



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

December 2021

Chief Executive's Report

Corkagh Park

About the Chief Executive's Report

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

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

Contents



04 LUPT

Highlights from Land Use Planning and Transportation.



06 Housing Social and Community Development



08 Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

22

Statistics Report



24

Finance Report

25

Images of the Month

Features

14 Visit of Minister English

Minister Damien English TD, visited the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) in November.

16 Local Government Awards

The Council won two awards at the recent Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards.

18 Green Flag Awards

The Council has been awarded five Green Flags by An Taisce for our parks.

20 Council Focus

A look at the recently adopted Budget 2022.



10 Corporate Performance and Change Management



12 Environment, Water and Climate Change



Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Built Heritage Scheme

It was another very successful year for grant projects being funded under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2021. The BHIS is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is administered by the Council's Architectural Conservation Officer.

The allocation for the Council under the scheme for 2021 was €72,000 which saw an increase of €12,000 from the allocation provided in 2020. South Dublin County Council invited owners of Protected Structures and buildings within Architectural Conservation Areas to apply for funding during January 2021. Seven projects under BHIS have been completed with two properties in Architectural Conservation Areas being provided funding towards conservation repairs and reinstatement of architectural features. The total cost of the works completed under BHIS projects for 2021 amounted to €171,511.18 with €99,511.18 in private leveraged funds.



Parking Bye-Laws

The South Dublin County Council (Control of Parking) Bye-Laws 2021 were made by resolution of the Council in May 2021. These provide revised locations for paid parking and standardise hourly rates and times. In addition to already established Pay and Display locations, new areas have also been created as set out in the agreed Parking Bye-Laws in Clondalkin, Palmers-town, Rathfarnham and Tallaght.

Wellington Lane Cycling and Walking Scheme

The Council is launching a final phase of non-statutory consultation for the Wellington Lane scheme. The consultation will run during December and January and the information in the public domain will consist of a virtual consultation room and includes an animated fly-through of the proposed scheme, the options report and drawings.

Information will also be placed out on the street to ensure local people are fully aware of the consultation and have the chance to feed into the process. The scheme, which extends west of the Spawell Roundabout and runs along Wellington Lane, Wellington Road and

Whitehall Road, terminating at the Kimmage Road West junction. The route includes key links for pedestrians and cyclists to the primary schools located along Rossmore Road and Limekiln Road. The primary objectives of the overall scheme are:

- Provide improved cycle and pedestrian facilities along the route,
- Enhance connectivity for the surrounding residential developments to key trip attractors,
- Improve modal shift for walking and cycling within the area for all users.

The informal consultation will allow the Council to finalise a final design to progress a Part 8 planning application.



BusConnects Phase 2

Brand new bus links have been introduced around Adamstown Station, Hazelhatch Station, Lucan, Leixlip and Celbridge. BusConnects Phase 2 went live on 28 November 2021 and is introducing several new local routes which will significantly increase bus coverage serving more areas, with better frequency. The C-spine routes are very frequent routes made up of individual bus services that are timetabled to work together linking several villages and towns with the city centre. You can find more details on these routes on the Transport For Ireland website.



Phase 2 of BusConnects has launched.

Housing, Social and Community Development



New Traveller Accommodation

Proposals for the construction of a new Traveller-specific housing development at Fonthill Road were presented to the Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin Area Committee in November.

The innovative development will comprise seven new 'A' rated energy-efficient homes with five four-bedroom and two three-bedroom two-storey houses including a dedicated play space for children and is being progressed under the Council's current Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024.

The Part 8 planning application will be published in December and with the opportunity for public consultation and submissions up to the end of January in respect of the proposals submissions which will be available at County Hall, Tallaght, Civic Offices, Clondalkin and online on the Council's Consultation Portal.



Social Inclusion Festival

Mayor Peter Kavanagh virtually launched the sixteenth Social Inclusion Festival "Staying Connected" which ran from 15 – 21 November with more than 75 online/live events taking place over the week. Highlights of the week included a Family Fun Day at Café Aon Scéal, Anti-Racism Talks from Black and Irish, film workshops for young people with Down syndrome and an LGBT+ film night amongst more.

Council Call for Proposals for Uncommenced Residential Developments

South Dublin County Council, along with various other local authorities, are seeking to enter into advance purchase arrangements to secure turnkey homes, in particular, for affordable housing within developments ranging from 10 to 150 homes in size. Homebuilders and housing developers are being asked to consider offering homes (houses or apartments) with planning permission, where construction has not yet commenced, to local authorities under an advance purchase turnkey arrangement.

This call, under the government's Housing for All plan, seeks to support accelerated delivery of hous-

ing especially to provide affordable homes for eligible applicants in South Dublin with such homes supporting the Council's Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026. The Council may enter into an advance purchase agreement for any homes offered or agree to the direct sale of homes by the developer to an eligible purchaser nominated by the Council while joint venture arrangements that include an Approved Housing Body (AHB) will also be considered.

More details, including an expression of interest form, are available on www.sdcc.ie.



Council Call Out

The Council are seeking to enter into advance purchase arrangements to secure turnkey homes

Deerpark Centre

On Tuesday 16 November, Mayor Peter Kavanagh officially re-opened the Deerpark Community Centre in Deerpark Estate, Tallaght following refurbishment and upgrade works jointly funded by Circle Voluntary Housing Association and the Council. The refurbished facility provides residents with the opportunity to be more involved in the management of their living and social environment with a local meeting place as well as dedicated space for Foróige Tallaght Youth Services to support local youth development work as well as educational and other activities for young people.



Deerpark Community Centre has been officially re-opened.

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development



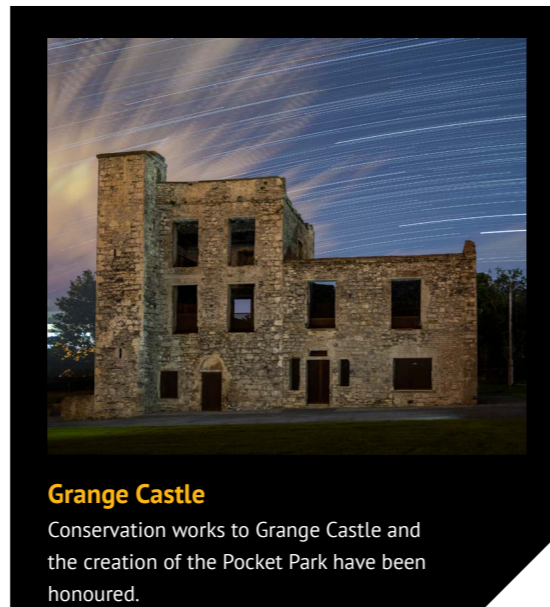
Grange Castle Conservation and Pocket Park Development Wins CEF Construction Excellence Award 2021

The works undertaken on the Grange Castle Conservation and associated Pocket Park development have been recognised with a Construction Excellence Award 2021.

The aims of the project were to conserve and stabilise the condition of the Grange Castle historic building, and to improve the presentation of its site so that the Castle can be visited by members of the public and be positioned within a new park setting which will benefit both the client companies and their employees working within the Business Park, and the

wider community. The pocket park of approximately six acres includes new tree and grassland planting, new walkways, and landscape features.

The Park and Castle are within walking distance of the Grand Canal to the North, with well-used cycle paths and restored towpaths. The development was funded by South Dublin County Council in full and is considered a great example of a conservation project, along with the new Pocket Park, that provides a strong sense of place and highlights the historic features and views of the Castle with the existing and developing modern Grange Castle Business Park.



Grange Castle

Conservation works to Grange Castle and the creation of the Pocket Park have been honoured.

Chamber Square Funding

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media has announced funding of €250,000 towards the adaption of Chamber Square, Tallaght, to enable year-round public engagement in cultural events and activities. The elements proposed will enhance the entrance to Chamber Square as an outdoor venue, with the introduction of a digital information totem, a bespoke piece of public furniture, feature light and new paving.

The underground elements of data cabling and power will facilitate a wider range of activity and flexibility than is currently possible, ranging from small scale intimate events to larger craft fairs, festival activities and art installations, while still allowing incidental usage and play. A fixed sheltered tower for projection, sound and light will decrease the costs of producing events in Chamber Square making it a more attractive venue for professional, amateur and individual producers.

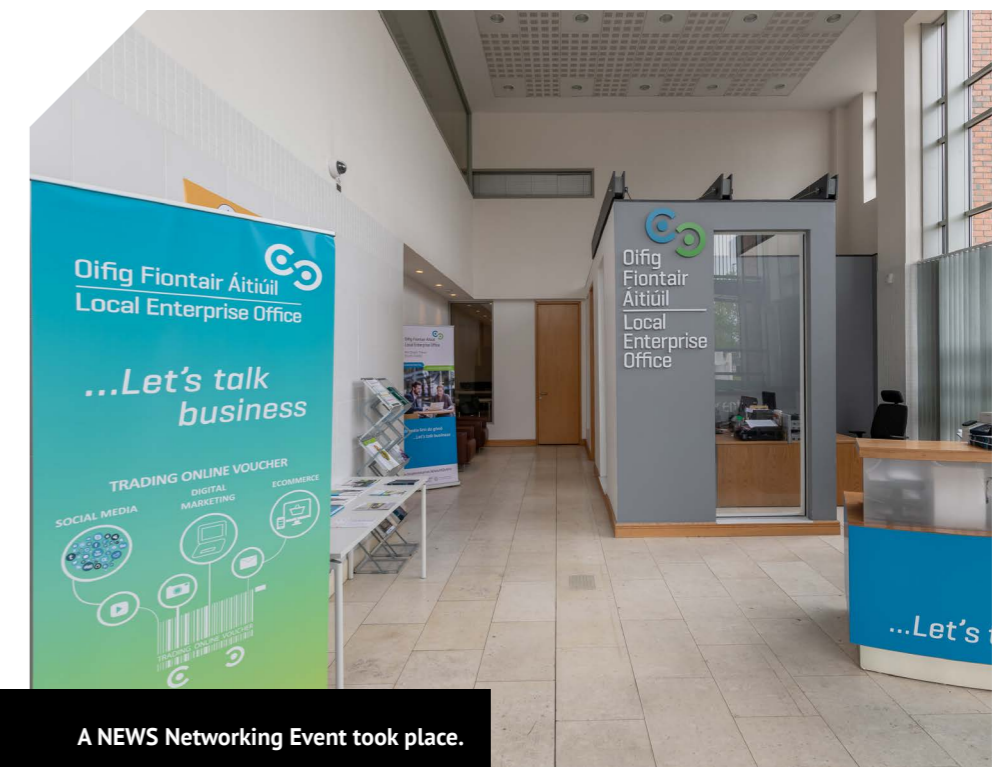


The Hangout Sessions

On 10 November young people from The Hangout Sessions, a partnership programme between Music Generation and Foroige in South Dublin County, represented Music Generation at the Department of Education for a special performance for Innovation in Week. The purpose of the event was to showcase the impact of the Music Generation programme on the lives of children and young people.

NEWS Networking Event

Adhering to all relevant COVID 19 guidelines, the Local Enterprise Office held an in-person event in November in Rua Red. Members of the Network of Enterprising Women in South Dublin (NEWS) were invited to attend a Networking Coffee Morning where Felicity McCarthy of Spark Digital delivered a workshop on social media and sales strategy for Christmas between 9:30am and 11:30am. The course was ideal for small business owners, online retailers and Sales and Marketing managers for small and medium sized businesses with a specific interest in driving pre-Christmas online trade.



A NEWS Networking Event took place.

Corporate Performance and Change Management



Digitisation of Services

The Council has launched an internal Digitisation of Services Programme to help identify, prioritise and manage the rollout of digitised services projects as part of the organisation-wide Customer and Digital Services Transformation Strategy. The Core strategy is the Digital Transformation of Council Services and Processes to measurably improve Customer Experience, Operational Efficiency, and Organisational Agility.

South Dublin County Council is committed to providing the best possible service for our citizens. Our aim through the Digitisation of Services Programme is to ensure that we deliver an innovative, modern and accessible service that meets the needs of everyone looking to interact with our Council and access our services.



Christmas Service

Residents should note the following arrangements over the Christmas period: South Dublin County Council will close on 24 December and will reopen on Tuesday 4 January 2021 at 9.00 am. The Council can be contacted at all times, however, through the emergency number of 01-4574907. Please refer to www.sdcc.ie for all up-to-date Council guidelines concerning COVID-19.

€300k Have Your Say

Twelve community-led projects have been selected by the public to be funded in the Tallaght Central Electoral Area through South Dublin County Council's landmark €300k Have Your Say participatory budgeting initiative.

Details of all twelve winning projects were announced on Thursday 2 December and are available on www.sdcc.ie. Work will begin on the projects early in the new year.

'€300k Have Your Say' is a participatory budgeting initiative that has been run by South Dublin County Council since 2017. €300k Have Your Say allows residents to develop project ideas for their local area and then vote on shortlisted proposals to fund winning projects

up to the value of €300,000. Twenty-eight projects to date have been selected for funding in the Lucan, Clondalkin and Firhouse-Bohernabreena Electoral Areas.

The Council will run the initiative in every local electoral area in the County with the next area due to be selected by the Mayor in 2022.



€300k Have Your Say

Twelve community-led projects have been selected by the public to be funded in Tallaght Central.

Mayoral Receptions

The Mayor of South Dublin County, Cllr Peter Kavanagh, held two Mayoral Receptions at the end of November to acknowledge and celebrate significant sporting achievements in the County. Shamrock Rovers were honoured at a reception in Tallaght Stadium on Monday 22 November for their success in winning the League of Ireland Premier Division for the nineteenth time. Ms Jodie Brown of Tallaght Martial Arts was also honoured at a reception on Wednesday 24 November for her achievement in winning gold at the WAKO World Kickboxing Championships in Italy recently.



Two Mayoral Receptions were held for significant sporting achievements.

Environment, Water Climate Change

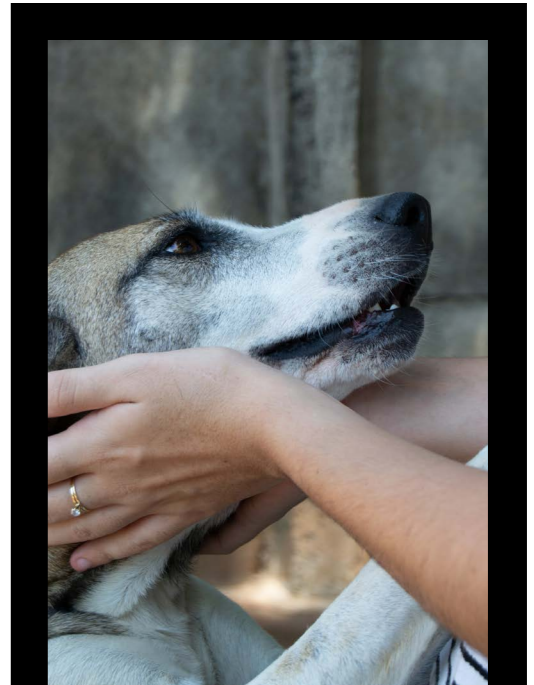


Recycling Initiatives

Some very successful community recycling events were held last month. In collaboration with the Waste Enforcement Lead Authority (WERLA) Eastern-Midlands Region and with the aid of our Social Enterprise Partners, Recycle IT we ran our annual mattress amnesty and rolled out a time-limited pilot bulky waste collection service.

The mattress amnesty allowed householders to have their old mattresses recycled for free. This year we recycled 938 mattresses. Our partners Eco Mattress Recycling Ltd, break the mattresses down into their component parts with the steel springs sent for metal recycling, Polyurethane foam reused in the production of carpet underlay and cloth and synthetic fibres transferred onto industry as raw product for further processing.

Our pilot Bulky Waste Collection initiative proved popular amongst the public with over 400 enquiries for the service that supports the removal of household bulk waste.



New Dog Shelter

Dublin County Dog Shelter commenced operating on 1st October 2021 providing dog shelter services for South Dublin, Fingal, and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Councils. The shelter, at Hollygrove Kennels, Newcastle is open from Monday to Saturday and is operated by Midland Animal Care Ltd. You can get updates on the dog shelter on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DublinCountyDogShelter.

New Teenspace at Ballycragh Park

The Mayor of South Dublin County, Cllr Peter Kavanagh officially opened the Teenspace and the extension to the playspace at Ballycragh Park in November.

The Council's Teenspace Programme commenced following countywide consultations with teenagers, to find out what their needs are and how those needs can be best met in SDCC's parks and open spaces. In Ballycragh, this has resulted in a teenspace that is located in a safe, high-profile location with plenty of seating and with access to large informal activity areas such as parkour and callisthenics.

The 300K Have Your Say initiative run in this area in 2019 provided funding for an additional extension of facilities to the very popular Ballycragh playspace. The local community voted in large numbers to include an extended playspace for younger children.

The Mayor paid tribute to the local community at the opening for their support of the popular park and teenspace at Ballycragh Park, and the work of Council staff in managing the project and maintaining the teenspace and the playspace.



Ballycragh Park

A new teenspace and an extension to the playspace in Ballycragh Park have been opened.

Have a Green Christmas

We consume more at Christmas than at any other time of the year, in fact at Christmas we produce 30% more waste than usual, and it can be difficult to know how to reduce it. This Christmas the Environmental Awareness Office is helping citizens to minimise their waste and have a generally greener Christmas. Remember to take your glass jars and bottles to any of the bottle banks located around the county to recycle them. Christmas is a very busy time for bottle banks as demand for the service is high. If the banks are full, please bring your bottles home with you and come back again.



The Council is urging people to have a greener Christmas.

Minister English visits Local Enterprise Office



Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD, visited the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) in November.

Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD, visited the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) in November as part of a series of visits by the Minister, who is keen to engage with the LEO teams and their client companies throughout the country.

The Minister was greeted at County Hall, Tallaght by the Mayor of South

Dublin County Council, Peter Kavanagh; Chief Executive, Daniel McLoughlin and other senior officials including members of the Evaluation and Approvals Committee, Strategic Policy Committee, Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development (EETD) and South Dublin Chamber.

Minister English was given presentations on the latest developments in the South Dublin region and proceed-

Development Plan Launch

Launching the Local Enterprise Office South Dublin Enterprise Development Plan 2021-2024, Minister English said,

“There are some hugely positive developments going on here in the South Dublin area. In large urban areas close collaboration and co-operation are vital in order to maximise resources and ensure the best possible outcomes for the local economy. It is very evident that is happening here. The Local Enterprise Office plays a key role in this and the support they give businesses whether it is with upskilling, mentoring, training or in other practical ways has proved invaluable over the last 19 months. That role will be even more important now that we are in the recovery phase and businesses continue to stabilise and grow.”

-ings concluded with the launch of the LEO South Dublin Enterprise Development Plan 2021-2024.

Minister English was accompanied by LEO Head of Enterprise, Tom Rooney, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, Justin Mulhern and Business Advisor, Peter Connolly as they met with a number of Local Enterprise Office client companies during the day, including:

- High Res Lighting, who provide virtual production, lighting design and creative services,
- Mama Nagi, who produce authentic Indian chilli pastes,
- Acorn Educational, who are involved in the research and design of resources for children with additional needs, to
- teachers, parents, creches and Montessori schools,
- BiaBelle, who produce vegan friendly and cruelty free tanning and beauty products,
- Picado - produce Fresh Masa, which is maize dough used to make corn tortillas and many other corn-based dishes in Mexican cuisine,
- OneSonic, who specialise in wireless noise cancelling headphones and earphones,
- Stride Bootwear, who produce quality leather equestrian footwear and has recently expanded into the U.S. and Canadian markets,
- The Artisan Pizza Company, who manufacture high-quality sourdough pizza bases and associated products.



Minister English visited County Hall

Local Government Awards



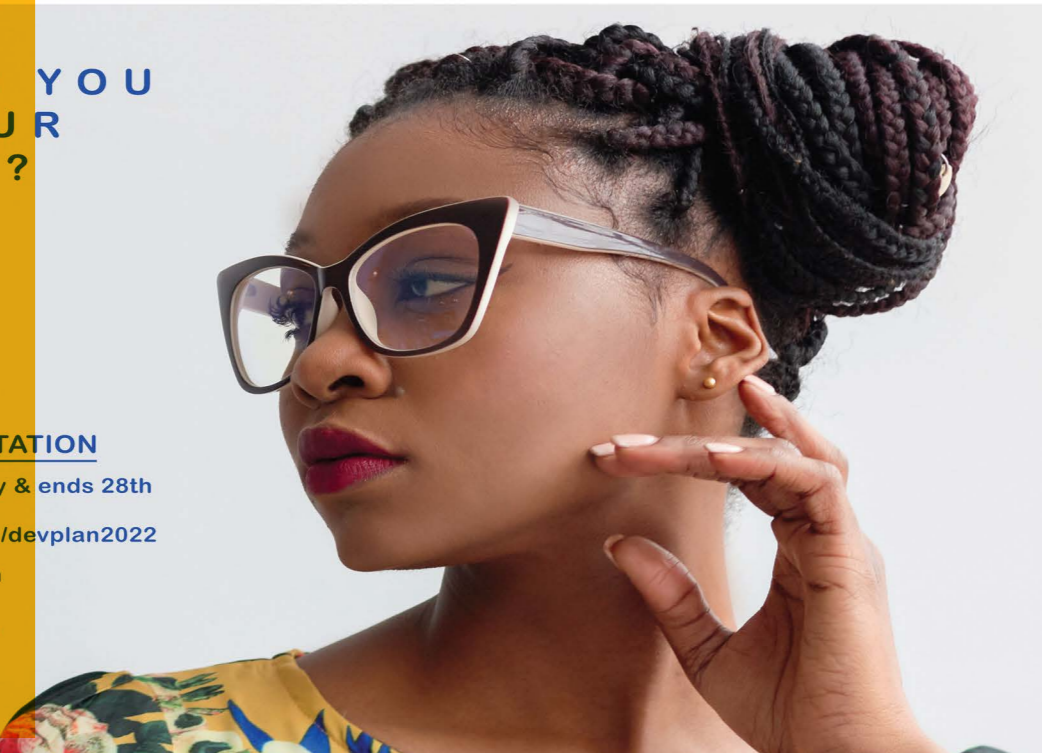
South Dublin 2022-2028 County Development Plan

HOW DO YOU SEE YOUR FUTURE?

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Commences 31st July & ends 28th September 2020
Visit: www.sdcc.ie/en/devplan2022

Join the conversation and help shape Your Neighbourhood, Your County, Your Future.



The Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards were hosted via an online ceremony on Thursday 18 November 2021.

South Dublin County Council has won Best Practice in Community Engagement and Age-Friendly Initiative at Thursday's Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards.

The Council's innovative multi-channel approach to citizen engagement for the public consultation of the County Development Plan was awarded Best Practice in Community En-

gagement whilst the Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age-Friendly Accommodation took home the Age-Friendly Initiative award.

The annual Awards, sponsored by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, are held to recognise and celebrate the outstanding work being carried out by Local Authorities all over Ireland. Awards were presented for Local Government



Minister commends Local Authorities

Speaking at the award winners announcement, Minister of State for Planning and Local Government, Peter Burke TD said,

"Our local authorities have always served Ireland's towns and cities with diligence and professionalism but the Covid-19 pandemic has tested them like nothing before. The range of work and scale of impact that I have witnessed speaks to their outstanding commitment towards the development of our communities and wellbeing of our citizens. They have delivered when they were needed most and I wish to thank them for their dedication."

Excellence across several different categories.

South Dublin County Council commenced a review of the South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022 on 31 July 2020 and a new South Dublin County Development Plan for the period 2022 to 2028 will be made in August next year. The multi-channel approach to community engagement for the plan has seen a dedicated website launched, a comprehensive social and local media campaign with promptional video, and a bus shelter campaign, You can find more information on this at www.sdcc.ie/en/devplan2022.

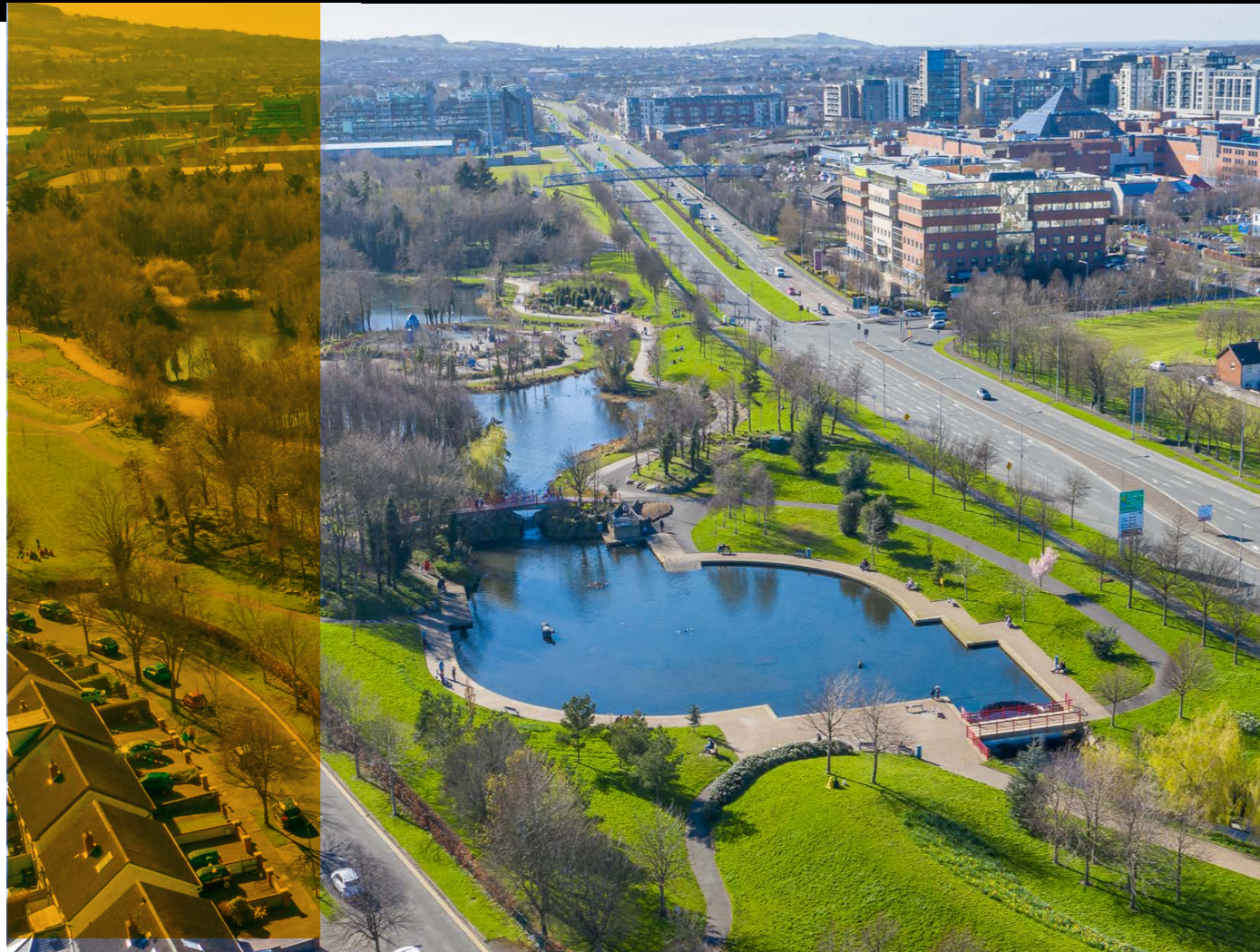
The Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age Friendly Accommodation was introduced under the Council's

Age Friendly Strategy 2020-2024, to provide clear guidance and meet specific objectives for effective allocation of age friendly accommodation in South Dublin County. The policy facilitates older persons in underoccupied homes to move to more appropriate age friendly accommodation while allowing more efficient use of existing public and private housing by freeing up larger homes for larger households.



The Council won two Excellence in Local Government Awards

Green Flag Awards



South Dublin County Council has been awarded five prestigious Green Flag Awards from An Taisce Environment Education Unit.

Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park and Rathfarnham Castle Park were all awarded prestigious Green Flags Awards at an announcement by the Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD.

The Green Flag Awards are judged every year by a peer jury of green space experts, who volunteer their

time to visit applicant sites and assess them against strict criteria, including horticultural standards, cleanliness, sustainability, and community involvement. Public town parks, country parks, gardens, cemeteries, nature parks and green spaces are eligible for the award. In Ireland, the Green Flag Award for Parks Scheme has been enthusiastically received by park management as it delivers major wins for the delivery of quality green

Green Flag Awards

The Green Flag Award is operated within the Republic of Ireland by An Taisce Environmental Education Unit.

In Ireland, the Green Flag Award for Parks Scheme has been enthusiastically received by park management as it delivers major wins for the delivery of quality green spaces by respective parks and park departments. These include:

- The promotion and reward for best practice management,
- Creation of a plan for improvements and future works,
- The building of a collaborative network of park management nationally,
- The implementation of environmental sustainability within park management.

spaces by respective parks and park departments.

Only awarded for exceeding tough environmental standards in green space management, and excellence of visitor attractions – the Green Flag Award Scheme is the mark of a quality park or green space and is recognised throughout the world. This year over 2,300 public sites in 16 countries around the world have achieved Green Flag or Green Flag Community Award status.

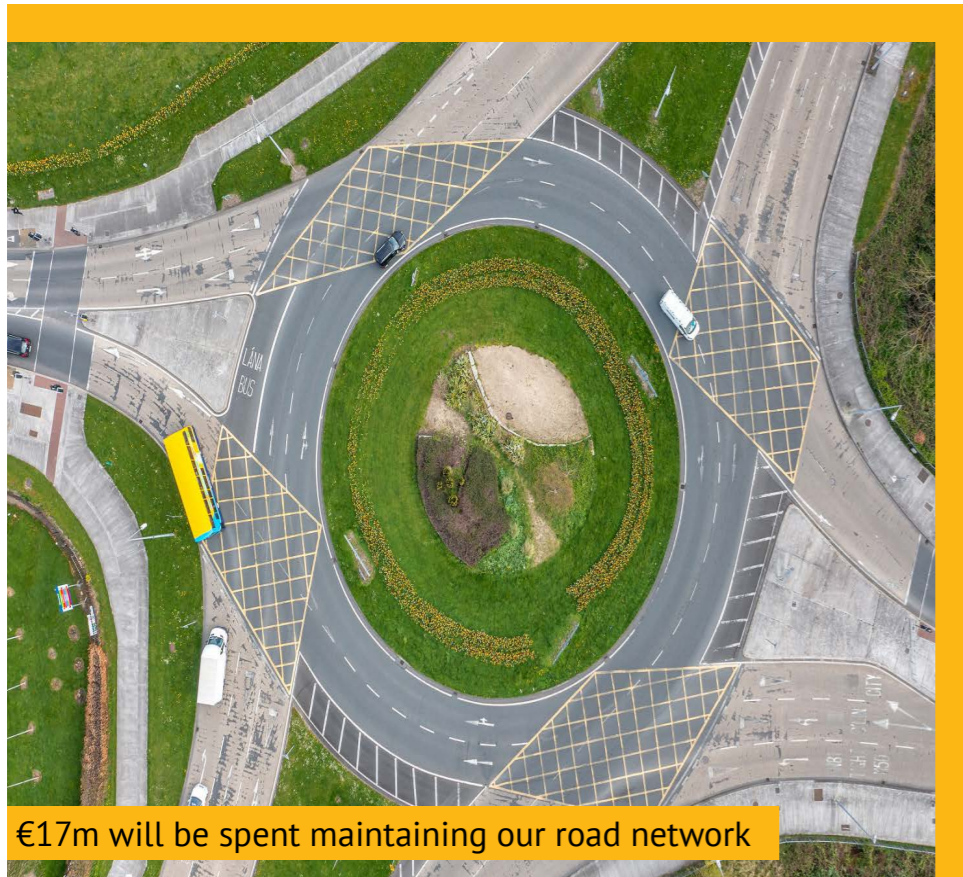
Mayor of South Dublin County, Councillor Peter Kavanagh, raised the flag on Wednesday 17 November 2021 at Rathfarnham Park, and said,

“The raising of the Green Flag recognises and rewards the provi-

sion of high-quality parks and green spaces. It is a great achievement for South Dublin County Council to have won such a prestigious award for Rathfarnham Castle Park and our other four award-winning parks. This award demonstrates the hard work of staff in the park in implementing the Council’s parks management plan. The Park is a haven for residents in Rathfarnham especially in this time of Covid restrictions. Without our public parks and gardens, our lives would have been much further reduced and confined. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the hard work put in by park staff, and community volunteers and residents’ groups.”



Green Flag for Rathfarnham Castle



€17m will be spent maintaining our road network



Over €2m is allocated for a Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

Delivering for our communities

Integration, health and wellbeing and quality of life are central to our approach to developing the County for our communities and we aim to build on our good progress in recent years through funding initiatives like,

- €2,192,800 for the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme,
- €500,000 to implement plans for St. Cuthbert's Park in Clondalkin,
- €201,500 Arts Office programme including childrens', youth and community activities and festivals,
- €500,000 for the Teen Space Programme, and,
- €1m to progress new community centres in Newcastle and City West.

Elected Members have adopted Budget 2022 which provides for approximately €282 million in expenditure on service provision, an increase of over 5% on the 2021 budget.

South Dublin County Council will continue to deliver on key front-line services and exciting new initiatives in 2022 following the adoption of the Budget. The budget continues a year-on-year trend of increased investment in the future of the County. This budget will be augmented by the three-year Capital Programme 2022 - 2024 of approximately €750 million (m) to be considered by elected members at the December Council meeting.

A priority of the Council's elected members is the retention and expansion, where possible, of frontline day to day services with an additional €4m provided in the budget. Through this, several service areas have been allocated extra resources including an additional

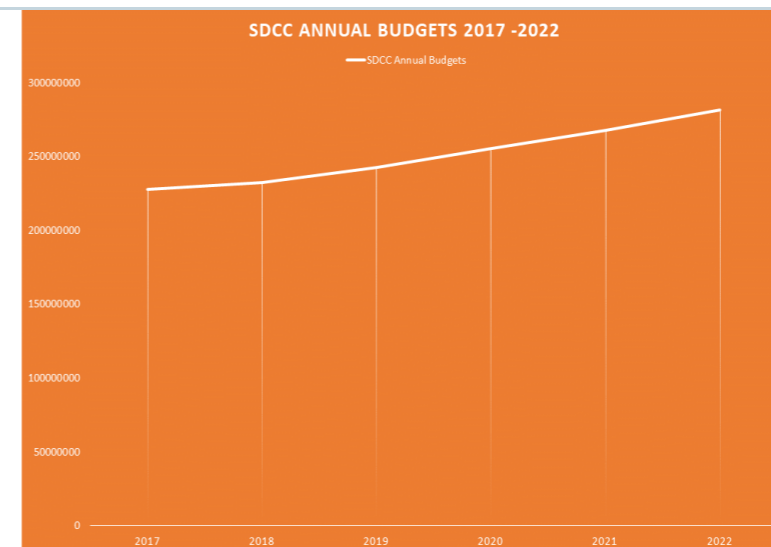
€429,000 for twenty seasonal public realm workers with a specific provision of €100,000 to deal with graffiti and back lanes. Approximately €10.3m is budgeted for litter management and street cleaning in 2022. An increase of €912,000 has been agreed in the fire services budget to €22.2m in total. Budgets for some key areas include:

- €101,829,000 for housing services,
- €34,800,500 for road maintenance, public lighting, the provision of cycleways and more,
- €14,241,400 for water services, and,
- €50,494,700 for recreation services, with €3.5m for the arts, €11m on libraries and €24m on parks, pitches and playgrounds.

A Focus on Budget 2022

Commitment to housing

The budget of €101,829,000 allocated for housing services in 2022 represents an increase of €6,685,100 on the 2021 budget as our comprehensive build, purchase and leasing initiatives under the Capital Programme continue to meet and exceed targets. This includes €15,889,500 on maintenance for over 10,000 homes – with €1,400,000 further funding for our planned maintenance programme, an additional €1,000,000 for re-let works and to support rightsizing transfers plus €20,000 funding for a tenant smart heating pilot initiative with €5,729,800 allocated for housing welfare services, estate/tenancy management, housing stock insurance and addressing anti-social behaviour. A further €9,305,500 will support the housing strategy, the housing construction programme, Part V and other housing delivery.



This year the Council will continue to provide for the Dublin Mountains Project, the Tallaght Innovation Centre, various Greenway projects, the expansion of Grange Castle and the Business Support Programme. The development of a Heritage Centre in Tallaght has long been an ambition of the Council and an initial budget of €1,000,000 has been provided for the exciting project.

A welcome budget

Presenting the budget, Daniel McLoughlin, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, said, "The Budget as presented is positive and makes best use of available resources, while mindful of ongoing challenges. It is vitally important to make a real difference in supporting communities, while advancing the development of the County."

You can find more information on and download a copy of the Annual Budget 2022 on www.sdcc.ie.

November Statistics Report Highlights



Corporate Performance and Change Management

Number of Customer Care queries received	6,890
Number of Customer Care queries closed within deadline	6,085
Web pages opened on Council websites	183,870
Social media reach	1,324,720
Social media engagement	40,643



Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

LEO - Number of mentoring sessions	40
Grange Castle jobs sustained	5,328
Library visitors (online)	46,583
Library visitors (actual)	61,701



Environment, Water and Climate Change

Trees pruned	1,097
Kilometers of road swept monthly	890
Derelict site/dangerous buildings inspections	13
Litter - Fines Issued	20
Tonnes of waste collected - litter and illegal dumping	557
Tonnes of waste collected from street bins	45



Housing, Social and Community Development

Total Housing Stock	9,668
Total housing needs assessed	7,129
Visitors to leisure centers	38,862
Allocations - New Tenancies	68
Number of sports programme participants	12,086
Number of actions taken in response to anti-social reports	359
Electrical inspections completed	81

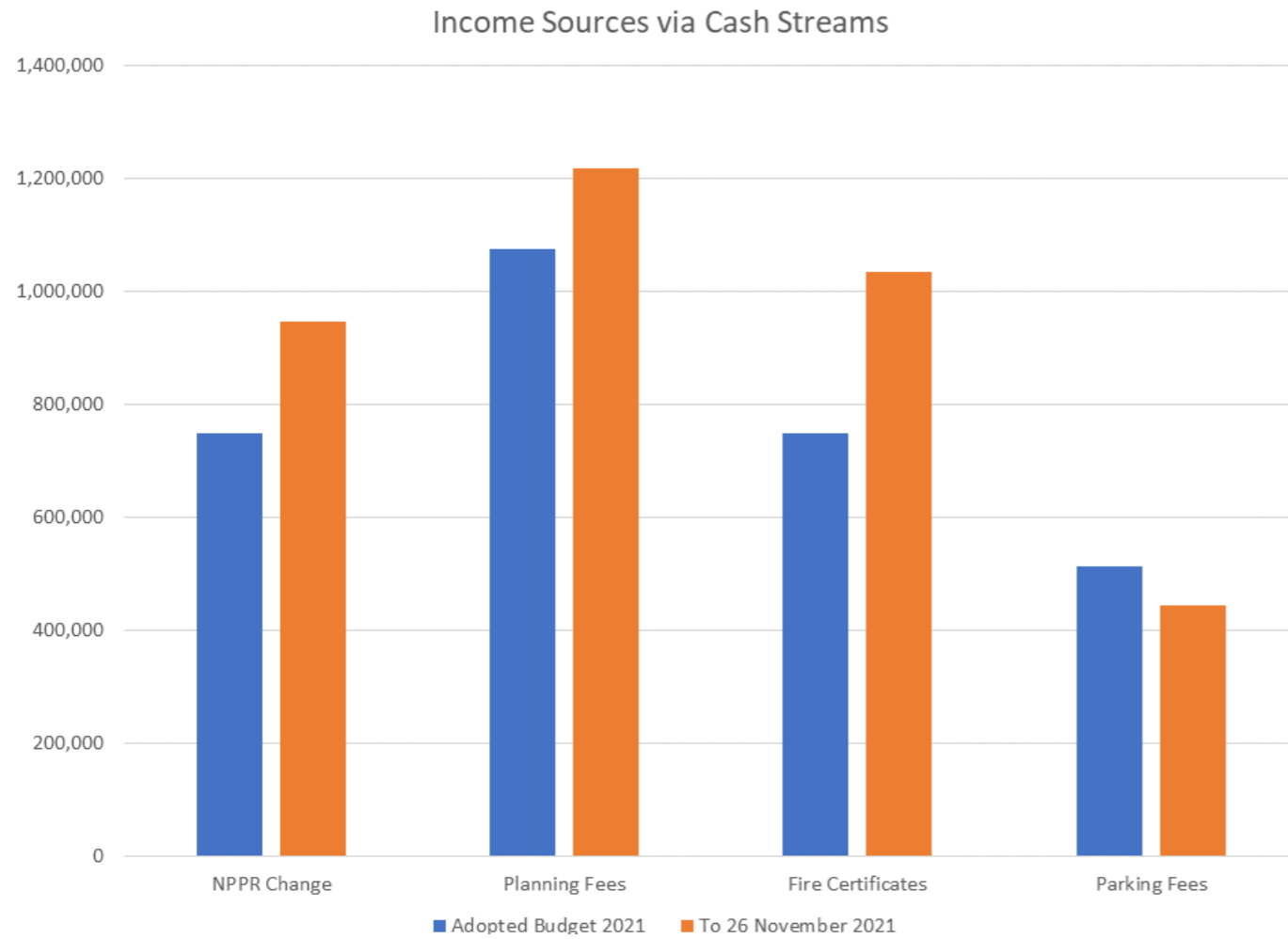


Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Planning applications received - new housing units	249
Area of road repaired in m2	2,865
Planning enforcements initiated	21
Number of public lights in charge	30,567
Number of traffic lights repaired within 24 hours	32

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

Finance Report



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

Images of the Month



Innovation Week



Social Inclusion Festival

Follow us on
Social media



Council staff carrying out energy efficiency programme works



Raising the transgender flag at County Hall

South Dublin County Council



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South Dublin County Council



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Website www.sdcc.ie