**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

 **Minutes of South Dublin County Council Meeting held on 9th May 2016.**

**PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bonner, B. |  | King, C. |
| Casserly, V. |  | Lavelle, W. |
| Coules, N. |  | Lawlor, B. |
| Dermody A-M. |  | Leech, B. |
| Donovan, P.  |  | Looney, D. |
| Duff, M. |  | McMahon, R. |
| Duffy, F.  |  | Mahon, K. |
| Dunne, L.  |  | Murphy, E. |
| Egan, K. |  | Murphy, M. |
| Ferron, B.  |  | Nolan, R.  |
| Foley, P.  |  | O’Brien, D.  |
| Genockey, M. |  | O’Brien, E.  |
| Gilligan, T.  |  | O’Connell, G. |
| Gogarty, P. |  | O’Connor, C. |
| Holland, S. |  | O’Donovan, D. |
| Johansson, M. |  | O’Toole, L.  |
| Kearns, P. |  | Richardson, D. |
|  |  | Ward, M. |
|  |  |  |

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin. |
| Directors/ Heads of FunctionHead of Finance | L. Maxwell, B. Coman, F. Nevin, E. Taaffe, R. Fitzgerald. |
| County Architect | E. Conroy |
| Senior Executive Officers | H. Hogan, M. Maguire, Y. Dervan,P. Murphy, L. Magee, 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. |
| SordICTU | A. O’Brien.Mr. Macdara Doyle. |
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Apologies from Councillors E. Higgins, F. Timmons and J. Graham.

The Mayor, Councillor S. Holland, presided.

**H1/0516** **CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

a) Minutes of Meeting of South Dublin County Council 11th April 2016 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor S. Holland seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor.

 At this point the Mayor Councillor S. Holland proposed and the Members **AGREED**

 to vary the sequence of items on the Agenda in order to take Headed Item number 10 **(H10)** next:

**H10**/**0516** **PRESENTATION ON CONGRESS CHARTER FOR FAIR CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

The following presentation was made by Mr. Macdara Doyle from the Irish Congress of Trade Unions on the Congress Charter for Fair Conditions of Employment.

[**http://www.ictu.ie/charter/**](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=pLGo10s2ZYeOqNlW7NzlElSWug94qIp283rr4Wrqpw&s=344&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2eictu%2eie%2fcharter%2f)

 Councillors D. Looney, M. Duff, M. Johansson, C. King, K. Mahon and W. Lavelle wanted to thank Mr. Doyle for his presentation.

**H2a)/0516 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE-TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE - 12TH APRIL 2016**

*Dealing with Environment, 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)/0516 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - CLONDALKIN AREA COMMITTEE - 20TH APRIL 2016**

*Dealing with Environment, Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation, Economic Development, Libraries &* ***Arts******(2 reports – Arts Grants)****, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

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

“Application for Art Grants

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ref:  | Name of Group  | Type of Application - Grant  | Date Received   | Amount€  |
| Agf864  | Clondalkin Youth Theatre  | Grant  | 6/3/2016  | 650  |
| Agf 868  | Rowlagh Women’s Group  | Project Grant  | 1/4/2016  | 1,000  |

It was proposed by Councillor F. Timmons and seconded by Councillor T. Gilligan and **RESOLVED**:

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

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor S. Holland seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED**:

“That the recommendations contained in the foregoing report of The Clondalkin Area Committee 20th April 2016 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**H2c/0516 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - TALLAGHT AREA COMMITTEE - 25TH APRIL 2016**

*Dealing with Environment, 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.

**H2d)/0516 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - LUCAN AREA COMMITTEE - 26TH APRIL 2016**

*Dealing with Environment, Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Transportation, Economic Development, Libraries &* ***Arts (2 reports – Arts Grants),*** *Corporate Support, Performance& Change Management*

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

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor S. Holland seconded by Councillor D. Richardson and **RESOLVED**:

**“Application for Arts Grants**

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 €  |
| AGF867 | Sounds Ensemble | Project  | 1/4/2016 | 1,000  |
| AGF867 | Platform One | Project  | 1/4/2016 | 1,000  |

It was proposed by Councillor N. Coules and seconded by Councillor L. Dunne and **RESOLVED:**

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

“That the recommendations contained in the foregoing report of The Lucan Area Committee 26th April 2016 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**H3/0516** **STANDING COMMITTEES - ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

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

**H4/0516 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED t**hat there was **NO** Business under this Heading.

 **H5/0516 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED t**hat there was **NO** Business under this Heading.

**QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor S. Holland, seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q29 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

**Q1/0516 ZEBRA CROSSINGS**

**QUESTION: Councillor B. Bonner**

Has any progress been made in relation to the commitment made to undertake a public education campaign on the correct use of zebra crossings?  With the trend towards the increased installation of such Zebra Crossings County wide, there is a real safety issue, and it appears that both drivers and pedestrians do not know the proper protocol.  Also, could the issue be raised at the policing forum so that Gardai Countywide might be encouraged to enforce the law in relation to zebra crossings?

**REPLY:**

While driver education is a national issue and is the remit of the RSA, the matter will be discussed with the RSA and the other members of the Road Safety Together Working Group.  The possibility of a joint publicity campaign between the RSA and SDCC will be examined.   The matter will also be raised at the Policing Forum.

**Q2/0516 BIKE RENTAL**

**QUESTION: Councillor B. Bonner**

Could the Chief Executive investigate the possibility of the city bikes scheme being extended to locations in the county?  The Luas stops, particularly the terminus at the Square and the Red Cow stop would be particularly suitable for city bike locations, as would various areas on the Grand Canal greenway.  In order to promote tourism in the County, having bike stands at Hotels County wide would also be a good idea. So too would stands at strategic locations on the Dublin mountain way as access to the start points of the walk is difficult if one does not have a car.  Obviously the civic offices in Tallaght and Clondalkin would also be good locations.  The possibilities are endless if the scheme can be extended.

 **REPLY:**

The feasibility of introducing a Bike Rental Scheme to the County has been examined by the Planning Section of the Local Authority in 2014.  In particular a feasibility study on introducing a Bike Rental scheme to the Tallaght Town Centre areas was examined, this report being funded by the NTA.  Provisional findings were that the initial capital investment would be of the order of €300,000 and depending on the level of sponsorship the annual operating cost could be up to €200,000.

At this stage there is no funding stream available for the project but the possibility of introducing a Bike Hire scheme, similar to the Dublin City model, particularly in the Tallaght Area remains on the agenda in our discussions with the NTA.

**Q3/0516 PRICE OF PURCHASED PROPERTIES**

**QUESTION: Councillor N. Coules**

To ask the Chief Executive to explain how the price of existing dwellings being purchased by the Council is determined.

**REPLY:**

The Council identifies suitable vacant properties on property websites and/or we are approached directly with possibilities. Before the Council purchases a property, it is inspected by the Council's Clerk of Works and Valuer. If it is deemed suitable the Valuer is requested to commence negotiations on price and in accordance with Circular Housing 24/2015 dated 17th June 2015 (Social Housing Capital Investment - Acquisition of properties for Social Housing) which sets out guidelines in relation to the purchase of properties for social housing. If the negotiations are completed satisfactorily the conveyancing process commences.

 **Q4/0516 EMERGENCY PLAN FOR M50**

**QUESTION: Councillor W. Lavelle**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update on the preparation of an Emergency Plan for the M50; the establishment of an Interagency Incident Coordination Group to manage road traffic incidents and accidents on the M50 network; and the plans for permanently signed diversions in the event of a closure of the M50?

**REPLY:**

The Interagency Incident Coordination Group (IICG) was established to ensure best possible multiagency response to collisions causing significant disruption occurring on the M50 and surrounding motorways in the Greater Dublin Area. The group was established in late 2015 and meets monthly to discuss relevant issues.

An Garda Síochána, Dublin Fire Brigade, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, the Motorway Traffic Control Centre, Dublin City Council, South Dublin County, Fingal County Council and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council are all represented on the IICG.

The IICG has developed a protocol for the coordinated multiagency response to significant incidents in recent months and this was put into effect on a trial basis in mid-April 2016. This protocol will be used henceforth for the management of major motorway incidents in the Greater Dublin Area.

Emergency diversion routes are being prepared to provide an alternative to traffic in the event of a full closure of the M50 for a significant period of hours. These are marked with permanent signs mounted on existing road signs. Consultation with the relevant parties regarding this work is being carried out via the IICG. To date, signs have been erected for the route from the N2 – N3 and design work is underway for other routes. It should be noted that these diversion routes are intended to be the best alternative available route but will have a much smaller traffic capacity than the M50.

**Q5)/0516 PARKS BYE-LAWS**

**QUESTION: Councillor W. Lavelle**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on further consultations held with An Garda Síochana in relation to proposals to amend the Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws 2011 to explicitly make provision for the detention, return and/or disposal of scrambler bikes, quads and other vehicles which have been removed from parks and opens spaces by Gardai?

 **REPLY:**

As previously advised it would appear from the Bye-Laws that the Gardaí are given authority to remove vehicles, and the legal advice to the Chief Executive is that the Council's Bye-Laws as drafted are sufficient, and pending the outcome of consultations with the Gardaí, it is not necessarily proposed to amend the current Bye-Laws.

Details of the motion debated at the April Council Meeting has been referred to Senior Gardaí and a meeting is being arranged.

It is also envisaged that the issue will form part of discussion with the new Road Safety Working Group (which will include senior local Gardaí) and is in the process of being established.

**Q6/0516 INTRUDER ALARMS**

**QUESTION: Councillor B. Leech**

To ask the Chief Executive, what is the Councils response to residents who complain about the noise that emanates from burglar and intruder alarms? Some of these alarms can become activated during the day when the tenant isn't there and become a real nuisance. Does the Council have a Bye-law to this, and can any action be taken.

**REPLY:**

Household intruder alarms commonly mis-sound during periods of disturbed weather such as periods of extended warm temperatures or thunder storms. The alarm may also sound in error when the battery requires replacement.

South Dublin County Council does not generally get involved in "domestic to domestic" noise disputes.

There is an inexpensive and quick method available to residents to deal with persistent noise matters through the District Court.  Section 108(3) of the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 and the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 (Noise) Regulations 1994, outline the procedure for making a complaint to the District Court, and further information is also available at [**www.enfo.ie**](http://www.enfo.ie/). There is no requirement to be represented in Court by a solicitor and the District Court only charges a nominal fee for processing the action.

An option that is promoted by South Dublin County Council, and which is available to neighbours experiencing conflict with a neighbour is the South Dublin Mediation Services; Telephone (01) 451 5910, email **southdublinmediationservices@gmail.com**.

Where the complaint centres on a faulty intruder alarm we ask the householder in the first instance to talk to their neighbours and before availing of the above options, the neighbour can be asked to check the alarm log to ensure they are aware of the extent of the problem. Also, the alleged offender can be asked to advise their neighbours of the contact details of their trusted key holder in case the alarm sounds while they are away on a weekend or longer break.

Complaints usually occur in the summer and in 2015 the Environmental Health Officers received 24 complaints in total. The response typically from the EHO’s is to send out an advisory letter to both the complainant and the alleged offender.

**Q7/0516 HOUSING RENTS**

**QUESTION: Councillor R. McMahon**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the annual figure of collectible Housing Rents by area and what is the figure of unpaid Housing Rents outstanding by area in the County.

The profile of current rent accounts (10396)  is as follows:

9009 (housing rents)

1253  (R.A.S. - Rental Accommodation Scheme)

134   Payment and Availability Agreements

The following tables summarises position in relation to collectable rent under each category:

**Op. Balance 102601     invoiced       receipts    Cl. Balance 201603    % arrears**

Housing Rents            7,223,054          5,020,605          4,966,082            7,277,576               41%

R.A.S.            627,608              651,125            607,315               671,419                47%

P&A Agreements   28,792          71,962              70,212                30,542                7%

      **TOTAL    7,879,454    5,743,692          5,643,610          7,979,536   AvArrears 52.6%**

**Q8/0516 CATTLE GRIDS**

**QUESTION: Councillor R. McMahon**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update regarding the installation of Cattle Grids in the Glenasmole Valley.

 **REPLY:**

The Roads Dept. have engaged a Consultant to carry out a Safety Assessment on cattle/sheep grids.

**Q9/0516 HISTORICAL FURNITURE**

**QUESTION: Councillor R. McMahon**

To ask the Chief Executive was there ever a register completed and published of historical furniture (eg Old Street Signs, Lampposts) in the County and if not, is there any plans to conduct one.

**REPLY**

In 2015, under the County Heritage Plan, a Survey of Features of Local Heritage Interest was undertaken which invited submissions from the public on features in the urban and rural landscape that are deemed to be of local heritage significance.  These features, sometimes referred to as ‘street furniture’, can include items such as old decorative lamp standards, historic cast iron sewer vent pipes, old railings and walls, original paving and cobbles, gate piers, wrought iron features, old post boxes and telephone kiosks.  Natural features can also be included such as rag trees, specimen trees, or historic townland boundaries and hedgerows.

While they are often significant in establishing local sense of place and can add to the unique local character of an area, street furniture often falls outside the standard protection mechanisms associated with Protected Structures or archaeological features.  The objective of the project was to raise awareness of the extent and the value of street furniture throughout the County and to record the location and status of these features on a GIS mapping system.

267 different features have been inputted to the database.  These include records submitted by members of the public and features already known to the Heritage Officer and the consultant undertaking the study.

The data set is currently being analysed but preliminary indications show that while a wealth of well-preserved historic infrastructure relating to public utilities was recorded (15 water pumps, 8 sewer vents, and 25 general utility features), it was notable when compared with adjacent counties how few historic utility covers (manhole covers) and infrastructure associated with historic public lighting and the historic tram system have survived.

Some feature class group’s recorded high numbers of examples: old post boxes (20), boundary walls (27), old estate entrances (22), venerated sites and features (16).  However, the class feature seen to be of most importance for local communities was ‘gates, railings and iron works’ with over 62 features recorded.  In the public’s opinion, simple vernacular gates and railings were highlighted as being the important features, more so than exceptional decorative iron work.  This would reflect the continued prevalence of these features throughout the County, suggesting that this feature class is seen as being synonymous with the unique character of the South Dublin County area.

The Heritage Officer will be happy to include any further items of local heritage significance to the data base as and when identified.

**Q10/0516 METRO WEST**

**QUESTION: Councillor E. O’Brien**

In light of the recent announcement of the NTA’s Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area, and noting that the previously proposed Metro West project has been omitted from the new strategy, can the Chief Executive please indicate if;

1. Any land banks have been preserved by this Council for the construction of Metro West on foot of previous proposals
2. If any development levies were collected on foot of any previous steps taken to construct the Metro West project
3. If so have these levies been refunded or does this Council still retain them
4. What, if any, impact will this decision have on previously made planning decisions taken by this Council
5. And how will this decision impact the strategic planning of this Council and in particular with reference to the current county development plan

**REPLY:**

1) There was no Council owned lands specifically preserved or lands acquired for the construction of the Metro West.

2) In accordance with Section 49 of the Planning and Development Act 2000(as amended) as supplementary Development Contribution Scheme was adopted by the Council on the 9th of March 2009, and Development Levies were collected accordingly.

3) Following the announcement of the suspension of the Metro West Project South Dublin County Council resolved to suspend the supplementary scheme on the 10th of October 2011. The Planning Department then refunded the levies paid with interest were applicable to the planning applicants.

4)  The decision to omit Metro-West from the Draft Transport Strategy will not impact on previous decisions issued by the Planning Authority.  There is no mechanism within the Planning and Development Act (as amended) for the retrospective review of planning decisions following changes in local, regional or national planning policies.

5)  From the outset of the preparation of South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2016 -2022 (the Development Plan) it had been noted that the Metro-West project had been ‘suspended’ and had not been included within the Integrated Implementation Plan, 2013-2018, prepared by the National Transport Authority (NTA).  This cast substantive doubt on the project, which was taken into account when formulating the Development Plan’s Core Strategy.  Notwithstanding the uncertain status of Metro-West, the Draft Development Plan (May 2015) noted the importance of orbital public transport routes for the development of the County (and metropolitan area more generally) and sought to retain the Metro-West reservation (as identified in the current South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2010 -2016) for ‘future provision of high frequency public transport services’ (refer to Section 6.2.0 of the Draft Development Plan).

The need for good quality orbital services has been recognised by the NTA within the Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2016 – 2035 (the Strategy).  This is reflected by the inclusion of a Core Orbital Bus Network with a service between Tallaght and Blanchardstown.  The Strategy indicates that this will largely follows the route of the former Metro-West.  The wording of Section 6.2.0 is proposed to be modified (refer to Material Alteration Ref. Chapter 6 – No. 3) in response to the Strategy, and in response to submissions from the NTA and Motions put forward at the February 2016 Development Plan Meeting to make referee to the Core Orbital Bus network and ‘former’ Metro-West alignment.

**Q11/0516 CIRCUS ANIMALS**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would confirm the Council's policy on the visits to our County of a live animals Circus; will he appreciate the controversy raised recently in respect of the issue and will he also confirm if any complaints have been lodged with the Council regarding this issue over the last few years.

 **REPLY:**

It is interpreted that this question as submitted refers to a recent visit to the County of Belly Wien Circus which took place recently at Greenhills Road Tallaght.

The Circus site in question is privately owned and in accordance with the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2015; Class 37 states that development consisting of land for a circus and the placing or maintenance of tents, vans or other temporary or movable structures or objects on the land in connection with such use are exempt from enforcement by the Council subject to the following conditions:

* The land shall not be used for any such purposes either continuously for a period exceeding 15 days or occasionally for periods exceeding in aggregate 30 days in any year.
* On the discontinuance of such use the land shall be reinstated save to such extent as may be authorised or required by a permission under the Act.

Following representations from the Elected Members of South Dublin County Council, regarding the use of wild animals in circuses, a review of the matter was undertaken by the Council in 2005.  It was concluded that it was not appropriate for the Council to host circuses, which made use of wild animals in their shows, on Council lands and since 2006, Council owned sites have only been awarded to circuses which do not make use of wild animals.

The Council was contacted in respect of the recent visiting circus and a Freedom of Information Request was also submitted to the Council.

**Q12/0516** **HOUSING PLANS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if he has requested additional funding from the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government to allow for the deployment of sufficient staff in the Housing Department to enable him to progress the Housing plans outlined by members at the April meeting of our Council.

 **REPLY:**

The Council is progressing provision and supply of Social Housing units in line with the Housing Strategy and as set out in the report to the March Council Meeting. A quarterly review of the workforce plan for the organisation has been completed as a result of which a significant number of additional clerical officers are being recruited for Housing. While there are a number of vacancies at present there is ongoing recruitment to fill those vacancies and bring the staff numbers in the Department back up to its full complement as identified in the workforce plan.

**Q13/0516 HOMELESSNESS**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O’ Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm how many families are currently registered with the Council as Homeless and will he also state how these families are presently being accommodated.

**REPLY:**

There are currently 169 families registered with the Council as Homeless. 105 families are accommodated in various hotels in South County Dublin and surrounding areas and 64 families are accommodated at Tallaght Cross.

**Q14/0516 VACANT HOUSES**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O’ Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he will present a report on the number of Council houses currently vacant and in reporting will he confirm what is the average time frame for making vacant houses available to new tenants?

 **REPLY:**

There are currently 37 dwellings vacant in South Dublin County Council at various stages of repair.  22 of these dwellings are north and 15 are south of the Naas Road.  54 vacant dwellings have been allocated since 1 January 2016.

The main reason which determines the length of re-let time is the amount of works necessary and these are determined by the age and the condition of the house at time of surrender.  In the case of fire damaged and/or vandalised houses, it can take considerably longer to effect the pre-let repairs.  The current average timeframe for making vacant dwellings available for re-let is 9.90 weeks.

**Q15/0516 FENCE**

**QUESTION: Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify whether a commercial premises which has been built with a boundary fence to a main road/grass margin/footpath can remove that fence without seeking any prior permission and will he confirm whether he can take any action to require the re-installation of the boundary fence in a manner which is consistent with the original boundary fence.

 **REPLY:**

The erection of a boundary fence would be development that requires permission, unless deemed exempt under the planning regulations.  The removal of a boundary fence separating private property from the public realm would only be subject to planning control if there was a condition in a permission that has been availed of requiring a boundary in place, or if the boundary fence formed part of the curtilage of a Protected Structure or was located in an Architectural Conservation Area.  Action would only be possible when the precise location of the boundary fence is known and the full planning history established.

**Q16/0516 FLOODMAPS**

**QUESTION: Councillor G. O’Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on areas of the County that are (“officially” and/or by Insurance Companies) described as “areas in Danger of Flooding” and to include in his report the basis for such a description, what actions this Council had taken over the past 20 years to alleviate or eliminate such risks, with what success and what support can be given to residents who have been refuse a quote by an Insurance Company “because they are located on a flood risk”

 **REPLY:**

The Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in 2011. The CFRAM Programme is central to the medium to long-term strategy for the reduction and management of flood risk in Ireland.

THE OPW is the lead agency for flood risk management in Ireland and they work in close partnership with all Local Authorities.

Flood Hazard and Risk Mapping was carried out for the Eastern CFRAM area and presented at Public Consultations in late 2015.

These maps indicate the probable extent of flooding in the studied areas and assign a probability for a flood event, so a 1% annual event would have a probability of 1 in 100 of occurring.

The maps are available online at [**www.cfram.ie**](http://www.cfram.ie)

We are not aware of the criteria used by Insurance companies in assessing Flood Risk.

However we understand that the OPW and Insurance companies intend to discuss the review of flood risks on completion of flood alleviation works identified under the CFRAM programme.

Previous to the CFRAM programme, SDCC identified and carried out works directly on streams and rivers such as; The Camac, The Owendoher, The Griffeen, The Oldcourt stream, Corkagh Park and surface water drainage schemes such as New Road Clondalkin, Mill lane Saggart and Lucan Village.

**Q17/0516 TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME**

**QUESTION: Councillor G. O’Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on progress in implementing the Traveller Accommodation Programme and to make a statement on the situation that now exists following the Seminar in Dublin Castle at which there were allegations made about the commitment and suitability of Local Authorities for delivering Traveller Accommodation.

 **REPLY:**

  The number of Travellers identified in the 2011 Census in South Dublin County Council’s administrative area was 2,216. According to the 2011 Census, South Dublin has the highest Traveller population in the Dublin Region and the second highest Traveller population in the state.

South Dublin County Council provides a range of services to facilitate the accommodation and social needs of the Travelling community.

**Accommodation**

Under the provisions of the Traveller Accommodation Act 1998, South Dublin County Council is required to prepare, adopt and implement a Traveller Accommodation Programme every five years to meet the accommodation needs of the county’s indigenous Traveller Community. South Dublin County Council’s Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 was adopted by the elected members at the Council meeting held on the 13th January 2014.

It is the policy of the Council to provide group and standard housing options as well as residential caravan park bays, for the accommodation of Travellers who are indigenous to South Dublin, in accordance with the Assessment of Need carried out under the Act. In so providing the Council recognises Travellers’ cultural identity as a minority group some of whom travel, and strives to accommodate Travellers in a culturally appropriate way catering for their social needs.

The Council currently provides 212 units of Traveller specific accommodation. The Council has a designated Traveller Accommodation Unit which deals with issues in relation to the building, allocation, maintenance and management of Traveller specific sites.

The Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) for South Dublin meets regularly. The LTACC meetings are a forum where issues surrounding the Traveller Accommodation Programme are discussed as well as other issues around Traveller accommodation. Meetings are held at County Hall.

Furthermore, the LTACC established in 2012, 2 separate sub-committees to examine accommodation provision and the management and maintenance of Traveller accommodation sites already built. Each sub-committee has met 11 times since their establishment and it is envisaged that both sub-committees will have a key role to play in the implementation and delivery of the upcoming accommodation programme.

Membership of the LTACC and the sub-committees consist of Travellers, Traveller Development Groups, Elected members of the Council and Council staff. The sub-committees of the LTACC looking at Traveller accommodation provision and maintenance and management are held on-site at existing Traveller accommodation sites throughout the County. These meetings allow members to identify and discuss, in greater detail, issues around Traveller accommodation. As part of the sub-committee meetings, presentations are given from time to time by Council staff outside the Traveller Accommodation Unit (i.e. Environmental Services Staff, Community Development Staff) to brief members of the sub-committee on issues involving Traveller accommodation. The sub-committee structures have proved to be very participatory and allow for open and detailed discussion on matters concerning Travellers and their accommodation needs.

Arising out of discussions held at the LTACC sub-committees, a pilot programme focussing on 2 sites has commenced which seeks to encourage tenant participation and provide residents with a role in provide safer, more sustainable communities.

Under the proposed Traveller Accommodation Programme, it is proposed to examine, strengthen and formalise the link between the LTACC and the Housing and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee of the Council.

**Social Inclusion**

Apart from the provision of accommodation for Travellers in South Dublin the Council have been engaged in a number of activities to improve the living conditions and social inclusion as well as the employment prospects of the community.  A number of the activities undertaken are outlined hereunder.

  **Traveller Culture School Project**

This project involved Travellers visiting schools in the South Dublin area and engaging children in dialogue around Traveller culture in modern Ireland. The initiative is being funded by the Department of Justice and Equality.

The project involves 3 Travellers from the Clondalkin Travellers Development Group and 3 young Travellers from the Tallaght Youth Service visiting classes in the schools.  They give a presentation on the life of the Traveller and then have a question and answer session on any aspect of Traveller life. The aim of the programme is to provide awareness amongst the children of Traveller culture and life.    The programme has been a huge success and has raised the confidence of Travellers who make the presentations as well as those who are students in the school.  It has broken down many myths with the settled community.

The project is continuing to be rolled out to schools within the South Dublin area.

**Yellow Flag Programme**

The Yellow Flag Programme is a progressive equality and diversity initiative for primary and secondary schools which promotes and supports an environment for inter-culturalism. The programme, which is being financially supported by the Council, commenced in September 2012 in St Aiden’s Community School, Tallaght. It is being delivered by the Irish Traveller Movement. To date, St Aidan’s Community School have completed the programme and the presentation of the award will be held shortly. The programme is currently being implemented in Mount Seskin Community School in Tallaght and St. Ronan’s Primary School in Clondalkin.

**Local Training Initiative**

In 2012, the Council, in partnership with FÁS, launched a local training initiative for Travellers in the South Dublin area. The ‘Pathways to Employment’ programme was delivered over a period of approximately 30 weeks. During the programme, the trainees completed their work experience with the Council. One group was facilitated for a 3 week period in Rathfarnham Castle Depot and Tymon Park and another group were facilitated in County Hall for one day a week for 20 weeks, with an additional week at the end of the project

The overall purpose of the programme was to assist the participants to achieve a FETAC Level 4 Major Award in General learning within the National Framework of Qualifications to facilitate progression to further learning and/or work.  9 trainees achieved a full FETAC Level 4 Major award and the other trainees passed at less 4 modules with the majority achieving 6 of the 9 modules.

In recognition of the success of this initiative the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government has sanctioned 3 temporary work placements for the participants and two General Operatives and one Clerical Officer commenced temporary employment with the Council 26th September 2013.

  **Clondalkin Bike Crossbar Bicycle Project.**

Crossbar Bicycle Projects Workshop is situated in one of the units adjacent to Clondalkin Travellers Development Group at the Clondalkin Enterprise Centre, Neilstown Road in Clondalkin. The Project has run since October 2013 and is funded by the Special initiatives for Travellers, with support from the local area partnership CPLN, ACE (Community Enterprise scheme), South Dublin County Council, Clondalkin Travellers Training and Enterprise, and An Garda Síochana.

The idea is to skill a group of mostly Travellers, in  safe environment, in a trade which fits with Traveller traditions, offers relatively quick employability via Internships (e.g. with Halfords, who are supportive), and self-employment, also aiming to provide small business training, bringing them into contact with local businesses and getting them to make the decisions at all stages

**Interagency Traveller Strategy**

South Dublin County Development Board in 2007 adopted the Interagency Traveller Strategy for the delivery of Traveller services. Agencies involved in the delivery of the Strategy are South Dublin County Council, Health Service Executive, FAS, County Dublin VEC, Dept. of Social & Family Affairs, Dept. of Education, Garda Siochana, Probation Welfare Service, and South Dublin County Development Board.

Meetings between the stakeholders involved in the Interagency Traveller Strategy are held on a quarterly basis. The Interagency Traveller Strategy is available at [**http://www.sdcc.ie/sites/default/files/guidelines/south-dublin-county-interagency-strategy1.doc**](http://www.sdcc.ie/sites/default/files/guidelines/south-dublin-county-interagency-strategy1.doc) .

The nine aims and objectives of the strategy form an integral part of the programme with reference to consultation, tenant participation, and estate management.

It is not accepted that the walkout from the NTACC conference by the National Traveller organisations was justified in the case of South Dublin and it is felt that the Representatives of the South Dublin LTACC should have made it clear at the time that this council was delivering on the Accommodation programmes as well as the many other areas outlined above

The current Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 sets out the proposed Construction Programme to take place in three phases, firstly the development of green field sites at previously agreed locations, as a rollover programme from uncompleted elements of the 2008-2013 programme. Provision of these sites may incorporate the involvement of Voluntary Housing Associations as appropriate and in consultation with the relevant families and the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee. Secondly redevelopment of existing temporary sites and thirdly, where appropriate, consideration will be given to the provision of extra/infill units.

The LTACC agreed that its current priority was the redevelopment of the existing temporary site at Oldcastle Park and at St Aiden’s, Brookfield.  The Traveller Accommodation Unit has been working with the Clondalkin Traveller Development Group to establish the accommodation needs of the families in Oldcastle and in discussions with the families in St Aiden’s for the same reasons.  The Council has applied for Capital Funding for 2016 in respect of these developments.

**Q18/0516 PRE-FABRICATED BUILDINGS**

**QUESTION: Councillor G. O’ Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the provision of Pre-Fabricated Emergency Accommodation and to include in the report what work has been done to identify suitable sites within this Local Authority for this accommodation, the projected timeframe for bringing the first set on stream and if he would make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

As part of the Government’s direction on quick delivery of social units and to reduce the costly use of Hotel Accommodation to meet Homeless Emergency Accommodation for families in the Dublin Region South Dublin County Council is required to provide 105 Rapid Delivery units as part of the 500 units to be delivered in the Dublin Region.

Of the 280 social housing units identified in report to April 2016 report to Council, 105 will be Rapid Build Units and will be distributed over a number of projects.

The identification of sites appropriate for Social Housing Build is an ongoing process and Members will be advised of any such additional developments.  The Council is also developing briefs on sites for development in collaboration with Approved Housing Bodies who will be selected through expressions of interest in accordance with the agreed protocols between Local Authorities and Irish Council for Social Housing.

**Q19/0516 TREE STRATEGY**

**QUESTION: Councillor G. O’Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the Tree Strategy for the County and to include by Area Committee, (a) the number of requests from residents for action on particular trees since September 2015, (b) the number of trees that are still on the “to do” and (c) what is the average time between a tree being reported and action being taken.

 **REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council's Tree Management Policy 'Living With Trees' 2015-2020 was adopted at the County Council meeting in July 2015.  An Action Plan has been prepared to support and deliver progress against the vision and aims of the Tree Management Policy. The plan identifies a number of key actions, responsibilities and timescales for delivery over the period 2015-2020. The current status for actions identified for delivery in the period 2015 - 2016 is as follows:

|  |
| --- |
| **Update on ‘Living With Trees’ Action Plan for 2015/2016**  |
| **Action** | **Measurement** | **Status** |
| Evaluate and purchase a tree management system | Purchase and use of system | System installed and in active use. |
| Survey all street trees in County and collate all data on computerised tree management system | Number of trees surveyed | Survey commenced in March 2015. Over 7,000 trees surveyed to date. |
| Develop an annual tree planting programme | Number of trees planted | Budget allocation confirmed for tree planting and programme in preparation for implementation autumn2016/spring2017 |
| Review existing Tree Preservation Orders in the county | Annual review | Ongoing as part of the planning process by Public Realm in conjunction with Planning Section |
| Ensure tree maintenance is completed in a safe manner in accordance with recognised standards and best practice | Ongoing development and training of all Council staff involved in tree work Employment of qualified, trained, competent contractors | Training and upskilling of staff ongoing |
| Use the Council’s planning powers to retain and protect trees on development sites and enforce as necessary | Annual review | Ongoing as part of the planning process by Public Realm in conjunction with Planning Section |
| Maximise the recycling of tree related green waste generated by the Council’s own tree management. | Annual review | Ongoing |
| Establish guidelines to prioritise maintenance work on street trees | Guidelines in place and used | Guidelines set out and in use as per Tree Management Policy ‘Living With Trees’ |
| Develop a 5 year cyclical tree maintenance programme for street trees | Publish programme on Council’s website | Programme under development |
| Develop best practice protocol for tree maintenance works and nesting birds | Protocol agreed and in practice | In preparation |
| Provide staff training in tree survey and inspection | Training completed | Training completed in September 2015. Further training to be arranged |
| Develop a ‘Trees’ webpage on the Council’s website www.sdcc.ie | Webpage in place and maintained | Webpage active |
| Make tree maintenance programme available on website | Information available on website | 2016 Tree Maintenance Programme is published on Council's website |
| Promote Tree week and Tree day in association with the Tree Council of Ireland | Tree Day activities organised each year | Events organised for Tree Day 2015 and National Tree Week 2016   |

In regard to requests for tree works, for the period September 1, 2015 to April 29, 2016, the Council has received 2,269 enquiries relating to trees via the Council's Customer Contact System.  These enquiries are categorised under the headings of 'Tree Planting' (113 enquiries), 'Tree Pruning' (1,295 enquiries) and 'Tree Removal' (861 enquiries).  The Council's Customer Contact System does not have the facility to analyse the data on enquiries received by Area Committee.

The 2015 Tree Maintenance Programme included over 2,000 commitments for tree maintenance works.  Of these, there are just under 30 commitments outstanding.  The reasons that the majority of these remain outstanding is because there are currently nesting birds in the trees or the trees are located under electricity wires and require special arrangements to be made for the necessary works to be completed.  Arrangements will be made to complete these outstanding works as soon as is practicable.

The timeframe between receipt of a request for tree maintenance and action taken, if required, varies depending on the level of priority assigned to the action.  Any tree-related emergencies are referred for immediate action in accordance with the Council’s emergency procedures. An emergency is defined as a tree that is in immediate danger of collapse or a tree that is causing an obstruction requiring urgent attention. Non-emergency tree enquiries are listed for inspection.  Following inspection where it is identified that tree works are required, they are categorised and will be included for attention on the Council’s annual Tree Maintenance Programme in accordance with a priority based system.  This system of prioritisation and the timeframes involved are detailed in the Council's Tree Management Policy 'Living with Trees'.  Typically, the target for completion of works categorised as 'High Priority' is within 3 months ranging to 'Medium Priority Works' where the target for action is within 12 months to 'Low Priority Works' where the action period is 24 months+.

In addition, in line with the Council's Tree Management Policy, the focus of the 2016 Tree Maintenance Programme and future programmes is on entire roads or whole estates. This represents a move away from reactive pruning of individual trees on a one off basis to a planned programme of maintenance. The objective of this approach is to increase the efficiency and productivity of the tree maintenance crews and to advance a proactive programme of cyclical pruning that is targeted at priority locations where intervention is most needed to yield wider community benefit.

**Q20/0516 COMMUNITY GRANTS**

**QUESTION: Councillor G. O'Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the types and levels of financial supports available to community groups and the breakdown per Area Committee on the types and amounts allocated in the period Jan to Dec 2015

**REPLY:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year 2015**  | **No. of Groups Applied**  | **No. of Grants Paid**  | **Unsuccessful Candidates**  | **Electoral Area**  | **Total Budget**  |
|    | 129  | 65(9 unpaid- awaiting relevant documentation)  | 64  | 2   Countywide10 Clondalkin8   Lucan7   Rathfarnham29 Tallaght-(Tallaght Central and Tallaght South)  | €200,000  |

**Q21/0516 CCTV**

**QUESTION: Councillor L. O’ Toole**

To ask the Chief Executive for report on council owned and joint facilities within the county that have CCTV installed.

 **REPLY:**

All CCTV Systems operated by or on behalf of South Dublin County Council operate in compliance with:

* Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003;
* Garda Síochána Act 2005;
* South Dublin County Council’s CCTV Code of Practice, Data Protection Policy and Data Protection Compliance Guidelines;
* Private Security Authority Licensing requirements (Private Security services Act, 2004).

There are currently three main types of CCTV systems in use by the Council. They are:

* Council offices, works depots and libraries;
* Dedicated Traffic Cameras at major junctions and on traffic routes throughout the county;
* Public safety systems in residential and public realm areas eg estate management, parks, playgrounds, recycling facilities.

The purposes for which CCTV systems are installed include:

* To assist in providing for the security and safety of all visitors and staff;
* To monitor and protect Council buildings and facilities;
* To assist real-time monitoring and management of traffic conditions on the national and local road network throughout the county;
* To assist in emergency response situations e.g. accidents, flooding, winter weather conditions etc.;
* To assist in the prevention and detection of crime;
* To facilitate the identification, apprehension and prosecution of offenders in relation to crime and public order offences;
* To assist in the processing of allegations/claims against the Council;
* To assist the enforcement of Council car parking regulations and management of these car parks.

The use of CCTV is signalled by notices placed at entrances to and in prominent locations across the premises/ vicinity.

**Community Services**

A large majority of the Council’s Community Centres and the Council's Leisure Centres, whether managed directly or indirectly, have CCTV systems installed for a host of reasons including security, child protection, access control and safety. In all cases where CCTV systems are installed appropriate protocols and controls are in place to prevent misuse of the systems and all systems are registered for data protection purposes.

Prior to the retro fitting of a system in any particular case a cost benefit analysis is usually carried out.

**Environment Water & Climate Change**

There are c 30 locations where CCTV, including 2 Rapid Deployment cameras are installed, the objective of which is to record for security purposes or monitor for illegal dumping and unauthorised activity.

These locations include Depots, Reservoirs, Bring Banks, Playgrounds and MUGAs. All systems are procured under formal procurement procedure and are operated in line with the Council's CCTV Code of Practice.

**Q22/0516 WARDEN SERVICE**

**QUESTION: Councillor L. O’Toole**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of little wardens and dog wardens within SDCC and to report on the total number of parks/area they patrol and what percentage is patrolled on a daily basis.

**REPLY:**

1750 hectares of parks and open spaces and l5 Regional Parks, 10 Local Parks, and 50 Neighbourhood Parks throughout the County are within the remit of this Council. There are a further suite of outdoor leisure facilities including 28 Playspaces & 163 Pitches.

The Council currently employs two full time Dog Wardens, four full time Litter Wardens and fourteen full time Park Rangers.

The Dog Wardens' role is the enforcement of the Control of Dogs Act 1986 as amended.  This includes:

* responding to complaints relating to dogs not under effectual control and/or dangerous dogs
* carrying out of Licence Checks and the initiation of enforcement proceedings where possible
* seizure and collection of unwanted/stray dogs and removal to the Dog Pound.

Dog Wardens investigate complaints received regarding dogs whosesoever the complaint emanates.

The role of the Litter Warden includes:

* the enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended
* Casual Trading Acts and Bye-Laws
* elements of the Waste Management Act and associated regulations
* matters relating to the Control of Dogs Act 1986 and associated regulations.

Primarily the Litter Warden role relates to the investigation of complaints of dumping in various locations, including Council's Parks, and the initiation of enforcement proceedings where possible.  They also patrol the county villages and areas prone to regular dumping incidents.

Primarily the role of the Park Ranger is to open and close the facility, patrol and observe activity within the park, and to enforce the Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws.

During 2015 a total of

* 500 Litter Fines issued, 5 of which were in respect of S 22 Litter Pollution Act 1997 breached (Dog Foul Related offences)
* 2014 Notices were issued
* 9621 individual dog licences were issued
* 12 lifetime dog licences issued
* 538 stray dogs entered the pound
* 145 dogs were surrendered by owners
* 15 dogs seized
* 193 dogs reclaimed by owners
* 432 dogs rehomed
* 79 dogs euthanized

**Q23/0516 PLAY SPACE COST**

**QUESTION: Councillor L. O’Toole**

To ask Chief Executive to provide a costing on the individual play space areas and to provide a costing for the provision of MUGA.

**REPLY:**

The cost of a Play Space varies depending on size, location, landscaping works, amount of features provided and ground conditions. To date the costs range from €25,000 to €65,000.  The cost of a MUGA is of the order of €80,000. The ongoing maintenance costs post construction will also vary.

**Q24/0516 DEFIBRILLATOR SIGNAGE**

**QUESTION: Councillor L. O’Toole**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the defibrillator signage for the county. (See item44835)

**REPLY:**

Staff training has commenced on the use of defibrillators and three defibrillator signs have been delivered and will be erected in the coming weeks - two will be placed outside County Hall and one outside the civic offices in Clondalkin reflecting the actual locations of the Defibrillators

**Q25/0516 CHILDREN AT PLAY SIGNS**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on drive carefully children at play and new speed limit signs, has a list of estates been drawn up?

**REPLY:**

"Children at Play" signs were provided at 51 locations in 2015 as notified to the area committees in February 2015. It is not proposed to provide further children at play signs in 2016.

There is a countywide speed limit review underway at present following which it is hoped to implement a new 30 kph speed limit in housing estates. Bye-Laws will have to be adopted to implement any new special speed limit. As part of the programme "Slow Zone" signs will be provided at appropriate locations.

Presentations on the speed limit review were made to the area committees in February and the Land Use Planning and Transportation SPC in March. This is part of a pre bye-law draft consultation which also involves consultation with An Garda Siochana, TII and adjoining local authorities. In accordance with the Road Traffic Act 2004 the process will then continue with public consultation, assessment and consideration of resulting draft bye-laws by the area committees leading eventually to adoption of the necessary Special Bye-Laws by the County Council Members. A specified day will then be selected for the bye-laws to come into force.

(A flowchart of the speed limit review procedure was presented to the Land Use Planning and Transportation SPC - HI (4) - on 31st March)

**Q26/0516 RAPID BUILT HOUSING**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a report into a 3 bed Rapid Build House, the cost involved versus the cost of building a 3 bed house? (Given reports of €248,000 per house)

**REPLY:**

The cost of building a 3 bedroom social housing unit within administrative area of South Dublin County Council is in excess of €200,000 but the true cost will be determined by the market when we soon go to tender for approved projects. The cost of building a 3 bedroom Rapid Build unit is not yet known and the Dublin City Council costs for their first units at Poppintree will be made available when final accounts are agreed which will provide an indication of the cost to expect at this stage they are not yet finalised. The Council will be progressing Rapid Build Delivery through a national framework currently being set up by the OGP - (Office of Government Procurement). This is currently at RFI stage.

**Q27/0516 WAITING TIME ON HOUSING LIST**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a report on the waiting time for a house from the Council? What is the longest times people are on the list?

**REPLY:**

There are currently 9,119 applications on the Council's housing waiting list - the average time on list is 5+ years.  There are approximately 240 applicants in excess of 10 years on list, the longest being 16 years.  Please note of the 10 years plus applications longest on list the majority are in receipt of rent supplement, all have been given information on RAS and ASH schemes, 3 have refused more than 1 offer of housing and none have made expression of  interest through in the CBL scheme.

**Q28/0516 STEP DOWN ACCOMMODATION**

**QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a report on how many people have registered as requiring step down to smaller accommodation and what SDCC are doing to facilitate this in order to free up Houses for families.

 **REPLY:**

There are 105 applications on the Council's Transfer List requiring smaller accommodation i.e. 1 bedroom dwelling, areas as follows:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AREA  | NOS ON LIST  |
| South of the Naas Road  | 68  |
| North of the Naas Road  | 37  |

The Council is endeavouring to address such transfers, in so far as possible and since 01/01/2015 has facilitated 11 transfers to smaller i.e. 1 bedroom accommodation.

**Q29/0516 HOUSING**

 **QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a full report into why we only have Part 8 Plans for 5.7% of what needed to deal with a list of 9,254 requiring homes, this represent 470 planned Housing units.

 **REPLY:**

 Under the Social Housing Strategy 2015-2017, South Dublin County Council is required to deliver 1445 social housing units. The programme envisages both new-build housing and a flexible range of supports to the private rental sector and the social housing sector. Nationally the Programme aspires to the construction of 35,000 new houses to address social housing need. The targets were set under a combination of Capital and Current expenditure programmes. Under the Capital Programme 350 units will be delivered through various vehicles, including direct build, (part V111 programme), the Capital Assistance Scheme projects through AHB’s, the Accelerated House Purchase Programme, and Part V of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015.  On the current expenditure programme SDCC is delivering units through the RAS, (Rental Accommodation Scheme) Leasing and HAP (Housing Assisted Payments) initiatives. New units are also being delivered through the Approved Housing Sector by way of funding support from CAS (Capital Assistance Scheme) and CALF (Capital Advance Leasing Facility) funding mechanisms.  The table below summaries activity under various delivery mechanisms 2015 and in the period January to March 2016.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Delivery Mechanism**  | **Units Delivered to 31/12/2015**  | **Units Delivered to 31/03/2016**  |
| Social Housing Infill  |    | **3**  |
| Leasing (Including Unsold, CALF, Payment & Availability)  | 193.00  | **7**  |
| Rental Accommodation Scheme  | 136.00  | **18**  |
| Housing Assistance Payment  |  548  | **145**  |
| Casual Vacancies (Re-lets on existing social housing units) (Note 2)  |  170  | **49**  |
| Acquisition Programme (Note 3)  | 24  | **7**  |
| Capital Assistance Scheme (Note 6)  |    | **15**  |
| **Total**  | **1,071**  | **244**  |
|   |   |   |
| 1. Social Housing Units completed for Traveller Accommodation  |
| 2. This relates to the units that are allocated to people on the housing list through casual vacancies.  |
| 3. A total of **7** properties have been acquired to the end of March 2016. We have committed to purchase at this stage a further **32** properties which are at varying stages of completion.  We will continue to progress the Social Housing Build and acquisition programme throughout 2016.  |

**H6/0516 DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES /SITES - PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF FEE SIMPLE INTEREST IN 87 BALROTHERY ESTATE, TALLAGHT, DUBLIN 24**

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:**

“It is proposed in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 to dispose of the fee simple interest in the site listed hereunder to William and Kathleen Adams to whom the site has been leased under the terms of the Council's Small Builders Scheme. William and Kathleen Adams have applied in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 to acquire the fee simple interest in the property. The Ground Rent payable is €19.04 per annum.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site No.** | **Lessee** | **Date of Lease** | **Land Acquired From** | **Purchase Price** |
| *87 Balrothery Estate**Tallaght, Dublin, 24* | *William and Kathleen Adams*  | *4th September 1973* | *Siobhan O’Dea* | *€493.00* |

D. McLoughlin”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The proposed Disposal was proposed by Councillor S. Holland and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **AGREED.**

**H7/0516 MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The following reports by the chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. D. Mc Loughlin and were **CONSIDERED:**

* 1. “April Strategy Report

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

Council has received Stage 2 approval from DECLG to Dromcarra, Letts Field and Owendoher, Ballyboden projects.

Stage 3 pre tender applications submitted to Department for approval. Three projects are on site – Suncroft Tallaght -10 dwellings, Belgard Road Tallaght - 3 Dwellings, St Finians - 2 Dwellings -Total 15 Units and due for completion by end Qtr. 2 2016. Report on schedule of Part 8s for 2016 presented at Council Meeting April. Rapid Delivery Homes

Reported to Council Meeting - 105 units to be included in proposed Part 8s as presented to Council. Other Sites being investigated also.740 on HAP at 22nd April 2016. Details of New Tenant Purchase Scheme as presented to Housing SPC at its February meeting and Noted at March Council meeting now available on Council Website.296 on Homeless Register at end of March 2016 (103 families and 149 single males). 516 presentations during February

(401 repeats). 215 Emergency Bed Placements during March and 7 Homeless Allocations made. Agreement reached with DECLG for funding for RESPOND for the reopening of 9 units for homeless women and children at Cuan Alainn.

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

Super LAG’ (Local Action Group) established comprising the Fingal LCDC and representatives from SDCC and DRL LCDC - submitted the Local Development Strategy (LDS) for the Dublin Rural Area to the Department at the end of January 2016. Preliminary feedback on the draft strategy received in April 2016 with a number of technical queries and been responded to and approval now awaited from evaluation committee. The Healthy County Strategy Group

promoting Physical activity and leading actions from the National Physical Activity Plan on an interagency basis. The SDCC Healthy County Strategy Group promoting and supporting Health Gatherings – interactive sessions for people to consider health issues that are important to them - held by the Adelaide Health Foundation at Tallaght Stadium 26th

April 2016. It was an opportunity for the comment to come together and share their views through a 'World Café method’ on issues relating to health and wellbeing in Tallaght. It went very well. We will use this information at our upcoming Health Summit in spring 2017 which will bring together senior officials from the HSE and the Department of

Health to discuss health and wellbeing in Tallaght and also nationally. Further such event being organised for Health and Wellbeing week. Sub-committee formed re supply and fitting safety door locks/patios met on 7th April and agreement reached on scheme. Tender being prepared. Age Friendly new Facebook page now live: https://www.facebook.com/search/str/SouthDublin+Afc/keywords\_top#!/southdublinagefriendlycounty/

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

Annual Bealtaine Festival Brochure on events now available at this link: F:\SOCIAL INCLUSION UNIT\Maria Finn\Bealtaine 2016\B22841 Bealtaine Brochure.pdf Launch by Mayor on 4th May 2016 at Louis Fitzgerald Hotel at 11am.The Quit Campaign for Women is currently running and based at Fettercairn. Preparation for 2016 Health and Wellbeing Week currently being finalised.

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

The first round of Community Grants were advertised in April 2016 with the second round scheduled for 2016 in September. Also advertised the 2016 Community Initiative Fund in April with Assessment in May and announcement of winners notified in June. Workshops on Community Grants were held over 2 weeks in April by staff across the county - over 130 attendees - Closing date for applications was 29th April 2016. 2016 Endeavour Awards arranged for Friday the 2nd of December 2016.

**Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development**

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

SPC meetings to be held in May 2016. LEO training schedule started January, and continued through April. Evaluation and Approvals Committee Meeting was held on 22nd March 2016, approving 3 new jobs, sustaining a further 1 job, with grant amount of €69,700 approved. The next meeting is scheduled for May 31st, 2016. Additional training, in cooperation with South Dublin Chamber commenced November 2015, and continuing into April 2016, as a result of the training survey. The Secondary Schools National Student Enterprise Awards Final was held in Croke Park, on 20th April 2016,with South Dublin being represented by 3 projects,(6 students), at the awards. The Student Synergy

Awards, for 3rd level ITT students, were held in the ITT on Thursday 21st April, with 10 projects & 20 students participating. The launch of the Business Support Funds Brochure was held on Wednesday 27th April, 2016 in LEO offices.

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

All GC marketing materials – web, video, brochure, pop ups, presentations and other collaterals completed and new material on IDA site. Interexion on site. Pfizer & Grifols investment announcements for all Ireland sites. Details awaited.

Eirgrid – 220kv station with An Bord Pleanala. R120 CPO confirmed 23rd December 2015, CPO made on 9/2/16-notices served.

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

Contact ongoing with local business, programme of proposed projects identified.

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

Events Programme: All events advertised on the Library website, www.southdublinlibraries.ie Twitter @sdcclibraries and Facebook. 1916 Commemoration events very successful throughout April. By May over 1,000 children will have visited the 1916 Rising exhibition held in Tallaght library. May Highlights: Bealtaine programme held in all our libraries.

Other events: The Great Tallaght Bake Off, 12th May, Tallaght Library Carer’s Information Fair, 23rd May, Tallaght Library Sean O’Casey’s The Plough & the Stars for a younger audience, 24th May, Lucan Library Palmerstown Hub A suitable premises has been located in the Palmerstown Shopping Centre. The Architect’s Department is liaising with the owners and it is hoped to start working on outfitting the library in the coming months. Public Art In Context 4 public art strategy and overview of Arts Development Strategy ready for presentation to May SPC. Bursary Awards 2016 The selection panels have made the following awards: 7 Individual Artists Bursary Awards 2016 €12,000 4 Annette Halpin

Awards for Young Musicians €3,000 1 Young Artist Development Award €1,000 Music Generation Scoil Chronáin choir was one of five choirs that took part in A Nations Voice on Easter Sunday in Collins’ Barracks. They are also involved in two more concerts coming up in May and June: the Gala Concert at Ruaille Buaille Lucan Children’s Music

Festival and a performance with Knocklyon Concert Band. End of year hub Concerts in Rathcoole and Collinstown are scheduled for June. Professional violin quartet will visit all 5 schools participating in the violin programme. These include Lucan, Edmondstown, Saggart, Clondalkin, Jobstown.

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

•Contract awarded for Tourism Marketing project, first phase 10 weeks ongoing-workshop held with sector reps in Tallaght Stadium 28th April. Contract being awarded to develop tourism website – to coordinate both projects •

Review of all printed tourism related brochures and collateral ongoing, trial brochure stands in place, meetings planned with OPW sites to progress more. • Tourism business e- zine issued for Q1 2016, Q2 under preparation. Tourism Flagship: Dublin Mountains Flagship Steering Group established and MOA signed with Coillte. New MOU/SLA to be agreed with Coillte to facilitate project moving to planning stage, meetings ongoing. Assessments of technical requirements for planning process ongoing in house. Trails: • Tallaght Phase 1 - Programme agreed for Nov 15– March 16. Part 8 may be required to progress next stages. Liffey: Letters issued to other LAs inviting re-formation of Liffey Valley Advisory Cttee and possible festival development. Positive response from Fingal, awaiting Kildare reply.

Meeting to be arranged. Liffey Heritage project commenced, 75% funded by Heritage Council, also involves other LAs

Round Tower: • Café concession Stage 2 (final stage) tender ready to issue pending clarifications from Law Dept. •

**Environment, Water & Climate Change**

Construction to commence June. • Research, interpretative and design tender for exhibition area to issue in April • Liaison with OPW and others ongoing to develop materials/archive Festivals: • Events company in place to expand the

Red Line Festival. • Tourism Working Group to identify 2nd flagship festival for the County to be supported initially by SDCC – meeting planned early May. • Discussions ongoing with package Activity and events companies and site visits arranged. County Signage: • Draft timeline for prioritisation of Village Signage agreed with Nov 2015 SPC. •

Logo development for County (and Villages) as a tourism destination to be developed

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

Litter Management Plan: 2016 LM Action Plan has been agreed and the following are examples of actions being implemented: Programmable Audio Messaging Devices currently being installed at 6 locations across the County to deter litter/illegal dumping and dog fouling. It is also being trialled at 1 location as part of a pilot programme to assess effectiveness in deterring graffiti. Rapid Deployment cameras being relocated to 1 area which is prone to graffiti & 1 which is a regular dumping spot. High spec camera to be installed at Tandy's Lane and high spec camera installed at

Lynch's Lane at the underpass. Meeting with Kiltipper Ramblers scheduled for 28th Apr to examine ways to support each other’s common goal to combat illegal dumping and fly tipping in rural and upland areas. National Spring Clean running from March to May. Graffiti MOU Agreements: Three out of 4 companies have confirmed submission of closure reports. In-house review and new procedure in place for dealing with graffiti complaints. N81 Improvement Scheme: Contract signed with Austen Associates. Concept design phase in process. Roundabout Sponsorship: Closing date for receipt of tender submissions is Friday, April 29th. There are 16 Roundabouts available for Sponsorship. Tree

Maintenance Programme: 2016 Tree Maintenance Programme is ongoing. Two tree crews are in operation. Sean Walsh Park crew have completed a programme of tree removals and pruning at Castleside Drive estate and are now commencing works at Templeroan estate. Tree crew operating north of N7 are currently undertaking pole pruning works at The Coppice, Palmerstown. Derelict Sites: Derelict Sites - 5 Inspections, Dangerous Buildings – 6 Inspections, No of Derelict Sites on Register: 1, Two (2) S. 11 Notices issued, One (1) S. 22 Notice issued.

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

Flood Alleviation Schemes: IGSL appointed to carry out ground investigation for Ballycullen scheme. A meeting was held with Knocklyon United on pipeline route. DCC finalising brief for Poddle scheme. The regrading and clearing of the channel on the Oldcourt Stream is now complete. Meeting and workshop held on 21/04/16 regarding the Liffey

CFRAM study - detailed local input now being provided. Surface Water Schemes: New Road Surface Water Scheme was completed on 05/02/2016. Oldcourt stream complete 8/04/2016. The following is the list of Schemes proposed for 2016: Jobstown Stream North Aug 16, Owendoher River Clearing May 16, Jobstown stream 5th April 16,

Monastery Road May 16, Newcastle Main Street & Peamount Road Dec 16, Hazelgrove/Jobstown Oct 16, Chapel Hill & Lucan Heights Nov 16. Monastery Road is being prepared for tender, Archaeologists appointed. Water Conservation Programme: Repairs of leaks and Bursts by Water Operations Ongoing. UFW - 36.92%, Quality -

99.7%, Repairs - 40. RBD Plans and Measures: Ongoing - presentation and workshop delivered by EPA to progress WFD characterisation approach and sub catchments assessments. WERLA: Notice of Waste Tyres compliance scheme sent to all operators (approx. 150). Phase 2 of the implementation of Pay-by Weight completed (backroom

Inspections of operators' records). Climate Change: Climate Change Strategy under review in conjunction with the SPCs and the other 3 Dublin Local Authorities. Awaiting publication of guidelines from the EPA on Climate Adaptation

Plans.

**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. Control of Animals legislation being actively enforced with regular inspections of horse pound and dog pound, ongoing monitoring of contractual performance, Horses seized – 38 Dogs impounded - 41. Implement the Dublin Noise Action

Plan: Noise is continuously monitored and measured at 10 locations throughout the county of South Dublin. This monitoring is used to correlate with the Noise Modelling and the Noise Maps produced every five years for the SDCC region. These Maps must be produced under the European Noise Directive (EMD) in conjunction with the other Dublin

**Land Use Planning & Transportation**

**Corporate Performance and Change Management**

Local Authorities. They are presented to the Environmental Protection Agency for submission to the EU as part of the overall Irish submission to Brussels. Currently, the Environmental Health Department is liaising with the Traffic Unit of

LUPT to assess the differences in noise levels from vehicular traffic noise since the last noise maps in 2013. To protect good air quality standards in accordance with EU Air Quality Directives: Air Quality is continuously monitored by SDCC for Sulphur Dioxide and Particulate Matter below 10 microns per cubic metre of air (PM10). Results for both of these parameters are extremely low and indicate a very good quality of air. No. of Air Complaints Rec - 11, No. of Complaints investigated -11, No. of complaints resolved - 10, No. of Statutory Notices issued - 0 Environmental

Education Awareness: Eco Week all w/c 18/4/2014. 100 events throughout the week.

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

Playspace Programme: Brookview commenced. Quarryvale open and some snagging taking place. Sketch designs being progressed for Kingswood and Kilnamanagh for concluding agreement with residents. Regional Play

Spaces/Playgrounds at Tymon and Griffeen - designs being prepared. Allotment Scheme: Tender documentation for path/road construction to be agreed with Roads for use of their Framework document. Pavilion Programme:

Advertised on e-tenders Monday, 18th April 2016. Closing date Thursday 26th May. Equine Facility: Tender for development of Equine Facility at Ballyowen Park advertised 19th April, closing date 17th May. Review of Casual

Trading By-Laws: Public display period on Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws finished on 15th Apr. Deadline for submissions is 29th Apr with report to be presented to the Environment SPC in May. 4 submissions (5 observations) received to date. Dublin Mountains Challenge organised by Barrettstown Castle taking place on the 29th May 2016.

Starting point is Seán Walsh Park opposite Maldron Hotel and adjacent to Tallaght Stadium.

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

Works on the annual roads programme are under way. In addition footpath and road repair works to Council Housing Estates are being designed and tendered following adoption of the 2016 Programme at the April Council Meeting. A new Maintenance Contract for Public Lighting is about to be approved which will ensure a continued high level of service at cost effective rates for the next number of years.

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

The deadline for Members Motions for the Material Alterations Stage of the County Development Plan Review was midday on Tuesday 3rd May. Submissions were received on 63 of the 177 proposed Material Alterations. The first Meeting to consider the report is scheduled for 16th May. Planning Applications received in the first quarter of 2016 have increased by 8% over the same period of 2015, indicating the continued growth in development in the County. In particular a significant number of applications for large commercial developments have been received this year. A non-statutory public Consultation has been concluded for the proposed Clonburris SDZ Planning Scheme. The submissions are currently being assessed and will be considered during the preparation of the draft planning scheme.

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

Works are approaching completion on both the Monastery Road and Tallaght-Templeogue Cycle Schemes. In addition works will commence in May on a section of the Tallaght to Ballyboden Cycle Scheme at the junction of Knocklyon Road and Idrone at Super valu. These works will continue during the summer. The Part 8 Public Consultation process on the proposed “Ballyroan Walking & Cycling to School” improvement works is ongoing

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

The significant extension to the Public footpath on Alymer Road in Newcastle is complete. Footpath repair works in Lucan and Tallaght have commenced and works at Rathfarnham Gateway will be next to commence. Draft Proposals maps showing the proposed new residential 30kph speed limit have been issued to the Area Committees and the formal consultation process for New Speed Limit Byelaws will commence shortly.

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

• Draft Annual Report presented at April Council Meeting • The delegation has been confirmed for a visit to Sister City Tampa, Florida from 30th May to 2nd June with South Dublin Chamber and other partners • Events organised by the Mayor’s Office included a Boxing Reception on 29th April and a talk on Nutrition for Workers Memorial Day on 28th

April. • Commemorations Programme events included the Flag raising ceremony in Library Square, Tallaght on 11th April; Proclamation Readings at four minutes past each hour from sunrise to sunset on Friday 22 April 2016 outside The Civic Theatre; A weekend of Commemorations Events 23rd/24th April in Pearse Museum by Rathfarnham

Historical Society, OPW and SDCC; and Clondalkin Tidy Town Commemorative Garden and a Concert in Clondalkin Library - Saturday 30th April.

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

• Implementation of Audit Plan on-going • Procurement Steering group meeting held on 12th April • Model Publication Scheme was prepared and published on www.sdcc.ie within the deadline of 14th April • Report on Protected

Disclosures for 2015 included in SDCC Annual Report for 2015 and published on www.sdcc.ie • Preparation of the Public Spending Code commenced • Preparation of the National Service Indicators for 2015 commenced • The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) was presented at April Council Meeting. • The Quarter 1 Revenue and Capital

Accounts being prepared for submission to the Department in May. • The Councils borrowing return for the periods January 2016 – March 2019 was submitted.

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

• Hardware refresh of approx. 150 desktops underway. • Internet evaluation continues. Expect to have preferred supplier selected mid may. • Consultation portal (CiviQ) live and working well. Some additional training provided locally as needed and more general roll out to commence in conjunction with the suppliers of the system. 4 consultations have been published on this platform thus far (Pre-Draft Consultation on the County Heritage Plan and

Biodiversity Action Plan ending 13/05/16, Part VIII - Construction of Walking and Cycling Scheme at Ballyroan and Old Orchard ending 30/05/16, Public Consultation Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2016 ended on 29/04/16, and Pre-Draft Consultation on the Clonburris Strategic Development Zone - Planning Scheme ended 11/04/16) • Internal Document

Management System iDocs upgraded & moved to new server infrastructure • Net consent (internal compliance delivery tool) - training scheduled 5th May. • Statutory Inspections - new system being user tested. • Capital Projects – new system being developed. • FOI Publications Scheme - now live on Council’s website. • Enhancements to SDCC’s scheduler system and House Survey system are being advanced. • Contributed to Library Management System review being undertaken by the LGMA. • Community GIS being soft launched this week on the Council’s Map Gallery including Vacancy GIS and upgrade to Property Register GIS. • Database upgrades and GIS migrations continuing.

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

• Eco Week launched 18th – 22nd April • South Dublin Age Friendly Newsletter published • Internal Communications

Network meeting held 19th April with the preparation of the Model Publication Scheme, Staff Newsletter, In My Opinion initiative and Intranet Redesign on the agenda. • Consultation Portal – staff training on use of portal ongoing; 2 consultations closed (Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2016 and Pre-Draft Consultation on the Clonburris Strategic

Development Zone - Planning Scheme) and 2 consultations commenced (Part VIII - Construction of Walking and Cycling Scheme at Ballyroan and Old Orchard and Pre-Draft Consultation on the County Heritage Plan and Biodiversity Action Plan) • Irish Classes for staff commenced • Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government

Awards submission being prepared

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

• Staff Newsletter draft prepared • Workforce Plan reviewed by management and quarter 1 2016 WFP Forum meetings held with unions • Staff Training and Development Plan 2016 finalised • Progress on Knowledge

Management actions ongoing • Recruitment Policy - New Policy template issued by LGMA for adoption & implementation • Changes communicated in the Garda Vetting Procedures being reviewed for implementation • Staff

Health Screening completed • Payroll BPI finalised and agreed by management. Presentation of findings given to staff and Implementation plan agreed. • 'Simple Steps to Health Eating' Informative Talk for staff with Nutritionist held on the 28th April”

* 1. **April Statistics Report**

[**April Performance Report**](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2016/May/May2016CountyCouncilMeeting/5288c114-af4a-46f9-85dc-f83a594c5a76.pdf)

**c) April Finance Report**

 **“Billing and Collection Statement**





**Use of overdraft facility**

Approved overdraft facility = €13,000,000

No of days in Overdraft from 1st January to 26th April = 0”

The Reports were **NOTED.**

**H8/0516 CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE**

 The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. D. Mc Loughlin and were **CONSIDERED:**

|  |
| --- |
| **“2016 - 2018 Capital Programme - Update May 2016** |
| **Project Description** | **Update** |
| Housing Construction Programme  | As reported at the April meeting. |
| Grange Housing Lands  | Outline Masterplan to be competed by June for discussion with members.  |
| Tallaght Energy Cluster  | EU funding application outcome should be known by late summer 2016.  |
| Villages Programme  | Rathcoole, Newcastle, Rathfarnham, Tallaght and Lucan Phase 1 for completion in 2016. |
| Village Signage  | Pilot completed in Tallaght, will be extended to Lucan in 2016  |
| County Signage  | A Countywide Tourism And Associated Directional Signage Programme will be devised as part of the Tourism Branding Strategy commissioned in March 2016.  |
| Pavillions Programme  | Tender issued 18th April - Oldbawn complete Q4 2016, Griffeen & Corkagh Q1 2017. |
| Flexible Sports Spaces  | Research currently being undertaken by sports officers - pavillion design build exercise will also be informative. |
| Playspace Programme  | As notified, a further 12 at various stages of consultation.  |
| 3rd Party Sports Capital Projects  | St Jude’s, Templeogue Utd. Lucan Harriers and Lucan Utd. - design consultants tenders received and being assessed. |
| Equine Project Clondalkin  | Closing date for tenders 17th May - completed by November 2016. |
| Dodder Valley\ Mount Carmel  | Consultants appointed to prepare an ecological impact assessment.  |
| Roundabout Sponsorship Programme  | Phase 1 Tenders now being examined. |
| N81 Landscape Enhancement  | Landscape architects appointed 13/4/16. |
| Tourism Studies  | Camac/Corkagh currently out to tender - Marketing and Branding awarded April 2016. Rathfarnham Castle buildings - conservation study tender just issued.  |
| Annual Roads Programme  | Programme agreed by Council in March including parks roads and housing estates. |
| R120/Nangor Road  | Tenders being assessed - to go to construction October 2016. |
| Greenhills/Ballymount  | To be completed October 2016  |
| Dodder Valley Greenway  | Part 8 by year end - works Q1 2017  |
| Grange Road Plaza  | Completed October 2016.  |
| Access Road Exchange Hall Lands  | Part 8 Q3. |
| Ballycullen Flood Alleviation Scheme | To commence July 2016.  |
| Poddle Scheme  | Design to be completed this summer. |
| Camac Scheme | Design consultants to be appointed 2016. |
| Grangecastle Business Park  | Future expansion in planning - works to Castle and associated Pocket Park at design - expression of interest in office development to be advertised May 2016.  |
| Templeogue House  | Cost being independently reassessed - report to members by June 2016.  |
| Rowlagh Library  | On site by year end.  |
| Tymon Library  | Part 8 June 2016.  |
| Palmerstown Digital Hub  | To open Q4. |
| Lucan Pool  | Approved in principle - design consultants to be appointed by June.  |
| Adamstown Community Hall  | Detail design consultation underway.  |
| Round Tower Clondalkin  | On site - open spring 2017.  |
| Tallaght Stadium - New Stand  | Design discussion underway - tender by year end. |
| Dublin Mountain Gateway  | MOU for Phase 2 (EIS) agreed with Coillte - hope to complete planning in 2016. |
| Heritage Projects €100k  | Under consideration by Heritage Forum.” |

The Report was **NOTED.**

**H9/0516 PART 8’s**

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

**H11/0516 LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, waspresented by Mr. B. Coman andwas **CONSIDERED:**

 “**Introduction**

The South Dublin County Local Community Development Committee was established in December 2013. In 2015 the LCDC was involved in 3 main areas of activity; the oversight of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme, the development of the 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan and preparation for the new round of LEADER Rural Development Programme funding.

**Membership**

In 2015 the membership of the LCDC included:

Anna Lee, Community (Chair)

Cllr. Paula Donovan, member, South Dublin County Council

Cllr. Kieran Mahon, member, South Dublin County Council

Cllr. Eoin Ó Broin, member, South Dublin County Council

Billy Coman, South Dublin County Council

Colm Ward, South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (replaced Loman O Byrne)

Peter Byrne, South Dublin Chamber

Larry O Neill, South Dublin County Partnership

Fiona Ward, Department of Social Protection

Padraig Rehill, Health Services Executive

Greg Tierney, Crosscare

Deirdre McKeon, Education and Training Board (replaced Paddy Lavelle)

Prof. Mary Corcoran, Department of Sociology, NUI Maynooth

Prof. Joe Barry, Trinity College Centre for Health Sciences, Tallaght Hospital

Maurice Walsh, Public Participation Network (Social Inclusion Pillar)

Justin Byrne, Public Participation Network (Environment Pillar)

Doreen Carpenter, Public Participation Network (Social Inclusion Pillar)

Ronan Leydon, Public Participation Network (Community Pillar)

Stephen Dunne, Public Participation Network (Community Pillar, Vice Chair)

**Meetings**

There were 8 meetings of the LCDC in 2015. These meetings took place on January 28th, February 4th, March 3rd, April 15th, May 28th, July 2nd, September 24th and November 25th.

**Sub Groups**

Two sub groups of the LCDC held meetings in 2015.

The evaluation sub-committee was established to evaluate SICAP tenders received. This committee consisted of Justin Byrne (PPN), Billy Coman (SDCC) and Cllr. Paula Donavan. The sub-committee reported to the LCDC on February 4th, recommending that the SICAP contract be awarded to South Dublin County Partnership. This was subsequently agreed by the LCDC.

An Advisory Steering Group was established in 2015 for the purposes of developing and implementing the 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan. Membership of the Advisory Steering Group included Cllr. Eoin Ó Broin, Larry O Neill (South Dublin County Partnership) and Philip Murphy, Chief Officer (SDCC). This group also included members of the Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee, Cllr. John Lahart, Frank Nevin (SDCC) and Seán Reid (representing the business sector).

**SICAP (Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme)**

The tendering process for SICAP was completed in 2015. Following some delays to the process in late 2014 the LCDC were informed that the programme would commence on April 1st and would run for 2 years and 9 months. Following a comprehensive evaluation process the contract was awarded to South Dublin County Partnership.

Regular reports on programme actions were presented by the Programme Implementer at LCDC meetings. These reports included a mid-term and end of year report. The LCDC were satisfied with the progress of SICAP in 2015 and approved both reports and the allocation of all available funding.

**Local Economic and Community Plan**

The LCDC meeting on January 28th 2015 concentrated on developing a vision and a set of themes and high levels goals for the Local Economic and Community Plan.

A public consultation process took place during May and included advertisements, opportunities for online submissions and public meetings. Members of the public, services providers and other stakeholder were asked to outline their priorities under each of the theme headings. The resulting submissions formed the basis for the final plan which consists of 14 themes and 40 high level goals. An action plan for 2016, consisting of approximately 80 time specific actions, was also developed. The LECP was submitted to the Dublin Region Assembly in November and was subsequently approved at the December meeting of South Dublin County Council.

**LEADER Programme**

Following agreement between South Dublin County Council, Fingal County Council and Dun Laoighre Rathdown County Council, 5 members of the LCDC were selected to sit on the Rural Dublin Local Action Group for the next round of LEADER Rural Development funding. The 5 members are:

* Prof. Mary Corcoran (Community, NUI Maynooth)
* Larry O Neill (South Dublin County Partnership)
* Justin Byrne (PPN Environment Pillar)
* Cllr. Paula Donovan
* Billy Coman (SDCC)

In 2015 work was carried out on the development of the Local Development Strategy for the programme and agreement was reached on the geographical areas which will be eligible for funding.

The Report was **NOTED.**

 **Correspondence for Noting**

**Co.1/0516** Correspondence from Sligo County Council dated 6th April 2016, regarding introducing a sugar awareness day

**Co2/0516** Email from Meath County Council dated 14th April 2016, regarding variation in their Development plan 2013-2019

**Co.3/0516** Correspondence from Kerry County Council dated 20th April, regarding the charter on Independent Living

**Co.4/0516** a) Correspondence from Offaly County Council dated 22nd April regarding cuts to one parent families

b) Correspondence from Offaly County Council dated 22nd April, regarding eligibility for Local Authority Housing

**Co. 5/0516** Letter from Donegal County Council Dated 26th April 2016 regarding the Brexit Poll

**Co. 6/0516** a) Letter from Navan Municipal District, Meath County Council

 b) Letter from Navan Municipal District, Meath County Council

 **Motions for Discussion**

**M1/0516 MAYORS BUSINESS - CE. SCHEMES**

It was proposed by Councillor S. Holland and seconded by Councillor B. Ferron:

“That this Council agree to write to the caretaker Minister in Department of Social Protection to extend availability of CE schemes to those unrecognised unemployed people who are currently excluded from job activation schemes and training, and further, to make more places available on CE schemes.”

**REPORT:**

South Dublin manages Community Employment and Job Initiative schemes to support local labour activation and to assist with the management of local community centres and our total allocation of places is considered sufficient for these purposes.

At this point Councillor C. King proposed and Councillor M. Ward seconded an amendment to the Motion as follows:

“That this Council agree to write to the Minister in Department of Social Protection to extend availability of CE schemes to those unrecognised unemployed people who are currently excluded from job activation schemes and training, and further, to make more places available on CE schemes.”

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.

  The Amendment was **AGREED**.

Councillor Nicky Coules proposed and Councillor Ruth Nolan seconded a second amendment to the Motion as follow:

“That this Council agrees to write to the Minister for Social Protection calling on him to extend the availability of CE scheme to those unacknowledged unemployed people on so-called “Job activation” schemes and training and others excluded from such spurious schemes.”

A show of hands vote was taken on the seconded amendment and the result was as follows:

**FOR: 3 (THREE)**

**AGAINST: 26 (TWENTY SIX)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Second Amendment **FELL.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors S. Holland, C. Coules, M. Duff, C. King, L. Dunne and M. Ward.

The Amended Motion was **AGREED.**

**M2/0516 NATIONAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL**

It was proposed by **Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor G. O’Connell:**

“That this Council writes to the incoming Ministers for Health and Children and urges them and their cabinet colleagues to re-examine the location for a national children's hospital as a matter of urgency, as the site currently being planned for is in a congested location and difficult to access from the rest of the country; and furthermore recommends a more suitable location such as Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown, which is equally accessible to the proposed secondary centre at Tallaght, but also has sufficient space for a world-class facility to be provided in a suitable setting for children.”

**REPORT:**

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

At this point Councillor L. O’Toole proposed and Councillor G. O’Connell seconded an amendment to the Motion as follows:

“The Members of South Dublin County Council call on the Minister for Health to reverse the decision to locate the National Children's Hospital at St. James's Hospital and instead to locate the new Children's Hospital for all the children of Ireland at Connolly Hospital in Blanchardstown.

The Connolly site offers 145 acres, vast space for expansion, easier access for the children of South Dublin County and extensive parking.  The co-location with Connolly Hospital and the new Rotunda Maternity Hospital will result in better clinical outcomes. It will be cheaper and faster to build than on the St. James's site.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Gogarty, V. Casserly, R. Nolan, B. Bonner, M. Duff, L. O’Toole, L. Dunne, R. McMahon, C. O’Connor, D. Looney, P. Kearns, D. O’Donovan, W. Lavelle, F. Duffy and S. Holland.

A show of hands vote was taken on the Motion and the result was as follows:

**FOR: 9 (NINE)**

**AGAINST: 13 (THIRTEEN)**

**ABSTAIN: 7 (SEVEN)**

The Motion **FELL.**

 **M3/0516 DODDER GREENWAY PROJECT**

**It was proposed by Councillor P. Donovan, Councillor F.N. Duffy, Councillor B. Lawlor and seconded by Councillor William Lavelle:**

“That South Dublin County Council as the Co-ordinating Council, organises and hosts as soon as possible an official meeting for Councillors across the 3 Dublin Local authorities on the Dodder Greenway Project to provide a status update on the plans being developed”

**REPORT:**

The Dodder Greenway is an ongoing project to provide a pedestrian and cycle link from the City Centre to the Mountains. The Feasibility Report is completed and available on the council website at the following link:

[**http://www.sdcc.ie/services/planning/transport-planning/cycle-routes/schemes/ongoing-schemes**](http://www.sdcc.ie/services/planning/transport-planning/cycle-routes/schemes/ongoing-schemes)

The project is at preliminary design stage in South Dublin County, Dublin City and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown. South Dublin County Council is carrying out the environmental assessment processes for the proposed greenway. As part of that process a constraints study is currently underway to inform the preferred route. The preferred route will undergo screening for Environmental Impact and Appropriate Assessment. Once the screening process is completed the planning process will commence. The constraints study is currently underway to inform the preferred route. This route will be brought to an official meeting of the Councillors prior to the commencement of public consultation. Subject to agreement a joint meeting can be arranged between all 3 local authorities.

Councillor P. Donovan spoke on the Motion.

 Mr. E. Taaffe Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation replied to the Councillor P. Donovan’s queries.

 The Motion was **AGREED.**

**M4/0516 BIKE MAINTENANCE STATIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Casserly and Seconded by Councillor D. O’Donovan:

“To call on the Chief Executive to examine the possibility of installing Bike Maintenance Stations on a pilot scheme throughout the county ahead of National Bike Week which commences the 13th June.”

**REPORT:**

The installation of Bike Maintenance Stations in the context of Bike Week will be considered. As our cycle network increases and the uptake of cycling continues, it is important to consider providing additional facilities to support and encourage cycling.

Councillor V. Casserly spoke on the Motion.

The Motion was **AGREED.**

**M5/0516 MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

It was proposed **Councillor G. O'Connell, Councillor P. Gogarty, Councillor L. O'Toole, Councillor D. O'Donovan, Councillor D. Richardson, Councillor D. Looney, Councillor F.N. Duffy and Councillor F. Timmons and seconded by Councillor D. Looney:**

“That this Council, would take the opportunity identified by the Master of the High Court in his open letter rebutting the statement that the Constitution stopped the Government from dealing with the housing crises, to write to the current Minister for the Environment in support of the educated opinion of Master Edward Honohan and asking that urgent action be taken that enables the Department of the Environment and/or Local Authorities use CPOs to gain possession of suitable homes for those on the housing lists.”

**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 G. O’Connell, E. O’Brien, P. Gogarty, D. Looney and S. Holland.

A show of hands vote was taken on the Motion and the result was as follows:

**FOR: 23 (TWENTYTHREE)**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 8 (EIGHT)**

The Motion was **PASSED.**

**M6/0516 CAR INSURANCE**

It was proposed by Councillor R. Nolan and seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor:

 **“**That, in light of recent significant hikes in the cost of car insurance, this council calls on the Minister for Transport to create a state insurance company to lower car insurance costs for young drivers and others.”

 **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 R. Nolan, P. Gogarty, M. Johansson, M. Duff, W. Lavelle, G. O’Connell, P. Foley, D. Looney, M. Genockey, M. Murphy, L. O’Toole and S. Holland.

A show of hands vote was taken on the Motion and the result was as follows:

**FOR: 27 (TWENTYSEVEN)**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 2 (TWO)**

The Motion was **PASSED.**

**M7/0516 CHILDCARE APPLICATIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien and seconded by Councillor E. Murphy:

“Noting the significant rise in children benefitting from the ECCE scheme which is expected from September 2016, this Council, in its capacity as planning authority is asked to;

1. Expedite all pre planning consultation requests from Childcare facilities providers in relation to proposals to extend opening hours, to I increase capacity or to provide new facilities

2. Assist in any way possible any applications in respect of childcare facilities currently in existence in an effort to ensure that the increased volume of children likely to access this scheme are catered for.”

**REPORT:**

The Planning Section of the Council operates a pro-active pre-planning service and is in a position to offer advice and guidance as per the sentiments of the motion.  To date there has been no significant increase in planning activity in this area but resources and expertise are in place to deal with any increase should it occur.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. O’Brien, M. Genockey and P. Kearns

 The Report was **NOTED.**

**M8/0516 PLEBISCITE**

It was proposed by **Councillor W. Lavelle, Councillor V. Casserly and Seconded by Councillor K Egan:**

“That this Council, noting that the residents of Edmondsbury Court Lucan have already submitted an application to the Council, signed by all the residents of  the 19 occupied properties on the Road, to change the spelling of the name of their Road from Edmondsbury Court, Lucan  to Edmundsbury Court, Lucan, agrees to hereby initiate a Plebiscite in accordance with Sections 76-79 of the Local Government Act 1946 and the local Government (Changing of place names) Regulations 1956   (as amended by Section 67 LG Act 1994) to change the name of Edmondsbury Court, Lucan to Edmundsbury Court Lucan”

 **REPORT:**

Having considered all the details surrounding this matter, it is considered not necessary to hold a plebiscite to correct the road name spelling from Edmonsbury Court, Lucan. to Edmunsbury Court, Lucan. As 18 out of 19 house owners have signed the petition and the existing road signage is correct as well as title deeds etc., it is recommended that the Electoral Register is amended and all the necessary utilities/agencies are informed of the revised spelling.

If the motion is passed Corporate Services will notify all the utilities/agencies of the change in the name of the Road from Edmondsbury Court, Lucan. to Edmundsbury Court, Lucan and will also change the name on the Register of Electors from Edmondsbury Court to Edmundsbury Court.

  Councillor W. Lavelle was happy with the Report

The Report is **NOTED.**

**M9/0516 LUCAN SWIMMING POOL**

It was proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor D. O’Donovan:

“That the Chief Executive presents this Council with a report on any applications made on foot of the temporarily reopened swimming pool programme at national level, outlines the likely percentage cost of any overall projects this will cover; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

**REPORT:**

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, by letter dated 20th January 2016, confirmed that the Local Authority Swimming Pool Programme had reopened. Expressions of interest were sought from local authorities for grant aid in respect of a single project up to a maximum grant of €3.8 million.

The council submitted a detailed application in respect of a proposal for a swimming pool for Lucan, seeking the maximum grant of €3.8m. The deadline for submissions was February 5th last.

On the 29th April 2016 the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport confirmed that the Council’s submission had been accepted and that the Lucan Pool Project had been included in the Local Authority Swimming Pool Programme.

The Department requested that the requirements of Stage 1 of the Programme be proceeded with and that the feasibility study / preliminary report be submitted for approval. Arrangements in this regard are now underway. The Council will now proceed with the early appointment of the project team for the project.

A discussion followed with contributions for Councillors P. Gogarty, L. O’Toole, G. O’Connell, W. Lavelle, C. O’Connor and P. Kearns.

Mr. B. Coman Director of Housing, Social and Community Development replied to the Members queries.

The Report was **NOTED.**

**M10/0516 PAY PARKING**

It was proposed by Councillor W. Lavelle, Councillor P. Donovan and seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor:

“That this Council, in support of the ongoing work of the Land-Use Planning & Transportation SPC in reviewing the operation of the 30 minutes free pay-parking in the County; calls on the Chief Executive to examine the introduction of parking ticket machines and a system of universal ticketing similar to that recently introduced in in Dungarvan by Waterford City and County Council”

**REPORT:**

Contact has been made with Waterford City and County Council and information on their ticketing system exchanged. The Councils ticket machine provider UTS has been requested to work on an updated proposal to examine the reprogramming of South Dublin parking machines to facilitate the issue of a ticket to cover the 30 minutes free parking.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Donovan, W. Lavelle, C. O’Connor, L. O’Toole, G. O’Connell, and D. Richardson

Mr. E. Taaffe Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation replied to the Members queries.

The Report was **NOTED.**

**M11/0516 BROADBAND**

It was proposed by Councillor L. O’Toole and seconded by Councillor S. Holland:

“That this councils asks the CEO to write to Department of Communications To request the minister to make representation to Eir and other broadband providers to install Fibre broadband capability to the estates in County.

It is not acceptable that in major built up areas we are not able to have high speed broadband that businesses rely on. Many of the residents work from home & are struggling to do so with the poor internet speeds currently available.”

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is passed a letter will issue to the appropriate Minister, and when a reply is received will issue to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions for Councillors L. O’Toole, S. Holland and D. Looney.

At this point Councillor E. O’Brien proposed and Councillor P. Foley seconded an amendment to the Motion as follows:

“to include mobile phone coverage as well”

Councillor G. O’Connell proposed and Councillor P. Gogarty seconded a second amendment to the Motion as follows:

 “to include the Minister for Energy”

The Amended Motion now reads as follows:

“That this Councils asks the Chief Executive to write to Department of Communications, Climate change and Natural Resources, to request the Minister to make representation to Eir and other broadband providers to install Fibre broadband capability and to consider proposals to increase mobile phone coverage to housing estates throughout County.

It is not acceptable that in major built up areas we are not able to have high speed broadband that businesses rely on. Many of the residents work from home & are struggling to do so with the poor internet speeds currently available.

The Amended Motion was **AGREED**.

The Mayor S. Holland wanted to offer her congratulation to everyone who got elected to the Seanad. Councillor D. Looney wanted to commiserate with all the Members who didn’t get elected to the Seanad.

The Meeting finished at 5.55pm

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

Mayor

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