

January 2018 Council Management Report

Update On Annual Service Plan

This report includes the strategy updates for the month of Jan

Environment, Water & Climate Change

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

Public Realm Maintenance: Draft improvement works programmes are being prepared for presentation to the ACMs in January/February. A countywide works programme will then be presented to the full Council meeting in March. An assessment of the 2017 programme is underway. A maintenance works programme will be drawn up following completion of the public realm review process. **N81 Improvement Scheme:** Stage 1 topographical survey completed and being incorporated into detail design. Meetings being arranged with TII. **Tree Maintenance Programme:** The tree crew operating south of the N7 continue to progress a programme of tree pruning and removal works in Monalea Grove & Wood. The tree crew north of the N7 is currently operating in Castlevue estate, Clondalkin. Seasonal tree crews are periodically in operation as available - one is assigned to tree maintenance programme works in Willsbrook Park and the other assigned to a no. of locations the Kingswood area. A contract awarded to James Norbury T/A Eire Landscapes for supply and planting of c.770 trees in fulfilment of planting commitments for Spring 2018 commenced implementation on Jan 18th. **Derelict Sites:** Register maintained. Meeting held with Housing Department re Vesting/Valuations/ VFM/recoupments etc. 2017 & 2018 levies due being calculated - Invoices being raised. **Scheduled Street Cleaning Programme:** Tender process underway for procurement of new road sweeping contract. **Litter Management Plan:** 2018 Action Plan being finalised. Activity ongoing. **Enforcement & Licencing:** CCTV Cameras installed at Lynches lane. The two Rapid Deployment Cameras have been installed at Lennox Laboratories JFK Industrial Estate and Brookview, Tallaght. CCTV at the Ballyowen Bottle bank being monitored on a daily basis. Increase the use of technology to further survey and enforce i.e. cctv, drones, audio devices. Drone launch being arranged. **Environmental Awareness:** Till Receipts - anti litter advert running in SuperValu. Cinema Advert - SFW & Litter Campaign 15th-21st Jan dog fouling advert 18-26 Jan. **Community Clean Ups** - So far for January 189 clean ups have taken place. **SCS Landscaping project** - Work is continuing with the 9 groups taking part in the new community minor landscaping scheme. **Christmas - Recycle it** provided a recycling facility for electrical waste in county hall 8-12th Jan. **Green Schools** - 99 Primary & 35 Secondary schools registered. Schools have started to book in their green school visit for the new year. **Schools upcycling comp** started this month with a closing date of the 28th Feb. The environmental Poster competition has started with entries coming in for a closing date on the 16th February. 6 workshops on environmental musical at end of Jan. **GDW - social media campaign** 16th-19th Jan. **Stop Food Waste** - make the most of it social media campaign running from the 22-27th Jan. **Smart Dublin:** Continued collaboration with SBIR. **Illegal dumping initiatives** progressing. **Roundabout Sponsorship:** Orwell Roundabout - planting works are near completion. A new landscape scheme is scheduled to commence implementation by external contract on the roundabout at the junction of Ballymount Road/Calmount Avenue near to TV3. A new planting scheme is to be implemented on the roundabout at the junction of Ballymount Road/Turnpike Road. A sponsorship arrangement is scheduled to commence on February 1st in respect of roundabouts at Templeville Road and Greentrees Road, Templeogue. Sponsorship interest has also been confirmed for a landscaping scheme on the roundabout access to Roadstone on the Outer Ring Road and an updated design proposal is to be submitted by the company. Arrangements are being made to progress sponsorship for these locations in 2018.

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

Climate Change: Draft Climate Action Plans completed by the 4 Dublin Local Authorities and Codema- currently under review by SDCC for practicality/ feasibility. Signed Covenant of Mayors document uploaded to www.covenantofmayors.eu SDCC now committed to 40% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2030 and to increasing our resilience by adapting to the impacts of climate change. **Eastern/Midlands Regional WMP & WERLA:** 2018 Waste Prevention Programmes being developed. **Stop Food waste campaign-** 22nd-28th Jan via social media and also a

short film "Just eat it" been run in conjunction with this. Press release 19th Jan advertising the campaign and film. Surface Water Schemes: Prioritisation of works for 2018 under consideration, draft list prepared and estimates being prepared. Chapel Hill SW Scheme complete except for some minor surfacing. Upgrade to the remote monitoring of the Poddle screens underway approved, procurement complete, CE Order approved, delivery pending. Flood Alleviation Schemes: Poddle - An appointment of a consultant is imminent pending DCC formally adopting the Framework. Winter Habitat Surveys in Bancroft and Tymon Parks underway by ROD. Camac - Updated consultant brief circulated in December by OPW for review by SDCC and DCC. Whitechurch - OPW considering whether to design and build. River Basin Plans and Measures: Routine monitoring and sampling ongoing. RMCEI work continuing in 2018. Work progressing in relation to the delivery of Integrated Constructed Wetlands in the Griffeen Catchment in 2018. Water Conservation Programme: Repairs of leaks and Bursts by Water Operations ongoing. Mechanical Services: Tenders for electric vans (5 no.) currently being invited - closing date - 24th January. Quotations also being sought for electric vehicle chargers for the relevant depots where the above vans will be based - though final decision will be influenced by the make & model of van tendered by the winning supplier. Grasscare (& Miscellaneous) Machinery - Small Plant Items – Purchase & Repairs tender advertised on the 15th January. Closing date - 5th February.

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

Waste Enforcement Action: Enforcement / surveillance services (Litter and Waste) to continue. Continued interdepartmental liaison planned for 2018 to develop common approach to common issues. Burial Ground Strategy: Burial Ground Action Plan in development to cover financial, administrative and operational aspects of the service. Control of Animals: Ongoing enforcement activity in relation to the control of dogs/horses and animal welfare. Mini framework for Horse seizures to be finalised in Q1/18. Governance structure for BEC to be established. Review of Dog Warden Service to be initiated in light of evolving business needs. Air Quality: The Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment is to introduce new air quality legislation that will ban the burning of smoky coal in Ireland. This will occur for the winter season of 2018/2019 with the industry being given a further 12 months to sell off any smoky coal stock. In effect, the new ban will commence in October 2019. The overall annual Air Quality Data for 2016 shows that South Dublin had no daily breaches of the Particulate Matter Parameter (PM10) and the average daily level human health is not to exceed a level of 40ug/m3 more than 35 times in any one year. So, our levels were very low for the whole of 2016. Similarly, our average Sulphur Dioxide levels was 2.4 ug/m3 for 2016 and these are again of excellent quality as the hourly level for the protection of public health is 350/ug/m3. As reported in previous reports, there have been two breaches of the PM10 daily figures this year but with only 6 weeks of the year left (PM10) at the Old Bawn Road site, there will be no issue at all for compliance once again. There were similar breaches above 50ug/m3 of air at several of the other monitoring sites on the same two days in Dun Laoire and Fingal and Dublin City. Environmental Health represented South Dublin at the DOE/EPA/Local Authority Working Group on Solid Fuel last month in Wexford County Council offices. The key message from the meeting was that solid fuel burning in domestic houses is back as the top air pollutant in Ireland with transport in second place. A working group, similar to the CCMA Noise Complaints WG is being planned and South Dublin will be represented on this group. Dublin Noise Action Plan: The noise mapping process is continuing at pace involving combined efforts of the Environmental Health and GIS/IT Departments. South Dublin has procured the assistance from Dublin City Council in the reconfiguration of the noise maps for the entire Dublin region and this should be far cheaper than going to tender for a private consultancy firm. GIS/IT are providing superb support to Environmental Health to endeavour to complete the noise modelling in time for submission to the EPA and onwards to the European Environment Agency.

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

Regional and Local Parks: Proposal for new regional park maintenance structure is included in the Public Realm Review proposals. Playspace Programme: Discussions with Developer on-going re Newcastle playspace. Discussions with Architects section regarding Ballyboden. Consultations with some residents in Whitechurch and community section. Teen Space Consultation: Social media consultation process concluded. It is now intended to utilise the public participatory budgetary process and the proposed implementation of the ball wall in the Lucan area to engage with teenagers on this new type of facility provision in our parks. Once the surveys are completed they will be examined (with the addition of focus group discussion if required) and reported on. Allotments: Administration of allotments allocations ongoing. Tender documents being prepared for Tymon Park. Recreational and Sporting Facilities: Pavilion programme to be re-tendered. Dodder Valley Mt Carmel; awaiting cost proposal from consultants.

Hermitage Frame Football: tender process underway. Delivery of objectives in the Tourism Strategy: Corkagh Park brief for consultants being prepared.

Land Use Planning & Transportation

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

FOOTPATH REPAIRS Programme of Works in preparation. Winter Maintenance Programme 2017 is underway and winter ready information is available on website. Winter Gritting call outs since commencement of winter season: 72 of which 15 Mountain routes only. Road Works Programme 2018 being prepared and will be brought to ACM's in February. Notification from TII of grant funding for N81 pavement strengthening works.

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

The Draft Clonburris SDZ Planning Scheme was published on 22nd September and Submissions were invited. The closing date for submissions was the 3rd November 2017 and preparation of the CE report followed and issued to members on Dec 14th, followed by a briefing on Dec 15th. Pre-draft public consultation on a new Local Area Plan for Tallaght has also been completed and a report circulated to Members. Preparation of the Draft Tallaght LAP is now underway, this will be brought to the next available SPC following its completion. C700 Submissions were received on the Weston Aerodrome Public Consultation which are currently being considered and a report was presented to the November LUPT SPC [rescheduled for Dec 4th 2017]. Members asked for time to consider the item which is listed on the February SPC Agenda. Clonburris CE Report issued on 14th December, 2 briefings on CE report provided to Elected Members, date for closure of receipt of motions 14th January 2018. Meetings were held on January 26th, 29th, 30th Feb 1st to consider motions submitted. Following this series of meetings and on foot of changes proposed to the Draft Planning Scheme, notification of Material Alterations will be prepared and initiation of 4 week material alteration display will follow.

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

Construction of the R120 Adamstown Road Improvement Scheme including the link to the Nangor Road has commenced, a sod turning event took place on Friday 8th December. Works are progressing well at the present time, Project Board in place as required under form of contract PW –CF3. Design works on the NTA funded Projects are progressing on the Scholarstown Road Cycletrack following conclusion of the S38 consultation process. Works are almost completed on a further section of Cycle lane on Willsbrook road between Mount Bellew and St Andrews. Meeting with NTA December 18th indicated they have additional funding for suitable schemes in 2018. Project proposals are being prepared. Belgard to Cookstown Link Road at Part 8, Report on Agenda for February meeting.

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

Works have concluded on Phase 1 (Greenhills Road) of the Tallaght Village Improvement Scheme. Design works are progressing on Village enhancement works in Tallaght Village (Phase 2) and Templeogue Village. A Draft Design for Templeogue village has been prepared and is currently under review with intention of advancing revised design to Part 8, update meeting held with RTT members in Dec 2017 and proposals discussed. Revised design is being worked up following meeting with consultants. Documents for the Village Enhancement Works in Saggart are currently being prepared and will be issued shortly. The additional School Wardens are now fully operational at their assigned schools across the County. Plans to introduce Junior Road Safety Officers are being advanced with a number of schools across the County. There is an increased level of engagement with schools and participation in road safety campaigns to address safety concerns and promote the road safety message with a number of specific campaigns planned.

Housing, Social & Community Development

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

Council is progressing its Social Housing Construction programme of housing projects approved by the Council through Part 8 process. Currently 9 projects are on site and progressing totalling 285 units. St Cuthberts due to start in the next month. New Schedule of proposals to be brought to area committee February/March. The Dialogue stage of

the Kilcarbery Integrated Housing Project is Underway. 2228 active accounts on HAP at 29th January 2018. This is at an average of 16 per week while the target for 2018 is expected to be 15 per week. 475 on Homeless Register at end of December 2017 – (276 single males/females and 10 couples).SDCC Currently has 3 Homeless Hubs 70 units of singles STA and progressing a further 15 places and 20 step down, 16 Units for Domestic Violence Refuge and working on achieving a further 6 units. Also support a Homeless old aged facility for 24 people at Riversdale. New Rent Scheme approved and as agreed at Housing SPC. We have gone live with the online statements and app and included on the new Scheme. New Home Loan launched. Fixed rate of 2% borrowing. HFA sourced €200m for loan at fixed rate – will be lent at 2% fixed rate to eligible borrowers. • 3 types – fixed 25 years • Fixed 30 years – additional 0.25% • Variable Rate- additional 0.3%. Aimed at credit worthy first time buyers with incomes ranging from 50K to 70K. There will no longer be an application fee to be applied and LTV is 90% as against 97% in current loan offers. New Enhanced Long Term Leasing Scheme for a period of 30 years announced. A review of the Allocations Scheme through Housing SPC Sub Committee almost complete.

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

SICAP Funding has been awarded to South Dublin County Partnership following a competitive tender process. Contract was signed in December for commencement on 1/1/18. MOU prepared and agreed between the Healthy County Steering Group and the LCDC. SDCC with the support of South Dublin County Partnership is working on the development of SDCC's Integration Strategy 2018 – 2021 with 4 main Themes Theme 1: Lifelong Learning, Theme 2: Supporting Inclusive Communities, Theme 3: Supporting Employment and Business, Theme 4: Health and Wellbeing. The main stakeholders were also identified as SCYPSC; LCDC; Healthy County Committee; PPN; JPC.

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

The Healthy County Strategy Group will progress its Communications strategy during 2018 as agreed at its workshop on 9th November for all committee members. Work continues on the new Community and Sports Centre at Adamstown with estimated completion and handover by end of February 2018. All weather facility included. Social Prescribing: Social Prescribing, the referring of patients by medical professionals to community and social activities has gained traction in the UK and Ireland in the last couple of years. It is considered a useful and effective addition to possible drug and other treatments. In Ireland there have been pilot projects in Sligo and Donegal and several areas have 'fledgling' social prescribing initiatives. The HSE has recently started a national project to coordinate social prescribing activities and develop best practice in the area. In South Dublin one GP has started a pilot project in a shared practice and has found the first results promising. Tallaght Hospital has indicated that they are interested in a social prescribing pilot project to strengthen links with the local community. Funding has been secured from the HSE and Healthy Ireland for a coordinator post and a programme budget for 2018. This will allow the development of a local social prescribing project, including development of a database for confidential referrals and appropriate advertising of the service. SDCCP will host the project, including employment of the coordinator. This project is being managed through the Healthy County Steering Group. MeDex as presented to the Community and Social SPC is being progressed to start April 2018 on a pilot basis at Tallaght Leisure Centre. This is a health and wellbeing initiative promoted through DCU and in collaboration with SDCC. It is a clinically proven programme to assist pre and post-operative patients, those suffering from cardio and COPD. Initially referrals will be through Tallaght Hospital and will run 2 days a week.

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

Flavours of South Dublin Food Festival to be held at Rathfarnham Castle on Sunday 24 June 2018. Sports Grants Announced 30th November 2017 – 9 Successful from SDCC submissions. Information meeting held with successful stakeholders on 31st January 2018. Public Meeting with Commission on the Future of Policing held at Wood Quay Venue, Dublin. 22 January 2018 at 7pm organised by the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland. The Commission on the Future of Policing is undertaking a series of regional open evenings throughout January. This was an informal opportunity for representatives of community and interest groups, as well as individuals, to meet members of the Commission and discuss their views on the future of policing in Ireland. SDCC is supporting Paralympics Ireland and the 2018 Para Swimming Allianz European Championships from 13th to 19th August 2018. The competition will host over 500 athletes from 40 Countries and will be seen as preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The Council also supported the Wish Conference and exhibition at the RDS 29th and 30th January 2018 with many South Dublin County Schools attending. I WISH is an initiative to inspire, encourage and motivate young female students to

pursue careers in STEM. STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. "We have so many world problems to solve – food shortage, climate change, pollution, ageing population. These will be solved through STEM if you help us harness the power of thousands of girls to shape a better world". IWISH (Inspiring Women in Stem) featured a conference and interactive exhibitions. The conference also featured workshops, daily keynotes and engaging talks by women and men who have seen the opportunities for a great career in STEM.

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

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

SPC meeting scheduled for Feb 18. To end December, 663 clients have attended LEO provided training, with a further 340 attending training provided by South Dublin Chamber, supported through the Business Support Fund. EVAC approvals to end December 2017. €776,839 approved in 2017, with 28 projects approved, creating 48 new jobs, with potential for 228 new jobs after 3 years. Next EVAC scheduled for 27th March 2018. The following Business Supports are being promoted on the LEO Website, Council website, through social media, at various business events and through SD Chamber. • Business Support Grant 2017 876 applications received in 2017, (889 applications received in 2016) • Microenterprise Development Fund: 14 applications approved. Estimated total commitment: €280k. Spend to date €39,758. • Individual Unit Support Scheme: 27 applications approved. Estimated total commitment €60k. Spend to date €12,369. • Microenterprise Start Up Support (Rates) Scheme: 6 applications approved. Estimated total commitment: €90k. • Shop Fronts: 32 applications received-10 approved.

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

Grange Castle • Grifols : Works are ongoing. • Microsoft – Works ongoing, Eirgrid - Works commenced on site in September 2017. • Capital Programme – Nangor Road / R120: Wills Bros started on site week commencing 21/11/2017, works concentrating on the 12th lock however site clearance and fencing are over 50% complete. • Archaeological – GC South: Archaeological work ongoing, feedback from the DAHRRGA is to preserve by record. Rubicon Heritage are the successful tenderer and have received their Archaeological Licence from the Department. Rubicon started on site on 15th November 2017. Expected completion date is May 2018. • Edgeconnex: Application for new Datacentres approved directly adjacent to the Business park. Access to datacentre will be via Grange Castle Business Park, construction now ongoing. • Client (CyrusOne) identified for a 16 acre site in Grange Castle South, Section 183 approved at the July 2017 Council.

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

• The Business Support Fund for 2017 continues to seek to identify projects whereby improvements to the Council infrastructure can have a wider beneficial impact. Some pre-application consultation work has been done with business representatives in various industrial areas with a view to bringing forward applications under the Area Improvement Scheme. • Grange Castle Business Park employment figures are on the rise by way of new clientele and construction activities. Employment now circa 5500 (incl construction) • Tallaght Stadium is being promoted as a location of choice for business events. Approval in place for third stand. Shamrock Rovers New Season commences March 2018. Construction started on 3rd stand in Feb 18. • SDCC received grant funding from SEAI to carry out an energy masterplan for Grange Castle Business Park – the contract is now complete and SDCC now intend to identify energy projects to progress.

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

Library News Right to Read Campaign is a nationally coordinated framework for literacy support and development through all local authorities, designed to deliver a more systematic literacy support at local level. It is led by the County Librarian, and coordinator, bringing together the knowledge and experience of skilled staff in both local authorities and other local agencies. An evaluation report on South Dublin Libraries programme for 2017 has been compiled and forwarded to the LGMA. The report includes: • An outline of the implementation of activities coordinated as well as the programmes undertaken and implemented by frontline staff in 2017. • Key achievements in 2017 in terms of supporting literacy and reading development in the local authority during 2017. An action plan for 2018 is currently

being drawn up. Library development Plan 2018 – 2022 South Dublin Libraries is in the process of preparing a library development plan encompassing the strategy and work plan for the next five year period. To date, a report on strategic analysis, external analysis in the form of consultations and SWOT and PESTLE analysis, as well as Stakeholder Consultation and Internal Environment Analysis has been completed, and written up. The current stage in the process is the writing up of the development objectives and priorities for the library service over the next 5 years, and the proposed measures to secure these objectives. Healthy Ireland at your Library Initiative South Dublin Libraries are embracing the Healthy Ireland at your Library initiative to promote a healthy lifestyle for the citizens of South Dublin. We aim to have trust-worthy and evidence based information available. Popular events so far - Caring for the Carer, Eating for a Healthy Heart,, Talk from Professor Jim Lucey - Author of A Life Well Lived , Decluttering your Home and The Cool Food School for children. EPIC - What would you do...if you could do anything? South Dublin EPIC is a creative writing project for young people in South Dublin County funded by South Dublin Arts Office, supported by South Dublin Libraries and created and delivered by writer Colm Keegan. Taking inspiration from the geography of South Dublin, the history of Ireland, fantasy and science fiction, South Dublin EPIC will offer students and young people a means to explore their lives in a unique and liberating way. We are currently welcoming applications from second-level schools, education centres and youth organisations to participate in this project. Winter Words - A series of creative writing workshops held throughout South Dublin branch libraries funded by Carnegie Trust - ongoing until end of February Blind date with a book for Valentine's Day - Ballyroan library Harry Potter Book Night events held in 3 branch libraries on 1st February – these events are fully booked and could have been booked out 3 times over! Engineers Week 18th – 24th Feb. - Lots of Tech events, Lego workshops and 3D printing demos at the County Library. History and Heritage Tallaght Historical Society in conjunction with the County Library have two interesting lectures in January: • Irish Coinage - 13th Feb 7pm • Jonathan Swift: The Dublin Connection – 28th Feb. Programme highlights in What's Happening January – March 2018. http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie/sites/all/libraries/tinymce/jscripts/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Whats_Happening/Whats_Happening_Spring_2018.pdf Check the website for link: www.southdublinlibraries.ie Library Capital Projects: 1) North Clondalkin Library - Shortlisting for contractor commenced on November 9th. Tenders will be issued in March 2018 with construction commencement July 2018. (2) New Castletymon Library Design team in place and plans being drawn up. Tenders will be issued early March 2018 with construction beginning in May. Creative Ireland Cultural and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 -The consultation process has almost been completed. An online survey will be carried out in January 2018.

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

Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre: submissions or observations to An Bord Pleanála on the further information submitted in relation to the development closed on the 8th January 2018 Round Tower Centre, Brú Chrónáin- Tactical Sales and Marketing Plan being developed for Round Tower CentreGae; Gaelforce Dublin scheduled 17th February 2018 based in Tallaght Stadium Dublin Marathon Race Series- Meeting held with race organisers and Gardaí for the potential race to take place in July in Grange Castle/Clondalkin Area. Gaelforce 2018- Preparations underway for Gaelforce 2018 @ Tallaght Stadium on Saturday 17th February 2018 Shop Fronts Grants Scheme- Mayor Gogarty presented Clarkeville Flowers and Arts with €1,000 prize for Best Shop Front Design 2018, new scheme to be launched by the end of January 2018

Corporate Performance and Change Management

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

Mayor's Conference 'Building Healthy Habits' being planned for March/April. Mayor's Office Diary Events ongoing. Corporate Policy Group meeting held 8th January. The Good News and Events Report will be available circulated to all councillors. Council Meeting held 15th January 8. Headed Items included Indexation of Development Contribution Scheme; Monthly Management Report; Audit Cttee Charter and Work Programme; and the Corporate Plan Achievements 2017 report. The Organisational Procedures and Finance Report held on 18th January. LAMA Community and Council Awards 2018 in Croke Park Stadium on 3rd February. Eight projects nominated in South Dublin region, including South Dublin County Council nominated for Council of the Year. Compilation of Register being finalised for February, currently printing registers for distribution. Work is ongoing on South Dublin's transfer over to Voter.ie, the new back-end system for the administration of the Register of Electors though a compatibility issue of the system with our polling scheme means it will not be possible to transfer over to new system in February and currently examining options to address issues raised and revising timelines.

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

The 2018 Commercial Rate was made on 25th January 2018 and 2018 bills totalling €121.6m are being issued for payment in 2 moieties. The first moiety is payable with immediate effect and the second moiety becomes payable on 1st July 2018. Councils Rates section continues to liaise with the Valuation Office regarding the appeals to the Valuation Tribunal following the revaluation of South Dublin County Council in 2017. The audit committee's charter and work plan for 2018 was approved at the January Council meeting. Procurement Steering Group Meeting held 10th January 2018; Review of template tender documents and contracts underway; Procurement Activity Report 2017 underway to be issued to Procurement Steering Group for March meeting; Corporate Procurement Plan 2018-2020 almost complete but requires sign-off of the Procurement Activity Report 2017 at March Steering Group meeting. GDPR training for management grades ongoing alongside preparations by every department to ensure corporate compliance with GDPR. Preparation of the Annual Service Delivery Plan, which includes improvement targets for 2018 to be ready for February Council Meeting. Following approval by Council this will be published with an accompanying infographic for distribution to all households, schools & businesses and online. National Indicators: Analysis report on South Dublin's performance being considered by senior management team on 6 February and by the Audit Committee on 21 February. Local Indicators: New graphic presentation of selected local indicators within the monthly management report to Council is in development.

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

- Participatory Budgeting – Agreed modifications to voting system being advanced.
- Work on the Council's ICT Security Audit has commenced.
- Vacant Sites system development – User acceptance testing has begun.
- Property Economic Portal development - Content generation continues in preparing for a go live.
- Voter.ie – Technical issue with new system preventing a go live at the present time. Previous solution will continue to be used for present time.
- eRecruitment tender – Procurement has entered into standstill and following this should move into award of tender.
- National Dog Licence System – Mitigation of an issue whereby non-residents of South Dublin County were purchasing a dog licence from us.
- Integrated Housing System – PQQ stage finalised and RFT to issue on or after 2nd Feb, 2018.
- Internet redesign – Go live with the new website expected during February, 2018.

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

The 2018 Communications and Events Calendar has been drafted. The Communications team received training on the new website in January and are currently examining content and liaising across departments to ensure content is aligned with the Communications strategy and planning for website launch. PR activity: Industry magazines (Council Review, Council Journal etc.) contacted to obtain publication schedule for each. Staff training being arranged around social media and public relations. Social media channel plans being developed. Press release software being explored for procurement €300K Have Your Say Clondalkin Electoral Area: 1st meeting of the Steering Group was held 10 January where the Communications Plan, website improvements and 4 locations to cover Rathcoole, Newcastle, North and South Clondalkin and the Village were agreed. The 2nd meeting is on Wednesday 7 Feb to finalise dates, venues and format for launch, workshops and timeline for the project roll-out; Regular updates on Lucan projects are going to the Lucan Area Committee and available on the website. Customer Services Review: The BPI unit will lead on the process mapping required for identifying the 'as is' position in key departments. This work will commence in March. The Customer Service Manager is liaising with Senior Business Transformation Manager in Housing on the process mapping of Housing services and related customer service issues to support the transfer of housing customer services to the Housing department. Customer services experience increased volumes of queries on the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan Scheme and anticipated increase on the upcoming Rates demands for 2018 that are being issued by Finance. Public Consultations on going in January: • Celbridge Link Road (Closed 7th Feb) • Part 8-BMX Track Jobstown (Closed 12th Jan)

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

New appointments across Planners, Engineers, Librarians, Superintendent, Technicians, GOs and Drivers. Interviews took place for Assistant Staff Officers, Assistant Library Attendants, Executive Solicitor, Executive Parks

Superintendent and District Supervisor in January. Team and personal development plans for all staff for 2018 are currently being finalised across the organisation. These will inform the preparation of the 2018 Training Plan. The review of depot operations is ongoing with regular meetings across management, trade unions and staff representatives to identify the range of options for operational efficiency and effectiveness and to improve facilities and the working environment for depot based staff. A two day Induction Programme was held for 47 newly appointed staff in the organisation.