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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council September 2018 County Council Meeting held on 10th September 2018.

**PRESENT**

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

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin.  |
| Directors/ Heads of FunctionA/Heads of FunctionHead of FinanceCounty Architect | L. Maxwell, T. Walsh, F. Nevin. C. WardL. Leonard. R. FitzGerald.E. Conroy.  |
| Senior Executive OfficersFinancial Management Accountant | C. Hurson, M. Staunton, E. Leech, Neil Hanly, Mary Kelly |
| Administrative Officers | C. Murphy, N. Noonan. F. Carroll, M. Dowling, M. Kavanagh, L. Madden, |
| Senior Staff OfficerStaff OfficerAssistant Staff OfficerClerical OfficerIT. SupportSord | A. O’MeliaL. Abbey.M. Dunne.D. MurphyM. Twynam Muldoon A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor M. Ward Presided.

Apologies were received from Councillors E. Hendrick, F. Timmons & L. O’Toole

Prior to the commencement of the meeting 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 M(1). It was proposed by The Mayor Councillor Mark Ward and seconded by Councillor Cathal King to observe a minute’s silence as a mark of respect for World Suicide Day.

### **H1/0918** **CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of Annual Meeting of South Dublin County Council 29th June 2018which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of The Mayor Councillor M. Ward seconded by Councillor D. Richardson.
2. Minutes of July County Council Meeting 09th July 2018which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of The Mayor Councillor M. Ward seconded by Councillor C. King.

### **H2a/0918 REPORTS FROM AREA COMMITTEES - RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE - TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE**

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.

### **H2b/0918 REPORTS FROM AREA COMMITTEES - CLONDALKIN AREA COMMITTEE**

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.

### **H2c/0918 REPORTS FROM AREA COMMITTEES - TALLAGHT AREA COMMITTEE**

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.

### **H2c/0918 REPORTS FROM AREA COMMITTEES - LUCAN AREA COMMITTEE**

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.

### **H3/0918 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

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

### **H4/0918 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

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

### **H5/0918** **REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

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

###  **QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by The Mayor Councillor M. Ward, seconded by Councillor L. Dunne and **RESOLVED**:

### “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q30 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0918 GREEN FLAG**

### **QUESTION:** **Councillor P. Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the pilot program undertaken by the Council to trial a Green flag for parks.

**REPLY:**

The Green Flag Award is the international benchmark standard for parks and green spaces. It aims to recognise and reward the best green spaces and encourage high environmental standards.  The Green Flag is a sign that a park is managed to high standards, which have been independently verified. Awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their Green Flag status.

In 2017, South Dublin County Council submitted an application for Corkagh Park and the park was awarded a Green Flag. In 2018 both Corkagh Park and Sean Walsh Park were entered for the award and both were successful in receiving the Green Flag. It is proposed to continue to examine the remaining parks in the County with a view to increase the number of Green Flags on a gradual basis.

The Green Flag is an award which requires renewal on an annual basis and each site is judged on its own merits against the eight award criteria (set out below) having regard to the particular operational opportunities and constraints of the site.  Each of the award criteria is equally weighted and it is acknowledged that not all parks may meet all the criteria.  If a candidate park does not meet a particular criteria this may be explained in the Operations Management Plan which is submitted as part of the application. The Operations Management Plan required for entry in the Green Flag should set out under each award criteria heading how the park operates on a day to day basis in order to meet the criteria and success stories should be highlighted.  It is intended to be a working document which should include a short to medium term action plan.  The Operations Management Plan must be reviewed and updated annually in order to apply for renewal of a Green Flag.

Green Flag Award applications are judged against eight key criteria as follows:

 1. A welcoming place

When approaching the Park, the overall impression should be positive and inviting. There should be good and safe access and good signage to and in the Park

1. Healthy, safe and secure

The Park must be a safe and secure place. Equipment and facilities must be safe to use.

1. Clean and well maintained

The Park should be clean, well maintained and free from litter and vandalism

1. Sustainability

Methods used in maintaining the Park should be environmentally friendly as far as possible. Parks should minimise and justify pesticide use, eliminate horticultural peat use, recycle waste plant material.

1. Conservation and heritage

Particular attention should be paid to the conservation and management of natural features, wildlife and fauna, landscapes and built features.

1. Community involvement

The Park should actively involve members of the community as far as possible. There should be evidence of community involvement within the Park and recreational facilities provided for all sectors of the community.

1. Marketing

A marketing strategy should be in place. There should be good provision of information to users, e.g. about, activities, features, ways to get involved. The park/green space should be promoted as a community resource.

1. Management

An Operations Management Plan should be in place to address the previous 7 criteria. The plan must be actively implemented and reviewed annually."

### **Q2/0918 SOUTH DUBLIN DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016-2022 PROGRESS REPORT - TRANSPORTATION OBJECTIVES**

### **QUESTION: Councillor P. Donovan**

To ask the Chief Executive for a detailed update on the carrying-out of further studies or audits (e.g. cumulative traffic studies) which were committed to in the South Dublin Development Plan 2016-2022?

**REPLY:**

A report is currently being prepared on the progress achieved in securing the objectives of the South Dublin Development Plan 2016-2022. This will outline progress in relation to the achievement of objectives relating to South Dublin County Council role as a Transport Authority. This Report will be provided to the elected members in due course.

 **Q3/0918 25th ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**QUESTION: Councillor M. Duff**

In view of the fact that South Dublin County Council will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its founding (1994) in 2019, will the Chief Executive indicate if there are any plans to mark the occasion and if so, will he inform this Council.

**REPLY:**

Preliminary discussions have taken place regarding how best to celebrate the 25th anniversary of South Dublin County Council in 2019 but no formal plan is currently in place. The Council will form a committee to finalise plans and agree a calendar of events to mark the occasion. Once agreed, this will be communicated in advance to elected members.

### **Q4/0918 RAMP REFURBISHMENT**

### **QUESTION: Councillor P. Foley**

Could details be supplied of the Ramp Refurbishment Programme for each LEA?

**REPLY:**

The 2018 programme of ramp repair is as follows:

LUCAN AREA: Woodview Heights, Airlie heights, Canonbrook Estate, Woodfarm Estate

CLONDALKIN AREA: Greenfort Gardens, Deansrath Park, Cherrywood Grove, Palmerstown Woods, Oldtower Crescent, Oatfield Estate

RATHFARNHAM TERENURE AREA: Daletree Road & Drive, Parklands Road, Templeville Drive & Ave, St Josephs Road, Whitechurch Ave, Beverley Estate, Ashfield Estate

TALLAGHT AREA: Tymonville Estate, Tymon North Gardens, Balrothery Estate, Virginia Heights, Castle Park Court, St Aoengus Green & Crescent, Brookview Drive

### **Q5/0918 REBUILDING IRELAND HOME LOAN**

### **QUESTION:** **Councillor T. Gilligan**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline number of Rebuilding Ireland home loan applications received to date? How many have been approved? How many have been refused?

**REPLY:**

The Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan Initiative was launched in February 2018, to date South Dublin County Council has received 204 applications as detailed below:

* 39 Applications rejected at source
* 58 Applications declined
* 42 Applications currently being processed
* 65 Applications approved in principle

### **Q6/0918 HALLOWEEN EVENTS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive what funding options will be in place to assist residents/community groups in putting on Halloween events to engage with children and young people?

**REPLY:**

Provisions have been made within Community Service Dept. budgets for a total funding stream of up to a maximum €20,000 to be available to Community Centres and Community Groups across the County. This will provide an opportunity for Community Centres and Groups to apply for some funding to assist with the costs of proposals to provide Fun Family Friendly community activities for local residents.

Local Centres and Groups who may have proposals should be advised to contact their local Community Development Teams.

### **Q7/0918 DOG FOULING**

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

To ask the Chief Executive whether the dog warden and litter wardens can patrol dog fouling hotpots (some parks and estates) together in order to deter dog owners from letting dogs stray and hand out fines if applicable?

**REPLY:**

The menace of dog fouling continues to attract attention and is of concern to many across the county.

[**Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1997/act/12/section/22/enacted/en/html), as amended (the Act), states that ....."the person in charge of a dog is subject to a fine or prosecution if he/she does not immediately remove any faeces deposited by their dog in certain places, and/or if that person fails to ensure that the dog litter is properly disposed of in a suitable sanitary manner".

Litter Wardens with specific authorisation under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended, regularly patrol parks and areas where it is perceived that there is a proliferation of dog litter.   (Dog Wardens have no authorisation / warrant under the Litter Pollution Act).

As previously outlined, the difficulty with enforcement of Section 22 is the requirement for witness testimony, to report that the offence happened and that an identified person is the person in charge of the dog. Similarly, given the stance of our parks and open spaces it is not possible for personnel to be at particular location(s) as fouling incident arises.

In efforts to combat the problem of dog foul, and as part of the Litter Management Plan, the Council has embarked on a high level Dog Foul campaign as follows:

Dog Litter Signage (3 different designs) are available and requests for signage are considered. Throughout the year dog litter signs are erected within the county by Council personnel and similarly, signage is provided directly to Councillors / Registered / Residents Groups for distribution and erection locally, subject to certain conditions pertaining to sight lines, health and safety etc.

Similarly, a very forceful media campaign has been undertaken including cinema and radio adverts and currently, dog litter stickers, image attached, are being piloted on existing litter bins demonstrating that these receptacles are suitable for such litter.

Arrangements are also being made for the provision of Green Dog Walker (GDW) promotion material at popup stands in Council's public buildings.  As GDW is a community led initiative it is intended to make a GDW pop up stand available to community groups for use at their community events.

The primary legislation pertaining to control of dogs is the [**Control of Dogs Act 1986**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1986/act/32/section/9/enacted/en/html#sec9). It is a legal requirement under this act that a dog must be under ***effectual control*** at all times when outside of the premises of the owner/person in charge of the dog.

The [**Control of Dogs Regulations 1998**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1998/si/442/made/en/print) set out specific rules for certain breeds of dogs which must be muzzled at all times when out in public.  These regulations also provide that any of these breeds must be led by a person over the age of 16 and kept on a strong short chain or lead not longer than 2 metres in length and wear a collar bearing the name and address of their owner at all times.

**Section 4.1 of the South Dublin County Council's Parks and Open Spaces Bye** **Laws** also provide as follows in relation to Dogs**:**

**4.1** Dogs:-

 4.1.1    No person:

1. a) Shall take into or allow to remain in a Park any dog unless it is under effective control on a leash other than in areas designated (dog runs) or at times specified by the County Council.
2. b) In charge of a dog in a Park shall engage it in coursing or permit it to be engaged in coursing in a Park.

4.1.2    Persons in charge of a dog in a park shall

1. a) Take reasonable care to prevent it from causing annoyance to any person using the Park or worrying, chasing, injuring or disturbing any animals, birds or other creatures in the Park.
2. b) Be liable for any damage or injury which may be caused by the dog.
3. c) Remove it from the Park if so directed by an Employee of the Council or an Authorised Person.

The Council currently has an approved number of Park Rangers (14) whose primary role is to supervise designated park areas and to patrol the grounds to ensure compliance with the Parks & Open Spaces ByeLaws.

However again due to the large area of parklands and open spaces it is not possible for personnel to cover all areas at all times.   Nonetheless as previously committed signage reflecting the ByeLaws in relation to control of dogs have been procured for display in our parks.

### **Q8/0918 QUESTION:** **Councillor S. Holland**

To ask the Chief Executive what the usual time frame is for stump removal following the removal of problematic trees?

**REPLY:**

When a street tree is felled by the Council, it is not always possible to remove the stump immediately.  Under these circumstances a short tree stump is left as a temporary measure. The stump is usually left at around 1m high so that it does not constitute a trip hazard in the intervening period. Tree stump removal is normally undertaken during the winter months between November and February when staff who are engaged in grass cutting operations over the growing season are reassigned to this task. It may also be done once there are a sufficient number within a location for their removal to be economical, subject to staffing commitments to other Public Realm seasonal operations of the time.

The tree stump removals programme for all tree stump removals will resume in the autumn.

### **Q9/0918 STUMP REMOVAL**

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

Can the Chief Executive confirm whether complaints from residents regarding insect infestations and other problems at Council owned dwellings and family hubs have been dealt with?

**REPLY:**

Problems such as those identified by the Councillor have been addressed as part of the refurbishment of the family rooms at the hub.

### **Q10/0918 PAPAL VISIT**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to outline how many families/individuals in emergency accommodation in South Dublin were forced out or left without adequate accommodation during the visit of the Pope?

**REPLY:**

The DRHE working with the four local authorities put in place a contingency plan to monitor and co-ordinate accommodation for homeless families during the Papal Visit.  All families seeking accommodation over the period were accommodated.

The Housing First Outreach Teams (operated by Focus Ireland & Peter McVerry Trust) were out on the streets of Dublin, engaging with people at risk of rough sleeping and working with them to access supports and shelter.  Single persons in general are not placed in B & B's or hotels and their placements were not affected by this visit.

### **Q11/0918 FAMILY HUBS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to outline SDCC policy in relation to homeless families in hubs who are unable to secure accommodation within 18 months’ time, and if they are requested to leave the hub before the end of the 18th month?

**REPLY:**

Family Hubs are the preferred model of temporary accommodation for homeless families.   They represent a better, more caring and more cost-effective alternative to commercial hotels and B&B's.    Hubs are available at Tallaght Cross, The Abberley and Respond Gleann na hEorna in Tallaght.   These hubs are temporary accommodation which allow families time to source private rented accommodation in an area of their choice.  Each Hub has its own rules and regulations. They are not intended as a long term social housing support.  Families are expected and supported to be actively looking for properties using the HAP scheme once they move into the Family Hub. Families leave the Hub freeing the accommodation for another family.  If they have not been successful in finding a suitable property using HAP or are not in line to be offered social housing, the family would revert back to the 'self accommodate' option.  This has not happened to date.

### **Q12/0918 ASHTON DOG POUND**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if the contract with Ashton Dog Pound was renewed in August given the concerns expressed by elected members and members of the public, what is the current status and duration of any contract, and to make a statement on the matter?

**REPLY:**

On 27th March 2017 South Dublin County Council, jointly with Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council, invited tenders for the provision of a Dog Warden Service to Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council, and a Secure Dog Pound Service to South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council, for an initial period of 1 year with the option of extension for a further period not exceeding 2 years, subject to annual performance and other reviews.

One valid tender was received and following assessment by the lead agency Dublin City Council on 9th May 2017, the tender was deemed to have satisfied the selection criteria and South Dublin County Council, Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council accepted the tender of David and Carol Stone t/a Ashton Dog Pound & Warden Service, River Road, Ashtown, Castleknock, Dublin 15 with effect from 1st October 2017.  The first year of contract will expire on 30th September 2018.

Since the award of tender Ashton Dog Pound receives regular, unannounced inspections which are carried out by South Dublin County Council's Veterinary Practitioners who are registered with the Register of Veterinary Practitioners maintained by the Veterinary Council of Ireland. In 2017 eight (8) inspections were carried out between 1st January and 31st December, seven (7) of which were unannounced. To date in 2018 11 inspections have been carried out, all of which were unannounced.

Currently South Dublin County Council, in consultation with the other Dublin Local Authorities, is examining options in relation to the contract in line with the terms of that contract which are currently in place.

### **Q13/0918 PUBLIC HOUSING UPDATE**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on all public housing projects in the County, and to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

**The following is a list of current housing projects totalling 350 housing units which are on site with expected dates of delivery.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scheme**  | **No. of Units**  | **Status**  | **Expected Handover Completion Date**  |
| St. Marks  | 11  | On site  | September 2018  |
| Fortunestown MacUilliam  | 28  | On site  | September 2018  |
| Mayfield  | 17  | Completed  | Completed  |
| Dromcarra, Tallaght  | 14  | On site  | October 2018  |
| Letts Field, Neilstown, Clondalkin  | 37  | On site  | December 2018  |
| Owendoher, Ballyboden  | 40  | On site  | December 2018  |
| Killinarden  | 26  | On site  | November 2018  |
| Sheehy Skeffington Meadows - RAPID  | 85  | On site  | 69 units completed to date. 16 units due to be completed in October 2018.  |
| Skeehy Skeffington Meadows - TAP  | 5  | On site  | October 2018  |
| Killininny, Oldbawn – RAPID  | 24  | On site  | September 2018  |
| St. Cuthberts - RAPID  | 63  | Due on site  | July 2019  |
| TOTAL | 350 |    |    |

 The following are the next tranche of sites which are being advanced to Part 8 which will deliver 218 housing units.  Two sites at Collinstown Grove and a site at Lucan Road were circulated to the Approved Housing Bodies with expressions of interest to be submitted by the 31st August.  Further lands are being progressed and will inform the Council when they are at a more advanced stage.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lands at Tallaght Stadium and Whitestown Way, Tallaght.  | 81  |    | Part 8 Publication Process to be published on 13/09/18  |
| Riversdale, New Nangor Road, Clondalkin  | 44  |    | Part 8 Publication Process Submission date 14/09/2018  |
| Templeogue Village  |  11  |    | Part 8 Publication Process submission date is 21/09/2018  |
| Homeville, Old Knocklyon Rd/Firhouse  | 16  |    | Part 8 Publication Process submission date 25/06/2018. Will go to Council September 2018 Meeting.  |
| St. Catherines, Knockmore, Tallaght  | 13  |    | Part 8 Publication Process submission date 27/7/2018. Will go to Council September 2018 Meeting.  |
| Fernwood /Maplewood, Springfield  | Fernwood – 28 units. Maplewood Road 25 units  |    | Part 8 Publication Process submission date 31/8/2018. Will go to October Council 2018 Meeting.  |

### **Q14/0918 CAS PROPOSAL ST. MAELRAUNS**

### **QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

Can the Council confirm whether representations were made to purchase these properties at St Maelruain's Park, Tallaght under the Capital Acquisitions Scheme? Will the Council consider purchasing them if they are still available?

**REPLY:**

As of the 23rd of August no Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) proposal has been submitted by an Approved Housing Body for the acquisition of units at St. Maelruains Park, Tallaght. These properties are currently under investigation by the Environmental Services Department in respect of possible dereliction. These properties are currently not on the market for sale.

### **Q15/0918 INVITATION TO MINISTER**

### **QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

The motion below was passed at the May OP&F. Can the Chief Executive update as to whether representations were sent to the Minister and whether any response has been received?

**REPLY:**

A letter was sent on 19th June 2018 to the Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government, Eoghan Murphy, inviting him to attend the next full Council meeting to discuss the situation of housing in the county. To date no reply has been received. A follow-up reminder will be issued highlighting the original letter and motion.

### **Q16/0918 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

### **QUESTION: Councillor G. O'Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the options available to this Council under the URDF (Urban Regeneration and Development Fund) on which the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government recently briefed all LA Chief Executives and if he would make a comment on the matter.

**REPLY:**

There is a Headed Item on this matter listed on the agenda which details the Councils bid proposals under the URDF.

### **Q17/0918 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

### **QUESTION: Councillor G. O'Connell**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is any possible way that this Council can make a bid for the Development of Social Housing in current and future Special Development Zones under the recently announced URDF (Urban Regeneration and Development Fund) given that Special Development Zones are specifically referred to in the Scheme and if any such bids have been submitted or are in the process of being submitted by this Council.

**REPLY:**

There is a Headed Item on this matter listed on the agenda which details the Councils bid proposals under the URDF.

### **Q18/0918 CLIMATE ACTION**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to update the Council on actions being taken to meet targets set by Government in respect of Climate Change; will he outline his views in respect of this serious matter and will he make a statement.

**REPLY:**

The Draft Climate Change Action Plan is expected to be formally published in early 2019 for consultation and will involve a programme of stakeholder engagement and participation at both regional and local level.

The current schedule for the plan is as follows:

* The Department is revising EPA Guidelines Report 164 which will include the template that must be followed in the preparation of the Climate Action Plans, it is expected that this will issue in late September.
* A final draft of the plan and scoping for SEA/AA will be carried out in October
* Presented to the Environment SPC in November
* Presented to the full council in December
* If the Draft Plan is adopted - Public consultation will commence in late January

On 19th January 2018 the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Denis Naughten T.D., published Ireland’s first statutory National Adaptation Framework and announced funding of €10m to establish Local Authority Climate Action Regional Offices (CARO). There will be four regional offices, one in Dublin for the four Dublin Authorities, one in Kildare for the midlands region, and Mayo and Cork for the Atlantic Region North and South respectively. The Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office has completed some of the recruitment process; the Senior Engineer (or analogous) competition has been completed. The interviews for the Grade 6 Administration position has also taken place.

Work on the SDCC Draft Climate Action Plan continues in parallel to the establishment of the Climate Action Regional Office.

Work on Adaptation Actions continues across SDCC, including large scale flood alleviation schemes on the Poddle and Whitechurch stream, routine maintenance to the screens and pre-racks and our annual stream cleaning to remove excessive growth from the rivers and streams. SDCC also continues to prepare for severe weather events as we saw last year with the Severe Weather Assessment Team meeting as required. We have also drafted our Rest Centre Plan, Flood Plan and Severe Weather Plan.

Climate Change targets are divided between the energy-savings required of Public Bodies such as local authorities which are required to show a 33% saving of their own energy-usage from their chosen baseline year and the overall environmental performance of the County . SDCC is a member of the EU Covenant of Mayors group of European municipalities dedicated to achieving these targets SDCC has a Sustainable Energy Action Plan produced in conjunction with this grouping since 2013 as its roadmap to pursuing best practice in energy issues.

The Council has upgraded almost all of the 5,000 homes in stock which did not meet energy and comfort standards with a small number still to complete by 2020. Council buildings generally are to a high environmental standard with new buildings progressing to site now set to achieve Near-Zero (NZEB). Likewise SDCC has pursued renewable energy sources in its facilities including CHP, Bio-mass boilers, Solar PV ( including a 50 Kw array on County Hall) , Hot-water solar, and has research programmes under the Tallaght Smart-energy Test-bed. The Council is currently preparing a district-heating pilot project.

Public-lighting is the largest energy user in South Dublin County Council accounting annually for 48% of primary energy use. Of 28,000 existing lamps 7, 528 have been converted to energy-saving LED with 20, 300 remaining in use employing Sox and Son technology. A commitment to replacing an additional 4,000 Sox lights would have a significant impact on the Councils energy use.

Leisure centres at Tallaght and Clondalkin are the second largest energy users in the SDCC portfolio accounting for 13% of the primary energy used annually. Judicious management has reduced energy usage in both centres by 21% since the baseline year. The use of Energy=performance contract by Dublin City Council has delivered energy-reductions of 38% across three leisure centres. SDCC will deliver a similar contract through CODEMA commencing procurement process in October 2018.

Civic offices in Clondalkin and County Hall in Tallaght come next in energy-usage accounting for 11% of annual figures. Overall initiatives have reduced energy-usage in both offices by 10% since baseline year. Electrical load can be reduced by substitution of LED lights for existing fluorescent as already trialled successfully in new office layouts and the canteen. The Heatnet Inter-Reg project if realisable will create Irelands first public district heating scheme reducing gas usage in County Hall by 1 GW annually saving 1736 tonnes of CO2.

Transport accounts for 9% of average annual energy-usage by SDCC – 4.6 GW. A transport energy-management plan will focus on initial replacement of 38 large vehicles and onwards in a three-year programme to replace the fleet with energy-efficient vehicles saving 5%. This may include electrification of elements of the fleet and 5 vehicles were purchased in 2018 as a pilot initiative.

Overall, although SDCC has achieved energy savings across itself of 25.4% since baseline year a further 7.6% is required to meet the 2020 target of 33% - the shortfall is 5.5 GWH annually and will require energy-saving initiatives of a more radical and comprehensive nature and ongoing investment to achieve this target.

### **Q19/0918 TREE MAINTENANCE**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if he appreciates the number of enquiries being received by Councillors and indeed directly to the Council in respect of Trees throughout the County; will he understand that there is concern in many of our communities that more urgent action is required in respect of many of the calls rather than referring the matter to the Maintenance Programme which prevents immediate attention, will he give assurances and make a statement.

**REPLY:**

In line with the Council's Tree Management Policy 2015-2020 "Living With Trees", the focus of all future Tree Maintenance Programmes is on entire roads or whole estates. The objective of this approach is to increase the efficiency and productivity of the tree maintenance  and advance a proactive programme of cyclical pruning targeting priority locations where intervention is most needed.

The application of this more strategic and planned approach to tree maintenance commenced in the 2016 Tree Maintenance Programme.

In addition to the planned whole estate and road programme, reactive and emergency works will continue to be carried out on individually located trees as necessary in order to manage risks to the public. An emergency is defined as a tree that is in immediate and present danger of collapse or causing an obstruction requiring urgent attention. Emergency and reactive tree works will normally take priority over the planned programme of tree maintenance works in estates and it must be recognised that there is consequent impact on progress with the planned programme.

In order to further increase efficiency in planning and delivery of the Council’s tree maintenance service, a 3 Year Rolling Programme of Tree Maintenance is proposed for 2017, 2018 and 2019. This 3 year programme demonstrates further progress in developing a more strategic and planned approach to tree maintenance. The programme is informed and prioritised based on increased knowledge of the health and condition of our trees across the county and on cluster analysis of customer care enquiries as they relate to trees.  The proposed 3 year Programme of Tree Maintenance is a rolling programme to be reviewed annually and is published and regularly updated on the Council’s website [**www.sdcc.ie**](http://www.sdcc.ie/) where it is can be accessed by elected members and members of the public.

 The tree maintenance statistics for the last 3 years shows a year on year improvment in the level of tree maintenance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **2016**  | **2017**  | **End July 2018**  |
| **Trees pruned**  | 1616  | 1766  | 1160  |
| **Trees removed**  | 706  | 1032  | 538  |
| **Trees planted**  | 426  | 606  | 1469  |
|   |    |    |    |

### **Q20/0918 HOMELESS AND HOUSING**

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

To ask the Chief Executive if he will present a report to the Council detailing actions being taken in respect of the Housing and Homeless crisis in our County; will he update members on strategies being followed in respect of the crisis and make a statement covering both issues.

**REPLY:**

**Homeless**

South Dublin County Council has a unit dedicated to providing assistance to those who find themselves homeless.  This unit operate a clinic in County Hall, Tallaght and an outreach service.  The unit offers advice and assistance and explains the options available to those who find themselves in this difficult situation.

Families who present as homeless are given advice on accommodation options by staff in the Homeless Unit.  The Self Accommodate practice will be phased out as alternative accommodation becomes available. Family Hubs are the preferred model of temporary accommodation for homeless families with assistance to move on to private rented accommodation or social housing.  They represent a better, more caring and more cost-effective alternative to commercial hotels and B&B's.  Hubs are available at Tallaght Cross, The Abberley and Respond Gleann na hEorna in Tallaght.    The DRHE is currently examining the possibility of acquiring another Hub in the County.  We continue to work with the DRHE and look for suitable locations or property throughout the County which could be used to provide adequate emergency accommodation and will keep the Council briefed.

There is also a Homeless facility at Riversdale House catering for older long term Homeless singles. Killininny House offers accommodation for single men and additional placements are available as 'step down/transitional' accommodation.  We continue to explore options to support those coming out of supported temporary accommodation.  Other hostel type accommodation is operated through the Central Placement Services and is not in the control of this local authority and as a result the service can only offer the accommodation that is available on any given day.  We continue to work with various agencies and on initiatives such as Housing First to support this group.

The Council will continue to operate an outreach service and multi-agency approach to address rough sleepers across the County.  The Outreach worker works closely with the HSE in particular in identifying rough sleepers and sourcing appropriate accommodation and support services. The needs of rough sleepers are often very complex and challenging and require a comprehensive and coordinated approach.

**Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**

HAP is a form of social housing support provided by all local authorities. Under HAP, SDCC can provide housing assistance to households with a long-term housing need, including many long-term Rent Supplement recipients.

Anyone assessed as homeless by the homeless unit is eligible to apply for the HAP scheme.  This is the quickest path out of homelessness and advice is available from the Homeless Unit on how to access this scheme.

### **Q21/0918 LITTER / GRAFFIT INITIATIVES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm his commitment to deal with the Litter/Graffiti issue which is of concern to our communities in our County; will he detail actions being taken and confirm that additional resources will be provided at Budget time to continue efforts to eliminate the problem.

**REPLY:**

Litter / Graffiti is managed in accordance with the provisions of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended, and through the Council's supporting Annual Action Plan developed as part of the Litter Management Plan 2014-2019.

There is a three strand approach to managing these issues under the plan as follows:

1. Enforcement & Licensing
2. Management and maintenance of the public realm
3. Communication, education and awareness

 Initiatives in 2018 include but are not limited to the following:

* Planned / Scheduled public realm works including scheduled and reactive clean-ups
* Village cleansing
* Road sweeping
* Litter Bin provision and replacement
* Anti-Dumping Initiative applications to WERLA
* Dog Foul campaigns - cinema and radio advertisements / dog foul bags / green dog walker promo
* Social Credits Scheme - Landscaping projects / community clean-ups supports
* Dublin Street Canvas pilot
* Graffiti removal
* Litter Warden Patrols - Fixed Penalty Notices
* Use of CCTV/ emerging technologies
* Engagement in SBIR - Smart Dublin Illegal Dumping Challenge

### **Q22/0918 HALLOWEEN BONFIRES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to update members of plans in place to deal with the annual challenges presented by the Bonfire Season at Halloween; will he understand the concern of communities in respect of damage caused to our Open Spaces and in that regard confirm the annual cost of dealing with these matters; will he give assurances and make a statement.

**REPLY:**

The burning of waste is prohibited under legislation, 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.

As in previous years the Councils response this Halloween Season as provided by our Public Realm Section has already commenced in August with a number of complaints about storage of bonfire material having been received and responded to by Public Realm crews.  This will continue through the months of September and October followed by clean up of bonfire sites in November.

All available resources will be deployed to the preventative collections of bonfire materials prior to this Halloween, crews will be assigned to this task as necessary during normal working hours but also at weekends and on the run up to October 31st itself.

Priority will again be given to the removal of material located beside or very close to houses, park facilities such as playgrounds and pavilions, under overhead services such as power lines, and on main traffic routes (roads/ verges) where a threat may arise to traffic and where the Council are requested to take action by the Gardaí.

The exercise to survey and map bonfire sites in 2017 recorded a total of 388 bonfire sites in total across the County, broken down as shown below.  The mapping exercise will be repeated once again in 2018 and this will provide details of bonfire sites to be cleaned and these sites will also then need to be revisited for reinstatement in 2019 once ground conditions permit.

* Bonfires North of N7 =     148
* Bonfires South of N7 =     240

Interesting statistics to note from 2017:

* From mid-October to 31st October, through reports made directly through the offices and through our out of office hours service, the Council was notified of **c 300** locations (excluding duplicate locations) advising of stockpiling.
* a total of **55 tonnes** of bonfire materials was collected by the staff and prevented from being placed on bonfires over the Bank Holiday weekend and including Tuesday 31st October 2017.
* In the two week period prior to Halloween a quantity of waste materials totalling **156 tonnes** was collected by SDCC staff and it is estimated that the vast majority of this was material intended for bonfires.
* Post Halloween **201** tonnes of waste was removed
* The cost of Halloween 2017 was c **€87,000** including payroll, plant /machinery and waste disposal costs and this is typical of the annual cost to the Council in each of the past 4 years.

The 2018 Halloween strategy is similar to the strategy engaged in previous years which also provides for a safe and pro-environmental message as follows:

* a [**colourful information leaflet**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=d0883cca-0c11-4235-ab04-a80701191e80) providing facts and tips on how to stay safe at Halloween.   The leaflet also contains details of the various family events hosted by South Dublin County Council’s Libraries.
* Door to door WEEE collection prior to Halloween by RecycleIT
* A Halloween pack including information and activity sheets will be made available to all schools
* Halloween Recycle workshops are being carried out in schools
* Bulbs not Bonfires scheme is being provided through the Social Credits Scheme. This is a reward available and the initiative provides communities with flowers in the spring in return for organising alternative Halloween activities which will not harm our environment.
* Passes will be provided to social credits applicants for access to the Civic Amenity Site from the 16th October – 13th November 2018
* The Council will examine how best to use social media to convey the importance of public safety and the protection of the environment during this Halloween season.

### **Q23/0918 SAFE HOME IRELAND**

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

To ask the Chief Executive support is offered by South Dublin County Council to Irish emigrants who were forced by the economic crash to leave their country but are now unable to return due to the housing crisis.

To also ask if SDCC has engaged with or has plans to engage with Safe Home Ireland, an organisation that offers support to emigrants wishing to return home.

**REPLY:**

There are many categories of Irish emigrants returning to Ireland.  Application can be made to South Dublin County for social housing support if needed and each individual application will be assessed.

Safe Home Ireland was specifically set up to assist older qualifying Irish born emigrants to explore the option of returning to secure affordable housing back in their native areas.  Safe Home Ireland has identified some Irish emigrants who wish to return and permanently live within this County.  Safe Home Ireland is working with the Approved Housing Bodies in this regard.  South Dublin County Council has to take their wishes to return to Ireland in conjunction with the significant numbers of older persons already on the housing list and the limited accommodation available.

**Q24/0918 MAINTENANCE OF GRASS VERGES**

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

To ask for a report into who is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of grass verges outside houses and at side of houses? Who is responsible if anyone trips or falls on unmaintained verges? Who enforces the maintenance of grass verges?

**REPLY:**

The Council cuts roadside verges on district distributor roads, main roads and outside public parks and open spaces as part of grass cutting operations. The Council does not cut roadside verges to the front or side of houses in housing estates, this is the responsibility of the owner or resident of the property.  There is no legislation or bye law in place which can be enforced in this regard.  Liability in the event of an accident will depend on the circumstances and in particular the cause of the accident.

### **Q25/0918 HORSES**

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

To ask for a report into horses that have been seized by SDCC from between January to August and cost of same? How many had to be put down? How many where re-housed or claimed?

Also to add comment on the working Regional Horse Forum set up by SDCC and efforts been made to tackle abandoned horses.

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council has responsibility for the administration of the [**Control of Horses Act 1996**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1996/act/37/enacted/en/html), which makes provision for the licensing of horses in urban areas (and other areas) where horses cause a danger to persons or property or nuisance.

Problems associated with keeping such horses in an urban area may include neglect and cruelty to the animals, damage to public property including parks, sports pitches and grass verges, danger posed to public safety and general nuisance posed by presence of horses in public places.

South Dublin County Council has a proven track record in the effective management of this service, and also works closely with the DSPCA in monitoring horses within South Dublin County.

All reports of loose/stray horses which are received from elected representatives, members of the public and Council staff are considered in a timely manner and, as appropriate, are referred to the contractor engaged by the Council for the provision and operation of the horse seizure service and horse pound facility.

All seized horses are taken to the horse pound facility where they are microchipped on arrival, (if not already microchipped) and examined by a veterinary practitioner. Horses which are unsuitable for re-homing or not reclaimed by their owners within a period of five days from the date of seizure and detention the Council (or Garda Superintendent) may dispose of by way of sale, re-homing or animal euthanasia.

To date in 2018, (1st January to 31st July) 113 horses were impounded, 2 horses were reclaimed by their owners, 25 horses were rehomed and 86 horses were euthanised.  (It should be noted that not all animals seized are suitable for rehoming)

South Dublin County Council receives subvention from DAFM for the delivery of the service (specifically in relation to the cost of seizures) and total expenditure on managing the service to date (31/7/2018) is c €130,000

The Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group established in August 2017 has met on five occasions, with the most recent meeting held on 30th August 2018.

Significant progress by 4 dedicated working groups in the following areas can be reported:

* improving Animal Welfare through increased liaison with key stakeholders
* increasing education and awareness through planned programmes delivered at equestrian centres
* minimising indiscriminate breeding through regulated supervised castration programmes
* current review of legislation with a view to making submission to DAFM on new draft legislation currently being considered by a higher level national working group

### **Q26/0918 SCRAMBLERS & QUADS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report into Scramblers and Quads within SDCC. How many warning letters have been sent? What efforts are being made by SDCC to tackle this antisocial behaviour?

Also to comment on the workings/agenda of the Regional Scrambler and Quad forum set up by SDCC.

**REPLY:**

On-going problems associated with scramblers and quads in some parts of the county is causing distress to residents, sporting clubs and the Council as their quality of life being is impacted negatively through extreme damage to community open spaces and playing facilities. The council is actively working with An Garda Síochána, community representatives and residents of various housing estates in relation to this issue.

Public Realm works have been initiated at some locations in an attempt to combat the problem e.g. run of 1.2 metre high fencing along the side of the green space areas, provision of bollards etc and we continue to explore opportunities to address the access problems at existing and emerging problematic locations.

Some of the areas where boundary fencing has been requested include Killinarden Park, Butler McGee Park, Jobstown Park, Dodder Valley Park, Tymon Park (at the Basketball Arena), Bancroft Park, Glenshane Green and St Cuthbert's in Clondalkin. Each location is examined to determine the most appropriate level of boundary treatment which is required, and this determines the likely cost of implementing a solution at each location.  This is then considered within the context of the existing budget provision.

The Council is cognisant that as requests for new and improved boundary treatments continue to be received, and as the list grows, the potential cost of both honouring commitments already given as well as responding positively to new requests received has the potential to escalate to a level where the current financial provision cannot meet what is required.

Following motions passed by this Council, a Taskforce has recently been established between the four Dublin Local Authorities, Department of Justice, Department of Transport, An Garda Síochána, Motor cross and the Road Safety Authority in relation to dealing with ongoing matters about the use, misuse and dangers of scramblers and quadbikes across Dublin City and County.

The first meeting of the taskforce took place on Thursday 21st June 2018 in County Hall, Tallaght and was very well attended. Focus for the Task Force include legislation and enforcement, and is considered timely given Justice Minister, Charlie Flanagan's recent announcement that he is set to consider additional legislation to tackle the anti-social misuse of scramblers and quad bikes.

The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for Thursday 13th September 2018.

No warning letters have been issued by the Council in respect of the use of quads as currently there is no legislative means of identifying who owns or uses scramblers.

### **Q27/0918 DISPOSABLE COFFEE CUPS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive what steps SDCC has taken towards the elimination of disposable take-away coffee cups within Council premises and the county as a whole.

**REPLY:**

The issue of disposable/single use plastics has garnered a lot of national and international attention of late. Currently in Ireland this waste stream is not recyclable and conservative estimates suggest we use well in excess of 200 million disposable cups every year.

In efforts to address this issue South Dublin County Council, in conjunction with Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council, as part of our waste prevention programme, have launched a major awareness campaign to tackle the growing environmental issue of disposable coffee cups in the Dublin region. The new campaign, ‘[**Don’t be Dick’**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Media/Item/39202?p=1), highlights how careless actions can have serious consequences on the environment, and asks consumers to think about their coffee drinking habits in a new way. The campaign will run across radio, Dublin Bus, cinema, digital and social media over the coming weeks.

In addition to this reusable cup awareness:

* SDCC does not purchase disposable coffee cups - (Café Co Co (Coffee Dock) is a separately managed facility and the current service provider does not supply compostable cups. ‘Keep Cups’ however are something that the service provider is currently examining and hope to introduce in the near future)
* In February the [**Conscious cup campaign**](https://consciouscup.ie/) was launched in SDCC, as part of the, Café CoCo is incentivising all customers by offer of a 10c discount when they bring their own reusable cup.
* A SDCC staff reusable cup campaign was launched by Mayor Ward on the 16th August in County Hall and multiple pledges were received.
* Community groups are also being encourage to engage with and promote the reusable cup campaign by taking part in the Councils reusable cups community project. Community groups through the Social credits Scheme can request reusable cups, pledge forms and pops-ups to promote the cups at community events. A number of community groups have already engages with the initiative eg St Cuthberts community day
* EWCC will also continue to work closely with the Conscious Cup Campaign (www.consciouscup.ie), to encourage cafes, coffee shops, garages etc. to become a supporter of the campaign by accepting reusable cups and offering discounts to those choosing not to use disposable cups. In addition SDCC, as part of the Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN), has made submission to the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment in relation to the proposed introduction of a levy (15c) on disposable cups.

There is no legislative provision to ban the use of non-recyclable receptacles in the Council's own buildings but in accordance with the EMRWMP there is a requirement on each local authority to reduce their residual waste and meet increased recycling targets.

Details of the Reusable /Recyclable initiatives are continuously provided to the EPR&CC SPC as part of relevant reports on waste management and recycling.

### **Q28/0918 HALLOWEEN BONFIRES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the Council’s plans for the removal of bonfire materials in the lead up to Halloween and details of any plans to highlight the dangers on social media. To also include in the report the costs incurred in dealing with bonfires and the aftermath for the last 4 years.

**REPLY:**

The burning of waste is prohibited under legislation, 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.

As in previous years the Councils response this Halloween Season as provided by our Public Realm Section has already commenced in August with a number of complaints about storage of bonfire material having been received and responded to by Public Realm crews.  This will continue through the months of September and October followed by clean up of bonfire sites in November.

All available resources will be deployed to the preventative collections of bonfire materials prior to this Halloween, crews will be assigned to this task as necessary during normal working hours but also at weekends and on the run up to October 31st itself.

Priority will again be given to the removal of material located beside or very close to houses, park facilities such as playgrounds and pavilions, under overhead services such as power lines, and on main traffic routes (roads/ verges) where a threat may arise to traffic and where the Council are requested to take action by the Gardaí.

The exercise to survey and map bonfire sites in 2017 recorded a total of 388 bonfire sites in total across the County, broken down as shown below.  The mapping exercise will be repeated once again in 2018 and this will provide details of bonfire sites to be cleaned and these sites will also then need to be revisited for reinstatement in 2019 once ground conditions permit.

* Bonfires North of N7 =     148
* Bonfires South of N7 =     240

Interesting statistics to note from 2017:

* From mid-October to 31st October, through reports made directly through the offices and through our out of office hours service, the Council was notified of **c 300** locations (excluding duplicate locations) advising of stockpiling.
* a total of **55 tonnes** of bonfire materials was collected by the staff and prevented from being placed on bonfires over the Bank Holiday weekend and including Tuesday 31st October 2017.
* In the two week period prior to Halloween a quantity of waste materials totalling **156 tonnes** was collected by SDCC staff and it is estimated that the vast majority of this was material intended for bonfires.
* Post Halloween **201** tonnes of waste was removed
* The cost of Halloween 2017 was c €**87,000** including payroll, plant /machinery and waste disposal costs and this is typical of the annual cost to the Council in each of the past 4 years.

The 2018 Halloween strategy is similar to the strategy engaged in previous years which also provides for a safe and pro-environmental message as follows:

* a [**colourful information leaflet**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=d0883cca-0c11-4235-ab04-a80701191e80) providing facts and tips on how to stay safe at Halloween.   The leaflet also contains details of the various family events hosted by South Dublin County Council’s Libraries.
* Door to door WEEE collection prior to Halloween by RecycleIT
* A Halloween pack including information and activity sheets will be made available to all schools
* Halloween Recycle workshops are being carried out in schools
* Bulbs not Bonfires scheme is being provided through the Social Credits Scheme. This is a reward available and the initiative provides communities with flowers in the spring in return for organising alternative Halloween activities which will not harm our environment.
* Passes will be provided to social credits applicants for access to the Civic Amenity Site from the 16th October – 13th November 2018
* The Council will examine how best to use social media to convey the importance of public safety and the protection of the environment during this Halloween season.

### **Q29/0918 NATIONAL VACANT HOUSING RE-USE STRATEGY 2018- 2021**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the development of a Vacant Home Strategy by South Dublin County Council as set out in Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness. This report should include a statement and relevant statistics on the following objectives set out in the Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness

* 1: Complete a register of vacant units across the country,
* 2: Identify the number, location and reasons for longer term vacancies (i.e. over 6 months) in high demand areas
* 3: Set out a range of actions to bring vacant units back into use

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County has the lowest vacancy rate in the Country at 3.6% (as per the CSO 2016). In accordance with the National Vacant Housing Re-use Strategy 2018- 2021, each local authority was required to identify the scale of vacant homes and develop plans to address vacancy within their administrative area, by categorising those homes by location, ownership and reason for vacancy and subsequently to identify those properties that have the potential to be refurbished and made available for use. There are currently 52 vacant units identified across the County broken down by Area Committee as follows.

Tallaght - 13

Lucan - 8

Clondalkin -19

Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Terenure - 12

The Council’s Vacant Homes Officer acts as central advisory point for property owners in terms of providing advice, assistance and information on these schemes which are available to bring properties back to use. There are several initiatives in place with the aim of encouraging and enabling privately owned vacant homes to be brought back into use whether to the social housing or private rented market these include:

* Repair and Leasing Scheme
* Buy and Renew Scheme
* Long- Term Leasing
* RAS
* HAP

In addition the Housing Agency is engaging with banks, financial institutions and investors to purchase suitable units for social housing use.

The aim in the first instance would be to encourage property owners to engage with the Council and find solutions for the vacant home units without having to resort to the Compulsory Purchase process However Local Authorities do have a range of legislative powers available to deal with under- utilised and derelict properties for example through the Compulsory Purchase Powers and Derelict Sites Legislation.

Vacant properties can be reported via [**http://vacanthome.ie**](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=jJOE2wL3y_Q1YXrxCkROYD7gW2g0XOuP_9rvhS5U8Q&s=344&u=http%3a%2f%2fvacanthome%2eie%2f)

### **Q30/0918** [**HOMELESS REPORT**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=60867)

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on homelessness within SDCC. This report should include a quarterly breakdown from Jan 2017 to date on the number of homeless males, females, couples, families, under 18s and over 65s and what size property they are eligible for?

**REPLY:**

The following gives the details of the numbers of those registered as homeless with the Council for 2017 and to date in 2018. Information is provided on the type of accommodation needed e.g 1/2/3/4 bedrooms.

Individuals aged under 18 (not part of families) are not eligible for social housing support from South Dublin County Council.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2018  | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | **Dec**  |
| **No. of Registered Homeless**  | 488  | 515  | 550  | 653  | 627  | 601  | 618  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Single Male  | 224  | 229  | 222  | 279  | 259  | 242  | 251  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Single Female  | 53  | 48  | 48  | 67  | 60  | 59  | 63  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Couples  | 10  | 10  | 11  | 11  | 8  | 6  | 7  |    |    |    |    |   |
| Families  | 201  | 228  | 269  | 296  | 300  | 294  | 297  |    |    |    |    |   |
|    | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | **Dec**  |
| **No. of Registered Homeless**  | 488  | 515  | 550  | 653  | 627  | 601  | 618  |    |    |    |    |   |
| 1 bed  | 259  | 263  | 254  | 329  | 289  | 266  | 277  |    |    |    |    |   |
| 2 bed  | 129  | 145  | 165  | 178  | 182  | 186  | 190  |    |    |    |    |   |
| 3 bed  | 80  | 86  | 109  | 121  | 129  | 166  | 120  |    |    |    |    |   |
| 4 bed  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 25  | 27  | 33  | 31  |    |    |    |    |   |

\*Due to the processing of outstanding documentation and the ongoing SHA 2018, there may be a fluctuation of figures for registered homeless from April - June

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2017  | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | **Dec**  |
| **No. of Registered Homeless**  | 437  | 447  | 459  | 469  | 461  | 416  | 462  | 465  | 447  | 459  | 466  | **475**  |
| Single Male  | 192  | 193  | 201  | 202  | 204  | 181  | 207  | 210  | 207  | 203  | 221  | **223**  |
| Single Female  | 48  | 46  | 51  | 52  | 54  | 46  | 47  | 50  | 48  | 47  | 48  | **53**  |
| Couples  | 2  | 2  | 2  | 2  | 4  | 7  | 10  | 11  | 11  | 10  | 10  | **10**  |
| Families  | 195  | 206  | 205  | 213  | 199  | 182  | 198  | 194  | 181  | 199  | 187  | **189**  |
|    | Jan  | Feb  | Mar  | Apr  | May  | Jun\*  | Jul  | Aug  | Sep  | Oct  | Nov  | **Dec**  |
| **No. of Registered Homeless**  | 437  | 447  | 459  | 469  | 461  | 416  | 462  | 465  | 447  | 459  | 466  | **475**  |
| 1 bed  | 230  | 233  | 239  | 247  | 252  | 222  | 250  | 255  | 253  | 249  | 255  | **258**  |
| 2 bed  | 103  | 108  | 109  | 109  | 96  | 79  | 98  | 103  | 98  | 105  | 113  | **121**  |
| 3 bed  | 88  | 90  | 94  | 94  | 95  | 93  | 91  | 84  | 74  | 82  | 76  | **74**  |
| 4 bed  | 16  | 16  | 17  | 19  | 17  | 22  | 23  | 23  | 22  | 23  | 22  | **22**  |

\* The Homeless Register was reviewed at end of June/start of July 2017 during the HNA/SHA 2017 process which resulted in a fluctuation in the number of applicants with homeless priority.

### **H6/0918 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

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

### **H7a/0918 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF FEE SIMPLE IN 583 WOODVIEW COTTAGES, RATHFARNHAM, DUBLIN 14**

The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. Frank Nevin, Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, and was **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  |
| 583 Woodview Cottages, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 | Deborah Skelly | €43.36 |

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.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by the Mayor Councillor M. Ward, seconded by Councillor E. Higgins and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed Disposal of the Fee Simple in 583 Woodview Cottages, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **H7b/0918 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PORTION OF LANEWAY TO REAR 250 KILLINARDEN ESTATE, TALLAGHT, DUBLIN 24**

### The houseowner of 250 Killinarden Estate wishes to purchase a portion of laneway to the rear of his dwelling to incorporate into his existing garden. The Public Right of Way in the laneway was extinguished by approval of the elected members at Council meeting of 14 September 1998.

The matter was referred to the Council’s Valuer who has recommended the following terms and conditions which he considers to be fair and reasonable and which have been accepted by the Applicant.

Accordingly, I now recommend that the Council disposes of the plot of land measuring 0.0024 hectares (24 square metres) to the rear of 250 Killinarden Estate as outlined in red on the attached Drawing No. LA/24/18 to the Applicant, Leonard Mc Dermott, in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 subject to the following terms and conditions as recommended by the Council’s Valuer:-

1. That the subject plot comprises an area of 0.0024 hectares (24 square metres) or thereabouts and is outlined in red on the attached Drawing No. LA/24/18.
2. That the Council disposes of the subject plot for the consideration of €300 (three hundred euro) plus VAT (if applicable).
3. That the subject plot is disposed of with full freehold title and vacant possession.
4. That the Applicant holds the freehold or equivalent interest in 250 Killinarden Estate, Tallaght, Dublin 24.
5. That the Public Right of Way over the subject plot has been extinguished.
6. That all boundary features shall be in accordance with the Planning & Development and the Building Control legislation.
7. That the Applicant pays the Council’s legal fees plus VAT and outlay.
8. That the Applicant pays the Valuer’s fees of €250 plus VAT
9. That in the event of any name change to Applicant prior to formal completion of the legal transfer, the Applicant must provide documentary evidence to the Council proving that the new named party is one and the same as the named Applicant heretofore to enable the transfer to complete.
10. That all parties use their best endeavours to complete the transaction within a reasonable timeframe following adoption of the disposal resolution.
11. That the Law Agent drafts the necessary legal agreements and includes any further terms deemed appropriate in Agreements of this nature.
12. That no contract enforceable at Law is created or intended to be created until such time as contracts have been exchanged.
13. That the disposal is subject to the necessary approvals and consents being obtained.

The lands being disposed of form part of the lands acquired from Dublin City Council (formerly Dublin Corporation) in 1997 under the Scheme of Transfer of Lands pursuant to the Local Government (Dublin) Act, 1993.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor C. King, seconded by Councillor D O’Brien and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed Disposal of the Fee Simple of portion of laneway to rear 250 Killinarden Estate, Tallaght, Dublin 24, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **H8/0918 MANAGERS REPORT**

###  The following reports by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive and were **CONSIDERED:**

**Billing and Collection Statement**

**Use of overdraft facility**

Department approved overdraft facility = €25,000,000

No of days in Overdraft from 1st January to 24th August 2018 = 0

[H8 (b) Stats July Council Management Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=60855)
[H8 (c) August Council Management Report Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=60879)
[H8 (d) August Council Management Report Strategy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=60880)

### The Reports were **NOTED.**

### **H9/0918 LOCAL PROPERTY TAX VARIATION**

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

a) - To consider LPT Variation

b) - To consider outline Budget Strategy

c) - Fin 04 2018 Provisional 2019 LPT Allocations

Mr Ronan FitzGerald Head of Finance, gave a presentation relating to the variation of the local adjustment factor for the Local Property Tax. The presentation addressed the councils estimated Income & Expenditure for 2019, the current financial position of the local authority, the financial effect of a variation of the LPT, the outcome of the public consultation which took place between the 4th July and the 8th August and that 6 submissions were received, all seeking a reduction in LPT.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. King, P. Gogarty, G. O’Connell, R. McMahon, K. Mahon, and D. Looney.

Mr. Ronan FitzGerald Head of Finance responded to the Members queries.

Councillor. C King proposed and The Mayor Councillor M Ward seconded a reduction of 15% in the rate of property tax.

**A roll call vote on the reduction of the LPT by 15% was taken and the result was as follows:**

**FOR: 27 (TWENTY SEVEN)**

Councillors V. Casserly, P. Donovan, F. Duffy, L. Dunne, K. Egan, B. Ferron, P. Foley, T. Gilligan, J. Graham, S. Holland, M. Johansson, C. King, W. Lavelle, B. Lawlor, B. Leech, C. McCann, C. McMahon, R. McMahon, K. Mahon, M. Murphy, R. Nolan, D. O’Brien, E. O’Brien, C. O’Connor, D. Richardson, R. Russell and M. Ward.

**AGAINST: 8 (EIGHT)**

Councillors B. Bonner, M. Duff, M. Genockey, P. Gogarty, P. Kearns, D. Looney, G. O’Connell and D. O’Donovan

The Local Property Tax Variation was **APPROVED**.

### **H10/0918 2017 AUDIT REPORT**

The following report by Mr. D McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance and was **CONSIDERED:**

[H10 2017 Audit Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=60817)

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **H11/0918 PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION**

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

**Presidential Election Order 2018**

The Presidential Election Order was issued by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government Eoghan Murphy on 29th August 2018. Polling day is officially set for Friday 26th of October 2018 with voting taking place between 7 am and 10 pm on that date. The closing date for receipt of nomination papers by the Presidential Election Returning Officer is **12 noon on Wednesday 26th of September 2018.**

The issue of the Presidential Election Order means that County Councils can now, if they so resolve, set about formally nominating candidates as legitimate candidates. The resolution of the Council must be given effect by means of a nomination paper [as prescribed in the Presidential Elections (forms) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 – S.I. 329/2018] sealed with the seal of the council and delivered in person to the Presidential Returning Officer no later than 12 noon on 26th of September 2018. Nomination papers from Councils can be delivered by the candidate purported to be nominated or by a representative of the Council making the nomination.

**Key issues for consideration in a nomination process:**

As the nomination of candidates for the Office of President by county, city and city and county councils is a reserved function, regulated by law under section 16 of the Presidential Elections Act 1993, the following key issues should be noted:

* Councils may, by resolution, resolve to nominate **one** candidate
* Councils may also resolve **not** to nominate a candidate
* Not less than 3 clear days’ notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given in writing to every person, who, at the time when the notice is given, is a member of the Council
* Councils intending to get involved in the nomination process should liaise with any other Councils who are proposing to nominate the same candidate to ensure that the details (names, address and occupation) in relation to the candidate on the nomination papers are identical.

Having regard to the closing date for nominations the Council may wish to consider their formal options to meet the statutory timeframe. A draft proposal was considered by the members of the Corporate Policy Group on 3rd September 2018 and it was recommended that, prior to proceeding any further, the full membership of the Council should be consulted as to whether the Council wish to proceed with the nomination process or alternately resolve not to nominate a candidate.

It is therefore proposed that the Members will by resolution at the September Council Meeting, decide whether they wish to proceed with the nomination process. Depending on the outcome of the decision of the Council the following will take place:

(a) If rejected the process will cease and South Dublin County Council will not begin the nomination process

or

(b) If the decision is to proceed then the following is the proposed process:

* Convene a separate session outside of Council Meeting Day to offer potential candidates an opportunity to address the Council and to facilitate adequate time for Q & A. 8 candidates have contacted the Council as of 4th September 2018. A proposed date to hold a separate meeting is **Monday 17th September 2018 at 3.30pm**. This would allow adequate time for potential candidates to be notified after agreement of the Council on the process at the Council meeting.
* Candidates will be offered up to 15 minutes to present, followed by collective Q & A session at which members can raise questions, some unique to each candidate, some generic to all.
* Note: If wished the session could be considered to be informal and not part of any statutory Council Meeting and therefore not open to the public / media.
* A **special meeting of the Council will be required** in order to formally resolve to nominate a candidate, and it is proposed that the Special Council meeting be held either immediately after the presentation meeting on **Monday 17th of September, or** on **Thursday 20th of September** (after the OP & F meeting).
* The process to consider for selecting a candidate is a Roll Call vote.

In the event of the Council agreeing to nominate a candidate the Council must adopt a formal resolution under [**S 16 of the Presidential Elections Act 1993**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1993/en/act/pub/0028/sec0016.html)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Ward, B. Ferron, P. Gogarty, P. Kearns, E. O’Brien, M. Duff, D. Looney, B. Leech, C. O’Connor, G. O’Connell, C. King, B. Lawlor, K. Mahon, E. Higgins, M. Johansson, M. Genockey, P. Foley, and B. Bonner.

It was **AGREED** to hold the Special Meeting for the Presidential Nomination on Thursday 20th September 2018 after the OP&F meeting.

### **H12/0918 SECTION 183 KILCARBERY GRANGE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

### The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. M. Staunton Senior Executive Officer & Mr. E. Conroy, County Architect and was **CONSIDERED:**

Prior to consideration of the Kilcarbery S 183 report by the members Cllr C King proposed “That the Chief Executive withdraw the report for one Month to allow for the potential publication of an affordable housing scheme”. The resolution was seconded by the Mayor Councillor M Ward. The Chief Executive indicated that he would be willing to accept the resolution but made clear that such an affordable scheme, if announced, could not be reversed into the Kilcarbery project at this late stage of a complex procurement process.

Following discussions to which Councillors M. Murphy, M. Ward, C. King, L. Dunne, E. Higgins, K. Mahon, M. Duff, B. Bonner, E O’Brien, D. Looney, W. Lavelle, G. O’Connell, P. Gogarty, M. Johansson, R. McMahon, B. Lawlor, P. Kearns, D. Richardson, B. Ferron, C. McCann, M. Genockey and P. Foley contributed.

**A roll call vote on the resolution was called and the result was as follows:**

**FOR: 20 (TWENTY)**

Councillors: F. Duffy, L. Dunne, B. Ferron, P. Foley, S. Holland, M. Johansson, C. King, B. Leech, D. Looney, C. McCann, K. Mahon, E. Murphy, M. Murphy, D. O’Brien, E, O’Brien, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, D. Richardson, R. Russell and M. Ward.

**AGAINST: 13 (THIRTEEN)**

Councillors: B. Bonner, V. Casserly, P. Donovan, M. Duff, K. Egan, M. Genockey, P. Gogarty, E. Higgins, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, C. McMahon, R. McMahon and D. O’Donovan.

The resolution was passed and the S 183 report on Kilcarbery was **WITHDRAWN** for one Month.

### **H13a/0918 PART 8S – HOUSING - ST. CATHERINE’S - TALLAGHT**

### The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. M. Staunton Senior Executive Officer, and was **CONSIDERED:**

**Part 8 of the Local Government Planning and** [**Development Regulations 2001**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fca2537f-bded-4b06-8526-a94b00fde0c5) **(as Amended),** outlines the requirements with respect to certain classes of developments for, on behalf of, or in partnership with Local Authorities.

These regulations apply to the proposed construction of houses.

It is proposed to construct a social housing development consisting of 7 housing units and 6 apartment units, 13 units in total, on undeveloped lands on a site located at Killinarden Heights, adjacent to Knockmore Avenue (adjoining St. Catherine’s House), Tallaght, Dublin 24.

The proposed development shall consist of:

* 7 no. 3 bedroom – 2 storey house
* 6 no. 2 bedroom – 3 storey apartment

The works include: New access off Killinarden Heights, landscaping works to boundaries, ancillary works, landscaping works, and all necessary associated ancillary works on the site and adjacent areas. All units to be minimum A2 BER rated. The housing provision includes two / three storey units grouped in terraces.

The proposal is illustrated in the accompanying drawings:

[Site Location Map](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=12f7138a-5978-489e-94be-a94a011db890)

[Site Layout](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=75a2e7f8-4957-4319-a48e-a94a011e154e)

[Site Sections](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=ff1cf264-e694-48cf-89d4-a94a011e5513)

[House types 1](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=784abdf0-82f3-4a18-ba5e-a94a011e7e64)

[House Types 2](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fe921cc8-8aab-4980-9751-a94a011eb205)

[3D Images(1)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=8168895e-2bf3-44b4-a0ab-a94a011edf03)

[3D Images(2)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=de33a39d-e4d9-4430-8b96-a94a011f0a2c)

[Aerial View (1)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=d899875a-f801-457f-86ef-a94a011f909d)

[Aerial View (2)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=02b43e6d-66da-4b39-930d-a94a011fb4a6)

Full details can be found in the [County Architects Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=eced2f72-dc8b-4c15-bfcf-a951010cc747)

**Statutory Consultation Process:**

A [notice](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=9d040d8a-0577-4d22-9b1a-a94b00b9ea34) in accordance **Article 81 of the Planning and** [**Development Regulations 2001**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fca2537f-bded-4b06-8526-a94b00fde0c5) **(as Amended), Public Consultation Procedure under Part 8 of the Local Government Planning and** [**Development Regulations 2001**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fca2537f-bded-4b06-8526-a94b00fde0c5) **(as Amended),** was published in the Echo on the 31st May 2018. Site Notices were erected on the same day, all of which were placed at prominent locations facing the site.

Plans and particulars of the development were displayed at Council Offices from 31st May 2018, with a further two week period up to and including 27th July 2018 for submissions and observations to the Council in relation to the matter.

Councillors from the Tallaght South Area Committee were invited to attend a consultation meeting with officials from the Housing and Architects’ departments to discuss the proposed development on the 19th July 2018. The issues raised can be summarised as follows:

* **Overlooking from units onto school yard.**
* **Road Access and Safety to lower Housing Group**

**Submissions:**

That were **no** submissions received during the specified period of the public consultation in respect of the proposed development:

Following full consideration of the above issues, the Council is now proposing the following:

**Overlooking from units onto school yard.**

* Sight lines have been checked and there is minimal and obscured overlooking. This is principally from the rear children’s bedrooms. Planting is already provided to maintain privacy. The partially overlooked area is a small section of the school and does not include the main playground.
* End three storey block may cause overlooking. [ modified to reduce apartment building to two storey and insert additional small family house.

**Road Access and Safety to lower Housing Group**

* The parking has been re-organised to ensure that direct frontal exit

**Modified Proposed Development:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Accommodation Unit** | **Description** |
| 5 | 3 bedroom/4 person  | 2 storey |
| 3 | 3 bedroom/5 person | 2 storey |
| 3 | 2 bedroom/3 person  | 3 storey apartment block |
| 2 | 2 bedroom/3 person  | 2 storey apartment block |

**Modified drawings below:**

[Sheet 02 - Site Layout](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fc225c17-3be9-45ca-b2d6-a95700ccbd65)

[Sheet 03 – Sections](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=76788c4c-331d-4062-952e-a95700cd55ce)

[Sheet 04 – Apt Block1 House Type K4](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=1bf550a3-98a5-4a86-9bc8-a95700cd898d)

[Sheet 05 – Apt Block 2 house Type K5](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=a9d07ae3-7ade-4df0-8b92-a95700cdbf8c)

[Sheet 06 – 3D Images](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=4d9769a5-4849-477d-9b10-a95700ce1e42)

[Sheet 07 – 3D Images](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=c46c43bd-c312-43e5-8ae8-a95700ce4755)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors B. Leech, C. O’Connor, L. Dunne, D. Richardson, and M. Genockey.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor L. Dunne, seconded by Councillor D. Richardson and **RESOLVED:**

“That the **Part 8** St. Catherine’s – Tallaght be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H13b/0918 PART 8S – HOUSING - HOMEVILLE - KNOCKLYON**

The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. M. Staunton, Senior Executive Officer, and was **CONSIDERED:**

It is proposed to construct a social housing development consisting 16 housing units on site located on Old Knocklyon Road [Homeville end ], and bounded by Firhouse Road, and the M50 motorway, (site opposite Homeville Court), at Firhouse, Dublin 16.

The proposed development shall consist of:

• 2 no. 3 bedroom/5 person units - 2 storey

• 5 no. 3 bedroom/5 person units - 2 storey

• 9 no. 2 bedroom/3 person units - 3 storey Apartment Unit

The works include: New access off Old Knocklyon Road, landscaping works to boundaries and new park/play area, ancillary works to landscape housing areas, and all necessary associated ancillary works on the site and adjacent areas. All units to be minimum A2 BER rated. The housing provision includes two / three storey units grouped in terraces.

The proposal is illustrated in the accompanying drawings:

[Sheet 01 – Site Location](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=f58661be-7b35-4802-8912-a8cd00ca5381)

[Sheet 02 – Site Plan](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=793da9c8-3436-4611-800b-a95100acb0f3)

[Sheet 03 – Site Elevations](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=7600d0e0-e3c1-45d1-a6ae-a8cd00cb5922)

[Sheet 04 – Site Elevations](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=b54b2c1e-f642-4d91-bd64-a8cd00cbe2cb)

[Sheet 05 – House Types](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=6d62a94f-63be-41cb-a9bc-a8cd00cc8965)

Full details can be found in the [County Architects Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=0acb4ce1-18e2-4cee-be08-a9510121f099).

**Statutory Consultation Process:**

A [notice](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=2c177b1b-0d89-4507-b87e-a9490120a58f) in accordance with **Article 81 of the Planning and** [**Development Regulations 2001**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=fca2537f-bded-4b06-8526-a94b00fde0c5) **(as Amended)** was published in the Echo on the 26th April 2018. Site Notices were erected on the same day, all of which were placed at prominent locations facing the site.

Plans and particulars of the development were displayed at Council Offices from 26th April 2018, with a further two week period up to and including 25th July 2018 for submissions and observations to the Council in relation to the matter.

Councillors from the Terenure Templeogue Committee along with nominated residents, attended a consultation meeting with officials from the Housing and Architect departments to discuss the proposed development on the 20th June 2018. The following issues were raised:

* The area is prone to flooding – serious concerns expressed regarding the impact of this development on Homeville Court should flooding occur again.
* Access road to the site is narrow with sharp bends and cannot facilitate additional traffic / construction traffic and would be dangerous for pedestrians.
* Overflow parking – Homeville Court already has an issue with cars parking and blocking the road access.
* Traffic congestion on Firhouse Road
* Requested that the Council carry out traffic assessment reports
* 3 Storey buildings not in keeping with existing dwellings in the area
* Homeville has its fair share of social housing with a number of properties rented through HAP & other schemes. Reference made to a number of other social housing developments planned for the Knocklyon/Firhouse area. Concerns that there will be more social housing than private in one area.
* Need for affordable housing in the area – mixed tenure developments would be preferable
* Removal of mature trees bounding Firhouse Road & M50
* Larger play area for children required
* Traffic noise from M50 and Firhouse Rd
* Removal of mature trees

**Submissions:**

A total of 32 submissions were received during the specified period of the public consultation in respect of the proposed development.

*SD-C57-1*

*SD-C57-2*

*SD-C57-3*

*SD-C57-4*

*SD-C57-5*

*SD-C57-6*

*SD-C57-7*

*SD-C57-8*

*SD-C57-9*

*SD-C57-10*

*SD-C57-11*

*SD-C57-12*

*SD-C57-13*

*SD-C57-14*

*SD-C57-15*

*SD-C57-16*

*SD-C57-17*

*SD-C57-18*

*SD-C57-19*

*SD-C5*7-20

SD-C57-21

SD-C57-21

SD-C57-22

SD-C57-23

SD-C57-24

SD-C57-25

SD-C57-26

SD-C57-27

SD-C57-28

SD-C57-29

SD-C57-30

SD-P8-HM-1

SD-P8-HM-2

A summary of the observations and responses listed below:

**Flood Risk:**

The area has been prone to flooding in the past. As a result SDCC commissioned Flood Alleviation Works in the immediate area. The works are substantially complete and deal with the immediate area upstream that produced the flooding. The development proposed is designed to comply with SUDS – it will contain rainwater within the site and release the water in a controlled way. Therefore the site will not contribute to any existing flooding in area. Surface, foul and drainage has been examined provision has been studied to ensure adequate capacity and flow.

**Traffic Volume, hazards and other Transport issues/solutions**

The site is served by a short length of road with narrows at a number of points. The road meets DMURS requirements and development is limited to one side of the road for a portion due to the M50. The existing road provides safe access for the limited development proposed, taken in conjunction with existing and possible future developments. Overall traffic count is less than 1000 and within the limits of the existing carriageway. If newly constructed it would fall outside the recommendation of the NRA 1000-2000 vehicles per day requirements. The existing road is also compatible with DMURS criteria. Traffic calming measures are advisable to the road length, and control of casual parking. Additional traffic from the development will provide additional loading to the existing road but not in excess of the expected capacity of the road type. Area planning and transport is not within the remit of this report excepting where the proposed development impinges on it.

The site is not appropriate for a transport hub due to its close proximity to the bridge over the M50.The site is not designated as a transport hub in planning zoning.

The site is near local / city transport facilities. Optional pedestrian routes, on the ‘old road’, are available to the existing and will be enhanced as part of the project. Additional transport solutions, and initiatives from public and state bodies, would greatly enhance the transport options in the area, reducing the current traffic congestion which is largely car generated.

**3 Storey buildings not in keeping with existing dwellings in the area**

This issue was closely examined at design and prior to presentation to the ACM. Homeville Court opposite the project has three storey elements. The provision of smaller 1 & 2 bed units is also a stated objective of the councillors as recorded in the chamber.

The three story units are not blocks but one over one apartments with own door access. The ground floor units are appropriate for assisted or independent living for people who have a range of disabilities. Two apartment units are placed to the rear providing reduced impact and the unit to the interfaces with the road.

**Predominance of Social Housing in the area and preference for mixed tenure developments.**

The extent of social housing in the area is insignificant compared to other county areas. There is a high demand for social housing in the general area that cannot be provided, even to limited extent, by council lands in the area. The project does not address the balance required.

**Removal of mature trees bounding Firhouse Road & M50.**

Existing healthy mature trees will be retained as indicated and supplementary planting to boundaries will be provided. Where existing properties abut with the development additional planting will be provided. Removal of undergrowth and weed plants to long boundary area on site will be undertaken. Supplementary planting to the M50 / road boundaries forms part of the budget. Where trees are no longer assessed to be healthy the trees will be replaced.

**Traffic noise from M50 and Firhouse Rd**

Noise measurements indicate that supplementary trees are required to the M50 Boundary. Grazing provision will be increased to the M50 & Firhouse Road face of the development.

**Play areas for children**

The provision of open space is to Development Plan standards and more than equivalent to private developments. The ‘old’ road will be landscaped in addition to provide access to the adjacent parkland.

**Further House building on the Knocklyon Utd Football pitch at will put a further strain on local resources.**

This application is formal proposal for Council decision. There is currently no Part 8 application for the Knocklyon site. In the event that such an application is made it must be considered on its own merits**.**

**Car Parking Overflow**

Parking is noted by the local residents as an issue. The proposed housing is self-sufficient in parking and will not introduce a further burden on existing parking as ample parking is provided. In order to reduce the existing burden of parking the project will provide additional parking spaces outside the boundary of the site. Traffic calming will be provided. The entrance to the housing has been moved to avoid any conflict, providing a clear right of way for the existing road- both those measures are a direct response to issues raised at the consultation.

Following full consideration of the above issues, the Council is now proposing the following:

* 2 no. 3 bedroom/5 person units - 2 storey
* 5 no. 3 bedroom/5 person units - 2 storey
* 9 no. 2 bedroom/3 person units - 3 storey Apartment Unit

Existing parking is noted by the local residents as an issue. The proposed housing is self-sufficient in parking and will not introduce a further burden on existing parking as ample parking is provided. In order to reduce the existing burden of parking the project will provide addition parking spaces outside the boundary of the site.

Traffic calming will be provided. The entrance to the housing has been moved to avoid any conflict, providing a clear right of way for the existing road- both those measures are a direct response to issues raised at the consultation.

**Revised drawings:**

[Sheet 01 – Site Location](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=f58661be-7b35-4802-8912-a8cd00ca5381)

[Sheet 02 – Site Plan](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=793da9c8-3436-4611-800b-a95100acb0f3)

[Sheet 03 – Site Elevations](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=856c9d46-8d0a-4a21-9782-a95100ad5265)

[Sheet 04 – Site Elevations](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=b392fe11-3719-46f7-abc9-a95100ae52e0)

[Sheet 05 – House Types](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=6d62a94f-63be-41cb-a9bc-a8cd00cc8965)

[Sheet 06 – 3D Drawing](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=374655cd-70b5-4685-8549-a951011139d8)

[Sheet 07 – 3D Drawing](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=ec294b20-5f20-401a-8bca-a951011162b8)

[Sheet 08 – Site Plan (additional)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/viewdocument.aspx?id=501fc1f4-8f7f-45a8-846e-a95100ae8fef)

The project is recommended for approval by the County Architect, subject to the conditions and modifications above.

It is noted that in terms of parking, open space, flood mitigation measures and sound reduction measures that the project is full independent and all measures are provided within the curtilage of the site.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors R. Russell, D. O’Donovan, P. Foley, S. Holland, C. King, D. Looney, P. Gogarty, P. Kearns, E. Murphy and R. McMahon

Ms. M. Staunton Senior Executive Officer responded to the Members queries

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor R. Russell, seconded by Councillor S. Holland and **RESOLVED:**

“That the **Part 8** Homeville – Knocklyon be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H14a/0918 APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME FROM TUATH HOUSING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 4 DWELLINGS AT 24-27 COLLINSTOWN GROVE, CLONDALKIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 6 OF THE HOUSING (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1992**

The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. M. Staunton Senior Executive Officer, and was **CONSIDERED:**

A proposal under the Capital Assistance Scheme to construct 4 dwellings was submitted by Tuath Housing on the 14th of March 2013. South Dublin County Council supported this proposal in principle and made a submission to the Department of Housing for funding approval. This construction project has progressed through capital appraisal, planning, tender and final budget approval with the Department, capital works management framework, four stage approval process. On the 2nd of August 2018 the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government have issued final budget approval to Tuath Housing for the construction of 4 dwellings on lands at 24-27 Collinstown Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin 24.

Tuath Housing Association is an Approved Housing Body under **Section 5 of the Housing Act, 1988.**

The development will be used to accommodate clients from South Dublin County Council’s housing list. The Capital Assistance Scheme grant in the sum of €830,000 is for the total all in cost of construction of 4 dwellings on lands at 24-27 Collinstown Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin 24.

Under [**Section 6 (8) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1992/en/act/pub/0018/sec0006.html) the granting of assistance under the Capital Assistance Scheme is a reserved function of the Council and is subject to the approval of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

**Accordingly, the following motion is required:**

“That this Council recommends that the application for a grant in the sum of **€830,000** under the Capital Assistance Scheme to Tuath Housing Association for the total all in construction costs of 4 dwellings on lands at 24 – 27 Collinstown Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous) Act, 1992, be approved”.

The Report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. Higgins, seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED:**

### That the Application for Financial Assistance under the CAS be **ADOPTED and APPROVED.**”

### **H14b/0918 APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME FROM  CIRCLE VHA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 6 OF THE HOUSING (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1992 FOR THE PURCHASE OF 2 UNITS LOCATED ACROSS TALLAGHT AND CLONDALKIN ELECTORAL AREAS**

### The following report by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. M. Staunton Senior Executive Officer, and was **CONSIDERED:**

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government have given delegated sanction to all local authorities to approve the acquisition of properties under CAS 2017 by Approved Housing Bodies without the prior approval of the Department.

In July 2018 proposals were received from Circle Voluntary Housing Association to acquire 2 housing units under the Capital Assistance Scheme. These proposals for acquisitions are in line with unit ceiling costs and will address priority need housing in accordance with the Capital Assistance Scheme. These organisations are Approved Housing Bodies under Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1992 and are signed up to the Voluntary Regulatory Code for Approved Housing Bodies in Ireland. South Dublin County Council have used the delegated sanction per Circular Housing 30/2017 to approve these acquisitions as listed below subject to compliance with the terms of that Circular with particular regard to verifying housing need, providing independent valuations, working within the acquisition ceilings and establishing deliverability.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AHB** | **Address of Acquisition** | **No of Units** | **Category of Need** | **Unit Type** | **CAS Grant** | **Local Electoral Area** |
| Circle Voluntary Housing Association | 21 Kilcronan Crescent, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 | 1 | Homeless/ Older Persons/ Families | 3 Bedroom House | 230,000 | Clondalkin |
| Circle Voluntary Housing Association | 33 De Selby Drive, Tallaght, Dublin 24 | 1 |  | 3 Bedroom House | 277,000 | Tallaght |
| Homeless/ Older Persons/ Families |
|  |  | **2** |  |  | **€507,000** |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Under Section 6(8) of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1992 the granting of assistance under the Capital Assistance Scheme is a reserved function of the Council and is subject to the approval of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

**Accordingly, the following motion is required:**

“That this Council recommends that the application for a grant in the sum of **€507,000** under the Capital Assistance Scheme to Circle Voluntary Housing Association for the acquisition of 2 properties in Tallaght and Clondalkin area or any substitute property up to a similar amount, in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous) Act, 1992 be approved”.

The Report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor M. Ward, seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED:**

### That the Application for Financial Assistance under the CAS be **ADOPTED and APPROVED.**”

### **H15/0918 PART 8 AMENDMENTS TO GRANGE ROAD**

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

The proposed changes to the existing Part 8 includes the following works:

1. Continuation of the cycle tracks through the full length of the scheme. Advisory cycle tracks to be provided in the narrowest
2. Removal of three small areas of parking, one to the south of Beaufort Downs, the other north of Convent Rd N and the other opposite Convent Road S, in order to maximise the footpath width in these
3. A pedestrian crossing is to be provided at Stonepark Abbey, as this is a significant crossing

1. Various increased traffic calming proposals, including extending traffic platforms and changes to the colour of the road
2. Merge the two northbound bus stops, one adjacent to Tara Hill Rd the other near Convent Lane, which are only 117m apart, as the bus stop adjacent to Tara Hill Rd causes significant congestions and is a safety

**1.      Introduction**

* **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this Chief Executive Report is to present the outcome of the Part 8 consultation, to respond to submissions made during the consultation period and to make recommendations in relation to the proposed development where appropriate.

**1.2   Structure of the Report**

This report provides the following:

* An introduction including details on the purpose of the report and an outline of the public consultation programme that was carried
* Description of the proposed
* List of Submissions received
* A summary of the issues raised in the submissions made during the consultation period together with the Chief Executive Responses and
* Assessment as to whether or not the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the
* Recommendation as to whether or not the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with, as the case

**1.3   Outline of Public Consultation Programme**

* *Non-Statutory Consultation for the original Grange Rd Part 8*

Non-statutory consultation was carried out for the original Part 8 in St Enda's Park in July 2015 and a stakeholder’s workshop event was held on Wednesday July 2015 at Pearse Museum, St Enda’s Park, Rathfarnham. In addition visits to all the schools were carried out in September/October 2015 with the (the Green schools coordinator attended some of the meetings) to make them aware of and brief them on the Part 8.

* *Statutory Consultation for the original Grange Rd Part 8*

The Part 8 proposals were presented to the Rathfarnham Councillors at a briefing meeting on Thursday 19th of November 2015. The   Statutory   Consultation   for   the   original Part   8 proposed   development   and accompanying   Appropriate   Assessment   report was placed on public display for the statutory period from Thursday 3rd of December to Wednesday 10th February 2016. The closing date for receipt of submissions or observations via e-mail to **smartertravelsd@sdublincoco.ie** or to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use Planning and Transportation on or before 5.00pm on Wednesday 10th February 2016. Copies of the plans were available at :

* South Dublin County Council Offices, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 between hours of 9.00am- 5.00 Monday to Thursday and 9.00-4.30pm on Friday (Inspection and purchase)
* Whitechurch Library, Taylor’s Lane, Ballyboden, Dublin 16, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 2.00pm to 5.00pm and 6 to 8pm. Wednesday 9.45am-1pm and 2-5pm. Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Library closed from Friday 18th of December 2015-to Sunday 3rd January 2016.
* Ballyroan Library, Orchardstown Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, Monday – Thursday 9.45am-8.00pm, Fridays and Saturdays 9.45-4.30pm (Closed Saturday and Mondays of bank holiday weekends).
* Council staff were available for planned drop-in sessions between Monday 1st February to Thursday 4th of February 10am-12pm,

*1.3.3  Statutory Consultation for the Amendments to Grange Rd Part 8*

The Amendments of the Part 8 proposals were presented to the Rathfarnham Area Committee on the 12th of June 2018. The Statutory Consultation for the Amendments to the Grange Rd Part 8 was placed on public display for the statutory period from the 22nd of June to the 9th August 2018. The closing date for receipt of submissions or observations via South Dublin’s on-lin[**e consultation portal: http://consult.sdublincoco.ie**](http://consult.sdublincoco.ie/) or to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use Planning and Transportation on or before 4.00pm on 9th August 2018. Copies of the plans were available at :

* South Dublin County Council Offices, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 between hours of 9.00am- 5.00 Monday to Thursday and 9.00-4.30pm on Friday (Inspection and purchase)

Submissions

Submissions and observations on the Amendments to Grange Rd Part 8 could be made online and in writing to the addresses below between Thursday 22nd of June to Thursday 9th of August inclusive (excluding Public Holidays) as follows;

* Online: at https://consult.sdublincoco.ie
	+ By Post: In writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin

A total of 1 submission was received by 4pm on the 9th August 2018.

***1.4* Legislative Background**

Section 179 (3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), requires that the Chief Executive of a local authority shall, after the expiration of the period during which submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development may be made, in accordance with regulations under subsections (2), prepare a written report in relation to the proposed development and submit the report to the members of the authority.

Section 179(b) outlines that a report prepared in accordance with paragraph (a) shall-

* describe the nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof, and shall include an appropriate plan of the development and appropriate map of the relevant
	+ evaluate whether or not the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the development plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the
		- list the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development in accordance with the regulations under *subsection (2)*,
	+ summarise the issues, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development would be situated, raised in any such submissions or observations, and give the response of the Chief Executive thereto, and

* recommend whether or not the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with, as the case may be.

Under Section 179(4) of the Planning and Development Act, members of a local authority shall, as soon as may be, consider the proposed development and the report of the Chief Executive. Following the consideration of the Chief Executive report under *paragraph (a)*, the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive report, unless the local authority, by resolution, decides to vary or modify the development, otherwise than as recommended in the Chief Executive report, or decides not to proceed with the development.

(*c*) A resolution under *paragraph (b)* must be passed not later than 6 weeks after receipt of the

Chief Executive report.

**2.      Proposed amendments**

* Description of the Proposed amendments :

1 Continuation of the cycle tracks through the full length of the scheme. Advisory cycle tracks to be provided in the narrowest section.

1. Removal of three small areas of parking, one to the south of Beaufort Downs, the other north of Convent Rd N and the other opposite Convent Road S, in order to maximise the footpath width in these
	1. A pedestrian crossing is to be provided at Stonepark Abbey, as this is a significant crossing point.
2. Various increased traffic calming proposals, including extending traffic platforms and changes to the colour of the road
	1. Merge the two northbound bus stops, one adjacent to Tara Hill Rd the other near Convent Lane, which are only 117m apart, as the bus stop adjacent to Tara Hill Rd causes significant congestions and is a safety

**2.2  Plans and details**

The plans and details are available at the following link: https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/consultation/amendments-grange-road-part-8

**3.  List of Submissions**

1 submission was received during the specified period of the public consultation in respect of the proposed development from the following:

AGR0001 Hugh Raftery (Via consultation Portal Ref: SD-C62-1)

**4.  Summary and Categorisation of Issues Raised and Chief Executive’s Responses**

* **Introduction**

This section presents an analysis of the submissions and includes a summary of each of the issues raised and the responses and recommendations of the Chief Executive.

The responses of the Chief Executive have been framed taking account of the statutory obligations of the local authority, relevant Government and Ministerial guidelines and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

**4.2  Summary of Issues Raised, Responses and Recommendations**

|  |
| --- |
| Submission No.1 –Hugh Raftery This submission relate to the following issues: 1.  Submission states that it is disappointing to see that the road cannot be widened sufficiently to provide better cycle infrastructure and considers advisory cycle lanes in a narrow road are ineffective in providing a safe zone for cyclists. Suggests that the design team should review the provision for trees, to see if more space can be given to the cycle lanes.2.  Segregated cycle lanes Submission considers that the segregated cycle lanes are very welcome in this design. Feels that this is the most effective means for providing safe cycling infrastructure and in addition, the provision of cycling inside the parking zone at the northern end of the scheme is welcome.   |

**Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

1. The advisory cycle lanes are being proposed as the road and footpath are both very narrow at this location. Platforms are being used, plus coloured surfacing, in order to slow traffic. The reduced speeds will help to improve safety for cyclists and the inclusion of coloured advisory cycle lanes will help to empathise that cyclists are using this route. The road is being narrowed to 6m, which is minimum where there is a bus route. The only way to provide segregated cycle lanes would be to further narrow the footpath, which would be unacceptable. The inclusion of a small number of trees is also to improve the visual environment and has no effect on the road or footpath

**5.0 County Development Plan 2010-2016**

The promotion of more sustainable modes of transport that link more consolidated urban areas together is central to the core strategy of the County Development Plan strategy.

Section 2.2.15.i of the County Development Plan 2010 - 2016 outlines that it is the policy of the Council to ensure sustainable forms of movement and the use of the street by pedestrians

and cyclists and to promote permeable pedestrian and cyclist networks connecting to shops,

community facilities, employment areas and desired places to go.

TM3 Objective 2:

To ensure that connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists is maximised in new communities and improved within existing areas in order to maximise access to local shops, schools, public transport services and other amenities, with seeking to minimise opportunities for anti-social behaviour and respecting the wishes of the local communities.

TM Objective 3:

To ensure that all streets and street networks are designed to prioritise the movement of pedestrians and cyclists with a safe and comfortable environment for a wide range of ages, abilities and journey types.

TM Objective 4:

To prioritise the upgrade of footpaths, lighting and public realm maintenance and supporting signage on public roads/paths where a demonstrated need exists for busy routes used by runners and walkers.

Having regard to the nature and extent of the proposed project, it is considered that the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and the County Development Plan 2010 – 2016 and the draft County Development Plan 2016-2022.

**Recommendation:**

As there was only 1 submission received and as segregated cycle lanes cannot be provided throughout the length of the scheme, the Chief Executive is of the view that the Amendments to Grange Rd Part 8 should be approved.

The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor S. Holland, seconded by Councillor B. Lawlor and **RESOLVED:**

“That the **Part 8** Amendments to Grange Roadbe **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

**Report on Amendments to Grange Road Part 8 consultation process for the construction and upgrading of a walking and cycle scheme and public realm improvement scheme on Grange Road, (between Beaufort Downs and Tara Hill Road).**

###  **Motions Moved without Debate**

### **M6/0918 REFERENDUM COMMISSION**

### It was proposed by Councillor S. Holland and seconded by Councillor L.Dunneand **MOVED** without debate:

That this Council write to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, under whose remit the Referendum Commission lies, and ask him to propose legislation to empower the Referendum Commission to ensure and enforce that only factual information is presented by either side in upcoming referendum, thus cutting down on the politics of fear, uncertainty and doubt perpetuated by some, as seen in the Referendum to repeal the 8th amendment.

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is passed, a letter will issue to the relevant Minister and when a reply is received, it will be issued to the Members

The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M8/0918 DOG FOULING**

### It was proposed by Councillor E. Higgins and seconded by Councillor S. Hollandand **MOVED** without debate:

That this council calls on management to include in strategies going forward, new imagery for use in signage for prevention of dog fouling. Current signs are proving ineffective. Please see imagery attached from dogstrust.ie which could be used as a template around the county going forward.

**REPORT:**

[**Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1997/act/12/section/22/enacted/en/html), as amended (the Act), states that ....."the person in charge of a dog is subject to a fine or prosecution if he/she does not immediately remove any faeces deposited by their dog in certain places, and/or if that person fails to ensure that the dog litter is properly disposed of in a suitable sanitary manner".

In 2017, just one fine was issued for dog fouling and the difficulty with enforcement of this particular section of the Act is the requirement for witness testimony, to report that the offence happened and that an identified person is the person in charge of the dog. The Council continues to encourage residents groups and/or individuals to assist the Warden Service in this regard.

In efforts to combat the problem of dog fouling, and as part of the Litter Management Plan, the Council has embarked on a high level anti - Dog Foul campaign as follows:

Dog Litter Signage (3 different designs x 100 of each) are available and requests for signage are considered on a case by case basis and signs are only erected on demonstrated need.

The location of the request is examined for suitability and if deemed suitable signs can be erected. If there is/are registered group(s) in existence in an area, signage may be provided directly to the group through the Social Credit Scheme with the caveat that such signage erected must have due regard for public health and safety, and must not impede visibility or restrict traffic, cycling and pedestrian flow. Also, if it is proposed to co-use a pole, authorisation will be required.

Alternatively requests are added to the current signage waiting list, pending determination of suitability, and availability of resources for signage erection.

During 2017 over 200 dog litter signs were erected in South Dublin County Council and some were given out directly to Councillors / Registered / Residents Groups for distribution and erection locally.

Similarly, a very forceful media campaign has been undertaken including cinemas and radio adverts.    The dog fouling advert was an element of the 2017 LMP action plan and part of the wider anti-litter awareness campaign that included anti-litter and illegal dumping adverts.

Currently, dog litter stickers (image attached) are being piloted on existing litter bins demonstrating that these receptacles are suitable for such litter.

Arrangements are being made for the provision of Green Dog Walker (GDW) promotion material at popup stands in Council's public buildings.  As GDW is a community led initiative it is intended to make a GDW pop up stand available to community groups for use at community events.

The Council continues to develop and improve existing strategies and action plans for the management of the county's litter problem, which includes dog foul.   Most recently the Council has also commissioned new dog foul awareness signage which was designed by students from St Joseph’s Special School, Tallaght as part of the 2018 Environmental Awareness Poster Competition. These signs will be available shortly.

As all signage provided by the Council must be bi-lingual to meet the requirements of the Official Languages ACT 2003, the required size of signage modelled on that as submitted with this motion would be cost prohibitive.

Expenditure on dog foul promotion as outlined above is as follows:

* Advert €18,699 Ex VAT (Grant funded)
* Bin Stickers: €750 Ex VAT
* GDW Stands Design: €1,046 Ex VAT
* Special signage €859 Ex VAT

The Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M17/0918 BUS CONNECTS PROJECT PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

### It was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor M. Wardand **MOVED** without debate:

That this council, noting the potential impact of the proposed Bus Connects Project and the timing of the public consultation period, calls on the Minister of Transport, Tourism and Sport to instruct the National Transport Authority to extend the closing date for submissions on the proposal by a minimum of four weeks in order to give the public an opportunity to fully participate in the process.

**REPORT:**

It is the case that the closing date for this phase of public consultation on the Bus Connects Project has been extended by 2 weeks until 28th September. Should the motion be passed it will be brought to the attention of the National Transport Authority. Ahead of the 28th September, a number of information sessions are available across the County. A link to the schedule is attached.

[**https://www.busconnects.ie/media/1304/confirmed-information-session-locations-august-and-september-2018.pdf**](https://www.busconnects.ie/media/1304/confirmed-information-session-locations-august-and-september-2018.pdf)

 The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M18/0918 BUS CONNECTS**

### It was proposed by Councillor P. Foley and seconded by Councillor E. O’Brienand **MOVED** without debate:

That this Council send notice to Bus Connects, NTA requesting that the deadline for submissions be extended beyond the current date of September 28th, 2018.

**REPORT:**

Should the motion be passed, a letter will issue to the National Transport Authority. Ahead of the September 28th date a number of further information sessions are being held in the County. Link to the schedule is attached here.

[**https://www.busconnects.ie/media/1304/confirmed-information-session-locations-august-and-september-2018.pdf**](https://www.busconnects.ie/media/1304/confirmed-information-session-locations-august-and-september-2018.pdf)

 The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M19/0918 CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES**

### It was proposed byCouncillor D. O'Donovan, Councillor F. Timmons, Councillor L. O'Toole, Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor M. Ward and **MOVED** without debate.

This Council is deeply concerned with the imminent threat of closure of up to 390 Post Offices throughout the country and the threat to the long-term future of the remaining 690 Post Offices. This Council calls for the immediate suspension of the Post Office closures and that the Government enacts the Dáil Motion of the 11th November, 2016, passed by the Dáil - 158 Votes, which calls on the Government to:

“Implement a new community banking service operated by An Post to be made available in all post offices throughout the country; this post community bank could be based on either the New Zealand Kiwibank model or the German Sparkassen model, both of which have been found to be valid models;”

The results of this Council motion to be promptly conveyed to the Minister for Communications, Climate action and Environment and Deputy Hildegarde Naughton, Chair of Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is passed, a letter will issue to the relevant Minister and when a reply is received, it will be issued to the Members

The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M21/0918 STARDUST INQUEST**

### It was proposed by Councillor R. Russell and seconded by Councillor M. Ward and moved without debate:

That this Council supports the families of the Stardust victims in their calls for a new inquiry into the tragedy and agrees to write to the Attorney General asking him to grant a fresh inquest as soon as possible.

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is passed, a letter will issue to the relevant Minister and when a reply is received, it will be issued to the Members

The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M5/0918 ONLINE BULLYING**

### The following Motion which was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor M. Ward was **WITHDRAWN** at the request of Councillor C. King, with the agreement of the Members, in accordance with Standing Order No 19.

That this Council calls on the Minister for Justice to change the laws around online bullying to make it an offense to bully any person online and call it Cocos Law.

The 1997 act does not go far enough.
We are losing too many people to suicide from online bullying.

Section 5 of the 1997 Act provides as follows:
“5(1) A person who, without lawful excuse, makes to another a threat, by any means intending the other to believe it will be carried out, to kill or cause serious harm to that other or a third person shall be guilty of an offence.”

Force does not actually have to be used; merely causing an apprehension of force is sufficient for assault under the law. The apprehension must be on reasonable grounds (i.e. the victim must reasonably believe that the threat is real and imminent) so if texts, emails, tweets etc. were to contain threats of physical violence such as “I hate you. You are going to die. I will kill you” and the recipient has reason to believe the threat is real and that death or injury will occur imminently then the person issuing the threat has committed an offence.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Ministerial**

### **C1/0918** Letter dated 30th July 2018 from the Minister of Justice & Equality regarding online bullying.

**C2/0918** Correspondence dated 30th July from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment regarding local authority waste collection.

### **C3/0918** Correspondence dated July 31st from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment regarding the introduction of green bin charges.

### **C4/0918** Letter dated 10th August 2018 from the Minister of Transport, Tourism & Sport regarding the Sports Capital Programme.

### **C5/0918** Letter dated 22nd August from the Minister of State for Mental Health & Older People regarding online bullying.

**C6/0918** Letter dated 28th August 2018 from the Minister of State with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration regarding the funding of intercultural centres within South Dublin.

**Departmental**

### **C7/0918** Correspondence from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government dated 22nd August regarding the guidelines for Planning Authorities in relation to Urban Development & Building Height

### **C8/0918** Letter dated 23rd July 2018 from Kildare County Council regarding the interpretation of the current Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) by the insurance industry

### **C9/0918** Letter dated 27th July 2018 from Limerick City & County Council regarding a liveable wage for employees who hold a recognised degree.

In accordance with **Standing Order No. 13** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to suspend standing orders in order to finish headed item no. 16.

### The report was **NOTED.**

Meeting finished at 7:10pm

**MOTIONS NOT REACHED**

### **(M2)** [**EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK LOANS**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=60853)

### **Mayor Councillor M. Ward**

This Council welcomes the decision of the Department of Housing and Dublin City Council to shift the funding model for the St Michael’s estate housing development from a private led to a fully publicly led model through loans from the European Investment Bank. This will ensure that the development of that site will be better placed to meet the social and affordable housing needs of the local community. We call on the Chief Executive to explore the use of this funding model for similar projects in South Dublin including on The Grange/Kilcarberry site in Clondalkin.

### **(M3) HOMESHARE.IE**

### **Councillor W. Lavelle**

That this Council promotes the potential of home sharing initiatives such as thehomeshare.ie which is a social enterprise based in this country.

### **(M4) HOUSING CRISIS**

###  **Councillor G. O’Connell**

Given the current Housing Crisis which is most severe in the Dublin Region, the elected members direct that the Chief Executive formally write to the Minister for Housing with a proposition for a Pilot Housing Scheme(s) involving appropriate support from the Minister that would enable SDCC, alone or in collaboration with one or more Recognised Housing Agencies, to acquire residential land, in one or a number of plots, either by land swop or through purchase, so as to build 750 to 1000 Social and Affordable Housing units, as a matter of urgency, for persons on the current SDCC Housing list.

### **(M7) SCHENGEN AGREEMENT**

###  **Councillor E. Murphy**

That South Dublin County Council, in the wake of Brexit, advocates for Ireland to become a full member of the Schengen Agreement.

### **(M9) HAP**

###  **Councillor D. Richardson**

That this council recommend that all people on the Council list receive Homeless HAP.

Due to the nature of the housing crisis it is not possible to find a house unless you have Homeless HAP.

And a letter to Minster asking for this to be approved.

### **(M10) HOUSE PRICES & RENTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

###  **Councillor R. Nolan**

With house prices and rents in the private sector in South Dublin spiralling out of control, this Council extends the income threshold for eligibility for a council home, increasing the €35,000 threshold for single people to €45,000 and the €42,000 for couples to €60.000.

### **(M11) LPT CONDITIONS**

### **Councillor C. McCann**

That this Council calls on the Chief Executive to remove the requirement “All applicants are required to include with their grant application, proof that they are compliant with the local property tax**.”** From the conditions of applications on the following grant schemes.

* Housing Aid for Older People Scheme
* Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a disability.
* Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme

### **(M12) COMMUNITY ORCHARD**

### **Councillor B. Leech**

Following on from the successful submissions made in the recent Participatory Budget can this Council ensure as much as possible that the Community Orchard Project in Clondalkin and any planting of apple trees in the County be sourced from our ancient Irish species as a priority.

### **(M13) DIRECTLY-ELECTED MAYOR**

### **Councillor D. Looney**

That this Council supports the principle of a directly-elected Mayor for all of Dublin as part of the wider democratisation of the city and county; and that we call on the Government to initiate, as soon as possible, a plebiscite of the people of Dublin to ascertain their support for such a proposal.

### **(M14) LOCAL POLICING FORUMS**

### **Councillor P. Donovan**

That this Council recognizes the work of Local Policing Forums in serving our Communities and seeks to establish such policing forums across all remaining Area Committees in our County

### **(M15) APP FOR DISABLED PARKING SPACES**

###  **Councillor K. Egan, Councillor V. Casserly**

To call on the Chief Executive to explore, develop and provide an app suitable for Apple or Android devices, which illustrates and maps where Accessible Parking Bays in public spaces are available within our county.

### **(M16) AN GORTA MÓR**

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

That this Council supports An Gorta Mór petition to the Irish Government For a permanent standalone An Gorta Mór exhibition in the National Museum of Ireland in Collins Barracks, appreciating that Irishmen And Irishwomen and the Irish Family Overseas are signing this Petition To right this National Scandal and will the Chief Executive bring this motion to the attention of our Government.

### **(M20) FUNDING FOR HOUSING**

### **Councillor Emma Hendrick, Councillor M. Johansson**

The elected members of this council, in light of the Minister for Housing Eoghan Murphy’s statement that money is available for the council building on public land, request that the Chief Executive immediately makes plans for large sites (minimum 100 units) and make applications to the Department to draw down this money. This would involve using public land to build a combination of local authority housing and affordable housing for those not able to afford a house on the private market.

### **(M22)** **BREASTFEEDING POLICY**

###  **Councillor M. Genockey**

That this Council declares South Dublin County a breastfeeding friendly county and takes action to promote breastfeeding-friendly policies in all Council buildings and in the county in general.

### **(M23) HOMELESS FAMILIES**

### **Councillor K. Mahon**

This Council does not support statements regarding the "gaming of the system" or "years of bad behaviour" by senior housing officials in the Dublin Regional Housing Executive.

South Dublin County Council has changed its policy regarding the allocation of housing to those currently accessing homeless services through hubs, hotels or other means.

This Council regards hubs and hotels as a short term emergency measure and recognises the work and studies carried out by Focus Ireland and others regarding the negative impact of homelessness, hubs and hotels on the development and mental health of children and adults.

It is our position that HAP does not offer a secure, quality accommodation, or a value for money solution for homelessness.

This Council calls for a defined percentage of all available homes for allocation to be reserved for families currently in long term emergency accommodation in hubs, hotels and hostels based on their time in homelessness.

In addition all homeless applicants have access to the Choice Based Letting system (CBL) and should continue to use this facility as it may well enable them to obtain a tenancy faster due to the increased number of houses available through that process.  It also does not require them to wait for the Council to make an offer under the homeless category

### **(M24) AFFORDABLE & PUBLIC HOUSING AT KILCARBERY/THE GRANGE**

###  **Councillor M. Murphy**

With over 300 homeless families in the County and no significant inroads into the housing lists the requirement for significant public housing programmes and the utilisation of publicly owned land banks should be a key task of this council.

This council opposes the privatisation of public land or homes.

This Council also calls on management to use available powers to develop the proposed 892 homes on the lands at Kilcarbery/The Grange as public and affordable housing. 60% of these homes should be reserved for those on the social housing list as traditional social housing.

We propose that the remaining 40% be open to those not on housing lists but on an occupancy only basis and developed on an affordable model financed through the Housing Finance Agency with the Council maintaining a first right of refusal option on the future sale of any of these properties.

It is estimated that the cost of building 357 affordable homes is €70.8 million, (1 bed by 60 units, 2 bed by 80, 3 bed by 200, 4 bed by 17). On the basis of a 10% deposit and 25 year mortgages at an interest rate of 2%, monthly repayments would range from €572 for a one bedroom to €954 for a four bedroom house.

The housing crisis can be tackled but only by breaking with the logic of for profit development and by devoting significant resources to delivering public housing. In doing so the trend of the declining share of public housing would be halted and could begin to be substantially reversed.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_