

December Council Management Report

Update On Annual Service Plan

This report includes the strategy updates for the month of Dec 2017

Corporate Performance and Change Management

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

- At the Council meeting held on the 12/12/2016 a presentation on Collaborative Budgeting was given and following the selection process the Lucan EA was selected. The proposed variation of the Ballycullen Oldcourt Local Area plan was also heard.
- The review of standing orders for Area Committees is ongoing. Copies of standing orders for 9 other LAs with 40 or more members have been received and an analysis of the data received will take place in early January as part of the review process.
- Work is ongoing on the 2017 Register of Electors. A meeting was held with Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council to view the back office development of Voter.ie and consider timelines for implementation in South Dublin in 2017.
- The Mayor's Events Programme including the Mayor attending official Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies at County Hall, Tallaght and Civic Offices Clondalkin.

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

- Finance Management: The Councils three year Capital Programme for the years 2017 – 2019 was noted by the members of South Dublin County Council at the Councils monthly meeting on Monday the 12th December. The three year Capital Programme provides details of the expected €286m to be invested providing new and improved infrastructure & facilities to the Citizens of South County Dublin. Councils Rates section continues to liaise with the Valuation Office regarding the revaluation of South Dublin County Council in 2017. Council has also received the sanction of the Department for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to an overdraft accommodation in the sum of €25m for the financial year 2017, in line with member's approval given at the December monthly meeting of the Council.
- Audit: The Audit Committee met on 13th December and reviewed their performance during 2016. The committee also agreed their work programme for 2017 and reviewed their charter, both of which will be circulated to the January Council meeting. The committee also approved the internal audit plan for 2017.
- The Draft Data Retention and Archiving Policy has been prepared and is currently being review and edited.
- Procurement: The review of The Council's usage of available OGP contracts has commenced. The Procurement Officer attended the Dublin Region Procurement Officers meeting on 13th December. Managing tender processes, provision of internal advice service and the review of internal communications material is ongoing.
- Six Sigma: 6 Yellow belt projects were presented and approved by the Lean Six Sigma Steering group at a meeting held on 2nd December. The Project timescales are Jan-Mar 2017.
- The Ethics Registrar was appointed with effect from 1st December 2016 for a two year period.
- The public register was updated on the Council website in accordance with the requirements of the 2015 Lobbying Act.
- A plan for the tendering of contracts relating to the Corporate Buildings in 2017 is being collated.

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

- Citrix rationalisation and support tender advanced
- Ongoing changes advanced on the Intranet
- Further iteration of website design received and being evaluated
- Clonburris and Property Economic Portal at specification stage being advanced.
- Initiative "When Less is More" (In support of LECP Objective 8) testing successfully completed.
- SDCC Open Data Portal successfully deployed / soft launched on 30th November.
- Irish Water GIS now available on Intranet to appropriate staff.

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

- The Staff Awards Evening was held on the 1st December.
- The Annual Staff Communications Survey was

completed and the analysis report is under review. • The Grant Applications for the 2016 Commemorations Programme have been processed. • The Staff Newsletter was published and is available on the Intranet. • The Proposed Amendment No.1 to Ballycullen - Oldcourt Local Area Plan 2014 is being hosted on the consultation portal. • A Draft Data Entry Manual has been prepared for the Customer Contact System. Members of staff attended the Annual Customer Care Conference with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. • Implementation of the annual Health and Safety Work Programme is ongoing. • Smart Dublin: Illegal dumping SBIR has been approved by Enterprise Ireland. The Project is to commence 2017

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

• Implementation of the 2016 Training and Development Plan is ongoing with Health and Safety, Management Training for Grades 7, Supervisory Management Skills Training for Grade 6 and Grade 5, Introduction to Mindfulness and Personal Safety at Work for Outdoor Staff underway in December. • Interviews for the Apprentice Programme, Executive Accountant, Resident Engineers, Senior Resident Engineer, Music Development Officer, Site Technician and Senior Staff Officer were held in December. • End of Year Reviews as part of the PMDS process commenced in December. • A response from the Department on the Libraries Work Force Plan is awaited. • A further meeting was held with HR and ICT, to progress development of an online recruitment facility. • Implementation of the Staff Mobility programme is ongoing. • Quarterly Workforce Planning meetings were held with management and unions. • National Attendance Management Plan and Procedures are due in Q1 2017 • Review of internal processes in the employee relations function is ongoing • Monthly Union Meetings were held to ensure effective Industrial Relations structures and practices. • The Superannuation Data Readiness Project is due for completion in Q1 2017. • User Acceptance Training for the transfer to Version 19 of CORE was completed in Q4 2016, system due to go live in February 2017.

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

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

Evaluation and Approvals Committee Meeting was held on 6th December 2016, approving 3 projects, creating 1.5 new jobs, with grant amounts of €46,494 approved. Total amount approved, €583,250 for 35 projects creating 42 new jobs. The next meeting is scheduled for February 2017. The Business Support Funds scheme is being promoted on the LEO Website, Council website, through social media and through SD Chamber. Shop Fronts: 16 applications received and Letters of Offers issued. 8 applicants' submitted quotations, 4 of these have confirmed completion of works & payment approved. 1005 applications received for Business Support Grant to date in 2016.

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

Grange Castle • Interxion – Build 80% completed and due to be operational by year end 2016. Disposal of duct circuit complete and currently on site installing ESB/Telecom cabling. The Entrance road has been completed by SDCC. • Pfizer submitted planning application for production expansion and permission was granted SD16A/0236. Enabling works were ongoing to Dec 2016. Pfizer have announced the expansion is not to happen because a decision has been made to discontinue the development of the drug bococizumab, a drug for reducing cholesterol which was to be manufactured at Grange castle • Grifols submitted planning application for production expansion and permission granted SD16A/0250. Works are ongoing. • Microsoft – Planning permission in place up to Dub 13. Disposal of option site 1 complete. Licence for compound and car parking also complete. Disposal of Ducts 2 & 6 on going with legals. Construction is ongoing, mainly on DSF and Dub 7 & 8. • Eirgrid – S.I. Application granted by ABP 28/06/16. Now subject of Judicial Review • Capital Programme – Nangor Road / R120: Approved for funding by DTTAS. CPO Approved for R120. Work due to commence Q1 2017. • Archaeological – GC South: Archaeological work ongoing • Google. Official Opening was in June 2016. Google have acquired additional lands in adjacent Profile Park • Edgeconnex: Application for new Datacentre approved directly adjacent to the Business park. Access to datacentre will be via Grange Castle Business Park, subject to finalisation of terms. • Grange Backup Power. Discussion are ongoing regarding potential upgraded planning application • Takeda Early discussion has taken place with GCFM regarding possible proposal for new production facility in 2017. • Office Brief 2No. expressions of interest were received however on further examination of feasibility, they considered it premature to build a significant office block in Grange Castle. • Lands to West. ET3 SLO 1: To conduct a review of the zoning of lands south of the Grand Canal and west and north of the R120, including lands adjoining Peamount Healthcare, with a view to preparing a long term plan

for the expansion of the Grange Castle Economic and Enterprise Zone to this area, to accommodate strategic investment in the future, while also seeking to provide public open space along the Canal, including a natural heritage area in the vicinity of the historic canal quarries at Gollierstown. IDA fully informed of status of available lands. SDCC actively seeking new clients

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.. • Draft Regional Enterprise Strategy agreed at December Council - implementation plan for discussion at February SPC. • There are a number of BSG projects identified to improve significant infrastructure within older industrial estates. These projects have been identified in consultation with businesses. Projects are at JFK Drive, Old Belgard Road, Cloverhill Industrial Estate & Ballymount Road Lower and are in different stage of development.

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

Library News Jan 2017: The New Year events in Libraries have lots of help to set one up for a healthier lifestyle in the New Year. Events: "New Year, New Healthy You" – Talks by Barbara Mc Aleer in Lucan Library (30th Jan) and Stewarts Hospital Library (24th Jan) Ballyroan Library - A series of four workshops on relaxing and rejuvenation Mandala Clondalkin Library – Mindfulness with Gaye Mullen Getting to grips with your smart phone. (four week course) Exhibitions in January 2017: Battle of the Somme Lucan: St Mary's Photography Soiree - landscapes and portraits. Talks Tallaght Historical Society – History of the Garda Síochána talk from Gary Lovett (County Library -10th Jan at 7pm) Full listing of events in the January - March What's Happening at South Dublin Libraries brochure at www.southdublinlibraries.ie Public Art Projects: In Context 4 In Our Time: A briefing day for artists took place in RUA RED on the 19th October 2016. Closing date for submissions is 2nd December 2016. International Early Childhood Arts Commission: Closing date for Stage 1 submissions is 24th November 2016. Grange Road Public Art Commission (Entrance to St Enda's Park) Emmets Table On track for installation before the end of 2016. New Director of Rua Red talking up post in mid January.

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

Round Tower: • Contractor for construction appointed May 2016 and construction for completion in May 2017. • Detailed Interpretative Plan approved Nov 25th. • Consultant engaged to develop business case, source operators and advise on selection. Site visits by 8 interested parties completed during Nov/Dec. Submissions due from potential operators by Jan 3rd. Intended to appoint in Jan 2017. • Corkagh Park Feasibility Plan – final report and implementation plan reviewed in Nov, proposed to present to FEB EETD and ENV Services SPCs • Clondalkin ACM briefing being scheduled for January 18th 2017 on Round Tower. Dublin Mountains flagship : New MOU/SLA signed with Coillte to facilitate project moving to planning stage Consultant and team engaged and preparing review of feasibility, EIS and planning application for lodgment April 2017. Communications team and Project webpage being established. Local consultation being planned for Feb 2017. Fáilte Capital Fund reopened: Application submitted, decision likely Nov. SDCC now notified that decision due in Jan 2017. SDCC, DLR & DMP progressing Dublin Mtns Prehistoric Discovery Trail – tender issued. Archaeological excavation at Hell Fire completed. Liffey Blueway: Collaborative Project with Fingal Co Co. Consultant engaged, inception meeting held in October and stakeholder consultation being organized. ACM briefing held in Nov. Surveys and questionnaires published, 586 online completed and 135 face to face. Interim project report due on Jan 10th. Meeting to be scheduled for later Jan with ACMs to update. Marketing: Contract: Stage 1 – Research & Consultation (incl Logo and tagline) approved following EETD SPC Sept 14th Draft Stage 2 Marketing Strategy presented to SPC Sept 14 – budgets for marketing finalized to enable marketing campaigns in 2017. Tourism website being built and planned launch of website, tourism video, logo in Feb 2017 in lead up to Gael Force Dublin Weekend. Tourism video in post-production during November. Draft collaterals approved. Final photos being planned for Jan 2017, Fáilte Ireland shoot proposed for March 2017. Events/festivals for 2016/17 to be developed – Gael Force Dublin 2017 and Red Line Festival 2016. Gael Force Dublin Festival presented to SPC Sept 14. Site meetings occurred Sept 22ND to finalise routes Gael Force Dublin Feb 18TH event. Corkagh element of event will not proceed Feb 2017. To be scoped for potential in Autumn 2017. Various logistical arrangements ongoing through November. Over 500 participants already registered. Proposals from other activity events operators under consideration. Event company appointed to facilitate expansion of Red Line Festival. Red Line Programme finalised. Red Line Festival 2016 – opens Oct 12th – 16th – bookings up

on previous years due to marketing activities and new programme. Review, including marketing report due in Jan 2017.

Housing, Social & Community Development

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

Council has continued to work with the Department in progressing the housing projects to tender stage. Focus on delivery on over 200 Rapid Delivery Units during 2017 as outlined in report to September 2016 Council Meeting. St Marks Green and Mayfield Estate Fortunestown and Dromcarra Tenders are in. Stage 3 approval received from the Department early December to proceed to tender on Letts Field, Ballyboden and Killinarden projects. Total units being progressed through these projects is 176. RAPID Build projects Part 8 process for Old Bawn Mill Site and St Cuthberts underway. Tender notice issued in respect of St Aidans. Completed 65 acquisitions in 2016 excl. CAS units. Proposal / brief progressing on Kilcarbery Integrated Housing Project. PIN issued in December 2016. PPP for 100 Units as part of national bundle of 500 units being progressed at this location also. 1,403 active accounts on HAP at 19th December 2016. 449 on Homeless Register at end of November 2016 (243 single males/females). 649 presentation during November which is down from 715 presentations during October 2016 (Average of 36 per day).

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

Review of the Local Economic and Community Plan has started and consultation sessions held through PPN. The PPN consultations on LECP were held as follows: Consultation: Environment, Education and Training Date: Wednesday 9th November 2016 Consultation: Health, Wellbeing, Poverty and Social Inclusion Date: Thursday 10th November 2016 PPN Plenary + Citizenship and Participation Consultation as follows: Date: Tuesday 22nd November 2016 Work on finalising the Joint Policing Plan for the SDCC JPC continues. For approval in 1st Quarter 2017. New Drugs Awareness subcommittee set up under auspices of JPC.

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

The Healthy County Strategy Group is promoting Physical activity and leading actions from the National Physical Activity Plan on an interagency basis. Quit Campaign for Women run successfully with 12 completing the course and 7 ceasing smoking. 2nd course is underway with larger numbers participating.. Sponsored by the Healthy County committee and is facilitated at Fettercairn Community Centre. Provider for anti-snap locks doors and patios continues installation in suitable homes. With approx. 500 for installation by early January. 700 applications were received - funding for the 2017 scheme provided for in Budget 2017 and will be rolled out mid-2017. National Sports Policy Framework Public Consultation Paper Launched Nov 2016. Referred to SPC members for Discussion and input and Local Sports Partnership. Operation Transformation which will hit the TV screens again at the start of January with one of the leaders (Sean Daly) coming from Clondalkin. Groups around the county will be looking to promote community fitness and wellbeing and the programme offers a great opportunity for sports clubs, schools and community groups to foster closer community involvement, and with it more direct support for your activities. SDCSP and South Dublin County Council are once again supporting groups to get involved by offering; FREE volunteer walk leader training (2.5 hrs), FREE PR materials (banners/posters), FREE nutrition talks FREE equipment (weighing scales) for those who wish to offer a weight loss measurement to their programme. Tallaght Team won the Dublin Region senior final of the Late Nite Leagues at Irishtown on 9th December 2016. The Late Nite Leagues is a joint initiative of the FAI, Gardai and Local Authorities to help combat Anti Social Behaviour. SDCC had 4 team qualifying for the finals following our own finals at Greenhills Astro Park on 3rd December 2016.

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

PPN membership/registration now stands at 433 at end of December 2016 and communications to other groups is being broadened. To assist in this the new Directory has been launched and Training Programme announced. The SDCC Endeavour Awards and Community Initiative Fund 2016 will be evaluated and reported to the Social and Community SPC prior to embarking on the 2017 Programmes.

Land Use Planning & Transportation

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

Road resurfacing on the R148 in Palmerstown commenced in December, but was temporarily suspended for Operation Open City and will recommence in January when works will be undertaken at night time. The Roadworks programme for 2016 is complete and the 2017 Programme is currently being prepared.

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

Construction and Planning activity is progressing on Adamstown SDZ. Currently 177 homes are under construction and a planning application for a further 267 units has been lodged with the Planning Section. Preplanning work is also progressing on a further block in the Somerton Development Area. Planning permission has also been granted for the Community /Sports Hall adjacent to the existing Secondary School. Overall in 2017 over 800 planning applications will have been received, which is a c8% increase on 2015. In addition over 220 pre-planning enquires will have dealt with in the year. The Vacant Site levy will come into effect in January 2017. Approximately 120 sites have been identified as potential candidates, i.e. that meet the criteria set out in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015. Initial contact will be made with the relevant landowners during January advising them that their lands may be entered on the Vacant Site register in 2017. The proposed amendment to the Ballycullen - Oldcourt Local Area Plan went on public display and the closing date for submissions is 9th February 2017.

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

Works are Continuing on Willsbrook Phase 3 Junction Improvement in Lucan. Work on upgrading the Pedestrian Crossing on the N81 at the Avonmore Road junction is also complete. The new traffic signals at the junction of Ballymount Road Lower and Ballymount Avenue in Ballymount Industrial Estate came into operation in mid-January. Works are also progressing on the Grange Road Plaza at St Endas and the Ballyroan Green Schools Cluster project.

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

The deadline for submissions under the Statutory Public Consultation process on the proposed new 30kph residential speed limit has passed and submissions are now being compiled and considered by the Traffic Section. The Bew Bye-laws, once adopted, will see speed limits in all housing developments reduced from 50kph to 30kph. A report on the Public Consultation process has been brought to the Area Committees in December and a final decision made by Full Council in January 2017. Works are complete to the Rathfarnham Gateway Project at the northern end of Rathfarnham village. Tender Documents are being prepared for village enhancement works at the Texaco Garage / Newcastle Lyons roundabout in Newcastle. Works on the Belgard Walkway in Tallaght are due to commence construction in Mid January and the walkway will be closed to the public for the duration of the project.

Environment, Water & Climate Change

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

Litter Management Plan: Implementation of the 2016 Litter Management Action Plan continues and actions for 2017 are currently being considered. Actions include an increased visibility of the Litter Warden Service, targeted and coordinated patrols in villages /towns, relocation of programmable audio devises to deter litter/illegal dumping, dog fouling, examination of locations / consideration of additional CCTV, litter bin review, development of advertisements and promotional material. Seasonal Campaigns – Christmas recycle campaign was advertised in local newspapers and on social media. Dedicated Christmas page is on the SDCC site for the duration of the Christmas period. N81 Improvement Scheme: The preliminary design for the N81 improvement scheme progressed in 2016. The Part 8 commenced in November 2016 with the closing date for receipt of submissions on January 20th, 2017. It is intended to complete the Part 8 process early in 2017 and, subject to acceptance, a budgetary allowance has been made for the project progression in 2017 and 2018. Roundabout Sponsorship: Arrangements being made for improvement works to be carried out on roundabout in Ballymount Industrial Estate at junction Ballymount Road/Turnpike Road to enable sponsorship agreement to be finalised with Noyeks. Draft sponsorship agreement document is prepared for approval prior to issue. Roundabout Meeting with WORK RA took place in November where agreement was reached regarding SDCC proposed upgrade of Orwell roundabout. Sponsorship arrangements being pursued in respect of tender proposals for roundabouts at Ballyboden Road/Tailors Lane and at Scholarstown/Tempelroan. New enquiry received expressing sponsorship interest in two roundabouts on Nangor Road - both require improvement works in

advance of a sponsorship arrangement being put in place for 2017. Tree Maintenance Programme: 2016 Tree Maintenance Programme is ongoing. Two tree crews are in operation. Sean Walsh Park crew are currently working on a programme of tree removals and pruning at Elmcastle estate. This crew will progress to commence tree maintenance works at Templeogue Woods during week beginning November 21. The tree crew operating North of N7 are currently working on a programme of tree pruning and removals at Cappaghmore estate. Planting of first 300 trees is now complete by contract, total 426 trees planted to date in 2016. Total of 3,729 tree inspections in period Jan to October, 1168 trees pruned in the same period and 554 trees removed. Road-sweeping Contract: Village maintenance crews have now been deployed in Tallaght, Saggart, Clondalkin and Lucan. Derelict Sites: 2/12/16 - 15/12/16 Derelict Sites - 17 Sites on Derelict Sites Register Inspections - 12 Warning Letter - 02 Section 11 - 01 Section 23 - 0 S8(2) Notice - 0 S8(7) Notice - 2. Vesting Process: 2 Notices of Making of Vesting Order 86 Rosewood Grove & 1 Bawnlea Drive, in progress. Objection received from registered owner for 4 Wheatfield Grove - Application sent to ABP 16 12 16 to allow acquisition of property. Dangerous Buildings - 10 Inspections S3 (1)(a) Notice - 1 Warning Letters - 3 16 properties on register @ year end (which of 8 properties were added during the year.) Authorised activity in line with Derelict Sites Act ongoing throughout the year and following into 2017.

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

Flood Alleviation Schemes: Ballycullen stream Tenders 8 No. are currently with consultant for tender assessment, recommendation expected shortly. SDCC/DCC have finalised the brief for Poddle scheme and agreed it with the OPW. DCC have a dedicated member of staff working on the framework and are due to have documents ready to go to tender in December. Surface Water Schemes: Surveying work completed for the Chapel Hill SW Scheme. Tender design completed for issue in December. Cookstown Industrial estate works carried out from 6/12/16. Materials for Tay Lane Rathcoole to be procured. Monastery Road and New Road Clondalkin Surface water schemes complete. Poddle River, Camac River, Jobstown Stream and Oldcourt stream works complete. Water Conservation Programme: Repairs of leaks and Bursts by Water Operations for 2016. UFW 33.6% (inc 2016 Census update) Quality 99.96% in 2016 Repairs 538 in 2016 River Basin Plans and Measures: A substantial amount of assessment work has been carried out by the Water Pollution section in the past 12 months which will be a major source of information when preparing the river basin management plan for Cycle 2 of the WFD. Also, all statutory samples collected on time to-date this year. Septic tank inspection (2) to be completed later in the year. LIFE application submitted to seek funding to deal with misconnection and prevent polluting material reaching rivers. All other matters regarding septic tank inspections, statutory samples, and dealing with water pollution incidents are on target for 2016. Climate Change: The revised strategy, 'A Draft Strategy Towards Climate Change Action Plans For The Dublin Local Authorities' is to be considered at the next Environment SPC Meeting and will then be brought to the full Council Meeting for adoption. Technical working teams will be reformed in the new year to consider appropriate actions, monitoring and reporting of progress, both unique to our council while considering our common borders with other local authorities.

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

Waste Enforcement Action: Scheduled inspections and Audits/Reviews undertaken on permitted facilities in accordance with risk rating. Three (3) WFP reviews lodged, Three (3) WFP Validations. Two prosecutions in District Court for illegal waste storage/provision of false information. Conviction, Fine and €7,500 costs awarded against CoR Holder. Second Case adjourned to November 29th on Undertaking to Court for works to be carried out. Unauthorised collectors active in South of County distributing flyers for waste collections, using Social Media to inform public of bogus status. No letters issued for non-compliance of Trade Effluent Licence. Five (5) S14's issued, One (1) warning letter was issued in accordance with the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended. Control of Animals: Control of Horses - 2 seizures / 1 reclaim and 1 dead horse recovered. Control of Dogs - S. 2 fines – 17 S. 9 fines - 1 S.5 fines - 0 Total Horses impounded 266 Total Dogs impounded 565 In relation to control of dogs a new tender is being progressed by Dublin City Council. Contract extended until end April 2017. Dublin Noise Action Plan: Environmental Health in conjunction with Traffic Unit of LUPT have completed our evaluation of the round 2 and the differences between 2012 and 2016 road vehicular figures. We have concluded that we will require a partial re-modelling of our county for the length of the M50, N4 and the N7 national roadways. We have submitted this plan to the Environmental Protection Agency last week. 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. The level of correlation at all 10 sites will form part of this study. South Dublin has been

selected along with Kildare and Limerick in a STRIVE small scale noise research project over the next two months. Comparisons and contrasts will be made between Ireland and the Netherlands on the whole field of noise complaints relating to traffic.

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

Playspace Programme: During 2016 the Play-space programme delivered as follows: 14 play spaces progressing through planning / design stage at end of 2016, 8 in consultation, 2 completed and opened during 2016, 4 further play spaces under construction with 3 of those to be completed by year end and 1 to be completed early 2017. Provision has been made in the 2017 capital budget to continue to progress the playground provision and expansion programme. **Equine Facility:** The equine facility at Ballyowen Park was constructed during 2016 and will be substantially complete in January 2017. **Pavilion Programme:** The initial tender during 2016 for pavilions for the pre-fabricated units was unsatisfactory and an alternate tender process was proposed using design-build with traditional materials for the sports pavilion and car-park in Oldbawn. If successful it can be expanded to address the other pavilions originally included in the programme. Provision has been made in the 2017 capital budget to continue to progress the pavilions programme.