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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council 09th June 2020 Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse, Bohernabreena, Area Committee Meeting dealing with Planning, Transportation, Libraries, Economic Development, Performance & Change Management, Corporate, Environment, Water & Drainage, Public Realm, Community and Housing held virtually on Tuesday 9 June 2020 through Microsoft 365 Teams

### **PRESENT**

### Mary Seery-Kearney

### Yvonne Collins

### Alan Edge

### Pamela Kearns

### Ronan McMahon

### David McManus

### Deirdre O’Donovan

### William Priestly

### Brian Lawlor

### Carly Bailey

### Emma Murphy

### Clare O’Byrne

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

### Senior Executive Officer Mary Maguire,

### County Librarian Bernadette Fennell

### Head of Local Enterprise Thomas Rooney

### Senior Engineer Leo Magee, William Purcell, Tony O’Grady

### A/Senior Executive Officer Brian Hora, Michael McAdam

### Senior Executive Planner Eoin Burke, Jim Johnston

### Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Máire Ní Domhnaill, Laurence Colleran

### Road Safety Officer Ally Menary

### Administration Officer Sheila Kelly

### Clerical Officer Ciara Brennan

**An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney presided**

**Prior to commencement of the meeting Ms Mary Maguire, Senior Executive Officer reiterated the procedure and protocol for this Area Committee Meeting via Microsoft 365 Teams.   It was AGRRED that as the meeting was a virtual one a roll call of the members’ attendance was taken, and Members were also advised to register their attendance via the Show Conversation screen.**

**RTFB/211/20 H1 Item ID:66152 CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee dealing with Housing, Community, Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries, Corporate, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Environment, Water & Drainage held on, 12th May 2020 which have been circulated, were submitted and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

[H1 May 2020 Rathfarnham\_Templeogue\_Firhouse\_Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting Minutes](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66637)

It was proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and seconded by Councillor Alan Edge and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 12th May 2020 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTFB/212/20 - Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and seconded by Councillor Alan Edge and **RESOLVED** “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1-11 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/213/20 Q1 Item ID:66250- Vacant Land in Urban Areas**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey

To ask the Chief Executive to update the members in relation to the implementation and administration of the vacant sites levy established under the Urban Regeneration & Housing Act 2015. This levy was brought in as a site activation measure to ensure that **vacant land** in urban areas is brought into beneficial use and to prevent land hoarding.
To specifically ask the Chief Executive whether SDCC has assigned market valuations to any vacant lands in the Rathfarnham/Templeogue and Firhouse/Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas, whether an active register is in place and whether levies have been collected to date. If levies have not yet been collected, or any other aspect, to ask the chief executive to make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

South County Dublin currently has 8 sites on the Vacant Sites Register (VSR) established under the Urban Regeneration & Housing Act 2015. Within the Local Electoral Areas of Rathfarnham/Templeogue and Firhouse/Bohernabreena, there is currently 1 site on the VSR. This is shown in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Registration No.** | **Address** | **Date Site placed on Register** | **Date valuation placed on Register** |
| SD/VS64 | Lands at the junction of Grange Road, Nutgrove Avenue and Loreto College, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 | 15th March 2018 | 12th December 2018 |

A market valuation has been assigned to the above site, which will be levied at 7%. This is the first year that this site can be levied as the legislation requires the site to be on the register for a full year – January to January – before levying. The Planning Department is in the process of issuing letters to owners of properties, including this site, demanding payment pursuant to Section 15 of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015, (as amended). These demands can be appealed to An Bord Pleanala. No levies have been collected to date.

South Dublin's VSR can be found at this website address:

<https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/planning/vacant-sites/>

### **RTFB/214/20 Q2 Item ID:66263- Re-opening of Restaurants**

Proposed by Councillor B. Lawlor

Could I please get some information on the qualifying criteria for being a restaurant? Many pubs in our area are considering re-opening as restaurants and this would be very helpful for them.

**REPLY:**

In terms of planning and a potential change of use, the question is very broad and any consideration of what constitutes exempted development would need to be a site specific consideration as issues such as protected structures and planning history etc can restrict exempt development. The partial change of use of a public house to a restaurant may be considered ancillary to the primary public house use and not represent a material change of use and therefore, it may not be development. What is a material (i.e. significant) change of use depends on the circumstances of each situation. The Section 5 Exempted Declaration process enables any individual to get a written opinion from a Planning Authority within 4 weeks. Each section 5 declaration such as this is site specific.

Please note that there may be other non-planning related licences and legislation that a pub owner needs to consider.

### **RTFB/215/20 Q3 Item ID:66267- Post-Primary school in Ballycullen**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

To ask the Chief Executive if South Dublin County Council can please provide a detailed update to the Area Committee on the proposed post-primary school in the Ballycullen - Oldcourt area?

**REPLY:**

Further to the meeting on March 20, 2019, the DES agreed to pursue acquiring sufficient lands for a Post Primary site on the western side of the Ballycullen-Oldcourt LAP lands. The Department have indicated to the Planning Department that the acquisition of lands by the DES for the permanent post-primary school at Ballycullen - Oldcourt is progressing and is close to completion.

The Land Use Planning & Transportation Department (LUPTD) will continue to provide advice from a planning perspective and assist the Department of Education and Skills (DES) in delivering the site.

### **RTFB/216/20 C1 Item ID:66133- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/217/20 H2 Item ID:66144 – SHD 3 Site at Taylors Lane & Edmondstown Road**

The following report was presented by Jim Johnson, Senior Executive Planner

**SHD 3 - Site at Taylors Land and Edmondstown Road, Taylors Lane, Ballyboden, Dublin 16**

[H2 SHD Augustinian site](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66639)

**This Headed Item was taken in conjunction with Motion 1, 2 and 3**

### **RTFB/218/20 M1 Item ID:66155- Briefing on the proposed SHD at Taylors Lane**

Proposed by Councillor Emma Murphy and Seconded by Councillor Yvonne Collins

That this Area Committee is provided with a full briefing on the proposed SHD at Taylors Lane in Ballyboden and that SDCC provide a traffic impact assessment for the Ballyboden area in tandem with the briefing.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

 As part of the SHD process, a Planning report on the SHD planning application, making a full assessment and recommendation, will be submitted to An Bord Pleanala prior to a decision being made by An Bord Pleanala. The SDCC Transportation section assessment of the traffic documentation submitted with the application will be integrated into the Planning Report to be submitted to An Bord Plenala. Please note that the agenda for this meeting includes a Headed Item SHD presentation on the proposal in accordance with the planning legislation.

**This Motion was taken in conjunction with Headed Item 2 and Motions 2 and 3.**

### **RTFB/219/20 M2 Item ID:66194 - Revoking S.I. 271/2017**

### Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge and Seconded by Councillor Emma Murphy

In light of the present application to build 496 residential units in blocks of up to 7 storeys high at the Augustinian site on Taylor's Lane, that this Area Committee write to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government calling on the incoming government to revoke S.I. 271/2017 and bring to an end the wholly undemocratic system of Strategic Housing Developments.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

This is something that is open to the Area Committee at any stage and goes beyond a specific SHD3 application at the Augustinian site on Taylor’s Lane. As part of the SHD process for a specific site, a Planning report on the SHD planning application, making a full assessment and recommendation, will be submitted to An Bord Pleanala by SDCC Planning Department prior to a decision being made by An Bord Pleanala.

### **RTFB/220/20 M3 Item ID:66199- Opposing to the development of the Augustinian Lands**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

To ask the Chief Executive to make representations to An Bord Pleanala in the strongest possible terms opposing the proposed development of the former Augustinian lands on Ballyboden Road, given the density and the height of the proposed development with respect to the character of the local area, the lack of any adequate transport infrastructure for the area and the adverse impact such a development will have on the environment and wildlife in the area, noting the proximity of the location to the Owendoher Rover.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

As part of the SHD process, a Planning report on the SHD planning application, making a full assessment and recommendation, will be submitted by the SDCC Planning Department to An Bord Pleanala prior to a decision being made by An Bord Pleanala. Please note that the agenda for this meeting includes a Headed Item SHD presentation on the proposal. Comments from the Elected Members will be included in the SDCC Planning Department report to An Bord Pleanala.

Following contributions from Councillors C Byrne, Y Collins, D. O’Donovan, E. Murphy, C. Bailey, D. McManus, M. Murphy, A. Edge, P. Kearns, W. Priestly, M. Seery Kearney, Jim Johnson - Senior Executive Planner responded to queries raised and the reports were **NOTED.** Following a role call vote on Motion 2, 10 Councillors were for and 1 against and the Motion was **Passed**.

**RTFB/221/20 M4 Item ID:66207- SHD planning approval**

Proposed by Councillor D. O'Donovan and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

That the Manager reports on recent SHD planning approval in our area which provide communal living, given the deadly pandemic and necessity for social distancing, outlining what steps, if any, will be taken to deal with the issue.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

There are many circumstances and tenure which can result in communal/shared living. The provision of residential units is not limited to planning applications permitted by the SHD process. The steps to be taken to deal with the implications of communal living and any other such shared living circumstances are governed by the general guidelines on Covid 19 issued by the Government.

Following contributions from Councillors P. Kearns, C. Bailey, Eoin Burke – Senior Executive planner responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/222/20 Q4 Item ID:66208- Parking**

Proposed by Councillor D. O'Donovan

To ask the Manager where parking for the proposed Dodder Valley Cycleway is going to be?

**REPLY:**

As part of the Dodder Greenway additional parking is planned at the following locations:

* Adjacent to Kiltipper Woods Care Center – Approx 12 spaces (subject to funding).
* Dodder Valley Cheeryfield Carpark – Approx 6 spaces as part of existing carpark extension
* Springfield Avenue - Approx 20 spaces to Bridge 3

### **RTFB/223/20 Q5 Item ID:66255- Wellington lane and Cycling Scheme**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney

To ask the Chief Executive for a report in relation to the progress of the excellent Wellington Lane Walking and Cycling Scheme. Thank you.

**REPLY:**

The preliminary design drawings for the Wellington Lane Walking and Cycling Scheme are currently being completed. Measures have been put in place to prepare Road Safety Audits 1 and 2 and the Appropriate Assessment screening of the project.

The Part 8 proposal for the Scheme is planned to be brought before the June ACM and the following Council meeting.

Following the successful forums carried out with two local secondary schools, councillors and the public, along with the walkability audits received from the local primary schools, the original scope of the Scheme was extended. Wellington Lane now forms the main spine of the route with many connecting cycle ways to accommodate schools, amenities and shopping facilities.

The Scheme proposes to provide;

1. Improved community connectivity
2. Links to the existing cycle network on the N81, and the Dodder Greenway, which is under construction
3. Off road cycle paths where possible
4. Safer junctions for vulnerable road users
5. Reallocation of car parking to improve and increase footpaths, where possible
6. Reduction in Road Carriageway which will not reduce capacity, as captured in 2019
7. Improvements to existing cycle tracks on Templeville Road
8. Introduction of cycle lanes on Limekiln Lane, Orwell Road and Rossmore Road
9. Trialling of filtered permeability on Rockfield Avenue
10. Landscaping improvements

### **RTFB/224/20 C2 Item ID:66135- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/225/20 H3 Item ID:66146- School Street Project**

### The following report was presented by Ally Menary, Road Safety Officer

**South Dublin School Street Project – an overview to exploring the feasibility of a School Street Pilot within South Dublin.**

[H3 SDCC School Street Project Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66627)
[H3(i) SDCC School Street Project Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66628)

Following Contributions from Councillors W. Priestly, Y. Collins, C. Bailey, R. McMahon, M. Seery Kearney, Ally Menary – Road Safety Officer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

**RTFB/226/20 H4 Item ID:66151-** **Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads – No Business

### **RTFB/227/20 H5 Item ID:66153 – Taking in Charge Otterbrook**

The following report was presented by William Purcell, Senior Engineer

**Otterbrook - Taking in Charge**

Otterbrook will be Taken in Charge by SDCC in 2020 subject to the approval of the full Council.

The Council are in the process of completing As-Built and other Regulatory information required as part of the Taking in Charge process and expect to see the scheme advertised in the next month.

Given the statutory period for consultation which is one month as defined in Part II section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and the preparation of a final TIC report for a full Council meeting, we are confident that the TIC will be complete in the early Autumn of 2020.

<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1993/en/act/pub/0014/sec0011.html#sec11>

Following contribution from Councillor Y Collins, William Purcell- Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/228/20 M5 Item ID:66241- Bus Connetcs**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and Seconded by Councillor Carly Bailey

That this Committee is provided with a full report of the Council's submission in relation to Bus Connects, particularly in relation to CBCs 9, 10, 11 and 12 and on whether has had sight of the Bus Connects traffic reports, and if so how the Council is proposing to respond to their content, including whether that content concurs with the Council's own surveys.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

It was agreed at the May SPC meeting to circulate the submission made by the Council to the NTA on Bus Connects to Members of the SPC.

Other than the overarching traffic surveys information contained in the booklets and traffic counts on the Bus Connects website which covered extensive parts of Dublin City as well as South Dublin, we have no corresponding survey information with which to compare the NTA findings.

The Council may make a further submission to the public consultation that will take place in late 2020.

Statement from NTA Bus Connects Website:

The current Core Bus Corridor Projects public consultation closed on Friday 17th April 2020. We would like to thank everyone that sent us a submission, all submissions will be considered as the design development is progressed.

Even though the public consultation period has ended we will continue to engage with the public throughout the planning process as was done during 2019 following close of the previous public consultation. We intend to resume face-to-face meetings once restrictions are lifted, and will engage by phone or otherwise (email, post, etc.) to remain engaged with interested parties in the interim. Any updates or amendments that may be considered through ongoing dialogue will be published on our website.

In addition due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the unprecedented times we are living in, the NTA has decided that there will be a further public consultation regarding the Core Bus Corridor Projects later this year. We hope to carry out the additional public consultation in September 2020, however this will be dependent on current HSE restrictions being lifted and in line with any HSE guidelines which may remain in place later this year.

This Motion was **MOVED WITHOUT DEBATE.**

### **RTFB/229/20 M6 Item ID:66265- Orwell Park Shopping Centre pathway**

Proposed by Councillor Pamela Kearns and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

To ask the manager about the ownership of the footpath on the perimeter of Orwell Park Shopping Centre. The path is badly broken and very narrow. If the expectation is that we would continue with the 2-meter social distancing for the foreseeable future having the use of a proper footpath would be of great benefit.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The path in question on Orwell Park Heights road is not in the charge of SDCC and the works were not carried out by the Roads Dept.

### The Report was **NOTED**

### **RTFB/230/20 M7 Item ID:66269- Policing**

Proposed by Councillor Emma Murphy and Seconded by Deirdre O’ Donovan

That this Area Committee writes to An Garda Siochana in relation to the policing of Killakee Road and in particular in the area surrounding the entrance to Massys Wood and the Hell Fire Club. The situations around illegal parking, traffic log jams and enforcement need significant attention to avoid a serious accident on this road.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The Council is aware of an ongoing issue of illegal and inconsiderate parking at this location.

This matter has been listed for inspection and discussion at the next Traffic Management Meeting, which is attended by a member of the Garda Traffic Corps, Dublin Castle.

In the interim, if the motion is passed, a letter will issue to An Garda Siochana.

### The Report was **NOTED**

### **RTFB/231/20 M8 Item ID:66245- SDCC temporary mobility framework**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

To ask the Chief Executive to publish the SDCC temporary mobility framework for this local electoral area.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The Framework is not finalised yet. When it is it will be brought to LUPT SPC and then ACM's for the attention of the Members.

### The Report was **NOTED**

### **RTFB/232/20 M9 Item ID:66244- Mobility Plan**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and Seconded by Councillor Pamela Kearns

During this time of crisis, we have seen a significant increase in cycling and walking. It is essential that we encourage those who have used the quietness of roadway to become or return to cycling.  In order to facilitate this I am asking for the support of this Committee to hasten the implementation of all existing plans to advance cycling and walking and to consider the implementation of a mobility plan similar to that shown by Dublin City Council in the main roads in the areas of Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Greenhills and Perrystown.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

If this Motion is carried the Council will request that Members submit locations where they consider that measures like those used in DCC would be successful in SDCC and we will carry out a survey at each location to establish suitability from a technical point of view.

SDCC will then propose a trial installation of measures at suggested approved locations to assess the success or otherwise of the measures.

### The Report was **NOTED**

### **RTFB/233/20 M10 Item ID:66242- Road parking issues and traffic legislation**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey and Seconded by Councillor Alan Edge

That this committee requests that the Chief Executive seek an urgent meeting with an Garda Síochána to discuss on road parking issues and enforcement of Road Traffic legislation in relation to illegally parked cars along the Killakee Road, near to the Hell Fire Club car park. Dublin Fire Brigade have reported delays in getting to injured persons due to cars that are illegally parked on both sides of the narrow road. Residents report chaotic road conditions. Cyclists fear it is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or killed.

Cars continue to ignore and park along the continuous white line, restricting access of larger vehicles operated by emergency services. This also increases the chances of a road traffic accident involving vehicles, cyclists and/or pedestrians.

While this a year round issue, it is particularly more pronounced on account of the Covid-19 situation and especially so since the easing of lockdown restrictions more recently, which allow for people to travel within 5km of their homes. This has led to an exponential increase in visitor numbers to this site and the situation is unsustainable and requires immediate and radical action .

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

If the Motion is carried SDCC Traffic Section will commence discussion with Rathfarnham Garda Station Traffic Section with a view to developing and implementing appropriate measure aimed at resolving the problem.

### The Report was **NOTED**

## **Libraries Arts**

### **RTFB/234/20 C3 Item ID:66131- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/235/20 H6 Item ID:66142- New Works**

NEW WORKS (No Business)

### **RTFB/236/20 H7 Item ID:66149- Library and News Events**

The following report was presented by Bernadette Fennell, County Librarian

Library News & Events

[H7(a) Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66600)
[H7(b) Library Online Programme of Events](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66601)

The report was **NOTED.**

**RTFB/237/20 H8 Item ID:66148- Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/238/20 Q6 Item ID:66261- Re-start Grant**

Proposed by Councillor B. Lawlor

To ask the Chief Executive to give detail on how we are advertising the re-start grant to local businesses.

**REPLY:**

At a National level there are promotion campaigns taking place by DBEI and Government as part of their wider business supports campaigns.

The LGMA are participating on a LEO the ‘lunch and learn’ on-line sessions and will feature on next Wednesday 3rd June session.  Title is ***‘Restart with supports from your Local Authority’*** It will feature the Chair of the CCMA, Michael Walsh, Chief Executive of Waterford City and County Council and will include a showing of the ‘explainer video’ .

The Restart Grant is being promoting locally through the South Dublin County Council (SDCC) website and social media. It has its own news article on the website but is also listed on our COVID-19 section under the Business and the Economy tab ([https://www.sdcc.ie/en/covid-19-information/business-economy/](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdcc.ie%2Fen%2Fcovid-19-information%2Fbusiness-economy%2F&amp;data=02|01|TRooney%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie|7fa22fc0a9fa4a52787108d802e50abd|6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4|0|0|637262530030338705&amp;sdata=A%2FYYQ%2BoM4Q7KDlejx2ReoCJZlrF6bIRUNBaNH9WXhgI%3D&amp;reserved=0)). Postings on social media,( Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn ) have so far been seen over 10,000 times. (28.05.2020) and It is part of SDCC’s rotation of scheduled social media posts for continued promotion.

Restart has also been featured on the LEO e-zine and Social Media and has also shared been with South Dublin Chamber.

### **RTFB/239/20 C4 Item ID:66129- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/240/20 H9 Item ID:66139- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/241/20 M11 Item ID:66201- NSB Recovery Plan**

Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge and Seconded by Councillor Yvonne Collins

That this Area Committee calls upon the government to implement the National Small Business Recovery Plan as set out at <https://www.smerecovery.ie>

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

**Government has released a wide** range of financial supports and guidance available to help businesses impacted by the COVID-19 crisis to develop their individual business recovery plans. Details of which can be found here

Details of this comprehensive list of supports are also shared on the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office web-site together with links for advice and guidance to support any business in any sector to deal with the challenges of COVID-19 and support their preparations to restart / open up under in accordance with Government Guidelines.

LEO South Dublin and South Dublin County Council have responded locally to the Government plans to Businesses impacted by COVID-19 with the provision of the following range of supports.

Details on COVID-19 supports were presented to the Tallaght SPC on May13th 2020 and can be viewed   [here](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66306)

**Business Continuity Voucher**

Business Continuity Voucher was launched 25th March, 2020 and in excess of 700 applications from business owners in South Dublin. The voucher is worth up to €2,500 in 3rd party consultancy costs to support business owners to make informed decisions about what immediate measures and remedial actions should be taken, to protect staff and sales in their businesses. The voucher is designed for businesses across every sector that employ up to 50 people.

(Applications for this voucher closed on 22nd May).

**New COVID-19 Business Loan**

COVID-19 Business Loans are a Government-funded initiative designed for micro-enterprises with less than 10 employees and €2m turnover. Loans of up to €50,000 are available at 4.5% interest rate are granted through Microfinance Ireland in partnership with LEO and are interest free and repayment free for first 6 months.

**Trading on Line Vouchers (TOVs)**

Trading on Line Vouchers (TOVs) expanded under the Government’s national Digital Strategy to support all businesses with up to 10 employees to increase their on-line trading presence. The voucher provides up to €2500 with co-funding of just 10% from the business.

Vouchers are also open to businesses that have already received a voucher to enable them to upgrade their on-line offering. Training and workshops are also provided. In excess of 700 individuals have attended the additional TOVs Workshops that were set up to support this scheme over the past 8 weeks and approximately 400 applications have been received to date and proportion of which are awaiting approval which is dependent on the availability of additional funding .

**Mentoring**

Mentoring virtual sessions are being conducted individually and in groups settings. These sessions are free of charge and provide the opportunity for business owners to chat directly with a member from our Mentor panel who provide advice and guidance as they develop strategies that are more robust, which address the issues and maximise potential opportunities when the COVID-19 crisis comes to an end.

**Training & Webinars**

All Training programmes, workshops and networking meet-ups have moved to on-line. Additional programmes on areas such as Cash Management in a Crisis, leading your business through COVID-19, Getting back to Business have been added to the regular training programme.

**Lean for Micro**

Lean for Micro is available to LEO clients to help build resilience within small businesses and can also be used to help implement new remote working and physical distancing guidelines.

Under the programme clients can avail of expert consultancy support to introduce lean principals and cost savings and assist the company benchmarking its performance.

**LEO Financial Supports**

LEO Financial Supports are available for existing and potential start-ups that meet eligibility criteria. Financial supports are offered to help manage current market challenges under Feasibility Study Grants, Priming Grants and Business Expansion Grants. Applications are all supported on-line.

**Restart Grant**

South Dublin County Council commenced taking on on-line applications to the new €250m Restart Grant on Friday 22nd May last. The Restart Grant will give direct grant aid to micro and small businesses to help them with the costs associated with reopening and reemploying workers following COVID-19 closures.

The Grant will be available to businesses with a turnover of less than €5m and employing 50 people or less, which were closed or impacted by at least a 25% reduction in turnover out to 30th June 2020. It is a contribution towards the cost of re-opening or keeping a business operational and re-connecting with employees and customers.

The grants will be equivalent to the rates bill of the business in 2019, with a minimum payment of €2,000 and a maximum payment of €10,000. Link to grant applicationis listed on SDCC COVID-19 section under the Business and the Economy tab [here](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdcc.ie%2Fen%2Fcovid-19-information%2Fbusiness-economy%2F&amp;data=02|01|TRooney%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie|7fa22fc0a9fa4a52787108d802e50abd|6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4|0|0|637262530030338705&amp;sdata=A%2FYYQ%2BoM4Q7KDlejx2ReoCJZlrF6bIRUNBaNH9WXhgI%3D&amp;reserved=0)

South Dublin Business Support Funds details [here](https://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/Enterprise-Development/Business-Support-Fund/) and Shop Front Improvement Grants details [here](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/business/enterprise/business-support/shop-front-grant/shop-front-grant.html) continue to be available to businesses also.

Following contributions from Councillors A. Edge, Y. Collins, M. Seery Kearney, Thomas Rooney- Head of Local Enterprise responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

## **Performance Change Management**

### **RTFB/242/20 C5 Item ID:66132- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/243/20 H10 Item ID:66143-New Works**

New Works (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/244/20 C6 Item ID:66128- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/245/20 H11 Item ID:66138- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/246/20 M12 Item ID:66195- Shortage of SNA’s**

Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge and Seconded by Councillor Deirdre O’ Donovan

Given the unsatisfactory and generic response by the Department of Education to the letter written on behalf of this Area Committee concerning the shortage of SNAs, that this Area Committee write to the Department asking them to engage fully with parents and schools and, in particular, to examine the specific needs of Firhouse Educate Together National School in order to ensure that badly needed supports will be available when the children do finally go back to school. And that this Committee supports the agreed review of services and ask that said review is carried out as a matter of urgency.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

If this motion is passed by the Members, a further letter will be written to the Department of Education and Skills in this regard.

Following contributions from Councillors A Edge and C Bailey, Councillor D O’Donovan proposed an amendment which was seconded by Councillor A Edge and **AGREED** and the report was **NOTED**

### **RTFB/247/20 M13 Item ID:66200**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins and Seconded by Councillor Emma Murphy

That this Committee writes to the Minister for Education and asks for a list of the number of ASD school places available throughout this area for the last three academic years, and to set out any proposed increases in such school places and/or supports available going forward

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

A letter will be written to the Minister for Education and Sport requesting this information on your behalf.

The report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/248/20 M14 Item ID:66262- Garden of Remembrance**

Proposed by Councillor Brian Lawlor

That this Committee recognises the efforts of all those involved in the Garden of Remembrance in Firhous Community College and congratulates them on a fantastic video production to recognise it's 1st anniversary.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

If this Motion is passed by the members, a letter will be written to the College in this regard.

In the absence of Councillor B. Lawlor this **MOTION FALLS**

## **Water Drainage**

### **RTFB/249/20 C7 Item ID:66136- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/250/20 H12 Item ID:66147- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/251/20 Q7 Item ID:66247- Planting Trees**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins

To ask the Chief Executive to set out the types of and location of trees to be planted in this electoral area in 2020, with particular emphasis on the location of replacement trees where trees have previously had to be removed due to storm damage and/or disease or otherwise.

**REPLY:**

Tree planting took place in the Rathfarnham, Templeogue area in February and March 2020. The tree species and locations were presented to the members in November 2019 and is available on the Council’s website at the following link.

<https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/tree-management/tree-planting-programme/rathfarnham-templeogue-firhouse-bohernabreena-tree-planting-programme-spring-2020.pdf>

332 trees were planted in total in the area.

Replacement trees are planted according to recommendation in the Council’s Tree Management Policy listed below -

If a site where a tree was removed is suitable to support a new tree, the site may be replanted with a suitable tree species. Because the stump has to be placed on a stump removal list and sufficient time needs to elapse to allow breakdown of residual underground root material, the process from removal to replanting may take up to 3-5 years. Replacement tree planting will only take place during the dormant season.

### **RTFB/252/20 Q8 Item ID:66196- Biodiversity**

Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge

How many sites within the area covered by this Committee are managed for biodiversity?

**REPLY:**

The majority of sites in the area covered by this committee which are managed for biodiversity are situated in Tymon Park with a further number of sites in Dodder Valley Park.  There is also a site in Kiltipper Park and one in Rathfarnham Castle.  The sites vary in size, the total number of sites in the area is 30 with an approximate total area of 80 hectares.

### **RTFB/253/20 Q9 Item ID:65977- Social distance model**

Proposed by Councillor B. Lawlor

To ask the Manager to put in a social distance model that would allow Fiarstown Allotment re-open

**REPLY:**

Advice provided by a number of government departments to the Dublin local authorities was that social distancing could not be provided for and guaranteed at allotments and that they were to remain closed under the Covid 19 restrictions.  These facilities have now reopened from May 18th under phase one of the lifting of restrictions.

### **RTFB/254/20 Q10 Item ID:66271 – Repair and Replace Playground in Tymon Park**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Council please detail the costs which will be incurred to repair and replace the adventure playground in Tymon Park which was burnt out on May 25th?

**REPLY:**

**The damage to the playground has been examined by Public Realm staff and an assessment of the damage by a specialist in the provision of playground equipment is being arranged.  Quotations for repairs will be sought after that assessment has been carried out, the cost of those repairs is expected to be in the region of €3,000.**

### **RTFB/255/20 Q11 Item ID:66249- Parks cleaning schedule**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney

Can I please be advised of the parks cleaning schedule, the exact nature of the works carried out, the frequency of work, the criteria for deciding the extent and frequency of works to be carried out, especially in respect of:

The parks known as: 8 acres, 5 acres, Glendown play space, Tymon Park, Orwell Green, and other large green areas in the Templeogue/Perrystown area.

Thank you.

**REPLY:**

The Public Realm maintenance schedule combines cleaning with grass cutting in an effort to ensure that grass is clean before it is cut by the Council's mowers.  In normal times the frequency of cleaning and grass cutting in parks such as Greentrees Park and on open spaces such as Glendown or Orwell is fortnightly and this means that these areas are also cleaned fortnightly ahead of grass cutting.  During the period of the Covid 19 restrictions the number of staff available on any day has been reduced and this has had some impact on the adherence to the fortnightly schedule.

With regard to the regional and larger parks such as Tymon Park which has a permanent staff presence, there is daily maintenance works carried out consisting of litter picking and litter bin servicing.  Much of Tymon Park is managed for biodiversity meaning that certain grass areas are only cut once or twice per year.   The 30 or so playing pitches are on a weekly cutting schedule in normal times, and this has been brought back to fortnightly during the period of restrictions.

### **RTFB/256/20 C8 Item ID:66134- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

**RTFB/257/20 H13 Item ID:66145- Teen space proposal for Templeogue**

The following report was read by Laurence Colleran, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent

**Teen space proposal for Templeogue**

[H13 Teenspace proposal for Templeogue](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66662)
[H13(i) Teenspace Proposal for Templeogue Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=66651)

Following contributions from Councillors D O’Donovan, E Murphy, P Kearns, Y Collins, R McManus and M Seary Kearny, Laurence Colleran, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/258/20 M15 Item ID:66251**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and Seconded by Councillor Deirdre O’ Donovan

**Cathaoirleach's Business**

The current Council policy for the selection and placement of litter bins are chosen as follows:

*Locations where requests for bins should receive priority for litter bin placements are:*

*•Town and village centres*

*•Vicinity of shops such as newsagents, food retailers, supermarkets*

*•Areas where people congregate e.g. bus stops, tram stops, post offices, public service buildings /*

*offices*

*•Main routes to schools*

*•Larger parks greater than 16 hectares in size e.g. in the vicinity of play grounds and dog runs*

While this would appear to be a sensible selection criteria, there are parks in the Templeogue area in particular that are either inadequately served by bins or not served at all.

I am asking that this Committee support my motion for a review of the criteria for the placement of litter bins or in the alternative that the litter management plan is accelerated to cope with the increased usage of outdoors and consequently the increased littering by small numbers of the public.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The litter management plan was reviewed during the course of 2019 and was adopted by the County Council at the March 2020 meeting, the plan covers the period 2020 to 2022.  The plan includes as an appendix a litter bin provision protocol which is as set out below.  This protocol was examined and considered as part of the litter management plan review process and it should be noted that no changes were recommended to it.  The current policy therefore is that litter bins are generally not provided in parks which are smaller than 16 hectares in size.

'It is neither desirable nor effective to simply provide litter bins on a request basis. This protocol aims to set out the basic principles for litter bin placement to provide consistency and appropriate coverage in all parts of the county. This should provide greater understanding of litter bin provision and inform requests for new litter bins.  Locations where requests for bins should receive priority for litter bin placements are:

* Town and village centres
* Vicinity of shops such as newsagents, food retailers, supermarkets
* Areas where people congregate e.g. bus stops, tram stops, post offices, public service buildings / offices
* Main routes to schools
* Larger parks greater than 16 hectares in size e.g. in the vicinity of playgrounds and dog runs

Locations that are not considered suitable for litter bins as they tend to attract dumping, vandalism are:

* Residential areas with no mixed usage, especially cul-de-sac type developments, as they attract dumping of household waste around the litter bins
* Parks less than 16 hectares (40 acres) in size where located in residential areas, unless some demonstrable demand exists that cannot be met by bin placement on street.'

Following contributions from Councillors Y. Collins, P. Kearns and D. O’Donovan the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/259/20 M16 Item ID:66187- Replacing Park benches**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins and Seconded by Councillor Ronan McMahon

That this committee considers, when replacing the park benches throughout this area, replacing them with furniture whose dimensions and design are more conducive to social distancing

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

Provision has been made in the 2020 Public Realm Improvement Works Programme for the installation of benches and seating in a number of areas including Dodder Valley Park and Rathfarnham Castle Park.   No decision has been taken as yet regarding the type of seating to be installed.  It is likely that a tendering process will be required to procure seating for a number of areas around the County.  The Council can explore various options in such a tendering process with regard to materials, style, layout and dimensions of the seating to be installed.  It is possible however that seating which is non-standard in terms of it's dimensions will involve a much higher cost than standard type seating and this may prove to be prohibitive.

The Report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/260/20 M17 Item ID:66203- Landscaping and maintenance works**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey

That this committee requests that landscaping and maintenance works to be carried out on the Templeogue Road on Saturday mornings and which are near to the Hillcrest Estate in Templeogue, be carried out at a reasonable, family friendly time, especially at weekends.

A resident has complained that noisy maintenance works are being carried out at least once a month, on Saturday mornings around 6am, outside of his family home. The works are loud enough to wake the entire family, including a young child and last approx 30 minutes each time. Last weekend, the family were woken at 2.15am and 4.45am respectively by works along the road.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

Grass cutting works are carried out on the N81 from Templeogue to Jobstown through the months of April to October and this work has always been carried out very early on Saturdays for reasons of traffic safety, the main objective being to have the work completed before traffic starts to build.  The Council's records show that the cutting of grass usually starts at Templeogue at around 6am and progresses towards the M50, there is no record of grass cutting starting in this area as early as 4:45am.  To facilitate a 6am start the traffic management contractor is required to put the traffic management system in place overnight and it is understood that this can start as early as 3am.

This operation is due to take place this coming Saturday and the supervisor in charge has been asked to implement a number of changes on this occasion.  Work on this section will commence at the M50 and work back towards Templeogue, which will mean that grass cutting at the Templeogue end will take place later than before.  Staff have been informed of the issue regarding noise in this area associated with the grass cutting work and have been requested to co-operate with changes to the system which are intended to hopefully resolve the problem.

The issue has also been raised with the traffic management contractor who will also commence at the M50 end and work back towards Templeogue.  Unfortunately the need for traffic management staff to start in the very early hours of Saturday cannot be avoided, if the grass cutting itself is to start at 6am.  This work however does not involve the operation of noisy machinery and the contractor has given an undertaking to work quietly and minimise vehicle manoeuvres which would give rise to reversing alarms sounding on trucks for example.

It is hoped that the measures outlined above will improve the situation this coming weekend.  There have been discussions regarding this and related matters between Council management and staff representatives and it has been agreed that a full examination of all aspects to this Saturday grass cutting operation will be reviewed in due course.

In the absence of Councillor C. Bailey this **MOTION FALLS**

### **RTFB/261/20 M18 Item ID:66206- Location of bins and anti-social behaviour**

Proposed by Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

To ask the Manager to report on the location of bins within the Dodder Valley Park and what steps are being taken to deal with anti-social behaviour and litter within the park.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

Litter bins are in place at many of the entrances to the Dodder Valley Park and in the car parks which serve it.  These locations are at Old Bawn Road, Seskin View Road, Bawnville, the car parks at Firhouse Road and Cherryfield and a number of entrances to the park along Firhouse Road and at Mount Carmel.  There are currently no litter bins provided within the park however a commitment has been given in the past to provide some.  This matter is being examined at the present time to determine suitable locations for both seating and bins as provided for in the 2020 public realm improvement works programme, taking other issues into consideration such as facilities which are being developed in the park at present time as well as other facilities which will be developed such as the planned play trail, nature trail and the Dodder Greenway plan.

Following contributions from Councillors D. O’Donovan and P. Kearns, Leo Magee- Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/262/20 M19 Item ID:66259- Cut bushes back in park**

Proposed by Councillor Brian Lawlor

That the trees and bushes in Dodder Lineal Park be cut back to ensure a safe passage of pedestrians and cyclists in the park that allows appropriate social distancing. There are certain sections of the pathway that are very narrow as a result of overgrown hedges.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The pathways in the Dodder Linear Park have been inspected. Work will be carried out to ensure the safe passage of pedestrians and cyclists in the park. The hedges will be listed for maintenance as part of the winter hedge pruning programme.  Any areas requiring urgent attention will be identified and dealt with in the near future.

In the absence of Councillor B. Lawlor this **MOTION FALLS**

### **RTFB/263/20 M20 Item ID:66264- Support to park rangers**

Proposed by Councillor Pamela Kearns and Seconded by Councillor Mary Seery Kearney

That this committee calls on the manager to provide additional support to the park rangers during the current Covid 19 crisis. Following the recent easing of travel restrictions etc there has been a significant increase in anti-social behaviour in our public parks. I suggest that this could be alleviated with some short term supports.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The park ranger service has played a vital role for South Dublin County Council over the period of the Covid 19 restrictions in monitoring park usage and in particular the adherence of park users to social distancing requirements.  Where necessary the Council has augmented the number of staff on duty in parks particularly at weekends when the numbers using parks and the level of activity in parks have increased substantially over normal levels.  A small number of libraries staff were reassigned to these duties for a period of time also however these have now returned to their normal place of work.  Staff have also been assigned to cleaning and servicing of litter bins in parks on weekends to respond to the increased levels of usage.  The Public Realm will continue to respond to these issues in parks in a flexible manner as long as there is a continuing need to do so.

Following contribution from Councillor P. Kearns, Leo Magee- Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/264/20 M21 Item ID:66268- Clean up of Old Court Lane**

Proposed by Councillor Emma Murphy and Seconded by Councillor Alan Edge

That South Dublin County Council conducts a complete clean up of Old Court Lane, Ballycullen. The lane has been destroyed by heavy levels of illegal dumping and fires over the past two months with reports and sightings of rats and other vermin at the sites due to the same.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The Council's Public Realm Section has carried out regular clean ups of Old Court Lane over recent months, these clean ups are taking place on at least a twice weekly basis.  The area does require a thorough litter pick and the district supervisor responsible has been asked to arrange this for the coming weeks.  The Waste Licensing and Enforcement Section have also been investigating illegal dumping activity in the area and are in the process of taking legal action against some of the offenders who have been identified.

Following contribution from Councillor E. Murphy, Michael McAdam- A/Senior Executive Officer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

### **RTFB/265/20 M22 Item ID:66204- Public bins**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey

That this committee requests public bins at the entrances into the 8 acres field (opposite the Community Centre) as well as into the 5 acres field in Perrystown Dublin 12.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

Litter bins will be provided at suitable locations at the entrances to both sections of Greentrees Park as requested here.  A commitment has been given previously to install a litter bin at the playspace at the 8 acres and this will be done in due course also.

In the absence of Councillor C. Bailey this **MOTION FALLS**

**RTFB/266/20 M23 Item ID:66252- Progress of the Tree Maintenance and Tree Planting Programme.**

Proposed by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney and Seconded by Councillor Deirdre O’ Donovan

Mindful that the previous three year programme was already significantly behind its schedule, it is assumed that now with Covid 19, the new Tree Maintenance and Tree Planting Programme is further delayed.

My motion is that this Committee is provided with a detailed report regarding the progress of the Tree Maintenance and Tree Planting Programme.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The tree planting programme for the Rathfarnham, Templeogue area was completed in February/March this year. 332 trees were planted as part of the agreed tree planting programme.

The programme was presented to the members in November 2019 and is available on the Council’s website at the following link

<https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/tree-management/tree-planting-programme/rathfarnham-templeogue-firhouse-bohernabreena-tree-planting-programme-spring-2020.pdf>

Work on the 3-year Tree maintenance programme has ceased as staff are now concentrating on cleansing and grass cutting duties. There are 55 locations listed on the tree maintenance programme. Prior to work commencing, a full tree survey is carried out on all the trees in the area to inform the tree maintenance work that is required. Work has commenced in Orlagh estate. Of the 55 areas listed for work, 30% of the areas are surveyed. Outside contractors will work in areas where there are electricity wires as this requires specialised training and equipment. It is planned to commence tree work within the next month.

The report was **NOTED.**

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/267/20 C9 Item ID:66126- Correspondance**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/268/20 H14 Item ID:66140- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/269/20 M24 Item ID:66161-Investigation into complaints**

Proposed by Councillor William Priestley

That the Chief Executive Officer instruct the Principal Environmental Health Officer to act upon the investigation into the large number of complaints around the celebration in Marlay Grange House on Saturday night/Sunday morning 17th / 18thAugust 2019.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The Principal Environmental Health Officer has liaised extensively with the SDCC law agent, and following his legal advice have written to the property owner informing him as follows:-

* That the holding of such an event in the future at the property, **must** be notified to SDCC Environmental Health Department at least 6 weeks prior to any such event.
* Full details must be provided in relation to the duration of event, location, layout and equipment intended to be used.
* SDCC may then visit his property, if necessary, make any contact further to his proposals and may liaise with an Garda Síochána if deemed appropriate.
* Failure to comply with this request will be taken into consideration in any investigation concerning events at his premises.
* In the light of previous communications, he is to make himself aware of the remedies available to South Dublin County Council to prevent or limit noise such as a recommendation for prosecution under the said Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992.

In conclusion, our legal advice is, that this warning letter is explicit enough in it’s content, to be taken as an advanced formal notice and that Environmental Health will recommend a prosecution under the Environmental Protection Act 1992 should the property owner fail to comply **at any time in the future**.

In the absence of Councillor W. Priestley this **MOTION FALLS**

### **RTFB/270/20 M25 Item ID:66202- Patrols to stop littering**

Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge and Seconded by Councillor Pamela Kearns

Given the continuing anti-social and littering problem within Dodder Valley Park, that this Area Committee requests assistance in tackling the issue by way of patrols in the area from Rathfarnham and Tallaght Garda Stations.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

SDCC staff met with the Gardai from Rathfarnham station on Friday 5th May, who informed us that patrols have already been increased within the Park and surrounding areas during the Covid restrictions. The Gardai also noted that they have recently issued littering fines in their area.

If this motion is passed a request will be forwarded to Rathfarnham and Tallaght Garda Stations and the Members provided with any response provided.

Following contribution from Councillor A. Edge, Michael McAdam- A/Senior Executive Officer responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

## **Community**

### **RTFB/271/20 C10 Item ID:66127- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/272/20 H15 Item ID:66137- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

**RTFB/273/20 H16 Item ID:66150-** **Deputations for Noting**

Deputations for Noting – No Business

### **RTFB/274/20 M26 Item ID:66210- Community Centres**

Proposed by Councillor D. O'Donovan

That the Manager reports on how viable our Community Centres will be under new Covid-19 prevention measures.  What supports, if any, will be put in place to ensure their survival?

**The following report from the Chief Executive was READ;**

The Council is very aware of the impact of the closure of community centres in accordance with public health guidance due to COVID 19 on local communities and community centre boards of management. The Council is also aware of the important role community centres will have in rebuilding communities as the country progresses through the various stages of the Government Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business; and the financial and other challenges to be faced in implementing social distancing and prevailing public health guidelines.

Community centres in the County, including those built by the Council, are each managed by independent local voluntary management companies that are independent legal companies established as Companies Limited by Guarantee. However, the Council does retain overall ownership and responsibility for the asset it has provided.

The community development team are researching and costing the key considerations for community centres to reopen and will be bringing forward proposals in this regard. It should be noted no additional funding to cover these costs has been made available to the Council.

Boards of Management have also been advised and encouraged to apply for any external funding supports that they may be eligible for such as funding released through Pobal Support Funds and the Covid 19 Stability Fund which as recently advertised by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The Report was **NOTED.**

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/275/20 C11 Item ID:66130- Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/276/20 H17 Item ID:66141- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

The meeting concluded at 6.00 pm.

Siniú \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dáta \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

An Cathaoirleach