**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council October 2017 County Council Meeting held on 23rd October 2017.

**PRESENT**

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| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bonner, B. |  | Lavelle, W. |
| Casserly, V. |  | Lawlor, B. |
| Donovan, P. |  | Leech, B. |
| Duff, M. |  | Looney, D. |
| Duffy, F. |  | Mc Cann, C. |
| Dunne, L. |  | McMahon, R. |
| Egan, K. |  | Murphy, E. |
| Ferron, B. |  | Murphy, M. |
| Foley, P. |  | Nolan, R. |
| Genockey, M. |  | O’Brien, D. |
| Gilligan, T. |  | O’Brien, E. |
| Gogarty, P. |  | O’Connell, G. |
| Graham, J. |  | O’Connor, C. |
| Hendrick, E. |  | O’Donovan, D. |
| Higgins, E. |  | O’Toole, L. |
| Johansson, M. |  | Richardson, D. |
| Kearns, P. |  | Russell, R.  |
| King, C. |  | Timmons, F. |
|  |  | Ward, M. |
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**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

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| Directors/ Heads of FunctionHead of Finance | B. Coman, L. Maxwell, T. Walsh.R. FitzGerald. |
| County ArchitectA/Head of Function | E. Conroy.L. Leonard.  |
| Senior Executive Officers | H. Hogan, S. Deegan, M. Staunton, M. Maguire,  |
| Senior Parks SuperintendentSenior PlannerAssistant PlannerAdministrative Officers | S. Furlong.B. . D. Taylor. C. Murphy, N. Noonan. |
| Staff OfficerClerical OfficerIT. SupportSord | P. Brennan.M. Dunne.D. Cairnduff, R. Saiz.A. O’Brien. |
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The Mayor P. Gogarty Presided.

Apologies were received from Councillors A-M. Dermody, K. Mahon and S. Holland.

The Mayor Councillor P. Gogarty paid tribute to all the emergency staff who executed the Emergency Plan during Storm Ophelia and was thankful for the lack of casualties in our County.

### **H1/1017 CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

Minutes of the September County Council Meeting on 25th September 2017which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor P. Gogarty seconded by Councillor T. Gilligan.

### **H2/1017 FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY ON SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH S. 19 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR ENDA FANNING**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management and were **CONSIDERED:**

 “A Casual Vacancy has occurred on South Dublin County Council (Templeogue-Terenure Electoral Area) as Councillor Enda Fanning has announced his resignation from South Dublin County Council with effect from 1st October 2017.

 [**Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2001/en/act/pub/0037/sec0019.html) provides that a Casual Vacancy shall be filled by the Co-option by the Local Authority of a person to fill the vacancy and such Co-option shall be made at the next meeting of the Local Authority after the expiration of 14 days from the occurrence of the vacancy or as soon after the expiration of the 14 days as circumstances permit.

Mr. Rob Russell has been duly nominated by the Sinn Fein Party, being the registered political party who nominated Councillor Enda Fanning for Co-option, and in accordance with Section 19 (5) written consent to  proposed co-option has been received.

Members are required to ratify the co-option of Mr. Russell at today's meeting

 “From: Enda Fanning

 Sent: Friday, 29 September, 10:16

 Subject: Resignation from my role as a Councillor.

 To: Colm Murphy

 Colm, a chara,

 Please take note that due to my workload that I will be resigning my seat on the Council on 1st October 2017.

 I intend handing over my seat to my replacement at the Council meeting due to take place on October 23rd.

 Is mise?

 Cllr. Enda Fanning”

[Nomination letter and Acceptance Letter for Mr. Rob Russell](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=57192)

“The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor B. Ferron seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED:**

“That Mr. Rob. Russell be co-opted to fill the vacancy occurring as a result of the resignation of Councillor Enda Fanning on Sunday 1st October 2017.”

Tributes were made to outgoing Councillor Enda Fanning by Councillors B. Ferron, F. Timmons, E. O’Brien, E. Higgins, C. King, M. Duff, R. Nolan, C. O’Connor and D. O’Donovan.

Councillors B. Ferron, F. Timmons, E. O’Brien, E. Higgins, C. King, M. Duff, R. Nolan, C. O’Connor and D. O’Donovan wanted to welcome the incoming Councillor R. Russell.

The Mayor Councillor P. Gogarty welcomed Deputy Sean Crowe to the public gallery. He thanked Councillor E. Fanning for his service to the Council and he asked Councillor R. Russell to take his seat and welcomed him to the Council.

Councillor Rob Russell thanked the Mayor and all the Councillors for all their kind words.

A Casual Vacancy has occurred on South Dublin County Council (Templeogue-Terenure Electoral Area) as Councillor Enda Fanning has announced his resignation from South Dublin County Council with effect from 1st October 2017.

### **H3/1017 FILLING OF VACANCY OF CHAIR OF THE RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE-TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. L. Maxwell Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management and was **CONSIDERED:**

 “Councillor Enda Fanning, who resigned from South Dublin County Council on 1st October 2017, was the Chairperson of the Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee.  It is now a matter for the Council, in accordance with Standing Orders to nominate from the Members of the Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Electoral Area a Chairperson for the Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee.

 This is now before the Members for their consideration and recommendation.

It was proposed by Councillor D. O’Donovan and seconded by Councillor P. Foley and **AGREED** that Councillor Dermot Looney be appointed as the Chair of the Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee.

### **H4/1017 FILLING OF VACANCIES ON THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES DUE TO THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR ENDA FANNING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. L. Maxwell Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management and was **CONSIDERED:**

“A number of vacancies exist on the following committees previously held by Councillor E. Fanning who has recently resigned

a) Civic Theatre Committee

b) D12 Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce

c) South Dublin Heritage Forum

d) Environment, Water and Climate Change SPC

e) Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly

It is a matter for the Council to appoint a replacement(s) to the above positions and this is now before the Members for consideration and recommendation.”

1. It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that Councillor Rob Russell be appointed to the Civic Theatre Committee.
2. It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that Councillor R. Russell be appointed to the D12 Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce.
3. It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that Councillor R. Russell be appointed to the South Dublin Heritage Forum.
4. It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that Councillor R. Russell be appointed to the Environment, Water and Climate Change SPC.
5. It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that Councillor R. Russell be appointed to the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly.

**H5a/1017 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTIES - RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE- TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE – 12TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. E. Conroy, County Architect and was **CONSIDERED:**

 **“RATHFARNHAM CASTLE COURTYARD AND STABLES.**

 South Dublin County Council is extremely conscious of the tourism, amenity and Heritage appeal of Rathfarnham Castle, its associated outbuildings and adjacent lands. In this context there has been ongoing dialogue between the Council and the Office of Public Works in recent years regarding potential complimentary initiatives to enhance the local amenity and enrich the visitor experience around Rathfarnham Castle and Park. Earlier this year, the Council engaged a conservation architect to complete a conservation report on the Rathfarnham Castle courtyard and stables. The purpose of the report, recently presented to the locally elected council members is to highlight the necessary conservation issues while identifying in general terms potential future uses which respect the heritage and compliment the amenity value of this unique setting.

 In summary the report identifies a number of potential future uses which complement the local amenity and retail offer of Rathfarnham village while augmenting the existing activity and visitor appeal of the Castle and its environs.

 In order to deliver on this opportunity the report has identified initial conservation, archaeological and stabilisation works with potential costs of up to €1m. Whilst this is a very significant sum it is considered fundamental to the realisation of the future development potential. At this point the council propose to proceed with the conservation works while conducting preliminary market research as to the likely interest in a joint venture collaboration in developing the stables and courtyard as a quality destination while respecting the heritage of the area. The council has an open mind as to the potential mix of complimentary uses but is very much focused on the potential offerings around the food, craft, and health and wellbeing sectors.

 Following further market research and when the conservation works are agreed it is proposed to formalise proposals for a competitive process which would culminate in the selection of a an agreed joint venture partner.

 This update report has been discussed and agreed in principle at the recent ACM and recommended to full council for acceptance. If approved this project will be incorporated into the capital programme with effect from 2018.”

It was proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** that the Rathfarnham Castle courtyard and stables project will be incorporated into the capital programme with effect from 2018.

**H5b/1017 REPORTS FROM AREA COMMITTEES - TALLAGHT AREA COMMITTEE – 19TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

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

**H5c/1017 REPORTS OF ARA COMMITTEES - CLONDALKIN AREA COMMITTEE – 20TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

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

**H5d/1017 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - LUCAN AREA COMMITTEE – 26TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

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

### **H6/1017 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

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

### **H7a/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES** - **ARTS, CULTURE, GAEILGE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

1. Report of Meeting 6th September 2017

 **“Attended**

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| Cllr. Dermot Richardson (Chair) | Cllr. Brian Leech |
| Cllr. Dermot Looney | Cllr. Madeleine Johansson |
| Cllr. Cora McCann | Ms. Deirdre Mooney |

 **Officials present:**

 Mr. Frank Nevin, Director of Service.

 Ms. Bernadette Fennell, County Librarian

 Ms. Bernie Meenaghan, Senior Executive Librarian

 Ms. Orla Scannell, Arts Officer

 **Apologies**: Cllr. Breeda Bonner

 Mr. Peadar O’Caomhanaigh

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| **Headed Item 1: Minutes of SPC meeting 3rd May 2017****Minutes were AGREED.****Matters arising: None** |
| **Headed Item 2:** **Music Generation Update**Orla Scannell, Arts Officer, gave a comprehensive presentation on Music Generation South Dublin. Members asked questions about the governance of the programme and the funding. Following a discussion it was agreed that a profile of the schools participating in Music Generation would be provided at the next SPC meeting. The report was NOTED. |
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| **Headed Item 3:  Red Line Book Festival Programme 2017**Bernie Meenaghan, Senior Executive Librarian, presented a report on the upcoming Red Line Book Festival programme for October 11-15th. Members complimented staff on the wide range of events and venues for this year’s programme. Following some discussion the report was NOTED. |
| **Headed Item 4: Creative Ireland Update**Orla Scannell, Arts Officer, outlined South Dublin County Council’s involvement in the Creative Ireland Programme, a five-year initiative which places creativity at the centre of public policy. Questions were raised on funding for 2018 and on the planned Creative Ireland Department of Education for schools plan. The report was NOTED. |
| **Headed Item 5: Whitechurch Library**Frank Nevin, Director of Service, outlined the current position regarding the Carnegie Library at Whitechurch. He emphasised that there is no justification to restore the former part time Library given the proximity to the state of the art Ballyroan Library butreiterated at the meeting that there is no intention to remove community involvement from the library building in Whitechurch. The WEB Project continues to meet there. Members discussed ideas of using the space for music generation performance/rehearsal space and or Arts/Libraries exhibitions. In addition the idea of a small book library exchange programme was suggested. There was some discussion around other community groups who might use the space. |
| **Headed item 6: AOB**Councillor Looney raised a question as to why The South Circular, staff newsletter, was not published in Irish. It was agreed to raise the question with SDCC’s Communication Unit.**Meeting** concluded at 6.55pm.” |

1. Minutes of Meeting 3rd May 2017

 **“Attended**

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| Cllr. Dermot Richardson (Chair) |  | Cllr. Brian Leech |
| Cllr. Breeda Bonner |  | Cllr. Madeleine Johansson |
| Cllr. Dermot Looney |  | Ms. Deirdre Mooney |
| Cllr. Cora McCann |  | Mr. Peadar O’Caomhanaigh |

 **Officials present:**

 Mr F Nevin, Director of Service.

 Ms Bernadette Fennell, County Librarian

 Ms Orla Scannell, Arts Officer

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| **Headed Item 1: Minutes of SPC meeting 1st February 2017****Minutes were AGREED.****Matters arising: None** |
| **Headed Item 2: Civic Theatre Update****Michael Barker-Caven, Artistic Director of the Civic Theatre gave a snapshot overview of the work and programmes of the Civic Theatre. Members complimented the ongoing work of the Civic Theatre. Following a discussion to which all contributed the report was NOTED.** |
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| **Headed Item 3:  RUA RED Update**Maolíosa Boyle, Executive Director of RUA RED, South Dublin Arts Centre, presented a report on the RUA RED programme for 2017/2018. Members complimented the work staff carry out in the Arts Centre and praised its efforts to engage with local schools in the area. Following some questions and discussion the report was NOTED.  |
| **Headed Item 4: Creative Ireland**Orla Scannell, Arts Officer, outlined South Dublin County Council’s involvement in the Creative Ireland Programme, a five-year initiative which places creativity at the centre of public policy. The report was NOTED. |
| **Headed Item 5: AOB**A discussion on Whitchurch Library was postponed until the next Arts SPC meeting.**Meeting concluded at 7.10pm.”** |

Councillor D. Looney asked for an amendment to the Report at H7a) (i).

**H7b/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE - ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

1. Report of Meeting 7th September 2017

 **“In Attendance:**

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| Cllr. F. N. Duffy |
| Cllr. P. Foley |
| Cllr. E. Higgins |
| Cllr. G O Connell |
| Cllr. C. O Connor (Chair) |
| S. Brennan |
| D. Roche |

 **Apologies:**

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| Cllr. A. Dermody  |
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| Cllr. B Ferron. |
| Cllr. R. McMahon |
| T.de Buitlear |
| S. Reid |

 **Officials present:**

 Frank Nevin, Director of Services

 Colm Ward, Head of Enterprise

 **Also in Attendance:**

 Ms. Andrea Carroll, Sustainable Business Programme Manager, South Dublin Chamber

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| The meeting was Chaired by Cllr C. O Connor. Before the agenda items were discussed, Cllr. Higgins informed the Committee that she would be stepping down from this SPC following this meeting. Her contribution, and that of Cllr. Dermody who is also resigning from the SPC, were acknowledged by Cllr. O’Connor and by all others present. |
| **Headed Item 1: Minutes of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC Meeting of 10th May 2017**The Minutes of the Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC Meeting of 10th May 2017 were **AGREED.** |
| **Headed Item 2** - **Review of Business Support Fund & Revenue Budget 2018 Proposals**F. Nevin & C. Ward presented a report on the Business Support Fund after which Ms. A. Carroll outlined the various initiatives being delivered by South Dublin Chamber under this Fund in partnership with both the Council and LEO South Dublin.Following questions and contributions from Cllrs. Higgins, Foley, O’Connell & O’Connor, D. Roche, and S. Brennan, which were responded to by F. Nevin, C. Ward & A. Carroll, it was **AGREED** that the Committee recommend to the full Council that:1. Given the success of the programme and in recognition of the continuing requirement to support business in the County, that the Business Support Fund be retained in Budget 2018 at c 1% of rate income.
2. Given the steep decline in take up and the improving business climate, the Business Support Grant to ratepayers cease in 2017.
3. The Business Support Fund will support new enterprise and innovation and will also develop the existing and planned projects with existing business.
4. The projects outlined in the report are supported but flexibility should be retained in order to recognise and support emerging opportunities, some of which may be of considerable scale.
 |
| **Headed Item 3 – Update on Dublin Action Plan for Jobs**C. Ward presented a report updating the Committee on the Dublin Action Plan for Jobson the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017.Following contributions from Cllrs. Higgins, Foley & O’Connell, which F. Nevin & C. Ward responded to the report was **NOTED.** |
| **Headed Item 4 – Proposed Tourism and Festival Events Grants Scheme**C. Ward presented a report outlining a proposed **Tourism and Festival Events Grants Scheme** to be run by the Council’s County Promotion Unit from 2018.Following contributions from Cllrs O’Connor, Higgins, Foley & O’Connell it was **AGREED** that the Committee would recommend that the proposed scheme be introduced in 2018. |
| **Headed Item 5 – Any Other Business:**None.**The meeting ended at 7:00pm”** |

(ii) Minutes of Meeting 10th May 2017

 “**Attended**

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| Cllr. A. Dermody  |
| Cllr. F. N. Duffy |
| Cllr. B Ferron. |
| Cllr. P. Foley |
| Cllr. R. McMahon |
| Cllr. G O Connell |
| Cllr. C. O Connor (Chair) |
| T.de Buitlear |

 **Apologies:**

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| Cllr. E. Higgins |
| S. Brennan |
| S. Reid |
| D. Roche |

 **Officials present:**

 Frank Nevin, Director of Services

 Colm Ward, Head of Enterprise

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| The meeting was Chaired by Cllr C. O Connor. Before the agenda items were discussed, Cllr. Ferron raised an issue relating to the recording of attendance at meetings of this Committee in 2016 which F. Nevin said would be examined. |
| **Headed Item 1: Minutes of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC Meetings of 8th and 23rd February 2017**The Minutes of both meetings were AGREED. |
| **Headed Item 2 - Update on Dublin Mountains Project**The report provided giving an update on the proposed Dublin Mountains Project was NOTED. |
| **Headed Item 3 – Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017**F. Nevin presented a report on the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017.Following contributions from Cllrs. Duffy, Ferron, O’Connell, Dermody, McMahon & Foley and T.de Buitlear which were responded to by F. Nevin, it was agreed that the scheme be advertised with as much information as possible including examples pf previous approved schemes. The report was NOTED and it was AGREED that staff from the Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development Department should seek expressions of interest from interested parties by way of public advertisement, assess the submissions received and submit proposals to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. It was also agreed that the SPC not meet again prior to closing date for submissions of 30th June 2017. |
| **Headed Item 4 – Tallaght Community Council Tourism Proposals (Referred from Tallaght ACM)**C. Ward presented a report outlining the Council’s position on the Tallaght Community Council Tourism Proposals referred to the Committee from the Tallaght Area Committee meeting on 24th April.The strategic importance of the County Town in the development of the County particularly in Tourism terms was agreed and the ongoing measures in this regard were noted and agreed. C Ward and F Nevin outlined the future roll out of projects in this regard and undertook to update the SPC members in this regard.Contributions and queries from Cllr. O’Connell, T. de Buitlear, Cllrs. Foley, Ferron, Duffy, McMahon and O’Connor were responded to by F. Nevin & C. Ward and the report was NOTED. |
| **Headed Item 5 – LECP Update**C. Ward presented a report outlining 2017 actions and current update on the economic elements of the LECP 2016 – 2021. Members of the Committee agreed to review the report and to provide any input, feedback or queries to C. Ward as required and the report was NOTED. |
| **Headed item 6 – Any Other Business:**None.**The meeting ended at 7:00pm”** |

**H7c/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES -ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC REALM & CLIMATE CHANGE SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

1. Report of Meeting 5th September 2017

 **“In attendance**

 **Elected Members**

 Councillor Brian Lawlor

 Councillor Enda Fanning

 Councillor Danny O’Brien

 Councillor Frances Timmons

 **Officials**

 Teresa Walsh, Director of Service

 Chris Galvin, Senior Engineer

 Mary Maguire, SEO

 Sorcha O’Brien, EAO

 Nicola Lawler, AO

 **Apology**

 Councillor Pamela Kearns

 Connie Kiernan

 As Cathaoirleach Councillor Pamela Kearns was unable to attend, Councillor Frances Timmons presided, on proposition of Councillor Timmons, seconded by Councillor Danny O’Brien.

 **Item 1: Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 6th February 2017**

 The Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 1**6th May 2017,** were proposed by Councillor D. O’ Brien, seconded by Councillor Enda Fanning

 **Item 2: Update on Flood Alleviation Schemes and Surface Water Schemes**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 **Ballycullen Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme**

 Following a number of flooding events in the Castlefield area, the Drainage Section of the Council has existing culvert is the preferred solution to alleviate flooding in the area. The contract for the construction of this scheme was awarded to Clonmel Enterprises Ltd. in February. Works have progressed well on site and the project is approximately 75% complete on. The project is expected to be complete in Q4 2017, a 12 month defects period will follow the final completion.

 **River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme**

 Following the severe flooding event of 24/25th October 2011 the OPW agreed and provided the extra funding to undertake the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAMS) of the Poddle. The final report on these was forwarded to the OPW who has since approved the Draft Design Brief for the River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme. The appointment of consultants is expected in early September. The letter of intent and the letters to the unsuccessful tenderers have been issued and subject to no objection or appeal, a consultant will be appointed in early September. The scheme is estimated to cost in the region of €6 million.

 **Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme**

 The overall scheme for the Camac did not meet the OPW cost benefit criteria to progress work on the river in its entirety. A steering group has been set up to consider works at specific locations on the Camac River, SDCC and the OPW have met on site and walked the Camac. A brief for the appointment of Consultants to carry out the design of flood alleviation measures at these specific locations is currently being drafted.

 **Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme**

 As part of the Dodder CFRAMS there is a proposed scheme for the Whitechurch Stream. The OPW have confirmed funding for the procurement of a consultant engineer for the scheme. We are currently drafting a design brief for this and will submit the brief when complete to the OPW prior to engaging the consultant through the DCC framework.

 **Surface Water Minor Capital Works – 2017**

 Provision has been made for the following SW Minor Capital works and assessments to be carried out during 2017.

* Tay Lane, Rathcoole – **design re-assessment underway.**
* Ballynakelly ‘Garage’ at Newcastle Manor, Newcastle – **Works complete.**
* Main Street, Peamount Road, Newcastle – **not commenced.**
* Old Lucan Road, Lucan **– This is an extensive scheme. The scheme commenced during school summer holidays, main works complete, connections and resurfacing remaining. Resurfacing currently planned for the schools mid-term break.**
* Ballyowen Lane, Lucan in conjunction with Public Realm and the Roads Department – **PR to carry out pitch drainage separately. Main drainage works complete.**
* Templeogue Village – initial assessment and feasibility study in conjunction with the Roads Department – **Liaison with Roads department ongoing, also awaiting finalisation of MoU with Irish Water.**
* Stocking Lane, Rathfarnham – **not commenced.**
* Orchard Road, Clondalkin – **Works complete**.
* Nangor Road/Ninth Lock Road Junction, Clondalkin – **not commenced, to be re-assessed and deferred into the 2018 programme.**
* Cookstown Industrial Estate, Tallaght – **Works Complete.**
* Poddle Lakelands screen **– Awaiting delivery of screen which is to be replaced in late September**

  **Ongoing works**

 Provision has been made for ongoing maintenance works to address pluvial and other flooding issues at various locations such as the following rivers and streams;

  Camac River

* Poddle River clearing
* Jobstown Stream
* Whitechurch Stream
* Owendoher stream

 **END OF REPORT TO SPC**

 Teresa Walsh and Chris Galvin responded to queries raised which primarily referred to delay with appointing contractor for the Poddle Scheme and the progress with advancing the Camac scheme. Members commended the recent work on Orchard Road

  **Item 3: Climate Change – Update on Adaptation and Mitigation Plan**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 Strategy towards Climate Change Action Plans for Dublin Local Authorities’, which was adopted at the Council Meeting in February 2017.

 SDCC must now produce an Adaptation Plan and a Mitigation Plan. Adaptation to climate change and the successful implementation of adaptation policy, is a task that involves all levels of government from local to European levels. At local level, our task is to focus on the implementation of adaptation responses. Strengthening our capacity to adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts by making our county more resilient to extreme weather events.

 Mitigation to climate change tasks local government to make efforts to reduce or prevent emission of greenhouse gases, this can be achieved through improved energy efficiency and greater use of renewable energy sources. SDCC in conjunction with the three other Dublin Local Authorities and Codema, are producing these plans. We are currently meeting all sections of the Local Authority and generating a list of actions required to adapt to and mitigate the challenge of Climate Change.

 Codema have been carrying out one-to- one meeting with all relevant Climate Change working group nominees in SDCC and are drafting the Adaptation and Mitigation plans from the outcomes of these meetings in addition to the workshops.

 A workshop took place in DLR on 29/06/17, the findings of which were presented at the Dublin Region Environment SPC on 05/07/17.

 SDCC, in conjunction with Codema and the other Dublin Local Authorities are hosting a further Climate Change workshop in September, to further explore and come to a consensus on mitigation measures and how they can be implemented across the Dublin Region. Adaptation plans will be more specific for each LA, given the geographic locations of the LA’s and the different challenges faced in each area, e.g. DCC, DLR & Fingal will have coastal adaptation challenges, SDCC will have pluvial and fluvial flooding issues to consider.

 **END OF REPORT TO SPC**

 A discussion ensued with contributions from members. Teresa Walsh responded to queries raised primarily in relation to the expected National Adaptation Framework which is expected in December 2017 and the individual adaption plans likely. However it was reiterated that there will be a Dublin Region Mitigation Plan.

 It was noted that it is likely that there will be a Joint (DLA) SPC meeting to finalise draft Mitigation Plan before the commencement of the public consultation process.

 **Item 4: Draft Burial Ground Strategy**

 A presentation as circulated which focused on the following was noted:

* Recent review of operations / costs / activity / requests for memorial benches
* Capacity at cemeteries
* Future development

 A discussion ensued with contributions regarding the proposal submitted to “Have Your Say” for a Men’s Shed at the old vacant caretaker’s cottage Esker Cemetery. This will be considered separate to the Burial Grounds Review and Strategy and a report will be prepared and circulated to the Lucan Area Committee.

 Other main issue discussed related to the potential consolidation of plot purchase and headstone permit, and a comparison of neighboring local authority costs. It was agreed to bring this related matter to the November OP&F meeting.

 **Item 5: Item referred from July Council - A deposit refund scheme for recyclables**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED

 **Introduction**

 Wikipedia describes a reverse vending machine as a device that accepts used (empty) [beverage containers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beverage_containers) and returns money (a deposit return scheme) or coupons (a non - deposit return scheme) to the user. The machines are popular in places that have mandatory [recycling](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recycling) laws or [container deposit legislation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Container_deposit_legislation).

 **SDCC historical**

 In 2008 as part of an SDCC Environmental Awareness campaign to encourage recycling by residents and school children, a reverse vending machine was placed in a school and community center. The reverse vending machines were leased from a company called Reuse Reward Limited/GreenTown and a service agreement was put in place. The cost per annum for the delivery, installation, lease and maintenance of two reverse vending machines was €9,505.76.

 Reuse Reward Limited/GreenTown ceased trading on 11th February 2010. This resulted in the removal of reverse vending machines and cessation of supply of same.

 **Motion 10 July 2017**

 Following from [motion 10](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=56403) at the July Council meeting contact was made with the Eastern Midlands Waste Region (Prevention) Office and Repak to discuss a deposit/non-deposit return scheme in South Dublin. In addition SDCC contacted Reverse Vending Corporation in the UK regarding the possibility of engaging with SDCC on a pilot project and the placement of a reverse vending machine within the county.

 The findings were as follows:

 **Eastern Midlands Waste Region Prevention Office**

 In collaboration with the local authorities, Eastern Midlands Waste Region Prevention Office run a range of environmental education and awareness programmes. These programmes are designed to encourage and empower households and communities to minimise waste, reuse materials and recycle.

 The Eastern Midland Waste Regional (prevention) office advised to make direct contact with Repak and provided contact detail within Repak and access to research documentation.

 **Repak:**

 Repak is a not for profit company set up by Irish businesses and owned by its members. It is approved under licensed from DCCE to operate a compliance scheme for packaging recovery.

 Following initial discussion with Repak, the following written response was received

 “With respect to your specific query on the “The feasibility of introducing a deposit return system into South Dublin County”. There is no visibility on detail on what is being proposed in the “[Waste Reduction Bill](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=8amN2Wp4hIZrTfWVsnBhnanvM4MdgWfEbGluv_ZAwA&s=344&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2eoireachtas%2eie%2fdocuments%2fbills28%2fbills%2f2017%2f8017%2fb8017d%2epdf)” – consequently we are unable to advise.

 However, in general with regard to the introduction of National Deposit and Return System as proposed in the [Waste Reduction Bill](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=8amN2Wp4hIZrTfWVsnBhnanvM4MdgWfEbGluv_ZAwA&s=344&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2eoireachtas%2eie%2fdocuments%2fbills28%2fbills%2f2017%2f8017%2fb8017d%2epdf) under consideration we would comment as follows:-

* Recycling of sub –components of packaging material waste streams such as Metal cans and Plastic Bottles are above European norms;
* The successful producer responsibility system exceeds national recycling targets for all packaging;
* The environmental benefit gains would be disproportionate to the cost and knock on impacts on other waste packaging streams;
* Fees paid for metal can recycling under deposit systems are significantly (2-3 times) higher than that paid to producer responsibility organisations;
* Of the 27 member States in the Union only has five have Deposit and Return Systems, Ireland in terms recycling is ahead of all bar one of these Member States;
* Litter problems even with a Deposit Return System would remain. Litter is “behavioural” issue. Drinks cans in any event makes up a very small percentage of the total street litter (1.2%);
* The establishment of a national network of Deposit Return System would need power supply and security. Even in standby mode energy, consumption is required with associated environmental footprint together with serving (emptying) and maintenance;
* Planning permission may be required adding to a complex and costly rollout of Deposit Return systems, who will be responsible for managing such systems, Local Authority’s?;
* Further, this will be exacerbated via different VAT rates and excise duties between member states, let alone non-EU countries.

 This subject within the Irish and European Union context has been considered thoroughly.

 For your information and reference, the table below lists relevant documents. These are all available for down load.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Author(s)** | **Date Published** |
| Repak Annual Report 2016 – Membership Adding Value.Source:http://repak.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Repak-Annual-Report-2016.pdf | Repak | May 2017 |
|  |  |  |
| Review of the Producer Responsibility Initiative Model in Ireland A Packaging Levy for Ireland? Source: https://www.esri.ie/pubs/BKMNEXT270.pdf | Paul K Gorecki, Economic and Social Research Institute and Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin | 1st May 2013 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PRO EUROPE’s position in a European refund system for Metal Beverage CansSource:http://www.pro-e.org/files/11-07\_PRO-EUROPE-position-paper-on-refund-systems.pdf | PRO Europe s.p.r.l. (Packaging Recovery Organisation Europe) | 5th April 2012 |
| Options and Feasibility of a European Refund System for Metal Beverage CansSource: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/packaging/cans/pdf](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=8amN2Wp4hIZrTfWVsnBhnanvM4MdgWfEbGk67KERmg&s=344&u=http%3a%2f%2fec%2eeuropa%2eeu%2fenvironment%2fwaste%2fpackaging%2fcans%2fpdf) | Dominic Hogg, Tim Elliott, Simon Croasdell,  Ann Ballinger, Thomas Vergunst, Chris Cullen, Leila Bendali - Eunomia Research & Consulting Ltd | 16th November 2011 |
|  |  |  |
| Study On The Progress Of The Implementation And Impact Of Directive 94/62/EC On The Functioning Of The Internal Market:Source: [http://www.pedz.uni-mannheim.de/daten/edz-h/gdb/05/report\_packaging\_direct.pdf](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=8amN2Wp4hIZrTfWVsnBhnanvM4MdgWfEbDhp7qNHlw&s=344&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2epedz%2euni-mannheim%2ede%2fdaten%2fedz-h%2fgdb%2f05%2freport%5fpackaging%5fdirect%2epdf) | David Perchard Perchards, Gill Bevington St Albans, UK Fred Somers FFact Management Consultants, Kees Wielenga Rijen, The Netherlands Raphael Veit SAGIS Ltd, Sliema, Malta | 6th May 2005 |
|  |  |  |
| The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System Litter Monitoring Body System Results 2015 | The Litter Monitoring Body, TOBIN Consulting Engineers, Block 10-4, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Dublin 15. | April 2016 |

 [Research](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=97qB2V_yHybXzkPj8aUxSSLJD7KwG_9ruAK8gLq8Ig&s=344&u=https%3a%2f%2frepak%2ewpengine%2ecom%2fwp-content%2fuploads%2f2015%2f06%2fDeposits%5ffor%5fIreland%5fSeptember%5f2008%5ffinal%2epdf) commissioned by Repak, based on a brief for a study being commissioned by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG) into future waste management policy in Irelandindicates that EU States as referred to above where the Refundable Deposit Scheme exists are significantly subsidized by central government.

 **Reverse Vending Corporation, UK**

 In July / August 2017 contact was made withReverse Vending Corporation in the UK, previous supplier to the company Reuse Reward Limited/GreenTown who are referred to in the earlier part of this report (previous pilot 2008).

 Reverse Vending Corporation in the UK responded that they no longer supply Reverse Vending Machines in Non-Deposit Markets and the company Reuse Reward Limited/GreenTown are no longer in business. However Reverse Vending Corporation will retain the Councils details and revert should a national Deposit Return Scheme in Ireland

 Anecdotal evidence from Reverse Vending Corporation who have been in the industry for 35 years indicate that non-deposit vending machines which provide rewards as opposed to cash work well for 8 / 10 months after which time they are subject to antisocial behavior and heavy drop off in use.

 **Conclusions**

 It would appear that the introduction of a non-deposit return scheme for recyclables is not currently possible due to the following:

* Currently there is no supplier available to provide a receptacle in an EU jurisdiction which does not have a national Deposit Return Scheme

 Should a supplier be sourced from outside of the UK the following implementation / management issues would also need to be considered:

* 1. Servicing - Mechanical and electrical maintenance
	2. Routine cleaning and emptying of the receptacle
	3. Financial management – stocking of coins
	4. Operational risks - vandal proof
	5. Budget for refund scheme

 **END OF REPORT TO SPC**

 A discussion ensued with contributions from all present.

 Teresa Walsh, Sorcha O’Brien and Mary Maguire responded to queries raised in relation to how a “local” scheme with a social enterprise focus might have worked if a supplier for a receptacle could have been identified. The position will be revisited if there is a change on the national position.

 Mary Maguire advised of the pilot initiative and availability of reusable drinking bottles instead of regular plastic bottles of water / drinks for clubs.

 The discussion was also focused on certain non-recyclable goods including mattresses, which cannot be recycled at Civic Amenity sites, and which are a blight on the local landscape. It was noted that this is of concern to Regional Waste Prevention Offices and needs to be addressed through the industry.

 On a positive note, it was however noted that Ireland is performing very well in its recycling endeavours.

 **Item 6 – Item referred from May Meeting - Control of Horses**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED

 As requested by full Council in May 2017, and as previously outlined,  a number of key stakeholders from across the Dublin Region have formed a working been liaising over the summer months.

 The broad purpose / role of the group, established on 22nd August 2017 by South Dublin County Council in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture Food & the Marine, Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council and An Garda Siochana, is to develop a concerted collaborative programme aimed at promoting a facilitating responsible horse ownership across the Dublin region with a particular focus on the following issues:

1. Indiscriminate breeding,
2. Animal welfare,
3. Education and awareness,
4. Legislation and regulation (acts and Byelaws) pertaining to animal welfare and control of horses.

 Membership of the group includes:

1. Dublin Local Authorities - SDCC / DCC/FCC
2. Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine
3. An Garda Siochana
4. DSPCA
5. Fettercairn Youth Horse Project
6. Clondalkin Equine Club
7. Youth Service
8. Traveller Development Groups
9. Voluntary groups/rescue centres
10. UCD Veterinary Services

 Membership Numbers are restricted to 2 members per Statutory Body and 1 member per voluntary group/rescue center. However, given their voluntary nature and consequent restrictions on availability, attendees from non-statutory / voluntary groups may rotate.

 Sub-committees/task groups will be established to research and address various time bound tasks/bodies of work. These sub-committees will disband when those tasks are completed.

 Initially 4 task groups will be established to research and address the 4 main topics referred to as follows:

1. Indiscriminate breeding,
2. Animal welfare,
3. Education and awareness,
4. Legislation and regulation (acts and Byelaws) pertaining to animal welfare and control of horses.

 Non-members with specific experience or knowledge may be invited to sit / work with task group meetings on an ex officio basis but will not however be members of the Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group

 Working groups will report back on activities primarily via working group lead- to be determined for each working group.

 Initially meetings of the **Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group** will be held monthly. Once the group is established meetings will be held quarterly – locations will vary to accommodate as many members of the group as possible

 Sub-committees / task groups may meet monthly or more often, depending on the need.

 South Dublin County Council (as Lead Authority) will organise and chair the meetings, and provide secretariat services.

 The next meeting of the Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group will be held on Tuesday 26 th September 2017.

 It is a matter for the SPC to consider representation on the Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group.

 **END OF REPORT TO SPC**

 A discussion ensued and Teresa Walsh also advised of a recently formed CCMA working group to consider the issue of urban horse ownership. Problems being experienced at Clonburris lands was also noted.

 Councillor Frances Timmons expressed an interest in representing the SPC on the new Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group, and it was also agreed to seek expressions of interest from any other elected member(s) who may be interested in engaging on one of the working groups.

 There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 19.00”

1. Minutes of Meeting 16th May 2017

 **“In attendance**

 **Elected Members**

 Councillor Pamela Kearns, Chair

 Councillor Danny O’Brien

 Councillor Ed O’Brien

 Councillor Frances Timmons

 **Sectoral Interests**

 Connie Kiernan

 **Officials**

 Teresa Walsh, Director of Service

 Chris Galvin SE

 Mary Maguire, SEO

 Sorcha O’Brien, EAO

 **Apology**

 Councillor Enda Fanning

 Cathaoirleach Councillor Pamela Kearns presided.

 **Item 1: Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 6th February 2017**

 The Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on **6th February 2017** were proposed by Councillor D. O’ Brien, seconded by Ms Connie Kiernan.

 **Item 2: Review of Social Credit Scheme**

 The following report was presented by Environmental Awareness Officer Sorcha O’Brien:

 *A motion was referred from full Council to the November 2016 SPC meeting at which the following was considered:*

* *Continuous assessment of benefits and rewards available*
* *Promotion mechanisms*
* *Registration of new associations / committees (with PPN)*
* *Availability / distribution of materials eg bulbs*
* *Potential for expansion – non monetary assistance*
* *Potential for greater interdepartmental collaboration*

 *At that meeting SPC members agreed to liaise with their local groups and associations in order to establish their requirements, and to revert back to aid determination of further potential for greater non-monetary assistance.*

 *No further feedback was received.  However, an internal review of the Scheme was carried out in Q4 2016 / Q1 2017.*

 ***Participation / Registration of new groups:***

 *The review established that there are 100 groups registered for the Social Credit Scheme. However only approximately 48 groups are active on a regular basis: availing of the scheme in some format on a regular basis through material provision and collection of waste post clean-up on a weekly / fortnightly / monthly basis.*

 *There are also other Residents Associations / groups that have ad hoc clean-ups throughout the year, and which are supported with materials and collections post clean-ups (c 11 clean-ups per month).*

 ***Communications / promotion mechanisms:***

 *The review established a greater need for information flow between groups and the Council which would:*

* *promote the great work undertaken by groups,*
* *promote the benefits available to groups through the scheme,*
* *establish points of contact,*
* *reinforce the terms of the scheme.*

 *An email was sent to groups request before and after photographs from clean-ups and he details for the event being held. This information is now being promotion and advertisement through the communication of good news stories via social media.*

 *Social Credit Newsletter is now in development for circulation twice a year which will focus on the good news stories.*

 *In Q1 2017 all groups were also contacted to acknowledge and thank them for their hard work, requesting up to date contact information and reiterating the main aspects and guidelines for the scheme. The main points of the email were as follows:*

* *One nominated person to be the sole contact for the Council and their contact number to be used for collections and other queries*
* *Only Council clear biodegradable bags to be used at all times (all other bags black etc. will not be collected)*
* *Scheduled collections only – 2 week’ s notice to be given for all clean up’s and collections*

 *This communication issued to 100 groups registered and 32 responses have been received to date.*

 ***Continuous assessment of benefits and rewards available / availability / distribution of materials / Potential for expansion – non monetary assistance***

 *As groups develop and engage in the Social Credits Scheme more requests are being received for assistance with projects other than community clean-ups such as the develop community gardens, creation of flower beds and the removal of Graffiti. In order to facilitate this we are exploring procurement option for the following:*

* *Bird Houses & Baths*
* *Bug/Bee Hotels*
* *A wider range of flower seeds and bulbs*

 *In addition to the above actions the Social Credit Scheme also worked on the following in Q1 2017:*

* [*Green Dog Walker Competition*](https://www.facebook.com/SouthDublinCountyCouncil/photos/a.398228806886509.93742.159457194097006/1483759538333425/?type=3&theater%20)
* *“Adopt a Bring Bank “ scheme was launched through Tidy Towns*
* [*National Spring Clean*](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/index.aspx?pageid=939&pid=37119&type=Press) *was launched in Spring clean month (April*
* [*Advertising all good news stories via Social Media*](https://t.co/6BIkBT88hU)

 ***Potential for greater interdepartmental collaboration***

 *The Social Credits Scheme continues to offer support to all groups participating in the scheme and encourage new groups and residents to get involved. The scheme also continues to work closely with our Community Department’s Tidy Towns Liaison Officer to ensure that all Tidy Town groups have a full picture of the range of supports that are available to all groups involved in the social credit scheme.*

 *The following additional supports have also been offered to all groups and are available on an ongoing/request basis*

* *Workshops eg upcycling, composting*
* *Information leaflets eg Waste Prevention “Hints & Tips “ booklets, Greener Gardening booklets, Green Cleaning booklet*
* *“Adopt a Bring Bank” scheme*
* *Stop Food Waste Initiatives*

 *All groups can also get involved in Environmental Awareness initiatives, see exemplar list below, by running an event in the local community, for which supports will be provided by Environmental Awareness:*

* *EWWR European (Week for Waste Reduction) that’s held in November*
* *Stoop Food Waste campaigns are run throughout the year*
* *ECO week, we offer community workshops*
* *Nation Spring Clean*
* *Bulbs not Bonfires*
* *Green Dog Walker, hold a community day giving information and signing up new pledges*

 *Further feedback via membership of this committee would be very welcome” End* ***of Report***

 A discussion ensued with contributions from Councillor Kearns, O’Brien, and Ms. Kiernan relating primarily to the following and to which Teresa Walsh, Mary Maguire and Sorcha O’Brien responded.

* Positive impact on littering through engagement of groups in the scheme
* “Negatives” rather than “Positives” attracting headlines
* Application process – one page process
* Registration with PPN - structure with which members of the local community can interact with the local authorities ensuring that the community is involved and represented within the local government system
* Availability of Information Packs

 **Item 3: Solar (Big Belly) Bin Pilot - Selection of location for On - Street Pilot**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 *It was agreed at the February 2017 SPC meeting to pilot Solar (Big Belly) Solar Bins – one "On street" and one in a park location.*

 *Funding has been provided in the improvement works programme for 2017 for replacement of litter bins and seating in Rathfarnham Castle Park and it was identified that a portion of this be used to carry out a trial of smart bin technology at this location, the extent and focus of the trial to be agreed.*

 *It is now a matter for this committee to determine the location for the "On - Street" pilot.*

 ***End of Report***

 Teresa Walsh advised that, subject to agreement of the meeting, it may be more appropriate to consider replacement of additional traditional bins (1 in park already agreed) potentially up to 5 on street - with Solar (Big Belly) Bins as part of a more comprehensive pilot.

 A discussion ensued with contributions from Cllr Kearns and O’Brien primarily in relation to

* Suitability of location(s)
* Servicing
* Costs v efficiencies
* Potential impact on direct labour
* DLR Co Co replacement programme

 It was agreed that Rathfarnham Village be piloted with 5 Solar (Big Belly) Bins, and it was also agreed to liaise with DLR Co Co who had already significantly invested in these bins.

 It was further agreed that, given the level of investment required to enable this pilot, these new bins when procured should be included as assets in the SDCC insurance cover, and that the outcome of the pilot would inform whether or not a future replacement programme (on a phased basis) could be considered.

 **Item 4: River Basin Management Plan for Ireland (2018-2021)**

 A presentation was delivered by Chris Galvin Senior Engineer which focused as follows:

* Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000 and its 3 Cycles to achieve good ecological status in all waters
* Need to Develop River Basin Management Plans and the required public consultation and engagement process
* Learnings from previous cycle
* EPA characterization
* Significant pressures – where from
* Status and timeframe for Draft River Basin Management Plan – to be finalised by December 2017
* Objectives and priorities of the plan - Good ecological status for all waters
	+ Programme of measures
	+ Implementation strategy
	+ Role of Local Authority Community Waters Officer (LAWCO)
	+ Role of National Water Forum
	+ Role of Local Authorities
	+ Community Engagement / Public Meetings / How to input
* More details - <http://www.housing.gov.ie>

 A discussion ensued with contributions from Ms. Kiernan, Cllrs E. O’Brien and F. Timmons which focused primarily on the following and to which Chris Galvin and Teresa Walsh replied:

* Delay with Cycle 2
* Relevant ministerial portfolio
* Liffey / Dodder/ Camac
* Priority focus – fish
* Complexity of urban areas / treatment options / “misconnections” - surface v foul network

 **Item 5: Climate Change**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 *Following the introduction of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Act 2015, South Dublin County Council’s first citizen, Mayor Guss O’Connell, joined the EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, who share a common vision that drives our actions to tackle intersected climate change challenges.*

 *South Dublin County Council on instruction from its Environment Strategic Policy Committee, aligned with the three other Dublin Local Authorities and Codema are working together to meet our collective and individual obligations under the legislation to tackle Climate Change.*

 *A non-statutory public consultation was held for the document ‘A Draft Strategy towards Climate Change Action Plans for Dublin Local Authorities’. This process ran from the 20 September until the 17 October 2016, and 32 submissions were received in total.
 The Environment SPC proposed the adoption of ‘A Strategy towards Climate Change Action Plans for Dublin Local Authorities’, which was adopted at the Council Meeting in February 2017.*

 *SDCC must now produce an Adaptation Plan and a Mitigation Plan.*

 *Adaptation to climate change and the successful implementation of adaptation policy, is a task that involves all levels of government from local to European levels. At local level, our task is to focus on the implementation of adaptation responses. Strengthening our capacity to adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts by making our county more resilient to extreme weather events.*

 *Mitigation to climate change tasks local government to make efforts to reduce or prevent emission of greenhouse gases, this can be achieved through improved energy efficiency and greater use of renewable energy sources.

 SDCC in conjunction with the three other Dublin Local Authorities and Codema are producing these plans. We are currently meeting all sections of the Local Authority and generating a list of action required to Adapt to and Mitigate the challenge of Climate Change.* ***End of Report***

 **Item 6 –Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes**

 The following report as circulated was Noted

 *The update on the flood alleviation schemes and the surface water schemes is as follows:*

***Ballycullen Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme***

 *Following a number of flooding events in the Castlefield area, the Drainage Section of the Council has examined the flooding problem and after reviewing various options it has concluded that a duplication of the existing culvert is the preferred solution to alleviate flooding in the area. The contract for the construction of this scheme was awarded to Clonmel Enterprises Ltd. in February. Works are currently progressing on site.*

***River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme***

 *Following the severe flooding event of 24/25th October 2011 the OPW agreed and provided the extra funding to undertake the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAMS) of the Poddle. The final report on these was forwarded to the OPW who has since approved the Draft Design Brief for the River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme. The appointment of consultants is currently at tender stage through DCC and their framework contract. Tenders are due back at the end of May, this will be followed by tender assessment and appointment of the winning bidder in the summer. The scheme is estimated to cost in the region of €6 million.*

***Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme***

 *The overall scheme for the Camac did not meet the cost benefit criteria to progress work on the river in its entirety. A steering group has been set up to consider works at specific locations on the Camac River, with a view to writing a brief for the appointment of Consultants to carry out the design of flood alleviation measures at these specific locations.*

***Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme***

 *As part of the Dodder CFRAMS there is a proposed scheme for the Whitechurch Stream. The OPW have confirmed funding for the procurement of a consultant engineer for the scheme. We are currently drafting a design brief for this and will submit the brief when complete to the OPW prior to engaging the consultant through the DCC framework.*

***Surface Water Minor Capital Works – 2017***

 *Provision has been for the following SW Minor Capital works and assessments to be carried out during 2017.*

* *Tay Lane, Rathcoole –* ***design re-assessment underway.***
* *Ballynakelly ‘Garage’ at Newcastle Manor, Newcastle –* ***Works commenced 8th May.***
* *Main Street, Peamount Road, Newcastle –* ***not commenced.***
* *Old Lucan Road, Lucan* ***– tenders received, contractor appointed, scheme to commence during school summer holidays.***
* *Ballyowen Lane, Lucan in conjunction with Public Realm and the Roads Department –* ***PR to carry out pitch drainage in advance.***
* *Templeogue Village – initial assessment and feasibility study in conjunction with the Roads Department –* ***Liaison with Roads department ongoing.***
* *Stocking Lane, Rathfarnham –* ***not commenced.***
* *Orchard Road, Clondalkin –* ***Works complete****.*
* *Nangor Road/Ninth Lock Road Junction, Clondalkin –* ***not commenced.***
* *Cookstown Industrial Estate, Tallaght –* ***Works Complete.***
* *Poddle Lakelands screen* ***– under assessment, screen to be replaced.***

***Ongoing works***

 *Provision has been made for ongoing maintenance works to address pluvial and other flooding issues at various locations such as the following rivers and streams;*

* *Camac River*
* *Poddle River clearing*
* *Jobstown Stream*
* *Whitechurch Stream*
* *Owendoher stream* ***End of Report***

 Chris Galvin Queries responded to queries raised by Ms. Kiernanand Cllr Timmons in relation to Camac Scheme and Fluvial events.

 **Item 7 Teen Space - Update on commencement of public consultation**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 *Provision has been made to initiate a countywide consultation process on teen spaces and facilities in 2017.*

 *This study will examine the provision of facilities for teenagers in parks and open spaces in South Dublin County; including provision of Youth Cafés where appropriate within parks and open space locations. The Community Department is involved in this study with Environment Water and Climate Change. The study will report to the Elected Members as the study is progressing.*

 *The study will include examination of facilities in relation to:*

1. *Active recreation*
2. *Passive recreation*

 *The study will also engage in consultation on the provision of facilities for teenagers In our parks and open spaces with particular focus on:*

* *Teenagers*
* *Facility providers*
* *Relevant interest groups*

 *The study has commenced with some background research currently underway to assess the current level of provision for this group.* ***End of Report***

 It was agreed to use as many communication channels as possible in order to reach the target audience.

 **Item 8 Draft Burial Grounds Strategy**

 Mary Maguire delivered a presentation with focus as follows:

* Burial Grounds within the administrative area of SDCC managed by the Council
* Burial Grounds for which records are held
* Existing capacity at 4 cemeteries – Bohernabreena, Esker, Newcastle and Saggart
* Recent internal review – operations / costs / charges - rollup
* Objectives of draft strategy
* Competitive analysis / Future development

 It was agreed that further analysis is required in relation to the potential impact of any changes / roll up of existing fees before any recommendations might be made.

 **Item 9 Graffiti Removal Protocol**

 The following report as circulated was NOTED:

 *Reports of graffiti are sent to our Litter Warden for the area to inspect with a view to establishing whether the graffiti is on (a) utility box (b) private property or (c) public property.*

 *A)    If graffiti is on a utility box the Litter Warden Service identifies the owner (ESB, Eircom, Bord Gais, etc.) and the location is then referred to the relevant utility company requesting removal in line with MOU.*

 *B)    If graffiti is on private property a notice issues to the owner requesting removal.  The Protocol published with the Litter Management Plan 2015-2019 provided for the potential to engage with private property owners to assist with removal of graffiti subject to agreement on costs and insurance indemnity.  However, to date there has been no take up on this proposal.*

 *C)    If graffiti is on public (Council) property the Council arranges for removal.* ***END OF REPORT***

 Mary Maguire and Teresa Walsh responded to queries raised during the discussion that ensued, in particular in relation to the blight of graffiti on utility boxes and the potential to develop street art / street canvas in similar fashion to that developed in certain areas of the city.

 It was noted that the concept of placing art of utility boxes in the County is currently being explored and liaison took place between SDCC and DCC during which it has been established that, based on their (DCC) approach, the project would necessitate the consideration of budgetary and procurement requirements, planning permission requirements, insurance requirements, cross departmental liaison and external stakeholder collaboration

 It is not possible to initiate such a scheme during 2017, however, the position will remain under review in terms of potential for 2018 or further years.

 The meeting concluded at 19.25”

**H7d/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES HOUSING SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

* 1. Report of Meeting 14th September 2017

 **“PRESENT:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members**  | **Council Officials**  |
| Cllr C. King (Chair) | B. Coman | Director of Services |
| Cllr M. Ward | M. Staunton | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr M. Duff | H. Hogan | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr L. Dunne | M. Murtagh | Administrative Officer |
| Cllr M. Genockey  |  |  |
| Cllr T. Gilligan  |  |  |
| Cllr K. Mahon  |  |  |
|  |
| **Representatives:** |
| Tricia Nolan, Volunteer Centre |
| Gillian McWilliams |
|  |
| **Apologies:** |
| Betty Tyrrell-Collard, ICTU |
| Cllr N. Coules |
|  |

 **H-1(1) – Minutes of Housing SPC Meeting on 11th May 2017.**

The minutes of the Housing and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 11th May 2017 were proposed by Cllr. C. King, seconded by Cllr. M. Duff and were confirmed and approved as a true record.

 **H-1(2) Allocations Policy - Committee - Update**

 Cllr. C. King provided feedback from the Allocations Policy Committee.

 This committee met during the summer and has requested data from staff to assist in formulating recommendations before next meeting in approximately two weeks; profiles of those on the housing list and details of previous accommodation.

 A discussion then followed with contributions from H. Hogan, Cllr. C. King, B. Coman and Cllr. M. Ward.

 H. Hogan noted that colleagues in the other Dublin Local Authorities would liaise to share ideas and advice. Cllr. C. King noted the broadening of the Choice Based Letting (CBL) Scheme eligibilities to include those with medical accommodation needs. B. Coman discussed the availability of the Homeless Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) as an option for people leaving direct provision; the Peter McVerry Trust are providing advice and assistance in finding suitable accommodation. Cllr. C. King expressed concern at the impact of Homeless HAP on the rental market given the premium rents paid to landlords. B. Coman advised that this scheme will permit payments of 50% above the rent cap but this averaged 32% nationally. He stressed that South Dublin County Council always takes great care in selection of location when managing the scheme. H. Hogan noted that this scheme is working well. Cllr. M. Ward congratulated South Dublin County Council on the operation of the scheme and commended its practical approach such as the advancement of one month’s rent.

 B. Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to the Allocations Policy.

 **H-1(3) Homeless Statistics**

 B. Coman provided a verbal update on Homeless Statistics

 In response to a query from Cllr. T. Gilligan, B. Coman explained the practice of frontloading Part Vs as developers providing their 10% Part V obligation of build units in multistage developments to the Local Authority upfront in advance of actually completing all the later stages. He also noted the option of turnkey developments, Local Authorities making arrangements at planning stage for developers to build to specific requirements, e.g. Medical or to group Part V units in congregated settings to assist creation of long-term communities. B. Coman also noted a future direction of concentrating on Local Authority build over direct acquisitions. Cllr. T. Gilligan enquired how this would affect provision of homes. B. Coman advised that in an upward market, available funds would procure less houses and that self builds would prove better value for money and of better quality.

 B. Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to the Homeless Statistics

 **H-1(4) Supply and Delivery Update**

 B. Coman presented a report on Housing Supply. He noted that South Dublin County Council are currently examining an additional three sites for construction purposes. South Dublin Co. Co. is required to deliver 1445 Social Housing Units for the period 2015- 2017. A total of 2612 units have been delivered from January 2015 to June 2017.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Delivery Mechanism** | **2015 Delivered** | **2016 Delivered** | **Q1 & Q2 2017** | **Total Delivered 2015-June 2017** |
| Social Housing Infill  | 0 | 15 | 0 | 15 |
| Leasing (Including Unsold, CALF, Payment & Availability)  | 193 | 76 | 29 | 298 |
| Rental Accommodation Scheme | 136 | 42 | 0 | 178 |
| Housing Assistance Payment  | 548 | 946 | 398 | 1892 |
| Voids Restored | 35 | 75 | 0 | 110 |
| Acquisition Programme  | 24 | 64 | 7 | 95 |
| Capital Assistance Scheme  | **0** | 18 | 6 | 24 |
| Outturn | 936 | 1,236 | 440 | 2612 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

 **Social Housing Construction Programme Update:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Schemes** | **No. of Unts** | **Status** | **Estimated Delivery**  |
| St Marks Green, Clondalkin | 11 | On Site | Q2 2018 |
| MacUilliam (Fortunestown) | 28 | On Site | Q3 2018 |
| Mayfield Estate | 18 | On Site | Q2 2018 |
| Dromcarra, Tallaght | 14 | On Site | Q3 2018 |
| St. Aidans, Tallaght | 85 | Tenders In- Under Assessment | Q2 & Q3 2018  |
| Killininny, Co Dublin | 24 | Tenders Out at Present | Q3 2018 |
| St. Cuthbert’s, Clondalkin | 63 | On Site | Q4 2018 |
| Letts Field, Neilstown, Clondalkin | 37 | On Site | Q4 2018 |
| Ballyboden, Rathfarnham | 40 | Due on Site Late September | 2019 |
| Killinarden, Tallaght | 27 | Due on Site Late September | 2019 |
| Oldcastle | 50 | Feasibility assessment currently underway | 2019 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | 397 |  |  |

 A discussion then followed with contributions from T. Nolan, M. Staunton, H. Hogan, Cllr. C. King, B. Coman, Cllr. T. Gilligan, Cllr. K. Mahon, Cllr. M. Genocky, Cllr. L. Dunne and Cllr. M. Ward.

 Cllr. M. Ward enquired why the voids figure for 2017 was zero. H. Hogan explained this was due to a change in definition of voids and that South Dublin County Council was very active in bringing relet properties back to letting standard with 102 units completed on 2017.

 Cllr. M. Ward enquired on progress at the Oldcastle construction site. H. Hogan confirmed that a Traveller Development Plan would be brought to stakeholders for review.

 Cllr. K. Ward welcomed the number of housing units coming on stream; he enquired what are the limits to increasing building capacity to address need. B. Coman responded that a massive increase in exchequer funding was prevented by EU borrowing rules and also that the availability of suitable serviced lands was a significant limiting factor. He noted that South Dublin County Council will have significant additional numbers yet coming to completion in the Adamstown and Clonburris sites.

 Cllr. M. Duff, commenting on the total supply figure of 2,036, suggested that such a positive figure should be noted out in the public realm.

 B. Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to supply and delivery.

 **H-1(5) Older Aged Units Project**

 B. Coman presented a report on the Older Aged Units Project.

 Expressions of interest was sought on the 6th June 2017 from relevant Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the proposed housing with low to medium level of support for older people in South Dublin’s Administrative Area.

 The Communications Development Protocol between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) which was agreed in 2016 was used.

 As previously informed the following 3 sites were put forward for the project:

 Fernwood Park

 Maplewood Road

 Whitestown Way - Tallaght Stadium.

 The following information was requested in the submission –

 The AHB’s procedures and methods for delivering quality and innovation in the design of high quality homes and communal spaces.

 The AHB’s management experience in low to medium support for older people.

 Demonstrate how the support framework can be created that will best meet the needs of older residents as they age.

 How services to residents of the schemes and to older people living within the catchment area will be provided.

 Provision of a community development service in the area.

 A list of all projects currently under development by the AHB.

 Identification of resources available to deliver this project.

 The technical resources available to carry out public procurement processes and manage contracts and development processes of this scale.

 A brief written statement describing the AHB’s proposed method for delivery of the project including a proposed outline programme for the project.

 Four submissions were received by the closing date of 1st August 2017. The submissions are currently being evaluated with a decision to be made on the preferred AHB by the end of September 2017. Following conclusion of this process, the preferred AHB shall carry out a Feasibility Study and Review for the delivery of the project.

 A discussion then followed with contributions from H. Hogan, Cllr. C. King, B. Coman, Cllr. T. Gilligan, Cllr. K. Mahon, Cllr. L. Dunne, M. Staunton, Cllr M. Duff and Cllr. M. Ward.

 B. Coman confirmed that existing Council tenants would be prioritised when applying for these units. H. Hogan noted that these could then be available to private applicants if their former dwellings were made available for Council stock. Cllr. T. Gilligan enquired did we have potential uptake figures on these units. B. Coman responded that these were not yet available. Cllr. T. Gilligan asked were there many downsize requests. B. Coman confirmed that there were a number of such requests. Cllr. M. Ward, Cllr. C. King and H. Hogan agreed. Cllr. C. King noted that this was for a number of reasons; security, proximity to medical hubs and other services. Cllr. K. Mahon enquired what the completed units will look like. B. Coman responded that these would be very well designed with an aesthetic finish. The units will be very well marketed with the use of glossy brochures to promote the concept of Older Aged Accommodation.

 B Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to on the Older Aged Units Project.

 **H-1(6) AOB**

 Cllr. C. King welcomed the new PPN representative MS. Gillian McWilliams to the committee.

 Two Groups had requested to provide presentations to the Housing SPC; ICTU and the Apartment Owners Network. On the suggestion of Cllr. M. Duff and seconded by Cllr. C. King it was agreed to suspend standing orders at the next SPC meeting to facilitate both presentations and commence the meeting afterwards.

 The meeting concluded at 7:00 pm.”

* 1. Minutes of Meeting 11th May 2017

 “**PRESENT:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members**  | **Council Officials**  |
| Cllr C. King (Chair) | B. Coman | Director of Services |
| Cllr N. Coules  | M. Staunton | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr M. Duff | Y. Dervan | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr L. Dunne | H. Hogan | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr M. Genockey  | A. O’Toole | T/Senior Business Transf. |
| Cllr T. Gilligan  |  | & Change Manager |
| Cllr K. Mahon  | L. Madden | Administrative Officer |
| Cllr M. Ward  | M. Murtagh | Senior Staff Officer |
|  |
| **Representatives:** |
| Tricia Nolan, Volunteer Centre |
| Betty Tyrrell-Collard, ICTU |
|  |
| **Apologies:** |
| Brendan MacPhiarais, Nabco |
|  |

 **H-1(1) – Minutes of Housing SPC Meeting on 9th February 2017.**

 The minutes of the Housing and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 9th February 2017were proposed by Cllr. M. Duff, seconded by B. Tyrrell-Collard and were confirmed and approved as a true record.

 **H-1(2) Overview on progress on Housing Infill projects**

 B. Coman provided reports on social housing; Part V and Capital Construction Projects.

 [Part V](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=55903)

 [Project Update](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=55882)

 Cllr. M. Ward enquired regarding the delay in progressing the Oldcastle site. In response B. Coman advised regarding ongoing discussions with the neighbouring school in securing suitable access to the site. H. Hogan advised in relation to arrangement for traveller families living on the site.

 B Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to Housing Supply.

###  **H-1(3) Housing Systems and Process Improvement Project**

 B. Coman introduced Aoife O’Toole, T/Senior Business Transformation and Change Manager with responsibility for the Housing Systems and Process Improvement Project and presented a report on this project.

 [Housing Review and Business Transformation Presentation 05 2017](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=55894)

 A discussion followed with contributions from A. O’Toole, Cllr. C. King, H. Hogan, B. Coman, Cllr. N. Coules, T. Nolan and Cllr. K. Mahon.

 H. Hogan described the customer self-service portal to support the growing demand for online and out-of-hours contact by Housing customers.

 T. Nolan enquired in relation to the follow-up of issues logged on the system. A. O’Toole confirmed that all issues logged are tracked in the system with supported reporting and option for e-mail reminders to assigned staff.

 A. O’Toole advised that appropriate practical demonstration would be provided to the members.

 B Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to the Housing Systems and Process Improvement Project.

 **H-1(4) HAP Process**

H. Hogan provided a verbal report on the HAP (Housing Assistance Payment scheme) process. The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a form of social housing support for people who have a long-term housing need. HAP provides a more integrated system of housing supports; the scheme aims to allow all social housing supports to be accessed through the local authority and to allow recipients to take up full-time employment and still keep their housing support.

 Under HAP, local authorities make payments, subject to rent limits and certain conditions, on behalf of the HAP recipient directly to the landlord in respect of rent. The HAP recipient then pays a rent contribution to the HAP Service Hub. The rent contribution is a differential rent – that is, a rent based on income and the ability to pay. There are currently more than 1,600 households receiving HAP support in the South Dublin County Council area.

 H. Hogan noted regulations in relation to the transfer list of HAP tenants to social housing. South Dublin County Council applies the existing Allocation Scheme with a two year delay period. HAP provides an entitlement to an immediate transfer, and is not confined to council administrative boundaries. South Dublin County Council is working with the other Dublin Councils to enable a co-ordinated approach and propose to allow HAP tenants to access the Choice Based Letting system based on their time on the housing list. However this will require a new Allocation Scheme. Cllr. K. Mahon enquired about security of tenure under this scheme. B. Coman advised that this issue is subject to ongoing review as enhanced security of tenure is a key commitment of ‘Rebuilding Ireland’. B Coman responded in full to all issues raised in relation to the HAP process.

 **H-1(5) Allocations Scheme Review**

 H. Hogan provided a verbal report in relation to the Allocations Scheme review. Cllr. C. King suggested a Subcommittee be formed to work on this and will send an e-mail proposing the formation of this.

 **H-1(6) Planned Maintenance DPGs programm**e. Hogan updated the Committee on the Planned Maintenance DPGs programme. There are currently 450 applications ranging from minor works such as stair lifts to major works such as extensions. South Dublin County Council will undertake most of the minor works directly with major works going out to tender. At present there is no tender framework so proposed works are placed on the Quick Quotes system; the Housing Department is working with the Architects Department on the creation of a specific tender framework. In response to a question from Cllr. L. Dunne, H. Hogan confirmed there are 13 applicants currently on the list for extensions. Cllr. C. King enquired as to when will the extension works proceed. H. Hogan advised that works such as shower and stair lift installations are proceeding currently but that extensions will progress during the current year.

###  **H-1(6) AOB**

 Additional Part V

 B. Coman provided additional detail on Part V acquisitions, detailing the numbers per quarter of 2017 per electoral area. South Dublin County Council plan to deliver 200 housing units through this process over the 2017 and 2018 period.

 Cllr. C. King commended the pepper pot approach. Y. Dervan notes that this approach assists in ensuring consistency in the standard of houses provided.

 Anti-Social Strategy

 H. Hogan advised that data is currently being collated for consultation on the Anti-Social Strategy which should be ready in Q4 of 2017 for presentation to the members.

 Cllr. C. King requested that members be allowed input to the strategy. Cllr. L. Dunne agreed that members should input submissions. H. Hogan confirmed that all suggestions would be most welcome. Cllr. C. King suggested the re-establishment of a

 Submission on funding to direct build housing units

 Further discussions were held on the submissions by Cllr. K. Mahon and Cllr. N. Coules to the Committee meeting of 9th February:

 [Cllr. K. Mahon Submission](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=6c29bb39-4e99-47ca-bf6b-a72800a75201)

 [Cllr. N. Coules Submission](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=e2eb5a27-b6d7-491b-8928-a72800a79822)

 B. Coman noted the calculations in Cllr. K. Mahon’s submission appeared to exclude ancillary costs such as provision of infrastructure such as roads and utilities and also ongoing unit maintenance costs. Cllr. K. Mahon asked could specific ratepayer bands be targeted for increased charges as a source of funding. B. Coman advised that this may not be possible but any discussion re rates would form part of the Annual Budget meeting, however the valuation method for ratepayers ensures fairness in ability to pay.

 Cllr. N. Coules requested that his proposed costings be fine-tuned by South Dublin County Council staff; this model is independent of Rates funding and he noted the currently low interest rates. There may be an option to support this from funds currently assigned to HAP and RAS. B. Coman asked for clarification in relation to some of the costings, e.g. the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland currently advise a unit build cost of €320k, this proposal also excludes land and required infrastructure costs.

 Cllr. L. Dunne opposed the proposal to self-fund as costs would be carried by South Dublin County Council. Cllr. N. Coules responded that his proposal is designed to generate a return. Cllr. M. Duff noted that costs would fall on the Local Authority. Cllr. C. King stated that this would give Central Government an opt-out from provision of housing. Cllr. N. Coules asked why land costs should be included given the ready availability of South Dublin County Council housing land. Cllr. L. Dunne asked that Cllr. N. Coules bring more such proposals to the Committee. B Coman welcomed input on new ideas to generate social housing and acknowledged that financing such projects can be difficult and complex while trying to minimise financial and reputation risk to the Council.

 B. Coman introduced Marguerite Staunton, a new Senior Executive Officer in Housing with responsibility for managing the Grange/Kilcarberry Project as well as Older Age housing projects.

 The Committee also congratulated Yvonne Dervan, Senior Executive Officer on the advent of her retirement, thanking her for her work in Housing and on the Committee.

 The meeting concluded at 7:11pm.”

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**H7e/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES -LAND USE, PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

* 1. Report of Meeting 18th September 2017

 **“PRESENT:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members**  | **Council Officials**  |
| Cllr Wm Lavelle (Chair) | E. Taaffe | Director of Services |
| Cllr P. Donovan  | L. Leonard | Senior Executive Officer |
|  |  |  |
| Cllr M. Murphy | W. Purcell | Senior Executive Engineer |
| Cllr L. O’Toole | R. Dwyer | Heritage Officer |
| Cllr P. Gogarty  | D. Keogh | Road Safety Officer |
| Cllr R. Nolan  |  |  |
| Cllr. E. Higgins (Observer) |
| **Non-Elected Members:** |
| Neil Durkan, Siobhan Butler |

 **An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Wm. Lavelle presided.**

 **H.I. 1. Confirmation of Minutes**

 The Minutes of the meeting of the Land Use Planning and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 25th May 2017 were proposed by Cllr. Wm Lavelle, seconded by Cllr. R. Nolan and **AGREED.**

 **H.I. 2. DRAFT BIODIVERSITY PLAN**

 Ms. Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer made a presentation on the Draft Biodiversity plan and outlined that the plan which is at draft stage will go forward for a period of public consultation and when adopted be in place for 6 years.

 [Presentation on Biodiversity Plan](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=68073d57-f072-4cc9-a59d-a80400a08c86)

 [Draft Biodiversity Plan](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=10b6172a-5b81-42d1-9ff0-a80400a178b0)

 Following a discussion with queries and contributions made by Cllrs Gogarty, Cllr Murphy, Cllr Donovan, Cllr O’Toole, Cllr Lavelle, and Ms. S. Butler. Ms. Dwyer thanked members for their positive comments and answered the questions and queries raised.

 Cllr Lavelle thanked Ms. Dwyer for making the presentation. The report was **NOTED**

 It was then agreed to vary the order on the agenda and take HI.5 at this point

 **H.I. 5 ROAD SAFETY OFFICER - PRESENTATION**

 Mr. Declan Keogh, new Road Safety Officer was introduced and welcomed. A presentation was made by the Road Safety Officer outlining his role and his programme of work for the coming months.

 [Road Safety Officer Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=6ab6bc38-960a-4405-bc58-a66a00bb6341)

 Cllrs. R. Nolan, P. Gogarty, W. Lavelle and Ms. S. Butler welcomed Declan and contributed to the discussion. The report was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 3 POLICY ON PRIVATE SIGNS ON PUBLIC ROADS**

 Mr. E. Taaffe, presented the draft policy document pointing out its context, objectives and implementation to members.

 [Draft Policy Private Signs (Way-Finding) on Public Roads](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=c61cd2e5-349d-4944-936e-a80400a5578c)

 Mr. Taaffe responded to questions raised by Cllrs and it was AGREED that members consider the draft policy and that it be brought back to the next meeting of the SPC.

 **H.I.4 WESTON AERODROME UPDATE**

 E. Taaffe, DOS gave the report update on the public consultation process carried out on the Review of the Land Use Planning Framework Governing the Future Development and Operation of Weston Aerodrome.

 Cllrs. Lavelle, Nolan, O’Toole and Gogarty contributed to the discussion and raised questions, Mr. Taaffe responded to questions raised and the update was **NOTED**

 **H.1.6 TALLAGHT LAP UPDATE**

 E. Taaffe, DOS gave the report update on the pre-draft public consultation process carried out on the Tallaght LAP and acknowledged that a report on same would be brought to the ACM.

 Cllrs. Murphy, Gogarty, Lavelle, and Siobhan Butler contributed to the discussion and raised questions, Mr. Taaffe responded to questions raised and the update was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 7. CLONBURRIS SDZ UPDATE**

 E. Taaffe, DOS gave the report update on progress to date on the Clonburris SDZ, mentioning the forthcoming launch of the Draft Plan and the commencement of the statutory consultation phase thereafter.

 Cllrs. Nolan and Lavelle contributed to the discussion and the update was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 8 A.O.B.**

1. The Committees attention was brought to responses to correspondence issued on foot of a decision at the last SPC and received from the National Transport Authority, Minister for Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport and Minister for Department of Education & Skills in respect of School Bus Pilot. L. Leonard, S.E.O. advised that follow up was required from the executive and an update would be brought to next SPC
2. Councillor Lavelle before the meeting concluded noted that it was his last meeting as chair and expressed his thanks to staff for their support over the last 3 years. He wished incoming chair Cllr. E. Higgins well in the role.

 **The meeting concluded at 7.10p.m.”**

* 1. Minutes of Meeting 25th May 2017

  “**PRESENT:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members**  | **Council Officials**  |
| Cllr Wm Lavelle (Chair) | E. Taaffe | Director of Services |
| Cllr P. Donovan  | L. Leonard | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr. L. O’Toole | S. Kelly | Administrative Officer |
| Cllr. P. Gogarty | B. Keaney | Senior Planner |
| Cllr. R. Nolan  | I. McLoughlin | Conservation Officer |
|  |  |  |
|   |  |  |
|  |
| **Non-Elected Members:** |
| Siobhan Butler |

 **An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Wm. Lavelle chaired the meeting.**

 **H.I. 1. Confirmation of Minutes**

 The Minutes of the meeting of the Land Use Planning and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee held on 16th February 2017 were proposed by Cllr. Wm Lavelle, seconded by Cllr. L. O’Toole and **AGREED.**

 **H.I. 2. Draft Traffic Calming**

 **DRAFT Traffic Calming Criteria Document**

 Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services gave a quick outline of what the Traffic Calming Criteria contained. He informed the meeting that the next step would be to bring the final document to the June Council Meeting for adoption.

 Following a discussion with queries and contributions made by Cllrs Donovan, Cllr O’Toole, Cllr Lavelle and Cllr Gogarty, Eddie Taaffe answered the queries and concerns raised by the members.

 It was agreed that the Criteria Document would go to the full Council meeting with the following amendment under **Section 6 Assessing Traffic Calming Requests**

 “Any locations chosen, can be accompanied by a written petition if available. This must show that the majority of the residents are in favour of the traffic management. (Show total number of houses and number in favour - One signature per household).”

 **Amended to read:**

 “Any locations chosen, can be accompanied by a written petition if available. One signature per household”

 This was agreed as some estates only want ramps on certain roads within the estate and not throughout the entire estate. Members agreed that they would reflect the wishes of the majority of the residents and that schemes should be agreed by the Area Committee Meeting.

 The report was **AGREED with amendment.**

**H.I. 3 Architectural Conservation Forum**

 [H13 Ballymount Gate Lodge.docx](file:///%5C%5CSDCC-file3%5CRoads%5CRdsad%5CMeetings%5CSPC%27s%5C1%20LANDUSE%20PLANNING%20%26%20TRANSPORTATION%20SPC%5C2017%5CMay%5CItems%5CH13%20Ballymount%20Gate%20Lodge.docx)

 Ms. Irenie McLoughlin, Conservation Officer, gave the report.

 It is recommended that the works at this location should be done on a phased basis because of where the Gate House is situated (next to the Luas Line). The first works to be done would be to get a contractor to carry out biocide spraying and cutting back of ivy on the structure and remove the areas of dense vegetation and tree growth. This will allow a conservation engineer to carry out a structural assessment of the structure to ascertain what works require to be carried out to safeguard the structure.

 Following a discussion in which Irenie answered the queries raised by the members, the report was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 4 Extension of Life of Fortunestown Local Area Plan**

 [**Extension of Life of Fortunestown LAP 2012.htm**](file:///%5C%5CSDCC-file3%5CRoads%5CRdsad%5CMeetings%5CSPC%27s%5C1%20LANDUSE%20PLANNING%20%26%20TRANSPORTATION%20SPC%5C2017%5CMay%5CItems%5CH14%20Extension%20of%20Life%20of%20Fortunestown%20LAP%202012.htm)

 [\\SDCC-file3\Roads\Rdsad\Meetings\SPC's\1 LANDUSE PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION SPC\2017\May\Items\H14 Extension of Life of Fortunestown LAP 2012\_files](file:///%5C%5CSDCC-file3%5CRoads%5CRdsad%5CMeetings%5CSPC%27s%5C1%20LANDUSE%20PLANNING%20%26%20TRANSPORTATION%20%09SPC%5C2017%5CMay%5CItems%5CH14%20Extension%20of%20Life%20of%20Fortunestown%20LAP%202012_files)Mr. Brian Keaney, Senior Planner, presented the report in which he informed the meeting that Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 introduced a new provision that amended Section 19 of the Planning and Development Act 200, whereby a Planning Authority may extend the life of an existing LAP which is normally 6 years, for a further four years i.e. up to a total of 10 years from adoption. As the Fortunestown LAP was adopted in May 2012 it will remain in force for 6 years from its adoption until 2018. This gives the Local Authority the option to extend the Fortunestown LAP to June 2022.

 The process set out under S.19 of the P&D Acts 2015 requires that the members can resolve to extend the life of the LAP. A report will be prepared for consideration of Members at the June 2017 Council Meeting. If the extension is not agreed at the Council meeting the Plan will lapse.

 The Councillors for the area will be emailed in advance of the Council meeting in this regard.

 Mr. Keaney responded to questions raised by Cllr. Lavelle, Cllr Gogarty, Cllr Donovan the report was **NOTED**

 **H.I.5 Weston Aerodrome**

 [Items\H 16 Weston Aerodrome Land Use Planning Framework Review.htm](file:///%5C%5CSDCC-file3%5CRoads%5CRdsad%5CMeetings%5CSPC%27s%5C1%20LANDUSE%20PLANNING%20%26%20TRANSPORTATION%20SPC%5C2017%5CMay%5CItems%5CH%2016%20Weston%20Aerodrome%20Land%20Use%20Planning%20Framework%20Review.htm)

 Brian Keaney, Senior Planner, presented the report. SDCC intends to facilitate a public consultation and review of the land use planning framework governing the future development and operation of Weston Aerodrome with reference to changing European safety requirements, economic development opportunities for the County and the impact on neighbouring residential communities. This consultation process will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of Policy IE9 Objective 6 of the SDCC Development Plan 2016 – 2022.

 The consultation will take place over a six week period. All submissions received will be analysed and summarise in a Planning Framework report, which will be issued for noting at the November 2017 Land Use Planning and Transportation SPC meeting. Submissions will play an important part in guiding the review of the future development and operation of Weston Aerodrome.

 Mr. Keaney and Mr. Taaffe responded to questions and comments raised by Cllrs. O’Toole, Gogarty and Lavelle.

 It was requested by the members that the consultation period should be during a non- holiday period. It was agreed that the process would commence before the holiday period and it was agreed that the report would be brought to the June ACM.

 The report was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 6. Cycle Forum SPC report**

 [**Items\H1 5 Draft Minutes of February SPC Cycling Forum.docx**](file:///%5C%5CSDCC-file3%5CRoads%5CRdsad%5CMeetings%5CSPC%27s%5C1%20LANDUSE%20PLANNING%20%26%20TRANSPORTATION%20SPC%5C2017%5CMay%5CItems%5CH1%205%20Draft%20Minutes%20of%20February%20SPC%20Cycling%20Forum.docx)

 Cllr Paula Donovan, Chair of the SPC Cycle Forum gave the report on the last two meetings of the group. Items discussed at the two meetings included:

 Speed Limit Review which is now adopted in place

 NTA funding – disappointed with this but hopeful that extra funding would be received before year end.

 Cycle and Walking Strategy - The group are in the process of drafting a cycling strategy for the County and that plans for a workshop to further develop the strategy would be notified to the members and held in June.

 Bike Week is 11th to 18th June – all members encouraged to spread the word and support Bike Week Events of which there is a schedule.

 NTA funding - Cllr Lavelle requested an update on this. The Director of Services, Mr. Taaffe responded, that the Council would probably not be notified until September of any possible increases in funding.

 Following further discussion to which Cllr Lavelle, Cllr Gogarty and Siobhan Butler contributed, Mr. Taaffe responded to the queries and the report was **NOTED**

 **H.I. 8 Update on Cattle Grids.**

 The Director of Services, Mr. Eddie Taaffe provided an update. Members were advised that the Council have received advice from their insurers IPB in this regard and that they have agreed with the opinion of the Consultants on their recommendations: that safety/ liability issues arise and that installation of grids represents an uninsurable risk.

 Mr. Taaffe outlined the Council’s concerns from an H&S perspective if the grids were installed and a member of the public was injured or killed as a result. Mr. Taaffe invited the members to bring forward alternative suggestions.

 Cllr Donovan and Siobhan Butler contributed to the discussion.

 Cllr Donovan thanked Mr. Taaffe for clarity on issue.

 The report was **NOTED**

 **H.1.9 School Bus Study**

 Cllr Lavelle gave the meeting the update on this. It is proposed that the SPC write to Dublin Bus, NTA, Relevant Minister in Department of Transport, and Relevant Minister in Department of Education inviting them to attend a special meeting in relation to this matter and for them to provide a written statement of their position on the possibility of working with SDCC on a pilot bus service.

 This approach was agreed by the members and **NOTED**

 **H.1.10 AOB**

 Ms. Laura Leonard, S.E.O. gave the meeting an update on the GO Car Project which was launched during the week. There are now 7 locations identified across the County, and after three months the scheme will be reviewed.

 Bike Week is 11th to 18th June. Check on Bikeweek.ie for details of events across the County.

 Adamstown SDZ- Director of Services, Mr. Eddie Taaffe advised the SPC of a minor amendment that is required to the Adamstown SDZ.

 Cllrs O’Toole, Gogarty and Lavelle raised questions to which Mr. Taaffe responded.

 **The meeting concluded at 7.00p.m.”**

**H7f/1017 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES SOCIAL & COMMUNITY SPC**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

* 1. Report of Meeting 12th September 2017

 **“Attendance:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members** | **Officials** |
| Cllr. D. O’Donovan | B. Coman Director |
| Cllr. Emma Murphy | A. Casserly Sports Officer |
| G. Ní Mhuirí PPN | P. McAlerney Senior Community Officer |
|  | B. Leonard A/Administrative Officer |
|  | Maria Finn Senior Staff Officer |

 **Apologies:**, Cllr. K. Egan, Cllr V Casserly, Cllr S. Holland, L. Olagoke, PPN

 **Minutes of May 2017 Meeting**

 The minutes of the meeting held in May 2017 which have been circulated were proposed by Cllr. O’ Donovan, seconded by Cllr. Emma Murphy and agreed.

 There was discussion around the Flavours of South Dublin Festival, it was reported as being a success

 **Endeavour Awards**

 P. McAlerney gave a presentationon the Endeavour Awards that are going to be held on the 25th November 2017 in the Red Cow Hotel. P. McAlerney explained that the awards categories were going to stay the same with the exception of the Gradam na Gaeilge, this category is going to be expanded to include Culture, Language, History and Heritage. P. McAlerney highlighted the importance of the Corporate Endeavour award as it was good for PR for local business.

 P. McAlerney also explained the nomination process and that there would be self application/nomination only for all award categories, with the exception of the Corporate Endeavour Award and Volunteer of the Year which are open for Community Groups to nominate businesses and individual volunteers.

 The awards will be advertised from 25th September, closing date for applications is 13th October.

 **Health & Wellbeing Week**

 B. Coman reported to the Committee that Health and Wellbeing week will be launched on the 18th September in Tallaght Stadium. Dr Eva Ormsby will speak at the launch and an invitation has also being extended to Henry Sheffllin to attend the launch.

 The Health and Wellbeing week brochure was distributed to the committee, the brochure lists the many events that are due to take place over the course of the week.

 **Community Grants**

 P. McAlerney gave a presentationon the community grants. The first round of grants were advertised in March 2017 and 53 application were recommended and approved by Council. The second round of grants was advertised on the 28th August with a closing date of 22nd September, it is hoped to have the recommendations for full Council in November.

 P. McAlerney explained to the committee that there was already a formal assessment and appeal system in place but this is being reviewed at the moment to make groups aware of it. Where groups are refused the Community staff discuss the refusals with the individual groups where queries are raised. P. McAlerney explained the 7 assessment principles applied to each application and the difficulty in applying these principles to a stringent marking scheme

 **Healthy County Steering Group**

 B. Coman informed the committee that this was an inter-agency group that is involved in research to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in the County and is linked with Healthy Ireland. The group has been involved in a number of initiatives such as

* Smoking cessation for women – there already 4 programmes with another one due in Clondalkin. There is an 80% success rate. Under a train the trainer practice, local people are trained to deliver the programmes
* Alcohol Misuse Support with the Delivery of the National Community Action on Alcohol Programme in partnership with Tallaght and Clondalkin Drug and Alcohol Task Forces
* Physical Activity Implementation of the National Physical Activity Plan at local level

 A Communication Plan for the Healthy County group to interact with the wider community has recently been developed and will be delivered in the coming months.

 **Social Inclusion Week**

 M. Finn updated the committee on the progress for Social Inclusion Week, which will take place from 20th to 27th November. Over 100 events have been organised for the week. The brochure listing the events is due to be printed in mid-October and will be circulated to the committee.

 **AOB**

 B. Coman informed the Committee about a proposal to introduce the Medex programme that is currently being run in DCU by Noel McCaffrey. It is a community-based chronic illness rehabilitation programme delivered to pre and post operation patients. The programme is on a referral basis only and is clinically proven. SDCC will be the pilot Local Authority to deliver the programme. It will either delivered in Tallaght or Clondalkin Leisure Centre. Noel McCaffey will deliver a presentation to the SPC meeting in November.

 Also noted:

 SDCC were nominated for 6 awards for the All Ireland Chamber Awards

 SDCC have 5 nominations for Pride Of Place Awards

 The Sports Partnership Strategy launch will take place on the 20th September at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 7.20 pm.”

(ii) Minutes of Meeting 16th May 2017

 **Attendance:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members** | **Officials** |
| Cllr. D. Donovan | B. Coman Director |
| Cllr. Emma Murphy | A. Casserly Sports Officer |
|  |  |
| Cllr. J Graham | P. McAlerney Senior Community Officer |
| Cllr S. Holland | A. Byrne Administrative Officer |
| Cllr. V. Casserly | T. McDermott SDC Sports Partnership |
| G. Ní Mhuirí PPN |  |

 **Apologies:**, Cllr. K. Egan

 **Minutes of February 2017 Meeting**

 The minutes of the meeting held in February 2017 which have been circulated were proposed by Cllr. Donovan, seconded by Grainne Ní Mhuirí and agreed.

 **Dates of Meeting**

 It was proposed by the Chair and agreed by all members that the meetings of this SPC would take place after the Organisations, Procedure and Finance (OP&F) meetings in future where the dates suited. The next meeting will follow the September OP&F meeting.

 **Flavours of South Dublin County - Food Festival**

 A presentation was given detailing the ongoing work on the food festival which will be held in Rathfarnham Castle Park on Sunday 25th June, 2017.

 Following discussion it was agreed that members would forward on contact details for groups in the county, including food businesses and the Clonskeagh Mosque. The Rathfarnham and District Festival (RADfest) will be run in the week leading up to the Festival and it was agreed that this will benefit both festivals.

 **Community Initiative Fund (CIF) and Community Grants**

 Applications for funding under CIF and Community Grant Scheme closed on 31st March and assessment is almost complete.

 **Community Initiative Fund**

 53 applications were received and of these 42 were deemed eligible due to some being incomplete or being received following the closing date. These are now assessed and it is proposed that a report on the successful applicants under CIF will be given to the next CPG meeting.

 **Community Grants**

 155 applications were received and these are currently been assessed. It is intended a headed item detailing the successful groups will be presented to the June Council meeting for approval.

 A further round of Community Grant Funding will be advertised in September.

 **Sports Partnership Strategic Plan.**

 A presentation was given which explained the plan is based on 3 main principles:

* To Lead
* To Inspire
* To Enhance

 The target group are Older Adults, Children, Teenage Girls, People with a disability, minority groups, etc. The intention is to engage those not currently involved with clubs and those not engaged in sport or recreation.

 The members agreed that this should be made known to local groups and clubs and following on from all planning and any additional consultation, the members agreed to launch this during Health and Wellbeing Week.

 **South Dublin Schools Cross Country Programme 2017**

 A report was presented on the successful programme which has just finished. It was acknowledged it is now the largest event of its kind in the country for the age group of 3rd to 6th class in primary school.

 The inclusion of the Paralympic Section in the programme was welcomed.

 It was agreed that the presentation would be circulated as it was acknowledge that while the schools and some local groups are aware of the programme, it is not widely known outside of this circles. The PPN was acknowledged as a good opportunity to highlight this successful programme.

 There is a programme run by the Sports Partnership, the daily mile that is available to younger children. This will be pushed in September.

 The staff who recently joined the Council joined existing staff to support this event and consideration is being given to an events corp made up of Council staff. This will give staff the opportunity to see the work that is ongoing throughout the county.

 **SDCC Education Bursaries with IT Tallaght**

 A presentation was given detailing the success of recipients of the previous bursaries. The possibility of this being extended to other schools was discussed but acknowledged that this is not possible due to current resources and the schools involved in the scheme give the most return for the funding available. Details of the award ceremony in October will be circulated.

 **Any other business**

 **Community Endeavour Awards**

 An update will be presented to the September meeting. Members gave feedback following the last awards scheme and these will be considered in the planning.

 **Sportivate**

 The Sportivate programme will begin again in September and members were provided with the brochure and asked to notify any young people who might benefit from this.

**Resignation**

 Layton Kelly has resigned from this SPC and a replacement will be put forward by the PPN and this will be presented to the Council for ratification. The Chair, Cllr Donovan thanks Layton for his commitment and work on the SPC.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

The meeting concluded at 7 pm.”

The Reports were **NOTED**.

### **H8/1017 REPORT FROM JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED:**

**“South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee Report**

The Joint Policing Committee met on Friday 22nd September 2017 in County Hall Tallaght

Documents presented at the meeting are available on the CMAS system.

**Attendance: Committee Members:**

Cllr. Deirdre O’Donovan (Chair), Cllr Kenneth Egan; Cllr Brendan Ferron; Cllr Paul Foley; Cllr. Paul Gogarty Mayor); Cllr Cathal King; Cllr Ed O’Brien; Cllr. Liona O’Toole; Cllr Mark Ward; John Curran T.D.; John Lahart T.D., Chief Superintendent Orla McPartlin; Chief Superintendent Lorraine Wheatley; Billy Coman, SDCC; Ann Corrigan, PPN; Tara Deasy, PPN; Jim Lawlor, PPN; Michael Noonan, PPN.

**In attendance:** Noreen Byrne, Superintendent Peter Duff, Superintendent Dermot Mann, Andy Lane,

**Apologies:** Cllr Paula Donovan; Cllr. Louise Dunne; Cathy Purdy

The following is summary of business of the JPC:

* **Guidelines for JPCs**

            The JPC noted the Guidelines and particular those in relation to the strategic nature of the JPC and the administration of the agenda with items brought to agenda planning.

The JPC agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Local Community Development Committee

**2          Minutes of the Last meeting**

            The problems with ASB and Dublin Bus was discussed

**3          Local Policing Fora Report**

The joint report was circulated on behalf of the four local policing fora in Clondalkin, D12, North Clondalkin and Tallaght:

**Clondalkin LPF:** The Clondalkin section of the report was noted.

* Scramblers, ASB in St. Cuthbert’s park were ongoing issues that had been discussed
* Drug addiction amongst African men had been raised and was possibly a newly developing issue

The next public meeting is set for the 19th October 2017 at 7.30pm in the Green Isle Hotel

**D12 LPF:** The D12 section of the report was noted with the last public meeting held on the 19th September 2017.

**North Clondalkin LPF:** The North Clondalkin Report covered:

* The impact of violent incidents on communities and the trauma that ensues
* A number of outstanding ongoing issues were raised in relation to Balgaddy

The next North Clondalkin, Palmerstown and Lucan LPF public meeting is to be held on Thursday 9th November 2017.

**West Tallaght LPF:** The West Tallaght Report covered:

* The impact of ASB on Dublin Bus which is an issue to be covered at the next public meeting.
* ASB amongst young people below the age of criminal responsibility.

**4          Garda Reports**

Reports were circulated by Chief Superintendent Orla McPartlin on behalf of the DMRS region and by Chief Superintendent Lorraine Wheatley on behalf of the DMRW region.

* There has been an increase in theft from MPVs, tools are being targeted.
* Reports of thefts in Liffey Valley Shopping Centre had increased due to new store openings
* The high level of murders five in the last 18 months in the North Clondalkin area and an awareness of the impact that this has on communities.
* Garda Confidential Line to confidentially give the Garda information (**Confidential Line - 1800 666111** The Garda Confidential line allows people to call with information relating to matters of crime or other activities)

In the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

* The impact on estates from the murders is significant
* A request that Domestic Violence be a category that is included in the Garda report
* The future of Rathcoole Garda Station in the context of a significant rise in population, with a report to be considered at the next JPC
* The implications of policing what is developed in Clonburris SDZ and the role the Gardaí can play at the design and development stages.

**5          South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan 2016-2022**

It was agreed to consider further at the next meeting with a short presentation, a fifteen minute debate and then a decision on adopting the Plan.

**6          Halloween**

A briefing on activities was given, Bulbs not Bonfires, community activities and the role of environmental services.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

* That a briefing from the Gardaí on a policing plan for elected members would be useful
* Operation Tombola where the Gardaí, the Council and the Fire Brigade liaise closely is in operation
* The role of adults in stoking the fires to get rid of household rubbish was noted

**7          Drug Subcommittee**

The following recommendations were agreed:

* The JPC agreed the Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee
* The JPC noted the work plan of the Subcommittee
* The JPC received a briefing on the Public Alcohol Bill

**8          Future LPFs**

Following previous discussions on a Rathfarnham LPF it was proposed and agreed that the existing Tallaght Quarterly Neighbourhood watch meetings should be extended to include issues that affect the Rathfarnham Garda Sub district, meetings would include Inspectors from Tallaght and Rathfarnham.

A similar approach will be adopted in the Lucan area.

**9          Any Other Business**

The Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) resources was raised with the request that these resources should be targeted at the communities that had suffered the impact of trauma caused by criminality. It was agreed to raise with the Department of Justice.

**10        Upcoming JPC Meetings**

The next meeting is set for: Friday 24th November 2017”

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **H9/1017 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

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

**QUESTIONS**

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

### “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q24 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/1017 MANAGEMENT AND LICENCE AGREEMENTS**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor M. Duff**

Would the Chief Executive make a report regarding the number of Management Licence Agreements that are with  the Law Agent, awaiting signature, that apply to Community Centre Buildings or any other building, in use by Community or Voluntary groups, within the County.

**REPLY:**

Management Licences are subject to a number of clauses and conditions that must be agreed between the Council and the licensee.

The agreement, preparation and signing of Management Licence agreements is an ongoing process.

At the moment 13 licences have been agreed and there are 5 licences with the Law agent. There are a number of licences that are at various stages where there may be outstanding issues to be agreed.

### **Q2/1017 VACANCY CREDITS COMMERCIAL RATES**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor S. Holland**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a breakdown by Local Electoral Area of refunds under the commercial rates vacancy scheme.

**REPLY:**

Currently South Dublin County Council grants 100% vacancy credit on commercial rateable properties provided it meets the following criteria:

The property must have been vacant for one of the following reasons:

Vacant and available for letting and the owner unable to find a tenant at a reasonable rent

Vacant due to the completion of additions repairs or alterations

Documentation to support an application for vacancy must be submitted with the Council’s application form, along with a sworn ‘Declaration of Vacancy’ signed by the applicant in the presence of any of a Commissioner of Oaths, Peace Commissioner or Practicing Solicitor.

The following is the value of vacancy credits for commercial properties recommended to 2nd October 2017 broken down by Electoral District. It should be noted that applications in respect of 2016 continue to be processed. The average amount of vacancy credit applied for the 4 years 2012 – 2015 inclusive is €13.6m.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Electoral District | 2016 Vacancy Credit granted |
|   |   |
| BALLINASCORNEY |  €  39,171.60 |
| BALLYBODEN |  €    2,978.37 |
| BOHERNABREENA |  €   40,675.31 |
| CLONDALKIN BALLYMOUNT |  €   950,467.33 |
| CLONDALKIN DUNAWLEY |  €     13,634.04 |
| CLONDALKIN MONASTERY |  €    1,309,823.19 |
| CLONDALKIN MOOREFIELD |  €       482,660.66 |
| CLONDALKIN ROWLAGH |  €           1,176.63 |
| CLONDALKIN VILLAGE |  €         43,925.89 |
| CLONDALKIN-CAPPA |  €           6,821.80 |
| FIRHOUSE BALLYCULLEN |  €           2,393.55 |
| FIRHOUSE KNOCKLYON |  €          1,206.37 |
| FIRHOUSE VILLAGE |  €         21,088.91 |
| LUCAN HEIGHTS |  €         56,373.58 |
| LUCAN ST HELENS |  €       113,925.22 |
| LUCAN-ESKER |  €       178,590.41 |
| NEWCASTLE |  €       975,276.67 |
| PALMERSTOWN VILLAGE |  €       214,250.43 |
| PALMERSTOWN WEST |  €       261,486.75 |
| RATHCOOLE |  €         81,547.90 |
| RATHFARNHAM BALLYROAN |  €          9,199.79 |
| RATHFARNHAM HERMITAGE |  €          3,429.97 |
| RATHFARNHAM ST ENDAS |  €          2,204.36 |
| RATHFARNHAM VILLAGE |  €         47,125.69 |
| SAGGART |  €       127,758.92 |
| TALLAGHT AVONBEG |  €          1,932.66 |
| TALLAGHT BELGARD |  €         10,352.44 |
| TALLAGHT FETTERCAIRN |  €       861,048.30 |
| TALLAGHT GLENVIEW |  €         22,315.13 |
| TALLAGHT JOBSTOWN |  €         42,850.13 |
| TALLAGHT KILNAMANAGH |  €        749,653.22 |
| TALLAGHT KILTIPPER |  €         36,866.27 |
| TALLAGHT KINGSWOOD |  €     1,027,274.26 |
| TALLAGHT OLDBAWN |  €       133,538.75 |
| TALLAGHT SPRINGFIELD |  €     1,479,703.22 |
| TALLAGHT TYMON |  €       305,016.92 |
| TEMPLEOGUE KIMMAGE MANOR |  €           1,945.02 |
| TEMPLEOGUE LIMEKILN |  €           7,309.52 |
| TEMPLEOGUE OSPREY |  €           6,147.53 |
| TEMPLEOGUE VILLAGE |  €         31,270.09 |
| TERENURE CHERRYFIELD |  €        131,410.39 |
| TERENURE GREENTREES |  €           2,359.37 |
| TERENURE ST JAMES |  €        188,119.80 |
|   |   |
| Total Vacancy credits for rate year 2016 processed to date |  €  10,026,306.36 |
|  |  |

### **Q3/1017 MANAGEMENT CHARGES**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive, when SDCC housing applicants are housed by an Approved Housing Body, if there is a management fee is this fee paid by the Council or by the tenant?

**REPLY:**

Where housing applicants are housed in a property in a development where service charges apply and owned or leased by South Dublin County Council, the Council covers the management charge.

In the case of other tenancies, rents and other charges are explained in the tenancy agreement with the Approved Housing Body.

### **Q4/1017 ADVERTS**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. Looney**

To ask the Chief Executive if the Council is engaged in any contracts or other arrangements with advertisers for billboards or other displays on Council property; to ask how much money this brings in each year; to ask if there is a policy in place around this form of advertising; and to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The Council does not have any contracts for advertising displays on Council property. It should be noted that, depending on the nature of the display, certain advertising is subject to the planning process.

### **Q5/1017 SUPPLY REPORT**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. Looney**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on all social housing projects in the County currently under construction, in planning or being procured; to categorise these by Part 8, Part V and other; and to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

 This Council has an active build programme with 22 active social housing sites as follows at various stages of delivery:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Status*** | ***No. of Schemes*** | ***No. of Units*** |
| On site | 7 | 225 |
| Tender Stage | 3 | 127 |
| Pre-Tender | 2 (sites with AHBs) | 14 |
| Pre-Planning Approval | 3 | 139 |
| Feasibility Stage | 5 (3 sites with AHB) | 170 |
| PPP Site (Kilcarbery) |  | 109 |
| Kilcarbery Site (30% social) |  | 268 |
| ***TOTAL*** | ***22*** | ***1,052*** |

 These are the schemes which are currently on site and due on site before year end 2017.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Schemes | No. of Units | Status | **Q4 2017** | **Q1 2018** | **Q2 2018** | **Q3 2018** | **Q4 2018** | **Q1 2019** |
| St Marks Green, Clondalkin | 11 | On Site |  |  | **11** |  |  |  |
| MacUilliam (Fortunestown) | 28 | On Site |  |  |  | **28** |  |  |
| Mayfield Estate | 18 | On Site |  |  | **18** |  |  |  |
| Dromcarra, Tallaght | 14 | On Site |  |  |  | **14** |  |  |
| St. Aidans, Tallaght | 90 | On Site |  |  | **66** | **19** |  |  |
| Killininny, Co Dublin | 24 | Due to start on site late October 2017 |  |  |  | **24** |  |  |
| St. Cuthbert’s, Clondalkin | 63 | Tenders in and under assessment |  |  |  |  | **63** |  |
| Letts Field, Neilstown, Clondalkin | 37 | On Site |  |  |  |  | **37** |  |
| Ballyboden, Rathfarnham | 40 | Due to start on site late October 2017 |  |  |  |  |  | **40** |
| Killinarden, Tallaght | 27 | On Site |  |  |  |  |  | **27** |
|  | **352** |  |  |  | **95** | **85** | **100** | **67** |

On private developments this Council have agreements to date to deliver 130 Part V units to the end of 2018. There are further developments which are in negotiations to agree Part V which will be agreed which will deliver in excess of this value to the end of 2018. This Council are also working continuously with Approved Housing Bodies who have support from South Dublin Co. Co. to purchase units directly for social housing which will be directly allocated from this Council’s housing list

### **Q6/1017 ENERGY UPDATES**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. Looney**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on all energy projects underway under the aegis of the Council, including housing retrofitting, district heating, micro hydroelectric and wind generation, community centre and other public building works, etc., and to make a statement on the matter.

 **REPLY:**

 At 31/08/2017 there were 8,160 applicants on the Council's housing waiting list, the table below shows size of accommodation needed and housing areas preferred - please note some applicants have expressed interest in both areas:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DWELLING SIZE** | **NORTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** | **SOUTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** |
| 1 Bedroom  | 1497 | 2176 |
| 2 Bedroom | 1938 | 2335 |
| 3 Bedroom | 1127 | 1135 |
| 4 Bedroom | 121 | 121 |

 The table below shows a breakdown of the Council's current housing waiting list of 8,160 by length of time on list:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Years On List** | **Nos.** |
| 15 + | 11 |
| 10 - 15 | 387 |
| 5 - 10 | 2868 |
| up to 5 | 4894 |

 As there are 8,000+ applications it is not possible to list each individually with date of application.

 This data is not collected by local electoral areas. Applicants may be currently/temporarily living in one area within this county's administrative area or outside but wish to be permanently housed in another area. When making an application, the applicant choses only north or south of the Naas Road in this administrative area.

### **Q7/1017 HOUSING LIST**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor E. Murphy**

As a follow up to the question which I posed at the September Council meeting on the same issue could the Chief Executive please give details of the length of time that applicants for social housing have been on the housing list? Can this please be explicitly broken down to reflect the exact year of application to the Council? Additionally can this data be further clarified by local electoral area?

**REPLY:**

At 31/08/2017 there were 8,160 applicants on the Council's housing waiting list, the table below shows size of accommodation needed and housing areas preferred - please note some applicants have expressed interest in both areas:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DWELLING SIZE** | **NORTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** | **SOUTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** |
| 1 Bedroom  | 1497 | 2176 |
| 2 Bedroom | 1938 | 2335 |
| 3 Bedroom | 1127 | 1135 |
| 4 Bedroom | 121 | 121 |

The table below shows a breakdown of the Council's current housing waiting list of 8,160 by length of time on list:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Years On List** | **Nos.** |
| 15 + | 11 |
| 10 - 15 | 387 |
| 5 - 10 | 2868 |
| up to 5 | 4894 |

As there are 8,000+ applications it is not possible to list each individually with date of application.

This data is not collected by local electoral areas.  Applicants may be currently/temporarily living in one area within this county's administrative area or outside but wish to be permanently housed in another area.  When making an application, the applicant choses only north or south of the Naas Road in this administrative area.

### **Q8/1017 ABANDONED VEHICLES**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. O'Brien**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the total number of abandoned cars reported to the Council for 2016 and how many have been reported this year. Broken down by LEA.

**REPLY:**

The management of abandoned vehicles is complex, therefore, each case is dealt with on a case by case basis, in many cases in conjunction with the Garda Síochana.

On receipt of a complaint the Council must determine if vehicles are in fact abandoned.  The following characteristics are generally common to reports of abandoned vehicles, and one or more will be taken into consideration when determining if a vehicle is abandoned:

* they are untaxed for a considerable period of time
* they have no evident details of recent activity on the motor tax register e.g. change of ownership/address
* they are stationary for a significant period of time
* They are significantly damaged, in poor state of repair or un-roadworthy (flat tyres/wheels removed etc.)
* missing registration plates

Similarly, other reports relate solely to "nuisance vehicles" and are not in fact abandoned, such as:

* vehicles poorly parked
* vehicles causing an obstruction
* vehicles involved in residential parking disputes
* broken down vehicles
* untaxed and uninsured vehicles

The inspection of the abandoned vehicle by Council personnel informs the procedure to be applied by the Council for the removal of the vehicle.  In most cases the Council exercises the statutory powers as provided for in [Section 71 of the Waste Management Act 1996,](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1996/act/10/section/71/enacted/en/html#sec71) as amended.  The Council also continues to work in close collaboration with the Gardaí in relation to vehicles which may by "of interest" in the course of their investigations of criminal activity.

 In the case where registration plates are in evidence an ownership check to ascertain the registered owner of the vehicle is requested from the Motor Tax Office.  On receipt of same a letter issues to the registered owner advising of the complaint regarding their vehicle and asking them to either move the vehicle or to advise of their intentions for the vehicle.

 Where no registration plates are evident the Council pursues all reasonable steps to identify the registered owner of a vehicle, details of such vehicles are entered on the Council's website in the hope of determining who the owner of the vehicle is.

 A number of notices are served on the registered owner requesting that the vehicle be removed, details of these notices are also published on the website where the registered owner is unknown.  Pursuant to Section 71 (7) (c) of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended, if the vehicle is not removed within the prescribed timeframe then the vehicle  becomes the property of the Council and the Council can, in good faith, arrange for its removal to an authorised treatment facility for disposal.  However, because of prescribed procedure and associated timeframes, this process can take up to 6 weeks to complete.

 In instances where abandoned vehicles are deemed to be a danger to the public removal is arranged immediately.

 The figure for abandoned/burned out vehicles are not available on an electoral basis.  However, the following is an outline of the complaints/reports received on a countywide basis from 2016 to date.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  **Year** |  **Abandoned** |  **Burnt Out** |
|  2016 |  353 | 53 |
|  2017 | 629 | 140 |
|  |  |  |

### **Q9/1017 REPAIR & LEASING**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor E. O'Brien**

Can the Chief Executive confirm the number, if any, expressions of interest taken up under the repair and lease back scheme?

**REPLY:**

No expressions of interest have been received to date in respect of the repair and leasing initiative. The Housing Department have full details available on our Council website in respect of this scheme.

<http://www.sdcc.ie/services/housing/leasing-initiatives/vacant-housing-repair-leasing-initiative-and-buy-to-renew-scheme>

### **Q10/1017 VACANT SITE REGISTER**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor E. O'Brien**

Can the Chief Executive confirm if the Council's vacant site register is as yet complete and if so make a copy available.

**REPLY:**

The Vacant Site Register is available for Inspection on the Councils Website.  The assessment of sites for both inclusion and removal from the Register is an ongoing process and as such will be subject to ongoing and continuous change.

### **Q11/1017 HOUSING SUMMIT**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to present a report on his participation in the housing summit on 8th September last; will he outline discussions he had with the Minister and his officials and will he confirm plans to produce a housing action plan for the County arising from recommendations made at the meeting.

**REPLY:**

The main focus of the summit was on Homelessness in major urban areas. The Council presented on its homeless facilities throughout the County and proposal to add to those facilities. The Council outlined progress to date on all aspects of Social Housing delivery and setting out a delivery programme from Quarter 3 up to and including 2020 delivering 1,387 units of social housing. This included Construction Programme, Rapid Delivery units programme, Part V, Acquisitions, Leasing, AHB delivery, CAS construction and acquisition HAP and vested properties. Also outlined the Kilcarbery Integrated Housing Project and the PPP for 109 units and new possible proposals for Oldcastle, Homeville and Old Telecom Site at New Nangor Road. The Minister announced a number of outcomes on homelessness arising from the first phase of his review of Rebuilding Ireland and following the Housing Summit. He indicate that as new measures are finalised and agreed they will be announced. Some key points are:

* Budget is redirected away from acquisitions and to direct build programmes for local authorities.
* An increase of 800 new social homes to be built in 2018
* 200 additional emergency beds for individuals will be in place in Dublin by December 2017
* A further €10m for new Family Hubs
* Homeless families wishing to move to locations outside Dublin will be facilitated
* Proposed Changes in Notices of Termination issued by Landlords

  Any new announcements will be advised to the members and the Housing SPC.

### **Q12/1017 HALLOWEEN 2017**

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

To ask the CEO what plans are in place to deal with the challenge of the forthcoming bonfire season; will he confirm what staff resources will be available to remove materials from our open spaces and will he also state what efforts will be made to convey a positive message to our communities in respect of the matter and will he make a statement.

**REPLY:**

The burning of waste is prohibited under legislation, and bonfires waste valuable Council resources in the removal and disposal of material, while many communities also suffer from the social, economic and environmental cost of this activity.

The Council makes concerted efforts each year to control this illegal activity through a range of measures from education to enforcement.

Public Realm staff are already engaged in the collection of bonfire material across the county where reports have been received from Elected Members, the general public and our own staff.

It is important to note that Council staff can only remove bonfire material from public property, and bonfire material stored on private property, such as front or back gardens, cannot be removed. However, the Council does have powers under the Waste Management Act 1996 whereby a notice can be served on the owner of the property, requiring them to remove the material.

The majority of bonfire construction only takes place on Halloween itself, often not starting until after our staff have finished work for the day. While the Council endeavours to deal with as many calls as possible, it is not possible to deal with every single case.

The Council will have staff working to remove bonfire material, on a prioritised basis, from locations around the county up until normal finishing time on Halloween.   Priority locations include bonfires being constructed in close proximity to houses, power lines, roadsides and transport routes. Particular attention is given to bonfire removal requests from the Gardaí where they have identified a threat to property or services such as public transport.

The "Happy Halloween" initiative continues with focus on reducing the availability of material for bonfires through the targeting of suppliers of material used in bonfires, enforcement of litter legislation by waste and litter enforcement officers, and the bonfire prevention campaigns such as Bulbs not Bonfires.

A colourful infographic leaflet providing facts and tips on how to stay safe at Halloween has also been published.

**All reports of bonfire material should be put through the Membersnet/Customer Contact System where each enquiry can be tracked and monitored and a response issued.**

### **Q13/1017 WATER QUALITY**

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

 To ask the Chief Executive if he has considered the findings of the recently published EPA report on Water Quality; if any action is required in respect of our County and will he make a statement.

**REPLY:**

Irish Water is the national water utility responsible for providing water and wastewater services throughout Ireland since 1st January 2014, and Irish Water is publishing drinking water quality results from January 2014 onwards.

Any water quality sampling and testing carried out prior to January 2014 was the responsibility of South Dublin County Council and details of the drinking water quality results from before January 2014 are now available by visiting the [EPA website.](http://epa.ie/water/dw/)

Supplies that are currently on the EPA's Remedial Action List (RAL) can be viewed using the [interactive map](http://www.epa.ie/water/dw/ral/) including the reason the supply is on the RAL, and the expected completion date for the remedial works.

### **Q14/1017 JOB CREATION**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to present a report on his ongoing endeavours to promote the job creation needs of our County; will he outline contacts he has had with state agencies in respect of the matter and will he make a statement.

**REPLY:**

The [**South Dublin Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=49881)includes a series of economic objectives each of which identifies target actions and the key stakeholders involved. These actions are aimed at putting the appropriate infrastructure, enterprise and employment supports in place to improve the level and quality of economic activity in the County. An update on progress on the economic elements of the LECP was presented to the [**May 2017 Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism SPC Meeting**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=53799). A further report in this regard will be provided by the end of 2017.

Our [**Local Enterprise Office**](https://www.localenterprise.ie/southdublin) (LEO) provides financial grants, mentoring, training and other supports to assist new and developing micro-enterprises with job creation and sustainment in the County. To date in 2017, LEO South Dublin has approved funding of €678,939 for 26 projects creating 41 new jobs immediately and with the potential to create over 200 new jobs. There have also been over 500 training participants (including our Business Support Fund training programme in conjunction with South Dublin Chamber) and more than 200 mentoring sessions/assignments so far this year. These supports will continue throughout 2017 and again in 2018 to ensure new and existing local microenterprises are assisted in developing their businesses and sustaining/creating local employment.

LEO is also working with relevant local agencies including South Dublin Chamber, Institute of Technology Tallaght, South Dublin County Partnership, Enterprise Ireland and others to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the actions which can impact on job creation in the County.

The Council's 2017 Budget provided for the continuation of the [**Business Support Funds**](http://www.sdcc.ie/business/enterprise/business-support-funds) through a range of supports specifically aimed at increasing occupancy and activity in industrial areas to increase economic activity and support additional local employment. A full report on the Business Support Fund and its future direction was provided to the [September 2017 Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism SPC Meeting](http://intranet/cmas/viewmeetingagenda.aspx?id=1597).

The Council has also adopted the Dublin Regional Enterprise Strategy 2017-2019 along with the other Dublin Local Authorities and this identifies opportunities to maximise the promotion and development of enterprise across the Dublin region. The [**February 2017 Economic Development,, Enterprise & Tourism SPC Meeting**](http://intranet/cmas/viewmeetingagenda.aspx?id=1517)s approved a detailed local implementation plan for the Strategy with specific emphasis on initiatives for job creation, enterprise opportunities and skills requirements in South Dublin in partnership with various regional partners and state agencies. This implementation plan is ongoing and a full report will be provided to the SPC at year end.

The Council is also a key partner in the [**Dublin Action Plan for Jobs 2016-2018**](https://www.djei.ie/en/Publications/APJ-Dublin-2016-2018.html) which aims to realise the full jobs potential of the Dublin region by stimulating enterprise and growth using the collaborative strengths of the region. We are working with various national, regional and local partners to ensure that this impacts on our County.   The 3rd meeting of the Implementation Committee for the [**DAPJ 2016-2018**](https://www.djei.ie/en/Publications/APJ-Dublin-2016-2018.html) was held on Tuesday 27th June in Dublin City Council and detailed the progress on work on the various cross-agency initiatives and commitments contained in the Action Plan. A full report on progress under DAPJ for the first half of 2017 is currently being prepared by all partners to the action plan.

### **Q15/1017 FESTIVALS PARADES AND OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm plans he has to promote Festivals, Parades and other community activities throughout 2018 particularly in relation to St Patrick's Day celebrations; will he outline proposals by his Community Department in respect of the matter and will he furnish a statement.

**REPLY:**

The Community Development Team is available to advise, assist and support local organising committees throughout the County with any ideas and plans they may have for Community Activities and Celebrations throughout the calendar year and including those local committees who want to organise local St Patrick's Day Community Celebrations.

### **Q16/1017 TAMPA**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. Richardson**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on what progress from business and tourism was made from our twinning with Tampa in Florida also what is the next step to develop more connections linking both areas.

**REPLY:**

In September 2015 South Dublin Chamber and this Council received a delegation from Tampa, Florida. Following that visit South Dublin Chamber organised a reciprocal visit.

The visit took place from the 30th May - 2nd June 2016 and Mayor Sarah Holland was the lead person on the delegation.

The linking of South Dublin County with Tampa through the sister cities programme and the signed cooperative agreement is the basis for our trade mission and the visit represented another important milestone in strengthening relationships. ITT were represented on the delegation and remain in contact with the University of South Florida in Tampa.

The Chamber, in partnership with South Dublin County Council, highlighted the many attractions for inward investment and tourism to our colleagues in the US. Linkages are ongoing between the Chamber and the Tampa Chamber to develop strong links with the Tampa business community. An update will be requested from the Chamber in this regard.

### **Q17/1017 FEASIBILITY STUDY TO PROVIDE BROADBAND IN SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor D. Richardson**

That this Council do a feasibility study to providing broadband in our County to make wifi accessible to all our citizens in public areas in our County.

**REPLY:**

The Council are currently recruiting a Broadband Officer, who will have a task amongst others of preparing a Digital Strategy for the county.  This will incorporate an analysis of broadband provision within the County and will detail working with the relevant operators to remediate and resolve areas of poor availability and/or coverage.

By means of context, the elected members will be aware that the Council has supported significant roll out of wifi throughout the county under villages and other initiatives.  Our current list of Wifi enabled locations are;

**Wifi in our Villages**

Roll out of free wifi to our villages in conjunction with local business communities has been completed and are operational in the following areas:

• Tallaght
• Rathcoole
• Palmerstown
• Saggart
• Clondalkin
• Lucan
• Templeogue
• Rathfarnham
• Newcastle

**All SDCC Libraries:**

• County Library
• Castletymon Library
• Whitechurch Library
• Ballyroan Library
• Lucan Library
• Clondalkin Library
• Stewarts Hospital Library & Coach House - 2 WAPs
• Palmerstown Library / Digital Hub

**Community Centres:**

• Brookfield Youth & Community Centre

**Other:**

• South Dublin County Council HQ Building - various locations
• Clondalkin Civic Offices
• Civic Theatre
• Tallaght Stadium
• Grange Castle Golf Club
• Corkagh Park
• Round Tower Clondalkin

Public Wi-Fi facilities are available at all of the above locations, free of charge to public users.

### **Q18/1017 GRASS CUTTING**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed report into Grass cutting - who carries this out and what is the cost to South Dublin County Council.  Also who checks the quality of Grass Cutting?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council maintains 1700 Hectares of parkland and open spaces, which also includes 163 playing pitches.

The following points summarise the main features of the Council's grass cutting operation:

* The grass cutting season runs for 8 to 9 months of the year, commencing in March and ending in November.
* Grass cutting is operated from each of the Council's seven public realm depots (Corkagh, Grange, Waterstown, Saggart, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon and Rathfarnham Castle) with each depot responsible for its own geographical area and staff resources are assigned accordingly.
* All grass cutting is carried out by Council own staff at present.  A total of 60 staff are currently engaged in grass cutting with 25 of those operating tractor mowers and 35 operating ride on mowers.
* During the off-season these staff are engaged in bonfire clean up, Christmas tree shredding and tree pruning works.
* The target frequencies for grass cutting are fortnightly for grass in parks, open spaces and roadside margins while playing pitches are scheduled to be cut weekly.
* A number of additional tasks are carried out in conjunction with the grass cutting, such as weed control in roadside margins and strimming of long grass and weeds in boundary areas, and additional staff are assigned to this work as required.
* A number of grass cutting tasks are carried out at weekends due to health and safety requirements, and these for the most part are the regular/scheduled grass cutting on dual carriageway roads.
* Some grass areas are being developed, under the advice of the Council's heritage officer, as wildflower areas where the grass is cut only twice in the year.  This is to encourage biodiversity and the management of grasslands in this manner forms an element of the Council's climate change action plan.  These areas in general are in the County's main parks such as Tymon and Waterstown.
* The budget provided for grass cutting in 2017 is €3,988m and this breaks down as follows - €2.6m wages and salaries; €1.212m plant and machinery and €176,600 relates to other costs such as energy, fuel, materials etc.  This forms 16.7% of the overall public realm budget for 2017 of €23.8m.
* A total of 16 seasonal staff were engaged in 2017 to provide cover for regular staff on annual leave in order to maintain the standard of grass cutting throughout the summer months.

The grass cutting operation is supervised and monitored by the public realm management and supervisory staff including parks superintendents, district supervisors, foremen of works, assistant foremen and charge hands. A review of public realm operations, including grass cutting, is nearing completion and will result in changes being made to the nature of the operation as set out above in order to achieve greater efficiencies and higher standards.

### **Q19/10**17 **LEAF COLLECTION**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a detailed report into Leaf collection in South Dublin County Council - who carries this out and what is the cost to South Dublin County Council? Also who checks the quality of Leaf collection and value for money?

**REPLY:**

The system in place for collection, sweeping and removal of leaves is as follows:

Where a request is received from a resident’s group for collection of bagged leaves from a community clean up, this request will be processed through the social credits scheme and the service as requested will be provided if the social credits application is approved.

Residents' groups may also request hessian bags (recycled coffee bags) through the Social Credits Scheme to create their own leaf mould, which is great for gardeners and the environment. This highly beneficial compost can be used in your garden, vegetable plots, container plants, community planting areas or community gardens. Requests for this service should be sent to info@sdublincoco.ie .

Where any individual wishes to request leaf sweeping or has gathered and bagged leaves from the public footpath or roadway, the Council will endeavour to arrange collection of these bagged leaves in conjunction with the seasonal leaf sweeping operation.  Such requests may be made through info@sdublincoco.ie or by telephoning 01 414 9000.

The current provider of road sweeping services to the Council, Oxygen Environmental Ltd, is required by contract to provide a leaf sweeping and removal service to the Council during the five month period from September 1st to January 31st.  The service is provided on an as requested basis that is there is no predetermined frequency for leaf removal/sweeping.  There is no limit on the number of occasions when leaf removal can be requested from an area, this can be done as often as the need dictates.  The cost to the Council for Oxygen to provide this element of the service is €32,234 per annum.

The sweeping and removal of leaves is monitored by the public realm supervisory and management staff, along with all other tasks which are assigned to that section.  While a full cost benefit analysis has not been carried out on the leaf removal activity to date and therefore it is not possible to comment in detail with regard to the value for money issue, however the cost of the service provided by Oxygen is considered to be low and to represent good value for money.

### **Q20/1017 HOMELESS FIGURES**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a full report on the current homeless list? How many people sleeping rough?  How many in hotels and emergency accommodation by area etc.?

**REPLY:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   | August 2017  |
| Number of Registered homeless  |  465 |
|  Single Male |  210 |
|  Single Female |  50 |
|  Couples |  11 |
|  Families |  194 |

Killininny House offers supported temporary accommodation for 21 single men and is managed by the Peter McVerry Trust who have additional step down accommodation around the county which can cater for up to 14 individuals at any one time.

Hubs are provided at Tallaght X (64) Abberley (37) and Glean no Horna (9).

Also 24 older Homeless persons are housed at Riversdale House.

SDCC is currently seeking additional family hubs and supported temporary accommodation in the County.

All other Hotel & B&B accommodation is operated through the Central Placement Services.

All families included on the Homeless Register are notified to the Focus Family HAT who appoint a Case Worker to further assist those families.

SDCC is also working with Focus Ireland on the HAP Preventative Measure to assist and prevent those individuals and families at risk from becoming homelessness.

The Council also operates an outreach service and multi-agency approach to address rough sleepers.  There is a 'rough sleepers' count scheduled to take place in November/December.

### **Q21/1017 HOUSING LIST**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a full report on the current Housing List? How many people on each list? i.e. 1 bed, 2 bed, 3 bed, 4 bed etc.  To ask for a breakdown by area?

**REPLY:**

At 31/08/2017 there were 8,160 applicants on the Council's housing waiting list, the table below shows size of accommodation needed and housing areas preferred - please note some applicants have expressed interest in both areas:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DWELLING SIZE** | **NORTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** | **SOUTH OF THE NAAS ROAD** |
| 1 Bedroom  | 1497 | 2176 |
| 2 Bedroom | 1938 | 2335 |
| 3 Bedroom | 1127 | 1135 |
| 4 Bedroom | 121 | 121 |

20 new applicants joined the list in September, this would not significantly change the demand as listed above.

### **Q22/1017 HOUSING LIST (MEDICAL)**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask for a full report on the current Housing Medical List? How many people on each list? i.e. 1 bed, 2 bed, 3 bed, 4 bed etc.  To ask for a breakdown by area to include a breakdown of waiting time on the list?

**REPLY:**

**North of Naas Road**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  1 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing |  48 |
|  |  |  |
|  2 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing |  84 |
|  3 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing |  97 |
|  4 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing |  23 |

The following give details of the length of time the longest applicant is on the list requesting accommodation North of the Naas Road

 1 Bed - 2008

2 Bed – 2006

3 Bed – 2004

4 Bed – 2005

**South of Naas Road**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  1 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing | 75 |
|  2 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing | 81 |
|  3 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing | 107 |
|  4 Bed |  Ground floor and Standard Housing |  22 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

The following give details of the length of time the longest applicant is on the list requesting accommodation South of the Naas Road

1 Bed – 2008

2 Bed – 2005

3 Bed – 2003

4 Bed – 2007

### **Q23/1017 CHOICE BASED LETTING SCHEME**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor M. Ward**

What is the average amount of time that someone is on the housing list and is housed through the Choice Based Letting scheme for the following dwellings? 1 Bed, 2 Bed, 3 Bed, 4 Bed and how many applicants were housed in these same categories of dwelling in 2017, 2016, 2015, and 2014 through choice based letting?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council introduced the Choice Based Letting (CBL) scheme in October 2011, the first allocation under the scheme being on 8th November 2011.  To date 550 allocations have been made under CBL.  The average time on the Council's housing waiting list for those successful CBL applicants is shown below by accommodation size:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SIZE OF DWELLING** | **AVERAGE YEARS ON LIST**  |
| 1 Bedroom | 9 |
| 2 Bedroom | 7 |
| 3 Bedroom | 8 |
| 4 Bedroom | 10 |

The table below shows allocations through the CBL scheme annually since 2014 to 30/09/2017

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **YEAR** | **1 BEDROOM** | **2 BEDROOM** | **3 BEDROOM** | **4 BEDROOM** | TOTALS |
| 2014 | 5 | 41 | 19 | 1 | 66 |
| 2015 | 1 | 41 | 19 | 0 | 61 |
| 2016 | 9 | 51 | 33 | 2 | 95 |
| 2017 to 30/09/2017 | 8 | 26 | 24 | 1 | 59 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

### **Q24/1017 DEFFINITION OF VILLAGE**

###  **QUESTION:** **Councillor M. Ward**

How is a village defined in South Dublin County Council and what is the process for an area to become a village?

**REPLY:**

In the County Development Plan, there is a specific Village Centre Zoning which defines the extent of Villages for Planning and Development Purposes (e.g. Clondalkin, Saggart, Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Lucan, Palmerstown and Newcastle etc.).  This Zoning is based on certain factors such as the County Retail and Settlement Hierarchy as informed by the National Spatial Strategy.

### **H10/1017 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

It was **NOTED** that there were no report under this Heading.

### **H11a/1017 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES - PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF THE FEE SIMPLE IN 32 PALMER PARK, BALLYBODEN, DUBLIN 16**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

 “The following have applied, in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rent) (No 2) Act, to acquire the fee simple in the property

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ADDRESS | LESSEE(S) | PURCHASE PRICE |
| 32 Palmer Park, Ballyboden, Dublin 16 | James Brennan & Elizabeth Brennan | €43.24 |

 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 in the site listed above.

 **Daniel McLoughlin**

 **Chief Executive”**

The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor D. Looney and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed Disposal of the Fee Simple in 32 Palmer Park, Ballyboden, Dublin 16, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

**H11b/1017 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES /SITES - PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF THE FEE SIMPLE IN 86 LIMEKILN GREEN, WALKINSTOWN, DUBLIN 12 (FORMALLY KNOWN AS 232 LIMEKILN FARM, WALKINSTOWN, DUBLIN 12)**

###  The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

 **“**The following have applied, in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rent) (No 2) Act, to acquire the fee simple in the property

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ADDRESS | LESSEE(S) | PURCHASE PRICE |
| 86 Limekiln Green, Walkinstown, Dublin 12 (formally known as 232 Limekiln Farm, Walkinstown, Dublin 12) | Eamonn & Anne Traynor | €208.37 |

 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 in the site listed above.

 **Daniel McLoughlin**

 **Chief Executive”**

The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed Disposal of the Fee Simple in 86 Limekiln Green, Walkinstown, Dublin 12 (formally known as 232 Limekiln Farm, Walkinstown, Dublin 12), be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **H12/1017 MANAGEMENT REPORT**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

### **[Strategy Report](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2017/October/October2017CountyCouncilMeeting/e1d79a9e-a53d-4607-8c1b-dd87617dfbaa.pdf)**

### [**Statistics Report**](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2017/October/October2017CountyCouncilMeeting/46049dbe-d88e-47e0-98f3-14d20add7d94.pdf)

### **Finance Report**

 **Billing and Collection Statement**





 **Use of overdraft facility**

 Approved overdraft facility = €25,000,000

 No of days in Overdraft from 1st January to 22nd Sept 2017 = 0

 The Reports were **NOTED.**

### **H13/1017 PART 8 MOUNT CARMEL PARK, DODDER VALLEY**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change and were **CONSIDERED:**

### “The part 8 proposes to develop and enhance a section of the existing parkland at Mt. Carmel Park, Dodder Valley, Firhouse, by the provision of the following recreation and amenity facilities:

* A 400m Eight-Lane Grass Running Track
* A 100 x 60m Grass Soccer Pitch
* A BMX track
* Proposed shared changing room / club house facilities
* Extension of the existing pathway system
* A signed nature trail: The Ogham Tree Nature Trail
* All ancillary works

 A meeting prior to commencement of Part 8 took place on the Tuesday 13th June 2017 with the Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Terenure Committee Members.

 The proposal has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and an Ecological impact Assessment.

 Plans and particulars of the proposed scheme were on display from Thursday the 6th July 2017 to Monday 21st August 2017 and could be viewed on the Council’s Public Consultation Portal website [**http://consult.sdublincoco.ie**](http://consult.sdublincoco.ie/)

 Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development will be situated were made in writing up to 4.30 pm on Friday 29th September 2017 and were be submitted either via online submissions: [**http://consult.sdublincoco.ie**](http://consult.sdublincoco.ie/) or by post.

 A total of 14 submissions were received by 4.30pm on Friday 29th September 2017.

 The attached CE report summarises the submissions, responses and recommendation. The provision of a large play space in Dodder Valley Park is agreed in principle. Due to the scale of the proposed play space and the ecological constraints within Dodder Valley it is proposed to progress this play space as a separate Part 8 process.

 Following consideration of the submissions the Chief Executive is of the view that the issues raised by way of the submissions can be satisfactorily addressed as contained within the Chief Executive's report during the detailed design stage and as outlined in the attached report. **It is recommended that, as the proposal is in conformity with proper planning and sustainable development, that the Council proceed with the Part 8 proposal as proposed at Mt. Carmel Park, Dodder Valley, Firhouse.”**

  [**Report on Part 8 Mount Carmel Park Dodder Valley**](file:///F%3A%5CMEETINGS%5CCOUNCIL%5CMINUTES%5C2017%5C9.%20October%202017%5CFull%20October%202017%20County%20Council%20Meeting%20Minutes%20pages.docx)

### A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. Looney, P. Kearns, D. O’Donovan, P. Donovan, M. Duff, P. Foley and B. Ferron.

### Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change and Ms. S. Furlong Senior Parks Superintendent responded to the Members queries.

The Reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED:**

“That the **Part 8** Mount Carmel Park, Dodder Valley be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H14/1017 EXTENSION OF NEWCASTLE LOCAL AREA PLAN**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. L. Leonard, A/Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation and were **CONSIDERED:**

“Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 introduced a new provision that amended Section 19 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, whereby a Planning Authority may extend the life of an existing Local Area Plan (LAP), which is normally 6 years, for a further 4 years (i.e. up to a total of 10 years from adoption). This is dependent on the Planning Authority resolving to extend the life of the LAP within 5 years of its original adoption date (November 12th 2012).

  The Newcastle LAP was adopted by the Elected Representatives of South Dublin County Council in November 2012. It will remain in force for 6 years from its adoption until 2018. The procedure introduced under Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 gives the Council the option to extend the Newcastle LAP for a further period of five years until 2022.

  As required by the legislation, the accompanying report provides detail supporting the opinion of the Chief Executive that:

 1) The Local Area Plan remains consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the relevant Development Plan i.e. the South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022;

 2) The objectives of the Local Area Plan have not been substantially secured; and

 3) Confirmation that the sending and publishing of the notice under section 20(3)(a)(i) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 - 2016 i.e. notices for making, amending or revoking Local Area Plans, may be deferred and the period for which they may be deferred.

 Accordingly, it is recommended that:

 i)  the sending and publishing of the notices be deferred for a further period not exceeding 5 years from November 2017; and

 ii) that the Council approve the procedure to defer the sending of a notice under section 20(3)(a)(i) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 -2016 (i.e. notices for making, amending or revoking the Local Area Plans , in accordance with Section 19(1)(d) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2016 for the Newcastle Local Area Plan).

 As a result the life of the Newcastle LAP will be extended for period of five years until 2022.

 The following resolution is therefore recommended:

 *"That this Council approve the procedure to defer the sending of a notice under section 20(3)(a)(i) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 - 2016 i.e. notices for making, amending or revoking the Local Area Plans, in accordance with Section 19(1)(d) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2016 for the Newcastle Local Area Plan for a further period of 5 years”*

###  [CE Report Newcastle Local Area Plan Extension](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=57059)

### A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. Higgins and T. Gilligan.

### The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. Higgins, seconded by Councillor T. Gilligan and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Extension of Newcastle Local Area Plan be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H15/1017 APPROVAL OF PART 8 DODDER GREENWAY**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. L. Leonard, A/Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation and Ms. S. Furlong, Senior Parks Superintendent and were **CONSIDERED:**

 “The Part 8 as outlined proposes to develop a Dodder Greenway route scheme within South Dublin County including proposed bridges at Orwell Park and Bushy Park, a portion of which are in Dublin City Council lands. The proposed Greenway will be subject to a landscape plan, signage plan and ecological and environmental enhancements for the proposed greenway route. All ancillary works are included in the proposals.

 An Ecological Impact Assessment Report has been prepared in respect of the proposed works. The proposed Scheme has undergone Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and a determination has been made that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment will not be required. The proposed Scheme has undergone Environmental Impact Assessment Screening under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU and a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Assessment will not be required.

 The Part 8 proposals were presented at a meeting with locally elected members prior to commencement of Part 8 with a presentation to the Dublin City South East Area Committee Meeting (ACM), City Hall on the 12th June 2017 and to the Rathfarnham, Terenure, Templeogue Area Committee Members and Tallaght Area Committee members on the 13th June 2017.

 The proposed development and accompanying Appropriate Assessment report were placed on public display for the statutory period from Thursday 22nd of June to Friday 18th of August 2017.

 The closing date for receipt of written submissions was up to 4.00pm on Friday the 18th of August 2017 and were to be addressed in writing to: Senior Executive Officer, Forward Planning Section, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 or via South Dublin’s on-line consultation portal: [**http://consult.sdublincoco.ie**](http://consult.sdublincoco.ie/)

 Copies of the plans and particulars of the proposed scheme proposed scheme were available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy from Thursday 22nd of June to Friday 18th of August.

 Submissions and observations on the Part 8 Proposed Dodder Greenway Route could be made online and in writing to the addresses below between Thursday 22nd of June to Friday 18th of August inclusive (excluding Public Holidays) as follows;

* Online: at [**https://consult.sdublincoco.ie**](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/)
* By Post: In writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Forward Planning Section, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

 A total of 49 submissions were received by the closing date for public consultation.

 The attached CE report summarises the submissions, responses and recommendation.

 Following consideration of the submissions the Chief Executive is of the view that the issues raised by way of the submissions can be satisfactorily addressed as outlined in the foregoing report.

  **Amongst the other recommendations the following is included in the report in relation to Orwell Bridge:**

 “As part of the detailed design stage the Orwell Bridge will be subject to further liaison with both Councils Architectural Conservation Officers for comment and agreement prior to final design to ensure that the overall design, materials and finishes take cognisance of the adjacent protected structure ensuring that the overall visual effect of the bridge at this location is kept to a minimum and this can be achieved by good overall design and use of appropriate materials. The council agrees to further consult with relevant stakeholders prior to completion of the final design.”

 **In relation to the Dodder Valley Cherryfield area the Council notes the following:**

 In relation to Dodder Valley Cherryfield area and the accommodation of the existing dog walkers within that locality; the council is cognisant of the positive use of the parkland by many dog owners in this vicinity and view the use of parkland by responsible dog owners as a very welcome and necessary component of any park. Dog walkers tend to be very regular and frequent visitors and provide welcome activity and create a sense of community in a park. Concerns were raised by many of the current users of the park who walk their dogs in this area that the Greenway would be incompatible with their current use of the park. The Dodder Greenway will be a universally accessible route. It is designed as a shared pedestrian / cyclist environment and will not be designed as a route for high speed cyclists. The Greenway will facilitate shared use by pedestrians and cyclists and users of all ages and abilities in a pedestrian priority environment.

 Just to note the following definition of a Greenway:

 “Greenways are communication routes reserved exclusively for non-motorised journeys, developed in an integrated manner which enhances both the environment and quality of life of the surrounding area. These routes should meet satisfactory standards of width, gradient and surface condition to ensure that they are both user-friendly and low-risk for users of all abilities.

 (Lille Declaration, European Greenways Association, 12th September 2000).”

 Many of the submissions referred to above requested the inclusion of an approved dogs off leash walking facility**.** The Council has investigated this request and has identified a significantly sized space within the Cherryfield area that could be utilised for this purpose and have included the consideration of same (subject to ecological assessment) within the Part 8 report.

 The recent suggestion (outside of the submission process) to rail off a significant portion of the greenway from the surrounding parkland would be a significant departure from the Part 8 greenway proposal that was presented within the public consultation process. This suggestion would not be in keeping with the above definition of the greenway and in connecting the route to the parkland and vice versa. This would rail off the Greenway from its surroundings and make people entering into one end of a railed Greenway feel vulnerable to being trapped. This portion of the Dodder Valley also contains a number of protected species and there would be a concern that the proposed extensive section of fencing on both sides of the footpath through the Dodder Valley would divide the parkland in half and would limit their access to foraging or nesting ground. This would have an impact on their numbers and impinge on the ecological corridors / trails that currently exist. Fencing off the Greenway would also be a significant expense, the fence would look unattractive in the parkland, would be uninviting to users and would by necessity limit access on and off it to designated (presumably gated) entrance points. The greenway is proposed to be in parkland as much as possible; and one of the main features of the greenway would be to allow people access to the parkland it will go through.

 The detailed design stage will further examine ways to mitigate against excessive speeds by cyclists and will examine the use of such initiatives such as pedestrian and cycle counters and speed monitors at critical locations. Should the greenway be subject to excessive cycle commuting pressures the provision of additional alternative routes will be considered. It should be noted that within South Dublin County Council there has been a programme of cycle network delivery, which has delivered cycle routes over a number of years. This programme is ongoing and primarily aimed at facilitating commuters and other cyclists. The Greenway may accommodate commuting in a low speed, park land environment but will be designed to ensure it will not be dominated by it.

 It should be noted that with the increase in infill housing and new development within the county generally there is a need for recreational facilities to accommodate the recreational requirements of our growing population and ensure activity is incorporated as much as possible into our increasingly sedentary lifestyles. The recent number of Part 8s for the Dodder Valley alone highlight this need. There are already a number of existing facilities (sports pitches and currently an athletics track) within the Cherryfield section of Dodder Valley and it is hoped that other facilities can be developed in the coming years, subject to funding and ecological evaluation. Cycling is already permitted within this parkland and it is appropriate that it be facilitated in as safe a manner as possible for all visitors to the park. It is highly unlikely that this area can be preserved for a single activity and reasonable accommodation of a variety of recreational activities would seem to be reasonable in this regard. The provision of a large scale off-leash dog area (subject to ecological assessment) as recommended in the Part 8 report would seem to be an appropriate compromise. The detailed design stage will ensure cycling occurs at a low speed through this area and the council will ensure that the area is appropriately signed, warning cyclists of the likelihood of dog walkers in the area and dog walkers of the presence of cyclists, and requesting all visitors to be respectful and mindful of other users of the park. It should be noted that the provision of lighting which is proposed along with the Greenway Part 8 proposals will provide a lit path for dog walkers and will allow them to extend their current hours of walking in the park; similarly the proposed CCTV. And both these proposals have been welcomed by many of the existing Cherryfield dog walkers who made submissions to the Part 8 process.

 **It is recommended that, as the proposal is consistent with and promotes proper planning and sustainable development, that the Council proceed with the Part 8 proposal, for a Dodder Greenway route scheme within South Dublin County including proposed bridges at Orwell Park and Bushy Park, a portion of which are in Dublin City Council lands.**

[**Part 8 Dodder Greenway**](http://intranet/cmas/documents/County%20Council/2017/October/October2017CountyCouncilMeeting/13a3a22e-4584-46e3-a473-4c614f835b12.docx)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. O’Donovan, F. Duffy, M. Murphy, D. Looney, E. Murphy, P. Foley, M. Duff, P. Kearns, P. Donovan, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor and P. Gogarty.

Ms. S. Furlong, Senior Parks Superintendent responded to the Members queries.

The Mayor Councillor P. Gogarty then called for a roll call vote on the Item the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 30 (THIRTY)**

Councillors V. Casserly, P. Donovan, M. Duff, F. Duffy, L. Dunne, K. Egan, B. Ferron, P. Foley, M. Genockey, P. Gogarty, J. Graham, E. Hendrick, E. Higgins, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, B. Lawlor, B. Leech, D. Looney, C. Mc Cann, E. Murphy, M. Murphy, D. O’Brien, E. O’Brien, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, D. Richardson, R. Russell, F. Timmons and M. Ward.

**AGAINST: 1 (ONE)**

Councillor D. O’Donovan.

**ABSTAINED: 1 (ONE)**

Councillor L. O’Toole.

The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy and **RESOLVED:**

“That the **Part 8** Dodder Greenway be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H16/1017 OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION 2018**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance and were **CONSIDERED:**

 “In accordance with [**Sections 106 (7) and 106 (3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2001/en/act/pub/0037/sec0108.html#partxii-chapi-sec108) borrowing is a reserved function which requires the approval of the local authority and the appropriate Minister.

 The Council currently has an approved overdraft facility of €25M in order to provide for temporary cash flow timing differences. The overdraft facility has not been drawn upon to date in 2017. It is considered prudent to renew the overdraft accommodation of €25M for the period 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018.   Costs associated with the overdraft are limited to interest charges if the facility is used as the bank does not charge for the overdraft facility.

 Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, the securing of an overdraft accommodation (to a maximum limit of) €25m for the period 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018.”

It was proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty and Seconded by Councillor E. Higgins and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Authorisation of Overdraft Accommodation 2018 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

### **H17/1017 INTERIM REPORT ON COMMERCIAL VACANCY IN THE COUNTY**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were **CONSIDERED:**

 During 2017, The Economic Development unit in conjunction with the Sustainable Business Programme office of the South Dublin Chamber undertook a review of the vacancy levels in a number of Industrial Estates in South Dublin County. The objectives were to:

1. Investigate vacancy rates and potential reasons for same;
2. Create broader engagement opportunities with business owners;
3. Promote the Business Support Funds available to business owners/ occupiers.

 The approach taken was to conduct field research in each Industrial estate to obtain quantitative data on vacancy rates and qualitative data inferring the potential reasons for the vacancy levels and levels of disrepair.

 In areas of Cookstown and Ballymount, a significant period of desk research was also conducted to determine ownership and vacancy status of the individual sites in selected areas. This facilitated contact with vacant site owners to understand the challenges to occupancy and make them aware of the Business Support Fund measures available to help them.

 Vacancy rates were varied across the industrial estates but a summary of the research identified the following:

* Avonbeg: Aging estate with limited signs of recent investment. **Vacancy rate of 25%**
* Cookstown**:** Major issues relating to both the condition of the area and parking issues. Also significantly affected by the existing and perceived potential development plan changes to the area. **Vacancy rate 39%**
* Ballymount Drive: Poor visual appearance, littered and overgrown. **Vacancy rate 27%**
* Ballymount (Swanwar): Small estate, with very limited activity and up to **80% vacancy rate**
* Ballymount (other areas): Inconsistencies across this estate with some areas in good repair but **vacancy rates up to 34%**
* JFK Industrial Estate: Major issues with road disrepair, parking and fencing / overall appearance. **Vacancy rate at approximately 23%.**

 One of the issues raised by the surveyors of industrial areas was that there appeared to be considerable differences between the desktop data held by the local authority in terms of unit vacancy compared with visual evidence of what may have been casual short-term occupancy.

 Following engagement with owners across these areas the following were among the key reasons identified for vacancy:

* Awaiting planning / re-zoning developments and/or strategic vacancy to await optimum sales opportunities(noting that there is no disincentive to continued vacancy in this context);
* No apparent market demand for units for sale/letting;
* Obsolescence of unit types due to the changing nature of industry and in comparison with newer and/or more attractive industrial areas in the County;
* Prohibitive cost of re-development or re-let works to units (including possible lack of resources to fund same)
* Lack of investment in maintenance and/or upgrade works to premises during economic downturn resulting in poor current condition of premises;
* Overall unattractiveness of industrial areas due to general condition because of vacant units and lack of public realm maintenance works;
* Apparent ownership issues;

 Thebenefits of increased occupancy to the local economy is obvious and in this regard it is important to understand any potential strategic intent or unwillingness and indeed inability of owners to proactively strive to lease or sell premises. Strategic vacancy positions may be adopted in order not to compromise perceived opportunities to benefit from potential planning and development changes or sales premiums in the medium term. While it should not be assumed that this practice is widespread the motivation to do all that is necessary to sell or let vacant units is not necessarily assisted by the straightforward and practically guaranteed assurance of a full refund of commercial rates on vacancy grounds. Adjusting the level of commercial rates refund from 100% in certain circumstances may have the effect of changing the mind-set of owners of vacant industrial units towards greater efforts aimed at increasing occupancy.

 It should also be noted that there has been some activity regarding the purchase of vacant sites in areas previously zoned for Regeneration and proposals and/or planning applications are awaited for these areas which may also inform further actions that may be necessary to address vacancy.

 In addition, the need for incentives both for owners to undertake the necessary improvement works (external and internal) and for potential occupiers to take up occupancy of previously vacant units in certain areas was highlighted as a possible means to stimulate activity. The Business Support Fund in its current form has targeted supports in relation to vacant units for microenterprises only with limited success but broadening the scope of these supports to vacant units in specific areas may provide a stimulus for reducing vacancy levels.

 The public realm issues identified across many of the areas surveyed may be relatively straightforward to address through a targeted programme of works in conjunction with business owners and management companies. However, previous experience has shown limited willingness by owners to engage even with the incentive of Area Improvement Scheme supports with direct financial contribution from the Council. Therefore, a process of direct engagement with owners and representatives will also be undertaken to build on the relationships developed through the vacancy study in order to encourage owners to contribute towards public realm works.

 While the reasons for vacancy are quite varied it is considered that a combination of the following recommendations will help to address the vacancy issues identified:

* Changes to the vacancy refund to tackle strategic vacancy;
* Increased promotion of the Business Support Fund including through direct engagement with owners in industrial areas to explore opportunities for shared initiatives for area improvement (including designating specific areas for redevelopment funding as sample projects);
* Encourage increased occupancy in areas with high vacancy levels through an introductory rates support mechanism (similar to that in the Business Support Fund for microenterprise but for a wider business base).
* Expansion of the Business Support Fund to assist redevelopment works for units other than microenterprise units.
* Addressing various public realm, maintenance and appearance issues including:
* Possible further road improvement works (similar to previous works done under Business Support Fund in Cookstown and JFK Industrial estates)
* Improved parking measures;
* New planting and maintenance of green areas;
* Remediation of dumping / litter and improved measures to address these issues;
* Redevelopment, cleaning and improvement of common areas;
* Fixing or in some cases renewing of boundary walls, railings and fencing;

Improving signage in industrial estates and areas.

 A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. Looney and O’Connell.

The Report was **NOTED.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Co.1/1017** Letter dated 19th September 2017 from Offaly County Council regarding the Social Housing Programme

### **Co.2/1017** Letter dated 29th September 2017 from Leitrim County Council regarding Japanese Knotweed

### **Co.3/1017** Letter dated 5th October from Limerick City and County Council regarding upkeep of all our rivers and streams.

**Motions for discussion**

In accordance with **Standing Order No.** **13** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to vary the sequence of business and to take **M1, M3, and M10 & M12** (of similar subject matter) in tandem.

**Mayors Business**

### **M1/1017 PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor.**

“That the Council calls on the Chief Executive to report on the measures taken and planned by this Council to ensure the participation and engagement by people with disabilities and their representatives in local decision making structures and mechanisms, with a view to budgeting and planning for 2018 and beyond for the Council to advance implementation of the UN CRPD; and further more to outline areas where engagement by this Council with other public bodies is improving participation for people with disabilities.”

**REPORT:**

There are 50 articles in the UN CRPD which deal with a diverse range of issues most of which relate in varying degrees to the role and remit of a local authority. Four articles which have particular significance for the Council are:

Article 9 – Accessibility

Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community

Article 21 – Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

Article 30 – Participation in Cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport

South Dublin County Council has been committed to access and equality since the Council was established in 1995 and in 2013 the main County Town Tallaght was awarded an EU Access City Award Special Mention for the accessibility of its facilities and services**.** The Council is also committed to meeting its responsibilities under the Disability Act 2005, particularly section 26 (access to facilities and services), section 27 (procurement of accessible goods and services) and section 28 (access to information and communication), and appointed a Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer in 2006 to provide support and guidance in this area. Evidence of the Council’s deep commitment to access and inclusion for disabled people includes establishment of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel, the innovative Jobot’s Access All Areas accessibility game, online video access guides to Council facilities including County Hall and South Dublin Libraries, and delivery of a significant programme of access works across the County.

The following are examples of the current situation in relation to matters which the Council has direct responsibility for under the four UN CRPD Articles listed above:

The Councils Land Use, Planning and Transportation Directorate is responsible for enforcement actions promoting responsible road and street use and parking. These include implementation of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), the issue of T2 licences, liaison and working in co-operation with An Garda Síochána particularly in relation to vehicles for sale on public footpaths and resolving illegal use of public paths such as the placing of furniture (for example tables and chairs), advertising and items for sale on pavements. The directorate also manage an ongoing programme of footpath repair and path dishing to provide safe and accessible pedestrian routes for all and has delivered an extensive programme of access works over the past 10 years across the County.

Over 150 public accessible parking spaces are provided by the Council across the County. There are also over 15 spaces provided for specific disabled or mobility impaired residents.

Other actions also taken to promote environmental accessibility and safety for disabled people and those with mobility or visual impairments include participation in the National Accessibility Week Park Right campaigns and circulation of relevant awareness raising posters and video.

The South Dublin County Housing and Disability Steering Group is chaired by South Dublin County Council’s Director of Housing, Social and Community Development and includes representatives from the Health Service Executive, Cheeverstown House, Cheshire Ireland, Circle, Cluid, the Irish Deaf Society, Peamount Healthcare, St. John of God and Stewarts Care. The Strategic Plan for Housing and Disability in South Dublin County Council was adopted in May 2015. The Plan outlines the objectives of the Housing Department in South Dublin for providing housing for disabled people, and provides information on how the Council aims and objectives will be delivered over the coming years.

The Housing Department works very closely with all the Disability Groups in South Dublin County Council Administrative area and are continuing to house people from congregated settings.

In addition, a one off provision of €1,000,000 was provided by South Dublin County Council to make substantial inroads into the backlog of Disabled Persons Grants (DPG) extension and improvement works required to council properties, in cases which have already been medically assessed.  227 Disabled Persons Grants were completed so far in 2017.

South Dublin County Council is committed to the provision of accessible Information Communication Technology, including the development of our website to WCAG double AA standard. The Council is also committed to being a literacy friendly local authority.

Braille and tactile way finding signage has been installed across the County including in County Hall, Civic Offices Clondalkin, South Dublin Libraries and community facilities such as Tallaght Stadium and the community centres. Audio Frequency Induction Loops (AFILs) for those who are hard of hearing have been installed at most of our customer service points and the Irish Remote Interpretation Service is available in County Hall and Civic Offices Clondalkin.

South Dublin Libraries are community spaces where people come to read, relax, learn and search the broad range of human knowledge stored in books and in online resources. Our libraries are accessible and there is a wide range of assistive technologies available across the network including adapted keyboards, software such as Kurtzweil and text magnifiers. Detailed access guides for each library are available from the South Dublin Libraries website.

A significant range of access for disabled people (both as spectators or participants) is provided across the County in venues such as Rua Red County Arts Centre, Civic Theatre Tallaght, Tallaght Stadium, Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres and within our parks. For example:

* Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park: The municipal award winning Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park is an excellent example of tourism for all, and universal access.
* The new playgrounds in Griffeen Valley Park and Tymon Park have a range of equipment and play opportunities suitable for children of all abilities
* Clondalkin Round Tower Visitor Centre: Although the actual Round Tower is not accessible, a high level of access is provided within the Visitor Centre and gardens. Disabled visitors’ mobility and sensory access needs are met through interactive multimedia exhibits, tactile exhibits, ramps, accessible toilets, literacy friendly text, AFILs for people who are hard of hearing and the use of highly scented plants for a sensory experience in the gardens.
* Lucan Weir is accessible by ramp and has an accessible tow path. Grand Canal Way is also accessible by ramps and has an accessible tow path which includes accessible places for fishing.

Providing and maintaining accessibility is an ongoing responsibility. Significant progress has been made across the County. Actions such as implementation of the Strategic Plan for Housing and Disability in South Dublin County, path dishing, provision of signalled pedestrian crossings, providing accessible and literacy friendly information, maintaining current accessibility such as footpath repair and monitoring the use of accessible parking are ongoing. However, additional areas that require attention include:

* Providing autism friendly facilities and services;
* Increasing the range of accessible leisure options available to disabled people across the County; and
* Improving access to our rich heritage and natural environment such as exploring innovative ways to provide access to trails in the Dublin Mountains.

**Listening to the Lived Experience of Disabled People**

South Dublin County Council has a strong track record of successful collaborative working. Two examples of this in relation to improving participation for disabled people are the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel which was established in 2010 and participation in the annual National Accessibility Week.

Areas where further engagement of this Council with other public bodies would improve participation for disabled people include participation in ‘Operation Enable’ and the ‘Make Way Day’ campaigns. ‘Operation Enable’ was initiated by the Irish Wheelchair Association in collaboration with An Garda Síochána and Dublin City Council. This campaign focusses on promoting responsible parking and the appropriate and legal use of the EU Disabled Persons Parking Card. The ‘Make Way Day’ campaign has been initiated by the Disability Federation of Ireland. It involves disabled people putting stickers on cars, bins and sandwich boards that are barriers to them as pedestrians. The campaign is to educate the public on the obstacles faced by disabled people. It’s to encourage people to think about where they park, where they put their bins, cutting their hedges and so on.

Promoting the Business Case for Accessibility with members of the South Dublin Chamber and people accessing the LEO service would also improve participation for disabled people. If retailers can understand the business sense of providing accessible facilities and services this in turn creates more opportunities for disabled people to participate in their community.

Measures taken, and / or planned, by this Council to make sure that the participation and engagement by disabled people and their representatives continues in local decision making structures and mechanisms include:

* Continued facilitation and support of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative (SDCDACP) Panel;
* Through the structures of the Public Participation Network;
* Making sure that the Councils Consultation Portal is accessible to people who use assistive technology;
* Making sure that disabled people’s access and support needs are considered in the planning of consultation events. This includes Irish Sign Language Interpretation and Audio Description;
* Using plain English in all our information provision.

**Budgeting and planning for 2018 and beyond**

In addition to including provisions within the Council budget to continue meeting our responsibilities under the Disability Act 2005 and providing inclusive access to our facilities and services for all the people of the County; the following actions would enhance the Council’s ability implement the UN CRPD ahead of, and after its ratification which the Council will continue to develop:

* Implementation of County Housing and Disability Strategy;
* Invest in initiatives to improve access to the natural environment such as the Dublin Mountains;
* Improve access as an integrated part of implementation of the County Tourism Strategy;
* Further improve accessible communications, information provision and events management;
* Access proofing planned improvements of mainstream works programmes.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **M3/1017 ACCESSIBLE BENCH**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors V. Casserly and seconded by Councillor M. Duff.**

To call on the Chief Executive to install an accessible bench (as per illustration attached) in the Counties Parks as part of ongoing regeneration and ensuring our Parks are accessible for all.

**REPORT:**

A wheelchair accessible picnic bench has been installed in the area adjacent to the Pet Farm located in Corkagh Park.  The design of this bench is based on a proposal submitted to the Clondalkin Area Committee in June of this year.  There are also picnic areas in Tymon Park and Griffeen Valley Park, accessible benches will be installed in these parks too.

The Report was **AGREED.**

### **M10/1017 UN (CRPD)**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors C. O'Connor and seconded by Councillor P. Gogarty.**

“That  South Dublin County Council supports the campaign by the Disability Federation of Ireland in respect of The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and calls on the Chief Executive to report on the measures taken and planned by this Council to ensure the participation and engagement by people with disabilities and their representatives in local decision making structures and mechanisms, with a view to budgeting and planning for 2018 and beyond for the Council to advance implementation of the UN CRPD; and further more to outline areas where engagement by this Council with other public bodies is improving participation for people with disabilities.”

**REPORT:**

There are 50 articles in the UN CRPD which deal with a diverse range of issues most of which relate in varying degrees to the role and remit of a local authority. Four articles which have particular significance for the Council are:

Article 9 – Accessibility

Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community

Article 21 – Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

Article 30 – Participation in Cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport

South Dublin County Council has been committed to access and equality since the Council was established in 1995 and in 2013 the main County Town Tallaght was awarded an EU Access City Award Special Mention for the accessibility of its facilities and services**.** The Council is also committed to meeting its responsibilities under the Disability Act 2005, particularly section 26 (access to facilities and services), section 27 (procurement of accessible goods and services) and section 28 (access to information and communication), and appointed a Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer in 2006 to provide support and guidance in this area. Evidence of the Council’s deep commitment to access and inclusion for disabled people includes establishment of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel, the innovative Jobot’s Access All Areas accessibility game, online video access guides to Council facilities including County Hall and South Dublin Libraries, and delivery of a significant programme of access works across the County.

The following are examples of the current situation in relation to matters which the Council has direct responsibility for under the four UN CRPD Articles listed above:

The Councils Land Use, Planning and Transportation Directorate is responsible for enforcement actions promoting responsible road and street use and parking. These include implementation of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), the issue of T2 licences, liaison and working in co-operation with An Garda Síochána particularly in relation to vehicles for sale on public footpaths and resolving illegal use of public paths such as the placing of furniture (for example tables and chairs), advertising and items for sale on pavements. The directorate also manage an ongoing programme of footpath repair and path dishing to provide safe and accessible pedestrian routes for all and has delivered an extensive programme of access works over the past 10 years across the County.

Over 150 public accessible parking spaces are provided by the Council across the County. There are also over 15 spaces provided for specific disabled or mobility impaired residents.

Other actions also taken to promote environmental accessibility and safety for disabled people and those with mobility or visual impairments include participation in the National Accessibility Week Park Right campaigns and circulation of relevant awareness raising posters and video.

The South Dublin County Housing and Disability Steering Group is chaired by South Dublin County Council’s Director of Housing, Social and Community Development and includes representatives from the Health Service Executive, Cheeverstown House, Cheshire Ireland, Circle, Cluid, the Irish Deaf Society, Peamount Healthcare, St. John of God and Stewarts Care. The Strategic Plan for Housing and Disability in South Dublin County Council was adopted in May 2015. The Plan outlines the objectives of the Housing Department in South Dublin for providing housing for disabled people, and provides information on how the Council aims and objectives will be delivered over the coming years.

The Housing Department works very closely with all the Disability Groups in South Dublin County Council Administrative area and are continuing to house people from congregated settings.

In addition, a one off provision of €1,000,000 was provided by South Dublin County Council to make substantial inroads into the backlog of Disabled Persons Grants (DPG) extension and improvement works required to council properties, in cases which have already been medically assessed.  227 Disabled Persons Grants were completed so far in 2017.

South Dublin County Council is committed to the provision of accessible Information Communication Technology, including the development of our website to WCAG double AA standard. The Council is also committed to being a literacy friendly local authority.

Braille and tactile way finding signage has been installed across the County including in County Hall, Civic Offices Clondalkin, South Dublin Libraries and community facilities such as Tallaght Stadium and the community centres. Audio Frequency Induction Loops (AFILs) for those who are hard of hearing have been installed at most of our customer service points and the Irish Remote Interpretation Service is available in County Hall and Civic Offices Clondalkin.

South Dublin Libraries are community spaces where people come to read, relax, learn and search the broad range of human knowledge stored in books and in online resources. Our libraries are accessible and there is a wide range of assistive technologies available across the network including adapted keyboards, software such as Kurtzweil and text magnifiers. Detailed access guides for each library are available from the South Dublin Libraries website.

A significant range of access for disabled people (both as spectators or participants) is provided across the County in venues such as Rua Red County Arts Centre, Civic Theatre Tallaght, Tallaght Stadium, Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres and within our parks. For example:

* Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park: The municipal award winning Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park is an excellent example of tourism for all, and universal access.
* The new playgrounds in Griffeen Valley Park and Tymon Park have a range of equipment and play opportunities suitable for children of all abilities
* Clondalkin Round Tower Visitor Centre: Although the actual Round Tower is not accessible, a high level of access is provided within the Visitor Centre and gardens. Disabled visitors’ mobility and sensory access needs are met through interactive multimedia exhibits, tactile exhibits, ramps, accessible toilets, literacy friendly text, AFILs for people who are hard of hearing and the use of highly scented plants for a sensory experience in the gardens.
* Lucan Weir is accessible by ramp and has an accessible tow path. Grand Canal Way is also accessible by ramps and has an accessible tow path which includes accessible places for fishing.

Providing and maintaining accessibility is an ongoing responsibility. Significant progress has been made across the County. Actions such as implementation of the Strategic Plan for Housing and Disability in South Dublin County, path dishing, provision of signalled pedestrian crossings, providing accessible and literacy friendly information, maintaining current accessibility such as footpath repair and monitoring the use of accessible parking are ongoing. However, additional areas that require attention include:

* Providing autism friendly facilities and services;
* Increasing the range of accessible leisure options available to disabled people across the County; and
* Improving access to our rich heritage and natural environment such as exploring innovative ways to provide access to trails in the Dublin Mountains.

**Listening to the Lived Experience of Disabled People**

South Dublin County Council has a strong track record of successful collaborative working. Two examples of this in relation to improving participation for disabled people are the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel which was established in 2010 and participation in the annual National Accessibility Week.

Areas where further engagement of this Council with other public bodies would improve participation for disabled people include participation in ‘Operation Enable’ and the ‘Make Way Day’ campaigns. ‘Operation Enable’ was initiated by the Irish Wheelchair Association in collaboration with An Garda Síochána and Dublin City Council. This campaign focusses on promoting responsible parking and the appropriate and legal use of the EU Disabled Persons Parking Card. The ‘Make Way Day’ campaign has been initiated by the Disability Federation of Ireland. It involves disabled people putting stickers on cars, bins and sandwich boards that are barriers to them as pedestrians. The campaign is to educate the public on the obstacles faced by disabled people. It’s to encourage people to think about where they park, where they put their bins, cutting their hedges and so on.

Promoting the Business Case for Accessibility with members of the South Dublin Chamber and people accessing the LEO service would also improve participation for disabled people. If retailers can understand the business sense of providing accessible facilities and services this in turn creates more opportunities for disabled people to participate in their community.

Measures taken, and / or planned, by this Council to make sure that the participation and engagement by disabled people and their representatives continues in local decision making structures and mechanisms include:

* Continued facilitation and support of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative (SDCDACP) Panel;
* Through the structures of the Public Participation Network;
* Making sure that the Councils Consultation Portal is accessible to people who use assistive technology;
* Making sure that disabled people’s access and support needs are considered in the planning of consultation events. This includes Irish Sign Language Interpretation and Audio Description;
* Using plain English in all our information provision.

**Budgeting and planning for 2018 and beyond**

In addition to including provisions within the Council budget to continue meeting our responsibilities under the Disability Act 2005 and providing inclusive access to our facilities and services for all the people of the County; the following actions would enhance the Council’s ability implement the UN CRPD ahead of, and after its ratification which the Council will continue to develop:

* Implementation of County Housing and Disability Strategy;
* Invest in initiatives to improve access to the natural environment such as the Dublin Mountains;
* Improve access as an integrated part of implementation of the County Tourism Strategy;
* Further improve accessible communications, information provision and events management;
* Access proofing planned improvements of mainstream works programmes.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **M12/1017 MAKE WAY DAY**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors M. Duff and seconded by Councillor M. Genockey.**

“That this Council calls on the Chief Executive to take the lead in making South Dublin County a Disability Friendly County, to promote a campaign to make the public and the business community aware of the dangers caused by obstacles, such as cars parked on footpaths, bicycles chained to railings, and other thoughtlessly placed items that impede the use of our footpaths for wheelchair users or people suffering from visual impairment. To consider the roll out of a South Dublin County "My Way" campaign and to consult with all major stakeholders, including Disability Federation of Ireland and the Irish Council of the Blind regarding the possibility of holding an annual "Make Way Day" in South Dublin County. “

**REPORT:**

South Dublin County Council has been committed to the issues of access and equality since the Council was established in 1995. In 2013 the Town of Tallaght was awarded an EU Access City Award Special Mention for the accessibility of its facilities and services**.** The Council continues to provide strong commitment to these matters, for example it has introduced the innovative Jobot’s Access All Areas accessibility game, and online video access guides to key Council facilities. It has overseen facilitating the establishment of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel, and the delivery of a significant programme of access works across the County.

Illegal, thoughtless and irresponsible road and pavement use impacts negatively on all people in our community. However, it has a particularly negative impact on wheelchair users, people with mobility impairments, blind and visually impaired people and those with children in pushchairs or prams.

Such road and pavement use puts all people in danger. Often people are left with no option but to go out onto the road to get past pavement obstructions which puts both pedestrians and motorists at risk.

The Councils Land Use, Planning and Transportation Directorate is responsible for enforcement actions promoting responsible road and street use and parking. These include implementation of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS), the issue of T2 licences, liaison and working in co-operation with An Garda Síochána particularly in relation to vehicles for sale on public footpaths and resolving illegal use of public paths such as the placing furniture (for example tables and chairs), advertising and items for sale on pavements. The directorate also manage an ongoing programme of footpath repair and path dishing to provide safe and accessible pedestrian routes for all across the County.

Other actions also taken to promote environmental accessibility and safety for disabled people and those with mobility or visual impairments include participation in the National Accessibility Week Park Right campaigns and circulation of relevant awareness raising posters and video.

The South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel is participating in the “Make Way Day” initiative through use of the stickers that were issued. The Panel is a partnership between South Dublin County Council and local disabled people. Its’ remit is to advise the Council on key issues that are relevant to the lives and interests of disabled people in the County; and to have both an advisory role and a consultative role (as appropriate) to developments in the County that are led by the Council. All members have a personal or professional interest in making sure that the facilities, services and activities that the County Council deliver are designed to be accessible to the entire community. The Panel is comprised of individual disabled people who are residents of South Dublin County who are also members of, or active in various organisations such as DeafHear.ie, Lucan Disability Action Group, National Council for the Blind of Ireland, Cheeverstown House, South Dublin County Partnership Disability Interest Group, Inclusion Ireland, and Stewarts Care.

There is an incredible wealth of knowledge and personal experience within the Panel which provides an invaluable resource for the Council to draw upon. Three members of the Panel recently accompanied the Council’s Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer to a meeting of similar Access groups from the east and midlands regions. The future of the initiative formed part of the day’s discussions.

The Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) are currently considering how to move forward with the “Make Way Day” initiative. The Council’s Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer will remain in contact with DFI regarding future “Make Way Day” plans and actions and will provide further updates when a proposed plan of action has been communicated by DFI. However, it is likely that a specific annual date for “Make Way Day” will be chosen and all local authorities will be asked to observe it.

A separate but relevant campaign that was initiated by the Irish Wheelchair Association in collaboration with An Garda Síochána is ‘Operation Enable’. This campaign focusses on promoting responsible parking and the appropriate and legal use of the EU Disabled Persons Parking Card. The Councils Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer is currently collaborating with representatives from the ‘Operation Enable’ team to develop relevant events for National Accessibility Week 2017.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Gogarty, C. O’Connor, V. Casserly, M. Duff and G. O’Connell.

The Report was **NOTED.**

**Mayors Business**

**M2/1017 RIGHT TO HOUSING**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor E. O’Brien.**

“That this Council calls on the Government to enshrine the right to housing for Irish citizens into the Constitution by holding a referendum on same; and furthermore, in the context of the National Planning Framework, to strategically identify areas nationwide where sustainable, well-planned, energy self-sufficient communities can be built, with mixed tenure and an emphasis on revitalising depopulating communities including the provision of employment opportunities nearby”

**REPORT:**

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

Councillor E. O’Brien then proposed and Councillor C. O’Connor seconded an **amendment** to the Motion as follows:

“That this Council calls on the Government to (*enshrine the right to housing for Irish citizens into the Constitution by holding*) **immediately act on the recommendations contained in the Eight Report of the Constitutional Convention and on the Report of the Houses of the Óireachtas Committee on Housing and Homelessness and establish a committee of the Óireachtas to discuss and confirm a form of words to be placed before the electorate by referendum to enshrine a right of housing in Bunreacht na hEireann**; and furthermore, in the context of the National Planning Framework, to strategically identify areas nationwide where sustainable, well-planned, energy self-sufficient communities can be built, with mixed tenure and an emphasis on revitalising depopulating communities including the provision of employment opportunities nearby”

The Amendment was **AGREED.**

The Amended Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M4/1017** As Councillor R. McMahon was absent from the Chamber the Following Motion **FELL** in accordance with Standing Order no 19:

To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Valuations Office with regard to the high increase in commercial rates that the recent valuation is imposing on the inadequate number of nursing homes in our County and for them to review the rateable valuation on nursing homes as a whole for the County.

### **M5/1017 APPROVED HOUSING BODIES**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor E. Hendrick.**

“That this Council agrees that all Voluntary or Approved Housing Bodies who house tenants from the Local Authority housing list, should charge these new tenants the same rate of rent as the Local Authority, and should this Motion be passed that this Council writes to all Approved Housing Bodies operating in the South Dublin County Council to inform them of the passing of this Motion. “

**REPORT:**

This Council cannot request Approved Housing Bodies operating in South Dublin County Council charge the differential rent set by South Dublin County Council to all their tenants.  The delivery of social housing by Approved Housing Bodies is funded through a number of schemes which have different requirements and rules regarding rent.

For example:

Approved bodies providing dwellings under the terms of the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) are responsible for determining the rent amounts to be paid by qualified tenants according to a formula particular to this scheme.

The Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) Circular 15/2015 notes that as part of the appraisal process for new projects, proposals must ensure that an economic rent is in place and included within the project appraisal.  Housing associations are requested to submit details of the costs that make up the calculated rent.  The AHB must set a rent which is fair, reasonable and justifiable to the tenant and takes into account the cost to the AHB of providing the accommodation.  This is known generally as an 'economic rent' and is not a market rent or 'differential rent' which is based on total household income.

Houses delivered under the Payment and Availability (P & A) financial model for the procurement and delivery of housing units require a rent similar to the Council's Differential Rent Scheme.

Each Approved and Voluntary Housing Body have their rent schemes available to tenants and also have them available on their website.  Available houses from the various bodies are advertised on the Council Choice Based Letting System.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Johansson, C. King, B. Lawlor, M. Murphy, D. Looney, R. Nolan, B. Leech, C. O’Connor, L. Dunne, G. O’Connell, P. Kearns and P. Gogarty.

Councillor C. King then proposed and Councillor M. Johansson seconded an **amendment** to the Motion as follows:

That this Council agrees that all Voluntary or Approved Housing Bodies who house tenants from the Local Authority housing list, should charge these new tenants the same rate of rent as the Local Authority, and should this Motion be passed that this Council writes to the **Minister for Housing and** to all Approved Housing Bodies operating in the South Dublin County Council to inform them of the passing of this Motion.

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

The Mayor Councillor P. Gogarty then called for a roll call vote on the Amended Motion the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 24 (TWENTY FOUR)**

Councillors F. Duffy, L. Dunne, B. Ferron, P. Foley, P. Gogarty, J. Graham, E. Hendrick, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, B. Leech, D. Looney, C. Mc Cann, E. Murphy, M. Murphy, R. Nolan, D. O’Brien, E. O’Brien, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, L. O’Toole, D. Richardson, R. Russell and F. Timmons.

**AGAINST: 5 (FIVE)**

Councillors V. Casserly, E. Higgins, W. Lavelle, B. Lawlor and R. McMahon.

**ABSTAINED: 0 (ZERO)**

The Amended Motion **PASSED.**

### **M6/1017 PAY TO USE**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors R. Nolan and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons.**

“That this Council on a pilot basis introduces Environmental Compaction Systems such as pay to use portables, where the customer is always in control, thus helping to reduce fly tipping.”

**REPORT:**

Pay to Use waste compactors are in general provided on privately owned sites by waste operators as a joint commercial venture between landowner and operator.  These are in general provided in locations where the operators have identified a need for the provision of such a unit, in areas where the take up of kerbside waste collections is low.  This is not the case in the Dublin Region where the number of kerbside collectors is high giving householders a wide range of choice in selecting a service provider which in turn gives rise to competition in the market and therefore lower costs.

It should also be noted that Pay to Use waste compactors require both planning approval and authorisation under the waste facility permitting system.

While there are some exceptions, these facilities in general are not provided by local authorities around the country.

South Dublin County Council provides a facility at the Ballymount Civic Amenity Centre for users to dispose of black bag waste, with users charged per vehicle entry, and this will continue to be the case.  It is not proposed to replace the current system with a Pay to Use facility at Ballymount as this would most likely give rise to increased costs in the operation of the facility and therefore increased costs to the user.

There is a requirement on householders to segregate their waste into residual waste, dry recyclable waste and household food waste.  To be in accordance with current waste management practice, any PTU facility should be equipped to accept all three waste streams from the user of the facility.  This obviously presents difficulties and whereas previously PTU facilities were set up to accept residual (black bag) waste only, these requirements would seem to suggest that multiple containers would be required.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors R. Nolan and P. Gogarty.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the Members queries.

 The Report was **NOTED.**

### **M7/1017 LOCAL DEMOCRACY**

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

“This Council, concerned to ensure that all citizens are encouraged and enabled to participate in local democracy, and in the spirit of "Putting People First", calls on the Minister for Local Government as part of his role in organising and providing for local representation on Local Authorities and as part of the redrawing of local constituencies for the 2019 local elections, include in each County an additional single County Wide constituency providing for the filling of 20% of the County seats from four panels drawn from  (a) Members of the Traveller Community (b) Immigrants/Ethnic Minorities (c) Persons with a Disability (d) Disadvantaged Communities.”

**REPORT:**

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

At the outset of the discussion Councillor G. O’Connell proposed and Councillor F. Timmons seconded an **Amendment** to his Motion as follows:

This Council, concerned to ensure that all citizens are encouraged and enabled to participate in local democracy, and in the spirit of "Putting People First", calls on the Minister for Local Government as part of his role in organising and providing for local representation on Local Authorities and as part of the redrawing of local constituencies for the 2019 local elections and **on a pilot bases,** include in each County an additional single County Wide constituency providing for the filling of a percentage of the County seats by (a) Members of the Traveller Community (b) Immigrants/Ethnic Minorities (c) Persons with a Disability.

The Amendment was **AGREED.**

Councillor V. Casserly then proposed and Councillor E. Higgins seconded a second **Amendment** to the Motion as follows: (delete 2019 from the text)

This Council, concerned to ensure that all citizens are encouraged and enabled to participate in local democracy, and in the spirit of "Putting People First", calls on the Minister for Local Government as part of his role in organising and providing for local representation on Local Authorities and as part of the redrawing of local constituencies for local elections and on a pilot bases, include in each County an additional single County Wide constituency providing for the filling of a percentage of the County seats by (a) Members of the Traveller Community (b) Immigrants/Ethnic Minorities (c) Persons with a Disability.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors B. Ferron, D. Looney, E. Murphy, C. King, P. Foley, B. Leech, P. Gogarty and G. O’Connell.

A show of hand vote was taken on the second Amendment the result was as follows:

**FOR: 5 (FIVE)**

**AGAINST: 21 (TWENTY ONE)**

**ABSTAINED: 3 (THREE)**

The second Amendment **FELL.**

A show of hand vote was taken on the amended Motion the result was as follows:

**FOR: 5 (FIVE)**

**AGAINST: 21 (TWENTY ONE)**

**ABSTAINED: 3 (THREE)**

The Amended Motion **FELL.**

### **M8/1017 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES BYE-LAWS**

###  **It was proposed by Councillors L. O'Toole and seconded by Councillor V. Casserly**

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the possibility of removing the word “only” from section 6.2.5. and replace “provide” with “recommended” in the parks Bye-laws.

1. Playground facilities are provided (recommended) only for the enjoyment of children up to 12 years of age. All such children must be accompanied by an adult.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillor L. O’Toole and E. O’Brien.

**REPORT:**

The South Dublin County Council Bye-Laws for Parks & Open Spaces were made in accordance with the provisions of Sections 199 and 200 of the Local Government Act 2001 (in 2011), the purpose for which is the control and regulation of the use of parks and open spaces, and to ensure that parks and open spaces, as provided as a public amenity, are used by members of the public to the maximum extent in safety and comfort.

6.2. of the Bye-Laws relate to games, musical performances, athletics and playgrounds and 6.2.5 refers as follows:  "***Playground facilities are provided only for the enjoyment of children up to 12 years of age. All such children must be accompanied by an adult***".

[Section 199 (4) (*a*)](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2001/act/37/section/199/enacted/en/html) of the Local Government Act 2001 provides that a local authority may, subject to this Part (Part 19), amend any bye-law made by it.

The approval of a draft bye-law, the consideration of submissions in relation to such draft bye-law and the making, amendment or revocation of a bye-law, are each reserved functions.

It is recommended that this matter be referred to the Environment Public Realm and Climate Change SPC for consideration before any decision is made to initiate a procedure to review the Bye-Laws i.e. the statutory public consultation process as prescribed in Section 200.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **M9/1017 FAIR TRADE COUNTY**

### The following Motion in the name of Councillors F. Timmons was **MOVED** without debate:

“That South Dublin County Council and all Elected Councillors commit to working to make South Dublin County Council the first Fairtrade County Council in the Republic of Ireland and we commit to actively Promoting and encouraging Fairtrade Products.”

**REPORT:**

Fairtrade incorporates social and environmental elements which are already supported by the Council including through our Sustainable Business Programme in partnership with South Dublin Chamber.

Given the inherent principle of local business/community involvement, a Fairtrade campaign in the County that involves a range of measures including bringing local businesses, community groups and other interested parties together should be led by a local group who can develop an appropriate promotional and awareness campaign.  The Clondalkin Fairtrade group has been in contact with the Local Enterprise Office and an information session was arranged as part of Local Enterprise Week in March 2017.  However, it was clear at that stage that the local momentum and organisation was not yet there to advance the Clondalkin campaign. It is acknowledged that there have been delays in providing promotional material to the Clondalkin Fairtrade organisation which has not helped and these will be resolved imminently hopefully leading to renewed momentum.  Given the delays in progressing the campaign in Clondalkin it is therefore considered to be premature to extend the campaign to a Countywide level as yet but the Local Enterprise Office and the Sustainable Business Programme Manager in South Dublin Chamber will liaise with the Clondalkin Fairtrade group to support their ongoing promotional campaigns as appropriate.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **M11/1017 EROSION OF POWERS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

### The following Motion in the name of Councillors E. Murphy was **MOVED** without debate:

“That South Dublin County Council resolves to strongly oppose any proposal to remove or erode any powers from local government and expresses particular concern at reports that Government wishes to remove powers with regard to housing. “

**REPORT:**

If the Motion is passed it will be forwarded to the Minister for Housing Planning and Local Government and when a reply is received it will be issued to the members.

The Motion was **AGREED.**

**Motions not reached**

### **M13/1017 GAMBLING LAWS**

###  **Councillors D. Richardson**

That this Council calls on the Minister for Justice to introduce proper legislation around gambling laws in this Country, we have not seen this addressed by any Minister for Justice.    This is one of the most hidden addictions in our Country, advertising on line gambling, under age gambling, we get no revenue from on line gambling under the current laws.  The laws date back to 1913 with amendments in 1956 it's time for proper legislation.

### **M14/1017 YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

###  **Councillors D. Looney**

That this Council, noting that SDCC remains seriously understaffed given the population in the County, endorses SIPTU's "Your County, Your Youth, Your Future" campaign. This Council supports the establishment of a working group to campaign for policies which will tie together local authority recruitment and dealing with youth unemployment in our area.

The Meeting finished at 6.57pm.

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

 Mayor

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