COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Monday, July 09, 2018

QUESTION NO. 6

**QUESTION: Councillor D. Looney**

To ask the Chief Executive to list the sites of geological interest in SDCC; to ask how these are promoted and protected; to ask if he will install signage at appropriate location explaining their importance and providing information on them; and to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The County Development Plan contains the following relevant section and the Councils policy in this regard is set out:

9.7.0 Sites of Geological Interest

Geology is recognised as an intrinsic component of the County’s natural heritage resource to be protected and promoted for its heritage value and for its potential in educational, scientific, recreational, and geotourism initiatives. Given their nature in terms of exposure of areas of geological interest, the ongoing operation of extractive industries and roadworks is considered to be generally compatible with the protection and promotion of geological heritage.

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service are seeking to identify geological and geomorphological sites of national significance for statutory designations as Natural Heritage Areas. Other geological sites of national or local importance are being identified as County Geological Sites (CGS) and – by virtue of their recognition in Development Plans – will be protected from potentially damaging development. An audit of the Geological Heritage of South Dublin County was carried out in 2014, which identifies 10 geological sites of interest in the County. The list of County Geological Sites for Protection is set out in Table 9.6. The County Geological Sites that are protected under this Plan are also mapped on the County Development Plan maps that accompany this written statement.

[Table 9.6 County Geological Sites for Protection](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=1f5c8cc7-e169-4f3d-895c-a90d011ce17d)

**It is the policy of the Council to maintain the conservation value and seek the sustainable** **management of the County’s geological heritage resource.**

**HCL19 Objective 1:**

To protect designated County Geological Sites from inappropriate development and to promote the importance of such sites through the County’s Heritage Plan.