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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council January 2021 County Council Meeting held virtually on Monday 8 February 2021 through Microsoft 365 Teams

### **PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bailey, C. |  | Mahon, K. |
| Carey, W. |  | McCrave, L. |
| Casserly, V. |  | McMahon, R. |
| Collins, Y. |  | McManus, D. |
| Costello, T. |  | Moynihan, S. |
| Duff, M. |  | Murphy, E. |
| Dunne, L. |  | O Brádaigh, D. |
| 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. |
| Lawlor, B. |  |  |

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin.  |
| Directors/ Heads of FunctionHead of FinanceCounty Architect | L. Maxwell, F. Nevin, T. Walsh, M. Mulhern, C. Ward. R. FitzGerald.E. Conroy.  |
| Senior Executive Officers | C. Hurson.  |
| Administrative Officers | M. Reilly.  |
| A/ Senior Staff OfficerAssistant Staff OfficerClerical OfficerSord | L. Abbey.A. Hagan.D. Murphy.A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, presided

Apologies were received from Councillor D. Richardson

At the commencement of the meeting, the Mayor, Councillor E. O’Brien, informed the Members that members of the public will be in attendance at the meeting, he then 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.

### **H1/0221 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

### Minutes of Council Meeting 11th January 2021 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 L. Sinclair.

[(a) - January Council Meeting Minutes - January 11th 2021](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69152)

###  Minutes of Special Meeting of Council 27th January 2021 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 C. King.

[(b) - Special Meeting of Council - January 27th 2021](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69155)

In accordance with **Standing Order No.13** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to vary the sequence of business and to take Headed Item 11 (H11) first.

### **H11/0221 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL ON ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019 - FOR NOTING**

### The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. Eilis Quinlan, Chair of the Audit Committee.

[HI 11 Audit Committee Report to Council on audited AFS 2019](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69052)

Ms. E. Quinlan, Chair of the Audit Committee highlighted the key issues and Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, thanked Ms. E. Quinlan and the Audit Committee for all their hard work.

Councillors E. O’Brien and C. O’Connell thanked the Chair for her work with the Committee. Councillor E. Ó Broin queried the membership of the committee.

Ms L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management responded to the Members query and agreed to follow up with the Councillor on the Audit Committee Membership.

### **H2/0221 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES**

**a) 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.

**b) 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.

**c) 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.

**d)** **Lucan/Palmerstown/North 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.

### **H3a/0221 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**Draft Calendar of Meeting Dates**

**\*\*Please Note:- All Meetings will take place remotely, unless communicated otherwise.**

**This may change dependant on Government announcements.**

**February 2021**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 1st Feb | **CPG Meeting** | 3:00pm |  |
| Tue. | 2nd Feb | **Development Plan Meeting** | 3.00pm – 4.55pm |  |
| Wed. | 3rd Feb | **Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC** | 5.30pm - 7.00pm | 31/12/2020 |
| Thur. | 4th Feb | **Development Plan Meeting** | 3.00pm –7.00pm |  |
| Fri. | 5th Feb |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 8th Feb | **Council Meeting** | 3:30pm – 7.00pm | 25/1/2021 |
| Tue. | 9th Feb | **Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee**Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 26/1/2021 |
| Wed. | 10th Feb | **Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)****Economic Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC**  | 3:00pm – 4:30pm5.30pm - 7.00pm | 8/1/2021 |
| Thur. | 11th Feb | **Housing SPC**  | 5.30pm - 7.00pm | 11/1/2021 |
| Fri | 12th Feb |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 15th Feb |  |  |  |
| Tue. | 16th Feb | **Environment, Water, Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC*****Social, Community & Equality SPC*** | 5.30pm - 7.00pm6.00pm - 7.30pm | 14/1/202114/1/2021 |
| Wed. | 17th Feb | **Audit Committee** **Clondalkin Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 8:00am – 9:30am3.00pm - 6.00pm | 3/2/2021 |
| Thur. | 18th Feb |  |  |  |
| Fri | 19th Feb |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 22nd Feb | **Tallaght Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 8/2/2021 |
| Tue. | 23rd Feb | **Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin** *Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 9/2/2021 |
| Wed. | 24th Feb |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 25th Feb | **Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC** | 5.30pm - 7.00pm | 25/1/2021 |
| Fri | 26th Feb |  |  |  |

**March 2021**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 1st Mar | **CPG Meeting** | 3:00pm |  |
| Tue. | 2nd Mar |  |  |  |
| Wed. | 3rd Mar |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 4th Mar |  |  |  |
| Fri. | 5th Mar |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 8th Mar | **Council Meeting** | 3:30pm – 5:25pm | 22/2/2021 |
| Tue. | 9th Mar | ***Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee****Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 23/2/2021 |
| Wed. | 10th Mar | **Clondalkin Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 24/2/2021 |
| Thur. | 11th Mar |  |  |  |
| Fri | 12th Mar |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 15th Mar |  |  |  |
| Tue. | 16th Mar |  |  |  |
| Wed. | 17th Mar | **St. Patrick's Day** |  |  |
| Thur. | 18th Mar | **OP&F** | 3:30pm – 6:00pm | 3/3/2021 |
| Fri | 19th Mar |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 22nd Mar | **Tallaght Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 5/3/2021 |
| Tue. | 23rd Mar | **Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin** *Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 6/3/2021 |
| Wed. | 24th Mar |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 25th Mar |  |  |  |
| Fri | 26th Mar |  |  |  |

The Draft Calendar of Meetings Dates was APPROVED on the proposition of Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor E. O’Brien.

**H3b/0221 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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:**

b) Change of Membership on Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC and Housing SPC

**REPLY:**

The following report went to the January Organisation, Procedure & Finance Committee Meeting 21st January 2021:

Councillors William Carey and Derren Ó Brádaigh submitted a joint request to interchange their membership of the Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC and Housing SPC, respectively. The proposal as follows is for agreement by Members:

Councillor William Carey will move from the Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC to the Housing SPC.

Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh will move from the Housing SPC to the Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC.

It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor L. Dunne and **AGREED** that Councillor W. Carey be appointed to the **Housing SPC**.

It was proposed by Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor L. Dunne and **AGREED** that Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh be appointed to the **Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC**.

This is now before Council for approval.

The Change of Membership on Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC and Housing SPC was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor C. King and seconded by Councillor E. O’Brien.

### **H4/0221 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

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

### **H5/0221 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES**

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

**QUESTIONS**

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

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13, Questions numbered Q1 – Q23 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Carly Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the existence and management of invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed across the county. To ask where such species are located and how such species are managed and how successful this management is.

**REPLY:**

The Council's management programme to survey, map and treat locations of invasive species commenced in 2017 and continues to date. This involves the identification of locations where invasive species are present and then putting in place the surveying, mapping and treatment at the location concerned on an annual basis until such time as treatment is no longer required and monitoring can take over. Two staff members are assigned full time to the identification and treatment of invasive species.

The species identified include Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and Gunnera and there have been more than one of these invasive plant species found in some locations. Locations identified throughout the county include along rivers and streams, on public lands and in public parks, on roadside verges and in private property.

Control methods

Japanese Knotweed – foliar herbicide spray with follow up treatment until no regrowth is observed. Herbicide stem injection is used where plants are identified close to watercourses, next to private properties or where the growth is very well established.  Treatment by stem injection uses higher concentrations of the active ingredient than is used in foliar applications.  The Council’s interdepartmental approach attempts to curb the spread of Japanese Knotweed in particular, roadside verges are surveyed for presence of invasive species prior to the verge cutting programme taking place.

Giant Hogweed is harmful to human health as it produces sap that causes severe burns – in many instances safe removal of this plant type is the preferred control option, it is essential to remove the flower and seed heads in a safe manner and to avoid spread.  In some instances treatment by foliar herbicide spray is appropriate.

Himalayan Balsam – control is by hand pulling or strimming.

Gunnera – mainly found in wet, water logged areas. Control is by removal or foliar herbicide spray.

### **Q2/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Carly Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive whether there is a strategy in place in regards to management of the destruction of grass verges due to illegal parking? Are damaged verges inspected regularly and by whom? How are damaged verges repaired? What is the strategy to prevent illegal parking on grass verges that are repeatedly destroyed? It is clear that prevention will work better than enforcement. Can strategies be put in place if there is no set policy to deter this destruction, such as tree planting?

**REPLY:**

The Council's Parking Bye Laws are currently being reviewed and parking enforcement wardens enforce parking where it is not in line with the adopted Bye Laws. Where parking is taking place on grass verges the Council does not currently actively take enforcement action on these. If there are examples and locations where there is persistent parking on grass verges then please advise the Council and the Gardai and we can determine is specific local measures could be introduced. There is no regime for inspecting grass verges in the county. Verges are repaired by Road Maintenance as they carry out footpath repair works. Tree planting is looked after by the Public Realm Department. If there are particular locations where grass verges are damaged then please notify the Council of this and we can inspect it and determine what repairs work are needed.

### **Q3/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor William Joseph Carey**

To ask the chief executive, in light of the difficulties concerning private operators involved in providing kennelling and pound services, if consideration has been given for the establishment of a dog pound/cat and dogs home within this councils control. Is there funding available for such an undertaking and if so which dept and under what heading could this be considered?

**REPLY:**

The Invitation to Tender for the Provision of Dog Pound and Related Services for the South Dublin Administrative Area was published on etenders.gov.ie on the 4th of January 2021. The closing date for the receipt of tender submissions is the 10th February 2021. It is envisaged that the evalaution of tenders received will take place promptly after the closing date.

The sum of €472,300 is provided in the 2021 adopted annual budget for expenditure in respect of Control of Dogs activities, of which approximately €150,000 is provided for the provision of Dog Pound and Related Services.

The Council’s statutory function in relation to animal control does not extend to cats. However, a provision of €12,000 is made annually in the Revenue Budget for contributions to animal welfare agencies including those concerned with the welfare of cats.

### **Q4/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor William Joseph Carey**

To ask the chief executive to outline the process and estimated timeline for the securing and transferring properties from one tenancy to a new tenancy. Can the council provide the following information. • From date of surrender of property to the securing of property • From date of surrender to modification or presentation to new tenancy • To outline what common works may be entailed prior to the transfer of property to a new tenancy. • What are the specifications that are sought by SDCC prior to a new tenancy being allocated.

**REPLY:**

**Housing Refurbishment**- The average time taken to relet a dwelling from the surrender of property to the allocation to a new tenant (key to key) is currently at 19 weeks.

Refurbishment works differ greatly depending on the condition and age of the property. An electrical and mechanical safety survey of the unit is initially undertaken. This can result in a central heating upgrade/repairs and electrical works up to and including a full rewire depending on results of the electrical and mechanical inspection. Other works can include installation of new kitchen, bathroom upgrade, replacement of windows and doors, internal painting, internal joinery, and insulation. If required properties may also be specially adapted for those with a priority medical need.

In relation to securing the property, the majority of units would be secured on day of surrender however, there are some instances where this may not be required.

**Allocations** - Once the Allocations section are made aware of an arising vacancy, either a new property or a relet, the process of securing a tenant begins. The property may be advertised on Choice Based Letting or offered to an applicant with a priority need (medical/homeless).  Once an offer is accepted, an assessment is carried out in relation to the prospective tenant's housing need, income and Garda check etc.  Refusals of properties can delay the allocation of a property as the process has to be repeated each time. The Allocations section continues to review and streamline processes in order to ensure new tenancies are completed as soon as a property is ready for occupancy.

### **Q5/0221 QUESTIONS:** Councillor T. Costello

To ask the Chief Executive how many people have registered homeless in the county in the past 12 months, can I get a break down month by month.

**REPLY:**

 The following table shows the numbers registered homeless with South Dublin County Council for 2020.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **June** | **July**  | **Aug** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** |
| **Total Homeless Households** | **587** | **575** | **572** | **561** | **546** | **557** | **554** | **574** | **552** | **543** | **512** | **507** |
| Single Male | 279 | 280 | 281 | 279 | 273 | 277 | 274 | 283 | 271 | 265 | 257 | 256 |
| Single Female | 55 | 57 | 56 | 56 | 55 | 56 | 56 | 58 | 59 | 59 | 56 | 58 |
| Couples | 13 | 15 | 16 | 14 | 16 | 19 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 15 | 16 |
| Families | 240 | 223 | 219 | 212 | 202 | 205 | 205 | 215 | 204 | 201 | 184 | 177 |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |
| Total number of new households added to homeless register | 21 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 18 | 19 | 9 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 12 |

### **Q6/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive how many people have applied for HAP in 2020 and what is the wait time for submission of application to decision.

**REPLY:**

529 new applications for Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) were received in 2020 with 463 approved/completed during the year with an average time for processing applications of approximately five weeks currently.

Timeframes for processing HAP applications are largely determined by the various work processes agreed with the national HAP Shared Services centre hosted in Limerick County Council.  In particular it should be noted that HAP processing times in this Council generally reflect our approach whereby incomplete HAP applications are accepted to allow applicants to secure a HAP tenancy.  This approach relies on a commitment from applicants to follow up with relevant outstanding documentation from their landlord and/or themselves.

A review of all HAP communications information material sent to applicants will be completed once the imminent transition to the new Integrated Housing System is complete. This will improve the awareness of the need for required supporting documentation when submitting an application and will assist in the quicker approval of applications.

### **Q7/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the Chief Executive how many refusals of housing offers has there been YTD incl 2020.

**REPLY:**

A total of 71 applicants refused their first offer of housing in 2020.

Figures for 2021 will be included in quarterly Allocations reports provided to Area Committees.

### **Q8/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor K. Mahon**

Can the Chief Executive please update on the proposal that SDCC commemorate Dr Noel Browne? The proposal was brought on behalf of Mr James Dunne of Kilnamanagh with a short written presentation to the CPG arguing the relevance to SDCC on January 6th 2019. The idea was subsequently discussed at OP&F meetings where Councillors were advised it would revert to the relevant committee. I have attached the short presentation as submitted in January which was requested by the CPG.

[Amendment to Council Policy on Infrastructure Naming](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69146)
[Council Policy on Infrastructure Naming](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69145)

**REPLY:**

There has been no actions taken to date in advancing the proposal as attached.

The Council's policy on Infrastructure Naming was agreed in November 2016 and later amended. This policy provides the protocol for such proposals and is attached

There are three possible options outlined in the proposal as set out below and it is proposed that these could be introduce close to Peamount Hospital, including;

1. The naming of a road (or section of)
2. Erection of a plaque or stone at a significant viewing point in the public realm
3. Naming a roundabout outside Peamount Hospital

In line with the policy, these proposal will be validated in the first instance by the relevant Director of Service, in this case the DoS for Land Use Planning and Transport and will then be referred to the all party Infrastructure Naming Committee, chaired by the Mayor, for further consideration.

The policy provides that the committee will review requests quarterly or longer if not required. Accordingly a meeting of the committee will be convened in Q1/ 2021 to consider this proposals, and other proposals if ready for consideration.

It should also be noted that the policy also provides that evidence of consent from the family, descendants, community or group connected with the individual is required and it is not clear from the submission if this has been attained.

[Q8 (c) Recognising Dr. NoÃ«l Browne Note to CPG](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68500)

### **Q9/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief executive to provide a report in tabular form on the average waiting time on a social home from the standard housing list for 4 bed, 3 bed, 2 bed and 1 bed properties in total and broken down to North and South of the Naas Road.

**REPLY:**

The average waiting time, in years, to be housed is detailed below and is inclusive of priority allocations (medical, homeless, etc.).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **1 Bed** | **2 Bed** | **3 Bed** | **4 Bed** | **All** |
| **North** | 7.58 | 8.50 | 8.82 | 10.27 | 8.68 |
| **South** | 8.23 | 8.57 | 8.90 | 7.63 | 8.66 |
| **All** | 8.05 | 8.54 | 8.87 | 9.05 | 8.67 |

### **Q10/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief executive to provide a report on how many are on the RAS transfer list and the length of time it takes a RAS tenant to secure a RAS transfer when their housing needs change

**REPLY:**

RAS legislation came into effect in 2010 which changed the rules for social housing support, providing that anyone signed to the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) was considered to have their housing need met and their housing application was closed accordingly (this change was also effected the subsequent Allocations Scheme adopted by the Council on 13th June 2011.

Correspondence was issued to applicants who were on the RAS scheme prior to August 2010 providing an option of being included on a RAS Fixed Transfer List.  There are currently 93 remaining households on this RAS Fixed Transfer List and all are provided with access to Choice Based Letting.  In certain circumstances on a case by case basis these households are prioritised for immediate offers of accommodation but generally their stable nature of their tenure meets their current housing needs adequately.

RAS tenants who are not on the RAS Fixed Transfer List can apply for a transfer where their household need is not met by their current house, e.g. overcrowding or medical need with such RAS tenants placed on the transfer list for social housing where properties are allocated on a 'time on list' basis.

### **Q11/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief executive to provide a report in tabular form on how many applicants are on the social housing list for 4 bed, 3 bed, 2 bed and 1 bed properties in total and broken down to North and South of the Naas Road, inclusive of those on the HAP transfer list.

**REPLY:**

At 1st January 2021, there were 6,740 applicants on the Council’s social housing list.  The table below shows the respective areas of first preference (either North of Naas Road or South of Naas Road) for these applicants:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Housing List:****1st Area of Preference** | **1-Bed** | **2-Bed** | **3-Bed** | **4-Bed** | **Total** |
| North of Naas Road | 1,649 | 1,347 | 620 | 79 | 3,695 |
| South of Naas Road | 1,584 | 954 | 437 | 44 | 3,019 |
| **Totals** | 3,233 | 2,301 | 1,057 | 123 | 6,714 |

In addition, there are 4,398 current HAP tenants (comprising both standard HAP tenants and enhanced/homeless HAP tenants) with access to Choice Based Letting through the HAP transfer list.  These HAP tenants are not included in the assessment of housing needs as their housing need is met through the HAP tenancy.  The table below shows the respective areas of first preference (either North of Naas Road or South of Naas Road) on the HAP transfer list for these HAP tenants:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **HAP Transfer List:****1st Area of Preference** | **1-Bed** | **2-Bed** | **3-Bed** | **4-Bed** | **Total** |
| North of Naas Road | 423 | 1,338 | 668 | 56 | 2,485 |
| South of Naas Road | 309 | 1,096 | 479 | 29 | 1,913 |
| **Totals** | 732 | 2,434 | 1,147 | 85 | 4,398 |

### **Q12/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Eoin Ó Broin**

To ask the chief executive what department of SDCC or what external body e.g. TII are responsible for the maintenance (e.g. sweeping, removal of graffiti, painting of boundary between bikelane and footpath) of the cycle and pedestrian bridge over the N7 at the Red Cow, the ramps leading to the bridge and the section between the Red Cow Luas Terminal and the ramps? This piece of infrastructure traverses more than one LEA.

**REPLY:**

SDCC are responsible for the maintenance  of the cycletrack. The sweeping would be the responsibility of the Public Realm Dept.

The painting of lines would be the responsibility of Road Maintenance.

### **Q13/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive what further actions are planned in respect of Climate Change following the recent launch by Mayor Ed O'Brien of the first Climate Change Annual Report and will he make a statement

**REPLY:**

SDCC published its first Climate Change Annual Report highlighting the progress made on Climate Action since the CCAP 2019-2024 was launched. The Annual Report described how 91% of the 130 actions in the CCAP were either in progress or were complete. The report outlined how year on year improvements in energy efficiency measures helped the Council surpass its target of 33% improvement in Energy Efficiency by 2020, one year ahead of schedule.

The 2019 Energy Review identified the operations with the most significant energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. These operations will be addressed as a priority to further improve our performance and reach our targets. Operations include;

Public lighting is our single highest energy user and producer of GHG. An ongoing programme of replacement of SOX lanterns with more energy efficient LED units will progressively improve our annual performance.

Heating offices and facilities through burning fossil fuels (gas and oil) is our second highest energy consumer. Progressing the Tallaght District Heating project and connecting SDCC facilities to the scheme will allow us to cut our dependency on high carbon emitting energy sources.

Replacement of our fleet with electric/hybrid or low carbon alternatives will also reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Energy upgrades to our housing stock will continue in 2021. The works included loft and cavity wall insulation and ventilation improvements and brings houses from a D-E to a C1-B3 BER rating. This ongoing project was funded by the DHLGH and is expected to reach completion in 2021. Additional funding is anticipated from the DHLGH to deliver a programme of deeper retrofits of energy efficiency measures to Social Housing.

Work will continue across all functional areas of South Dublin in order to improve the Councils Energy Performance and to reduce Green House Gas emissions. Modal shift from private cars is an important aspect in this regard and work will continue in 2021 on the delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure to help citizens make the change to a more sustainable form of transport.

In accordance with the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP), work to help make the county more climate resilient continues. In December the Whitechurch Flood Alleviation Scheme was granted planning permission by An Bord Planeala. Enabling works will take place in February with construction on the scheme to commence in Q3 this year. We await approval from An Bord Planeala for the Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme and anticipate that subject to approval this scheme will also commence on site in 2021.

Engaging with Citizens and businesses is also a key action in the CCAP, and there are many projects currently progressing and planned for the year ahead. A Climate newsletter has just been published and this will be a regular part of our engagement work. The Climate page on the SDCC website is also being reviewed and update to help inform and update citizens of climate issues. Other specific issues such as engaging with Businesses in the area of sustainability will progress in 2021.

The CCAP Implementation Plan 2021 which will be presented at the February Council gives detail on all of the key action that will be progressed in 2021.

### **Q14/0221 QUESTIONS:** **Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he is monitoring the concerns about the level of water supplies in the County and will he update the members in the matter

**REPLY:**

Irish Water issued a press release on 12th January 2021 with an appeal to homes and businesses in the Greater Dublin Area to check for leaks as the cold weather in early January had led to a surge in demand for water.  They issued a further similar press release on 20th January as at that time there was a forecast for freezing temperatures and storage volumes in the region were only just recovering from the previous weather event.  The second forecast weather event did not cause the same level of bursts and leaks and water supply and storage levels have recovered.

SDCC area is a part of the Greater Dublin water supply, and is mainly supplied from regional water treatment plants at Ballymore-Eustace and Leixlip. Irish Water completed a project in 2020 to link the supplies from these 2 treatment plants via the reservoir at Peamount, with a new 1,200mm diameter watermain between Saggart and Peamount.  This project has assisted in our ability to move water within SDCC area and ensure continuity of supply.

Water Services staff from the regional LA's and Irish Water liaise and meet regularly to manage the water supply in the region, and through January there were 4 meetings to carefully manage the effects on the supply from the recent cold weather events.  SDCC Water Section dealt with and repaired a significant number of bursts over the period of the first weather event with 18 no. bursts repaired over 2 weeks.

Members are reminded that Irish Water have a Local Representative Support Desk.  This service desk can be contacted at localrepsupport@water.ie or at 1850 178 178.

### **Q15/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive  to confirm the number of emergency calls received during the recent Christmas period and will he detail issues raised and make a statement.

**REPLY:**

South Dublin maintenance crews are available to respond and standby crews respond and deal with any emergencies that occur outside normal working hours. Between 21/12/20 and 04/01/21 South Dublin County Council received 434 no. calls through the Council's Out of Hours & Emergency call service.

The calls received can be categorised under the following areas:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Burial Queries | 3 |
| Drainage | 33 |
| General | 60 |
| Housing | 287 |
| Parks | 17 |
| Roads | 13 |
| Water Services | 21 |
| **Total** | **434** |

**Drainage:**

The majority of calls related to issues with foul sewers being blocked or overflowing. These were rectified through Council jetter crews being deployed and the main pipelines in the public domain cleared. A small number of calls were in relation to minor surface water flooding.

**General:**

Many of these calls are not emergencies and are simply customers seeking advice from various sections of SDCC.

Other calls reporting alleged criminal or antisocial behaviour are forwarded on to An Garda Síochána, with homeless enquiries and requests for emergency accommodation referred to the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive, operated by Dublin City Council.

**Housing:**

The vast majority of calls logged were housing related. Calls consisted mainly of customers reporting problems with heating systems and other plumbing issues, which were forwarded to the relevant personnel or external agencies for attention. It should be noted that each call is counted including repeat calls from customers requesting status updates.

**Parks:**

One tree reported down in a housing estate, the remaining numbers are customers locked in parks after closing time. Security company contacted to unlock gates.

**Roads:**

Calls included traffic lights being out, or damaged- These are dealt with by SDCC’s Traffic Section, with assistance from An Garda Síochána, External electrical contractors and other SDCC departments if deemed necessary.

Fallen trees and flooding on roads are addressed by Road Maintenance operatives in a timely fashion, with input from the Drainage Section when necessary.

In addition to the customer calls, Road Maintenance carried out 17 no. gritting runs during this period.

**Water Services:**

Leaking or burst water mains, reported mainly from Irish Water, and rectified by Water Services operatives as soon as possible.

### **Q16/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he proposes to carry out a review of his current policy in respect of the annual challenge of bonfire season and will he appreciate the concerns regarding the huge costs to the Council regarding works associated with bonfire activities and will he make a statement

**REPLY:**

The Council has always recognised the difficulties that Halloween causes for many communities through the illegal burning of waste on Halloween bonfires, the damage to local amenities, and the threat to property and local services.  In line with previous years the Council will adopt a cross departmental approach, utilising the services of Public Realm, Waste Enforcement, Environmental Awareness, Library Service and Housing and Community Services Departments to prevent damage and promote the “Safe Halloween” message. The Council's response to Halloween in recent years has involved the following:

* Various awareness measures to highlight the dangers associated with bonfires and the harm done to the environment,
* Action by the Council's Environmental Licensing and Enforcement Section to deal with commercial premises and their obligations to properly store their waste including aerial surveys,
* The Public Realm response to remove stockpiles of bonfire materials will has already commenced and will continue through the month of October,
* Liaison with An Garda Siochana as already commenced, to exchange information regarding action being taken by them and by the Council in relation to stockpiling of bonfire materials and all related issues,
* Liaison with local residents groups who can help to identify the locations of material stockpiles,
* Implementation of the ‘bulbs not bonfires’ scheme,
* The Council has held a mattress 'amnesty' in recent years, which was successfully run by RecycleIT in 2020 where over 1,000 mattresses were collected despite the covid restrictions in place at that time.
* Recycle IT also operate mobile collections of household WEEE and these have been held prior to Halloween to divert those waste streams away from bonfires. We are also exploring possible other pilot schemes with Recycle IT, which could help contribute to the efforts to address the impact of Halloween each year.
* The social credits scheme will once again facilitate groups who are registered on the scheme with the disposal of materials at the Council's civic amenity site in Ballymount, and this will help to reduce the amount of materials being handed over for bonfires.

The situation regarding Covid 19 restrictions caused additional difficulties in 2020 whereby the Gardai and the Council's environmental awareness staff were unable to make visits to schools, it is uncertain at this time if this will continue to be the case in the run up to Halloween 2021  The promotion of a safe Halloween message relied on the use of social media in 2020 and this will continue to be an important aspect of getting the message across in relation to safety and environmental awareness.

The costs associated with the response to Halloween in 2020 were very similar to the costs incurred in 2019, the table below sets out the details for the past 3 years.   It should be noted that all costs have not yet been incurred, as reinstatement where required of damaged areas will not take place until March/April when ground conditions have improved.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| Waste removed prior to Halloween (tonnes) | 194 | 237 | 237 |
| Waste removed after Halloween | 301 | 348 | 355 |
| Total waste removed | 495 | 585 | 592 |
| Cost | €120,000 | €150,000 | €150,000 |
| Number of bonfires | 280 | 256 | 283 |

The Council's Public Realm Section will carry out a review as suggested of all issues relating to Halloween, the input and assistance of other departments who have a role in the matter will be sought at the time.

### **Q17/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail his proposals to continue to deal effectively with the housing/homelessness crisis in our County and in reporting will he confirm current figures and make a statement

**REPLY:**

At the start of 2021 there were 6,740 applicants on the Council's housing list of which 507 were registered with the Council as homeless.

The level of social housing need, and the added challenge of the applicants who are also homeless in the County as outlined above, continues to be a major challenge facing this Council and increasing housing supply is a primary solution.  We continue to increase housing supply with our social housing build, acquisition and leasing programmes including through Part V delivery and collaboration with Approved Housing Bodies.  Additional housing options are also provided through the RAS and HAP schemes.

In addition, proposals for significant housing delivery on large Council owned sites at Kilcarbery,  Killinarden, Belgard Square North, Clonburris and Rathcoole are progressing and will form a major part of future housing supply in the County.  Additional opportunities for further housing delivery continue to be explored where possible through existing landbank, possible land acquisition, turnkey house purchase etc.

The Council's target from DHLGH for new housing supply in 2021 is 598 homes across build, acquisitions and leasing but our ability to meet these targets will be impacted considerably due to the current Covid-related restrictions on all non-essential construction with only work on social housing projects with imminent completion dates in early 2021 allowed to continue.

### **Q18/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he would give assurance that the fire services available in the County are capable of dealing effectively with the challenge presented by the development of high rise apartments and will he make a statement

**REPLY:**

*'A Framework for Fire Safety in Ireland’ (KCS) was launched by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in 2013.  This document aims to provide a comprehensive, balanced strategy to ensure the safety of the public in their homes and other locations, as well as worker safety in providing emergency services.  KCS is about managing risk, addressing public safety improvement, incident reduction, response standards and service delivery structures for the decade ahead.*

*Keeping Communities Safe is an evidence-led plan, based on international best practice and with international expert validation.  This Framework underpins the basis of the response strategy by Dublin Fire Brigade for South Dublin. Taking cognisance of proposed future developments and planning strategies in South Dublin, including high-rise buildings,  Dublin Fire Brigade are currently reviewing fire cover capacity for South Dublin.*

### **Q19/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update on the South Dublin Community Response Forum. Can he confirm the supports offered by Community Call are on offer to those being asked to isolate or restrict their movements, and can the regional public health office be made aware that the supports under Community Call are on offer to those identified through test and trace as needing to isolate in their homes, and if he will make a statement on the matter

**REPLY:**

 The Community Call Helpdesk continues to operated 7 days a week which can be contacted by calling (freephone) 1800 240519.   The helplines is still active to this day. A significant reduction in calls was experienced in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2020 due to people adapting to the challenges of living with Covid 19.

Under the Governments Keep Well campaign “staying connected” South Dublin will continue to support the Helpline by sign posting it on South Dublin County Councils “ Keep Well webpage” and on social media. The Governments Keep Well Campaign is also promoted on National TV and media. South Dublin are proving a number of Initiatives under this campaign to Keep people Active, Creative and connected. Mental Health Information is also with supports from the HSE.

Working relationships have been strengthened between partner organisations through the forum. As part of the “staying Connected” element of the Keep Well campaign supports, information sharing and be-friending activities will be continued and expanded.

South Dublin are proactive in promoting the “Community Call” helpline services to those most isolated in the local Community. South Dublin are engaging with other stakeholders such as Alone’s befriending services, Aware , HSE, Community Garda, Meals on Wheels, Carers Support etc to ensure that those in the Vulnerable category are supported and are contacted.

### **Q20/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

To ask the Chief Executive to give an update on how many applications there has been to date for the Covid Temporary Furniture Street Licence and if those applications can be broken down in to electoral area and if he will make a statement on the matter

**REPLY:**

In support of the local economy South Dublin County Council introduced a Covid Temporary Street Furniture License in 2020.   The license is granted, free of charge, to suitable applicants who seek to provide tables and chairs outside their premises, where food is sold for consumption on the premises.

Two applications have been processed and approved for COVID Temporary Street Furniture Licences, both of which are in respect of premises in Rathfarnham village.

### **Q21/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

Can the Chief Executive give an update about Grange Castle Golf Course. What is the arrangement in terms of management of the course and is this due for renewal? Is the course being operated on "a pay and play" basis, including during level 3 restrictions, or do club members get priority? Can the feasibility of this course being a fully municipal facility in keeping with its original ethos be considered in terms of future plans and will the Chief Executive make a statement on the matter?

**REPLY:**

The concession for the operation of Grange Castle Golf Course (which consists of an 18 hole course and a 7 hole course) is now due for renewal and we are in the process of preparing tender documents for publication on the etenders portal. We anticipate that it will be advertised in February. The course is operated as "a pay and play" course and the course also hosts a Golf club whose members play on the course. Members can book tee times through the portal, however there are time slots retained within each hour for booking by 'visitors' who wish to play on a "pay and play" basis.

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 and therefore necessitate the provision of funding through the budgetary process.

### **Q22/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

To ask the Chief Executive Officer what are the rules if a tenant wishes to apply to have someone added as a joint tenant and if he will make a statement on the matter

**REPLY:**

A transfer of tenancy is the process whereby a tenant is either removed from, added to or changed on a tenancy. This can occur due to various scenarios including marriage, death, legal separation etc.

In the event of the death of a joint tenant, succession of tenancy is generally granted to the surviving tenant or tenants, subject to the terms of the Council’s Allocations Scheme and the submission of relevant documents.

In cases where the sole or joint tenants have passed away, tenancy of the dwelling may be granted to the next surviving member of the family subject to that person having:

* a social housing need suitable to the property size;
* been resident in the property and assessed for rent purposes for a defined period of time.

A joint tenancy may be granted where there are two or more surviving members of the family who meet the required criteria.

All transfer of tenancy applications are subject to a tenancy review covering rent account, estate management and other checks.

Succession to the tenancy will not be considered where the property has been designated as an Age Friendly Dwelling unless the applicant is the partner of the deceased tenant and meets the criteria above (and where the person applying for succession is eligible for Age Friendly housing in accordance with the Allocations Scheme).

### **Q23/0221 QUESTIONS: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

To ask if the Chief Executive Officer to give an update on all archives it has in relation to South Dublin County Council including minutes of meetings, lists of councillors, photographs etc. What steps are being taken to ensure that there is a historical record for researchers and have any steps been taken to digitize this record and if he will make a statement on the matter

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Record Management and Retention Policy sets out the minimum retention periods for which manual records must be retained in order to comply with administrative and legal requirements and also sets out the recommended periods for transfer to storage, archive and ultimate destruction where applicable.

As part of a records management system, vital records are identified and steps are taken to ensure that these records are retrievable in the event of a disaster. Within this Council, signed minutes of Council meetings have been identified as an example of such vital records, and as such are retained in hard copy bound format.

The Council liaises with the LGMA in relation to best practice on record management, and will adhere to best practice in relation to the digitisation of records.

### **H6/0221 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS - FOR APPROVAL**

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

### **H7/0221 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

### **H8/0221 MANAGERS REPORT** - **FOR NOTING**

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

[HI 8 a) Chief Executive Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/69188)

[HI 8 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68962)

HI 8 c) Finance Report





A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. Bailey, R. McMahon, E. Ó Broin, S. Moynihan, L. O’Toole, J. Tuffy and T. Costello in relation to the Naas Road planning framework, reporting of the LED public lighting programme, bicycle stands in schools, metrics in the compilation of housing voids, re-lets and planned maintenance, the possibility of providing printed copies of the monthly Manager’s Report for Councillors and at public buildings, the ‘Community Call’ programme and the new “Whatsapp” platform in relation to anti-social behaviour.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, responded to the Members’ queries and agreed that the reporting on the LED public lighting programme could be amended to reflect cumulative statistics, and that the provision of the Monthly report in public buildings could be considered and also a leaflet to promote the “Community Call”. He confirmed that a report on the new “Whatsapp” platform in relation to anti-social behaviour will be brought to each Area Committee.

The Reports were **NOTED**.

### **H9/0221 TAKING IN CHARGE CARRIGMORE ESTATE - FOR APPROVAL**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation and were **CONSIDERED**:

The following report was considered at the Tallaght Area Committee meeting of December19th, 2020.

“Statutory Notice has been given in the public press and on the Council’s Consultation Portal of the Council’s intention to consider the making of a Declaration that the Roads listed hereunder be public roads.  The Council also gave notice of its consideration of the Taking in Charge of open spaces, car parks, watermains or drains within the attendant ground of the development but excluding sewers(wastewater).

**Carrigmore Estate, Saggart.**

The closing date for receipt of objections/submissions was December 15th 2020. No submissions in were received through the Consultation Portal.

The Area Committee recommended at that December 2020 Tallaght Area Committee  meeting that the roads be declared Public Roads and that the open spaces, car parks, watermains or drains within the attendant ground of the development excluding the sewers(wastewater), be Taken in Charge.

It is now recommended that the roads be declared to be Public Roads and that the open spaces, car parks, watermains or drains within the attendant ground of the development but excluding sewers(wastewater), be Taken in Charge.

The recommendation of the Committee will be brought before the Council at its next meeting in February 2021.

It is now a matter for this Council to agree to the recommendation and the following resolution is required:

“That the Roads referred to in the attached schedule be and are hereby declared to be Public Roads, and that the open spaces, car parks, watermains or drains within the attendant ground of the development excluding the sewers (wastewater), be Taken in Charge”.

### [HI 9 (a) Carrigmore Estate Map](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68936)[HI 9 (b) Carrigmore Estate Schedule](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68937)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. King, A. Hayes, S. Moynihan, C. O’Connor, and P. Holohan congratulating Mr. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation and his team on all their hard work on this project and queried the schedule of estates to be taken in charge, Council maintenance prior to taking in charge, the estimated cost per house to the Council and resulting benefits to both residents and Council.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation responded to the Members queries regarding the process of taking estates in charge, the schedule for same and the progress being made in addressing issues.

It was proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien, seconded by Councillor C. King and **AGREED**:

“That the Roads referred to in the attached schedule be and are hereby declared to be Public Roads, and that the open spaces, car parks, watermains or drains within the attendant ground of the development excluding the sewers (wastewater), be Taken in Charge”.

### **H10/0221 ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN - FOR APPROVAL**

### 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**:

This Service Delivery Plan for 2021 is prepared in accordance with Section 134 (A) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, which requires that each local authority prepare a Service Delivery Plan for the coming year following the adoption of the budget. The plan sets out the principal services that the local authority intends to deliver in that year. It also includes performance improvement targets for local and/or national performance indicators as recommended by the National Oversight and Audit Commission. Once adopted, a visual representation of the service levels and targets of this plan will be published and posted to every household, school and business as has been done in previous years, as part of the citizens newsletter. It will also be promoted on the website and through social media.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan is now presented to the elected members for adoption.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. Ó Broin and L. O’Toole commending the in-depth report on the remit of the Council and queried the numbers on the Register of Electors since the issuing of the 2020 Annual Service Delivery Plan.

Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management responded to the Members queries on the electoral register and referenced the Voter.ie system in identifying duplication of electors across the Dublin region.

### [HI 10 (b) Draft ASDP 2021](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69028)

It was proposed by Councillor E O’Brien, seconded by Councillor E Ó Broin and **AGREED** that the Annual Service Delivery Plan 2021 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

### **H12/0221 ANNUAL 2021 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN - FOR NOTING**

### 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. (a) Draft CCAP Implementation Plan 2021](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69085)
[HI 12. (b) Climate Innovation Fund Update](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69082)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Kavanagh. L. Sinclair, R. McMahon, G. O’Connell, P. Holohan and C. O’Connor commending Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change and her team for all their hard work in preparing the report, and with queries on the Arthurstown Sustainable Energy Project and carbon emissions statistics going forward given the reduction in 2020 due to Covid19 restrictions.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the Members queries and thanked them for the positive feedback.

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H13/0221 PUBLIC REALM AND WATER SERVICES WORK PROGRAMMES 2021 - FOR NOTING**

### 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 PUBLIC REALM AND WATER SERVICES WORK PROGRAMMES 2021](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69118)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, C. King, P. Kavanagh, L. O’Toole, A. Hayes, and M. Johansson commending the report and her team for all their hard work in preparing the report. Queries were raised regarding a footpath in Cherrywood Crescent with a request that further information be brought to the Clondalkin Area Committee Meeting, an all-weather pitch for the Lucan area and pollinator plantings schemes for the Tallaght South area.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the members informing that a report will be brought to the Clondalkin Area Committee Meeting as requested and further provision of pollinator planting.

A further discussion took place with contributions from Councillors E Ó Broin, G. O’Connell, W. Carey, K. Mahon, T. Costello, C. Bailey, S. Fay, P. Holohan, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, C. O’Connor, E. O’Brien, and D. O’Donovan also commending the report and the work by staff and management further queries were raised regarding allotments, the Camac river, Whitestown stream and surrounding area, sewage pollution in the Dodder Valley park which falls under the remit of Irish Water.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the Members queries updating them on funding and plans for future works and future prevention and clean-up measures regarding the Dodder Valley sewerage system

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H14/0221 TYMON PARK INTERGENERATIONAL FACILITY UPDATE - FOR NOTING**

### 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**:

The SDCC capital budget has made provision of €1.29million for the provision of an Intergenerational Centre at Tymon Park.

This project has evolved from the original proposal for an active aged / age friendly facility at Templeogue House to the current proposed location at Tymon Park. SDCC’s Public Realm and the Community Depts have worked with the Architects Section to develop the concept and, after several options were considered, the preferred location chosen is the south-facing terrace at Tymon Park, adjacent to the pedestrian entrance and beside the car park at Wellington Road. This location has several advantages:

* The park is within walking distance of Templeogue village and other nearby centres.
* It allows the facility to be used independently of park opening / closing hours.
* It is a busy, high profile location in the park.
* There are a number of passive and active recreational facilities in the vicinity which complement the proposed Intergenerational Centre use.
* An existing car park is adjacent.

The current concept plan develops an idea of a multi-use facility that is adaptable to a variety of purposes. There are a number of larger function rooms in the surrounding area that cater for the demand for larger gatherings, so this facility is designed for use of small-medium sized groups that require a flexible space for community-type use. Examples of such uses are:

* Active aged / age friendly Groups
* Parent and baby/toddler Groups
* Friends of Tymon Park
* Tidy Town / Residents Groups
* Historical Societies
* Yoga / Pilates classes or keep-fit groups.
* Study Groups/ Grind classes
* Education groups
* Reading, Knitting, Bridge / other card or board games groups
* Grow It Yourself /Plant/Seed swops.
* Other small / medium community groups or meetings.

The proposed centre accommodates flexible-use both inside and outside the facility and the facilities within the park are also available to the centre users. The Intergenerational Centre provides a medium-sized, multi-functional community space; which is divided by a partition into 2 smaller, self-contained rooms if required; a coffee / tea shop with indoor and outdoor seating (that can also provide spill out space from the multi-functional community space) and an outdoor terrace which is sheltered by a canopy, which can provide space for outdoor cinema, outdoor performances, outdoor table games (chess, scrabble etc) etc. overlooking the existing lake.

The programming of events and use of the intergenerational centre will be under the management of the Council’s Community Services Department

The proposed Intergenerational Centre with its café makes the best of its parkland setting with a south facing terrace overlooking the lake. It will in turn enhance users experience and enjoyment of the park with its complementary facilities.

The landscape plan for the proposed facility ensures the building is integrated into the parkland setting; the landscape plan realigns the vehicular route; upgrading the walking route into the park from Wellington Road and providing an enhanced pedestrian entrance to the park; putting the emphasis on pedestrian / wheelchair access and as well as providing cycle parking. The plan also provides for compensatory planting and enhances the pollinator planting within the area. This planting area may be of interest to gardening / wildlife interest groups etc. who may wish to use the facility. The proposed green roof helps to integrate the facility into the parks landscape, provides an ecological habitat and enhances sustainable drainage.

The preliminary design for the project is currently being finalised and, once complete, it is intended to commence the Part 8 stage in Q1 2021.

### [HI 14(b) Tymon Park Intergenerational Facility Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69123)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. Bailey. C. King, P. Kearns, M. Duff, E. Murphy, R. McMahon, K. Mahon, L. McCrave, P. Kearns and E. Ó Broin welcoming the facility and commending the report with queries raised regarding parking, the operating of and access to the centre, and funding for the project. Councillor P. Kearns was also commended on her work in this regard.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the Members queries on the management of the facility and advised that a redesign of the car park can be considered as the project is at concept stage.

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H15/0221 COMMUNITY GRANTS - FOR NOTING**

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

Following the presentation to the Council at the July 2020 meeting on repurposing the Community Grant provision from the 2020 Annual Budget, a rolling online application process operated for the remainder of 2020 whereby community and voluntary groups responding to locally identified needs within their communities could apply for assistance from the Council under the following categories:

* Community Development Grants
* Sports Development Grants
* Community Centre Re-Opening Funding
* Community Events Funding
* COVID 19 Resilience Funding

149 applications were received and underwent a thorough assessment by the Community Development team under the following criteria:

* Impact on local community and local community involvement.
* Proven track record of project delivery and non-duplication of activities in the local area
* Sustainable &value for money projects with clear/accurate costings
* Existing funds available to the group/alternative funding sources.

Following this assessment process and having regard to the available budget 107 grants totalling €227,321.94 were approved for 76 local groups summarised as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **No** | **Amount** |
| Community Development Grants | 45 | €60,421.45 |
| COVID 19 Resilience Funding | 21 | €66,727.54 |
| Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | 15 | €37,441.95 |
| Community Events Funding | 5 | €6,250.00 |
| Sports Development Grants | 21 | €56,481.00 |
| **Total** | **107** | **€227,321.94** |

The final list of approved groups together with their respective approved grant amounts is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Grant(s)** | **Amount** |
| Acquired Brain Injury Ireland | Community Development Grant & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,383.99 |
| Adamstown Youth & Community Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €1,032.00 |
| Ballyowen Castle Youth & Community Centre | Community Development Grant & Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €1,402.25 |
| Bawnogue Youth & Community Centre | Community Development Grant, Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & Community Events Funding | €8,140.00 |
| Beechpark Football Club | Sports Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Blood Bikes East CLG | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €1,000.00 |
| CARP Killinarden Ltd | Community Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Castle Park Residents Assoc Clondalkin | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Cherryfield Residents Assoc | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Clondalkin Celtic FC. | Sports Development Grant | €4,999.00 |
| Clondalkin Cricket Club | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Clondalkin Drama Group | Community Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Clondalkin Global Garden | Community Development Grants | €1,000.00 |
| Clondalkin Leisure Centre | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Clondalkin Rugby Club | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Clondalkin Women's Network | Community Development Grant | €799.00 |
| Dominic's Active Men's Social | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Dublin & Wicklow Mountain Rescue | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Eanna Basketball club | COVID 19 Resilience Funding & Sports Development Grant | €7,650.00 |
| Eblana Beekeeping Assoc | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Esker Amateur Boxing Club | Sports Development Grant | €1,999.00 |
| Esker Celtic Football Club | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €500.00 |
| Esker Meadow Residents Assoc | Community Development Grants | €943.00 |
| Esker Woods Residents Assoc | Community Development Grants | €1,00.00 |
| Firhouse Community & Leisure Club Ltd | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €4,177.97 |
| From Lads to Dads | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €1,650.00 |
| Glenasmole Community Assoc | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €543.00 |
| Greenhills Boys FC | Sports Development Grant | €1,500.00 |
| Irish Girl Guides | Community Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Jobstown Community & Youth Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & Community Development Grant | €1,158.28 |
| Killinarden Community Council | Community Development Grants, Community Centre Re-Opening Funding, Community Events Funding & Sports Development Grant | €9,109.00 |
| Killinarden Family Resource Centre | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Kilnamanagh AFC | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Kingswood Community and Leisure Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & Community Development Grant | €3,029.03 |
| Kingswood Football Club | Sports Development Grant | €1,800.00 |
| Knocklyon Men's Shed | Community Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Knockmitten Youth and Community Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & Community Development Grants | €6,068.00 |
| Lucan Festival | Community Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Lucan Leisure Centre | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Lucan South (180th) Scout Group | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Lucan United Football Club | COVID 19 Resilience Funding & Sports Development Grant | €5,421.00 |
| Millrace Residents Committee | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Newcastle Lyons Development Trust | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €2,530.23 |
| Oakdale Residents Assoc | Community Development Grant | €300.00 |
| Order of Malta Palmerstown Unit | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Palmerstown Camera Club | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Peamount United | Community Development Grant & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €3,100.00 |
| Perrystown Manor Estate Residents Assoc | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €1,835.00 |
| Quarryvale Community and Leisure Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding | €1,000.00 |
| Quarryvale Family Resource Centre Craft & Creat Group | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Rathcoole Athletics Club | Sports Development Grant | €1,062.00 |
| Retired Active Men's Social (RAMs) | Community Events Funding | €950.00 |
| Robert Emmets GAA Club | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Rowlagh Women's Group | Community Development Grant & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,690.00 |
| Sacred Heart Boxing Club | Sports Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Serve the City Ireland CLG | Community Development Grants | €1,969.19 |
| Society of Survivors | Community Development Grants | €1,300.00 |
| St .Francis Football Club | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| St Kevins/ KIllians GAA Club | Sports Development Grant | €1,600.00 |
| St Mary's GFC Saggart | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| St. Finian's GAA Club Newcastle | COVID 19 Resilience Funding & Sports Development Grants | €3,200.00 |
| St. Joseph's Pipe Band | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €3,200.00 |
| St. Kevin's Family Resource Centre | Community Development Grant & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €7,000.00 |
| St. Marks Youth Club | Community Development Grant | €2,764.08 |
| Tallaght Community Arts | Community Events Funding | €3,000.00 |
| Tallaght Leisure Centre | COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €5,000.00 |
| Tallaght Marching Band | Community Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| The Park Community Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & Community Development Grant | €4,702.13 |
| The Rights Platform | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| The WEB Project | Community Events Funding, Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €9,654.55 |
| Thomas Davis GAA Club | Sports Development Grant | €5,000.00 |
| Wanderers Gaa Club, Ballyboden | Sports Development Grant | €2,000.00 |
| Westbourne Community Group | Community Development Grant | €500.00 |
| Whitechurch Community and Youth Centre | Community Centre Re-Opening Funding & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €6,763.74 |
| Willbrook Lawn Residents Assoc | Community Development Grant | €396.50 |
| Women Together Tallaght Network | Community Development Grant & COVID 19 Resilience Funding | €4,000.00 |

The 2021 Community Grants programme will be discussed at the next Social, Community and Equality SPC and the Members will be updated in due course on the timetable for same.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, L. O’Toole, C. King, B. Lawlor, P. Kavanagh, E. Murphy, and P. Holohan who welcomed the report and commended Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social & Community Development, and his team for all their hard work. A query was raised regarding qualifying criteria for a community grant.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social & Community Development responded to the Members query and advised he would pass on comments to staff.

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **C1/0221 CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) [Correspondence dated 12th January 2021 from the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69055)

[(b) Correspondence dated 7th January 2021 from Wexford County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69056)

[(c) Correspondence dated 12th January 2021 from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69057)

[(d)i) Correspondence dated 26th January 2021 from Galway County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69058)
[(d)ii) Agri Kids presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=69059)

The Correspondence was **NOTED**.

**SM01/0221** The following Suspensory Motion in the names of Councillors P. Kavanagh, L. Donaghy, C. O’Byrne, L. Sinclair, C. O’Connor, P. Kearns, C. King, W. Carey, D. Ó Brádaigh, L. Dunne, G. O’Connell, E. Murphy, C. Bailey, T. Costello, L. O’Toole, Y. Collins, R. McMahon, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, M. Duff, S. Fay, P. Gogarty, K. Mahon. A. Edge, F. Timmons, E. Ó Broin, D. Richardson and P. Holohan.

 Councillor B. Lawlor spoke against the motion on behalf of the Fine Gael party.

 *“*This County Council agrees to write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment that international trade agreements, such as Comprehensive and Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) providing a right to multinational corporations to take recourse against the State outside of ordinary legal systems, should be fully and properly scrutinised by a Joint Oireachtas Committee before any Dáil vote on ratification.”

The Motion was **AGREED**.

**Mayors Business**

In accordance with **Standing Order No. 13** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to vary the sequence of business and to take Motion 7 **(M7**) and Motion 12 **(M12)** (of similar subject matter) in tandem with Motion 1 **(M1).**

### **M1/0221 TREATMENT OF ANIMALS**

### **It was proposed by Councillor E. O'Brien and seconded by Councillor** **T. Costello**

That the Chief Executive make a statement on the policy of this County Council in relation to the treatment of animals in our care and what steps if any can be taken to inform future policies in this regard.

**REPORT:**

South Dublin County Council has a statutory requirement under the Control of Horses Act and the Control of Dogs Act.

**CONTROL OF HORSES**

Under the Control of Horses Act, 1996, all local authorities are responsible for the control of horses in their areas. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, South Dublin County Council's Control of Horses Byelaws, 2014 were made on 10th February 2014 and implemented with effect from 12th March 2014. These Byelaws are actively enforced and provide the Council with tools to deal with issues which impact negatively on communities and animals alike.

The legislation associated with the Control of Horses Act 1996 is currently under review at Central Government level, following this review and any subsequent amendments to this legislation which ensue, a review of the Council's Control of Horse Bye laws will be then carried out.

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

South Dublin County Council has a proven track record in the effective management of this service and works closely with the DSPCA in monitoring horses from an animal welfare perspective within South Dublin County.

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

Statistics in relation to horse seizures nationally are available from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine through the following link: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/animalhealthwelfare/animalwelfare/controlofhorses/>

The Dublin Region Horse Welfare Working Group was established by South Dublin County Council in August 2017 in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine; Dublin City Council; Fingal County Council; Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and An Garda Síochána. The group was established to develop a concerted collaborative programme aimed at promoting and facilitating responsible horse ownership across the Dublin region.

The membership of the group includes:

Dublin Local Authorities: South Dublin County, Dublin City, Fingal County & Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County.

Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine

An Garda Síochána

DSPCA

Fettercairn Youth Horse Project

Clondalkin Equine Club

Traveller Development Groups

UCD Veterinary Services

The group meets regularly, with the most recent meeting held on 21st January 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for the 18th March 2021.

The work of the group includes:

Improving Animal Welfare through increased liaison with key stakeholders

Increasing education and awareness through planned programmes delivered at equestrian centres

Minimising indiscriminate breeding through regulated supervised castration programmes

South Dublin County Council receives subvention from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) for its the delivery of the service under the Control of Horses Act 1996, specifically in relation to the cost of seizures. The sum of €269,200.00 is provided in the adopted annual budget for the administration and management of the service in South Dublin County in 2021.

**Ballyowen Equine Centre:**

The facility was developed by South Dublin County Council in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine (DAFM) and Clondalkin Equine Club in order to address the keeping of horses in an unregulated and uncontrolled manner resulting in serious animal welfare and public safety issues which were a cause of concern for both the Council, Gardaí, central government and the communities of these areas. The facility, which opened in January 2017 gives young horse owners the opportunity to take responsibility and care for their animals in a safe environment.

South Dublin County Council continues to support the facility, which is currently occupied by Clondalkin Equine Club under licence.

**CONTROL OF DOGS**

South Dublin County Council employs two full time Dog Wardens. Ashton Dog Pound and Warden Service currently provides the Council with a Dog Pound Service.

The Control of Dogs Act 1986, Section 15(2) provides for the establishment and maintenance of "one or more shelters for dogs seized, accepted or detained under any of the provisions of this Act" and authorises the local authority to "enter into arrangements with any person for the provision and maintenance of such shelters and for the exercise by such person of the functions of the local authority under this Act, in respect of the acceptance, detention, disposal and destruction of stray and unwanted dogs"

The existing contract continues to be monitored and reviewed as part of contract management and oversight. Policies and procedures are regularly reviewed, including those relating to animal welfare matters

The contract provides for services to South Dublin County Council including:

Acceptance of surrendered dogs

Managing reclaims

Rehoming in accordance with policy

Monthly reports to SDCC

Notify Dog Warden of surrendered or seized dogs detained by Gardaí

Access for Council representatives at any time

The pound is regularly inspected by Council staff. In addition, the Council’s veterinary Inspectors carry out regular unannounced inspections, at least monthly. As part of these inspections, arrangements in place for the welfare of the dogs including accommodation, nutrition, veterinary care, and exercise are regularly reviewed and discussed with pound management. Improvements to the facilities have been carried out during the current contract and have been documented.

Ashton Pound Service has an excellent working relationship with the DSPCA, and any dogs taken into the Pound which require veterinary care are treated by the DSPCA. 24-hour access to veterinary care is provided for all dogs in the Pound. The pound operator works with the public and several rescue groups to achieve a high level of rehoming. In 2019 94% of stray, abandoned or unwanted dogs from the South Dublin Administrative Area were either reclaimed by their owner or rehomed.

Ongoing training for Pound staff and Council staff is provided through several sources including attending training seminars and conferences arranged by the Department of Agriculture & Department of Rural and Community Development with updates on legislative changes and through liaison with other Local Authorities Dog Warden services.

The sum of €472,300 is provided in the 2021 adopted annual budget for expenditure in respect of Control of Dogs activities, of which approximately €150,000 is provided for the provision of the pound services.

The Invitation to Tender for the Provision of Dog Pound and Related Services for the South Dublin Administrative Area was published on etenders.gov.ie on the 4th of January 2021. The closing date for the receipt of tender submissions is the 10th February 2021. It is envisaged that the evaluation of tenders received will take place promptly after the closing date.

### **M7/0221 It was proposed by Councillor A. Edge and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons**

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.

**REPORT:**

The Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 applies to all premises, with the exception of local authority dog pounds, at which 6 or more female dogs which are more than 6 months old and are capable of being used for breeding purpose are kept. The Act therefore applies to rescues/shelters that house dogs, boarding kennels, as well as to dog breeding establishments that meet the criteria. Guidelines, in the form of the Dog Breeding Establishment Guidelines of July 2018, already exist for such establishments. The Dog Breeding Establishments Act is enforced by local authorities.

Guidelines for tenderers for Dog Pound services are provided by way of a specification in the tender documents. In drawing up the specification for the tender for Dog Pound services, South Dublin County Council has regard to and has considered the Dog Breeding Establishment Guidelines of July 2018, the standards of the Association of Dogs and Cats Homes (UK based) and the Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters (The Association of Shelter Veterinarians, 2010).

The documentation for the Invitation to Tender for the Provisions of Dog Pound and Related Services for the South Dublin Administrative Area has been published on eTenders.ie on the 4th January 2021 and the tenders are due to be returned by 10th February.

### **M12/0221 It was proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons**

That this council commits to work with all the Dublin local authorities to engage in a joint project initiative to fund a singular dog pound to service the greater Dublin area with care of all animals within this new facility to fall under the responsibility of the local authority or to contract this out to a reputable animal welfare organisation.

**REPORT:**

The Invitation to Tender for the Provision of Dog Pound and Related Services for the South Dublin Administrative Area was published on etenders.gov.ie on the 4th of January 2021. The closing date for the receipt of tender submissions is the 10th February 2021. It is envisaged that the evalaution of tenders received will take place promptly after the closing date.

The sum of €472,300 is provided in the 2021 adopted annual budget for expenditure in respect of Control of Dogs activities, of which approximately €150,000 is provided for the provision of Dog Pound and Related Services.

There is no provision in the SDCC 2021 - 2023 Capital Programme for the proposed project.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors A. Edge, D. O Brádaigh, M. Johansson, G. O’Connell, T. Costello, C. Bailey, R. McMahon, D. McManus, C. O’Connor, L. Sinclair, Y. Collins, W. Carey, P. Kearns, C. King, L. McCrave, M. Duff, P. Gogarty, K. Mahony and F. Timmons.

All Councillors spoke in support of the Motions and raised queries in relation to the current contract, the new tender in progress, minimum standard and guidelines regarding animal welfare, if an update on the current Garda investigation is possible, the budget provided for the Control of dogs, and liaison with the other Dublin Local Authorities regarding an alternative model for dog pounds.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water & Climate Change responded to the Members queries on the tender process and the current service standards and the Council’s monitoring of these. She advised that she had no update on the Garda investigation and therefore could not comment.

The Motions were **AGREED**.

In accordance with **Standing Order No. 13** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to vary the sequence of business and to take Motion 11 **(M11)** (of similar subject matter) in tandem with Motion 2 **(M2).**

### **M2/0221 FAIRTRADE COUNTY**

### **It was proposed by Councillor E. O'Brien and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons**

Noting the success of this Council's adoption of Clondalkin as a Fairtrade town, this Council agrees to explore the expansion of the idea to create Ireland's first Fair Trade County and notes the ongoing endeavours of Clonburris National School in this regard

**REPORT:**

As indicated in previous reports on the Fairtrade movement the heart of this concept is the role of local business and community involvement, particularly at Town level. Chambers of Commerce are also referenced in the Fairtrade Ireland guidance.

It would appear that the achievement of Fairtrade status involves a series of steps which is rooted in the 'bottom up' approach, including bringing together local traders, community groups and other interested parties in a Fairtrade group. While the promotion of the selling of Fairtrade goods is the most public of activities arising from this proposal, this needs to be based on the foundation of a local Fairtrade group (including schools, young people, churches, local businesses and local action groups), that promotes and seeks to persuade both the wider community and traders of the merits of pursuing Fairtrade status.

The core of Fairtrade is the promotion of business operating fair trade retailing coupled with community involvement at a local level.

Having noted the above, should the Motion be passed contact will be made with Fairtrade Ireland and the South Dublin Chamber in terms of meeting the requirements set out in the Fairtrade Ireland guidance.

### **M11/0221 It was proposed by Councillor Peter Kavanagh and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons**

This council congratulates Clonburris National School on their efforts to develop fair trade in the county and agrees to follow Clondalkin's example as a Fairtrade Town in making South Dublin a Fairtrade County.

**REPORT:**

As indicated in previous reports on the Fairtrade movement the heart of this concept is the role of local business and community involvement, particularly at Town level. Chambers of Commerce are also referenced in the Fairtrade Ireland guidance.

It would appear that the achievement of Fairtrade status involves a series of steps which is rooted in the 'bottom up' approach, including bringing together local traders, community groups and other interested parties in a Fairtrade group. While the promotion of the selling of Fairtrade goods is the most public of activities arising from this proposal, this needs to be based on the foundation of a local Fairtrade group (including schools, young people, churches, local businesses and local action groups), that promotes and seeks to persuade both the wider community and traders of the merits of pursuing Fairtrade status.

The core of Fairtrade is the promotion of business operating fair trade retailing coupled with community involvement at a local level.

Having noted the above, should the Motion be passed contact will be made with Fairtrade Ireland and the South Dublin Chamber in terms of meeting the requirements set out in the Fairtrade Ireland guidance.

Councillors E. O’Brien and Councillor P. Kavanagh spoke on their motions.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, G. O’Connell, C. King, P. Holohan, A. Edge, E. Murphy, P. Kearns, and L. Sinclair who spoke in support of the motion, Councillor C. King also supported the motion and queried if FairTrade would also include the lands in Palestine.

At this point it was **AGREED** by the Members to suspend Standing Order Number 5 and extend the meeting by 5 minutes to conclude the Motion.

Councillors S. Fay and K. Mahon contributed to the discussion querying support of the motion, outlining issues within Ireland regarding poverty and trade union recognition.

Mr. F. Nevin, Director of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism Development respond to the Members informing that if the Motion were passed then South Dublin County Council would commence engagement with the South Dublin Chamber and FairTrade Ireland.

The Motions were **AGREED**.

### **M3/0221 Councillor E. Ó Broin proposed and Councillor P. Kavanagh seconded that Motion 3 be MOVED without debate.**

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.

**REPORT:**

The Planning Authority does apply planning conditions to development, where appropriate, seeking the provision of a construction management plan (CMP), which requires the developer to provide information demonstrating how parking will be managed for the construction of the development.

On most out of town centre development, developers tend to be good at providing such employee parking on or adjacent to site.

The CMP is also expected to address car sharing and other mobility options in order to cut down on single occupancy vehicles where car sharing is possible.

In certain town centre sites, and this happens in all urban areas, where an infill development is taking place, on curtilage employee parking is not possible. Some developers can successfully rent some local unused hardstanding for employee parking or park on private car parks.

In a small number of cases where all the above has been exhausted, on street parking will be necessary for a number of vehicles during working hours.

SDCC will continue to minimise this impact by applying appropriate planning conditions and seeking detailed TMP's that are specific on parking locations.

For the record, incidental car parking on public roads by vehicles that is in line with our Parking Bye Laws is acceptable and cannot be enforced against. Where such parking is not in line with the Parking Bye Laws then parking enforcement action can be taken.

Meeting Finished @ 19.06.

**Items Not Reached**

### **(M4) 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?

### **(M5) 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

.

### **(M6) 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.”

### **(M8) 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.

### **(M9) TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVIDERS**

### **Councillor P. 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.

[M9 (b) (i) Image 1](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68918)
[M9 (b) (ii) Image 2](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68919)
[M9 (b) (iii) Image 3](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68920)

### **(M10) ECO GRAVEYARD**

### **Councillor C. Bailey**

That the Chief Executive will engage in a feasibility study to look into the provision of an eco-graveyard to be established within the County. There is significant demand for not only a non-religious graveyard but also a natural burial ground that would act to develop native Woodland and wildflower meadows.

### **(M13) ALLOTMENTS**

### **Councillor P. Gogarty**

That the Chief Executive reports on the number of allotments currently managed by the Council, listed in terms of geographic area, numbers of plots and waiting lists associated with each site; Under takes to provide and outlines the timescale for additional allotments in recognised population centres that do not already have them (Eg North Clondalkin, Lucan/Adamstown, The 4 Districts), especially where there are large numbers of housing units with no gardens or smaller gardens than traditional housing; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

### **(M14) PRESERVATION OF OLD STONE WALLS**

### **Councillor J. Tuffy**

That steps will be taken to record old stone walls in the County, particularly old stone walls that feature in our villages are part of the landscape of villages, and to have a plan in relation to the preservation of old stone walls in the county.

### **(M15) CASUAL STREET-TRADERS LICENCE**

### **Councillor W. Carey**

That this council agrees that in response to the trading restrictions imposed by government, that holders of casual street-traders licence should be offered reduced fees of 50% or more for the coming year. This motion takes cognisance of the fact that Dublin City council have already agreed to such a measure and this motion is also considered, in light of, the council's response to question 6 at Council meeting Jan11th 2021. Also, that such measures remain in place whilst trading restrictions are imposed by government and that the council seek a similar response from government on behalf of licence holders as those business that have been compensated by way of rates waiver.

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

Mayor

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