

November 2019

# Chief Executive's Report

Glenasmole Valley

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# About the Chief Executive's Report

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South Dublin County Council's Chief Executive's Report is presented to elected members at Council every month and details important achievements across our various departments whilst highlighting key statistics and images from events that took place that month.

The report also highlights major news pieces and puts a focus on an area of the Council that doesn't always get the attention it deserves.



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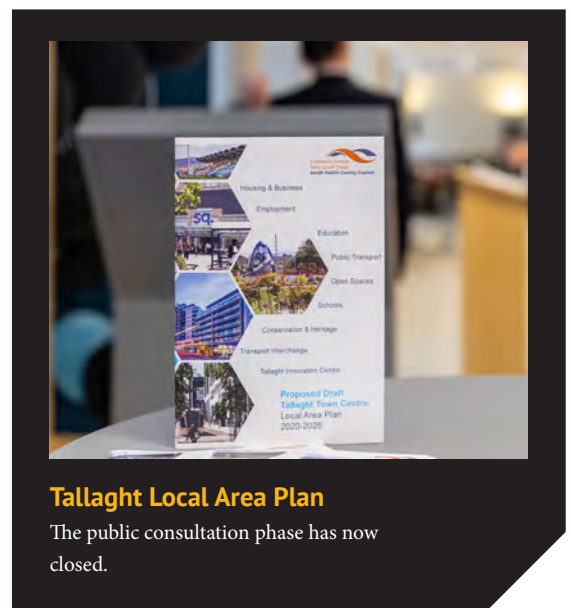
## Tallaght Local Area Plan

Public consultation on the draft Tallaght Local Area Plan (LAP) closed on Thursday 24 October following a six-week public consultation. 45 submissions have been received from local residents, businesses, as well as a range of community groups, land-owners, developers and statutory bodies.

During the consultation the team undertook a number of consultation events including; four open sessions in Tallaght Library; a session with the Chamber of Commerce; 1-1 drop in sessions in the Council offices every Wednesday; and the consultation was also promoted through social media advertising.

The next step is to assess the comments provided and to prepare a Chief Executive report considering what changes should be made to the plan as a result of these comments.

This will be made available to the Council in December and will then be considered by full Council in January 2020.



## Tallaght Local Area Plan

The public consultation phase has now closed.





## Winter Maintenance

The 2019-2020 Winter Maintenance programme commenced on the 14 October 2019 and will run until March/April 2019.

During this time SDCC's Roads Department will maintain; 13km of National Secondary roads; 114km of Regional Roads and 145km of Local Roads (out of a total of 789km). Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) through its contractors maintain the M50, N4 and N7.

SDCC has seven gritting routes and gritters are based in the local Depots, Ballymount and Palmerstown. There is a salt barn in each depot, and these have a combined capacity of 1900 tonnes.

Met Eireann issue a weather forecast each day around midday and the Duty Engineer decides on whether to carry out gritting. Normal gritting takes place at either 7pm, 5am or at both times. SDCC has also provides salt bins in those housing estates that have a steep approach to the main road.

**Bawnogue Permeability Scheme**

A permeability scheme is nearing completion at Bawnogue, Clondalkin. SDCC's contractor has been on site since July 2019 delivering improved pedestrian and cycle links as well as new connections from Alpine Heights and Ashwood to the R113 and the Grand Canal walkway. The scheme is funded by the National Transport Authority.

## Strategic Housing

The Strategic Housing Development (SHD) process was commenced by the government in July 2017. Since that time, the Council has received approximately 50 SHD applications and each of these are at different stages in the process. A total of seven applications have been decided by An Bord Pleanala (ABP) amounting to 2,020 residential units granted and 1,284 units refused. Approximately 50% of the units granted have started construction, and these are largely located in the Fortunestown area. A further four applications are awaiting a decision by ABP.



Winter Maintenance 2019 - 2020



# HOUSING SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## Social Inclusion Festival

Mayor Vicki Casserly will officially launch South Dublin County Council's Social Inclusion Festival on 15 November at 12.00 pm in Tallaght Stadium and includes special guests Bernard Dunne, Irish former professional boxer, with RAMS in Rhythm Active Retired Choir providing musical entertainment. (This free event is ticket only and pre-booking is required.)

Social Inclusion Festival provides a platform to highlight social inclusion initiatives and promote active citizenship. Social Inclusion is about creating a society where everyone experiences full and equal participation in all aspects of life. It is 'Everyone's Business'.

During the festival, there will be a

varied programme of events, available on [sdcc.ie](http://sdcc.ie), including;

- Tidy minds workshop
- Mental Health Workshop
- Tour of Pearse Museum
- Fun creativity workshops at the Towers Direct Provision Centre
- English/ Irish conversations sessions
- Annette Halpin Memorial Annual Tea Dance
- Sensory-Friendly Activities for people with disabilities
- Celebration of Social Inclusion through the Performing Arts in the Civic Theatre
- Traditional Irish Music Workshop
- Food Cloud Warehouse tours for secondary schools and much more.



## Social Inclusion Week

RAMS will provide the music at the launch event on 15 November.



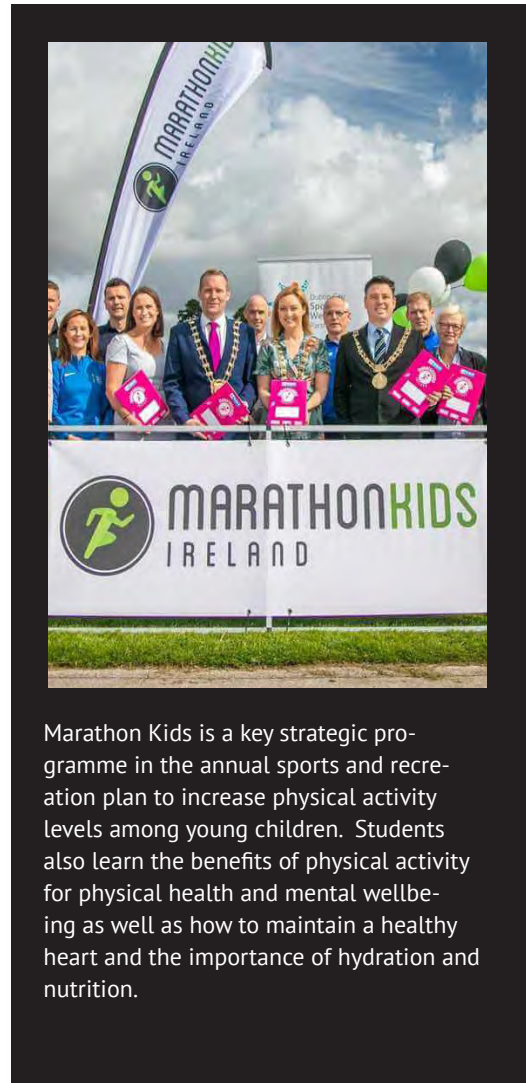
## Marathon Kids

The Marathon Kids Programme run by South Dublin County Council in conjunction with Fingal County Council and Dublin City Council is now bigger than ever with over 7,000 children participating across the three local authorities.

Children will complete the final mile of their marathon in Santry Stadium on Wednesday 13th November, having completed the previous 25.2 miles of the marathon distance over an 8-week programme with their classmates.

School participation in South County Dublin alone has increased significantly in 2019 with 33 local schools participating accumulating to over 3,000 kids from 5th and 6th class involved the programme.

Irish athlete David Gillick is the programme ambassador and he has visited several schools across South Dublin sharing his own experiences in athletics.

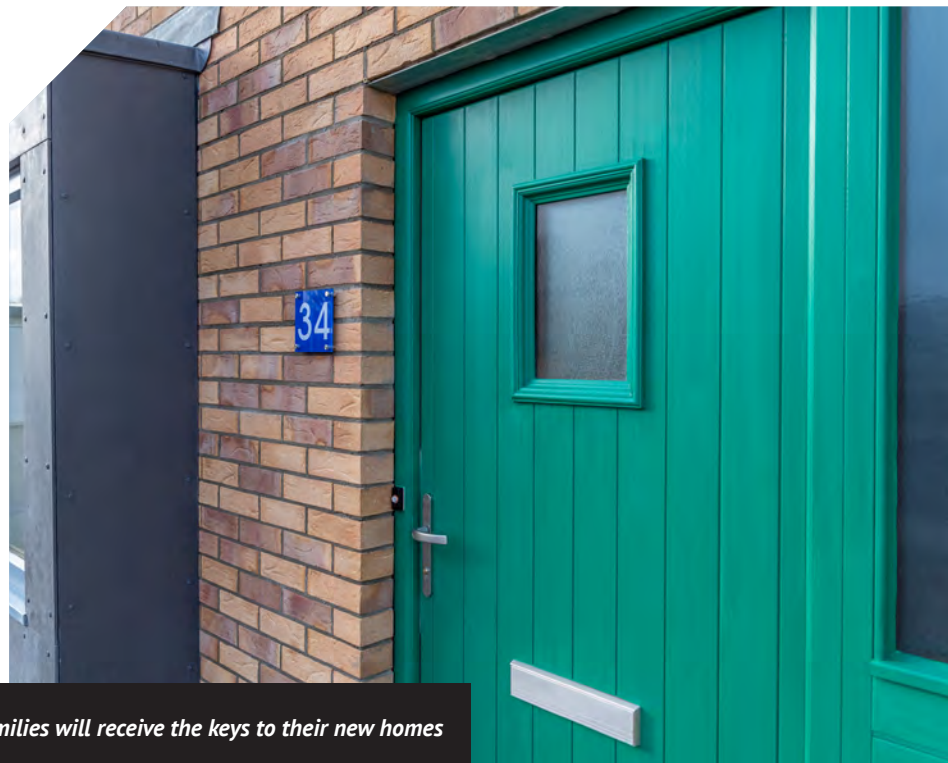


Marathon Kids is a key strategic programme in the annual sports and recreation plan to increase physical activity levels among young children. Students also learn the benefits of physical activity for physical health and mental wellbeing as well as how to maintain a healthy heart and the importance of hydration and nutrition.

## New Family Homes

63 families will receive the keys to their new homes from the Council during November with allocations finalised for the development at St Cuthbert's Park, Lealand Road in Clondalkin.

This project is funded by the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government at a cost of €12.3m under Rebuilding Ireland, as part of the Council's commitments to increase housing supply and accelerate delivery of social housing in the County. These homes were constructed under the Rapid Build Programme.



*53 families will receive the keys to their new homes*



# ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT



## Right to Read Award

On 17 October 2019, Mr Seán Canney TD, the Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development, presented the Right to Read Champion Awards to local authorities in recognition of their ongoing efforts to support literacy development through the library service.

The Awards, which were hosted by the Local Government Management Agency at Local Government House in Dublin, were presented to all 30 library authorities in recognition of the support and promotion of literacy skills development.

South Dublin Libraries are delighted to receive this award. All South Dublin Library branches have

participated in the Right to Read programmes since they began in 2017 through initiatives like Spring into Storytime, Family Time at Your Library, the Summer Stars Reading Programme and most recently, Children's Book Festival.

South Dublin library events are available to search on the Council's website under the Events section.



## Right to Read Award

South Dublin County Council libraries receiving the award.






## Creative Campus

Creative Campus is a programme aimed at assisting Senior Cycle students to achieve their educational and personal goals through attendance at and participation in a variety of workshops and talks.

The programme initiated in the County Library, Tallaght and has been extended throughout the branch network, receiving Government funding through the Dormant Accounts.

Some of the events organised through Creative Campus include study skill sessions with speakers from TU Dublin, a performance of Hamlet in the Civic Theatre, tech workshops in areas like podcasting and coding and music technology sessions, including a workshop with the Irish folk singer, Damien Dempsey.



### Local Enterprise Office

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee met on 15 October and approved five projects for funding up to €130,000.

This funding supported the creation of six and a half new jobs and also sustains three existing jobs.

## Grange Castle

Work has commenced on the construction of the third entrance to Grange Castle Business Park accessing the newly realigned Nangor Road. This project completes the transport infrastructure in the original Grange Castle campus.

Grange Castle Business Park is a South Dublin County Council owned Business Park promoted in association with IDA Ireland to attract major strategic investment to South Dublin. Located in Clondalkin, the Park is approximately 3km west of the M50 Orbital Motorway and is close to the strategic road and rail connections to the rest of Ireland.



*Creative Campus started in the County Library.*



# CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT



## Governance Framework

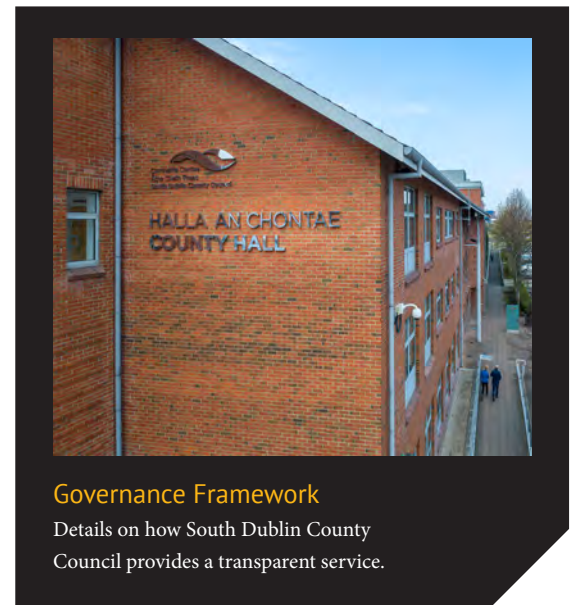
Providing a transparent and accountable local authority is of critical importance to the work the Council does and the trust citizens place in it. The following are some of the key measures taken to ensure the public knows what we do and why we do it.

There is a dedicated page on the Council's website entitled 'Regulation of Lobbying', under the About Us section. As required under the Transparency Code, this page provides a list of Designated Public Officials and Councillors. This allows members of the public to identify those persons who are designated public officials, and provides a resource for lobbyists filing a return to the Register.

All working groups operating under the Council will be listed on the website, and state that they adhere to the Transparency Code. This page contains a link to the Register of Lobbying.

The Council has adopted a Strategic Policy Committee Scheme. The Chairs of each committee have been appointed, and the provisions of the Act will be brought to their attention at the inaugural meetings in November. Details such as agendas and minutes of meetings will be made available on the website.

The Council also requires allelected members and senior public officials to submit to an Ethics Registrar an annual written declaration of "declarable interests", and a register of interests is published each year.



## Governance Framework

Details on how South Dublin County Council provides a transparent service.





## LGMA Services Catalogue

The Local Government Management Agency national project to develop a Local Government Service Catalogue commenced in October 2018. It aims to develop a standardised list of services provided by Local Authorities throughout the country. The local government sector provides over 1000 public services, and the aim of the project is to better inform the public about these services and how to access them.

The catalogue will be searchable and can be searched in a number of ways; keyword or free-text keyword search, by service type, via a drop-down menu, by subject and through 'tags'.

The catalogue continues to develop, with drafts completed in Housing, Environment, Planning, Roads and Transportation, Economic Development, Tourism and Local Enterprise services. This significant project should be completed by October 2020.

### €300k Have Your Say

The submissions phase of this year's initiative closed on 14 October with 187 projects submitted by members of the public. Those have been shortlisted and costed by senior management and the participatory budgeting steering group to be brought to the November Council meeting for approval before the public vote opens.

## Corporate Plan 2020 - 24

Contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024! The public consultation for South Dublin County Council's Corporate Plan 2020 -2024 is currently underway.

Please engage with this public consultation by visiting clicking the 'Consultation Portal' under 'Council' from the home page of the Council website or by visiting this link <https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/>

Consultation is open until close of business on Friday 22 November.



*The Deputy Mayor attending a €300k Have Your Say workshop*



# ENVIRONMENT WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE



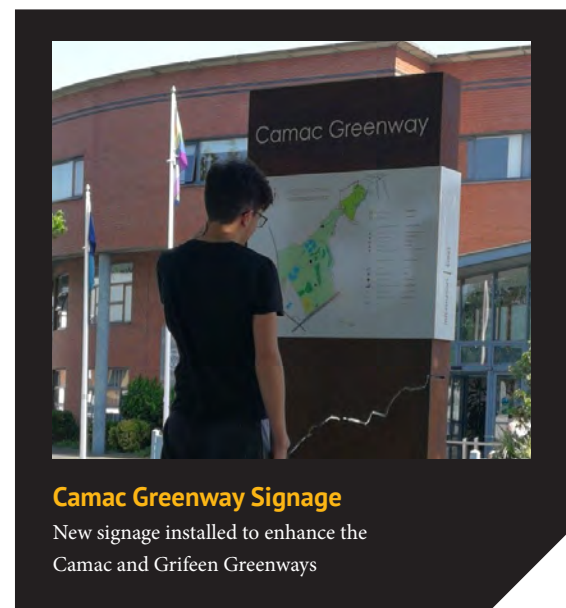
## Finding your way - Camac and Griffen Greenways

Information and wayfinding signage are an important addition to the amenity within our parks. Informative signage was installed in the early summer along the Camac and Griffen Greenways.

The two new signage trails encourage people to explore two of the county's regional parks at Corkagh and Griffen and enhance public understanding of biodiversity and local history. An orientation sign at the Civic Offices in Clondalkin town centre provides an overview of the route along the Camac. Interpretive themes include the significance of the River Camac to the development of Clondalkin from the Stone Age with Celtic, Christian and Viking influences; Clondalkin Mills,

The Great War and the biodiversity along the Camac River. Poems by former local Katherine Tynan were included to complement the themes. At Griffen the signs describe King John's Bridge, the Eiscair Riada and biodiversity along the Griffen.

Omos produced a contemporary robust design using Corten steel with aluminium panels. The project was part funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development: Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme. Some of the high-quality wildlife images were kindly donated by Mike Woolley, photographer. The interpretive content was a collaboration between the Public Realm, Environment and Library Sections of the Council and in consultation with local community groups in each area.



### Camac Greenway Signage

New signage installed to enhance the Camac and Griffen Greenways

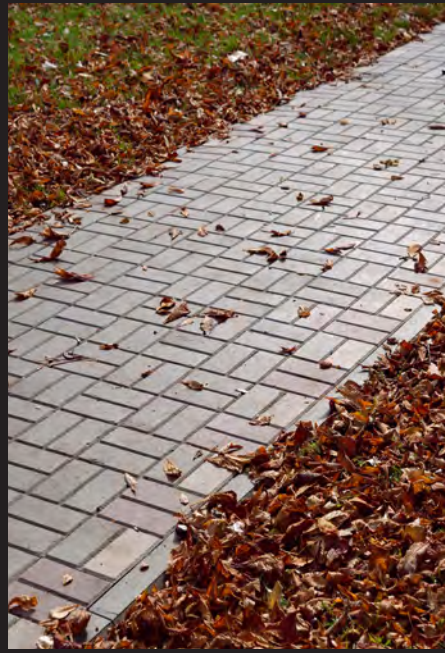




## Sport Pitch Investment

The Council has 163 pitches within our parks and open spaces available for club and community use across the county. A number of sports pitches have been upgraded with significant capital investment over the last year including GAA and Soccer pitches at Tymon Park and a number of soccer pitches at Firhouse.

The new sand-based pitch at Firhouse finished its establishment phase and commenced use at the start of the summer and is providing very popular. The two sand-based pitches at Tymon Park are now in the establishment phase and are bedding in very well. The Council has recently commenced work on the upgrade of a second GAA pitch in Tymon Park. Some pedestrian management is in place in the park and SDCC apologises for any inconvenience this may cause. The upgrade of the pitches at Tymon Park is funded through the Department of Transport Tourism and Sports' Capital Grant Programme and the projects are in association with local clubs.



## Leaf Collections

Did you know that requests can be made to the council to sweep an area that has had a heavy leaf fall over the Autumn and Winter months?

Please contact [info@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:info@sdblincoco.ie) to report an area near you.

## Week for Waste Reduction

The European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) is an initiative promoting the implementation of awareness-raising actions about sustainable resource and waste management during a single week.

Our theme for this year is Waste education and communication and we'll be rallying support under the slogan 'Change your ways, Reduce your waste'. Please use #EWWR2019 and #ReduceYourWaste to spread the word on social media. Our Environmental Awareness Section will be advertising workshops to all schools in the area and on social media.



European Week for Waste Reduction 16 – 24 November

# TALLAGHT STADIUM MARKETING STRATEGY



South Dublin County Council has signed a contract with Core to develop an advertising and marketing strategy for Tallaght Stadium.

**S**outh Dublin County Council has immediate plans to extend the seating capacity of the Council owned Tallaght Stadium to 10,000, with the building of the North Stand. The Council also plans to develop the West Stand to incorporate a high-quality corporate area. This work follows the expansion of the stadium in March of this year with the opening of the South Stand.

In conjunction with these plans, South Dublin County Council intends to promote Tallaght Stadium as an events venue to include music, festivals and all aspects of community events. With stadium seating and temporary on-field seating, the venue will accommodate up to 20,000 people.

In advance of the building of the North Stand, South Dublin County Council have contracted Core to



## ABOUT CORE

Core is Ireland's largest marketing communications company.

A collective of nine practices: Strategy, Data, Research, Media, Creative, Sponsorship, Recruitment, Investment and Learning working towards a single purpose, to expand the possibilities of what brands can achieve.



provide an analysis of advertising and branding opportunities for Tallaght Stadium. The analysis is expected to be completed at the beginning of 2020 and will inform future advertising and marketing plans for Tallaght Stadium.

The development of Tallaght Stadium and the advertising and marketing strategy comes on the ten-year anniversary of the stadium opening in 2009. Over the following decade, Tallaght Stadium has continued to increase capacity and improve facilities while providing the home ground for all Shamrock Rovers' games in the Airtricity League and in European competitions. It is also the home venue for our senior ladies and men's underage soccer teams. Tallaght Stadium has hosted many prestigious

events, such as the Special Olympics' Opening Ceremony in 2018, Cristiano Ronaldo's Real Madrid debut, American football and international football matches.

Daniel McLoughlin, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council,

"The development of the advertising and marketing strategy is proof of South Dublin County Council's ongoing commitment to attracting local, national and international visitors. Tallaght Stadium provides a focal point for the entire County and its development as an events venue will further enhance South Dublin's reputation as being to the forefront of the tourism market."



*The Irish Women's National Football Team*



# NEW PLAYSPACES OPEN



Two more playspaces in Tymon Park and in Ballymount Park were officially opened by South Dublin County Council recently.

**O**n Thursday 17 October, the Mayor of South Dublin County Council, Councillor Vicki Casserly officially opened the playspace at Ballymount Park.

This was followed a week later with the opening of the new Tymon Park playspace.

The provision of playgrounds in the recent past concentrated on large,

formally equipped and defined playgrounds with highly specialised equipment. The Council's PlaySpace programme is different; as it purely aims to provide opportunities to play. Children make their play based on what is available and adaptable in their environment. This type of play allows children to develop their imagination, challenge their abilities, deal with risk and, critically, adapt their environment.



## PLAYSPACE PROGRAMME

The Five-Year PlaySpace Programme was first presented to elected members at a meeting of South Dublin County Council in February 2014. The programme was then managed by the Public Realm Section with assistance from the Community Department of South Dublin County Council. Concepts for the PlaySpaces were developed with each local community and in consultation with locally elected members.

The designs were tendered for construction to playground specialists and implemented on-site in tandem with designers from the public realm section of the council to ensure the concepts followed through in each case.



In recent years there has been a justified focus on the physical and mental health of children growing up in Ireland, particularly in urban areas. Over the past twenty years, there has been a significant rise in childhood health issues. Several factors are contributing to this, but we know the physical environments in which children grow up has a significant impact on their health, their enjoyment of childhood and for social, intellectual and physical development.

Creating better play environments will bring benefits for the physical and mental health of the children growing up here and for communities.

PlaySpaces are designed to adapt to space where they are implemented and utilise the natural setting found

there. They provide a space and an environment for play, rather than merely equipment for children to play with, are located where children live, with an emphasis on natural PlaySpaces, and focus on the type of play that is most important to early childhood development.

Speaking at the official opening of the Ballymount playspace, Mayor Cllr Vicki Casserly said,

“Residents in this area have always advised that this would be a suitable location for a playspace and it has turned out to be very successful. Since the playspace has opened, there has been an increase in family groups using the park and everyone is getting more exercise and fresh air”.



*Official opening at Ballymount Park*



# FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES



Ground investigations were undertaken in October on both the River Poddle and Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Schemes.

**A**s part of the River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme, ground investigations took place over a number of weeks in October.

Ground Investigations consist of taking soil samples and determining the location of underground services by the use of boreholes, trial pits and slit trenches. As most of the works were

carried out on public footpaths, grass verges and roads, pedestrian and traffic management were put in place to accommodate the works where required.

The River Poddle flows from its source near the Institute of Technology Tallaght to the outfall to the River Liffey at Wellington Quay, traversing the heavily urbanised areas of Templeogue, Kimmage, Harold's Cross,



## CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

Flood management is one of the ways South Dublin County Council has increased flood resilience through the use of spatial planning and infrastructure projects.

Other measures include such things as flood forecasting and using existing natural landscapes or infrastructure to reduce flooding.

The Council's Climate Change Action Plan is aligned to the Government's 'Climate Action Plan 2019 To Tackle Climate Breakdown'.

You can download a copy of the Climate Change Action Plan on the Council's dedicated Climate Action webpage.

Crumlin and Temple Bar. The river has on numerous occasions overflowed its banks at a number of locations; most recently in the severe flood of October 2011, resulting in risk to human life as well as significant damage to properties and surrounding areas.

Through the River Poddle FAS, South Dublin County Council, Dublin County Council and the Office of Public Works (OPW) are seeking to prevent reoccurrences of such flood events and the associated disruption and turmoil inflicted on local communities through the provision of flood relief measures to alleviate the risk posed by the River Poddle.

Similarly, Whitechurch Stream has been identified as being liable to flooding during a one in one-hundred-

year flood event. This is mainly due to low banks, overtopping of existing defences or insufficient floodplain capacity. In addition, there is insufficient capacity at a number of bridges and culverts and this is causing water to back-up and producing increased water levels upstream. The Council is working with OPW to address this issue.

For further information on the River Poddle FAS, you can log on to [www.poddlefas.ie](http://www.poddlefas.ie).

For further information on the Whitechurch Stream FAS, you can log on to [www.whitechurchfas.ie](http://www.whitechurchfas.ie).



*The launch of the River Poddle FAS in 2018.*





**South Dublin County Council is being supported through the government's Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to deliver a range of projects that will transform Tallaght.**

**P**roject Ireland 2040 is the overarching policy and planning framework for the social, economic and cultural development of Ireland. It includes both a planning framework and a capital investment plan for the period 2018 -2027 – the National Development Plan (NDP).

As part of the NDP, the government established the URDF, a €2 billion fund to support the compact and sustainable development of our cities and major towns. The fund is operated on a competitive bid basis with applicants, primarily local authorities, providing 25% of project funding.

In response to the initial invitation for bids, this council made two submissions. The Tallaght submission focused on the delivery of projects that will have the combined effect of enhancing the urban experience, addressing the quality of the built environment including; public realm, traffic issues, access to amenities and enhancing pride of place. The submission was successful with projects having an estimated value of €19.8million, receiving 75% funding of €14.85million. The balance of €4.95 million, will be provided by the local authority.

The projects include new roads infrastructure to open up lands at Belgard North,

# URBAN REGEN DEVELOPM







Enterprise Innovation Centre, the completion of Tallaght Stadium, a new Mobility Hub at the Luas terminal and the development of Civic Plazas at Belgard North and Library Square.

In keeping with the primary planning consideration of rejuvenation and compact growth, we also made a submission to prepare a masterplan for the redevelopment of the Naas Road Corridor. A similar application was made by Dublin City Council for the adjoining area immediately inside the City boundary. This entire area which has historically serviced the City and County well in terms of industrial, manufacturing, bulk retail and logistics employment is now ready for transformation, as traditional uses give way to contemporary city and economic development considerations.

Both South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council have been awarded €200,000 to initiate a plan-led approach to this regeneration opportunity. It has been agreed that South Dublin County Council will lead out on this plan preparation on behalf of both authorities.

# ERATION AND ENT FUND

“ SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL’S TALLAGHT SUBMISSION TO THE URBAN REGENERATION DEVELOPMENT FUND WAS SUCCESSFUL AND WAS AWARDED FUNDING OF €14.85 MILLION BY THE GOVERNMENT.





# SEPTEMBER STATISTICS REPORT

# HIGHLIGHTS



## Corporate Performance and Change Management

Customer Care Queries processed	7246
Telephone calls answered	14637
Web pages opened on Council websites	248660
Social Media Followers across Council platforms	34600



## Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

LEO - Number of mentoring sessions	64
Grange Castle jobs sustained	5328
Library visitors	107,808
Visitors to the Civic Theatre and Rua Red	29,507



## Environment, Water and Climate Change

Trees pruned	214
Trees inspected	1607
Grass cut	1058 hectares
Playing pitches provided/maintained	163
Tonnes of waste collected - litter and illegal dumping	493
Tonnes of waste collected from street bins	34
No. of bring banks provided	74
No. of green flag schools	136





## Housing, Social and Community Development

Total Housing Stock	9515
Total housing needs assessed	6902
Housing maintenance requests received	1488
Tidy Towns Groups supported	11
Community grants issued	18
<b>Number of community event participants</b>	<b>14,500</b>
Visitors to leisure facilities	48034



## Land Use, Planning and Transportation

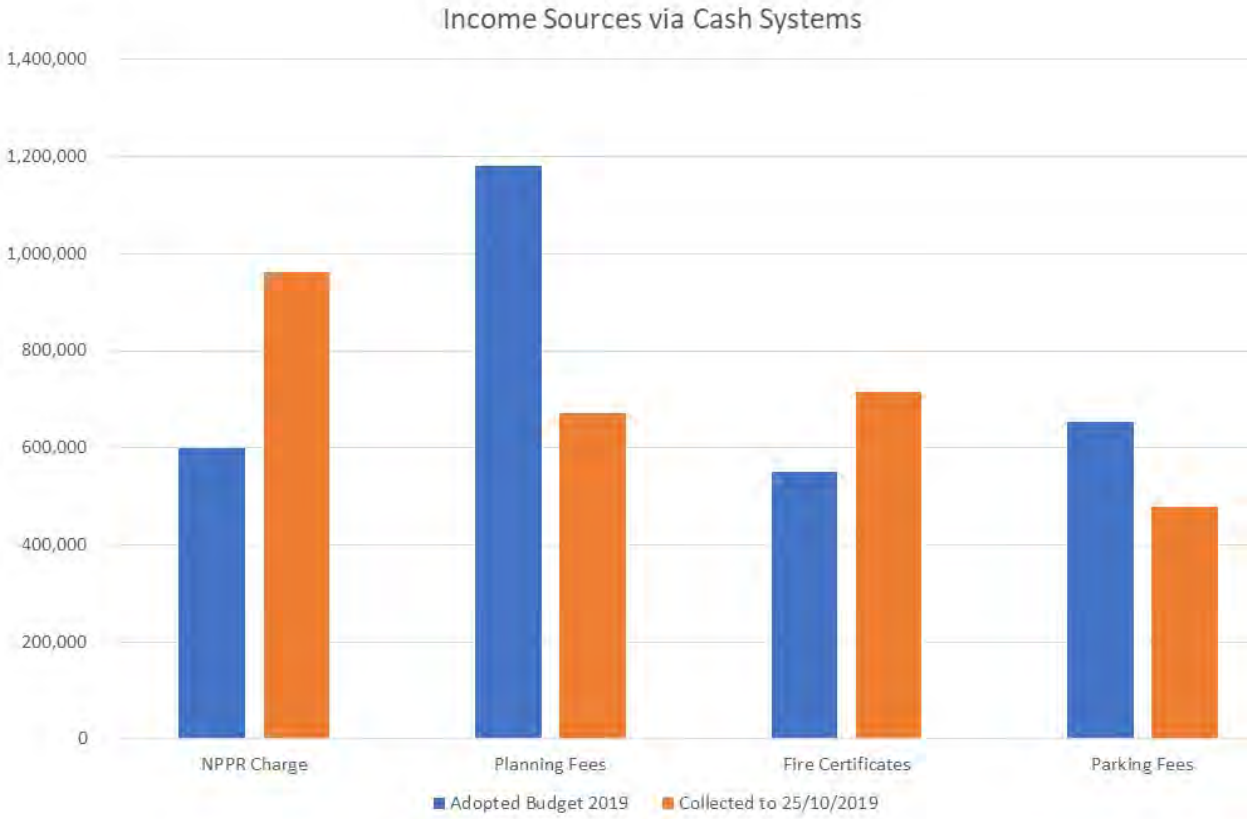
Building control inspections	49
Area of footpath repaired in metres squared (m2)	4350
Area of road repaired in m2	11613
<b>Number of public lights in charge</b>	<b>29870</b>
Number of traffic lights repaired within 24 hours	93

You can view all statistics under the Statistics Report in the Manager's Report headed item of the monthly Council meeting.



# FINANCE REPORT

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**You can view the full Finance Report under the Manager’s Report headed item of the monthly Council meeting agenda.**



# IMAGES OF THE MONTH



*SDCC's Safe and Healthy Seminar*



*Elected members past and present celebrate 25 years of the Council.*



# IMAGES OF THE MONTH



*A packed Tallaght Stadium watches the Ireland u-21s football team face Italy u-21s*



*Ireland celebrates a famous women's international football win in Tallaght*

FOLLOW US ON

# SOCIAL MEDIA

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