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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council October 2019 County Council Meeting held on Monday 14 October 2019

**PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bailey, C. |  | Lawlor, B.  |
| Carey, W. |  | Mahon, K. |
| Casserly, V. |  | McManus, D. |
| Collins, Y. |  | Moynihan, S. |
| Costello, T. |  | Murphy, E. |
| Duff, M. |  | O’Brien, E. |
| Duffy, F. |  | Ó Broin, E |
| Dunne, L. |  | O’Connell, G. |
| Edge, A. |  | O’Connor, C. |
| Egan, K. |  | O’Donovan, D. |
| Fay, S. |  | O’Toole, L. |
| Gilligan, T. |  | Pereppadan, B. |
| Gogarty, P. |  | Priestley, W. |
| Hayes, A. |  | Richardson, D. |
| Higgins, E. |  | Seery-Kearney, M. |
| Holohan, P. |  | Sinclair, L. |
| Johansson, M. |  | Timmons, F. |
| Kavanagh, P. |  | Tuffy, J. |
| Kearns, P. |  | Ward, M. |
| King, C. |  |  |

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin.  |
| Directors/ Heads of FunctionHead of FinanceCounty Architect | L. Maxwell, T. Walsh, F. Nevin. C. Ward, M. Mulhern. R. FitzGerald.E. Conroy.  |
| Senior Executive Officers | C. Hurson, M. Staunton, E. Leech, N. Hanly, M. Maguire, L. Leonard |
| Administrative Officers | M. Reilly, N. Noonan.,  |
| Staff OfficerClerical OfficerIT. SupportSord | L. Abbey.D. Murphy.J. Doyle.A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor V. Casserly, presided.

Apologies were received from Councillor R. McMahon.

### **H1/1019 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the September County Council Meeting on 9th September 2019which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor V. Casserly seconded by Councillor F. Timmons.

### **H2/1019 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES**

**a) Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee - 10th September 2019**

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.

**b) Clondalkin Area Committee – 18th September 2019**

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.

**c) Tallaght Area Committee – 23rd September 2019**

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.

**d)** **Lucan/Palmerstown/Fonthill Area Committee – 24th September 2019**

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.

Although there were no reports under this heading Councillors T. Costello, P. Kavanagh and C. King raised issues with regard to the area being referred to as the Tallaght Wetlands in Sean Walsh Park.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the Members queries.

### **H3a/1019 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

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

**Draft Calendar of Meeting Dates**

**November 2019**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Tue. |  |  |  |  |
| Wed. |  |  |  |  |
| Thur. |  |  |  |  |
| Fri | 1st Nov |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 4th Nov | **Corporate Policy Group**  |  12.00pm  |  |
| Tue. | 5th Nov |  |  |  |
| Wed. | 6th Nov | **Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC** **Environment, Water & Climate Change SPC**  | 5.30pm - 7.00pm5.30pm - 7.00pm | 04/10/1904/10/19 |
| Thur. | 7th Nov | **Special Budget Organisation, Procedure & Finance Committee** | 3:30pm - |  |
| Fri | 8th Nov |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 11th Nov | **County Council Meeting**  | 3:30pm – 7:00pm | 25/10/2019 |
| Tue. | 12th Nov | **Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management*  | 3:00pm – 6:00pm | 29/10/2019 |
| Wed. | 13th Nov | **Economic Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC**  | 5.30pm - 7.00pm | 11/10/19 |
| Thur. | 14th Nov | **Annual Budget Meeting** | 3:30pm - |  |
| Fri | 15th Nov |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 18th Nov | **Land Use Planning & Transportation SPC****Housing SPC** | 5.30pm - 7.00pm5.30pm - 7.00pm | 16/10/201916/10/2019 |
| Tue. | 19th Nov | ***Social & Community SPC***  | 6.00pm - 7.30pm | 17/10/2019 |
| Wed. | 20th Nov | **Clondalkin Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management*  | 3:00pm – 6:00pm | 6/11/2019 |
| Thur. | 21st Nov | **Traffic Management Meeting** **(Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena)** **Traffic Management Meeting** **(Clondalkin)** **Organisation, Procedure & Finance Committee** **Adjourned Budget Meeting (if necessary)** | 2:00pm – 2:45pm2:45pm – 3:30pm3:30pm – 6:00pm6:00pm - | 7/11/2019 |
| Fri | 22nd Nov | **Joint Policing Committee** | 3.00pm - 5.00pm |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 25th Nov | **Traffic Management Meeting (Tallaght)****Tallaght Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management*  | 2:15pm – 3:00pm3.00pm - 6.00pm | 11/11/2019 |
| Tue. | 26th Nov | **Traffic Management Meeting (Lucan – Palmerstown - Fonthill)** ***Lucan - Palmerstown - Fonthill Area Committee****Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management*  | 2:15pm – 3:00pm3.00pm - 6.00pm | 12/11/2019 |
| Wed. | 27th Nov |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 28th Nov |  |  |  |
| Fri. | 29th Nov | **Deputations** | 2:00pm – 5:00pm |  |

Draft Calendar of Meeting Dates was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor V. Casserly and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons.

### **H3b/1019 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

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

**REPLY:**

“[**Section 142 (5) of Local Government Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/zza37y2001s142.html) provides for the authorization of Members’ attendance at conferences both home and abroad.

Listed below are conferences which have been notified to South Dublin County Council and whose appropriateness has been vetted by the members’ working group in accordance with Circ. Letter 02/10.

            **Conferences & Training Notified**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Irish Planning Institute - Autumn Planning Conference 2019 | Irish Planning Institute | The Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin | 04/10/2019 |   Cllr. William Carey |

**Conferences & Training Attended Since June**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Velo City 2019 | European Cyclists’ Federation | Convention Centre, Co. Dublin | 25/06/2019 - 28/06/2019 | Cllr. Eoin Ó Broin |
| From Ballot Box to Council Chamber | Institute of professional Training | Whitford House Hotel, Co. Wexford | 05/07/2019 – 07/07/2019 | Cllr. Ronan McMahon, Cllr. David McManus, Cllr. Kenneth Egan |
| AILG New Member Induction Training | AILG | Mullingar Park Hotel, Mullingar | 11/07/19 | Cllr. Deirdre O'Donovan, Cllr. Joanna Tuffy, Cllr Mark Ward, Cllr. Shane Moynihan, Cllr. David McManus, Cllr. Dermot Richardson, Cllr. Yvonne Collins |
| MacGill Summer School | MacGill Summer School | Glenties, Co. Donegal | 21/07/2019 - 26/07/2019 | Cllr. Emer Higgins,Cllr. Ronan McMahonCllr. Kenneth Egan |
| Parnell Summer School | The Parnell Society | Avondale House, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow |  11/08/2019 - 15/08/2019 |  Cllr. Trevor Gilligan |
| Daniel O'Connell Summer School | Daniel O'Connell Summer School | Cahersiveen Co. Kerry | 23/08/2019 – 24/08/19 | Cllr Baby Pereppadan, Cllr Brian Lawlor |
| Kennedy Summer School | The Kennedy Society | New Ross, Co. Wexford | 05/09/2019 – 07/09/2019 | Cllr. Trevor Gilligan |
| AILG 2019 Autumn Seminar | AILG | Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan | 11/09/2019 - 12/09/2019 | Cllr. Deirdre O'Donovan, Cllr. Baby Pereppadan, Cllr. Alan Edge, Cllr. David McManus, Cllr. William Priestley, Cllr. Guss O'Connell, Cllr. Brian Lawlor, Cllr. Ronan McMahon |

As authorisation under this section is a reserved function Members are required to pass the following resolution:

“In accordance with Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act, 2001 attendance by Members at the Conferences / Seminars outlined in the report is hereby authorized.”

Report on Conferences/Seminars was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor V. Casserly and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons.

### **H4/1019 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

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

### **H5/1019 REPORT FROM JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE**

### The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing Social and Community Development and was **CONSIDERED:**

**REPLY:**

Draft Report of the meeting of Joint Policing Committee held on Friday, 27th September 2019 in County Hall, Tallaght as follows:

**Attendance: Committee Members:**

Vicki Casserly (Mayor); John Curran, TD; Sean Crowe, TD; John Lahart, TD; Cllr. Eoin Ó Broin; Cllr. Louise Dunne; Cllr. Liona O’Toole; Cllr. Mark Ward; Cllr. Cathal King; Cllr. Baby Pereppadan; Cllr. Yvonne Collins; Cllr. Emma Murphy; Cllr. Shane Moynihan; Michael Noonan, PPN; Gemma Carton, Garda Diversion; Chief Superintendent Finbarr Murphy, An Garda Síochána; Chief Superintendent Kevin Gralton, An Garda Síochána; Colm Ward, SDCC.

**In attendance:** Superintendent Paul Dolan, An Garda Siochana; Inspector Ronan Barry, An Garda Siochana; Brian Hora, SDCC; Brian Carroll, SDCC.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mick Duff and Cllr. Deirdre O’Donovan.

1. **Introductions.**

As it was the first meeting of the Committee following the local elections, the meeting began with introductions by all committee members and other persons present.

1. **Election of Chair.**

Nominations were invited for the position of committee Chairperson.

Cllr. E. Murphy was proposed by Cllr. S. Moyihan and seconded by Cllr. V. Casserly. Cllr. Murphy was duly elected as Chairperson.

1. **Presentation on Role and Purpose of the JPC.**

Presentations were made by Chief Superintendent Kevin Gralton and Brian Hora on the role of the committee.  This was followed by a discussion on the strategic role of the JPC to which various Committee members contributed, covering the following issues:

* To consider establishing a Community Policing Sub-committee;
* Including Community Policing update in Garda reports;
* Relevance of statistics - noted that reporting on statistics is obligatory under JPC Guidelines;
* Breakdown of statistics by Electoral Area;
* Statistics on Garda response times;
* Criminal Assets Bureau reports - noted that specific reports cannot be given on CAB activities but the CAB have previously presented to JPCs;
* Garda reports to include key activities and successes;
* Increase in sexual offences and mapping areas of criminal activity to contextualise statistics;
* Increasing public awareness of JPC and public meetings;
* Home security information;
* Written report to accompany statistical reports;
* Proactive measures and evaluation of same;
* Promote use of Garda social media;
* Garda resources per capita and comparative figures;
1. **Nominations to JPC Drug Subcommittee.**

The following three Elected Members were nominated to the Drug subcommittee.

* Cllr. Mark Ward.
* Cllr. Liona O’Toole.
* Cllr. Baby Pereppadan.
1. **Report of meeting held on the 26th April 2019.**

Report was noted.

M.Noonan raised the issue of the bus lane at Naas Rd. / Kylemore junction which C.Ward committed to following up.

Noted that there are two vacancies on the Committee for TDs - this is to be followed up with Corporate Services who will be asked to contact all local TDs to get nominations to fill the vacancies.

1. **Garda Síochána Reports.**

Superintendent Paul Dolan gave a verbal report and update for Lucan.

Cllrs.

* Cllr Liona O’Toole - Burning of Rubbish in Balgaddy
* Cllr Eoin Ó Broin - Grand canal greenway issues
* Cllr Shane Moynihan – Drug dealing

Chief Superintendent Kevin Gralton gave a verbal report and update for Tallaght & Rathfarnham.

Inspector Ronan Barry gave a verbal report and update for Rathcoole and Clondalkin respectively.

The following issues were raised:

* Cllr Eoin Ó Broin Garda time spent on M7
* Cllr Eoin Ó Broin Burning of waste and Garda patrols in Clondalkin
* Cllr Mark Ward – Incidents with Dublin Bus on Neilstown Road
1. **Local Policing Forum Reports.**

C. Ward advised the committee that North Clondalkin LPF was holding its public meeting on 10th October 2019 in Rosse Court.  It was also noted that no LPF reports were being presented at this meeting to allow for the strategic discussion earlier on the agenda.  LPF reporting will resume at subsequent meetings of the committee.

Cllr Liona O’Toole noted Ms. Noreen Byrne North Clondalkin LFP was not aware the meeting was taking place.

**AOB**

* Halloween: A report on the Council's activities in relation to Halloween was circulated.
* The Committee acknowledged work of the now retired Supt. Brendan Connolly, Clondalkin Garda Station.

**Schedule of Meeting Dates**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 22nd November 2019.

**Future Agenda Items**

M. Noonan to liaise with B. Hora on a presentation on the PPN function.

**Correspondence**

None.

The meeting ended at 5 p.m.

### The Report was **NOTED**

### **H6/1019 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

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

**QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Casserly, seconded by Councillor C. O’Connor and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q42 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/1019 ENERGY CONSUMPTION RATES**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor Carly Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the SDCC local authority energy consumption rates for the last two years and whether it is believed that SDCC is in line to meet its 2020 target.

**REPLY:**

Energy consumption for South Dublin County Council for 2017 was 52.809 Gwhrs. Energy consumption in 2018 was 50.598 Gwhrs . This is a reduction of 4.25% on the 2017 figure. South Dublin County Councils gap-to-target towards achieving 33% energy reduction by 2020 is 4.488 Gwhrs and will require the delivery through 2020 of a number of projects as follows

* Delivery of first phase of Tallaght District Heating project.
* Delivery of Energy-Performance contracts for Tallaght and Clondalkin leisure centres.
* Replacement of lighting in County Hall with LED fiitings

Replacement of not less than 4,000 additional streetlights with LED fittings

### **Q2/1019 DISPOSAL OF SYRINGES**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline how members of the public can contact SDCC to remove dangerous items left in public spaces such as discarded syringe or other similar objects in a timely and safe manner. Can this information be included onto the council website? Does the council get many calls about this and would council staff come across such paraphernalia regularly? And would the Chief Executive care to make a statement on the matter?

**REPLY:**

A member of the public who encounters discarded syringes in a public place should notify the Council immediately of the matter and give details of the exact location involved, and this can be done on the Council's main phone number at any time of the day or night.

Staff in Public Realm have been trained in needle stick awareness training, this is also covered in the Public Realm Risk Assessments RA 0001/2/3 which deals with:

\*  Contact with Needle Sticks

\*  Needle Stick Injuries

\*  Disposing of Needle Sticks

Administrative staff are advised that, when a report comes in which specifies that there are syringes or drug paraphernalia present in a public park, open space or council facility, these calls are logged on the Customer Care System (for record) and referred immediately to Public Realm operations. In turn the relevant Superintendent arranges a crew to attend immediately on site to remove the reported items.

If syringes or drug paraphernalia are discovered on public grounds by our Litter Warden Service during patrol or bag searches they contact the relevant Public Realm Superintendent immediately and request the removal of same.  The Litter Warden remains on site until Public Realm attends to remove the material.

The Council advises the public as follows:

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance and management of private property, while the Council is responsible for the management and maintenance of public property.   However, in the interest of public safety the Council will examine reports of paraphernalia / discarded syringes etc on private property on a case by case basis.

If any member of the public comes in contact with waste where syringes or drug paraphernalia are present, they should immediately call County Hall, Customer Care on 01/4149000, through which the call is logged (for record) and referred directly to our Public Realm Unit.

**Members of the general public are advised not to  make any direct contact with this paraphernalia.**

### **Q3/1019 HAP**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline most recent data on the numbers for 2017, 2018 and to end of August 2019 on the social housing list as well as the HAP transfer list as well as how many of those have been housed since and to ask for full information as to how the HAP transfer list works both in principle and in reality.

**REPLY:**

Housing applicants that have taken up a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) tenancy are placed on a dedicated HAP Transfer List that operates alongside both the Housing List and the Transfer List. In addition, applicants in a HAP tenancy and on the HAP Transfer List, still have full access to Choice-Based Lettings with the benefit of their full time on the social housing list.

The table below shows for the period 2017 to date:

* the number of applicants on the Council’s social housing list;
* the cumulative number of applicants that have availed of HAP (including Homeless HAP)/ eligible for the HAP transfer list;
* the respective number of allocations from each list where applicable.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **No. on Housing List** | **Allocations from Housing List** | **No. on HAP Transfer List** | **Allocations from HAP Transfer List** |
| 2017(at year end) | 8,172 | 289 | 2,339 | Not recorded |
| 2018 (at year end) | 7,151 | 312 | 2,938 | 17 (5%) |
| 2019 (at end Sept) | 6,897 | 450 | 3,830 | 38 (8%) |

Generally, applicants sourcing HAP have limited time on the housing list which has restricted the level of success in Choice Based Letting to date. As HAP applicants accumulate more ‘time on list’ the percentage of allocations from the HAP Transfer list will rise naturally. HAP transfer list applicants were approved for access to CBL in late 2017 with allocations specifically from that list recorded from April 2018 onwards.

### **Q4/1019 COMMUNITY CRECHES**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive how many community creches are in operation in the South Dublin County Council area, where they are located and what plans there are to extend such services across the county.

Childcare costs are now the highest in the world, with families in this area now paying the equivalent of a second mortgage each month. There is also no sign of this improving any time soon as costs increased by 5.5% this year despite state subsidies being introduced. Would the Chief Executive care to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

Community Creches are not required to register with the Council and therefore we do not have the details in relation to the number of these facilities operating in the County.

Community creches are required to register with the South Dublin County Child Care Committee and a list of community childcare providers can be examined at the following link: <https://www.southdublinchildcare.ie/index.php/directory?view=services>.

### **Q5/1019 DOG WASTE BINS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor Y. Collins**

To ask the Chief Executive to examine the feasibility of installing dog waste pick up bins, with a glove or bag station above them, specifically for picking up after pets to tackle the problem, firstly, of dog waste not being picked up and secondly, the problem of dog waste being picked up, bagged but then thrown into the surrounding trees/bushes.

**REPLY:**

A feasibility study of the kind suggested here was carried out by this Council in 2016 and 2017.  The Council provided dog poo bags in both Rathfarnham Castle Park and Rathcoole Park on a trial basis for a 3 to 6 month period at that time, litter bins were already in place in those parks for disposal of the dog litter.  The uptake of the bags and the impact on dog littering was assessed at both locations and the outcome was that the provison of the bags had little impact on the level of dog littering in those parks.  For this reason the scheme was not rolled out at that time.

South Dublin County Council services approximately 700 litter bins in on street locations as well as over 130 litter bins in park locations.  All these litter bins accept dog waste however it should be properly bagged to ensure that it does not cause an environmental nuisance.

The Green Dog Walker (GDW) initiative is promoted by South Dublin County Council on an ongoing basis through, but not limited to, social media campaigns and promotional material at popup stands in Council's public buildings. As the Green Dog Walker initiative is a community led initiative a GDW pop up stand has also been made available to community groups for use at community events, which several groups have already availed of. Community groups in this area are also welcome to avail of the GDW, pop-up stand and other promotional materials.

Dog Litter Signage (3 different designs) is 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 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.

### **Q6/1019 WINTER SUPPORTS FOR ROUGH SLEEPERS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive what additional provisions/ supports are in place for our rough sleepers now that we are entering the winter season and especially over the Christmas period

**REPLY:**

The Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) is pursuing and resourcing the introduction of additional bed capacity and associated support services with a range of service providers for the winter period on behalf of the Dublin Local Authorities, including this Council, who will have access to extra beds sourced by DRHE. The expansion of services is planned to respond effectively to emerging homeless service needs as well as to ensure additional bed capacity is available for people who may be rough sleeping during the winter period.

The Cold Weather Response Plan (CWRP) will be implemented across voluntary and statutory homeless services from November 2019. In addition, DRHE continues to monitor weather conditions to prepare for any potential adverse weather events. The CWRP aims to prevent fatalities and/or serious harm due to rough sleeping in very cold weather and to provide additional options for people who do not or cannot avail of existing services.

The Council also operates an outreach service all year around for rough sleepers across the County, working with other agencies, including the HSE, in identifying rough sleepers and connecting them with appropriate accommodation and support services and this service will also play a vital role in assisting homeless rough-sleepers during the winter months.

### **Q7/1019 HALLOWEEN 2019**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive will SDCC be meeting with community representatives well in advance of Halloween so they can voice their concerns and be assisted by SDCC in minimising damage caused by bonfires and anti social behaviour

**REPLY:**

The Council has always recognised the difficulties that Halloween causes for many communities through the illegal burning of waste on Halloween bonfires, the damage to local amenities, anti- social behaviour and the threat to property and local services.

As in previous years, the Council will adopt a cross departmental approach, utilising the services of Public Realm, Waste Enforcement, Environmental Awareness, the Library Service, Housing and Community Services Departments to prevent damage and promote the 'Safe Halloween' message.

The Council's Halloween Safety and Environmental Awareness Campaign will be launched shortly and includes the publication of a colourful information leaflet providing facts and tips on how to stay safe at Halloween. The leaflet will also contain details of the various family events to be hosted/funded by the Council over the Halloween Period.

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 the 31st October.

Early contact will be made to ensure that information is exchanged between the Council and An Garda Síochána and that assistance is provided as necessary in the effort to locate and remove the threat associated with bonfires and the storage of bonfire materials.  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 Council's operational response to Halloween in 2019 will once again involve the following -

* Liaison with residents’ groups, who can help to identify the locations of material stockpiled
* Various awareness measures to highlight the dangers associated with bonfires and the harm done to the environment including a social media campaign
* Action by the Council's Environmental Licensing and Enforcement Section to deal with commercial premises and their obligations to properly store their waste
* The Bulbs not Bonfires campaign will run again this year to encourage residents not to allow bonfires to take place in their areas
* The social credits scheme facilitates groups who are registered on the scheme with the disposal of materials at the Council's civic amenity site in Ballymount, and this will help to reduce the amount of materials being handed over for bonfires.

### **Q8/1019 MEDICAL PRIORITY & CBL**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the process in place for persons on the Medical Priority/Disability List to express interest in dwellings, as they don't have access to Choice Based Lettings.

**REPLY:**

Every effort is made to provide persons with a disability or specific medical need with an appropriate home having regard to medical requirements, housing needs and proximity to service providers and supports.

Housing Applicants who have been awarded “Medical Priority for Standard Housing” have access to the Choice Based Letting (CBL) system.

However, applicants who have been awarded “Medical Priority for Specially Adapted Housing” do not have access to CBL where their needs are very specific and cannot be met and require delivery of specially adapted homes.

Where an existing specially adapted property becomes available, reports from occupational therapists and other medical supports are assessed to determine the property meet an applicant’s needs, before an offer of housing is made. In some cases, a site visit to the property is carried out with the applicants and their support team to assess the suitability of the property.  All applicants can also at any stage discuss their accommodation needs with staff in the allocations sections.

On this basis, neither purpose-built, specially adapted properties, nor properties that have had significant Disabled Persons’ Grants works carried out are advertised through CBL. Instead these properties are usually matched with the needs of a housing/transfer applicant. In some cases an existing tenant awaiting significant DPG works to be carried out on their current home may also be considered for the property as the terms of the scheme require the Council to make the best use of all specially adapted housing stock and it can also be more feasible to transfer a tenant to an available specially adapted home where it is excessively costly or challenging to carry out the required works to their current property.

The Council is committed to providing additional specially adapted homes both through our social housing construction programme and in conjunction with Approved Housing Bodies.

### **Q9/1019 HOMELESS APPLICANTS UNABLE TO SHARE EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive what provisions / supports are in place to support or find suitable accommodation for a person who presents homeless but for good reason e.g. (victim of abuse in institutional schools)  will not accept shared sleeping accommodation offered in a hostel.

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Homeless Unit provides assistance to persons who find themselves homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The unit operates an advice clinic in County Hall, provides outreach and place-finding services across the County as well as advising on emergency accommodation options including central placement, self-accommodate, family hubs and other supported accommodation. The unit will also organise emergency accommodation for those assessed as homeless through the Assessment and Placement Service.

Families presenting as homeless can be given the option to self-accommodate in hotels/B&Bs etc. while single people are provided with emergency accommodation through hostel-style accommodation with shared rooms.  There are also an extremely limited number of one-bedroom units available in specific Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) managed by AHBs.  These single rooms are usually reserved for individuals with specific medical conditions or exceptional circumstances.

All homeless applicants have access to Homeless Housing Assistance Payment support to assist with securing private rented accommodation and this process is supported by our place-finding team.

The Housing Department in conjunction with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive and other partners continues to assess locations and properties throughout the County for use as appropriate emergency accommodation for single persons and families while additional options to support persons moving on from supported temporary accommodation are also explored on an ongoing basis. In addition, the Council is also committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

Housing supply is ultimately the key solution to the current housing/homeless situation, and this involves delivery of social homes through our construction programme, complemented by acquisition, Part Vs and through various leasing options and the private rental market. This is supported by the Housing Department continuing to maximise the effectiveness of existing and new social housing stock through allocations and transfers to help address the challenges provided by the current situation.

### **Q10/1019 WORKS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor A. Edge**

To ask the Chief Executive what information is provided by the Council to contractors concerning the impact of works carried out on biodiversity and whether there exists in those contracts a term concerning the need to avoid negatively impacting on biodiversity.

**REPLY:**

The information provided to, and required from, contractors prior to the commencement of works / projects will vary in accordance with the type, scale and context of the project.

Depending on the project the Council will require evidence of insurances, financial bone fides, project specific programme, project specific method statement and risk assessment from the contractor based on the brief for the project. The items taken into consideration in relation to the brief will depend on the type of project / works being undertaken, the location of the works, the size of the works, the risk inherent in the works / project, seasonal or other constraints and the financial outlay required.

For certain projects a Part 8 process and / or screening process is required in which case the outcome of these are made available to the contractor at the tendering stage.

### **Q11/1019 TREE REMOVAL AND PLANTING**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor P. Gogarty**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline on an annualised and total basis up until September 30, 2019, how many trees were cut down since 2014 by the Council or its agents; to outline the main reasons for same if data available; to outline how many trees were planted by the Council or its agents during the same period; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The Council's Tree Management Plan - Living with Trees - outlines the Council’s position regarding the ongoing maintenance, renewal and management of trees.

Trees are removed only when necessary as a last resort. The criteria for tree removal are:

tree is dead, dying or is considered hazardous due to its poor structural or biological condition. Hazardous conditions may exist above and/or below ground and may include significant root, trunk or crown decay, split trunks and crotches, and large dead limbs.

The tree has declined beyond the point of recovery and is no longer meeting the functional or aesthetic requirements of a street tree. Typically, a tree with 30 percent or less of its foliage remaining would meet this criterion.

Fatally diseased trees (eg. Ash dieback, Fireblight Disease) may be removed before they reach the primary threshold in order to prevent the spread of disease to healthy trees.

To allow space for development of nearby trees that may be more desirable for retention

To allow space for new planting

To make way for any approved engineering or building works when unavoidable construction work will immediately compromise the stability or viability of the tree.

Tree proven to be causing significant structural damage that cannot be reasonably addressed by an alternative solution and proactive tree management has had no mitigating effect.

To abate actionable nuisance

The trunk of the tree is within 2m of a public lighting column and the long term viability of the tree if retained in its location would be compromised by a requirement for ongoing maintenance in order to maintain the effectiveness of the adjoining street light.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Summary**  | **2015**  | **2016**  | **2017**  | **2018**  | **End Sept 2019**  |
| **Trees removed**  | 638  | 706  | 1,014  | 1,163  | 664  |
| **Trees planted**  | 92  | 1082  | 606  | 1469  | 1639  |

The total tree planting programme figures are 4888 versus the figure for tree removals 4185 for the period 2015-end September 2019

### **Q12/1019 CO2 EMISSIONS**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor P. Gogarty**

To ask the Chief Executive if a comparison has been carried out in relation to carbon emissions per capita for each city or county administrative area in Ireland and if so, where does South Dublin compare?

**REPLY:**

The total carbon emissions per capita for each city or county in Ireland is calculated using statistical and quantitative data sourced from several origins including each City or County Council, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and the Central Statistics Office (CSO). The 2016 Census established that the population of South Dublin at over 278,000 people.

Currently, not all Local Authorities have produced a full range of documents similar to those published by the 4 Dublin LAs, and while many may have presented figures detailing their CO2 emissions, an up to date study has not yet been made available. Some of the information presented has been extracted from EPA online sources to give a national perspective to accompany the DLA CO2 emission figures.

The South Dublin County Council Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) presents several graphical descriptions of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions by both the County Council and Total emissions from the county in 2017 broken down by sector. The information in the CCAP was produced on behalf of SDCC by Codema, who carried out similar exercises for the other 3 Dublin LAs. The CCAP identified that in 2017, SDCC produced 11,800 tonnes of CO2, predominantly through our use of electricity. Appendix II of the CCAP indicate that across the County, a total CO2 equivalent of 1,877,910 tonnes were produced, primarily by the transport, commercial and residential sectors.

To compare these figures with the other DLAs

**2017 CO2 Emissions by LA**

SDCC                                                                -              11,800 Tonnes

Dublin City Council                                             -              40,370 Tonnes

Fingal County Council                                          -             12,620 Tonnes

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council              -              11,280 Tonnes

**2017 CO2 Emissions by County**

SDCC                                                                                     -              1,877,910 Tonnes

DCC                                                                                        -              2,810,880 Tonnes

FCC                                                                                        -              1,976,230 Tonnes

DLR                                                                                        -              1,139,570 Tonnes

National Figure                                                                       -              60,740,000 Tonnes

**2016 Population**                               **2016 Households**

SDCC     -    278,749                     -              92,363

DCC       -    554,554                   -              240,553

FCC        -    296,020                   -              104,851

DLR       -     218,018                     -              78,601

National -  4,761,865

With specific reference to the question, the CO2 emissions per capita are calculated as;

SDCC                     -              6.74 Tonnes/ Capita        -              20.33 Tonnes/Household

DCC                        -              5.07 Tonnes/Capita         -              11.68 Tonnes/ Household

FCC                        -              6.8 Tonnes/Capita           -              18.85 Tonnes/ Household

DLR                        -              5.23 Tonnes/Capita         -              14.5 Tonnes/ Household

Nationally            -              12.75 Tonnes/Capita

Whilst the figures presented can be used as a comparison tool, it is important to note that the numbers produced by each county represent significantly different situations. For example, Car ownership and transport facilities are different between the city and the county area. Heavy industry and high energy users are more likely to have been established in the county than the city. Higher population density offer greater opportunities for energy efficiencies than less densely populated areas.

In terms of rural Counties, a large percentage of the CO2 equivalent emissions are produced by the agricultural sector (33.1% 2015, EPA), which accounts for 0.4% in South Dublin.

*CO2 equivalent is a representation of the effect of each Greenhouse Gas quantified in terms of CO2, for summation purposes.*

### **Q13/1019 PET FARMS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor P. Gogarty**

To ask, further to my motion in January if the Chief Executive can further report on its formal plans for the management and upgrade of pet farms in the county on lands owned or maintained by this local authority, as well as its relationship with dog pounds and outlines improvements made or planned in how the welfare of the animals under its care are treated; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The Council currently has a small number of birds in an Aviary in Corkagh Park. The aviary and the site of the former small Pet Farm in the park is currently under review as part of the assessment underway for the wider Corkagh Park. It is anticipated that a report will be brought to Council on this matter in the near future.

There are no Pet Farms or Dog Pounds on land owned by SDCC.

The Control of Dogs Act 1986, [Section 15(2)](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1986/act/32/section/15/enacted/en/html#sec15) provides for the establishment and maintenance of *"one or more shelters for dogs seized, accepted or detained under any of the provisions of this Act"* and authorises the local authority to *"enter into arrangements with any person for the provision and maintenance of such shelters and for the exercise by such person of the functions of the local authority under this Act, in respect of the acceptance, detention, disposal and destruction of stray and unwanted dogs"*

South Dublin County Council currently employs two full time Dog Wardens, and has a contract in place with David & Carol Stone t/a Ashton Dog Pound & Warden Services for the provision of pound services.

The contract, which was initially for a period of twelve months with an option to extend for up to two further periods of twelve months, is currently due to expire on 31st December 2019.

The contract provides for the following in respect of the South Dublin administrative area:

* Provision of sufficient pounds or shelters that meet with the requirements of the Council's Veterinary Inspector
* Access for Council representatives at any time
* Acceptance of surrendered dogs
* Managing reclaims
* Rehoming / euthanasia in accordance with policy
* Maintenance of Section 14 register of seized dogs
* Monthly reports to SDCC on rehomed / euthanised dogs
* Notify Dog Warden of surrendered or seized dogs detained by Gardaí

The pound operator works with the public and a number of rescue groups to avhieve a high level of rehoming.

### **Q14/1019 ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any current plans to provide additional emergency accommodation in the county, particularly for single people?

**REPLY:**

The Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) is pursuing and resourcing the introduction of additional bed capacity and associated support services with a range of service providers for the winter period on behalf of the Dublin Local Authorities, including this Council, who will have access to extra beds sourced by DRHE. The expansion of services is planned to respond effectively to emerging homeless service needs as well as to ensure additional bed capacity is available for people who may be rough sleeping during the winter period.

The Cold Weather Response Plan (CWRP) will be implemented across voluntary and statutory homeless services from November 2019. In addition, DRHE continues to monitor weather conditions to prepare for any potential adverse weather events. The CWRP aims to prevent fatalities and/or serious harm due to rough sleeping in very cold weather and to provide additional options for people who do not or cannot avail of existing services.

The Council also operates an outreach service all year around for rough sleepers across the County, working with other agencies, including the HSE, in identifying rough sleepers and connecting them with appropriate accommodation and support services and this service will also play a vital role in assisting homeless rough-sleepers during the winter months.

The Council and the DRHE work on an ongoing basis to source additional suitable premises for both emergency hostel accommodation for singles and for the development of new family hubs.  Any properties under consideration are assessed for suitability for services and value for money is also a consideration.  It is not possible to give definitive numbers for future acquisitions or associated costs until the premises have been attained.

In addition, options to support persons moving on from supported temporary accommodation continue to be explored and the Council is committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

### **Q15/1019 REVERSE VENDING**

### **QUESTIONS: Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the plastic bottle/can deposit scheme (reverse vending machine) including proposed locations in the county?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council in conjunction with Repak made arrangements with both Tallaght University Hospital and Liffey Valley Shopping Centre for the placing of Repak's Clean Green Rcycling Machines at both those locations.  These facilities accept clean plastic bottles and aluminium cans and have been in place since July of this year.  It is hoped that a number of additional sites can be identified for these, such as the Square in Tallaght.  There is no return given to the user of these facilities and therefore they are not considered to provide a reverse vending scheme, however a donation to charity can be made by the user for each bottle or can returned.

### **Q16/1019 HOMELESS NUMBERS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of homeless in South Dublin County, including a breakdown of families/individuals and what type of emergency accommodation are being accessed?

**REPLY:**

As at 30th September, a total of 624 households were registered as homeless with the Council comprised of the following: 265 families, 13 couples, 284 single males and 62 single females.

The Council’s Homeless Unit provides assistance to persons who find themselves homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The unit operates an advice clinic in County Hall, provides outreach and place-finding services across the County as well as advising on emergency accommodation options including central placement, self-accommodate, family hubs and other supported accommodation. The unit will also organise emergency accommodation for those assessed as homeless through the Assessment and Placement Service.

Families presenting as homeless can be given the option to self-accommodate in hotels/B&Bs etc. while single people are provided with emergency accommodation through hostel-style accommodation with shared rooms.

All homeless applicants have access to Homeless Housing Assistance Payment support to assist with securing private rented accommodation and this process is supported by our place-finding team.

The Housing Department in conjunction with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive and other partners continues to assess locations and properties throughout the County for use as appropriate emergency accommodation for single persons and families while additional options to support persons moving on from supported temporary accommodation are also explored on an ongoing basis. In addition, the Council is also committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

Housing supply is ultimately the key solution to the current housing/homeless situation, and this involves delivery of social homes through our construction programme, complemented by acquisition, Part Vs and through various leasing options and the private rental market. This is supported by the Housing Department continuing to maximise the effectiveness of existing and new social housing stock through allocations and transfers to help address the challenges provided by the current situation.

### **Q17/1019 ENGAGEMENT WITH DUBLIN LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the frequency of his engagement (i.e. the number of meetings) and that of the Directors of Services with their counterparts in the other Dublin local authorities on matters of common interest over the past 18 months, specifically transport policy, housing and economic development and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The four Dublin Chief Executives generally meet on a monthly basis to discuss matters arising across the county focusing on those areas where we have shared service arrangements notably, fire services, water services, waste  management, homeless provision, regional tourism and areas of mutual metropolitan interest including collaboration on planning, transportation and housing matters. Directors of Services meet less frequently to review operational issues arising under these headings.

### **Q18/1019 ROADS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the contacts between South Dublin County Council and National Transport Authority and Transport Infrastructure Ireland with regard to strategic transport infrastructure in the county, specifically the N4/Kennelsfort Road interchange and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The N4 no longer insects the Kennelsfort Road, therefore this road is now numbered the R148.  TII's investment strategy is linked to National Roads only.

Currently neither South Dublin County Council, TII or the NTA have funding available for an interchange at the Kennelsfort Road/ R148 junction.

### **Q19/1019** [**COUNCIL SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPLY 2011-2019**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=64322)

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report, by electoral area in tabular form for each year, on the number of social houses acquired, purchased or built by South Dublin County Council since January 2011 and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The Council’s acquisition and build programme has delivered a total of 590 new homes over the period 2011 to date in 2019. The current housing strategy under Rebuilding Ireland has provided increased funding allocation from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government with resultant increased delivery of social housing from 2017 onwards following a number of years of limited provision.

The table below details the social housing supply delivered directly by the Council for the period 2011 to date across the local electoral areas at the time of provision:

|  |
| --- |
| **Social Housing Build & Acquisition 2011 to date\*** |
| **Year** | **Tallaght** | **Clondalkin** | **Lucan** | **Rathfarnham****/Templeogue****/Terenue** | **Totals** |
| **2011** | 16 | 13 | 3 | 0 | 32 |
| **2012** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| **2013** | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| **2014** | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| **2015** | 11 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 29 |
| **2016** | 35 | 20 | 18 | 2 | 75 |
| **2017** | 16 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 31 |
| **2018** | 156 | 74 | 63 | 52 | 345 |
| **2019 (Q1-Q3)** | 13 | 4 | 5 | 44 | 66 |
| **Totals** | **247** | **126** | **105** | **112** | **590** |

\*Note that the above figures do not include properties provided by Approved Housing Bodies for social housing.

The Council’s target for delivery in 2019 from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government under the capital supply programme (which includes properties provided by Approved Housing Bodies) in 2019 is 511 homes. To date, 187 properties have been delivered and a detailed Housing Supply Report is presented quarterly to Area Committees with the latest updates on the capital supply programme. The Council is committed to continued social housing delivery through our social housing construction programme and through the planned development of larger Council owned sites across the County.

### **Q20/1019 FAMILY HUBS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report on the length of time spent by families in Family Hub Accommodation built and managed by the Council before entering more permanent housing and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

Four family hubs are in operation in South Dublin County at present as follows:

* Tallaght Cross is a “transitional housing” family hub comprising 64 apartments that provide homeless families with an 18-month transitional tenancy with Túath Housing;
* High Street Family Hub (Abberley) is a privately managed facility with 58 rooms (including 9 large family rooms);
* Firhouse Family Hub has 20 rooms and is managed by Respond Housing;
* Springfield Family Hub accommodates 12 families and is also managed by Respond Housing.

Families staying in hubs are provide with a range of supports and options to help them to move on to more secure accommodation including:

* Access to Choice Based Letting (CBL);
* Access to Homeless Housing Assistance Payments and assistance from the Council’s Place Finder service to source private rented homes;
* Support and advice from allocated keyworkers to assist in their search for alternative accommodation;

The length of time families spend in family hubs varies greatly depending on a range of particular family circumstances including length of time on the Housing List, length of time availing of homeless services (emergency accommodation) prior to moving to a family hub, their level of engagement with support workers and whether or not the family is searching proactively for private rented accommodation through the HAP scheme.

On average across the four hubs, families generally spend approximately nine months in family hub accommodation in the County.

### **Q21/1019 MANAGEMENT COMPANIES**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a detailed report as to how it engages with private management companies in relation to housing across the county and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

Multi-unit developments (MUDs) comprise five or more homes (often apartment buildings/duplexes but can also be town houses or stand-alone houses) that share common facilities.

The Council through our Housing Procurement Programme has acquired homes in MUDs through Part V, leasing and direct acquisition.  The Housing Department currently pay fees to twenty-two management companies in respect of 320 social homes with annual expenditure of approximately €190k.

The Council by virtue of its functions and services may have occasion to engage with private management companies for various reasons including but not limited to; Derelict Sites, Dangerous Buildings, Waste Management and Enforcement and Building Regulation Matters.

### **Q22/1019 PARKING FINES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the number of parking fines issued throughout the County in the last 12 month and to provide a breakdown of the fines per electoral area.

**REPLY:**

**The following is a breakdown of Parking Fines issued from 26/9/18 to 26/9/19, per Electoral Area:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lucan LEA                                                       | 1802 |
|   |   |
| Rathfarnham / Templeogue LEA                         | 2123 |
|   |   |
| Clondalkin LEA                                                  | 971 |
|   |   |
| Palmerstown Fonthill LEA                                   | 268 |
|   |   |
| Tallaght South / Central LEAS                           | 1659 |
|   |   |
| Total | 6823 |

### **Q23/1019 TREE REMOVALS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the number of trees felled in the County by this Local Authority in the last 12 months and to detail the numbers felled per local electoral area

**REPLY:**

The Council's Tree Management Plan - Living with Trees - outlines the Council’s position regarding the ongoing maintenance, renewal and management of trees.

Trees are removed only when necessary as a last resort. The criteria for tree removal are:

tree is dead, dying or is considered hazardous due to its poor structural or biological condition,. Hazardous conditions may exist above and/or below ground and may include significant root, trunk or crown decay, split trunks and crotches, and large dead limbs.

The tree has declined beyond the point of recovery and is no longer meeting the functional or aesthetic requirements of a street tree. Typically, a tree with 30 percent or less of its foliage remaining would meet this criterion.

Fatally diseased trees (eg. Ash dieback, Fireblight Disease) may be removed before they reach the primary threshold in order to prevent the spread of disease to healthy trees.

To allow space for development of nearby trees that may be more desirable for retention

To allow space for new planting

To make way for any approved engineering or building works when unavoidable construction work will immediately compromise the stability or viability of the tree.

Tree proven to be causing significant structural damage that cannot be reasonably addressed by an alternative solution and proactive tree management has had no mitigating effect.

To abate actionable nuisance

The trunk of the tree is within 2m of a public lighting column and the long-term viability of the tree if retained in its location would be compromised by a requirement for ongoing maintenance in order to maintain the effectiveness of the adjoining street light.

The number of trees pruned, removed and planted in 2019 to the end September 2019 are listed below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Tree pruned**  | **Trees removed**  | **Trees planted**  |
| **2019 to end Sept**  | 2198 | 664  | 1639  |

The breakdown of the removals is recorded per Area Committee geographic area.

Clondalkin                                                                  138

Lucan Palmerstown                                                     214

Tallaght                                                                     188

Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Terenure                            124

### **Q24/1019 ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

Is the councils target of 33% improvement in the council’s energy efficiency by 2020 (Slide 4 of presentation given at September Council meeting) to be achieved by 1st January 2020 or 31st December 2020? How is this 33% improvement in efficiency to be measured e.g. is it relative to a baseline or business as usual scenario for total energy use?

**REPLY:**

The 33% energy reduction required must be achieved by end December 2020. Reduction of energy used is measured against the energy used in the baseline year of 2006 in line with the other Dublin authorities.

### **Q25/1019 CCAP ACTION MEETINGS**

### **QUESTIONS:** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

Can the Chief Executive confirm if the six action teams to be set up as part of  the implementation of the Climate Action Plan have met since the plan was adopted last month? The implementation plan stated that 'It is proposed that each Action Team meet monthly for the first three months and revising to every second month thereafter.'

Action Team 1; Energy and Buildings

Action Team 2; Transport

Action Team 3; Flood Resilience

Action Team 4; Nature Based Solutions

Action Team 5; Resource Management

Action Team 6; Citizen Engagement

**REPLY:**

Meetings have commenced as outlined in the Implementation Plan for the delivery of the Climate Changer Action Plan 2019-2024.

A meeting of the Steering group has occurred and meetings of the Action Teams are progressing.

First meetings have been conducted with all Action Teams as follows;

1. Energy and buildings Action Team
2. Transport Action Team
3. Flood Resilience Action Team
4. Nature Based Solutions Action Team
5. Resource Management Action Team
6. Citizen Engagement Action Team

Further Action Team meetings have been scheduled for October and these will continue to occur over the coming months.

The initial Action Team meetings were held to formally discuss the current scope of each action and identify key figures to deliver each action and to report on progress through the Action Team.

The regular meetings will monitor the progress of the action delivery, and report on the mitigation and adaptation effects of each action, budgetary management of the action will also be monitored through these meetings.

SDCC Climate team is meeting on a regular basis with the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and also the other Dublin Local Authorities.

### **Q26/1019 REPAK**

### **QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

Is SDCC a member of REPAK (<https://repak.ie/>)? If not does SDCC have any commercial dealings with REPAK?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council is not a member of REPAK nor does the Council have any commercial relationship with REPAK.

### **Q27/1019 SDCC TWINNING**

### **QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

Is SDCC twinned with any other municipalities in other countries? Has it been in the past? Related to this does SDCC senior management attend annually any international fora where ideas are exchanged?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council has two formal twinning agreements in place, one with the London Borough of Brent agreed in 2008 and one with Kreis Segeberg in Germany in 1997, however neither have had any activity for a significant period, as detailed below.

There has been no contact between South Dublin County Council and Brent since the inital delegation visit from Brent in 2008. The Kreis Segebery twinning had four exchange activites between 2000 and 2006 - a visit by the Killanarden Youth Choir to Kreis Segeberg in 2000, a visit by Deansrath Community College to Kries Segeberg in 2004, and a visit by Lucan Community College to Kries Segebary in 2006. There was a return visit by the President of Kreis Segeberg, Mr. Winfried Zylka and his wife to South Dublin in July 2006.

Funding of €20,000 for Town Twinning was included in the Estimates by the Chief Executive in the Draft Annual Budget for 2019. The full amount was subsequently reallocated to provide additional funding for Social Inclusion (D0603) when the Draft Annual Budget was considered by Members at the Budget Meeting held on Thursday November 15th 2018.

There are no international fora that are attended by senior management annually.

### **Q28/1019 TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a progress report on the Traveller Accommodation Programme, to include the activity planned for 2019 and expected outcome in terms of Units completed and to include an update on the Caravan Loan Pilot.

**REPLY:**

The Council's Traveller Accommodation Programme was adopted by the Elected Members at the July Council meeting.

The programme outlines delivery objectives and updates on each for the remainder of 2019 as follows:

* progressing Part 8s for specially adapted refurbishments of 3 units of accommodation at Belgard Park (2) and Kishogue Park (1) - Part 8 proposals for these works are currently under public consultation.
* progress Part 8 for redevelopment of Owendoher Haven - consultation has commenced with the residents including circulating preliminary designs to the residents for consideration and feedback to inform final proposals.
* Discussions ongoing with residents in relation to existing Part 8 approval for redevelopment of Fonthill Road site.

In relation to progressing the redevelopment of Oldcastle Park for which the TAP objective is to achieve Part 8 approval in 2020, initial consultation meetings with residents are scheduled this month in conjunction with the Clondalkin Traveller Development Group.

At the inaugural meeting of the new Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee held on 12th September, it was agreed to review the Caravan Loan Scheme having regard for the Credit Reporting Act 2013 and associated Regulations which make it compulsory since 2018 for lenders (including Local Authorities) to check applicants credit reports in the Central Credit Register when they are considering a loan application of €2,000 or more. In addition, repayments for Caravan Loans are currently not permitted by the Department of Social Protection through the Household Budget Deduction Scheme.

### **Q29/1019 TREE PROGRAMME**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for an update report on the Tree Strategy for the County and to include by Local Area Committee, (a) the number and type of requests from residents for action on particular trees since September 2017, (b) the number of trees that are still on the “to do” list and (c) given the increased storm activity in Ireland in recent years, to report on the risk analyses that has taken place given the very large trees that have been allowed develop in some housing estates and that are a source of concern, even real fear, amongst residents.

**REPLY:**

 (a) Customer Care Tree Queries

 The data is not recorded by Area Committee location

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Tree inspections** | **Tree Planting** | **Tree Pruning** | **Tree Removal** | **Stump removal** |
| **2017** | 666 | 189 | 1452 | 1205 | 98 |
| **2018** | 1160 | 245 | 1710 | 1563 | 150 |
| **End Sept 2019**  | 847 | 275 | 1289 | 821 | 151 |

(b)

See below the number of locations outstanding on the published 2017-19 Tree maintenance programme.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Backlog** | **Clondalkin Rathcoole** | **Lucan** | **Rathfarnham Templeogue Terenure** | **Tallaght** |
| **2017** | 1 | complete | 2 | 6 |
| **2018** | 10 | 10 | 18 | 15 |
| **2019** | 15 | 11 | 27 | 15 |
| **Total** | **26** | **21** | **47** | **36** |

 (c)

The Council continues to identify areas where there over mature trees and dangerous trees and following a survey, tree maintenance is arranged. This is an ongoing programme.

### **Q30/1019 COMMUNITY CENTRE FINANCIAL SUPPORTS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the types and levels of financial supports made available to community centres in 2017 and 2018 and to include in his report a breakdown per Local Area Committee.

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Community Development team offer a range of financial supports for community centres primarily through the Community Grants programme which provides the opportunity for centres to apply for a number of grants including annual management assistance grants. Community centres can also apply for capital funding through the Community Infrastructure Fund.

Boards of Management of centres are encouraged to participate in a variety of Council led community events for which funding is also available including the Bealtaine Festival, Health & Wellbeing Week, Social Inclusion Week as well as seasonal events such as Easter, Halloween and Christmas.

A number of community centres also benefit from the Council sponsored Community Employment Scheme which provides number of participants to assist with staffing requirements as well as a related grant to assist with centre running costs.

There is also financial support from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs through the Young Peoples Facilities and Service Fund that is channelled to community centres by the Community Development team.

**NB**: The tabular report of the financial assistance to centres per Local Area Committee is being compiled and will be included in the reply as soon as completed.

### **Q31/1019 DEPUTATIONS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm actions he is taking to encourage Community Groups and Associations to seek Deputation meetings and in reporting will he hive details in respect of the whole issue and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Community Development team arranges regular deputation meetings in accordance with requests from community groups. These meetings which generally are held on the last Wednesday of each month (excluding July, August & December) are attended by appropriate staff from various Council departments in line with the agenda items submitted for discussion by the community groups.

The Deputation meeting process is an opportunity for Residents Associations or established community groups to meet with Council management and Elected Members. The meetings are not intended to facilitate individual queries from members of the public, which can be dealt with separately through the Elected Members’ Membersnet system or alternatively through the Council’s Customer Care System.

Residents Associations or community groups applying for deputation meetings are required to be members of the Public Participation Network and must also complete the necessary documentation and application process at least 21 days in advance the proposed meeting date with full details available at the following link: [**http://www.sdcc.ie/services/communities/deputations**](http://www.sdcc.ie/services/communities/deputations)

If any Member is aware of a group who wish to take up the offer of a Deputation meeting then they can supply them with the link to the council's website. If there any other queries they can contact the Community Services Department directly.

It should also be noted that for various reasons including ensuring that meetings can deal with matters raised by groups, the following items are not appropriate for consideration at deputation meetings:

* Areas that have not been taken in charge by the Council;
* Planning files – both where decision is due and decision has been made;
* Planning developments in progress;
* Planning enforcement cases;
* Traffic issues previously considered at traffic management meetings with the elected members, and traffic congestion issues generally (save for some local issues of concern around schools in certain circumstances);
* Matters relating to published works programmes;
* Part 8 applications under the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2016;
* Sports Capital Grant Programme applications;
* Enforcement actions under the Environment, Water & Climate Change Directorate;
* Commercially sensitive information.

### **Q32/1019 BONFIRES**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to report to the October meeting of the Council of actions and plans now in place to deal with the challenge of the Halloween Bonfire season; will he give assurances and make a detailed 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 Council's response this Halloween Season as provided by our Public Realm Section has already commenced with a number of reports about storage of bonfire material having been received and responded to by Public Realm crews.  This will continue through the month of October followed by clean up of bonfire sites in November.

It should be noted that some requests being made by members of the public in terms of management / prevention of bonfires including for example the suspension of public transport, is outside the remit of the executive.

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. Materials will not be removed from private property.

The exercise to survey and map bonfire sites in 2018 recorded a total of 280 bonfire sites (down from 388 in 2017) in total across the County.  The mapping exercise will be repeated once again in 2019, this will provide details of bonfire sites to be cleaned and these sites will also then need to be revisited for reinstatement in 2020 once ground conditions permit.

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs / Drones) to detect the illegal stockpiling of bonfire material, will be continued and expanded this year. These drones are an important additional to the waste enforcement toolkit, and provide evidence to officers on the ground of areas where visibility is sometimes difficult.

Interesting statistics to note from 2018:

* Over the weekend and days immediately prior to Halloween 2018, from Saturday October 27th to Wednesday October 31st, a total of **144.4 tonnes** of bonfire materials was collected by this Council.
* In total the Council collected **522.9 tonnes** of waste during both the lead up to Halloween and from the clean ups which took place during the weeks after Halloween.
* Our Waste Enforcement Section were in contact with over 150 businesses to advise them of their obligations regarding waste regulations, particularly relative to pallets and tyres.
* There were reports of 11 burnt out cars in the weeks around Halloween across Tallaght and Clondalkin causing unnecessary damage to our parks, pitches and open spaces, and in a separate incident damage was also caused to an ESB mini pillar in one location.
* The total cost to the Council's Public Realm Section in 2018 was **€138,940.**

The 2019 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 providing facts and tips on how to stay safe at Halloween is currently being finalised. 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.
* The social credits scheme will also, once again, facilitate groups who are registered on the scheme with the disposal of materials at the Council's civic amenity site in Ballymount, and this will help to reduce the amount of materials being handed over for bonfires.
* 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.
* Action by the Council's Environmental Licensing and Enforcement Section to deal with commercial premises and their obligations to properly store their waste including aerial surveys,
* The Public Realm response to remove stockpiles of bonfire materials has commenced,
* Liaison with An Garda Siochana with regard to action being taken by them and by the Council in relation to this matter.

### **Q33/1019 CLAIMS MADE AGAINST THE COUNCIL**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to detail claims made against the Council over the past year and will he make a statement in the matter?

**REPLY:**

Since 1st January 2014 the Council has been fully insured by Irish Public Bodies (IPB). The most recent report received from IPB contains claims information to the end of Q2 2019. The table below therefore details all claims made against the Council from 1st July 2018 until the end of June 2019.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Policy** | **Number of claims made** |
| Public Liability | 220 |
| Motor Fleet | 29 |
| Social Housing | 17 |
| Employers Liability | 5 |
| Property | 1 |
| **Grand Total** | **272** |

The vast majority of claims made relate to public liability insurance. South Dublin County Council has been working constructively with IPB in order to reduce the number of claims made against the Council. Staff have attended training in relation to the importance of proper record keeping, early investigation and an efficient Affidavit/Discovery process. Identifying and mitigating areas of potential risk is also ongoing in order to ensure that the county is as safe as possible. It should be noted that the number of public liability claims made against the Council during the period 1st July 2018 to the end of June 2019 is a reduction of 12.73% on public liability claims made against the Council during the same period the previous year.

### **Q34/1019 DRAFT REGISTER 2020-2021**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on work towards the publication of the 2020 Voting Register and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The work on the Draft Register 2020-2021 is ongoing. RFA forms were delivered to all households in the county in July inviting electors either to amend their details or to register for inclusion in the Draft Register, either directly online on [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie) or using the enclosed form. Advertisements have been placed in the local papers and ongoing promotion through the Council website and social media to promote that the preparation of the Draft Register is underway and to encourage all citizens to ensure that they are registered to vote.

Circa 2,500 RFA forms have been returned by post to date and circa 520 applications processed online through [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie). The processing of these returns is almost complete.

The Council sent correspondence to the Department of the Defence Forces, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, all registered Nursing Homes in the County, Headquarters of the Prison Service, and Disabled Persons at home regarding their postal vote – circa. 800 electors have been returned for processing.

On 1st November 2019 the Draft Register will be available for checking online at [**www.voter.ie**](http://www.checktheregister.ie/).  It is also circulated to local Post Offices, Libraries and Garda stations in South Dublin's Administrative area. This will also be notified to the public through advertisements in the local media and promoted through the Council’s website and social medial channels.

During the period of 1st November to 25th November members of the public are afforded the opportunity to

1. Check whether or not they are on the draft Register on [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie), and either
2. Change their address or other details, including citizenship or change of name, or
3. Add themeslves to the Register of Elector, or
4. Remove themselves from the Register

If they wish to register or change their details on Voter.ie they must verify their identity through www.mygovid.ie.  MyGovID is an online identity service, developed by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, that allows you to access online Government services in a safe and secure manner.

The final register will be published on 1st February 2020 and will come into force on 15th February 2020.  This register will then be used for any elections / referenda to be held during the period 15th February 2020 to 14th February 2021.

This is the first year the online facility for the electoral register is available on [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie) which is a signficantly improved system where electors can directly amend their details or register for the Draft Register online. The new online facility has been developed as shared service across the four Dublin local authorities only at this point, but work is beginning on preparing to roll the service out to the rest of the country.

### **Q35/1019 HOUSING CRISIS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to present a report detailing his efforts to deal with the Housing crisis; will he confirm numbers currently on lists and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council's target for delivery from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government is for 511 new social homes to be provided under Build and Acquisition programmes in 2019 through our social housing construction programme as well as though Approved Housing Bodies, Part V, turnkey purchase and aquisition of second-hand properties.  In addition, the provision of social housing through Leasing, RAS and HAP schemes will continue to be a key part of social housing supply this year and beyond.

Proposals for housing delivery on large Council owned sites at Kilcarbery, Clonburris, Killinarden and Rathcoole are at various stages of development and form a major part of future housing supply in the County.

Housing supply is the key solution to the current housing/homeless situation through the avenues outlined above and we will continue to examine additional opportunities for further housing delivery where possible.  In addition, the Housing Department continues to maximise the effectiveness of existing and new social housing stock through allocations, transfers and assiting rightsizing to help address the challenges provided by the current situation.

Our Homeless Unit provides assistance to those who find themselves homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.  This unit operates an advice clinic in County Hall and provides outreach and place-finding services across the County as well as detailing emergency accommodation options including central placement, self-accommodate, family hubs and other supported accommodation.  Staff in the homeless unit will organise emergency accommodation for those assessed as homeless through the Assessment and Placement Service.

The Housing Department in conjunction with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive and other partners continue to look for suitable locations/properties throughout the County for use as appropriate emergency accommodation for single persons and families. Additional options to support persons moving on from supported temporary accommodation continue to be explored and we are also committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

There are currently 6,897 applicants on our Social Housing List while 394 allocations have been made in 2019 to date (end of September).

### **Q36/1019 SCHEME OF PRIORITIES FOR AFFORDABLE DWELLING PURCHASE ARRANGEMENTS**

### **QUESTION: Councillor W. Priestley**

To ask the Chief Executive whether any structure is in place to assist the first wave of couples who partook in the Affordable Housing Scheme (2009) to secure enlarged homes now that their families have predictably expanded*.*

**REPLY:**

The Scheme of Priorities for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements was adopted by the Council at the May 2019 meeting and has been approved by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.  In accordance with the Regulations (S.I 81 of 2019), the scheme makes provision for consideration of households that have previously purchased a dwelling under an affordable dwelling purchase arrangement but now required to move to either a different dwelling or different administrative area or both.

Further guidance is awaited from DHPLG on the terms and criteria for the national Affordable Dwelling Purchase Scheme which will be notified to the Members when received.

### **Q37/1019 PARKING ISSUES AROUND DEVELOPMENTS**

### **QUESTION: Councillor M. Seery-Kearney**

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a current provision in the planning bye-laws to cater for the health and safety requirements arising where builders and subcontractors parking in the immediate surroundings of a development, including Council owned grass verges, blocking the traffic line of sight of residents in the immediate vicinity.

**REPLY:**

There are no specific Bye Laws in relation to health and safety requirements arising where builders and subcontractors park in the immediate surrounding of a development, including Council owned grass verges and block the traffic line of sight of residents in the immediate vicinity.

In some cases developers are conditioned as part of a decision to grant planning permission to provide construction traffic management plans which establishes details of proposed vehicle routing, parking etc.

However, details of any vehicle parked illegally on a footpath affecting the vision splay of other road users / residents should ne notified to either An Garda Siochana and/or the Council's Parking Section with the location of the alleged offence and an inspection will be undertaken by our Traffic Wardens to investigate the matter and issue tickets where a breach of the Road Traffic Legislation is evident.

### **Q38/1019 PAYMENTS TO BIN CONTRACTORS**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report in to what SDCC pay to private bin company's to collect the County rubbish and what the cost is to the taxpayer via our property tax, to include as much information as possible?

**REPLY:**

The Council does not have any arrangements in place for the collection of waste by private bin companies.  This Council sold it's domestic waste collection service to Greyhound Waste in 2011 and from that date on arrangements for the collection of waste have been a matter for the householder and the many waste collectors who operate in this County.   The cost to the Council in relation to this matter is therefore nil.

### **Q39/1019 ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report in to how many additional emergency hostel beds SDCC intends to provide within SDCC for the next five year term and what the cost of this will be to the taxpayer?

**REPLY:**

The Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) is pursuing and resourcing the introduction of additional bed capacity and associated support services with a range of service providers for the winter period on behalf of the Dublin Local Authorities, including this Council, who will have access to extra beds sourced by DRHE. The expansion of services is planned to respond effectively to emerging homeless service needs as well as to ensure additional bed capacity is available for people who may be rough sleeping during the winter period.

The Cold Weather Response Plan (CWRP) will be implemented across voluntary and statutory homeless services from November 2019. In addition, DRHE continues to monitor weather conditions to prepare for any potential adverse weather events. The CWRP aims to prevent fatalities and/or serious harm due to rough sleeping in very cold weather and to provide additional options for people who do not or cannot avail of existing services.

The Council also operates an outreach service all year around for rough sleepers across the County, working with other agencies, including the HSE, in identifying rough sleepers and connecting them with appropriate accommodation and support services and this service will also play a vital role in assisting homeless rough-sleepers during the winter months.

The Council and the DRHE work on an ongoing basis to source additional suitable premises for both emergency hostel accommodation for singles and for the development of new family hubs.  Any properties under consideration are assessed for suitability for services and value for money is also a consideration.  It is not possible to give definitive numbers for future acquisitions or associated costs until the premises have been attained.

In addition, options to support persons moving on from supported temporary accommodation continue to be explored and the Council is committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

### **Q40/1019 5 YEARS ROADS PROGRAMME**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report into what new roads will be built in the next 5 years to ease traffic congestion within our towns and villages in the county and to provide a timeline and estimated cost for same?

**REPLY:**

The County Development Plan identifies all of the road projects that the Council would support delivery of, with further information on road infrastructure also available in both draft and adopted SDZs and LAPs.

SDCC is progressing a programme of road, footpath and cycle way works. These works are focussing on maintaining, improving and providing roads, footpaths and cycleways. As part of this there is a focus on those works that will support the provision of sustainable transport modes.

Specifically in relation to new roads, the delivery of new roads is funding and need dependent. The new roads that are currently committed (ie funded) include; completion of the R120 extension; Belgard North Link Road (also referred to as the Tallaght Hospital Access Road); Airton Road extension; Celbridge Link Road.

It is also important to remember that as part of private developments new roads will also be delivered.

### **Q41/1019 FIRE SAFETY**

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

To ask the Chief Executive for a report in to fire safety in Council owned housing, specifically apartment blocks & traveller accommodation, to include how often assessments in regards to fire risk are done and what are the associated costs?

**REPLY:**

Multi-unit dwellings are required to contain a mains-wired smoke alarm, a fire blanket, emergency lighting in common areas and an emergency evacuation plan.  Rental units that do not form part of a multiple unit must have a fire blanket and either a mains-wired smoke alarm or at least two 10-year self-contained battery-operated smoke alarms.  The Council has a contract in place for the emergency lighting and fire alarm systems to be tested quarterly and for the replacement of heat and smoke detectors in communal areas.

As part of the Accelerated Planned Maintenance Programme and having regard for best practice and legislative rental standards, it is proposed to commence new installations or upgrade of existing smoke/heat monitors, carbon monoxide monitors and window restrictors where required in Council rented dwellings. Previous works undertaken by the Council a number of years ago included providing ten-year self-contained battery-operated smoke/heat monitors in properties and these are now due for renewal.  In addition, where Council rented dwellings are vacant for refurbishment and re-letting, required monitors and window restrictors are installed in the property as standard.  Records of these works along with information in relation to new builds and acquisitions to housing stock provides a profile of homes requiring installation/replacement of monitors and/or window restrictors which will inform the safety works programme now being proposed across the Council’s housing stock. A provision of €1m has been included in the Accelerated Maintenance programme for safety works.

In relation to Traveller Accommodation, fire safety and other safety equipment (fire blankets, smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms) were installed by Council staff for caravans/mobile homes in all residential caravan parks in 2016 while external fire alarm/sounders were installed on all day units on sites this year.  In addition, an external contractor is engaged to inspect (and renew where necessary) all fire extinguishers on sites every six months.

### **Q42/1019 CONTRACT SERVICES**

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

To ask the chief executive for a report in to services in SDCC and how many of them are contracted out and what the cost is to the taxpayer via our property tax? (Grass cutting , Tree Pruning)

**REPLY:**

The Council outsources approx 20% of it’s tree management work, specifically the pruning of trees under ESB wires and the removal of dangerous or high risk trees – cost in 2019 is expected to be €450,000.

Tree planting is also contracted, the estimated cost in 2019 will be approx €200,000 for the planting of 1,650 trees.

The Council does not in general outsource grass cutting. Certain works are contracted that arise from time to time and that we do not have expertise in-house  – fabrication and erection of fencing, laying of macadam footpaths, construction of reinforced concrete walls.

### **H7/1019 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

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

### **H8a/1019 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES**

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

**LD 1458 Proposed disposal of plot of land at junction of Commons Road and St. John’s Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22**

Planning permission dated 4 September 2017 was granted to Mr. Paul Crowley for a residential development at Commons Road and St. John’s Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 on a site in his ownership – Reg. Reference: SD17A/0139 refers. As part of the planning permission, access to the proposed residential development will be by way of that part of Commons Road over which the right of way was extinguished in 2004 and which is in the ownership of the Council as outlined in red on attached Drawing No. LA/08/15.

The matter was referred to the Council Valuer to act in the negotiation process with the Applicant’s Valuer and the former 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 dispose of the plot of land at the junction of Commons Road and St. John’s Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 as outlined in red on the attached Drawing No. LA/08/15 to the Applicant, Mr. Paul Crowley, 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 agreed terms and conditions:-

1. That the subject plot is outlined in red on the attached Drawing No. LA/08/15.
2. That the Council dispose of the subject plot for the consideration of €140,000 (one hundred and forty thousand euro) plus VAT (if applicable).
3. That the subject plot is disposed of with full freehold title and vacant possession.
4. That the subject plot forms part of planning permission Reg. Reference SD17A/0139.
5. That any boundary feature constructed is in accordance with the Planning & Development and the Building Control legislation.
6. That the Applicant pays the Council’s legal fees plus VAT and outlay.
7. That the Applicant pays the Council Valuer’s fees of €1,500 (one thousand, five hundred euro) plus VAT.
8. That the Applicant be responsible for any VAT liability associated with the disposal and indemnify the Council against same.
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 were acquired in 1985 from Ryan, Fitzgerald and Kearns for roads purposes.

**Daniel McLoughlin**

**Chief Executive**

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor M. Duff, seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Proposed disposal of plot of land at junction of Commons Road and St. John’s Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H8b/1019 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES**

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

***Re: Small Builders Scheme - Proposed Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 44, Balrothery Estate, Tallaght, Dublin, 24***

It is proposed in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 to dispose of the fee simple interest in the site listed hereunder to Paul Doyle to whom the site has been leased under the terms of the Council's Small Builders Scheme. Paul Doyle has applied in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 to acquire the fee simple interest in the property. The Ground Rent payable is €19.04 per annum.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site No.** | **Lessee** | **Date of Lease** | **Land Acquired From** | **Purchase Price** |
| *44, Balrothery Estate, Tallaght, Dublin, 24* | *Paul Doyle*  | *5th September 1973* | *Siobhan O’Shea* | *€990.08* |

D. McLoughlin

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Chief Executive

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor M. Duff, seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Proposed disposal of Small Builders Scheme - Proposed Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 44, Balrothery Estate, Tallaght, Dublin, 24 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

### **H8c/1019 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES**

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

***Re: Small Builders Scheme - Proposed Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 4 Limekiln Avenue, Walkinstown, Dublin, 12***

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 interest in the site listed hereunder to Seamus Byrne to whom the site has been leased under the terms of the Council's Small Builders Scheme. Seamus Byrne has applied in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 to acquire the fee simple interest in the property. The Ground Rent payable is €19.04 per annum.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site No. | Lessee | Date of Lease | Land Acquired From | Purchase Price |
| *4, Limekiln Avenue, Walkinstown,* *Dublin, 12* | *Seamus Byrne* | *28th October 1974* | *Una O’Callaghan* | €990.08 |

D. McLoughlin

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Chief Executive

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor M. Duff, seconded by Councillor F. Timmons, and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Proposed disposal of Small Builders Scheme - Proposed Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 4 Limekiln Avenue, Walkinstown, Dublin, 12 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

**H9/1019 MANAGERS REPORT**

###  The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, 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 27th September = 0

### [HI 9 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=64313)

### HI 9 c) SDCC Monthly Repor

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

### At this point in the meeting The Mayor, Councillor V. Casserly informed the Members that she attended The Access City Award Network Meeting in the Netherlands and commended the Management and staff on how progressive the County is in comparison to a lot of local authority activity in Europe.

### Councillor P. Kavanagh also commended all the hard work gone into the Red Line Book festival.

### **H10/1019 OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENT 2020**

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

In accordance with **Sections 106 (7) and 106 (3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2001** borrowing is a reserved function which requires the approval of the local authority and the appropriate Minister.

The Council currently has an approved overdraft facility of €25M in order to provide for temporary cash flow timing differences. The overdraft facility has not been drawn upon to date in 2019. It is considered prudent to renew the overdraft accommodation of €25M for the period 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020.   Costs associated with the overdraft are limited to interest charges if the facility is used as the bank does not charge for the overdraft facility.

Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, the securing of an overdraft accommodation (to a maximum limit of) €25m for the period 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020.

It was proposed by Councillor V. Casserly and Seconded by Councillor T. Gilligan and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Authorisation of Overdraft Accommodation 2020 in the sum of €25m be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

### **H11/1019 CAPITAL PROGRAMME QUARTERLY REPORT**

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

To: The Mayor and each Member of South Dublin County Council

Re: Three Year Capital Programme Progress Report – October 2019

Dear Member,

This Quarterly Capital Progress Report sets out briefly the current position in relation to Capital Projects in the 2019 – 2021 Capital Programme.

**Housing**

**Social Housing Construction Programme:**

* 63 homes at St. Cuthbert’s, Clondalkin due for handover in October.
* 44 homes at Riversdale about to go out to tender.
* Decision on 93 homes at New Nangor Road due at October Council meeting.

|  |
| --- |
| **Part 8/Planning Approved (443 units)** |
| **Location** | **No.** | **Status** |
| Killinarden | 9 | Completed Q1 2019 |
| Owendoher | 40 | Completed July 2019 |
| St. Cuthberts | 63 | Under construction for completion Q4 2019 |
| Riversdale, Clondalkin | 44 | About to go to tender |
| Homeville | 16 | Designs being prepared for tender – target Q4 2019 |
| St. Catherine’s | 13 | Designs being prepared for tender – target Q4 2019 |
| Templegoue Village | 11 | Designs being prepared for tender – target Q1 2020 |
| Fernwood/Maplewood | 40 | Clúid Housing currently out to tender |
| Whitestown Way | 81 | Clúid Housing to go to tender |
| Nangor Road | 10 | Dublin Simon – commenced on site August 2019. |
| Collinstown Grove | 4 | Tuath / Commenced March 2019 |
| Balgaddy | 69 | Cost Effectiveness Analysis being prepared |
| Greenfort | 2 | Designs being prepared for tender – target Q4 2019 |
| St. Mark Avenue | 41 | Part 8 - July Council Meeting approve – detailed design stage commencing. |
| **Pre-Part 8 Design Stage (99 units)** |
| Eircom Site/Nangor Road | 93 | Stage 1 Capital Appraisal & CEA submitted to DHPLG on 31/05/2019. Part 8 decision due at October Council Meeting. |
| Lucan Road, Palmerstown | 4 | Tuath / Plans being prepared for Part 8 |
| Rossfield | 2 | Plans being designed |
| **Large Sites (335 units)** |
| Killinarden | 100 | Masterplan being finalised |
| Rathcoole | 100 | Masterplan being finalised |
| Clonburris Site 1 | 135 | Masterplan being finalised |
| **Total** | **877** |  |

**2019 Projected Delivery:**

* DHPLG Build and Acquisition target of 511 homes in 2019.
* Build and acquisition delivery is currently projected at 484 across LA build and turnkey, AHB build and turnkey, Part V, LA acquisitions, AHB acquisitions and voids.
* 354 allocations made year to date – 40 ahead of same period in 2018.
* Kilcarbery Integrated Housing Project, plans lodged for 1034 homes with ABP on 26th August.
* Works underway for 109 social homes at Corkagh Grange under PPP.
* Master-planning progressing for housing development on larger Council owned sites at Killinarden, Rathcoole, Clonburris and Belgard Square North – see separate report.

**Tourism and Enterprise Projects**

Good progress is being made across a range of projects as follows:

* The Dublin Mountains Project – hope to reply to ABP further information request by end of November.
* Corkagh Park/Camac Valley Tourism Cluster Study – study nearing completion – recommendations will be presented to Council in November.
* The Rathfarnham Castle Stables Tourism/Retail Opportunity will be advertised for Expressions of Interest in Spring 2020.
* The next phase of the Dodder Valley Greenway will go to construction later this year.
* The Grange Castle lands to the west have been master-planned and the access road will go to tender in the next three weeks
* Grange Castle Pocket Park is under construction.
* Tallaght Innovation Centre – architects and preferred operation partner have been appointed in the past week
* The Grand Canal Greenway has received Part 8 approval – discussions will now take place with Waterways Ireland regarding funding and delivery.
* The Grand/Royal Canal Loop Study – the route options report will be presented to the ACM and full Council across October/November. Pending the outcome of this Study, the planned village works have been put on hold. Landscape architects will be appointed for the village green and riverside improvement works once the cycle route is agreed. In conjunction with both, a Marketing/Branding Assessment Study will be commissioned on the tourism, culture and food potential of the village.

**Village and District improvements Programme**

* Works are continuing in Saggart village while the planned Templeogue works will commence in February 2020. The redesigned Lucan plans as outlined above will be brought to Council by the end of Q1 next year. This will complete the Villages Programme as originally outlined.
* URDF funding of €14.8m has been secured for a range of Tallaght Central projects which are mostly picked up elsewhere in this report. The development of a new Civic Plaza at Belgard North and the redevelopment of Library Square with a significantly enhanced connection in front of County Hall, is part of this funding envelope and architects are about to be appointed to this project.
* Members agreed as part of the 2019 Budget to commence a Local Neighbourhood Improvement Scheme. A detailed evaluation of areas is almost complete and recommendations will be brought before ACM’s in the next two months.
* Phase 1 of the N81 Landscape Improvement Scheme is complete and has been well received. Options for the progression of Phase 2 will be brought before the next Tallaght ACM.
* Tallaght District Heating project has received provisional funding approval of €4m under the Climate Action Fund. The Energy Centre has planning approval and the ESCO tender process is nearing completion.

**Roads and Drainage**

* The €20m R120 Improvement Project has been completed.
* The planned LIHAF funded Cellbridge Link Road is at tender and will go to construction in January.
* The Belgard to Cookstown Link Road will commence on site later this month. The Airton Road Extension will require a land CPO which is under preparation. The preferred route selection process has been completed.
* The Tallaght Transport Hub to be located at the LUAS terminus, is at preliminary design and under active discussion with the NTA and the Square Shopping centre architects.
* River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme is currently undergoing detailed EIS and will go to ABP in Q4.
* The design study for the Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme has just been awarded.
* Preliminary design and planning studies in relation to Whitchurch Stream are nearing completion and they will be submitted to ABP by year end.

**Sport, Recreation and Libraries**

* Construction of Rowlagh and Tymon libraries are progressing well and both will be delivered in Q1 next year. Site options for a library in Rathcoole, in conjunction with the planned housing project are being assessed.
* Lucan Pool is under construction.
* The Playspace Programme is nearing completion with 43 provided. This will reach 49 by the year end, a 70% increase in play space provision in recent years.
* The agreed Teenspace pilot projects at Collinstown, Griffeen, Kingswood, Avonbeg and Ballycragh are currently under design.
* The Ballwall at Griffeen is on site.
* The Old Bawn Pavillion is under construction, Griffeen went to part 8 on 25th September and Corkagh Park will follow in the coming month.
* The LIHAF funded park at Tandy’s lane in Adamstown will commence construction in January, while Airlie will go to tender in one or more lots in the coming weeks.
* The design of Tallaght Stadium 4th Stand and Western Stand Corporate Improvements as agreed has been awarded to architects this week, with a view to it going to Part 8 early in 2020.
* The Future Pitch Strategy study is nearing completion and will be brought to Council in November.
* Works have commenced on the Firhouse Carmel running track, pitch and BMX pump track.
* We have taken possession of St Marys primary school Saggart and are advancing plans for its redevelopment as a community centre for the area.

Yours sincerely,



Daniel McLoughlin

Chief Executive

### A discussion followed with contribution from Councillor E. Higgins to which the Chief Executive, Mr. Danny McLoughlin responded.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **H12/1019 SPC SCHEME 2019-2024**

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

At the outset of the discussion Councillor E. O’Brien proposed and Councillor B. Lawlor seconded an amendment to the SPC Scheme 2019 – 2024

“This Council, noting the increased mandate to tackle issues affecting the environment and climate change and further noting proposals from the public during the recent period of public consultation ahead of the commencement of this Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) scheme, proposes to increase the membership of the Environment & Climate Change Strategic Policy Committee to reflect this and proposes an amended SPC scheme with the following memberships;

1. Economic Development 8
2. Housing 7
3. Environment & Climate Change 7
4. Planning & Land Use 6
5. Arts & Libraries 6
6. Social & Community 6

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. O’Brien, F. Timmons, L. Dunne, C. King. M. Ward, F. Duffy, K. Mahon, C. Bailey, B. Lawlor, P. Kearns, G. O’Connell, P. Gogarty, L. O’Toole, M. Johansson, A. Edge, M. Duff, S. Moynihan and P. Kavanagh.

Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management responded to the Members queries.

The Mayor Councillor V. Casserly then called for a roll call vote on the amendment proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien and seconded by Councillor B. Lawlor, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 20 (TWENTY)**

**Councillors W. Carey, T. Costello, F. Duffy, K. Egan, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, E. Higgins, P. Kavanagh, B. Lawlor, D. McManus, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, E. O’Brien, C. O’Connor, D. O’Donovan, L. O’Toole, B. Pereppadan, W. Priestley, M. Seery Kearney, L. Sinclair,**

**AGAINST: 17 (SEVENTEEN)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, E. Ó’Broin, G. O’Connell, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy, M. Ward.**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The proposed amendment to the SPC Scheme 2019 - 2024 was **PASSED** and the SPC Scheme 2019 – 2024 as amended was **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**

### **H13/1019 PART 8 - HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON THE EIRCOM SITE AT NANGOR ROAD**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing Social and Community Development and was **CONSIDERED:**

[H13 a) Part 8 Report - New Nangor Road](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=64328)
[H13 b) County Architect Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=64324)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Kavanagh, W. Carey, F. Timmons, L. O’Toole, M. Ward, and G. O’Connell.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing Social and Community Development responded to the Members queries.

The Mayor Councillor V. Casserly then called for a roll call vote on the item the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 34 (THIRTY FOUR)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, V. Casserly, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, K. Egan, S. Fay, T. Gilligan, P. Gogarty, A. Hayes, E. Higgins, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, B. Lawlor, K. Mahon, D. McManus, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, E. Ó’Broin, G. O’Connell, D. O’Donovan, L. O’Toole, B. Pereppadan, W. Priestley, M. Seery Kearney, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy, M. Ward**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. Higgins, seconded by Councillor M. Ward and **RESOLVED:**

“As the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Council approves the development of social housing of 93 homes on undeveloped lands at the junction of New Nangor Road and Fonthill Road South to the east, Old Nangor Road to the south and Cherrywood Crescent to the west, in Clondalkin, Dublin 22.”

### **H14/1019 UPDATE ON PROPOSED MIXED TENURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. D. McLoughlin Chief Executive and Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing Social and Community Development and was **CONSIDERED:**

[H14 Update on Proposed Mixed Tenure Housing Developments](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/64504)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Dunne, M. Ward, P. Gogarty, C. King, P. Kavanagh, C. Bailey, E. Murphy, M. Johansson, V. Casserly, S. Moynihan, K. Mahon, T. Costello, E. Ó’Broin, S. Fay, E. Higgins, G. O’Connell, W. Carey, B. Lawlor, P. Holohan.

Mr. D. McLoughlin Chief Executive and Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing Social and Community Development responded to the Members queries.

###  The Report was **NOTED**.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **C1/1019** Letter dated 16th September from NTA in response to Motion 18 (Eco-friendly Bus Shelters) from the September 2019 meeting**.**

### **C2/1019** Letter from Monaghan County Council regarding a motion passed in support of the National Ambulance Service Representative Association at their recent Council meeting

**Motions for discussion**

**M1/1019 MAYORS BUSINESS - DUBLIN MENS TEAM AND WOMENS GAA SUCCESS**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Casserly and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **MOVED** without debate.

That this council extends our congratulations to the Dublin Mens Team and Womens GAA Football Team on their recent successes in the All Ireland Final

**REPORT:**

This motion was discussed at this month's meeting of the Corporate Policy Group, in accordance with the Civic Honours protocol, and the options for an appropriate event are being considered. This will be agreed with the Mayor and the details will be notified to all members once finalised.

The Motion was **AGREED**

**M6/1019 SINGLE USE PLASTICS**

It was proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien and seconded by Councillor V. Casserly and **MOVED** without debate.

That this County Council confirms that it will endeavour to ensure that single use plastics are not used at all South Dublin County Council events and in particular large scale outdoor events and festivals with a view to banning single use plastics at any such event within the next 12 months

**REPORT:**

All event organisers planning to hold an event in a public park must apply for approval prior to an event taking place.  This application process has recently been reviewed and a new condition in relation to prohibiting the use of single use plastics will now be included under the terms and conditions attached to an application where approval is granted.

Weekly events such as the Parkruns which currently take place in Corkagh Park, Tymon Park, Griffen Valley Park and Watertown Park do not provide any refreshments for participants.  It is a bring your own policy, which generally consists of refillable bottles.

Meetings were held with the organisers of both the Gael Force event running from Tallaght Stadium, and the 10k race from Grange Castle Business Park. The organisors agreed to make their events environmentally friendly. <https://gaelforceevents.com/en/goodbye-to-plastic-bottles>

It should also be noted that the approved [**SDCC Climate Change Action Plan 2019 - 2024**](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/climate-change/south-dublin-county-council-draft-climate-change-action-plan-2014-2024.pdf), includes Action 10, Resource Management which aims to *"Eliminate single-use plastics at Council organised events".* Indicators will be provided to demonstrate progress on meeting this action as part of the Action Plan.

SDCC Environmental Awareness section are actively involved in reducing the number of single use paper cups within the organisation. Since introducing the ‘Conscious Cup Campaign’ to staff of SDCC, 1,000 reusable cups have been handed out. The reusable cups can be used at the council's canteen facilities and at many privately-operated beverage outlets and restuarants nationwide.

The recent introduction and continued roll out of water refill stations in South Dublin is expected to reduce the number of single use plastic bottles being purchased in the county. Providing potable water at locations convenient for pedestrians, cyclists and sports and recreation enthusiasts, encourages our citizens to get active and bring their own reusable containers. The current programme will involve installations at 9 locations, with an additional 8 units expected to be progressed in early 2020.

In addition to the new installations, a number of existing water fountains in the county have been identified for maintenance works.

The contents of this motion will be brought to the attention of all other departments who organise/sponsor events within the County.

### **M16/1019** The following Motion which was proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons was **WITHDRAWN** at the request of Councillor P. Gogarty, with the agreement of the Members, in accordance with Standing Order No 19.

That the Chief Executive instigates a system of stiffer penalties including the non awarding of future contracts to companies that have not repaired snags or poor quality works on footpaths and roads in our county within a six month timescale of the issue being raised formally by a resident, elected representative on Council employee; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**REPORT:**

Contractors are procured for Public Works contracts  by a tendering procedure involving a national framework of approved contractors. There is provision within the system for performance review.

On being awarded a contract, a road opening licence is granted to the successful contractor. Following completion of the works, the contractor is required to carry out repairs to any defects that may become apparent for a period of 24 months.

### **M2/1019 UNITED IRELAND**

### **It was proposed by Councillor M. Ward and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons**

That this Council calls on the Irish Government to immediately plan for a United Ireland and furthermore to ask the Minister to call on the British Secretary of State to set a date for a border poll on Irish Unification

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed a letter will issue to the relevant minister and the reply, when received, will be circulated.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Ward, G. O’Connell, P. Gogarty, M. Seery Kearney, A. Hayes, C. Bailey, L. Sinclair, M. Duff, M. Johansson, K. Mahon, L. Dunne, E. O’Brien, W. Carey.

During this discussion the Mayor, Councillor V. Casserly, proposed and the Members **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting continue past its prescribed time to complete the Motion.

The discussion continued with contributions from Councillors P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, S. Fay, Y. Collins, E. Ó’Broin and C. O’Connor.

Councillor E. O’Brien proposed and Councillor C. O’Connor seconded an amendment to the Motion:

“That this Council calls on the Irish Government to immediately plan for a United Ireland and furthermore noting the principal of consent enshrined in the Good Friday Agreement to ask the Minister to engage with the British Secretary of State proposals in relation to how a date for a border poll would be agreed.”

Councillor C, King proposed and Councillor L. Dunne seconded a further amendment to the amendment as follows:

“That this Council calls on the Irish Government to immediately plan for a United Ireland and furthermore noting the principal of consent enshrined in the Good Friday Agreement to ask the Minister to engage with the British Secretary of State proposals in relation to how a date for a border poll would be agreed. And that the government produce a White Paper on Irish Unity.”

The Mayor, Councillor V. Casserly then called for and the Members **AGREED** to, a show of hands vote the result of which was as follows:

IN FAVOUR: 18 (EIGHTEEN)

AGAINST: 9 (NINE)

ABSTAIN: 1(ONE)

The Motion was **AGREED**.

Meeting Finished @ 19:12

**Motions Not Reached**

### **(M3) ELECTION POSTERS**

### **Councillor Alan Edge**

That this Council will commit to move towards a County-wide voluntary ban on election posters and, as a first step, will agree here and now to limit voluntarily the number of posters to one hundred per candidate per Local Electoral Area and to refrain from erecting posters in areas zoned rural, and that the Environmental SPC be asked to identify suitable designated postering areas with a view to limiting all future election postering to one such area per LEA.

### **(M4) HOUSING RENTS**

### **Councillor K. Mahon**

This Council commits to maintain the current Rent Differential Rate for Local Authority tenants at 10% and the continuation of the €10 per household discount for Local Authority tenants aged over 65, for the term of this Council.

### **(M5) CARBON TAX**

###  **Councillor M. Johansson**

This Council agrees that carbon tax is not the answer to tackle climate change. Carbon tax is a regressive tax. It targets the wrong people and does not challenge the real cause of carbon emissions. This Council calls for a stoppage of any implementation of a new carbon tax and calls for immediate action on investment in renewable energy, public transport and a stop to licences issued to extract fossil fuels.

### **(M7) SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

### **Councillor M. Duff**

In view of the number of Post Primary schools in our County and the number of additional schools planned, and taking into account the amount of Section 29 Appeals for refusal to enrol that are going through the DDLEB and the DES, owing to the amount of parents or guardians that are missing application dates or acceptance dates, for Post Primary Schools, due to varying forms of notices of when this process starts and finishes, that this Council calls on the Minister of Education and Skills, to introduce a national registration period, applicable to every Post Primary School, in an effort to ensure that each potential pupil is given a fair and equal chance to enrol at the appropriate time, in the school of their choice.

### **(M8) JADOTVILLE**

### **Councillor T. Gilligan**

That we write to the Minister for defence also An Taoiseach asking that the long over due medals for gallantry and distinguished service specifically for the Irish soldiers of “A” Company who served at Jadotville in 1961 be awarded. These medals were promised by former Taoiseach Enda Kenny in his final days in Office and still they have not been received.

### **(M9) TAKING IN CHARGE**

### **Councillor Y. Collins**

That the Chief Executive put in place effective measures, to ensure that housing estates, in relation to which the conditions of the relevant planning permissions have been complied with, are taken in charge without delay, given the financial repercussions for the residents.

### **(M10) DOMESTIC WASTE COLLECTION**

### **Councillor C. King**

Following the attached Sinn Féin motion that was passed in March of this year, This Council reaffirms it’s call to the Chief Executive to review the current waste collection services in conjunction with the other Dublin local Authorities and the Unions with a view to the remunicipalisation of the domestic waste service whereby the Council would take charge once again of the Service but this time in a more efficient and cost competitive manner than was previously the case

### **(M11) CLIMATE CHANGE AND TREE PLANTING**

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

This Council, given the recently launched Climate Action Plan and County Climate Emergency, and the recognised role of Trees in tackling Carbon emissions, calls on the Chief Executive to plant at least one acre of native trees over the 2019/20 planting season and that this be in addition to the planned tree planting schedule for 2019/20.

### **(M12) MEDICAL PRIORITY & CBL**

### **Councillor Teresa Costello**

That this Council provides medical priority / disability list applicants with a process in which they can express interest in properties similar to Choice Based Lettings.

### **(M13) Bike Rental Scheme**

### **Councillor Shane Moynihan**

That this Council calls for the introduction of a South Dublin Bikes scheme, modelled on the Dublin bikes scheme, as a practical step to increase cycling in our county.

### **(M14) SPC SCHEME**

### **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

The composition of the Land use Transportation & Planning SPC is:

Elected Members x 6
Development Construction x 1
Business Commercial x 1
PPN x 1(environmental pillar)

This council agrees that following this meeting a delegate from the Dublin Cycling Campaign (<https://www.dublincycling.com/>), is invited to be included as an additional ex officio non elected member of the SPC. This change in the composition of the Land use Transportation & Planning  SPC is to reflect the imperative that Dublin's leading advocates of improved cycling infrastructure are members of the county's leading planning forum. Although the other current members of the committee, both elected and non-elected, could advocate for cycling infrastructure, none would have the  hands on experience of Dublin Cycling Campaign that could both highlight the significant risks posed to cyclists today while also providing valuable contributions to discussions on future transport corridors. Dublin Cycling Campaign's input would also help formulate the policy changes needed to achieve the significant modal shift towards cycling implicit in the county's climate, health, road safety, air quality and congestion reducing goals and help reduce cycling related casualties

### **(M15)** [**TRAINING AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=64363)

### **Councillor Carly Bailey**

That this council calls on the Chief Executive to review and reform current training, existing practices as well as methods of cross and inter-department communications in order to ensure that the needless destruction of natural environments, whether protected or not within the South Dublin County jurisdiction (a recent example being the Wetlands in Sean Walsh Memorial Park) can never happen again.

Further that all areas currently protected or in discussion as being protected would be brought to the public's attention by way of a page on the council's website or similar and regular updates given to councillors and all departments within the council. Such a review and reform ought to include ways to ensure that all departments are kept up to date about issues of this nature.

Proficient biodiversity training for all staff members, whether directly employed by the council or by private operators appointed to carry out work on behalf of the council should also be provided if this is not already being done.

Training should be provided to every staff member whether involved in the initial decision making or in the subsequent work of cutting, planting, digging, moving, replacing, spraying or any other work that comes into contact with the natural environment.

Signing up to the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and other similar initiatives should also be considered if not already done so.

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

Mayor

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