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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council January 2021 County Council Meeting held virtually on Monday 11 January 2021 through Microsoft 365 Teams

**PRESENT**

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

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin. |
| Directors/ Heads of Function  Head of Finance  County Architect  Senior Executive Officer  [Executive Environmental Scientific Officer](http://intranet/Phonebook/?g=316) | L. Maxwell, F. Nevin, T. Walsh, M. Mulhern, C. Ward.  R. FitzGerald.  E. Conroy  C. Hurson  R. Fitzpatrick |
| Administrative Officers | M. Reilly. |
| Assistant Staff Officer  Clerical Officer  IT. Support  Sord | A. Hagan.  D. Murphy.  D. O’Connor. R. Saiz  A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien presided.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a minute’s silence was observed as a mark of respect for those who have suffered in Mother and Baby Homes.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, read out the etiquette for the virtual meeting:

-Members to check that they can access the “Chat Function” before we commence the meeting.

-Members must be able to be seen, specifically for roll call, when speaking and voting.

-Mics to be on mute until invited to speak through the Chair.

-Members can indicate they wish to speak on an item through the chat function – using ‘Speak Please’.

-The ‘Chat Function’ is not to be used for comments.

-The meeting will be recorded for minute taking purposes only.

### **H1/0121 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

Minutes of the December Council Meeting - December 14th, 2020 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor E. O’Brien seconded by Councillor P. Kearns.

1. [- December Council Meeting Minutes - December 14th 2020](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68537)

### **H2/0121 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES**

1. **Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee**

*Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries &**Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

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

1. **Clondalkin Area Committee**

*Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

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

1. **Tallaght Area Committee**

*Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management*

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

1. **Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkiln Area Committee**

*Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management.*

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

### **H3/0121 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** business under this heading.

### **H4/0121 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** business under this heading.

### **H5/0121 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** business under this heading.

### **H6/0121 REPORT FROM JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE - FOR NOTING**

Councillor E. Murphy referenced the report which was available to Members and was **CONSIDERED**. The Councillor acknowledged the diligence of Committee members in their commitment to attend remote meetings and fulfil all meetings in 2020, she also thanked management for facilitating these meetings.

The South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee met on Friday 11th December 2020 through MS TEAMs

Documents presented at the meeting are available on the cmas system.

**Attendance: Committee Members:**

Cllr Emma Murphy (Chair); Cllr Yvonne Collins; Cllr Mick Duff; Cllr Cathal King; Cllr Lynn McCrave; Cllr Shane Moynihan; Cllr Deirdre O’Donovan; Cllr. Liona O’Toole; Sean Crowe T.D.; Emer Higgins T.D.; John Lahart, TD; Chief Superintendent Peter Duff, Garda Síochána; Superintendent Tony Toomey, Garda Síochána; Colm Ward, SDCC; Ann Corrigan, PPN; Michael Noonan, PPN.

**In attendance:** Noreen Byrne, North Clondalkin LPF; Brian Hora, SDCC; Andy Lane, SDCC; Superintendent Ian Lackey, Garda Síochána.

**Apologies:**  Mark Ward T.D.; Chief Superintendent Finbarr Murphy, Garda Síochána; Gemma Carton, Garda Diversion; Enda Creegan, PPN; Emer Meighan, PPN.

**1 Minutes of The Meeting held on the 27th November 2019 & Matters Arising**

The minutes were proposed by Emma Murphy and seconded by Mick Duff and agreed as a true record.

Michael Noonan informed the meeting that he was having problems accessing the TEAMs meeting and that this was his last meeting as the PPN representative on the JPC. The Chair thanked him for the time he had spent on the JPC, his contributions and wished him all the best for the future.

**2 Garda Reports**

DMR West: Superintendent Tony Twomey gave this report highlighting:

* Domestic violence, the increase in barring orders and the impact of Covid
* Several good drug detections
* Proactive policing and links with the elderly

DMR South: Chief Superintendent Peter Duff gave this report highlighting:

* Crime has generally fallen
* Breach of protection orders has increased
* Domestic violence has increased

Questions were received from Cllr Moynihan, Emer Higgins T.D. and Cllr O’Toole, Cllrs O’Donovan, Collins, King, McCrave and Cllr Emma Murphy

In response:

* Clarification will be sought from Superintendent Doran in relation to the drug dealing in Burg an Ri recognising that drug runners were often young boys who had been groomed
* Community Gardai vacancies to be filled, but dependent on numbers coming out of Templemore. Note all Gardai can be community Gardai
* Abandoned horses, particularly in the Fonthill area- contact details for “My Lovely Horse” to be provided to An Garda Siochana
* Closing of school gate in Burg an Ri had been done following consultation with the local community and the Council
* Garda Checkpoint on Newcastle Road will be continuing as the Gardai are now looking at a more local focus in terms of the detection of crime
* Drug dealing is not static and moves from place to place sometimes as a response to Garda actions
* Posts on social media are not reports of crime and members of the public need to inform the Gardai directly
* The successful prosecution of murder cases is often dependent on public support
* Links with Saoirse are in place and the Garda response regarding domestic violence is managed by an Inspector based in Tallaght
* Drink/drug driving incidents are not one particular drug
* Issues relating to the underpass on the M50 noted
* Templeogue Woods is covered by Terenure Garda station with ongoing work to address issues

Superintendent Ian Lackey informed the meeting of work being done in Dublin 8 and 15 on a Community Crime Impact Assessment and the feasibility of introducing something similar in the Tallaght area. He pointed out that the initiative will only work if there is support from other statutory agencies and the local community as it is not just a Garda issue.

**3 Local Policing Fora Reports**

**Ballyfermot LPF:** Cllr Emma Murphy to consult with the Dublin City Chair of the LPF Cllr Daithi Doolan

**Clondalkin LPF:** The Clondalkin Area Committee to consider nomination. The Clondalkin section of the report was noted. It was noted that the last LPF Management Committee was poorly attended and the response to a rearranged meeting had only identified two people interested.

**D12 LPF:** Cllr Kearns has been nominated to replace ex Cllr Mary Seery Kearney. The D12 section of the report was noted.

**North Clondalkin, Lucan and Palmerstown LPF:** Cllr Kinsella Colman has now resigned, so there are now two Councillors (Gus O’Connell and Colm Moynihan) who are interested. The report covered:

* Drug dealing near a school in Balgaddy
* Public lighting at the playground in Balgaddy
* Thefts from cars and leaflets on public safety

In response:

* Issues in relation to Balgaddy walkways will be considered by the Housing SPC
* The removal of shrubbery that hides drug dealing should be considered
* **Safety & Inclusivity Report:** this report was to investigate the incidences and impact of violence to women in the North Clondalkin area. A request was made to invite the report author to the next meeting to present the report, this was agreed. It was suggested that a representative from Public Realm be invited to attend when the report is considered to address the environmental implications of the report’s recommendations.

* **Community Crime Impact Assessment:** the work being done in the Balgaddy pilot area on this was shared and it was agreed to invite Peter Dorman from CAN to the next JPC to talk about the community crime assessment approach and the work being carried out in Balgaddy.

**West Tallaght LPF:** Councillors confirmed as Louise Dunne and Charlie O’Connor. The West Tallaght section of the report was noted. It was noted that an Inspector had been identified with responsibility for the LPF and a meeting would be convened for early in 2021.

**4 Halloween**

The report was received, and it was noted that Halloween was significantly quieter this year.Cllrs O’Donovan, Moynihan, and Deputy Crowe raised issues relating to the stockpiling of rubbish, what times Council officers worked over Halloween and the intimidation of Council Officers.

In response:

* Whilst there was still a lot of bonfires many were very small and less material had to be cleared up compared to 2019.
* In terms of the intimidation, the Gardai had been in contact with South Dublin County Council

**5 JPC Strategic Plan 2016-2022**

The report was noted.

**6 JPC Subgroups: Drug Subcommittee**

The report was noted.

**7 Any Other Business**

The JPC Chairs and CEO meeting with other JPCs took place and it was noticeable that many JPCs were not meeting as frequently as South Dublin County JPC.

**8 Schedule of Meetings for 2020**

**JPC meetings** are scheduled for the following dates in 2021:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **Place** |
| Friday 29th January 2021 | 10.00am | TEAMs Meeting |
| Friday 23rd April 2021 | 10.00am | TEAMs Meeting |
| Friday 17th September 2021 | 10.00am | County Hall, Tallaght |
| Friday 19th November 2021 | 10.00am | County Hall, Tallaght |
| **Next Agenda:**   * A Safety and Inclusivity Study in Clondalkin within the context of Gender based violence in public spaces (Lorraine Mc Mahon) * Community Crime Impact Assessment (Peter Dorman CAN) | | |
| **The meeting ended at 11.40am** | | |

The report was **NOTED**.

**QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q21 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update and timeline in relation to alternative solutions for kissing gates currently installed in our public parks. SDCC have committed to moving away from this model (which does not act to prevent scramblers from entering our parks) towards an equality-led model, one that ensures that all park users will be able to gain access to our public parks, including cyclists, including heavier e-bikes and cargo bikes, wheelchair and powerchair users, mobility aid users and people with buggies.

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council is committed to providing universal access for all to its parks and amenities and in most of the facilities in the County this is the case.  There are a number of locations where this open access has been abused by a very small minority operating scrambler motorbikes and quad bikes in parks in contravention of the Park Bye Laws for the County.  In relation to a number of locations where this activity has been prevalent local residents and elected members have asked that the Council take action to deter this behaviour, and this led to the installation of some kissing gates at Dodder Valley Park earlier this year.

The Council's Public Realm Section has been examining this matter with regard to the possible provision of a gate which could provide open access for the most part, but which could be altered to act as a kissing gate when the need arises.  A number of options are being considered in this regard and it is expected that one of these will be installed on a trial basis early in 2021.

### **Q2/0121** **QUESTION:** **Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive how many households are on medical priority, what the average waiting time is for such households, whether appropriate accommodation suitable for their needs is readily available and/or being planned for and what efforts SDCC is making in order to acquire suitable accommodation for such households.

**REPLY:**

There are currently 475 households (including transfers) with medical priority, comprising 311 housing applications and 164 transfer applications, with an average current waiting time of approximately 5 years.  Some of these households require properties to meet specific and complex needs but many can be accommodated in standard social housing also.  We are committed to providing additional specially adapted homes both through our social housing construction programme, acquisition programme and in conjunction with Approved Housing Bodies to meet the needs of these households and all properties coming into stock from new builds and relets are checked as to their suitability for those on the medical list such as ground floor units, wheelchair accessible/liveable, medical adaptations, etc. and with almost 10% of all allocations in 2020 (January to November figures) made to medical priority applicants.

### **Q3/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive the outcome of the tender for dog pound services. What consideration has SDCC given to a proposal I made a few months ago that all four Dublin Local Authorities come together and request appropriate funding from central government to put in place a public no-kill dog pound that centres animal welfare and which would serve the city of Dublin?

**REPLY:**

The tender for the dog pound services for the SDCC administrative area was issued on 4th January 2021, with a closing date of 3rd February. The outcome will be determined after the tender process has been completed.

There are no joint proposals from the 4 Dublin Local Authorities to provide a directly run Dog Pound and there is no provision in the 3 year SDCC Capital Budget, approved at the December 2020 meeting, for the provision of same.

### **Q4/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

Given that broken glass continues to be a significant issue along the underpass system has the Chief Executive give consideration as to what steps should be taken to help alleviate the issue? Signage, potentially looking at the installation of CCTV (given it is a non-residential area) and youth workers engagement as some examples. I cycle this route frequently, and pedestrians, cyclists, dog walkers and those with small children have all reported to me their frustration that this issue is not being addressed adequately. Many have told me that they have stopped using the underpass system because of how bad it has got. This is unacceptable when so much public money has been spent on it and when we should be doing our utmost to encourage more people to walk and cycle. When I brought this up in October 2020, I received the very briefest of replies to say that this is managed by M50 Concessions on behalf of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and to report it to them. They may clear the glass up (though often not until the following week), however, they are not taking any proactive steps to help resolve the issue. Can I please ask that SDCC work with them to help address this important problem?

**REPLY:**

The Council's Roads and Public Realm teams have now raised this issue with TII and will discuss with them if additional cleaning is required on a more regular basis and if so who will be able to do this.

### **Q5/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive whether a county wide social and community infrastructure audit will be carried out to help inform the work of the next SDCC County Development Plan for 2022-2028 and to ask that this be broken down to at least Local Electoral Area level, rather than neighbourhoods as currently proposed.

**REPLY:**

A social infrastructure audit is being carried out by the Development Plan team to inform the County Development Plan. It will indicate a breakdown of existing provision and need for the County and for each Neighbourhood Area (NA), as these were identified in the Strategic Issues Papers.  It is recognised that there may be different provision within settlement areas within each Neighbourhood and these will be identified as part of the audit. The audit will apply a projected growth to each NA to provide an overall assessment of future need within the lifetime of the Plan. It is intended that the Development Plan will include graphic illustrations for each NA identifying existing and proposed future facilities/needs aligned to relevant objectives. However, the audit will not specifically identify Electoral Areas noting that these too cross different settlement areas.

### **Q6/0121 QUESTION: Councillor W. Carey**

To ask the chief executive what consideration has been given to compensate casual traders licence holders on their annual fees and who have been unable to trade consistently throughout the year due to restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

**REPLY:**

Throughout the year, South Dublin County Council engaged with Casual Traders that hold licences in respect of the Council's designated Casual Trading areas. The Council will continue to engage with licence holders with a view to facilitating their continued trading in a safe manner, subject to compliance with relevant national guidance in relation to Covid 19 Pandemic.

Casual Traders are issued licences for a calendar year or part thereof. As there was limited impact on their ability to trade, it is not proposed to compensate casual trading licence holders specifically.

It should be noted that extensive supports are available from the SDCC Local Enterprise Office for small businesses in the county.

### **Q7/0121 QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

As the period of tender of the concession for running Grange Castle Golf Course comes to an end and a new tender is in preparation can you state the advantages and disadvantages of the Golf Course being run by a concessionaire as opposed to by direct SDCC labour?

**REPLY:**

As part of the review of the current concession and in advance of issuing a tender, an assessment of the costs and benefits has been undertaken. It is considered to more beneficial to SDCC to re-tender the concession rather than reverting to a direct labour model, which would necessitate the recruitment of specialist staff.

### **Q8/0121 QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

Have the costs associated with the amended motion on public toilets agreed at the October 2020 meeting of full council (Motion 1) been included in the SDCC budget for 2021 that was passed at the Thursday 26th November meeting of full council? If so please provide the details.

**REPLY:**

The amended Motion 1 from October 2020, as agreed, stated "This Council requests the CE to carry out a feasibility study and costing to install self-cleaning outdoor public toilets on the high streets of each of the seven local electoral areas of the county and to liaise with the City of Paris if any advice on the matter needed.”

This feasibility study will be carried out within the resources of the Environment, Water and Climate Change Directorate and will be considered by the SPC during 2021. A budgetary provision for such public toilets would not be made in advance of a report from the feasibility study.

### **Q9/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Byrne**

With regard to the July Stimulus Programme, to ask the Chief Executive: (i) if all cycling and walking initiatives were completed by the November 2020 deadline (in tabular form), and if not, which initiatives are delayed? (ii) what percentage of the funding received was spent on road surfacing?

**REPLY:**

The Council successfully made application for funding under the 2020 **July Job Stimulus Programme.**

A suite of proposals totalling €2,440,995 was submitted relating to the following:

* Reconstruction / renewal of defective footpaths and cycle tracks across the county
* Provision of cycle parking across the county
* Civil works e.g. ducting)for comms /cabling and upgrade of signal control equipment / installation of radio equipment specifically at locations in Rathfarnham/Firhouse/Knocklyon and Clondalkin.

(See attached SDCC projects approved for reference)

All works approved in the Grant Application have been successfully completed.  The reason for the slight variation in the final claim is that in some cases the cost of some of the works “came in” under anticipated price as set out in the grant application, while other works were slightly over. Accordingly a final claim for €2,390,469 was submitted (and paid by NTA to SDCC)  before year end 2020.

The percentage allocated to Road Maintenance/Footpath Repairs was 49% and Cycle Track Maintenance was 30%.   The balance related to cycle parking and civil works.

[Q9 July Stimulus approved works](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68512)

### **Q10/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Byrne**

To ask the Chief Executive how the €77,366 provided to SDCC in December under the COVID-19 Emergency Fund will be allocated in support of community and voluntary groups (in tabular form).

**REPLY:**

In December 2010, an additional €1.7 million fund was provided by the Government and the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) to support community and voluntary groups to deal with COVID-19 with an allocation of €77,366 provided for South Dublin.

The fund will be administered by the South Dublin Local Community Development Committee supported by the Council using the structures in place for the Community Enhancement Programme.

The fund will assist groups to adapt their services and operations to fit the new COVID-19 reality. Examples of measures supported could be adapting premises to allow for social distancing; offering on-line activities; providing social supports and friendly calls by phone or similar services.  The fund is also aimed at helping animate community groups to enable them to become more involved in the Government's 'Keep Well' campaign. It will seek to assist their participation in the campaign, in particular with the three themes: staying connected, switching off and being creative, and minding your mood.

Guidelines issued by DRCD recommend that 30% of the allocation be ringfenced for applications of up to €1,000.

The Department require that all application processes be closed by end February 2021.  Accordingly, an online application form is being finalised and will be advertised imminently for applications and the Elected Members will be notified when the online process opens for applications.

### **Q11/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm how many Council houses are currently boarded up in the County and will he give figures in respect of each electoral area and in reporting will he detail his ongoing efforts to deal with the matter and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The status of the 89 currently vacant properties in our housing stock of more than 9,700 homes is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Ready for allocation** | **Works Ongoing** | **Tendered** | **Total** |
| Clondalkin | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Lucan | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue | 1 | 0 | 4 | 5 |
| Palmerston/Fonthill | 9 | 4 | 13 | 26 |
| Firhouse/Bohernabreena | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| Tallaght Central | 2 | 0 | 4 | 6 |
| Tallaght South | 12 | 0 | 24 | 36 |
| **Total** | **28** | **5** | **56** | **89** |

As can be seen from the above table, 28 of these properties are ready for allocation and are in the process of being tenanted through Choice Based Letting or other allocations processes and are anticipated to be occupied imminently.  The remainder of the properties are at various stages of refurbishment or procurement depending on the nature and level of works required.

The refurbishment and allocation of vacant housing stock remains a priority under the Level 5 COVID 19 emergency measures to ensure that as many social homes as possible are made available to qualified households.

### **Q12/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to update members on his Disability Policy and will he make a statement in the matter?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council is committed to meeting its responsibilities under all relevant legislation and policy including:

* The Disability Act 2005, particularly Part 3 - section 26 (access to facilities and services), section 27 (procurement of accessible goods and services) and section 28 (access to information and communication)
* Irish Sign Language Act 2017
* Equal Status Acts 2000 - 2015
* Employment Equality Acts 1998 - 2015
* Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014, particularly Section 42 (Public Sector Human Rights and Equality Duty)
* National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 – 2021
* National Housing Strategy for People with Disabilities 2011 – 2016 (re-affirmed under ‘Rebuilding Ireland’, the Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, and extended to 2020 to deliver on its aims)

We are also committed to working with, and within, the framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD).

**SDCC 2020 actions to meet our responsibilities under the legislation / policy listed above include:**

* Commitment to develop SDCC Human Rights and Equality Framework detailed in SDCC Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 (Appendix One);
* Council policies and plans equality, access and plain English proofed on an ongoing basis;
* COVID-19 related actions equality, access and plain English proofed on an ongoing basis;
* Changing places accessible toilet facilities installed in County Hall and North Clondalkin Library, with a third facility currently under construction in the new Lucan Swimming Pool;
* Changing Places toilet facility included in planned expansion and upgrade of Tallaght Stadium;
* Participated in Make Way Day of action (September), to promote safe pedestrian access, free from obstacles such as wheelie bins, advertising boards, temporary street furniture and vehicles on pavements;
* Promoted access awareness across SDCC social media and website during National Accessibility Week 2020;
* SDCC Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 achieved NALA Plain English accreditation;
* Provided ongoing secretariat support to the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel;
* South Dublin County Council became the first JAM Card friendly local authority in the State;
* Ongoing implementation of the Council’s Literacy friendly Action Plan;
* Ongoing implementation of the SDCC Housing Strategic Plan for Disabled People.

### **Q13/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the number of Grave spaces available in our Cemeteries and will he make a statement in respect of plans for spaces in the future?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council own and operate 8 burial grounds. There are grave spaces/plots available in 3 burial grounds. Pre-purchase conditions are in place prioritising availability for senior citizens in Newcastle and local residents in Saggart. Graves cannot be purchased in advance in Bohernabreena Cemetery.

* Bohernabreena
* Saggart
* Newcastle

There are over 1,300 new plots available in these 3 burial grounds and there are a further 4,000 plots that can be developed.

Based on the historic demand, this will provide an adequate number of new plots for over 10 years.

The Council remains committed to providing burial grounds for the County and is developing plans for future additional provision.

The Burial Grounds Strategy will be reviewed by the Environment SPC during the course of 2021.

### **Q14/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to report on his efforts to assist businesses, across the County, challenged by Brexit?

**REPLY:**

On 24 December, the EU and UK negotiating teams reached agreement in principle on a Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which came into effect from 01 January 2021. The Agreement provides for tariff-free, quota-free trade and for sectoral cooperation in a number of important areas. The European Commission has provided more information on the Agreement on its [website](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_2532) . Given the late stage at which the negotiations were finalised, the European Commission has recommended that the Agreement is provisionally applied for a period from 1 January while the EU and UK procedures to conclude the agreement are completed.

It is important to note that even with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement in place, there will be significant and lasting change at the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December as the UK will be outside the EU Single Market and Customs Union. This will mean new procedures apply for businesses moving goods to, from or through the UK, excluding Northern Ireland. The Protocol on Ireland / Northern Ireland, which forms part of the Withdrawal Agreement agreed earlier with the UK, means that no new procedures will apply to goods moving between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Source Gov.ie For further details please check  <https://www.gov.ie/Brexit>

It is widely recognised that there is still a significant number of SMEs across the country and in South Dublin who have yet to fully prepare themselves for these post Brexit changes and are facing uncertainty  as to what this agreement will mean for them and to that end Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has arranged for the LEO network throughout the country to launch a new campaign called.

‘Change is here – Act Now’ to highlight that there are special arrangements that they can avail of

South Dublin Local Enterprises Offices has been actively promoting the following special arrangements under this campaign:-

1. Provision of a Brexit Helpline during the holidays [Brexit-Helpline](https://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/News/Brexit-Helpline-to-run-over-the-Christmas-period.html)
2. Availability of additional Brexit Customs Workshops from early January

       Free Workshops set up for 7th January and 14th January in South Dublin with the capacity to add in additional workshops if demands are there

1. Availability of free Brexit one to one Brexit Mentoring link [Brexit Mentoring](https://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/Training-Events/Brexit-Mentoring/)

Links to all Brexit supports are available on South Dublin Local Enterprise Office website <https://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/Enterprise-Development/Brexit-Supports/>

These additional supports come on top of what has been an extensive promotional campaign on the full range of Brexit related supports available to all businesses nationally regionally and locally from all of the agencies and departments. A summary of all of the supports available from all agencies and departments can be found at the following website links; [**https://www.dfa.ie/brexit/getting-ireland-brexit-ready/brexit-and-business/financial-supports-for-business/**](https://www.dfa.ie/brexit/getting-ireland-brexit-ready/brexit-and-business/financial-supports-for-business/)and also on<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/b2c18-getting-ireland-brexit-ready/>

### **Q15/0121 QUESTION:** **Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline actions he is taking to encourage safe cycling in our County?

**REPLY:**

The Council is actively progressing a number of work streams to promote cycling including:

Cycle South Dublin - A 10 year strategy to deliver over 170km of new and improved cycle lanes across the County. Public consultation on the draft programme concluded in December and a final programme will be brought to Council for approval early in 2021.

School Street - The Council has approved a programme of 8 school locations to provide improved pedestrian and cycle infrastructure to encourage more people to use active travel measures to get to School. The intention is progress delivery of the first 2 school street projects in 2021.

Green Schools  - In addition to the approved School Street programme, in 2020 the Council also delivered improved lines, crossings and signs at a number of schools to improve safety measures.

Light Segregation work - In addition to the Cycle South Dublin programme there is over 200km of existing lanes in the County, there are opportunities to make some of these existing lanes safer. The Council is actively designing and delivering a number of Light Segregation projects on existing cycle lanes to provide improved safety measures such as bollards and extruded kerbs. Works on Wellington Lane are underway with more schemes due to be delivered in 2021.

Bike stands and lockers - In 2020 the Council delivered 254 new bike parking stands (including cargo bike parking) of which 160 stands went into existing schools. The Council is also delivering Cycle Lockers a key transport locations that provide people with safe and secure bike parking.

### **Q16/0121 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm his plans to support activities to encourage the participation of women and people of diverse communities in local government following the announcement of grant aid to facilitate research into LE19 Experiences contribution?

**REPLY:**

SDCC has been awarded a grant of €10,000 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the ‘Call for proposals to support females and diversity in Local Government’.

The grant awarded is to carry our research with the female and minority candidates that ran in the local elections in South Dublin County Council in 2019, to:

* Inform a targeted plan aimed at increasing the number of female and diverse candidates in the 2024 local elections
* Develop an action plan informed by the research
* Increase the visibility of female Councillors in SDCC, by carrying out a campaign following the video project

### **Q17/0121 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

That the Chief Executive gives a detailed report on proposed housing Part 8s due to be presented to SDCC by area and where current Part 8s agreed are at?

**REPLY:**

The Council currently has twelve Part 8 approved social housing developments for a total of 424 new homes (several of which solely or partially comprise age friendly/older persons' accommodation) that are at varying stages of development. In addition, a further part 8 has been approved for 133 homes in the proposed affordable rental development at Belgard Square North.

Five of the approved social housing developments, comprising 113 homes, commenced construction in mid/late 2020 with completion dates projected from late 2021 onwards.  The remaining seven approved social housing developments totalling 311 new homes as well as the Belgard Square development are largely anticipated to start on site during 2021 or be at contractor tender stage.

An additional proposal for a social housing development in Lindisfarne is due before Council at this meeting for decision on a revised design comprising 19 homes.  Four other possible social housing developments as well as a mixed tenure development of social and affordable housing in Phase 1 of Clonburris SDZ have also previously variously been signalled to the Elected Members at full Council and/or Area Committee meetings and are at different stages of preparation for possible Part 8 public consultation.

The table below sets out the current Part 8 status of all approved and potential housing projects that have been signalled to the Elected Members:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Part 8** | **Tenure** | **Development** | **No. Homes** | **Update** |
| Approved | Social/Older Persons | Fernwood & Maplewood | 40 | Site Start July 2020 / AHB |
| Approved | Social | Riversdale, Clondalkin | 43 | Site Start November 2020 (22 homes) |
| Approved | Social | Homeville (Watercourse Grove) | 16 | Site Start November 2020 |
| Approved | Social | St. Catherine’s Way, Knockmore | 12 | Site Start November 2020 |
| Approved | Social | Greenfort Gardens | 2 | Site Start November 2020 |
| Approved | Social/Older Persons | Templegoue Village | 11 | Site Start Q1 2021 |
| Approved | Social | Whitestown Way | 81 | Site start Q1 2021 |
| Approved | Social | Balgaddy | 69 | Tender Q2 2021 |
| Approved | Social/Older Persons | St. Marks | 41 | Site Start Q1 2021 |
| Approved | Social | Eircom Site/Nangor Road | 93 | Tender Q1 2021 |
| Approved | Social/Older Persons | Old Bawn (Brady’s Field) | 12 | Project at pre-tender detailed design |
| Approved | Affordable Rental | Belgard Square North | 133 | Project at pre-tender detailed design / AHB |
| Approved | Social/Older Persons | Old Lucan Road, Palmerstown | 4 | Project at pre-tender detailed design / AHB |
| Pending | Social | Grand Canal Lindisfarne | 19 | For decision at Jan 2021 Council meeting |
| Proposed | Social/Older Persons | Pearse Brothers, Rathfarnham | 10 | Part 8 publication Q1 2021 |
| Proposed | Social/Older Persons | St. Aongus Green, Tallaght | 10 | Part 8 publication Q1 2021 |
| Proposed | Social/Older Persons | St. Ronans Crescent, Clondalkin | 10 | Part 8 publication Q1 2021 |
| Proposed | Social/Affordable | Clonburris Phase 1/Kishogue SW | 265 | Part 8 design being prepared |
| Possible | Social/Older Persons | Deansrath/Melrose | tbc | Feasibility being examined |
| Possible | Social/Older Persons | Alpine Heights | tbc | Feasibility being examined |

### **Q18/0121 QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report into Housing how many houses have been built ? How many acquired via Part 5? How many Council ran and owned and how many Housing Association or other? For the years 2020, 2019 and 2018?

**REPLY:**

A total of 1,318 new social homes were delivered countywide during 2018 to 2020 through various programmes including the Council's direct social housing build programme, through Public Private Partnership on Council land, by Approved Housing Bodies, from the social housing requirement on new planning permissions through Part V and through new build developments provided through leasing for social housing.

The table below shows the breakdown of new build delivery in South Dublin over the period:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | LA | AHB | Part V | Part V | Leasing | Total |
|  | (incl. PPP) |  | LA Managed | AHB Managed | AHB Managed |  |
| 2018 | 266 | 62 | 64 | 83 | 0 | 475 |
| 2019 | 146 | 147 | 49 | 86 | 0 | 428 |
| 2020\* | 109 | 156 | 38 | 67 | 45 | 415 |
| Total | 521 | 365 | 151 | 236 | 45 | 1,318 |

\*Note that the 2020 new build figures included above are provisional pending final sign off with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on total new social housing supply for 2020.

### **Q19/0121 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report into wheelchair accessibility in our council? are all Council owned buildings wheelchair accessible and have a fully compliant wheelchair toilet and if there are issues who should be contacted? (To Give and name and contact for SDCC Person responsible)

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council provides a high level and range of accessibility across its buildings and services for all disabled people, and those with mobility impairments.

[Section 25 of the Disability Act 2005](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2005/act/14/section/25/enacted/en/html#:~:text=Access%20to%20public%20buildings.,accessible%20to%20persons%20with%20disabilities) deals with access to public buildings. It states that:

“a public body shall ensure that its public buildings are, as far as practicable, accessible to persons with disabilities”.

**With specific regard to accessibility for wheelchair users:**

SDCC buildings / facilities such as: County Hall, Civic Offices Clondalkin, all South Dublin Libraries, Rua Red, the Civic Theatre, Tallaght Stadium, The Round Tower Clondalkin, Camac Valley Caravan and Camping Park, Tallaght and Clondalkin Leisure Centres and Kiltalown House are wheelchair accessible and include accessible toilet facilities.

South Dublin County Council community centres are wheelchair accessible but not all of the centres have accessible toilets.

During 2020, Changing Places accessible toilet facilities were installed in [County Hall](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/our-council/about-us/customer-care/changing-places/changing-places.html) and [North Clondalkin Library](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/sport-and-recreation/libraries/join-library-login/find-a-library/north-clondalkin/changing-places-facilities.html). A third facility is currently under construction in the new Lucan Swimming Pool, and a Changing Places toilet facility will be installed as part of the planned expansion and upgrade of Tallaght Stadium.

**Who to contact regarding accessibility?**

Access issues should in the first instance be raised with the staff member responsible for the specific Council building. The Council’s Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer, Selina Bonnie, is the central SDCC contact regarding accessibility of Council facilities and services. Selina can be contacted at sbonnie@sdublincoco.ie or 01 414 9041.

### **Q20/0121 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report into wheelchair accessibility in SDCC area? Are all Footpaths under council control wheelchair accessible? and if there are issues who should be contacted? (To Give and name and contact for SDCC Person responsible) , also does the Chief Executive have plans to commit to wheelchair friendly and safe footpaths in our county and to make a full statement on this.

**REPLY:**

All new footpaths constructed in SDCC are wheelchair accessible. However some of the other footpaths have been constructed to older standards and may have higher lips.

In addition footpaths bays may rise due to wear and tear and tree root activity. The Area Engineer and Inspectors take note of these issues during the year and then include in the following year's Roadwork and Footpath programme.

Any issues should be sent to the Senior Engineer , Road Maintenance.

SDCC is committed to providing and maintaining safe and accessible footpaths.

### **Q21/0121 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report into recycling banks in the county and how he intends to increase these much needed facilities ?

**REPLY:**

The Council operates a network of bring bank sites around the County for use by the community for the collection and recycling of both glass bottles and textiles.  In a typical year the quantity of glass collected and recycled is in the region of 5,000 tonnes while the tonnage of textiles collected is in the region of 400 to 500 tonnes in a typical year.  During 2020 with pubs and restaurants closed for much of the year due to Covid 19 restrictions, the level of usage of the glass recycling facilities increased substantially with tonnages to the end of year expected to come close to 7,000 tonnes for the year.  In addition to the network of public bring banks it is also the case that textile recyclers have arrangements in place where they can place their containers on private sites, in return for a yearly fee, and this obviously provides additional capacity as well as a higher level of coverage in the provision of these facilities.

This Council put in place a 5 year community recycling strategy in 2016 and this strategy document will be reviewed and replaced with a new 5 year strategy during the course of 2021.  The review and replacement of the strategy will form part of the work programme for the Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC in the coming year.    The current strategy identified the need for an examination of deficits in the provision of the recycling service for glass and in particular the North Clondalkin area has been identified as an area where additional bring sites for glass are required.  Over the course of the past three years a total of eleven sites, some public and some private, have been identified as suitable for use as bring bank sites in the North Clondalkin area.  These sites were all examined further, some required permission from the private landowner to develop as bring sites and some required consultation with local residents where proposed sites were withing 50m of the nearest house.  To date it has not been possible to proceed with any of these proposed sites.  In those cases where permission was required from the private landowners it was not forthcoming.  Where public consultation was required as set down in the recycling strategy, the consultation established that local residents did not want these facilities to be provided close to their homes.

It is intended that the issues as outlined above will be examined through the review of the community recycling strategy and in conjunction with the Council's Climate Change Action Plan, a different approach will be required if additional glass recycling sites are to be secured into the future.  Please note that the provision of community recycling facilities have been incorporated into the planning of both Airlie Park and Tandy's Lane Park in the Lucan area and these facilities are expected to be in place in 2022.

### **H7/0121 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** business under this heading.

### **H8a/0121 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

The following have applied, in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rent) (No 2) Act, to acquire the fee simple in the property

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ADDRESS | LESSEE(S) | PURCHASE PRICE |
| 49 Rathlawns, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin | Francis Allen and Elizabeth Allen | €325.23 |

It is proposed, in accordance with the provisions of the landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No 2) Act, 1978 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, to dispose of the fee simple in the site listed above.

**Daniel McLoughlin**

**Chief Executive**

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns, and **RESOLVED:**

“That the disposal of fee simple in 49 Rathlawns, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

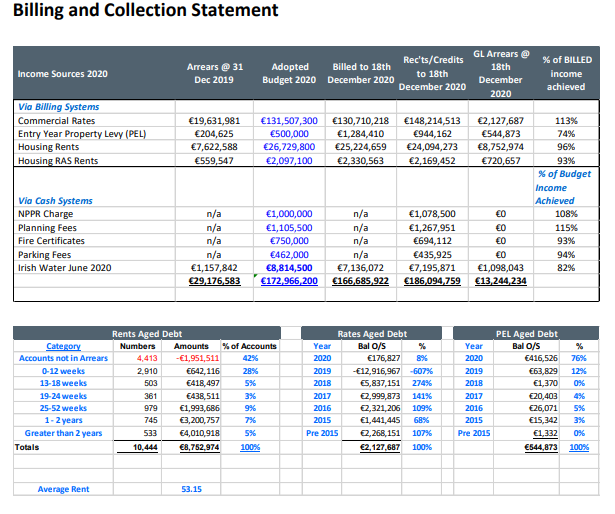
### **H9/0121 MANAGERS REPORT** - **FOR NOTING**

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

[HI 9 a) Chief Executive Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68531)

[HI 9 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68462)

HI 9 c) Finance Report



**Use of overdraft facility**

Department approved overdraft facility = €25,000,000

No of days in Overdraft from 1st January to 18 th December 2020 = 1

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, addressed the Members in relation to Covid19 and work-related matters, he outlined the increased number of positive Covid 19 cases among staff, informed that under current Government direction a number of construction projects had to be stood down, however, Housing projects which are at substantial completion will be finalised and tenanted. He envisaged a shortfall of 150 dwellings of the 598 planned for 2021 through construction and Part 5 and advised that the Council will endeavour to compensate for this either through purchase or leasing. Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, updated the Members on cycle schemes currently under construction and informed that certain works will be carried out on safety grounds only, he further informed on the increased contacts to the ‘Community Call’ and of the continuation of these supports.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. King. J. Tuffy, W. Carey, D. McManus, L. O’Toole, E. Ó Broin, G. O’Connell, P. Kavanagh, and P. Holohan in relation to road, cycle way and housing construction projects, the Community Call, the Council’s active social media and all expressed best wishes to staff.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, responded to the Members queries informing on construction projects which will be completed or made safe and of the processes of the Community Call and thanked the Members for their kind words which he would pass on to staff.

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H10/0121 LINDISFARNE HOUSING PART 8 – FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social & Community Development.

[HI 10 Architects Report Lindisfarne Part 8](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68521)  
[HI 10 Chief Executive's Report on Lindisfarne Part 8](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68522)  
[HI 10 Presentation on Lindisfarne Part 8](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68544)

**Councillor W. Carey** proposed and **Councillor D O Bráidagh** seconded an amendment to the Part 8 as follows:

**Motion in the names of Councillor W. Carey & Councillor D. Ó Bradaigh**

The Council agrees the following amendments to the Lindisfarne Social Housing Part 8 Report:

* Replace the 6 units (1 x P2, 2 x P1, & 3 x B5) on the green between Lindisfarne Drive and Lindisfarne Green with 4 units (4 x P2)
* Remove 1 unit (B4) from the rear of 10 Lindisfarne Green
* Leaving at total of 16 units with a final configuration as displayed in the attached drawing (six 1 bed units, two 2 bed units and eight 3 bed units)
* That the council confirm that any site access should preferably be directly from Lock view.

**In addition, and separate to the amendments to the Lindisfarne Part 8, that the Council requests the Manager to:**

* Consider using the 4 one bed bungalows in the revised Lindisfarne Social Housing Part 8 as rightsizing accommodation for older tenants within the Bawnogue area, thus freeing up additional family units for families on the social housing waiting list and ensuring a more efficient use of Council stock
* Consider increasing the density of proposed housing in the Canal Extension of the Clonburris SDZ by up to an additional 29 units to compensate for the loss of units in the original Lindisfarne Social Housing Part 8
* Identify as a matter of urgency an appropriate site for the location of the Bawnogue Child and Family Centre with consideration being given to possible locations including the Canal Extension of the Clonburris SDZ, St Cuthberts Park or alternative locations within the Bawnogue area.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, D. McManus, G. O’Connell, P. Kearns, M. Duff, K. Egan, J. Tuffy, A. Edge, S. Moynihan, and L. O’Toole in support of the Part 8 as presented by Management with queries on the process should amendments be approved.

Councillors W. Carey, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, C. King, L. Dunne, spoke in favour on the amendment, if deemed in order.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social & Community Development responded to the Members queries informing that alternate sites could not be considered and that the boundary of the Lindisfarne Part 8 cannot be amended, however, the number of houses could be reduced by members if so agreed, and that a separate Part 8 would be required for the proposed relocated dwellings.

Councillor W. Carey agreed to amend the amendment to reduce the total of dwellings to 14 to ensure the boundary remains within the Lindisfarne Part 8.

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, thanked the management for facilitating further engagement with Members and residents and spoke in support of the Part 8 as presented.

The Mayor Councillor E. O’Brien then called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE,** and the Members **AGREED,** on the amendment, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR:              14 (FOURTEEN)**

**Councillors W. Carey, L. Donaghy, L. Dunne, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, C. King, K. Mahon, D. Ó Bradaigh, C. O’Byrne, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair.**

**AGAINST:    25 (TWENTY-FIVE)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, A. Edge, K. Egan, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, E. O’Brien, E. Ó Broin, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, D. O’Donovan, S. O’Hara, L. O’Toole, B. Pereppadan, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

**ABSTAIN:     0 (ZERO)**

The amendment **FELL.**

The Mayor Councillor E. O’Brien then called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE** and the Members **AGREED** on the LINDISFARNE HOUSING PART 8, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR:              39 (THIRTY-NINE)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, K. Egan, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, A. Hayes, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, B. Lawlor, K. Mahon, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus,S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Bradaigh, E. O’Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O’Byrne, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, D. O’Donovan, S. O’Hara, L. O’Toole, P .Pereppadan, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

**AGAINST:    0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN:     0 (ZERO)**

Following the result of the **VOTE** the reports were **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, and **RESOLVED:**

“That as the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Council approves the development of a social housing project consisting of 19 homes on lands located off Melrose Avenue, Lindisfarne Lawns & Lindisfarne Green, adjacent to Bawnogue Road, Lindisfarne, Dublin 22.”

### **H11/0121 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT - GRIFFEEN VALLEY PARK INTEGRATED CONSTRUCTED WETLAND PART 8 - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, and were **CONSIDERED:**

[HI 11 Griffeen ICW Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68493)

**Chief Executive’s Report on Public Consultation in relation to the proposed construction of an Integrated Constructed Wetland development on Council owned lands, Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin**

1. **Introduction**

In accordance with the requirements of Part XI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) (the Act) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) (the Regulations), South Dublin County Council is seeking planning consent to construct an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) on SDCC lands in Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

This Part 8 proposal is a component of the innovative Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE (DURL) project which is a collaborative project between South Dublin County Council (SDCC), Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the EU LIFE Fund Programme. The project aims to transform water quality in a selection of rivers in both counties including the River Griffeen, and this proposal is a key component in that transformation

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

# Site Description

This 1.1 hectare site is located approximately 500m south of the N4 in Lucan and 3.5km west of the M50, within the Griffeen Valley Park. The Griffeen River flows in a northerly direction through the centre of this park. It is proposed to develop the integrated constructed wetland (ICW) itself on the western side of the river. Immediately adjacent to the proposed integrated constructed wetland (ICW) site the river splits into two channels – a primary and a secondary channel. An island with woodland and scrub is situated between the two channels.

# Scheme Description

The development will consist of the construction of an integrated Constructed wetland (ICW). Development of public realm works totalling approximately 1.1ha at Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, on South Dublin County Council lands, including: Build a new Integrated Constructed Wetland, to treat and improve surface water quality, before discharging to the River Griffeen. Proposed works to include wetland planting scheme to treat surface water while offering greater biodiversity to the surrounding area. Proposed new surface water piped links between the existing surface water system and the Integrated Constructed Wetlands and a new surface water outfall to the River Griffeen Reprofiling of levels and small landscaping berms within the Park. All ancillary site development and landscaping works, including biodiverse planting, furniture, and pathways.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government’s Integrated Constructed Wetlands (ICWs) documents sets out the principles of operation and build for ICWs in the context of Ireland. It notes. ‘’An ‘Integrated Constructed Wetland’ (ICW) is a series of shallow, interconnected, emergent-vegetated, surface-flow wetland compartments that receive/intercept water-flows from a variety of sources.’’

The intention of the proposed ICW is to optimise stormwater treatment and integrate the benefits from its associated wetland infrastructure to deliver a wide range of environmental returns, such as the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, the delivery of good ecological status of rivers, the protection of fisheries and improved landscape aesthetics. The general construction of the ICWs is they have a standing water depth of approximately 30 cm, are planted with a variety of native Irish wetland plants. They are sparsely planted in the beginning and within a few years they form lush wetlands. They are low maintenance water purification systems with the added benefit of high-density biodiversity, and are visually appealing

The proposed wetland will have a typical standing water depth of 30 cm or approximately 1 ft. which is similar to the adjacent River Griffeen in low flow. However, the main difference is the wetland will have a limit to the amount of water it can accept and therefore, the depth of water in the wetland will not fluctuate very much over the year. The wetland is also expected to be less than 1 meter below the existing ground level at its deepest point and is on average 0.5 meter below existing ground level. Essentially, the wetland is like having two large shallow bowls inserted into the grass at the proposed location. The sides of the wetland will also have a slope gradient of minimum 1:5. This means, for every meter below ground level the side would be 5 metres wide sloping back up to ground level

Plans and reports for proposed development are shown on the following links:

[Sheet 1 - Griffeen Valley ICW Summary Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20Summary%20Report_0.pdf)

[Sheet 2 - Griffeen Valley ICW Part 8 Drawings](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20Part%208%20Drawings.pdf)

[Sheet 3 - Griffeen Valley ICW AA Screening Final Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20AA%20Screening%20FINAL.pdf)

[Sheet 4 - Griffeen Valley ICW Preliminary Examination EIA](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20Preliminary%20Examination%20FINAL.pdf)

[Sheet 5 - Griffeen Valley ICW Ecologicl Survey Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20Ecological%20Survey%20Report.pdf)

[Sheet 6 - Griffeen Valley ICW Archaeological Assessment](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5574/Griffeen%20Valley%20Park%20Archaeological%20Assessment.pdf)

# Public Consultation

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were on public display for over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive). During the public consultation, information on the integrated constructed wetland (ICW) development was disseminated to the public and submissions were invited.

The public consultation on the proposed affordable housing development included the following statutory and non-statutory elements:

* Notice in the Gazette newspaper.
* Public consultation displays in South Dublin County Council offices at County Hall in Tallaght.
* Information on social media (Facebook and Twitter).

Submissions and observations on the integrated constructed wetland (ICW) development could be made online and in writing for a period of over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive).

# Legislative Background

Section 179 (3) (a) of the Act, requires that the Chief Executive shall, after the end of the public consultation period, prepare a written report in relation to the proposed development and submit the report to the members.

Section 179 (3) (b) of the Act outlines that a report shall—

1. Describe the nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof, and shall include an appropriate plan of the development and appropriate map of the relevant area.
2. Evaluate whether or not the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the Development Plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the evaluation.
3. List the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development.
4. Summarise the issues, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development would be situated, raised in any such submissions or observations, and give the response of the Chief Executive thereto. and,
5. Recommend whether or not the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with, as the case may be.

Under Section 179(4) of the Act, the elected members shall, as soon as practicable, consider the proposed development and the report of the Chief Executive. Following the consideration of the Chief Executive's report, the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, unless the local authority, by resolution, decides to vary or modify the development, otherwise than as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, or decides not to proceed with the development. A resolution must be passed not later than six (6) weeks after receipt of the Chief Executive's report.

# Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment

The proposal has undergone an Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). This Council has determined that the implementation of the proposed development is not likely to have significant adverse eﬀects on the integrity or conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 network of sites.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Environmental Impact Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and therefore an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

As a result of the above, in accordance with Part XI of the Act, the elected members of the Council can consider the proposed construction of an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) development on SDCC lands in Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin, under Part 8 of the Regulations.

# Outcome of Public Consultation Programme

A total of one (1) submission/observation was received, however one submission was incorrectly lodged to the Girffeen ICW Part 8 consultation but was correctly lodged to the Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8 consultation (as per the submission content)

A list of all persons, organisations and bodies that made submissions is provided in the table below together with links to copies of the submissions received:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Person/Prescribed Body** | **Link to Submission** |
| Inland Fisheries Ireland | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c167-2) |

# Summary of Issues Raised and Chief Executive’s Responses and Recommendations

The Inland Fisheries Ireland submission raised a number of items as follows:

IFI highlighted that ICW’s are only part of the solution and the door-to-door inspections and encouraging proper connection of grey water to the foul sewer is also important.

IFI have requested to see the detailed design to endure that the riparian zone is protected and that it is an environmentally sensitive design. All construction work must be done in line with a detailed site specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), using the best construction practices and minimise the generation of sediment and silt. IFI also suggested a comprehensive water quality programme of physico-chemical and biological parameters in order to confirm the treatment performance of the ICW and the impacts on the receiving waters.

# Response:

Work in relation to door-to-door inspection and encouraging proper connection to the foul sewer is also part of the Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project (DURL) and will be progressing as part of the DURL project. In relation the design process the DURL project will liaise with IFI through the process. The requirement for a detailed site specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) will be included in the tender process and in place for the construction phase should the development be approved. Finally in relation to a comprehensive water quality programme, water quality monitoring is currently happening and will continue throughout the DURL project.

# Recommendation

Following detailed contemplation of the submission as outlined above it is considered that the issues raised in those submissions are appropriately responded to and can be satisfactorily addressed where appropriate as outlined in the foregoing report. The requirements of Inland Fisheries Ireland as outlined in their submission, can be incorporated into the proposed development as advertised.

Accordingly, it is considered that the proposed development, as advertised, is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the County Development Plan 2016-2022 with no amendments required and therefore it is recommended that the Council adopt the following Motion:

*“As the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Council approves the development of an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall to the River Griffeen on Council owned lands in* Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin*.”*

*Daniel McLoughlin 4th January 2021*

Chief Executive Date

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. O’Brien and L. O’Toole who welcomed the report and thanked the management, staff for their work on the project.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan, 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 an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall to the River Griffeen on Council owned lands in* Griffeen Valley Park, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin*.”*

### **H12/0121 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT - DODDER VALLEY PARK INTEGRATED CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS PART 8 - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, and were **CONSIDERED:**

[HI 12 Dodder ICW Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68538)

**Chief Executive’s Report on Public Consultation in relation to the proposed construction of an Integrated Constructed Wetland development on Council owned lands, Dodder Valley Park, Oldbawn, Tallaght, Dublin 24.**

1. Introduction

In accordance with the requirements of Part XI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) (the Act) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) (the Regulations), South Dublin County Council is seeking planning consent to construct an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) on SDCC lands in Dodder Valley Park, (Killininny and Oldbawn townlands).

This Part 8 proposal is a component of the innovative Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE (DURL) project which is a collaborative project between South Dublin County Council (SDCC), Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the EU LIFE Fund Programme. The project aims to transform water quality in a selection of rivers in both counties including the River Dodder, and this proposal is a key component in that transformation

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

# Site Description

There are two separate sites within Dodder Valley Park, which is located approximately 1.5km to the southwest of the M50/N81 motorway interchange. Both proposed ICW sites are situated on the northern banks of the River Dodder. They are separated by approximately 250m of open amenity grassland. The valley at this location contains significant areas of riparian woodland in the floodplain of the river–however it is not proposed to remove any of this woodland in order to develop the proposed ICW.

# Scheme Description

Development of public realm works totalling approximately 1.6ha at Dodder Valley Park (Killininny and Oldbawn townlands), on South Dublin County Council lands, including:

Build two new Integrated Constructed Wetlands coded DR033 (Drawing: DURL-SDCC-DVP-D008) and DR035 (Drawing: DURL-SDCC-DVP-D009), to treat and improve surface water quality, before discharging to the River Dodder. Proposed works to include wetland planting scheme to treat surface water while offering greater biodiversity to the surrounding area. Proposed new surface water piped links between the existing surface water system and the Integrated Constructed Wetlands and a new surface water outfall to the River Dodder doe wetland DR033. Reprofiling of levels and small landscaping berms within the two proposed ICW green areas. All ancillary site development and landscaping works, including biodiverse planting, furniture, and pathways.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government’s Integrated Constructed Wetlands (ICWs) documents sets out the principles of operation and build for ICWs in the context of Ireland. It notes. ‘’An ‘Integrated Constructed Wetland’ (ICW) is a series of shallow, interconnected, emergent-vegetated, surface-flow wetland compartments that receive/intercept water-flows from a variety of sources.’’

The intention of the proposed ICW is to optimise stormwater treatment and integrate the benefits from its associated wetland infrastructure to deliver a wide range of environmental returns, such as the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, the delivery of good ecological status of rivers, the protection of fisheries and improved landscape aesthetics. The general construction of the ICWs is they have a standing water depth of approximately 30 cm, are planted with a variety of native Irish wetland plants. They are sparsely planted in the beginning and within a few years they form lush wetlands. They are low maintenance water purification systems with the added benefit of high-density biodiversity, and are visually appealing

The proposed wetlands will have a typical standing water depth of 30 cm or approximately 1 ft. which is similar to the adjacent River Dodder in low flow. However, the main difference is the wetlands will have a limit to the amount of water it can accept and therefore, the depth of water in the wetland will not fluctuate very much over the year. The wetlands are also expected to be less than 1 meter below the existing ground level at its deepest point and is on average 0.5 meter below existing ground level. Essentially, the wetlands are like having shallow bowls or drains inserted into the grass at the proposed locations. The sides of the DR035 wetland will also have a slope gradient of minimum 1:5. This means, for every meter below ground level the side would be 5 metres wide sloping back up to ground level

Plans and reports for proposed development are shown on the following links:

[Sheet 1 - Dodder Valley ICWs Summary Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20Summary%20Report.pdf)

[Sheet 2 - Dodder Valley ICWs Part 8 Drawings](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20Part%208%20Drawings.pdf)

[Sheet 3 - Dodder Valley ICWs AA Screening Final Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20AA%20Screening.pdf)

[Sheet 4 - Dodder Valley ICWs Preliminary Examination EIA](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20ICW%20Preliminary%20Examination.pdf)

[Sheet 5 - Dodder Valley ICWs Ecological Survey Report](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20Ecological%20Survey%20Report.pdf)

[Sheet 6 - Dodder Valley ICWs Archaeological Assessment](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20Archaeological%20Assessment.pdf)

[Sheet 7 - Dodder Valley ICWs Petrifying Spring Assessment](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20Petrifying%20Spring%20Assessment.pdf)

[Sheet 8 - Dodder Valley ICWs Hydrogeology Assessment](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5576/Dodder%20Valley%20Park%20Hydrogeology%20Assessment.pdf)

# Public Consultation

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were on public display for over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive). During the public consultation, information on the integrated constructed wetland (ICW) development was disseminated to the public and submissions were invited.

The public consultation on the proposed affordable housing development included the following statutory and non-statutory elements:

* Notice in the Echo newspaper.
* Public consultation displays in South Dublin County Council offices at County Hall in Tallaght.
* Information on social media (Facebook and Twitter).

Submissions and observations on the integrated constructed wetland (ICW) development could be made online and in writing for a period of over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive).

# Legislative Background

Section 179 (3) (a) of the Act, requires that the Chief Executive shall, after the end of the public consultation period, prepare a written report in relation to the proposed development and submit the report to the members.

Section 179 (3) (b) of the Act outlines that a report shall—

1. Describe the nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof and shall include an appropriate plan of the development and appropriate map of the relevant area.
2. Evaluate whether the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the Development Plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the evaluation.
3. List the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development.
4. Summarise the issues, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development would be situated, raised in any such submissions or observations, and give the response of the Chief Executive thereto. and,
5. Recommend whether the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with, as the case may be.

Under Section 179(4) of the Act, the elected members shall, as soon as practicable, consider the proposed development and the report of the Chief Executive. Following the consideration of the Chief Executive's report, the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, unless the local authority, by resolution, decides to vary or modify the development, otherwise than as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, or decides not to proceed with the development. A resolution must be passed not later than six (6) weeks after receipt of the Chief Executive's report.

# Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment

The proposal has undergone an Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). This Council has determined that the implementation of the proposed development is not likely to have significant adverse eﬀects on the integrity or conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 network of sites.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Environmental Impact Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and therefore an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

As a result of the above, in accordance with Part XI of the Act, the elected members of the Council can consider the proposed construction of integrated constructed wetlands (ICW’s) development on SDCC lands in the Dodder Valley Park, Oldbawn, Tallaght, Dublin 24, under Part 8 of the Regulations.

# Other Assessments

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Ecological Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Archaeological Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects arising from the proposed development.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for a Hydrogeological Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on groundwater arising from the proposed development.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for a Petrifying Spring Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on a local Annex I petrifying spring arising from the proposed development.

# Outcome of Public Consultation Programme

A total of two (2) submissions/observations were received.

A list of all persons, organisations and bodies that made submissions is provided in the table below together with links to copies of the submissions received:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Person/Prescribed Body** | **Link to Submission** |
| Tallaght Community Council (TCC) | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c169-2) |
| Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c169-1) |

# Summary of Issues Raised and Chief Executive’s Responses and Recommendations

The **Tallaght Community Council’s** submission is supportive of wetlands generally but questioned the siting at the locations chosen and queried why other location were not chosen.

The submission supports the ICW on the sloped site but had a number of concerns in relation to the second site. The Heritage of the site and the history of Mills was raised. The existing sports use and conflict with nature of a wetland with these uses. TCC requested that the wetland bring colour to the park and not just shades of green. Sightlines for personal safety were raised, as were fly-tipping and the type of fencing proposed.

# Response:

The support for wetland in the submission is acknowledges. The EU funded Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project (DURL) has a specific purpose in relation to improving the water quality in the rivers in South Dublin. This is the removal of pollutants from the surface water drainage network prior to discharge to the rivers and streams in the county. The siting of the proposed wetland went through a detail process in order to achieve this goal and there were only a limited number of locations meeting the requirements.

In relation to the heritage of the location as highlighted in the submission, as part of this planning process an Archaeological Assessment of the location was carried out. The milling heritage of the area is in the report, no known archaeological monuments within the footprint or 100m buffer around the proposed ICW’s. The recommendation in the report in relation to archaeological monitoring and the National Monuments Service will be followed through the design and construction process, should planning be approved.

In relation to the compatibility with other uses such as sport and recreation, the ICW can add to the amenity value and the enjoyment of the park for park users. As the ICW is close to the river Dodder it will add to the biodiversity that currently exists along the riparian zone of the river.

The ICW will be planted with some flowering species as outlined in the Summary report, the items raised in relation to dumping and fencing will be assessed during the design process should planning be granted.

The **Inland Fisheries Ireland** submission raised a number of items as follows:

IFI highlighted that ICW’s are only part of the solution and the door-to-door inspections and encouraging proper connection of grey water to the foul sewer is also important.

IFI have requested to see the detailed design to endure that the riparian zone is protected and that it is an environmentally sensitive design. All construction work must be done in line with a detailed site specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), using the best construction practices and minimise the generation of sediment and silt. IFI also suggested a comprehensive water quality programme of physico-chemical and biological parameters in order to confirm the treatment performance of the ICW and the impacts on the receiving waters.

# Response:

Work in relation to door-to-door inspection and encouraging proper connection to the foul sewer is also part of the Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project (DURL) and will be progressing as part of the DURL project. In relation the design process the DURL project will liaise with IFI through the process. The requirement for a detailed site specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) will be included in the tender process and in place for the construction phase should the development be approved. Finally in relation to a comprehensive water quality programme, water quality monitoring is currently happening and will continue throughout the DURL project.

# Recommendation

Following detailed contemplation of the submission as outlined above it is considered that the issues raised in those submissions are appropriately responded to and can be satisfactorily addressed where appropriate as outlined in the foregoing report.

Accordingly, it is considered that the proposed development, as advertised, is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the County Development Plan 2016-2022 with no amendments required and therefore it is recommended that the Council adopt the following Motion:

*“As the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Council approves the development of an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall on Council owned lands in* Dodder Valley Park, (Killininny and Oldbawn townlands)*.”*

*Daniel McLoughlin 4th January 2021*

Chief Executive Date

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors A. Edge, T. Costello, P. Holohan, D. McMahon, C. King, K. Mahon, and L. Sinclair who welcomed the report and thanked the management, staff for their work on the project, queries were raised in relation to the locations, the provision of fencing, archaeological heritage and protection of existing ecology while works are underway.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change and Mr. R. Fitzpatrick, [Executive Environmental Scientific Officer](http://intranet/Phonebook/?g=316), responded to the members queries informing of the criteria used to determine locations, the planned protection and improvement of both water quality and the local ecology.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns, 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 an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall on Council owned lands in* Dodder Valley Park, (Killininny and Oldbawn townlands)*.”*

### **H13/0121 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT - KILNAMANAGH INTEGRATED CONSTRUCTED WETLAND PART 8 - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, and were **CONSIDERED:**

[HI 13 Kilnamanagh ICW Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68539)

**Chief Executive’s Report on Public Consultation in relation to the proposed public realm works for the construction of an integrated constructed wetland and associated landscaping totalling approximately 1.3 hectares in the townland of Kilnamanagh, Tallaght, Dublin 24.**

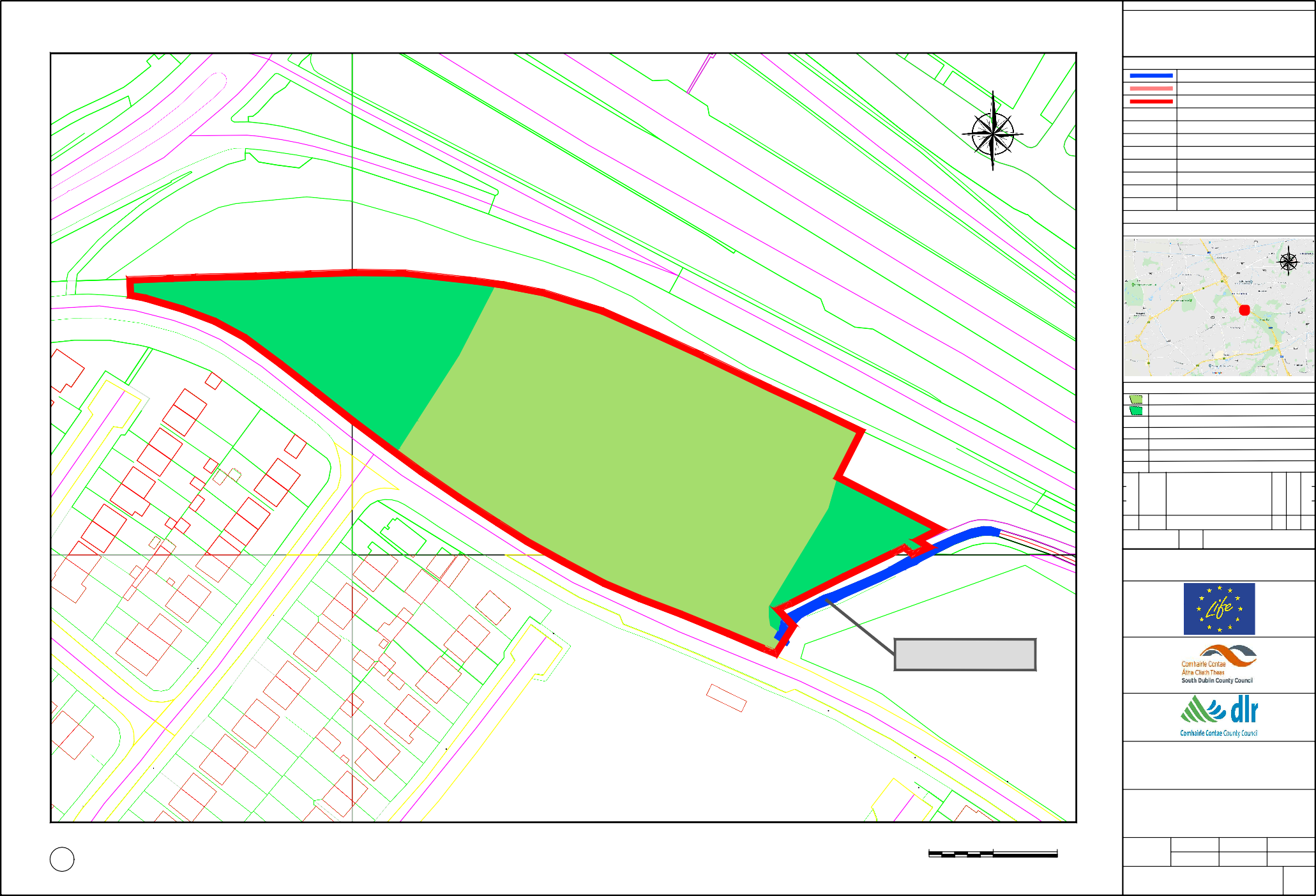
1. Introduction

In accordance with the requirements of Part XI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) (the Act) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) (the Regulations), South Dublin County Council is seeking planning consent to and integrated constructed wetland and associated landscaping work totalling 1.3 hectares in the townland of Kilnamanagh, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

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

# Site Description

The 1.3-hectare site is the green public space situated between Treepark road and the western boundary wall of the M50 motorway in the townland of Kilnamanagh as shown below.



# Scheme Description

The proposal is to take a portion of the total stormwater flow from the Kilnamanagh Stream in Kilnamanagh, route the flow through a wetland in the park adjacent to the stream to purify that water, and then let that purified water flow back into the Kilnamanagh Stream via a new outfall. The proposed development will require:

* Building a new fenced Integrated Constructed Wetland, to treat and improve surface water quality, before discharging to the Kilnamanagh Stream.
* Reuse of excavated subsoil in the adjacent green area,
* Importation of topsoil to supplement existing topsoil at the location,
* Wetland planting scheme to treat surface water while offering greater biodiversity to the surrounding area.
* New surface water piped links between the existing surface water system and the Integrated Constructed Wetlands and a new surface water outfall to the Kilnamanagh Stream.
* Reprofiling of levels and small landscaping berms within the green area.
* All ancillary site development and landscaping works, including biodiverse planting, furniture, and pathways.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government’s Integrated Constructed Wetlands (ICWs) documents sets out the principles of operation and build for ICWs in the context of Ireland. It notes. ‘’An ‘Integrated Constructed Wetland’ (ICW) is a series of shallow, interconnected, emergent-vegetated, surface-flow wetland compartments that receive/intercept water-flows from a variety of sources.’’

The intention of the proposed ICW is to optimise stormwater treatment and integrate the benefits from its associated wetland infrastructure to deliver a wide range of environmental returns, such as the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, the delivery of good ecological status of rivers and protection of fisheries. The general construction of the ICWs is they have a standing water depth of approximately 30 cm, are planted with a variety of native Irish wetland plants. They are sparsely planted in the beginning and within a few years they form lush wetlands. They are low maintenance water purification systems with the added benefit of high-density biodiversity and are visually appealing.

The proposed wetland will have a typical standing water depth of 30 cm or approximately 1 ft. which is similar to the adjacent stream in low flow. However, the main difference is the wetland will have a limit to the amount of water it can accept and therefore, the depth of water in the wetland will not fluctuate very much over the year. The wetland is also expected to be approximately 2.5 meters below the existing ground level. Essentially, the wetland is like having a large bowl inserted into the grass at the proposed location. The sides of the wetland will also have a slope gradient of minimum 1:1. This means, for every meter below ground level the side would be 1-metre-wide sloping back up to ground level. The purpose of such a steep slope is to reduce the amount of green space used by the wetland and accommodate other uses in the adjacent green space. Therefore, the wetland will require a perimeter fence be installed to primarily protect the public from the steep drop and to a lesser extent the depth of water in the wetland. Without the installation of the fence the wetland would have to extend a further 15 metres north west into the adjacent green space to meet a 1:5 gradient negating the need for a fence.

Plans and reports for proposed development are shown on the following links:

[Summary Report Kilnamanagh ICW PART 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20ICW%20Summary%20Report.pdf)

[Drawings Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20Part%208%20Drawings.pdf)

[AA Screening Report Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20ICW%20AA%20Screening.pdf)

[EIA Screening Report Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20ICW%20Preliminary%20Examination.pdf%20)

[Ecological Survey Report Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20Ecological%20Survey%20Report.pdf)

[Archaeological Assessment Report Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20Archaeological%20Assessment.pdf)

[Site Notice Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20Site%20Notice%20Signed.pdf)

[Newspaper Notice Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/system/files/materials/5575/Kilnamanagh%20Newspaper%20Notice.pdf)

# Public Consultation

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were on public display for over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive). During the public consultation, information on the proposed integrated constructed wetland development was disseminated to the public and submissions were invited.

The public consultation on the proposed integrated constructed wetland development included the following statutory and non-statutory elements:

* Notice in the Echo newspaper,
* Site Notices,
* Details of the proposed Part 8 were sent to prescribed bodies together with an invitation for submissions,
* Public consultation displays in South Dublin County Council offices at County Hall in Tallaght and on the council public consultation portal website, and
* Information on social media (Facebook and Twitter).

Submissions and observations on the proposed integrated constructed wetland development could be made online and in writing for a period of over six weeks from 5th November 2020 to 18th December 2020 (inclusive).

# Legislative Background

Section 179 (3) (a) of the Act, requires that the Chief Executive shall, after the end of the public consultation period, prepare a written report in relation to the proposed development and submit the report to the members.

Section 179 (3) (b) of the Act outlines that a report shall—

1. Describe the nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof and shall include an appropriate plan of the development and appropriate map of the relevant area.
2. Evaluate whether the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the Development Plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the evaluation.
3. List the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development.
4. Summarise the issues, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development would be situated, raised in any such submissions or observations, and give the response of the Chief Executive thereto. and,
5. Recommend whether the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with, as the case may be.

Under Section 179(4) of the Act, the elected members shall, as soon as practicable, consider the proposed development and the report of the Chief Executive. Following the consideration of the Chief Executive's report, the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, unless the local authority, by resolution, decides to vary or modify the development, otherwise than as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, or decides not to proceed with the development. A resolution must be passed not later than six (6) weeks after receipt of the Chief Executive's report.

# Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment

The proposal has undergone an Appropriate Assessment Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). This Council has determined that the implementation of the proposed development is not likely to have significant adverse eﬀects on the integrity or conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 network of sites.

It has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Environmental Impact Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and therefore an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

As a result of the above, in accordance with Part XI of the Act, the elected members of the Council can consider the proposed construction of an integrated constructed wetland and associated landscaping work totalling 1.3 hectares in the townland of Kilnamanagh, Tallaght, Dublin 24, under Part 8 of the Regulations.

# Other Assessments

The proposal has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Ecological Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development.

The proposal has also undergone a preliminary examination for an Archaeological Assessment and the Planning Authority has concluded that there will be no real likelihood of significant effects arising from the proposed development.

# Outcome of Public Consultation Programme

A total of one hundred and three (103) submissions/observations were received.

A list of all persons, organisations and bodies that made submissions is provided in the Table 1 together with links to copies of the submissions received.

**Table 1 List of submitters and links to their submissions.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Person/Prescribed Body** | **Link to Submission** |
| Peter Kavanagh | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-1#obs-2774) |
| Mark Dowling | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-2#obs-2775) |
| South Dublin Conservation Society | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-3#obs-2779) |
| Mark Carroll | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-4#obs-2783) |
| Deirdre Mackin | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-5#obs-2784) |
| Luke Sheridan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-6#obs-2785) |
| David O’Reilly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-7#obs-2786) |
| Traffic Infrastructure Ireland | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-8#obs-2788) |
| Anthony Cummins | [Link](file:///C:\Users\dmcweeney\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\JLQ1DXOZ\Link) |
| John Feeney | [Link](file:///C:\Users\dmcweeney\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\JLQ1DXOZ\Link) |
| Jennifer Dempsey | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-11#obs-2794) |
| Lee Hurley | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-12#obs-2795) |
| Jonathan Geoghegan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-13#obs-2796) |
| Anthony Halpin | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-14#obs-2797) |
| Olivia Walsh | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-15#obs-2798) |
| Ciara Ennis | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-16#obs-2799) |
| Tracy Donovan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-17#obs-2800) |
| Catherine Kelly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-18#obs-2802) |
| Gillian Gobbett | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-19#obs-2803) |
| Denise Rafferty | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-20#obs-2804) |
| Carl Curtis | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-21#obs-2805) |
| Stephen Darcy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-22#obs-2806) |
| Eddie Donegan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-23#obs-2807) |
| Andrew Reynolds | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-24#obs-2808) |
| Adam Matthews | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-25#obs-2809) |
| Paul Reddy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-26#obs-2810) |
| James O'Connor | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-27#obs-2811) |
| Kim Hersee | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-28#obs-2812) |
| Aimee Barrett | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-29#obs-2813) |
| Geraldine Kelly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-30#obs-2814) |
| Sarka Hnilickova | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-31#obs-2816) |
| Floyd Donnelly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-32#obs-2817) |
| Keith Foy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-33#obs-2818) |
| John Murphy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-34#obs-2819) |
| Mark Tilly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-35#obs-2821) |
| Elaine Ochmanska | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-36#obs-2822) |
| Tanya Weston | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-37#obs-2823) |
| Craig Jago | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-38#obs-2824) |
| Amanda Deering | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-39#obs-2825) |
| Bernadette McEvoy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-40#obs-2826) |
| Paul Furlong | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-41#obs-2827) |
| Michelle Waine | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-42#obs-2828) |
| Stephen Maher | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-43#obs-2829) |
| **Person/Prescribed Body** | **Link to Submission** |
| Gillian Coleman | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-44#obs-2830) |
| Edel Judge | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-45#obs-2831) |
| Karen Ellis | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-46#obs-2833) |
| Linda Tomney | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-47#obs-2834) |
| Emma Nolan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-48#obs-2835) |
| Brigid Warburton | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-49#obs-2836) |
| Dean Walsh | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-50#obs-2837) |
| Edel Darley | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-51#obs-2838) |
| Melissa O’Neill | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-52#obs-2839) |
| Sonya Stuart | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-53#obs-2840) |
| Niall Fitzpatrick | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-54#obs-2841) |
| Adrienne Curtis | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-55#obs-2842) |
| Lorraine Hamilton | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-56#obs-2843) |
| Graham Mooney | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-57#obs-2844) |
| Donna Halpin | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-58#obs-2845) |
| Stephen Murphy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-59#obs-2846) |
| Chris Richardson | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-60#obs-2847) |
| Michelle Lyons | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-61#obs-2848) |
| Sue Woodfull | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-62#obs-2849) |
| Siobhán McBride | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-63#obs-2850) |
| Stephen O’Reilly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-64#obs-2851) |
| Ashling Berney | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-65#obs-2852) |
| Sharon Kerr | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-66#obs-2853) |
| James Gobbett | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-67#obs-2854) |
| Niall Kinahan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-68#obs-2855) |
| Damien McCabe | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-69#obs-2856) |
| John Conroy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-70#obs-2857) |
| Maria King | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-71#obs-2858) |
| Oonagh & Philip Long | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-72#obs-2859) |
| Elaine Davis | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-73#obs-2860) |
| Colm Keighery | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-74#obs-2861) |
| Phil Ledwith | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-75#obs-2862) |
| Brian Kavanagh | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-76#obs-2863) |
| Aileen Dowling | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-77#obs-2864) |
| Jennifer Dalton | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-78#obs-2866) |
| Ronan O'Reilly | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-79#obs-2867) |
| Elaine O’Halloran | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-80#obs-2868) |
| Hilary McEneaney | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-81#obs-2869) |
| Joanne Smullen | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-82#obs-2870) |
| Barry Ryan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-83#obs-2871) |
| Conor Kenna | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-84#obs-2872) |
| Mark Maguire | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-85#obs-2873) |
| Brendan Whelan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-86#obs-2875) |
| Emma Delaney | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-87#obs-2877) |
| Craig Foy | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-88#obs-2879) |
| **Person/Prescribed Body** | **Link to Submission** |
| Maeve Maguire | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-89#obs-2880) |
| Ian Creagh | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-90#obs-2882) |
| Gareth O'Keeffe | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-91#obs-2883) |
| Colin O'Leary | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-92#obs-2884) |
| Kilnamanagh AFC | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-93#obs-2885) |
| Emma McDermott | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-94#obs-2886) |
| Troy Whelan | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-95#obs-2889) |
| Suzanne Traynor | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-96#obs-2892) |
| Jake Dalton | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-97#obs-2891) |
| Jenny Sweetman | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-98#obs-2894) |
| David Dowling | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-99#obs-2899) |
| Elizabeth Reynolds | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-100#obs-2907) |
| Inland Fisheries Ireland | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-101#obs-2917) |
| Tallaght Community Council | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-102#obs-2927) |
| Stephen Wiggins | [Link](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/submission/sd-c168-103#obs-2935) |

The categories of issues raised in submissions received is shown in Table 2 and a summary and responses to issues raised is provided in Section 9 of this report.

**Table 2 Submissions categorised (a submission may contain more than one category)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Category of Submission** | **Count** |
| 1 | Loss of (unofficial) pitch for Kilnamanagh AFC/effect on club | 88 |
| 2 | Alternative space for children (query) | 68 |
| 3 | Support of ICWs as a concept | 14 |
| 4 | Loss of playing space for children (not KAFC specific) | 9 |
| 5 | Housing estate not suitable for ICWs (suitable for parks only) | 6 |
| 6 | Health & Safety concerns due to depth of ICW | 6 |
| 7 | Anti-social behaviour concerns | 4 |
| 8 | Statutory consultee submissions | 2 |
| 9 | Footballs lost to enclosed wetland | 1 |

# Summary of Issues Raised and Chief Executive’s Responses and Recommendations

In addressing the submissions raised it is important to provide the context that the proposed development is a demonstration project within the EU Life Fund Programme and Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project which is a flagship project for the restoration of water bodies in the county using nature-based solutions such as wetlands. The proposal should also be considered in the context of the Council’s recently released Climate Action Plan 2019-2024 and the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan.

It should also be noted that Kilnamanagh AFC have operated on the green space for a report many years and have marked a pitch on that space which is reportedly used for underage games and training. However, this green space did not in the past or currently have an allocation or was ever a licensed pitch.

# Submission Category 1 – Loss of (unofficial) pitch for Kilnamanagh AFC/effect on club

# Submission Category 2 - Alternative space for children (query)

Submissions raise concerns regarding the loss of a playing pitch for children and the effect this could have on the membership of Kilnamanagh AFC. A significant number of submitters were parents or relations of children members of Kilnamanagh AFC. Most submissions in this category were accompanied by a query regarding an alternative pitch/play location.

# Response:

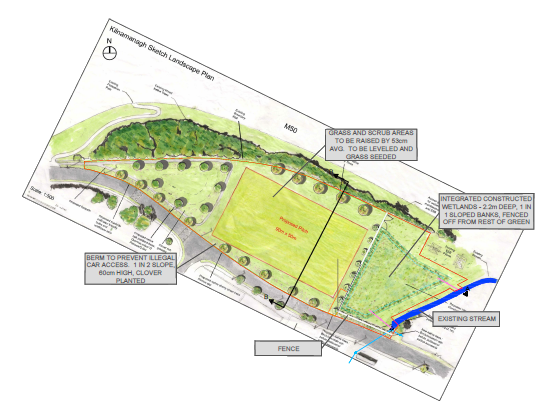
The Council engaged with Kilnamanagh AFC officials, as representatives of club members, during the consultation period, to address concerns regarding the potential permanent loss of a pitch sized area of green space to the north west of the proposed ICW location. A landscape drawing was prepared in addition to the information and drawings supplied in the Part 8 consultation period, as shown in the Figure 1, and this drawing is combined with drawing information supplied in the consultation period in Figure 2.

**Figure 1 Additional landscape drawing for the Kilnamanagh ICW Part 8 proposal**



The proposal is clear that the ICW will encroach on the existing green space utilised by Kilnamanagh AFC (KAFC) but there is space to retain a size compliant playing pitch post development. The existing playing area utilised by KAFC will be moved north west.

Figure 2 Landscape drawing combined with some engineering drawing information



The information provided in the public consultation by SDCC noted the entire green area to the north west of the proposed wetland would be raised by an average of 0.5 metres and more so at the north west end of the space where bonfire activity at Halloween was a problem. The process will require scraping back existing topsoil at the site, placing excavated subsoil from the wetland location into the green space area, and replacing the topsoil and reseeding. This process can take up to two years to complete to a standard where competitive 11 aside games can take place without damaging the regressed area. This will mean any sporting activity on the green space will have to occur in an alternative location. In the Council’s efforts to address those concerns raised in the submission period an alternative pitch allocation (No.128) has been found in Tymon Park (see Figure 2) to act as an interim pitch until the green space at Treepark Road has been fully restored, at which time KAFC can return to this location and apply for a pitch allocation. The Council has given email confirmation Kilnamanagh AFC will receive an allocation as the existing users of that area when the green space is restored.

**Figure 3 Interim pitch No. 128 in Tymon Park location relative to Kilnamanagh**



Therefore, if the proposal is approved, the sequence of events which would allow children continue to play sport is a follows:

* Kilnamanagh AFC apply for an allocation for pitch No.128 in Tymon Park which is unused/not allocated at present,
* The Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project build the wetland and upgrade the adjacent green space,
* Once the grass has fully taken (approximately 1.5-2 years) KAFC apply for a pitch allocation for the green space at Treepark Road. As they were the last users of that space, they will be given first preference, and
* All applications for allocations by KAFC are processed by the Council in line with the allocation’s procedures at the time of applications.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development, but the additional landscape drawing is noted in this report.

# Submission Category 4 – Loss of playing space for children (not KAFC specific)

Concerns were raised regarding loss of playing space for children due to the encroachment of the wetland into the existing green space. These submissions were made without any reference to KAFC and were categorised separately.

# Response:

The proposed development will revitalise and improve the north west end of the existing green space which is currently scrub land. At present, this space is not usable as a play space by children, attracts a certain level of dumping, and is considered a prime bonfire location threat during Halloween. It is reasonable to say this space could be significantly improved and of benefit to the children and residents. The proposal shown in Figure 1, raising the area, re-grassing, strategic tree planting and building a footpath around its circumference would transform the location.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development, but the additional landscape drawing is noted in this report.

# Submission Category 5 – Housing estate not suitable for ICWs (suitable for parks only)

# Submission Category 6 – Health & Safety concerns due to depth of ICW

Concern raised regarding the suitability of the proposal in a housing estate. This concern was very brief and were usually included with other submission categories. Concern was also raised regarding the health and safety aspects of a deep wetland in the proposed location.

# Response:

The proposed development is situated very close the M50 boundary wall, across Treepark road, opposite Tamarisk and Elmcastle housing estates. It is considered this is one of the remotest locations for a wetland in the area, albeit adjacent to a regularly used green space. As the wetland’s purpose is to treat and improve polluted stormwater in the local stream it is not possible to situate this wetland anywhere else and achieve the same level of effectiveness of treatment and value for money. It is considered the proposed wetland location is removed from the overall Kilnamanagh house development(s). This proposal as part of the Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project aims to install wetlands in urban areas be, they parks or housing estates, provided the location meets certain criteria, such as drainage, usage, pollution remedy, cost etc. Approximately 40 locations in the county were screened for suitability based on the criteria, and through an iterative process, the proposed Kilnamanagh location was chosen.

Approximately 30% of the proposed wetland would be built in what is currently scrub grassland and adjacent to the steep sided, unprotected, local stream. The bed of the local stream is approximately 2.8 metres below ground level from the top of the stream bank, the sides of which are unprotected and at an estimated gradient of 1:1. The proposal is to dig a wetland with sides of similar gradient (1:1) to the existing stream but to install a suitably strong and high, durable protective fence. While there is a perception of a safety risk with the installation of the wetland the true effect is the wetland would increase safety in the area from direct access as compared to the current open stream access.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development.

# Submission Category 7 – Anti-social behaviour concerns

Matters raised included suggestions the position of a fence, with planting in front of it, would create a space for people to essentially hide behind the plantings and become involved in anti-social behaviour.

# Response:

The proposed fence line planting is to reduce and break the visual impact of the fence, not to hide it. The density of that planting will vary depending on the distance from Treepark Road. It is anticipated the further from Treepark road the less dense the planting will be. This will allow for a reasonable degree of visual surveillance towards the M50 end of the fence in line with the Council’s objective for public spaces.

The proposed development will revitalise and improve the north west end of the existing green space which is currently scrub land. At present, this space is not usable as a play space by children, attracts a certain level of dumping, and is considered a prime bonfire location threat during Halloween and the consequential anti-social behaviour. It is reasonable to say this space could be significantly improved and of benefit to the children and residents. The proposal shown in Figure 1, raising the area, re-grassing, strategic tree planting and building a footpath around its circumference would transform the location. This would change the tone of use of this location.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development, but the additional landscape drawing is noted in this report.

# Submission Category 8 –Submissions from Statutory Bodies

**Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)**

IFI highlighted that ICW’s are only part of the solution and the door-to-door inspections and encouraging proper connection of grey water to the foul sewer is also important. IFI have requested to see the detailed design to ensure that the riparian zone is protected and that it is an environmentally sensitive design. All construction work must be done in line with a detailed site-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), using the best construction practices and minimise the generation of sediment and silt. IFI also suggested a comprehensive water quality programme of physico-chemical and biological parameters to confirm the treatment performance of the ICW and the impacts on the receiving waters.

# Response:

Work in relation to door-to-door inspection and encouraging proper connection to the foul sewer is also part of the Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project (DURL) and will be progressing as part of the DURL project. In relation the design process the DURL project will liaise with IFI during the process. The requirement for a detailed site-specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) will be included in the tender process and in place for the construction phase should the development be approved. Finally, a comprehensive water quality monitoring programme will be prepared and implemented if the proposal is agreed.

**Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)**

TII wanted to know if the proposed wetland would have any impact on the drainage regime of the M50. They also recognised the antisocial behaviour near or at the boundary wall and hoped the wetland development could influence this matter.

# Response:

The proposed wetland will not change the existing drainage arrangements in the location and is not anticipated to change any volumetric discharges to the culvert under the M50. The proposal will draw approximately 10 litres per second (10 l/s) from the existing flow in the stream at the mouth of the culvert, direct that 10 l/s through the wetland and then discharge it back to the stream approximately 50 metres downstream of the mouth of the culvert.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development.

# Submission Category 9 – Footballs lost to enclosed wetland

1. Kilnamanagh AFC in their submission noted *‘’Ballstop netting will be required to prevent footballs going into the fenced-in Wetlands area; as there will not be any public access to the Wetlands area, this is a major issue.’’* and *‘’* *The current training lights we use won’t cover the new grass area, making this area unusable in winter months.’’*

# Response:

The pitch is an allocation of public space by to the Council to a club or organisation for use for a defined period, but that space remains public. The Council does not provide facilities such as ballstop netting at these locations, however this can be review over time if it is an issue. The Council’s policy does not provide lighting for allocated pitches and this is the case for any allocation discussed in this report.

**Chief Executive’s Recommendation**

It is recommended that no variation or modification be made to the proposed development.

# Submission Category – Support of ICWs as a concept

It is worth noting submissions contained an acknowledgement of the need for biodiversity and water quality improvement in the community/area/county and were not in opposition to project such as Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE and the funding it brought to the county. However, all such remarks were made embedded in submissions associated with the other Categories listed in Table 2.

# Recommendation

Following detailed contemplation of the submissions as outlined above it is considered that the issues raised in those submissions are appropriately responded to and can be satisfactorily addressed where appropriate as outlined in the foregoing report. In particular, the requirements of Inland Fisheries Ireland, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, and Kilnamanagh AFC as outlined in their submissions, can be incorporated into the proposed development as advertised.

Accordingly, it is considered that the proposed development, as advertised, is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the County Development Plan 2016-2022 with no amendments required and therefore it is recommended that the Council adopt the following Motion:

*“As the proposed development is in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, the Council approves the development of an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall to the Kilnamanagh Stream on Council owned lands in* Kilnamanagh, Tallaght, Dublin 24*”*

*Daniel McLoughlin 11th January 2021*

Chief Executive Date

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Duff, C. O’Connor, C. King, T. Costello, and L. Sinclair who welcomed the report and thanked the management, staff for their work on the project and in particular the communications with Kilnamanagh AFC. They queried the possibility of the provision of ball stop netting, lighting, provision of a temporary pitch for the period of the works and to bring reports to the ACM.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change gave a commitment to consider the provision of ball stop netting, to review the public lighting in the area and informed of the provision of a temporary pitch in Tymon Park. Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, confirmed that updates would be brought to the relevant ACMs on the Integrated Constructed Wetlands projects.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed byCouncillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Duff 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 an integrated constructed wetland (ICW) and new stormwater outfall to the Kilnamanagh Stream on Council owned lands in* Kilnamanagh, Tallaght, Dublin 24*”.*

### **H14/0121 BROOKMOUNT DRIVE PLEBISCITE - FOR APPROVAL**

**REPLY:**

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:**

The procedure to conduct a plebiscite was initiated following the meeting of the County Council held on 9th November 2020 where the following motion was **PASSED**:

That this Tallaght Area Committee calls on the CEO to initiate the process to change the name of Brookmount in Tallaght to Brookmount Drive, Tallaght, as requested by residents in the following petition: "We the residents of Brookmount need to change our address to Brookmount Drive as our address of solely 'Brookmount' has been unrecognised on Google Maps for many years. Emergency Services can never find our road and this could turn into a life and death situation. Many postal deliveries never reach their destination due to not being able to find our road. It is endless with the complications. Brookmount as a road name does not suffice, therefore, we propose that it be renamed 'Brookmount Drive' and be placed on Google Maps to avoid any more confusion and prevent unnecessary dangers to our families" Will he confirm the position and make a statement.

The statutory procedure to change the official name of a street, place or locality is set out in the [**Local Government Act, 1946**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1946/en/act/pub/0024/index.html), the [**Local Government (Changing of Placenames) Regulations 1956**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1956/en/si/0031.html), as amended by [**S. 67 LG Act 1994**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1994/en/act/pub/0008/sec0067.html). Changes to the name can only be done by way of conducting a plebiscite of the qualified electors in the area and the consent of the majority of qualified electors is required for any change to be made by resolution of the Council.

In accordance with [**S. 67 of the Local Government Act 1994**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1994/en/act/pub/0008/sec0067.html#zza8y1994s67) "Qualified Electors" means:

- every person who in relation to the urban district, town, townland, non-municipal town, street or locality,  as the case may be is registered as a local government elector in the register of local government electors for the time being in force, or

- not being so registered is the rated occupier of a hereditament other than a hereditament the valuation of which attracts an allowance equal to full abatement of rates pursuant to [**section 3**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1978/en/act/pub/0035/sec0003.html#sec3) of the [**Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act, 1978**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1978/en/act/pub/0035/index.html) .

A map of the plebiscite area (see attached) has been drawn up based on the estates/premises as outlined in the motion –

The number of electors currently listed on the Register of Electors 2020/2021 for the plebiscite area is 38. Any persons within the plebiscite area who made an application for inclusion on the supplement to the Register of Electors will also be included.

To date the following addresses have been identified on the Register of Electors Book GK and the rate account holders within the Plebiscite area:

**Register of Electors Book GK:**

Brookmount

**Rate Account Holders:**

**None**

The timeline for the completion of a Plebiscite is as follows:-

\*The Draft List of Qualified Electors must be advertised and put-on display for a period of three weeks.

\*Submissions/objections/additions to the register received are updated to the Register of Electors.

\*The list of qualified Electors (Electoral Roll) for the Plebiscite is brought to the next Council meeting for adoption by Council.  Following adoption, the Plebiscite is initiated.

\*Ballot Papers and information are issued by post to qualified Electors with return within 14 working days by prepaid post.

\*Declaration of Results brought to the next Council meeting for Noting.

It is proposed to commence this process on 21st January 2021, so that the outcome of the plebiscite would be adopted at the April 2021 Council meeting.

[HI14 (b) Brookmount Map](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68489)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors, C. O’Connor, P. Kavanagh, M. Duff and A. Hayes welcoming the Plebiscite and queried the decision process of the vote and cost of Plebiscite.

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

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

**“That this Council formally adopts the List of Qualified Electors and proceeds immediately thereafter with the taking of the plebiscite.”**

### **H15/0121 CORPORATE PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS 2020 - FOR NOTING**

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

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

Re: Corporate Plan Annual Report 2020

Dear Member, The attached report on implementation of the Corporate Plan for 2020 is presented in compliance with section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001. The report in what was undoubtably a different year is only a summary of the years events and achievements and should be viewed alongside the monthly reports presented at each Council meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel McLoughlin Chief Executive

[HI 15 b) Report on Corporate Plan Achievements 2020](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68505)

Councillors L. O’Toole and J. Tuffy spoke on the item welcomed the report, commended the online promotion of the County Development Plan, and queried the process of remote briefings/meetings going forward.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, informed the Members that he would continue to consult with the Mayor on the most acceptable mode for meetings in the current emergency.

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien confirmed he would liaise with Group Leaders and Corporate Policy Group representatives on the issue of appropriate meeting type.

The Report was **NOTED**.

**C1/0121 CORRESPONDENCE**

[(a)i) Correspondence dated 11th December 2020 from the Department of Social Protection](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68460)  
[(a)ii) Letter from SDCC](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68461)

Councillors K. Mahon, C. O’Connor and P. Kearns expressed disappointment in relation to the reply received from The Department of Social Protection regarding CE supervisors.

### Correspondence was **NOTED.**

### **M1/0121 SOCIAL HOUSING INCOME LIMITS**

### **It was proposed by Councillor M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor E. Ó Broin**

That this Council agree that income limits for access to social housing should be removed to allow for a greater social mix in public housing.

**REPORT:**

Applications for social housing support are assessed by the Council in accordance with the eligibility and need criteria set down in section 20 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the associated Social Housing Assessment Regulations.

The Social Housing Assessment Regulations, 2011, as amended, prescribe maximum net income limits for each local authority in different bands according to the area concerned with income being defined and assessed according to a standard Household Means Policy.  The 2011 Regulations do not provide local authorities with any discretion to exceed the limits that apply to their administrative areas.

This motion was amended at the December Council meeting by way of a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote and the Members **AGREED** to the amendment as follows:

“That this Council agree that income limits for access to social housing should be ~~removed~~ **raised significantly and should be maintained in line with inflation** to allow for a greater social mix in public housing.”

Councillor S. Fay submitted an amendment to the amendment she had submitted, at the December meeting, to the motion, as follows:

“That this Council agree that income limits for access to social housing should be ~~removed~~ **raised significantly and should be maintained in line with inflation** to allow for a greater social mix in public housing **and that a letter be sent to their relevant minister outlining the key demands passed in the motion.”**

A discussion arose with contributions from Councillors J. Tuffy and C. King querying the voting process on amendments.

The Mayor, Councilor E. O’Brien, informed the Members that amendments to a motion are taken in order as submitted and that only one amendment can be taken at any time. He further informed that Councillor W. Carey’s amendment is now the substantive motion before the meeting.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, M. Johansson, W. Carey, K. Mahon, G. O’Connell, P. Kearns, A. Hayes, and P. Kavanagh in support of the original motion, however, the amendment was agreed in order to raise the issue with the Minister.

The Amendment to the Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M2/0121 DUFFY/CAHILL REPORT**

### **It was proposed by Councillor S. Fay and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.**

During the massive struggle that has been waged by ex- Debenhams workers across the companies 11 stores in Ireland the deficit of workers protection in liquidations has again been sharply exposed. This Council calls for the immediate implementation of the Duffy/Cahill Report, compiled in 2016 in the aftermath of The Clery’s dispute- as one way of strengthening workers’ rights and tackling the legal outs provided to major corporations who engage in tactical liquidations in order to avoid their obligations under hard won workers’ rights. If passed this Council communicates such in writing to Government, to all Local Authorities and to the ICTU offering its support for implementation.

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is a passed a letter will be issued to the relevant bodies named in the motion and a response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

Councillor D. McManus spoke in support of the motion with amendment. Councillor D. McManus proposed and Councillor B. Lawlor seconded an amendment to the motion as follows:

“During the massive struggle that has been waged by ex- Debenhams workers across the companies 11 stores in Ireland the deficit of workers protection in liquidations has again been sharply exposed. This Council calls **for the recommendations of the Company Law Review Group are prioritised in the Government’s legislative programme as one way of strengthening workers’ rights. If passed this Council communicates such in writing to An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD, to all Local Authorities and to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions offering its support for implementation.”**

A discussion arose with contributions from Councillors S. Fay, A. Edge, M. Johansson, M. Duff, C. King, C. Bailey, K. Mahon, P. Kearns, F. Timmons, P. Holohan, J. Tuffy, L. Sinclair, G. O’Connell, and P. Kavanagh who spoke in support of the motion and the workers.

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE** and the Members **AGREED** on the amendment to the motion, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 5 (FIVE)**

**Councillors B. Lawlor, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O’Hara, B. Pereppadan.**

**AGAINST: 24 (TWENTY-FOUR)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, A. Hayes, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. Ó Broin, C. O’Byrne, G. O’Connell, L. O’Toole, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

**ABSTAIN: 8 (EIGHT)**

**Councillors V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, K. Egan, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, E. O’Brien, C. O’Connor**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the Amendment to the Motion proposed by Councillor D. McManus **FELL**.

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, then called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE** and the Members **AGREED** on the motion, the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 38 (THIRTY-EIGHT)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, K. Egan, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, A. Hayes, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, B. Lawlor, K. Mahon, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O’Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O’Byrne, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, S. O’Hara, L. O’Toole, B. Pereppadan, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO**

The Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M3/0121 CYCLE PARKING AT PLAYGROUNDS**

**It was proposed by Councillor C. Bailey and seconded by Councillor M. Duff.**

That this Council asks that bicycle parking stands are installed at all playgrounds and playspaces across the county to encourage families to visit these amenities in ways other than by car. Such cycle parking facilities should be located close to and in sight of the playgrounds and should comprise of Sheffield Bike Stands.

**REPORT:**

The Council will be keeping this requirement under active review. The Council has aspirations to deliver enhanced cycle infrastructure across the entire County include new and improved cycle lanes and new cycle parking spaces. New cycle infrastructure will bring increased numbers of cyclists and increased demand for cycle parking will follow. As this demand increases the Council will pro-actively deliver new cycle parking where needed, which in time will likely include new spaces in parks and at playgrounds.

A discussion took place with contributions from Councillors. C. Bailey, P. Kavanagh, Y. Collins, E. Murphy, C. King, M. Duff, V. Casserly, S. Moynihan, and D. Ó Brádaigh in support of the motion highlighting that the provision of cycle parking stands at playgrounds would encourage cycling and reduce the issues of carparking in residential areas.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation, responded to the Members informing that in 2020 the Council provided Cycle Lockers in 3 urban centres with a further 254 cycle stands 160 of which were located in schools and that the Council will continue the delivery of cycles stands across the county to include playgrounds.

The Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M4/0121 IRISH LANGUAGE**

### **It was proposed by Councillor C. Bailey and seconded by Councillor L. Donaghy.**

This Council agrees to establish a "Coiste na Gaeilge"/Irish Language Committee comprised of elected members and representatives from the executive to oversee the promotion of the Irish Language within the County and to ensure that Council is an example of best practice in the use of Irish.

**REPORT:**

The SPC Scheme 2019 – 2024 sets out the structure, membership and number of SPC's. It was developed in 2019 following a period of consultation with the elected members, the PPN and other representative bodies as well as the general public and was adopted by the Council at its meeting in October 2019. The scheme lasts for the duration of the current Council until 2024.

The purpose of the Strategic Policy Committees is to:

* assist the Council in the formulation, development, and review of policy;
* reflect the major functions or services of a local authority within the broader context;
* be tailored to the size, membership and administrative resources of a local authority but generally be four in number; and
* have one third of their membership drawn from sectors relevant to the committees’ work.

The Departmental Guidelines state that SPC's should generally be four in number while accepting that the Dublin local authorities may warrant additional SPC's. Accordingly, SDCC has six SPC's:

* Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism
* Land use Transportation and Planning
* Social and Community
* Environment, Public Realm & Climate Change
* Housing
* Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries

The SPCs bring together both elected members, and people actively working with social, economic, cultural and environmental bodies to develop and review policies related to council services, and is supported by the executive.

South Dublin County Council has included Gaeilge in each SPC scheme since their establishment in 2001. The Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries Strategic Policy Committee is the vehicle through which the aims of the motion are achieved.

A discussion took place with contributions from Councillor P. Kavanagh, S. Moynihan, C. O’Connell, M. Duff, K. Mahon, C. King, C. O’Byrne, P. Kearns, and E. Ó Broin, in support of the motion and if the SPC is the appropriate vehicle for a "Coiste na Gaeilge"/Irish Language Committee and membership of same.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, responded to the Members informing that it would be most appropriate to establish a "Coiste na Gaeilge"/Irish Language Committee as a sub-committee of the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC and that the SPC consider the appropriate membership and other issues prior to its establishment.

The Motion was **AGREED.**

**M7/0121 Hedge Maintenance**

### **Councillor S. Moynihan and Councillor E. O’Brien seconded that Motion 7 be MOVED without debate.**

To ask the Chief Executive to undertake a feasibility report on the possibility of a hedge maintenance programme to be undertaken to remove obstruction from footpaths and cycle lanes on a regular basis.

**REPORT:**

The Council's Public Realm Section implements a hedge cutting programme each year within the period allowed by the Wildlife Act, that is between September and February.  The programme includes the cutting once per year of hedges on road margins, in road medians and around public open spaces.  Hedges within parks are also on the programme however these are cut less often, in general once every two years.  These hedges are cut by tractor with a side-mounted flail, the operation involves traffic control and clean-up of debris after completion.  While it is permissible to cut hedges from September 1st in general the programme does not commence until mid to late October, once grass growth has slowed down.  It is obviously not possible to cut all hedges in the early part of the annual programme, some locations will be cut in October to December while others will not be done until January/February.  Every effort is made to include hedges along footpaths and cycle tracks in the early part of the programme, as these have the potential to pose a hazard for pedestrians and cyclists, with hedges within parks being left to the later part of the programme. The annual programme will be examined to facilitate changes required to the prioritising or sequencing of areas which are on walking and cycling routes.

**Meeting finished @ 7.00pm**

**Motions Not Reached**

### **(M5) CONSTRUCTION SITE PARKING**

### **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

This council notes the nuisance that arises to local residents from construction workers parking their vehicles on the streets of housing estates in the vicinity of construction sites.

This council further notes the farcical situation that regularly arises with residents contacting local representatives, local representatives contacting Gardaí and traffic wardens, and Gardaí and Traffic wardens using up valuable time and resources pursuing illegally parked vehicles of those working on construction sites.

As a measure of restoring the confidence of citizens of the county in the planning process and that SDCC works for them rather than developers, this council declares that a condition of planning permission of all construction sites greater in size than one dwelling in the county, have an employee parking plan in place for the duration of construction, which clearly delineates where legal parking will occur without causing an undue nuisance to local residents and wasting the valuable resources of the Gardaí Síochána and Traffic Wardens.

### **(M6) HATE LEGISLATION**

**Councillor F. Timmons**

That this Council agrees to write to the Minister for Justice and ask for an update on Hate Legislation following the public consultation and to ask when we can expect to see robust Anti-Hate legislation introduced. We also ask Would the Minister also outline the delays in enacting appropriate legislation?

### **(M8) IDENTIFICATION OF DECEASED ANIMALS**

**Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief executive that going forward staff responsible for the removal of dead dogs and cats from public areas be equipped with scanning equipment so microchipped animals can be scanned and identified and owners notified that they are deceased.

### **(M9) PUBLIC NOTICEBOARDS**

### **Councillor Y. Collins**

That the Chief Executive considers installing a public noticeboard/public digital noticeboard on the main street of each of our historic villages, and also in the principal shopping areas where population growth has occurred outside of the historic villages. The purpose of these noticeboards would be to draw the attention of the public to pending public consultations, details of Council and local services, and important public events.”

### **(M10) COUNTY GUIDELINE FOR ANIMAL SHELTER STANDARDS**

**Councillor A. Edge**

That the Chief Executive draw up and publish a county guideline for animal shelter standards, having regard to the international Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) shelter guidelines, which shall be used in relation to all future dog pound services. The guideline shall include details on oversight and accountability as well as a complaints procedure and shall provide for regular inspections with outcomes to be reported in terms of compliance with the guidelines.

### **(M11) WOMEN’S CAUCUS**

**Councillor E. Murphy**

That South Dublin County Council recognises and supports the formal establishment of a Women's Caucus for elected members of this Council.

### **(M12) TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVIDERS**

### **Councillor Patrick Pearse Holohan**

I am calling upon South Dublin County Council to consider and prioritise the installation of these traffic safety dividers when installing bicycle tracks. Dublin City Council and DLR have successfully implemented these barriers to ensure extra safety of cyclists and school children when travelling to school whilst travelling alongside motor vehicles. I think we can massively increase the usage of these tracks by school aged children and workers giving both of them and parents peace of mind that the tracks are safely and physically separated from the traffic. I have attached photos showing these in action in DCC.

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

Mayor

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