellings were upgraded. South Dublin is a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors and has a 5 Year Sustainable Energy Action Plan in position. As well as energy efficiency this plan requires the promotion of renewable energy in the County. South Dublin Council continues to develop these systems through the use of heat-pumps (Valhalla, Ballyroan Library), Solar Thermal (Valhalla, Rua Red), Solar PV (Valhalla and now 50Kw on the roof of County Hall). The Council is preparing a bid under the Smart Communities element of Horizon 2020 with the Micro Energy-Generation Association, MEGA, which would, if successful, deliver a district energy/heating network for Tallaght as well as a range of other renewable initiatives. The bid must be submitted by April 2016.

The Department of the Environment is the lead authority for Climate Change in Ireland and were in attendance at the Climate Change Summit in Paris (COP 21), it is anticipated that guidance following the summit will issue to Local Authorities shortly in relation to our obligations following the legally binding and universal agreement on climate, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C.

**Q4/0116 HALLOWEEN 2015**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to present a report on the endeavours of the Council to deal with the challenges of the recent Bonfire season and will he confirm if the experiences of that period will guide his staff in planning for the 2016 Bonfire season.

**REPLY:**

The Council promoted 'Safe Halloween'' with the objective of reducing injuries, environmental damage and the cost associated with this time of year and worked with external agencies in this regard.

The campaign focused on reducing the availability of material for bonfires through the targeting of suppliers of material used in bonfires, enforcement of litter legislation by waste and litter enforcement officers, and the bonfire prevention campaigns such as Bulbs not Bonfires.

Public Realm staff removed bonfire material in parks and open spaces in the weeks prior to Halloween up and including Saturday 31st October 2015, with priority given to the removal of materials in dangerous locations.

A Halloween Safety and Environmental Awareness Campaign was initiated for Halloween 2015 to raise awareness and encourage our citizens to stay safe.

The Council published a [**colourful infographic leaflet**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=9a9e576d-5ac2-4587-8d5e-a53600b04c76) providing facts and tips on how to stay safe, and the leaflet also contained details of the various family events hosted by South Dublin County Council’s Libraries and Community Services.  Information on incentives offered by the Council to avoid damage to community open spaces as a result of illegal bonfires was also provided.

The Environmental Awareness Unit was proactive again this year in their provision of Halloween events which include:

* + Halloween Safety Information Pack  [**http://www.sdcc.ie/services/community/schools**](http://www.sdcc.ie/services/community/schools)
	+ Bulbs not Bonfires Campaign -This campaign rewards groups and associations who arrange alternative initiatives to bonfires
	+ Free Pass to Ballymount, One Pass One Entry One Car - This campaign rewarded groups and associations who made a Social Credit application during the month of October, the pass was valid up to 14th November 2015.
	+ Free Halloween Recycling Workshops were provided to all schools and these events booked out very fast.

As in previous years, mapping of all bonfires in the county commenced after Halloween. This mapping provides a range of information and was used to inform the cleanup process which took approx 4 weeks to complete.

Experiences gained each Halloween guides planning for the following year, and it is envisaged that similar measures will be put in place from an early stage in 2016.

**Q5/0116 ADVERSE WEATHER**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is satisfied that the Council continues to be in a position to respond to bad weather events and if he will report on the Council's efforts thus far this winter.

**REPLY:**

The Council has responded to flooding events and has had emergency crews on call during the recent inclement weather.

The Winter Gritting season has already commenced and SDCC gritters have been out on two occasions. Roads Dept. have been allocated 3710 tonnes of salt for the season and this will suffice.

Winter Ready information is available on the Councils website and provides useful guidance for members of the public in dealing with adverse weather conditions.

[**http://winterready.ie/**](http://winterready.ie/)

Crews from Roads, Water and Drainage, Housing and the Public Realm are on call 24/7 to deal with flooding, fallen trees, frozen/burst pipes and other weather related incidents.

In the event of adverse weather the public and business community will be kept advised of the ongoing situation using the Council’s Website, Customer Care Team, Twitter, Facebook, E-Mail, SMS text and regular press releases. Throughout the adverse weather period the Council will give daily and sometimes hourly updates to the National Task Force that was set up to co-ordinate responses nationally. These meetings were attended by the Ministers and officials for Transport, Defence and Environment, Met Eireann, Dublin City Engineer (on behalf of the Dublin LA’s), the NRA, the HSE, the HSA, Bus Eireann, Dublin Bus, LUAS, Irish Rail and the CCMA.

**Q6/0116 CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would present a report on the operation of the Council's emergency service during the 2015 Christmas Season; will he give details of the calls received and the nature of problems that were reported and will he also state if any lessons had been learned for the 2016 Christmas emergency service.

**REPLY:**

In advance of the offices closing on the 24th December 2015 and re- opening on Monday 4th January 2016, notices will be placed on the Council website, Citizen’s Newsletter and telephony systems advising members of the public that the offices are closed during this period. Additional information was also be provided regarding the Council’s Emergency/ Out of hour’s service number:  01- 4574907.

Each service department will have a number of staff who are rostered over the holiday period to be ‘on call’ to deal with emergencies.  Each service department defines in advance what calls are deemed an emergency and only these calls are forwarded by the call centre staff to the relevant council staff ‘on call’.

The number of calls received by the out of hours/emergency service last year for the Christmas and New Year 2014/2015 are detailed below by category:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Drainage | 39 |
| General | 17 |
| Housing | 131 |
| Parks | 11 |
| Roads | 9 |
| Water Services | 33 |
| Call Outside of SDCC Jurisdiction | 15 |
| Grand Total | 255 |

**Q7/0116 PART V**

**QUESTION: Councillor D. O'Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive how many Part 5 units are coming online during 2016 within the County?  Can we have a break-down according to electoral areas please?

**REPLY:**

The following are the potential number of social units which the Council will acquire through the Part V requirements under the relevant planning legislation. It is based on current planning permissions but it is difficult to put an exact number on the units which will come on line in 2016 as the delivery of these units will depend on when the development commences and construction completed. In many cases Part V negotiations are only underway.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Electoral Area**  | **Part V Requirement**  |
| Clondalkin  | 135  |
| Lucan  | 79  |
| Rathfarnham  | 58  |
| Tallaght Central  | 55  |
| Tallaght South  | 123  |
| Templeogue-Terenure  | 22  |
| **Total**  | **472**  |

**Q8/0116 LITTER BINS**

**QUESTION: Councillor D. O'Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive how many requests have been received by members for litter bins within the past two years, together with a breakdown of how many have actually been installed, broken down by electoral area.

**REPLY:**

The following tables set out list of all litter bin installations in the county within the past two years. The requests for litter bins from all sources including the Elected Members are assessed and where the necessity for a bin is demonstrated, it is then scheduled for installation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Area**  | **Location**  | **Type**  |
| Clondalkin  | Village opposite Steering wheel  | Replace  |
| Clondalkin  | Park view Lawns@ pedestrian entrance to Park  | Replace  |
| Palmerstown  | Outside Silver granite  | Replace  |
| Palmerstown  | Palmerstown drive @ walk way to N4  | Replace  |
| Palmerstown  | Ent to Woodfarm acres  | Replace  |
| Lucan  | Griffeen B/S @ Rossberry Est  | New  |
| Lucan  | Bus Shelter @ Moyglas Est  | Replace  |
| Clondalkin  | Woodford walk Near Boomers  | New  |
| Clondalkin  | Monastery rd & MacCaries café  | New  |
| Lucan  | Lucan rd Bus stop opposite car Park  | New  |
| Clondalkin  | Fonthill Rd B/S opposite Smyths  | Replace  |
| Clondalkin  | B/S Riversdale Est  | New  |
| Lucan  | B/S N4 slip Rd @ foxhunter  | Replace  |
| Clondalkin  | Fonthill Rd B/S opposite retail centre  | Replace  |
| Clondalkin  | 2 Bin liners replaced Bawnogue  |    |
| Clondalkin  | Corkagh Park  | New  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Firhouse Road(Super Valu)  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Firhouse Road(Blue Haven)  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Grange Road(opposite Yellow house)  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Grange Road(Car Park)  | New  |
| Tallaght | Greenhills Park opposite Community Centre  | 2 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Loreto College Grange Road  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Opposite Orwell Shopping Centre  | 2 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Rathfarnham Road ( bus stop Rathfarnham Castle)  | Replacement  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Taylors Lane  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Glendoher Park  | New  |
| Tallaght | ´Newsbees´ Newsagents, Unit 1,The Rise, Belgard Heights  | Replacement  |
| Clondalkin | Forest Hills, Rathcoole  | New  |
| Clondalkin | Church Road, Rathcoole  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Ballycullen Drive, Firhouse Community Centre  | New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Knockcullen Drive  | New  |
|  Tallaght | Castletymon Road  | 2 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Scholars Pub  | 2 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Ballycragh Park  | 3 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Whitehall Road  | 2 New  |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure  | Scholarstown rd  | Replacement  |

**Q9/0116 PPN**

**QUESTION: Councillor D. O'Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive how many groups have registered with the PPN, since its initial launch and the most recent launch, broken down by pillars and electoral area please?

**REPLY:**

At the start of 2015 there were some 204 groups registered with the Public Participation Network (PPN).  During the year an additional 133 groups were registered.

Following the appointment of the full time co-ordinator there was a recent re-launch of the PPN which was extremely well attended.  The exact up to date figures are at present being assembled and the Councillor will be supplied with the details as soon as possible together with a breakdown by pillar.

**Q10/0116 COMMUNITY GRANTS**

**QUESTION: Councillor D. O'Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive how many groups have applied for Community Grants over the past five years, broken down by electoral area, together with figures of those who have been successful in their application?  What is the average value of a grant awarded?

**REPLY:**

This information is not readily available. The detailed information will have to be compiled from existing records and will be supplied to the Councillor as soon as possible.

**Q11/0116** **DRIVE SLOWLY SIGNS**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the roll out of ''Children Playing - Drive slowly signs’’?

**REPLY:**

"Children at Play" signs (Traffic Signs Manual Reference W 140) were erected at 57 locations throughout the county during 2015 as notified to the Area Committees in February.

As part of the ongoing countywide speed limit review "Slow Zone" signs will be provided at appropriate locations in conjunction with a new 30 kph speed limit.

As outlined in Question No. 21 at the meeting of the Council on December 14th, it is hoped to bring a draft set of proposals in relation to the speed limits to the Area Committees in Quarter 1 of 2016.

 

**Q12/0116 HOMELESS AND HOUSING ISSUES**

 **QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a report into the Homeless issue and Housing issues for January to December 2015 and what plans are in place to deal with this growing issue.

**REPLY:**

**Homeless Position as at 30 November 2015**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|    | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  |
| **No. Registered Homeless**  | **233**  | **244**  | **266**  | **287**  | **294**  | **252**  | **214**  | **227**  | **248**  | **245**  | **240**  |
| Single Male  | 140  | 143  | 154  | 156  | 159  | 133  | 131  | 134  | 148  | 146  | 134  |
| Single Female  | 26  | 29  | 27  | 30  | 32  | 31  | 31  | 31  | 44  | 46  | 41  |
| Couples  | 7  | 7  | 6  | 6  | 6  | 4  | 4  | 6  | 6  | 3  | 4  |
| Family  | 60  | 65  | 79  | 95  | 97  | 84  | 33  | 56  | 50  | 50  | 61  |

Allocations to Homeless Applicants

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|    | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | Dec  | **TOTAL**  |
| **No. Allocations**  | **18**  | **3**  | **6**  | **8**  | **10**  | **18**  | **9**  | **8**  | **9**  | **9**  | **12**  |   | **110**  |

SDCC will continue to actively engage with a number of initiatives to support persons homeless or at risk of homelessness:

1. Threshold Prevention Service – This prevention service was established in September 2014 and endeavours to support families at risk of becoming homeless from Private Rented Accommodation. This service provides advice and information on tenants’ rights; ensures correct procedures are followed when serving a notice to quit and actively engages with Department of Social Protection on matters relating to rent supplement and rent caps.

2. SDCC Homeless Services Unit will continue to operate our drop-in service for advice, information, advocacy, initial assessment and if required emergency bed placement.  There have been 3758 bed placements made through Central Placement Service for South Dublin applicants to date this year (note that this include repeat daily placements)

3. Approximately 110 families / individuals have been housed through SDCC Homeless Service Unit as at the 30 November 2015 into Social Housing, Approved Body Housing, Long-term Supported Housing, HAP, Private Rented Accommodation.

4. SDCC Outreach Service will continue to operate drop-in clinics in partnership with CARP and BYFS to support service users who may be sleeping rough, secure emergency bed placements, ensure registration with the local authority and provide essential links to local supports such as health, mental health, addiction, social welfare, education and training.

5. In July 2014, SDCC in partnership with Peter McVerry Trust increased the capacity of our Supported Temporary Accommodation facility (STA) for single men and will continue to provide supported housing & key-working services. More recently in July 2015, 65 families moved from Hotels and B&B across the city to temporary accommodated in Tallaght Cross which is managed by Tuath Housing Association. The Focus Ireland Team of Keyworkers and Accommodation Finders are working closely with families to seek suitable accommodation under the HAP Scheme.

6. SDCC will continue to work in partnership with the Focus Ireland Tenancy Sustainment Service & Dublin Simon Support to Live Independently to support tenants to maintain and thrive in their tenancies.

7. Every family placed into private emergency accommodation (including hotels) are referred to the Focus Ireland New Presenters Team for initial assessment and care planning to identify all housing options available and support families out of homeless services.

Winter Rough Sleep Count in the Dublin Region has confirmed 91 persons as Rough Sleeping, on the night of 30th November 2015.  This is a 46% decrease since winter 2014 when 168 persons were confirmed as rough sleeping.

The Housing First Service a joint service provided by Peter McVerry trust and Focus Ireland on behalf of the region to engage with and respond to the needs of rough Sleepers. The following additional resources have been made available to meet the increasing needs of rough sleepers:

**Housing First Hours of operation during CWI period:**

Prior to Cold Weather Initiative (CWI): HF operated from 7am-midnight every day, and has extended until 1am during CWI period.

During CWI period, once the DCC Crosscare 100 bed facility opens, HF will have additional bed capacity to offer and will review operational hours as needs arise in liaison with DRHE and CPS.

**Housing First Transport**

The HF Intake service transport is available to the team to assist in supporting vulnerable people who are sleeping rough to access accommodation

**Also the Cold Weather Initiative has provided for:**

1. **A c100 bed facility** for single men and single women opened in Dublin city for the duration of the CWI.
2. **Extreme Weather facility**: a 20 bed facility is available for use if/when the temperature is predicted to go below zero for three consecutive nights.
3. An **emergency response process for any family** who may be found to be sleeping rough at night
4. there are**6 new services introduced in November:**
* 3 new services for families
* 2 new services for singles
* 1 new service for couples.

The greatest challenge facing South Dublin County Council is the growing numbers of families facing homelessness which is also reflected in the DRHE "**THE DUBLIN LOCAL AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS IN THE REGION" Report *(DATA: July to September 2015).***

***However, on a regional level there have been a number of measures in attempt to meet needs of families***

1. For those in Homeless in emergency accommodation, they can avail of further 25% above the standard HAP Rent Limits as outlined in Statutory Instrument No 474 of 2015 published on the 3rd November 2015. As at 30 November 2015, 12 No. Homeless households have secured accommodation under HAP, of which 8 HAP tenancies were secured since the increase in Standard HAP limits in South Dublin, introduced in July 2015.  Members of SDCC Homeless services are visiting hotels and giving workshops on the Homeless HAP initiative in attempt to moving those currently in emergency accommodation through HAP scheme.
2. **500** modular housing units confirmed to be delivered in the Dublin region in 2016, to provide temporary accommodation for families who are currently in commercial hotels.  An initial 22 units will be delivered before end 2015 in the Dublin City Council administrative area through an Accelerated Restricted Procedure (ARP) to provide homes, in recognition of the extreme urgency to respond to family homelessness in the Dublin region. South Dublin County Council is currently identifying appropriate locations for a number of units.

  [DRHE Families Report Q3](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/January/January2016CountyCouncilMeeting/dd7fc0d6-bb37-4d07-84fa-3ad66d240671.pdf)

 [DRHE Report Q3](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/January/January2016CountyCouncilMeeting/3a0e5bc9-b370-43dc-903d-f5597f5d209a.pdf)

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**December 1st 2015**

**THE DUBLIN LOCAL AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS IN THE REGION**

***(DATA: July to September 2015)***

**The following detail outlines the Dublin local authority and state-funded service response to address homelessness and rough sleeping in the Dublin region from July to September (Quarter 3) 2015 and recent responses put in place through the operation of the Cold Weather Initiative (CWI).**

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive works as a shared service on behalf of the four Dublin local authorities, with Dublin City Council as the lead. It works collaboratively with statutory and state funded voluntary services to respond to homelessness. The CWI is in place to provide a humanitarian response to persons, who are at risk of rough sleeping, with the aim of preventing fatalities and/or serious harm from cold weather temperatures.

**MOVING TO TENANCIES AND OUT OF HOMELESS SERVICES**

**From Q1 to Q3 January to September, 739** adults moved to tenancies, this is 194 extra adults when compared to the same period last year.

**260** adult individuals moved out of homelessness in Q3 into tenancies, this is the highest move on rate to tenancies in a quarter reported to date. This represents a **36%** increase in move on from homelessness to independent living, as a direct result of work by the Dublin local authorities in sourcing and allocating social housing to homeless households.

*It must be noted that the social housing stock in the region is finite and the high rate of move-on to this type of tenancy that has characterised 2015, will be difficult to sustain into 2016.*

**500** modular housing units confirmed to be delivered in the Dublin region in 2016, to provide temporary accommodation for families who are currently in commercial hotels.  An initial 22 units will be delivered before end 2015 in the Dublin City Council administrative area through an Accelerated Restricted Procedure (ARP) to provide homes, in recognition of the extreme urgency to respond to family homelessness in the Dublin region.

**71 households** have moved to independent private tenanciesthrough the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Pilot**,** a key mechanism that has been put in place to address longer-term accommodation options for adult individuals and families.

*It is expected that the number of households moving to private rented accommodation will increase going forward. In addition, the Dublin Place Finders unit, managed by the Dublin Region Homeless Executive, continues to work at promoting the pilot HAP scheme among landlords in the region, with a view to building up a database of landlords who are interested in taking on tenants who have been approved under the pilot homeless HAP.*

**ACCESSING EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORTS**

In excess of **2,100** adults accessed emergency accommodation each night across the Dublin region, an **increase of 233** adults compared to April to June 2015 (Q2)

Of the 2,100 adults, **1,587** have support plans in place to assist with their access to appropriate services and move on options out of homelessness. This is an increase of **33** on the previous quarter.

Almost **1,300** child dependents were accommodated on a nightly basis

**218** new families accessed emergency accommodation through the Dublin local authorities assessment and placement services from July to September 2015. This includes 70 new families in July, 78 were in contact in August with a further 70 in contact in September.

***Local Authority Actions to Increase Emergency Accommodation and Onsite Support for Adult individuals and Families (including the Cold Weather Initiative)***

**100** emergency bed facility for 80 single men and 20 single women in Brú Aimsir, Dublin 8. Dublin City Council is working in partnership with Crosscare homeless services to deliver this important initiative.  Additionally, the HSE is supporting the primary health care needs of through SafetyNet, providing a range of services including GP consultations, vaccination and health screening.  In addition light meals, laundry facilities, recreational services and support to engage with other relevant services will be provided.

**75 ring fenced beds across all state-funded homeless services-** this includes additional emergency accommodation in existing homeless services for the duration of the cold weather period.

**20 single beds –** if the temperature reaches zero degrees over three consecutive nights, the Civil Defence will provide additional emergency accommodation to assist homeless services

**37 new family units –** there are an additional number of family units in place including 12 units in Hazelwood House, Dublin 1 (onsite support provided by the Peter McVerry Trust) and 25 units in Ballymun Plaza, Dublin 9 (in reach support provided by Depaul Ireland)

**18 new couples units –**there are 18 new couples units in place on Sean Mc Dermott Street for couples who have been entrenched in rough sleeping in addition to couples that were accessing emergency accommodation on a singles basis. This accommodation forms part of the CWI but also is provided long-term tenancies to couples (onsite support provided by Sophia Housing).

**80 additional family rooms a**re now in place to provide emergency accommodation for households, who are currently accommodated in commercial hotels.  This service will also have onsite professional key-working services to support families in relation to finding long-term accommodation and to address any other concerns they may have.

**25 New Homeless Action Team Staff Members -** With the levels of families presenting to homeless services remaining such a daily challenge, the rate of support planning has decreased in large part due the logistical difficulty of accessing families as they were disbursed throughout the region in commercial hotels. The local authorities are working to respond to this through increasing the Focus Ireland staff resource for the family Homeless Action Team (HAT) to 25 to improve and speed up the support planning function for families.

**Improving progression options for persons** – a strong emphasis is being put on improving progression options for persons; by converting a sizeable number of existing one night only beds into supported accommodation options as well as increasing capacity for the CWI target group specifically Cedar House, Crosscare and Grantham Mews, Peter Mc Verry Trust.

**PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS**

The Tenancy Protection Service (TPS) continues to operate as a key mechanism deferring households from accessing homeless services.  The number of households contacting the TPS free-phone number has increased to **6,792,** since it began operation in June 2014.

Of these **3,233, or 48%,** were considered to be at risk of losing their tenancy.  Threshold, who operates the service on behalf of the four Dublin local authorities, has worked with **1,346** of these households to effectively protect their tenancies.

The majority of these cases were approved for an uplift in their Rent Supplement rate under the Department of Social Protection (DSP) Protocol **(1,179 households**) while a lesser number retained tenancies following negotiations with landlords on behalf of tenants **(104).**  The remaining (**63 households)** were supported to source alternative tenancies in the private rented sector.  Since operations began, only **20** of the households who contacted the TPS have accessed homeless services.

**NOTES TO EDITOR**

**FAMILY HOMELESSNESS**

Each month, the number of families presenting to homeless services who had not previously engaged with services is tracked. The table below details the monthly breakdown of the 218 families who accessed emergency accommodation during the quarter who were ‘new’ to homeless services.

**August 2015 families’ reasons for presenting to homeless services**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Notice to Quit** |  | 32 |
|  | *General* | 10 |  |
|  | *Invalid notice/Illegal eviction* | 3 |  |
|  | *Landlords family use* | 4 |  |
|  | *Property to be sold* | 7 |  |
|  | *Landlords bankrupt/receivership* | 1 |  |
|  | *Tenant Rent Arrears/Rent increase* | 6 |  |
|  | *Tenant Anti-social behaviour* | 1 |  |
| **Overcrowding** |  | 9 |
| **Relationship Breakdown** |  | 22 |
|  | *General* | 8 |  |
|  | *Parent* | 9 |  |
|  | *Partner* | 5 |  |
| Victim Anti-Social Behaviour |  | 3 |
| Unsuitable/Poor Quality Accommodation |  | 3 |
| Voluntarily Left Property |  | 2 |
| Other |  |  | 4 |
|  | *Parental family home sold – unable to afford rent in the Dublin region* | 1 |  |
|  | *Returning to Dublin – unable to afford rent in the Dublin region* | 2 |  |
|  | *Rented property secured but fell through* | 1 |  |
| Insufficient information |  | 3 |
|  | **Total** |  | **78** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

  **INCREASED SUPPORT LEVELS FOR COLD WEATHER INITIATIVE**

**OPERATION OF HOUSING FIRST INTAKE TEAM**

The Housing First Intake Team will be operating from 7am to 1am every day and will extend service as daily needs arise. The Intake service transport available to the team to assist in supporting vulnerable people who are sleeping rough to access accommodation.

**ROUGH SLEEPER REPORTING**

This reporting process can be employed by anyone encountering a person who is rough sleeping, and will alert the Housing First Intake Team as to the exact whereabouts of the rough sleeper so that the team can engage with them at that location.

<http://www.homelessdublin.ie/report-rough-sleeper#1>

**DAY SERVICES AND NIGHT CAFÉ**

The Capuchin Centre has extended his early opening hours to 7am.  Merchants Quay Ireland breakfast service is available from 7.30 and the Night Café is open all night. Focus Ireland Coffee Shop, Mendicity Day Services etc are all operating day services during the cold weather period.

**ASSERTIVE ENGAGEMENT**

Assertive engagementwith one night only services in the Dublin region to ensure that persons most consistently using homeless accommodation services on a night by night basis can be engaged with to identify progression requirements.

**GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE**

A *Guide to Good Practice for Street Outreach Teams* hasbeen developed in partnership with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Dublin City Council Homeless Services Central Placement Service (CPS) and the Housing First (HF) Team (Focus Ireland and Peter Mc Verry Trust) and a range of volunteer groups who are currently providing street engagement. This guide clarifies roles and appropriate interventions: what to do and what not to do, and also promotes effective communication between outreach volunteer groups, HF and CPS/ Freephone services. The aim is to ensure best practice is clear, and to improve progression options and outcomes for people who may be rough sleeping.

**Q13/0116 MODULAR HOUSES**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the manager to present a report on Modular Housing for SDCC, does this represent best value for money? And to comment on cost involved as reports are saying upwards of €190,000 plus per unit? How many are envisaged for SDCC and what locations? And will there be a members vote on this?

**REPLY:**

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government has advised that the Government has approved the delivery of 500 units of modular housing for homeless families across Dublin.  Modular housing accommodation is intended to offer a greater level of stability for families while move-on options to long-term independent living are identified and secured.  In addition such arrangements are envisaged to facilitate a more coordinated needs assessment and support planning for access to all required services, including welfare, health and housing services.

The aim is to have an initial 22 units in place by mid December in Dublin City Council area with a further 128 units to follow through a fast-tracked procurement.  350 units will then be provided through a national procurement framework overseen by the Office for Government Procurement.

It is anticipated that SDCC will be required to provide approximately 100 units.

Dublin City Council has started the accelerated restricted procedure through e-tenders for the erection /installation of 22 no. 3 bed - 5 person 2-storey, rapid delivery housing units by Mid December 2015.  The provision of these 22 units by the successful applicant is currently underway.  These are of a timber frame and the price reflects also the need for accelerated delivery and connection to services.  The Council awaits completion of the national procurement framework process.

Those allocated to the modular units as advised by the Minister will not be considered housed and will remain on the Councils Social Housing list continuing to have a housing need. The modular housing proposal is to provide families who are homeless a better environment where their family life will be minimally disrupted.  The homes will be built to all necessary building standards with the sites being selected on the basis of access to community infrastructure and services.

The Council is currently in the process of identifying suitable locations for the provision of the units.  Each site will be subject to the Part V111 process.

**Q14/0116 PLAY SPACE PROGRAMME**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the Play space programme, is programme on schedule and has there been any feedback on usage and interest in same?

**REPLY:**

It is intended to present a full update and review of the Play Space Programme 2014 - 2018 in relation to the years 2014 and 2015 at each of the Area Committees in January 2016.

The current update on the programme is as follows

**Update on the Five Year Play Space Programme 2014 – 2018**

The agreed Five Year Play Space Programme 2014 – 2018 and an update on progress are detailed in the table below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LUCAN**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Woodfarm Acres  | Local  | 2014  | No agreement possible. Substituted with Riversdale Estate  |
| Riversdale (substitution)  | Local  | 2014  | Open  |
| Griffeen Avenue  | Local  | 2014  | Completed and ready for inspection before opening  |
| Waterstown Park  | Regional  | 2015  | Design to be progressed  |
| Griffeen Valley Park  | Regional  | 2015  | Design to be progressed  |
| Sarsfield Park, Lucan  | Local  | 2015  | Completed and ready for inspection before opening  |
| Ballyowen Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2016  |    |
| Lucan Demesne  | Regional  | 2016  |    |
| Finnstown  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Willsbrook Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Hillcrest Estate Lucan  | Local  | 2017  |    |
| Glenaulin Park, Palmerstown  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Beechpark  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Hillcrest Estate Lucan  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Esker Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2018  |    |
| Grange Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2018  |    |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CLONDALKIN**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Rathcoole Park  | Local  | 2014  | Open  |
| Knockmitten Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2014  | Open  |
| Neilstown  | Local  | 2015  | Consultation stage  |
| Quarryvale Park  | Local  | 2015  | Under Construction  |
| Newcastle  | Neighbourhood  | 2015  | No site available until new park constructed by Receiver.  |
| Ashwood estate  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Springbank Cottages Saggart  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Collinstown Park  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Grand Canal Park  | Local  | 2017  |    |
| Corkagh Park  | Regional  | 2017  |    |
| Cherrywood Park  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| St Cuthbert’s Park  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Corkagh Park  | Local  | 2018  |    |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TALLAGHT CENTRAL**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Avonbeg  | Local  | 2014  | Opened September 2015  |
| Belgard Heights  | Local  | 2014  | No agreement possible  |
| Brookview (substitute for Belgard Heights)  | Local  | 2014  | Tender received and being analysed  |
| Ambervale  | Local  | 2015  | No agreement possible following consultation  |
| Kilnamanagh Parkhill Rd  | Local  | 2015  | Consultation process commenced and at design stage  |
| Kingswood open space  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Ballymount Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Bancroft Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Kilnamanagh Treepark Rd  | Local  | 2018  |   |
| **TALLAGHT SOUTH**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Killinarden Community Centre                                      | Local  | 2014  | Completed and open  |
| Aylesbury  | Local  | 2015  | Work completed and ready for inspection  |
| Jobstown Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2015  | Site Selection stage  |
| McGee Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2016  |    |
| Seán Walsh Park, Marlfield  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Killinardan Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2018  |    |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE-TERENURE**  |   |
| **RATHFARNHAM**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Woodstown, Knocklyon  | Local  | 2014  | No agreement possible  |
| Whitechurch open space  | Local  | 2014  | No agreement possible  |
| Marian Road  | Local  | 2015  | Consultation stage  |
| Dargle Wood  | Local  | 2015  | Unable to get agreement to progress playspace  |
| Longwood/Stonepark Abbey Rathfarnham  | Local  | 2015  | In consultation  |
| Kiltipper Park  | Regional  | 2015  | Overall park plan to be prepared. Premature for play space. Substitute with Glendoher Park.  |
| Glendoher park (substitute for Kiltipper Park)  | Local  | 2015  | Consultation in progress  |
| Elkwood  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Delaford  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Westbourne Lodge  | Local  | 2017  |    |
| Boden Park  | Local  | 2017  |    |
| Prospect Manor, Stocking Lane  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Dodder Park Road  | Local  | 2018  |    |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLOGUE-TERENURE**  |   |
| **TEMPLEOGUE TERENURE**  |   |
| **Location**  | **Type**  | **Timescale**  | **UPDATE**  |
| Beechfield Park, Walkinstown  | Local  | 2014  | Open  |
| Tymon Park Limekiln  | Neighbourhood  | 2016  |    |
| Glendown Park  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Firhouse Park  | Local  | 2016  |    |
| Greenhills Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Old Bawn Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Mount Carmel  | Neighbourhood  | 2017  |    |
| Idrone, Knocklyon  | Local  | 2017  |    |
| Tymon Park Willington  | Regional  | 2018  |    |
| Orwell Park  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Perrystown  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Carrigwood  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Hunterswood  | Local  | 2018  |    |
| Cherryfield Park  | Neighbourhood  | 2018  |    |

**Q15/0116 TEENAGERS LIVING IN SDCC**

 **QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive what can be done for teenagers living in SDCC and in what way SDCC can and do assist in this?

**REPLY:**

The Council has always identified the need to support younger persons in our County and a range of initiatives and supports are in place.

South Dublin County Council fully support Comhairle na nÓg, which is co-facilitated by SDCC, Crosscare and Foroige and which if focussed on the needs of young persons in the County.  A committee of up to 25 young people represent the County on Comhairle both organising events and working on projects agreed by young people for young people.  Comhairle meet fortnightly in County Hall and have an Annual General Meeting.  They reach out to young persons through schools, youth services, Irish Wheelchair Association and related organisations. Up to 120 young people attend annually.  One young person represents South Dublin Comhairle on The National Executive.

Late last year Comhairle organised the ‘Let’s Go Mental’ Event in Tallaght Stadium, working in partnership with Council's Sports Office to promote good mental health in our County through, sport, music and entertainment.

In addition to the above, the work of the Council's Sports Office and Local Sports Partnership pays particular attention to the younger cohort of the population of our County.  Through the work of the Sports Development Officers and initiatives such as the Late Night Leagues, a strong focus is paid to the youth of our county.  The Council continually reaches out to schools, colleges and institutes with its sports programmes and will shortly begin the 2016 Cross Country Series which will involve thousands of school going persons in the County through local, regional and county based competitions.

When new initiatives such as the Community Initiative Fund and the Community Endeavour Awards are being developed, a particular focus is generally included to address the needs of younger persons.

Finally the Council also support other initiatives such as Tallaght Jigsaw Mental Health Service and Fettercairn Horse Project and through the network of community facilities provide space for youth services and clubs throughout the County.

**H6/0116 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROAD**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading`

**H7/0116 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES AND SITES**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading

**H8/0116 MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

[Monthly Management Report](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/January/January2016CountyCouncilMeeting/46e527a0-9977-41bb-8265-bda455acfd76.pdf)

 **Billing and Collection Statement**





**Use of overdraft facility**

Approved overdraft facility = €13,000,000

No of days in Overdraft from 1st January to 21st December = 1

 [Strategy Report](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/January/January2016CountyCouncilMeeting/2a5cce00-d636-447b-9239-feece90f6a4b.pdf)

[Statistic Report](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/January/January2016CountyCouncilMeeting/9f14414b-2af4-4349-b06a-e8547a10f450.pdf)

The Reports were **NOTED**

**H9/0116 APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. B. Coman, Director of Housing, Community and Social Development and was **CONSIDERED**:

**Application for Grants**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref:** | **Name of Group** | **Type of Grant** | **Electoral Area** | **Amount** |
| GF2283 | The Web Project | Social Inclusion Grant | Rathfarnham | €900 |
| GF2284 | Lucan Active Retirement Association | Community Activity Grant | Lucan | €400 |
| GF2286 | Lucan & Leixlip Bowling Club | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Lucan | €200 |
| GF2293 | Temple Manor Residents Association | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Templeogue Terenure | €500 |
| GF2303 | Beechdale Residents Association | Start Up Costs for Community Groups | Templeogue Terenure | €350 |
| GF2307 | Foxborough Maintenance Association | Environmental Improvements Grant | Lucan | €200 |
| GF2309 | Tallaght Festival Band | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Tallaght Central | €500 |
| GF2312 | Oakdale Residents Association | Start Up Costs for Community Groups | Templeogue Terenure  | €350 |
| GF2315 | Order of Malta | Running Costs Grant | Tallaght Central | €300 |
| GF2316 | Parklands Residents Association | Start Up Costs for Community Groups | Templeogue Terenure | €350 |
| GF2320 | Newcastle Lyons Development Trust | Running Costs for Community Groups | Lucan | €500 |
| GF2324 | Killinarden Community Council | Community Centre Based I.T. Infrastructure | Tallaght South | €5,000 |
| GF2336 | Dublin Wicklow Mountain Rescue Team | Major Equipment Grant | Countywide | €5,000 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GF2337 | Balgaddy Community Garden | Major Equipment Grant | Clondalkin | €800 |
| GF2338 | Belgard Senior Active Retirement Association | Community Activity | Tallaght Central | €350 |
| GF2340 | Ash Park Residents Association | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Lucan | €350 |
| GF2341 | Dominic’s Active Ladies Club | Running Costs for Community Groups | Tallaght Central | €300 |
| GF2342 | Crosscare | Major Equipment Grant | Tallaght South | €1,700 |
| GF2343 | St. Aengus Active Retirement Club | Running Costs for Community Groups | Tallaght Central | €250 |
| GF2346 | Whitechurch Community & Youth Centre | Major Equipment Grant | Rathfarnham | €1,700 |
| GF2347 | 180th Dublin Lucan South Scout Group | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Lucan | €500 |
| GF2348 | Glendoher & District Residents Association | Minor Equipment Grant | Rathfarnham | €500 |
| GF2351 | Cool Sounds Collective | Start Up Costs for Community Groups | Clondalkin | €400 |
| GF2355 | Swan Family Support Organisation | Major Equipment Grant | Tallaght South | €1,500 |
| GF2356 | Palmerstown Community Council | Running Costs Grant for Community Groups | Lucan | €500 |
| GF2361 | Jobstown Boxing Club | Major Equipment Grant | Tallaght South | €3,000 |
| GF2363 | Cherith | Multipurpose Maintenance & Running Costs Grant | Templeogue Terenure | €4,000 |

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor S. Holland, seconded by Councillor E. Ó’Broin and **RESOLVED:**

**“**That the recommendations contained in the report be **ADOPTED and APPROVED**

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING**

 **(Co1)** Statement from LAMA Executive dated 12th December

 **(Co2)** Letter from Donegal County Council dated 3rd December 2015 regarding the intention to appeal global revaluation of 6 Utilities.

The above items of correspondence were **NOTED.**

 **MOTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

 **M1/0116 LEISURE CENTRES**

 It was proposed by **Councillor B. Leech seconded by Councillor K. Mahon.**

“That the members of this chamber call on the SDCC to radically reduce the price of their hourly rates in the County's Leisure Centre's to a more affordable level for local football teams who wish to use these facilities.”

**REPORT:**

“The Council's Leisure Centres are managed by the independent, external, not for profit company; South County Dublin Leisure Services Ltd (SCDLS). The remit of SCDLS is to deliver a high quality leisure experience to all their customers in a cost neutral model to the Council.  Tallaght Leisure Centre (TLC) under the management and control of SCDLS has recently been awarded a Gold in leisure centre excellence and has now achieved ISO9001 accreditation.

The company have strongly demonstrated over the last 9 years that their pricing policy recognises local market conditions while striving to deliver value and quality in all areas of their areas of operation.  The company have developed a range of programmes and activities for the broad spectrum of their customer base and deliver many of these programmes at reduced rates or subsidised prices.  The company have always strongly and actively engaged in the Council's social inclusion agenda.

The facilities at the leisure centres are being constantly improved and expended as part of the overall strategic plan for the development of the leisure centres into state of the art sports and leisure hubs.  This strategy aims to continue to provide and develop these state of the art facilities and to deliver them at the lowest possible rates consistent with the business plan for the facilities.  The current rates are in accordance with this policy and the company will keep them under review to ensure that they are achieving their primary objectives.  It should be noted that the Council does not have a direct role in setting any tariffs in these facilities.

Members should note that the recently commenced Late Night Soccer Leagues (in conjunction with the FAI and the Gardaí) will be held (twice) this season at no cost to the participants and where applicable the leisure centres make their facilities available.”

The Report was **NOTED.**

**M2/0116 DECRIMINALISATION OF DRUGS**

It was proposed by **Councillor F. Timmons seconded by Councillor P. Gogarty.**

“That this Council supports the decriminalisation of drug use, meaning that people will no longer be made criminals simply because of their use of a drug: that people’s drug use should be dealt with as a public health issue rather than as a criminal issue and that the resources currently used to process the 72% of drug convictions that are for personal possession should be redirected to treatment and support services and to more effective policing of the drugs trade.”

**REPORT:**

“If the Motion is passed a letter will issue to the appropriate Minister, and when a reply is received it will be issued to the Members**.”**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, M. Duff, E. Ó’Broin, D. O’Brien, L. Dunne, G. O’Connell, W. Lavelle, P. Gogarty and F. Warfield.

Councillor G. O’Connell proposed an amendment to the motion, seconded by Councillor D. O’Donovan as follows:

*“That this Council calls on the Minister responsible to examine the options for the decriminalisation of certain drugs possessed for personal use, and that such drug use should be dealt with as a public health issue.”*

The amended Motion was **AGREED.**

Following a show of hands vote the Motion was **AGREED.**

**M3/0116 PART 8’s**

As Councillor C. Brophy was absent from the chamber the following Motion in his name **FELL** in accordance with Standing Order no 20:

“That this Council conducts a review of all part 8 processes passed in the last 12 months to ensure that the implementation of the part 8 work complies with the original part 8 and that from now on, all Council part 8 processes must adhere to the same standards of detail and information that would be expected in a normal planning applications.”

 **M4/0116 MODULAR HOUSES**

It was proposed by **Councillor L. Dunne seconded by Councillor E. Ó’Broin.**

“This Council expresses its concerns that the proposed use of modular housing as an emergency accommodation may result in families being housed long term in such units.  We also are concerned that the purchase of modular homes may not represent the best value for money.

We call on the Minister of Environment to allow the Council to use the allocation of funds for modular units to purchase houses on the private market where such purchases represent better value for money than the purchase of modular homes and where they provide better quality accommodation to meet the homeless needs of homeless households.”

**REPORT:**

“The Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government has advised that the Government has approved the delivery of 500 units of modular housing for homeless families across Dublin.  Modular housing accommodation is intended to offer a greater level of stability for families while move-on options to long-term independent living are identified and secured.  In addition such arrangements are envisaged to facilitate a more coordinated needs assessment and support planning for access to all required services, including welfare, health and housing services.

The aim is to have an initial 22 units in place by mid-December in Dublin City Council area with a further 128 units to follow through a fast-tracked procurement.  350 units will then be provided through a national procurement framework overseen by the office for Government procurement.

It is anticipated that SDCC will be required to provide approximately 100 units.

Dublin City Council has started the accelerated restricted procedure through e-tenders for the erection /installation of 22 no. 3 bed - 5 person 2-storey, rapid delivery housing units by Mid December 2015.  The provision of these 22 units by the successful applicant is currently underway.

Those allocated to the modular units as advised by the Minister will not be considered housed and will remain on the Councils Social Housing list continuing to have a housing need. The modular housing proposal is to provide families who are homeless a better environment where their family life will be minimally disrupted.  The homes will be built to all necessary building standards with the sites being selected on the basis of access to community infrastructure and services.

The Council is currently in the process of identifying suitable locations for the provision of the units.

If the motion is passed it will be forwarded to the Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Dunne, D. O’Brien, F. Timmons, E. Ó’Broin, G. O’Connell, N. Coules, D. Richardson, M. Duff, P. Gogarty, F. Duffy, L. O’Toole, M. Devine, D. Looney, K. Mahon, E. Higgins, M. Genockey, B. Bonner, G. Kenny, T. Gilligan, B. Leech and P. Donovan.

Mr. B. Coman Director of Housing, Social and Community Development responded to the Member’s queries.

A show of hands vote followed on the motion and the results were as follows:

**FOR:                          34 (THIRTY FOUR)**

**AGAINST:                2   (TWO)**

**ABSTENTION:        0 (ZERO)**

The Motion was **AGREED.**

**M5/0116 SECTION 90 HOUSING ACT**

It was proposed by **Councillor E. O'Brien seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor.**

“That this Council, alters it current policy in relation to applications for consent to sales under Section 90 of the Housing Act 1966 and dispense with the requirement for a purchaser to obtain confirmation from Revenue that they have never previously received mortgage interest relief and thus effectively requires a proposed purchaser to be a first time buyer.”

**REPORT:**

“The terms and conditions pertaining to Consent to Sale are determined by Statute, specifically Section 90 of the Housing Act 1966, as outlined below.

"S90 (6) (b)

|  |
| --- |
| (*b*) subject to the foregoing paragraph,  the housing authority may, without prejudice to any other power in that   behalf, refuse to give such a consent if they are of opinion that— |
| (i) the intended purchaser or lessee is not a person in need of housing, or(ii) The intended sale or lease would, if completed, leave the vendor or lessor or his dependants without adequate housing". |

In order to meet these obligations, the Council requests a completed HPL1 form from Inspector of Taxes or if the purchaser has previously owned a property and cannot get a HPL1 form signed and stamped by Revenue Commissioners, they must submit a copy of the fully completed contracts for any property previously owned by the purchaser.  The purpose of this is to ensure that the purchaser is purchasing the property as their normal place of residence and is a person in need of housing.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. O’Brien, P. Gogarty, D. Looney, E. Ó’Broin and M. Genockey.

Mr. B. Coman Director of Housing, Social and Community Development responded to the Member’s queries.

The Report was **NOTED.**

In accordance with Standing Order 74 the Mayor, Councillor S. Holland proposed, and the members unanimously agreed, to suspend standing orders in order to deal with 2 suspensory motions to be taken without debate.

**SM1/0116 SUSPENSORY MOTION – HISTORICAL BUILDINGS ON MOORE STREET.**

The following **Suspensory Motion** in the names of Councillors L. Dunne, D. Looney, D. Richardson, J. Graham, E. Ó’Broin, D. O’Donovan, G. Kenny, F. Timmons, B. Leech, N. Coules, G. O’Connell, P. Foley, T. Gilligan, D. O’Brien, E. O’Brien, F. Duffy, B. Bonner, M. Genockey, R. Nolan, P. Gogarty, F. Warfield, S. Holland and C. O’Connor was proposed by Councillor L. Dunne seconded by Councillor D. Looney and was **CONSIDERED:**

**“**This Council supports and sends our solidarity to those who are occupying the historical buildings on Moore Street. This Council also calls on the Minister for Heritage, Heather Humphries to immediately intervene to halt works at the historic Moore Street battlefield site, as the national monument of no. 14-16 will be robbed of its historical and architectural context and its attraction if the terrace on either side is destroyed. Additionally, that this Council will write to Dublin City Council asking them to make provisions in their budget for a battlefield quarter project.”

A show of hands vote on the suspensory motion followed, the result of which was as follow:

**FOR: 15 (FIFTEEN)**

**AGAINST: 3 (THREE)**

**ABSTAIN: 1 (ONE)**

The Motion was **PASSED**.

**SM2/0116 SUSPENSORY MOTION 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EASTER RISING, THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE AND CIVIL WAR.**

The following **Suspensory Motion** in the names of Councillors L. O’Toole, D. Richardson, L. Dunne, D. O’Brien, G. O’Connell, D. O’Donovan, F. Timmons, M. Duff, F. Warfield, P. Gogarty, P. Foley, E. O’Brien, R. Nolan, G. Kenny, E. Ó’Broin, E. Higgins, N. Coules, K. Mahon, B. Leech, P. Donovan, B. Bonner, W. Lavelle, K. Egan, T. Gilligan, R. McMahon, C. O’Connor, S. Holland, R. Nolan, D. Looney, M. Genockey, M. Devine and J. Graham, was proposed by Councillor L. Dunne seconded by Councillor L. O’Toole and was **CONSIDERED:**

**“**As we approach a period of commemoration and reflection with the 100th Anniversary of the Easter Rising, the War of Independence and Civil War, there will be a huge interest in this major period in the history of our Country. It is of paramount importance that any remaining records of this period are made available for historical record purposes and also to assist families/individuals trying to find information about their ancestry, in some cases tragic circumstances, during this period.

As a significant number of records of this period have been destroyed or lost it is vital that we ensure that any remaining records are preserved and released to the public. This motion asks that the CEO writes to the Taoiseach asking him to confirm officially that all records of the period are now in the public domain. Furthermore that the Taoiseach asks that the British Government also considers releasing any records related to this period of our state.”

A show of hands vote on the suspensory motion followed, the result of which was as follow:

**FOR: 24 (TWENTY FOUR)**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Motion was **PASSED**.

**M6/0116 OT REPORTS**

It was proposed by **Councillor E. Ó Broin seconded by Councillor M. Devine.**

“This Council calls on the Housing Department to reinstate the practice of funding OT reports for Council tenant applicants applying for home adaptation grants who are living north of the Naas Road as an interim measure, and for the Council and HSE to agree a permanent solution to this issue so that all council tenants in South Dublin County Council area are treated equally and receive the OT services on the basis of need and not where they live.”

**REPORT:**

“In order for a DPG application to be processed it is essential that an Occupational Therapy Report is carried out and submitted with each application.   It has come to our attention that the Dublin West region are not providing Occupational Therapy Reports for applicants and consequently we are unable to carry out any works on properties without this report.

The role of the Primary Care Occupational Therapist (HSE) is to provide the following:

* Advice re local authority grant system
* OT functional reports
* Advice and provision of specialist and enabling equipment to optimise safety/independence
* Wheelchair assessment and seating provision
* Advice for pressure relief relevant to seating
* Assessments for hoists and other manual handling equipment provision
* Carer advice and support
* Onward referral to Occupational Therapy Specialists as required e.g. paediatrics, specialised seating units

A decision seems to have been made by the HSE Dublin South Central, (Former Dublin West) region to not provide OT reports to applicants who wish to apply for DPGs.  SDCC have received no explanation from the HSE as to why this service has been discontinued in this one particular area.  This is entirely a matter for Management of the HSE.  A meeting has been requested by SDCC and the HSE in order to discuss this matter and endeavour to resolve the issue.

It is not feasible for South Dublin County Council to reinstate the practice of funding OT reports as this service is under the remit of the HSE.  It is imperative that the monies allocated to DPG and small works are used for the provision of DPG works and not for other services.  The average cost of an OT report between €170 to €250.  In order to provide all 134 outstanding applications with OT reports, the cost would be approximately €26,000.  The Council is currently in discussion with the HSE Dublin South Central to overcome the issue.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. Ó’Broin, M. Devine, D. Looney, V. Casserly, and P. Donovan.

Mr. B. Coman Director of Housing, Social and Community Development responded to the Member’s queries

A show of hands vote on Motion no. 6 **(M6)** followed, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 24 (TWENTY FOUR)**

**AGAINT: 1 (ONE)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Motion was **AGREED**.

**M7/0116 EMERGENCY MITIGATION PLAN**

It was proposed by **Councillors W. Lavelle, V. Casserly, A-M. Dermody, P. Donovan, and K. Egan seconded by Councillor E. Higgins.**

“That this Council calls for the preparation of a new Emergency Mitigation Plan by key stakeholders, including this Council and neighbouring local authorities, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, An Garda Síochána and the National Transport Authority; to provide for enhanced contingency traffic management arrangements in the event of serious incidents on the M50, to seek to minimise the region-wide gridlock witnessed as a result of recent serious incidents; and as part of this plan to identify and provide for the implementation of pro-active measures such as immediate way-marking of diversions; resequencing of traffic signals on diversions, deployment of Gardai to manage traffic, use of contra-flow and centralised co-ordination of the contingency response.”

**REPORT:**

“TII have commenced the Preparation of an Emergency Plan for the M50.  SDCC Traffic Department have recently been contacted by TII regarding the establishment of an Interagency Incident Coordination Group to manage road traffic incidents and accidents on the M50 network.

The purpose of this group is to ensure a coordinated approach to the management of major incidents that occur on the M50 by the various agencies involved.  A representative from SDCC Traffic Section will participate in this group.

TII are also in the process of finalising arrangements for permanently signed diversions in the event of a closure of the M50, and it is expected this group will hold a desktop exercise in January.

The Traffic Section will keep the Members informed of developments by the group.”

Cllr Lavelle spoke on this subject.

A show of hands vote on Motion no.7 **(M7)** followed, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 23 (TWENTY THREE)**

**AGAINT: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Report was **NOTED**.

**M8/0116 SDZ**

It was proposed by **Councillors** L. O’ Toole, G. O’ Connell, and P. Gogarty **seconded by Councillor** P Gogarty.

“That this Council, given the current housing crises and the implications under option two (Community Hall and Sports Facility) of the County’s SDZ writes (a) to Minister for Education Jan O’Sullivan requesting an updated report on the negotiations that are taking place between the department and the developer in relation to the SDZ contractual agreement (b) write to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Alan Kelly requesting an update on his efforts to reactivate the County’s SDZ process and that this Council be kept formally informed on efforts at National level in progressing both a and b above.”

**REPORT:**

“This matter was raised at the meeting of the Lucan Area Committee on the 27th October 2015 and again on 16th December 2015 and following agreement of the Motions, the Administrators of the Lucan Area Committee have forwarded correspondence to the relevant Ministers and are awaiting replies.

If the Motion is passed a further letter will issue to the appropriate Ministers, and a reply when received will issue to the Members.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. O’Toole, and P. Gogarty.

Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transport responded to the Member’s queries.

A show of hands vote on Motion no.8 **(M8)** followed, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 22 (TWENTY TWO)**

**AGAINT: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 1 (ONE)**

This Motion was **PASSED.**

**M9/0116 DUBLIN BUS**

As Councillor D. O’Donovan was absent from the chamber the following motion in her name **FELL** in accordance with Standing Order no 20:

“That the Manager writes to Dublin Bus asking them to outline the number of requests for bus shelters and Real Time Information Units received within the County within the past five years, together with a breakdown of actual units and shelters installed, broken down by electoral area.”

**M10/0116 MILLION POUND CHALLENGE**

It was proposed by **Councillor M. Devine seconded by Councillor D. O’Brien.**

“That this Council support and promote the "Million Pound Challenge" that will positively impact on the County's and Country's overall health.”

**REPORT:**

“The challenge is inspired by an initiative from Oklahoma where the Mayor decided to take action in 2007 after a fitness magazine ranked his city as one of America’s most obese places to live.  The Mayor announced that the city was “going on a diet”.  Admitting that he was obese himself, he challenged the citizens of Oklahoma to join him on a weight loss programme to collectively lose one million pounds.  The Mayor lost three stone and the city joined him with more than 50,000 citizens registering to track their weight.  Local restaurants and gyms were encouraged to support the campaign through healthy menu choices and discounts.  Oklahoma City was redesigned to make it more ‘walkable’.  Five years later, the city hit its million pound weight loss goal and landed a spot on America’s Top 10 fittest cities.

Operation Transformation, which is promoted in the County through the Council's Sports Partnerships, is challenging the people of Ireland to go one better by losing that million pounds in just 12 months.  The challenge is based on a prediction that Ireland is on course to become the fattest country in Europe with nearly two-thirds of the population overweight or obese.

Supported by Healthy Ireland, the Operation Transformation Million Pound Challenge begins on Wednesday, January 6th, 2016.  Registration will open during the first episode of Operation Transformation.  Individuals, groups of friends, families and companies will be able to log on to the Operation Transformation website - [**rte.ie/ot**](http://ot.rte.ie/) - to sign up for challenge and track their weight loss each week.   Throughout the campaign, Operation Transformation will be giving tips on how to make the small changes in lifestyle that will help build toward that ultimate million pound goal.

From a Council perspective the interdepartmental group that is being established in early 2016 will develop a programme of work / actions under the Health & Wellbeing Theme.  This programme will be promoted by this group in conjunction with the Healthy County Steering Group.  If the motion is passed it will be referred to the Steering Group.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Devine, D. O’Brien, C. O’Connor, R. McMahon, E. Higgins, B. Leech, B. Bonner, T. Gilligan, K. Mahon, and P Donovan.

A show of hands vote on motion no. 10 **(M10)** followed, the result of which was as follow:

**FOR: 26 (TWENTY SIX)**

**AGAINT: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Motion was **AGREED**.

**M11/0116 SDZ**

It was proposed by **Councillor L. O'Toole seconded by Councillor D. O’Brien.**

“That this council requests that the Chief Executive confirms that the change of ownership of land within an SDZ does not alter in anyway the obligation required under the granted planning permission.”

**REPORT:**

“A Change of land ownership in no way alters the obligations required under the SDZ scheme.  As with any planning permission or land use plan, the obligation lies with the land regardless of ownership.”

Councillor L. O’Toole spoke on the motion.

The Report was **NOTED**.

**M12/0116 MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

As Councillor A-M. Dermody was absent from the chamber the following Motion in her name **FELL** in accordance with Standing Order no 20:

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Education to bring parity for the hundreds of secretaries and caretakers employed directly by the Boards of Management of schools with the terms and conditions of similar personnel employed by the Department. The staff concerned are paid directly by the schools through an ancillary grant and are paid a variety of rates, but virtually all are believed to receive amounts below the common pay scales of those paid directly by the Department of Education.”

**M13/0116 LOAN ACCOUNTS**

It was proposed by **Councillor E. Ó Broin seconded by Councillor S. Holland.**

“That the Manager provide a detailed report on arrears with respect to households in tenant purchase properties (social and affordable) including:

(a) How many are currently in mortgage arrears of ninety days or more;

(b)  A breakdown of the accounts by length of time in arrears in excess of one month;

(c) What is the Council’s policy in relation to the management and collection of these arrears?”

**REPORT:**

“At the end of November, 2015 there was a total of 260 tenant purchase mortgages of which 35 were in arrears of ninety days or more.

At the end of November, 2015 there was a total of 423 Affordable mortgages of which 80 were in arrears of ninety days or more.

The table below reflects the number of these accounts in arrears by length of time and value of arrears at the end of November 2015.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | Tenant Purchase |   | Affordable   |   |
| Arrears Group | Amount | No | Amount | No   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| Less Than 1 month | 3,339.65 | 29 |  15,467.69 | 59  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 1month but less than 2 | 2630.41 | 9 |  24,551.25 | 26  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 2 months but less than 3 | 4,090.84 | 9 |  16,260.16 | 11  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 months but less than 4 | 2,877.38 | 3 |  18,489.63 | 8     |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 months but less than 5 | 2,207.92 | 5 |  23,235.5 | 9  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 5 months but less than 6 | 2,123.14 | 4 |  27,884.97 | 9  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 6 months but less than 7 | 1,693.73 | 3 |  16,923.36 | 4  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 7 months but less than 8 | 815.96 | 1 |  14,874.09 | 4  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 8 months but less than 9 | 2,306.29 | 2 |  23,017.59   | 5 |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 9 months but less than 10 | 7,635.47 | 2 |  34,545.81 | 5  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 10 months but less than 11 | 1,647.35 | 1 |  26,892.8 | 4  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 11 months but less than 12 | 4,486.49 | 2 |  21,343.21 | 3  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| 12 months or more | 31,414.20 | 19 |  331,736.17 | 29  |
|   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 67,268.83 | 89 | 595,222.27  |  176 |
|   |   |   |   |   |

South Dublin County Council has a dedicated team of Arrears Support Officers who are trained in the collection and management of arrears.

In terms of the mortgage arrears process, staff in South Dublin County Council apply the four-step programme called the Mortgage Arrears Resolution Process (MARP) designed to assist borrowers who are having difficulty in meeting their repayments; details of which are outlined in link below.

If a borrower requires any assistance in completing the SFS or the application form South Dublin County Council has staff available to help with their queries. For those borrowers who qualify for the MARP process, the following options are available to them:

* Interest and Part Capital Payments
* Interest and MPI Payments
* Postpone Repayments
* Lengthening the term of the Loan
* Capitalisation

The link to the information booklet on MARPS is as follows:

[**http://www.sdcc.ie/sites/default/files/guidelines//mortgage-arrears-resolution-information-booklet-june-2014.pdf**](http://www.sdcc.ie/sites/default/files/guidelines/mortgage-arrears-resolution-information-booklet-june-2014.pdf)”

Councillor E. Ó’Broin spoke on the motion.

The Report was **NOTED**.

**M14/0116 ROUND UP WEED KILLER**

As Councillor C. Brophy was absent from the chamber the following Motion in his name **FELL** in accordance with Standing Order no 20:

“That this council calls on the Minister for the Environment to undertake a full review of the use of Round-Up weed killer by Local Authorities to assess the impact to public health, pets and wildlife in light of recent publications highlighting the risks the use of this chemical can pose.”

**M15/0116 MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

It was proposed by **Councillor F. Timmons seconded by Councillor M. Devine:**

“That SDCC strongly recommends the following action be taken by Minister Reilly

I. We strongly recommends that the Government and Minister Reilly fully accept and implement all the 13 formal recommendations of the Report from the Joint Committee on Health and Children for the new Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill, particularly in ensuring those people who were illegally adopted receive the extra assistance they need to be truly equal with the rest of the survivor community.

II. We strongly recommends that the Terms of Reference of the current Commission of Inquiry into Mother and Baby homes and related matters, are immediately expanded to fully include all people affected by the forced separation of single mothers and their children since the foundation of the State.

III. We strongly recommends an immediate acknowledgement, apology and redress to an aging community of survivors while there is still time. It is against the grain of natural justice that many survivors will pass away before the current Inquiry has issues its final Report. Justice delayed is Justice Denied.

We agree that Minister Reilly be written to and asked to consider the above.”

**REPORT:**

“If the Motion is passed a letter will issue to appropriate Minister, and when a reply is received it will be issued to the Members.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, E. Ó’Broin and S. Holland.

A show of hands vote on motion no.15 **(M15)** followed, the result of which was as follow:

**FOR: 26 (TWENTY SIX)**

**AGAINT: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Motion was **AGREED**.

 The Meeting finished at 6.05pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_