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



**MEETING OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP**

**Tuesday, June 05, 2018**

**HEADED ITEM NO.**

**HEADED ITEM: D. of Corporate Performance & Change Management**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BASELINE FUNDING REVIEW CONSULTATION**

**REPLY:**

The Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government has established a review group to consider the methodology used to determine local authority funding baselines to inform the distribution of available funding for general, non-infrastructure (operational) purposes, that is funding not specifically provided in respect of housing, roads or other local authority infrastructure. The review will, insofar as is possible, develop a methodology for distributing the available funding that brings greater balance and equity of funding outcomes for local authorities, in the context of the wide range of issues that local authorities face and the diverse nature of the counties across Ireland.

The review group wishes to consult the relevant stakeholders to provide them with the opportunity to submit their views in relation to the factors and indicators that could be used to determine local authority funding.

In the context of South Dublin County, the baseline funding received for 2018 was €3,856,262. This was the 3rd lowest level of funding received by the 31 local authorities, behind Galway City Council and Fingal County Council who received €2,599,723 and €3,699,275 respectively. Tipperary County Council received the highest level of funding at €25,951,602.

The 2016 census of Ireland showed the population of Ireland had reached 4,761,865 of which 278,767 resided in South County Dublin. This would provide a baseline funding per capita of €13.83 which is the second lowest in the country. The highest per capita grant was received by Leitrim County Council at €279.50 the national average funding per capita is €74.80, which is significantly higher than the level of funding received by South Dublin County. The 2016 census also showed that South Dublin had one of the highest growing population at 5.1% compared with a national growth rate of 3.8%

South Dublin County Council has seen significant increases for its services over the past number of years. Many of these services do not provide opportunities to recover the costs of providing such services e.g. the cost of providing support to the homeless has increased from €2.7m in 2016 to €3.4m in 2018. Over the past 3 years South Dublin County Council has invested heavily in improving the public realm of the capital. Expenditure in this area has increased from €14.2m to €16.8 in 2018. The Council has also seen significant investment in the public libraries in the same period and has increased its expenditure in this area by 8% to €10.8m.

In considering future funding attention must also be given to possible reductions in existing funding sources such as the possible reduction in funding received for Irish Water Rates.

The consultation process is open until the 3rd July 2018. Written submissions should be sent to LGFinance@housing.gov.ie

Alternatively post to:

Local Government Finance

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

Government Buildings

Newtown Road

Wexford

Y35 AP90

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