



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

DRAFT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Mayor's Foreword

A chairde,

Is onóir mhór domsa é an réamhrá seo a scríobh do Thuairisc Bhliantúil Chomhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas. Mar chéad saoránach an chontae, feicim na hiarrachtaí atá ar siúl ag meitheal agus comhairleoirí an Chomhairle chun ár saoil a fheabhsú. Idir thithíocht agus bithéagsúlacht, sláinte agus slándáil phoiblí, tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag obair go dian ar bhur son.

As Mayor, it is a tremendous honour to write this foreword for the South Dublin County Council Annual Report. As first citizen of South Dublin County, I see first-hand the efforts made by council staff and elected representatives to improve the lives of everyone in the county.

It has been a challenging two years for South Dublin County, and while we are somewhat returning to normality, the spectre of Covid-19 hangs over us, and we are still adapting to a world where public health has taken on a whole new meaning. I want to thank the volunteers and frontline workers who protected us through the public health measures and who continue to do so as we adjust to another “new normal”.

While we are returning to pre-pandemic practices, such as in-person meetings and customer service hours in the council being expanded, it's important to note that South Dublin County Council didn't stop working during the extended periods of restrictions. Public realm projects, housing developments, work on biodiversity and climate action, all continued during 2020 and 2021, and we are reaping the benefits as a community.

Ireland is faced with twin emergencies, in the form of our ongoing housing crisis, but also the global climate and biodiversity crisis. While much of our response to the first is dependent on central government, the Council's housing plans have seen affordable housing, cost rental and social housing developments spring up across the county. South Dublin County Council has been progressive in the face of climate change, and projects such as the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, Stepping Stone Forests, the Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE Project and the Sustainable Drainage Strategy show that we are not only acting but also getting ahead of the curve and leading the way.

In our Budget for 2022, your elected members prioritised our response to these two defining crises of our time, and we have also drawn up a progressive Development Plan that aims to improve not only the quantity but also the quality of housing in South Dublin County, for those in need of social housing, for older people, for Travellers, for people with disabilities. As a council, we represent everyone, and our actions in the last year have reflected this responsibility.

We have been rocked by the advent of an illegal war in Ukraine, and indeed have welcomed the first hundreds of what will become many thousands of refugees. We have a human duty to look after those less fortunate, and this starts at home. We must act as a beacon of hope for others such as our Ukrainian brothers and sisters, but also for those communities in Ireland who are marginalised. South Dublin County Council has done tremendous work for women, the LGBTQI+ community, migrants, the Traveller community, and many other

groups in need of additional support. We have also supported local businesses to thrive and prosper through the pandemic and into the future.

I am grateful to each and every one of my fellow councillors on South Dublin County Council. They put their trust in me as Mayor, and I hope I have repaid them. They work tirelessly on your behalf, improving the lives of countless citizens in South Dublin County, and they often go unrecognised for this work.

I want to thank the Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, Daniel McLoughlin, and the directors of services within the council, whose willingness to work with communities and councillors underpins all of the progressive actions the Council can be proud of over the last year.

Above all else, I want to thank you, the citizens of South Dublin County. It is your sense of community that has seen us emerge from a difficult period, stronger and more able to cope with such events in the future. Thank you to all the community groups who showed such leadership in the last two years. Thank you to every citizen in South Dublin County. As councillors, we answer to you, and we are here to make your lives better.

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine, mar a deir an seanfhocal, agus is ar scáth a chéile a aithnímid go bhfuil fírinne sa tseanfhocal eile, ní neart go chur le chéile. Fanaimis le chéile, níos láidre, níos cineálta, níos sásta.

Cllr. Peter Kavanagh,
Mayor of South Dublin County Council

Chief Executive's Introduction

As in 2020 the achievements as set out in this Annual Report must be viewed through the prism of a year heavily influenced by COVID related restrictions and associated considerations. The significant efforts of the organisation to continue to maintain essential services, develop critically important infrastructure and plan for the future, are a testament to all involved. Across the organisation, working patterns remained both flexible and responsive in compliance with health and safety advice and return to work regulations. Frontline services including public realm, parks, housing, water and drainage and street cleaning adapted their schedules and work to revised rotas. Office-based services followed government advice with working from home applying to between 50% and 85% of staff at different times, as restrictions altered. While organisationally disruptive and personally challenging, it is clear that a hybrid model of home/office working is the future, and the accelerated digitisation of services is paramount to achieving this. Financially, government supports to business resulted in commercial rate collections remaining stable. Other sources of income suffered, most notably rental income, where the challenges of lockdown impacted heavily on collection levels. Nevertheless, the overall financial position of the organisation remains strong and particularly so, regarding our capital investment plans.

Notwithstanding disruptions, delays and the all-round challenges in both human and socio-economic circumstances, significant progress was made across a range of areas underpinning the core objectives of our Corporate Plan. A range of policy and project specific decisions were made by Council which will further enhance the economic and social wellbeing of the County. Unsurprisingly, there was a continued focus on housing. The Council's 5-year strategy under "Housing for All" which commits to the delivery of approximately 6,500 social and affordable homes was submitted to government in December. To this end, elected members approved new housing projects at Lindisfarne, St Ronan's Crescent, Pearse Brothers Park, St Aongus Park and most significantly, 620 units at Killinarden. The Kilcarbery development which will deliver over 500 social and affordable homes commenced and will see Phase 1 units occupied in 2023. 368 new build homes were provided in 2021. In addition to new build, the Council also facilitated 802 new HAP/RAS tenancies. We commenced our multi-annual Retrofit Programme with 117 houses, funded by a €3.2m allocation from the Department. This will complement the Council's own €10m Planned Maintenance Programme which got underway in 2021, following lengthy COVID delays.

The County Development Plan review process continued throughout 2021. This is the most significant policy document to underpin the Council's strategic perspective for the growth of the County, over the forthcoming twenty years and beyond. In conjunction with this process the Council in partnership with Dublin City Council, are leading the master planning of over 1,500 acres of industrial lands along the Naas Road, east of the M50. Titled the "City Edge" project, it seeks to plan the repurposing of these lands as a new exciting mixed-use quarter, which may well be home to 80,000 people and 60,000 jobs.

Investment in the social fabric of the County for current and future communities is key to this Council's vision for a vibrant and welcoming County. In this regard, we opened two new libraries in Clondalkin and Tymon, a major new €5m park at Tandy's Lane Adamstown, and

new play spaces in Firhouse, Willsbrook, Whitechurch and Corkagh Park, together with teen spaces in Collinstown and Ballycragh. Planning approval was secured for the completion of Tallaght Stadium, a new all-weather facility in Sean Walsh Park, and the major redevelopment of Corkagh and Killinarden parks. In a first for the Council, we also secured planning approval for a new Intergenerational Centre at Tymon Park which will go into construction in late Summer 2022. Other projects approved through planning for progression by the Council during 2021 included Tallaght Mobility Hub, Rathcoole Courthouse, Dodder Road cycle lane and the final phase of the Grand Canal Greenway.

The progression of our Climate Action Plan continued apace, with the commencement of the Tallaght District Heating Project, securing and spending €21m on cycling infrastructure, including Phase 3 of the Dodder Greenway and the further expansion of our urban afforestation and wildflower meadow planting schemes. The cycling projects are part of the Cycle South Dublin Strategy adopted by the Council in 2021, which targets the delivery of 263km of cycle lanes costing €280m over 10 years. We also submitted a Decarbonisation Zone proposal for both Clondalkin and Tallaght and hope that the proposal for both will be approved by government in early 2022.

The upgrade and enhanced aesthetic presentation of the County continued, with the commencement of the Templeogue Village enhancement project, the planning of major works for Lucan Village and our first district enhancement project at Tymon shopping centre. The second phase of the N81 landscaping project was also completed. These improvements, underway and planned, are all part of our Economic Development Strategy, as is the expansion of Grange Castle Business Park, and the planned Innovation Centre in Tallaght town centre, for which tenders were received in December. Forward planning is also a key component of our Economic Development Strategy.

In total, the Council received provisional approval for €186m in URDF funding, including €176m for supporting infrastructure in relation to Clonburris SDZ and €10m for the development of a central plaza and civic buildings in Adamstown SDZ. This is in addition to the €35m previously approved for Tallaght town centre projects.

We look forward to continued progress in 2022. While challenges remain, in the context of residual Covid related issues and economic inflationary pressures, there is much to look forward to. We should be confident in our ability to manage the challenges and to progress the development of the County for the betterment of present and future generations.

Danny McLoughlin,
Chief Executive

About the Council

South Dublin County Council came into existence on 1 January 1994 and operates in an area of 222.74 square kilometres. It is bounded by Dublin city to the northeast, the Dublin Mountains and County Wicklow to the south, the River Liffey to the north separating it from Fingal and County Kildare to the west.

The County has a population of 278,767 people living in 92,363 homes according to the 2016 census, representing a 5.1 per cent population increase from the previous census in 2011. This is higher than the national population increase of 3.8 per cent and on a par with the level of growth in Dublin City.

The Council is made up of 40 elected members spread across seven electoral areas with the Mayor elected by the members annually. Along with the Corporate Policy Group, six Strategic Policy Committees develop and recommend policy to the Council. Committees are made up of elected members and representatives of the business, farming, environment, community and trade union sectors.

Our Principal Services

South Dublin County Council has five principal areas of service delivery, as follows:

Economic, enterprise and tourism development

- Economic development and promotion of the county for investment
- Enterprise development and supports
- Asset management
- Library services, the arts office and cultural infrastructure
- County promotion and tourism development

Land use, planning and transportation

- Development management
- Forward Planning
- Road construction and maintenance
- Traffic management
- Public lighting
- Building control
- Heritage and conservation promotion

Housing, social and community development

- Social housing programme
- Housing allocations, maintenance and refurbishment
- Social services, estate management and community development
- Age-friendly and social inclusion initiatives
- Sports programmes and health and wellbeing initiatives

Environment, water and climate change

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Major emergency management
- Waste and enforcement
- Water and drainage services
- Veterinary services
- Public realm management and maintenance

Organisational capacity and accountability

- Corporate services
- Human resource management
- Financial management
- Information and communication technologies
- Architectural services
- Legal services

Council Meetings 2021

There were 111 meetings of the full Council, Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee, Corporate Policy Group (CPG) and Area Committees comprising:

- 11 County Council Meetings
- 1 Annual Meeting
- 3 Special Meetings of the County Council
- 1 Annual Budget Meeting
- 5 Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee Meetings (including 1 Special Budget Meeting)
- 11 Corporate Policy Group meetings
- The four Area Committees for Clondalkin, Lucan, Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure and Tallaght each met ten times in 2021.

In addition, there were:

- 25 meetings across the six Strategic Policy Committees
- 4 meetings of the Joint Policing Committee
- 3 Audit Committee Meetings
- 2 Oireachtas Members Meetings
- 5 County Development Plan Meeting

Strategic Policy Committees

Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC

Current Council Members: Alan Edge (Independent) - Chair

Mick Duff (Independent)

Kenneth Egan (Independent)

Alan Hayes (Independent)

Peter Kavanagh (Independent)

Teresa Costello (Fianna Fáil)

Sectoral Members: Ms Freda Manweiler - Public Participation Network (PPN)

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed
24/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Covid Sectoral recovery• Sectoral Recovery Role of Creative Ireland, Cruinniú na nÓg, Music Generation etc.• Opening of new libraries• “Coiste na Gaeilge”/Irish Language subcommittee• Arts Resilience Bursary
05/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coiste na Gaeilge• Libraries reopening• Joint SPC meeting
01/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening of new libraries• Library of things• Coiste na Gaeilge• Creative Ireland• Arts Development Strategy• Local Live Performances
03/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural Quarter• Library Updates• Arts Update

Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

Current Council Members: Cathal King (Sinn Féin) – Chair

Lynn McCrave (Fine Gael)

Ronan McMahon (Independent)

Leah Whelan (Solidarity)

Ed O'Brien (Fianna Fáil)

Louise Dunne (Sinn Féin)

Liona O'Toole (Independent)

Pamela Kearns (Labour)

Sectoral Members: Jack McDonnell - TUD Tallaght

Tara De Buitlear - PPN

Sherri Brennan - Business Chamber of Commerce

John Kiberd- PPN

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed
10/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Innovation Centre• Tourism and County promotion projects• Grange Castle Business Park• Tallaght Stadium• Round Tower Visitor Centre• Destination towns and Lucan• Enterprise and business support
12/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COVID business supports• Development of Food Strategy• Circular/green economy
08/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Enterprise Office Development Plan• Tallaght Stadium• Circular/green economy• Innovation Centre• Grange Castle West Access Road
24/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Round Tower lighting up policy• Circular/green economy• Innovation Centre• Grand Canal Greenway• Grange Castle West Access Road• Tallaght Stadium

Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

Current Council Members: David McManus (Fine Gael) - Chair

Emma Murphy (Fianna Fáil)

Dermot Richardson (Sinn Féin)

Madeleine Johansson (Solidarity))

Francis Timmons (Independent)

Guss O'Connell (Independent)

Sectoral Members: Una Ruddock - PPN

Deirdre Mooney - Business Community

Donal Anderson - Agricultural and Farming

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed	Discussed at every meeting
16/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allotments review EV Charging Strategy Climate Change Training Programme Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes Green Infrastructure Strategy Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living With Trees' tree management policy Climate Change Action Plan Biodiversity Action Plan
04/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Management Plan Decarbonisation Zones Sports Pitch Strategy Air and Noise Plans Green Infrastructure Strategy Parks and Open Spaces Strategy River Basin Management Plan 	
07/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise Action Plan Air Quality Plan Flood Alleviation Schemes Casual Trading Bye Laws Scrambler and Quads Task Force Green Infrastructure Strategy Parks and Open Spaces Strategy Decarbonisation Zones 	
02/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Waste Management Flood alleviation River Basin Management Plan Pollinator Plan Presentation by Comhairle na nÓg 	

Housing SPC

Current Council Members: Deirdre O'Donovan (Fianna Fáil) – Chair

Laura Donaghy (Green Party)

Kieran Mahon (Solidarity)

Joanna Tuffy (Labour)

Shane Moynihan (Fianna Fáil)

William Carey (Sinn Féin)

Brian Lawlor (Fine Gael)

Sectoral Members: Betty Tyrrell-Collard - Trade Union

Sharon Harty - PPN

Gerry Stockil - PPN

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed
11/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021 work programme • 2020 Social Housing Output • Overview of Future Social Housing Supply • Traveller Accommodation Programme • Allocations update • Relets update
13/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme • Approved Housing Bodies • Allocations update • Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disabilities • Integrated Housing System • Council-led housing developments
11/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing For All • Killinarden Mixed Tenure Housing Development • Caravan Loan Scheme • Allocations update • Housing supply update • Open Data / Integrated Housing System • Healthy Homes Project • Estate Management / Community Development • Acquisitions Strategy • Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disabilities
11/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 • Housing delivery update • Statutory Homeless Action Plan 2022 -2024 • Anti-Social Behaviour • Planned Maintenance and Energy Efficiency Programme • Allocations and Homeless report • 2022 SPC work programme • Housing Grants Report

Social, Community and Equality SPC

Current Council Members: Trevor Gilligan (Fianna Fáil) - Chair

Paddy Holohan (Sinn Féin)

Vicki Casserly (Fine Gael)

Shirley O'Hara (Fine Gael)

Charlie O'Connor (Fianna Fáil)

Carly Bailey (Social Democrats)

Sectoral Members: Lynn Byrne - PPN

Daire Hennessy – PPN

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed
16/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep Well• Community Grants• Age-Friendly update• Community Endeavour Awards• 2021 work programme
18/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sports Partnership overview• Equality Access initiatives• Age-Friendly Programme• Keep Well• Bealtaine programme of events• Community Facility capital projects
21/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Sports Plan• Community Infrastructure Fund• Social Inclusion• Home Security Locks / Carbon Monoxide / Assistive Technologies• Estate Management / Community Development• Capital Projects• Healthy Homes Project• Community Grants
16/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme• Local Community Development Committee• Community Facilities• Community Sports Hubs• Leisure Center Management• 2022 Grants Overview• Capital Projects• 2022 work programme• Disability Participation and Awareness Fund

Land Use, Transportation and Planning SPC

Current Council Members: Liam Sinclair (Independent) – Chair

Paul Gogarty (Independent)

Derren Ó Brádaigh (Sinn Féin)

Baby Pereppadan (Fine Gael)

Eoin Ó Broin (Independent)

Yvonne Collins (Fianna Fáil)

Sectoral Members: Eoin Ahern - PPN

Meeting Date	Policy Issue Addressed
25/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Byelaws• Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy• Cycle South Dublin• Biodiversity
27/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naas Road Planning Framework• County Development Plan - Green Infrastructure & Open Space• County Development Plan - Sustainable Movement• Clonburris
23/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naas Road (City Edge) Planning Framework• Clonburris• Biodiversity Action Plan• Development Plan 2022-2028: Progress Update• Street Improvement Management Guide• Adamstown
26/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Street Improvement Management Guide• Development Plan 2022-2028: Update on public consultation• Adamstown• 2022 Works Programme• City Edge• Naming of Infrastructure Policy• Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy

Corporate Awards

Chambers Excellence in Local Government Awards

Winner of Best Practice in Community Engagement

South Dublin County Council was awarded the Best Practice in Community Engagement award for the public consultation of the County Development Plan and the Age-Friendly Initiative award for the Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age-Friendly Accommodation.

South Dublin County Council was also shortlisted in the following categories:

Supporting Sustainable Communities

Redevelopment of Killinarden Park and new Green link

Health & Wellbeing

Zooming through Lockdown

Supporting Tourism

The Dodder Greenway

Local Authority Innovation

Tallaght District Heating Network

Sustainable Environment

SDCC Pollinator Action Plan 2021 – 2025

Best Library Service

The Creative Studio as part of NCL (North Clondalkin Library)

Festival of the Year

(SnaGÁCT) Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas

Heritage and Built Environment

Grange Castle Pocket Park in

Annual Progress Report of the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024

Progress on the Corporate Plan Indicators

The following local service indicators were selected for measurement over the 5 year period of the Corporate Plan:

Economic, enterprise and tourism development	Performance Indicator	2019 Baseline data	Delivered in 2021
	Number of business support initiatives and expenditure	35 / €300,000	28 / €177,017
	Number of jobs created or supported in Grange Castle business park	6,000 (incl. Construction)	7,500 (including construction)
	Number of economic development land disposals	20	1
	Number of active library members	47,462	29,045
	Amount of library space in m2	5,798	7,791
	Number of festivals/tourism events	11	2
Land use, planning and transportation	Number of private homes completed	1,107	696
	Amount of new and upgraded footpaths – linear m2	74,644	68,200
	Amount of new and upgraded cycle paths – linear m2	7,508	28,890
	Village and district centre enhancement schemes completed	1	0
	Number of public LED lighting upgrades completed	1,739	1,561
	% of pre-planning meetings within eight weeks of request	54%	65%
Housing, social and community development	Number of new housing allocations	618	744
	Number of homeless exits / preventions	738	725
	Amount of planned maintenance expenditure	€1.7m	€1.57m
	Number of interagency meetings	39	44
	Number of visitors to council leisure facilities	593,463	210,304
	Number of participants on Council-led sports and health and wellbeing initiatives	136,187	80,600
Environment, water and climate change	Climate action initiatives under climate action plan	43	120
	Number of trees planted	1,914	688
	Number of environmental / climate action awareness sessions	131	226
	Number of new teenspaces / new or upgraded pitches / new active recreational facilities	15	11
	Properties protected by flood protection schemes ¹	0	0
	Local authority energy savings ²	29.6%	NA
Organisational capacity and accountability	People on the electoral register	194,497	195,291
	Customer queries received	78,006	83,715
	Customer queries closed within deadline	72,814	74,269
	Members reps (matters raised by Elected Members) received	9,609	10,233
	Members reps closed within deadline	4,925	5,580
	Freedom of Information / Data Access requests responded to	287	295
	Citizens who actively engaged with us through our consultation portal, citizens survey, and participatory budgeting votes cast	6,164	9,410
	Learning and development courses per staff member	2.78	2

¹ Flood alleviation schemes to protect properties are currently in the planning process.

² 2021 energy-saving figures are being calculated by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and are not yet available yet but will be included in the final draft.

Reports on Service Delivery and Corporate Plan Objectives

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

Objective 1: Maintain a supportive business environment

Construction work began on the Innovation Quarter in Tallaght. The Innovation Centre will be a 4-storey 2,980msq building of significant architectural merit that provides three floors of flexible office accommodation to support start-up enterprises.

Local Enterprise Office South Dublin offered a wide variety of training programmes and workshops with approximately 2,450 participants taking part in 2021.

A successful South Dublin Local Enterprise Week 2021 was held between 1st and 6th March. Local Enterprise Week is a collaboration between local and government support groups, with a common goal in 2021 to help small and micro businesses to meet the exceptional challenges presented by COVID 19.

Local Enterprise Office South Dublin provided over €2,100,000 in support to local businesses in 2021. This included €926,000 of Business Start-up, Expansion and Feasibility Grants approved and over €1,000,000 supporting companies to develop their online business.

A new enterprise space, 'The Edge', opened in Bolbrook with funding provided in part by the Council.

The Student Enterprise Programme was held in South Dublin County.

The Council worked with local hospitality and tourism providers to apply for grant funding under Fáilte Ireland's new Outdoor Dining Enhancement Investment Scheme

Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English T.D, visited the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) to engage with the LEO teams and their client companies.

Business support fund financing was agreed for Budget 2022 and the projects and supports funded will be reviewed by the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

SCENE: South Dublin Creative Economy Network was launched.

Objective 2: Support and Increase foreign direct and local investment in the county

Continued to work with IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland to manage and promote Grange Castle International Business Park.

The Grange Castle Conservation and associated Pocket Park development were awarded a Construction Excellence Award.

Grange Castle Business Park supported in excess of 5,300 jobs by the end of 2021.

Grange Castle West Access Road, which will facilitate up to 10,000 jobs, commenced construction and is due for completion in early 2022.

Objective 3: Manage the assets of the Local Authority in a way that fully supports Economic Development

Continued to implement the local Digital Strategy, in line with the National Broadband Strategy.

The Council's property management function continued to proactively manage and administer the Council's land bank.

Tallaght Stadium played host to live sports and music events, including League of Ireland, international soccer matches and more.

Over 72,000 people visited either Rua Red or the Civic Theatre in Tallaght.

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media announced funding of €250,000 towards the adaption of Chamber Square, Tallaght, to enable year-round public engagement in cultural events and activities.

Objective 4: Maximise the contribution of Arts, Libraries, Heritage and the Irish Language to the citizen and visitor cultural experience

New libraries in Castletymon and North Clondalkin were officially opened, and a new Mobile Library was launched.

A sensory garden in the North Clondalkin Library was opened.

The Red Line Book Festival delivered an exciting programme of events to celebrate its tenth year while a separate literature festival, Between the Red Lines, was held in February.

Implementation of the Library Development Plan 2018–2022 continued.

Implemented programmes under Healthy Ireland, Right to Read and Work Matters in accordance with national strategies.

Bursary awards were provided through the Council's Exploring & Thinking Bursary for early childhood arts.

South Dublin Libraries' annual Summer Stars Reading Adventure was held and Cruinniú na nÓg South Dublin 2021 took place to celebrate Ireland's National Day of Youth Creativity.

Tallaght Library held its first-ever ComicFest, supported by the Creative Ireland Programme South Dublin.

Continued to roll out 'Toys, Technology and Training' to provide support and additional

learning aids to junior patrons, their parents, carers or guardians and other interested parties who may have learning difficulties or other additional needs.

A comprehensive live performance programme was rolled out during the year, which included a landmark live concert in Tallaght Stadium.

For five weeks in November and December, the Mobile Music Machine provided a series of forty Covid Care Concerts to residents of nursing homes throughout the County.

Áras Chrónáin's Seó Beo Arís: The Revival of Live project, supported by the South Dublin County Arts Office and funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media was held in August.

The ReFrame Arts Development Strategy 2022 - 2026, which provides the framework for the delivery of arts services to the citizens of South Dublin County, was approved by elected members.

Objective 5: Implement a Tourism Strategy focussed on new product and brand development

Progressed a branding and marketing plan to promote Tallaght Stadium as an events venue to include music, festivals and community events.

Seventeen Shop Front Grants were awarded in 2021 to complement the ongoing village improvement works across South Dublin County.

Christmas Craft Fairs were held in multiple locations throughout the County.

Continued to roll out the Tourism Marketing Strategy and Implementation Plan.

The Council provided Tourism Event and Festival Grants to organisers holding a public event within South Dublin County as COVID restrictions eased in autumn. This followed an Outdoor Dining Scheme in the summer that provided financial support to businesses.

A new urban outdoor market was successfully trialled in Corkagh Park. Urban Picnic at Corkagh Park hosts street food, crafts, and artisan produce with family entertainment provided to add to the atmosphere.

Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Objective 1: Strategic planning for resilient and compact growth

Carried out extensive preparation of the County Development Plan through a robust public consultation process.

The Council received and processed 1,036 planning applications.

The Cycle South Dublin programme of work was approved by elected members in April. The programme seeks to progress works on 260km of new and improved cycle lanes across the County.

The National Transport Authority (NTA) awarded South Dublin County Council €20,705,000 for active travel, walking and cycling measures.

Actively monitored and coordinated the delivery of homes and infrastructure on lands within our Strategic Development Zones (SDZ) and Local Area Plans, including progressing the delivery of the LIHAF funded Celbridge Link Road and Airlie Park and completed delivery of Tandy's Lane Park in the Adamstown SDZ.

The Council secured first stage approval from DHLGH for €186.3 million of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to enable the delivery of a series of strategic infrastructure projects within the Clonburris and Adamstown Strategic Development Zones (SDZs). These projects would enable the speedy delivery of new homes in these two areas.

Contributed to the statutory review of the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035) with the NTA.

As part of a national strategy to regenerate Dublin, South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council launched a joint urban regeneration effort known as the City Edge Project. Located at the western edge of Dublin City Centre in the Naas Road, Ballymount and Park West areas and covering an area of 700 hectares, the City Edge project is set to become one of Europe's largest urban regeneration projects. A public consultation and international conference took place to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the plans

Objective 2: Connect places through sustainable mobility projects

Turned the sod on a new bus interchange facility for Liffey Valley Shopping Centre as part of the NTA's Bus Connects strategy

Officially opened the Dodder Greenway Bridge at an event with the Minister for Transport and the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan TD, secured planning approval for phase 4 of the Dodder Greenway and commenced an informal public consultation on the preferred option for phase 5.

Progressed delivery of a new active travel scheme along Grange Road between Nutgrove Avenue and St. Enda's Drive in Rathfarnham, Dublin, and a new active travel scheme and public park alongside the N81 at Jobstown Junction.

Active Travel schemes were also completed on Fortunestown Road and along Monastery Road, which now links Clondalkin Village to the Red Cow LUAS station.

The Belgard North Link Road in Tallaght was completed and now provides enhanced vehicular and active travel connections into the regeneration lands in Cookstown.

Approval was secured to deliver a new 1.4km Active Travel scheme along Avonbeg Road in Tallaght, a contractor was appointed, and works are set to commence in January 2022.

Part 8 planning permission was secured for the Tallaght Town Centre public realm and transport interchange scheme and this project moved into detailed design and is set to be on-site in 2022.

The Council, in collaboration with the National Transport Authority (NTA), trialled enhanced pedestrian and cycle facilities along Wellington Road and commenced an informal round of public consultation on the preferred design for the permanent scheme.

The first round of informal public consultation on the preferred design took place for the Canal Loop Greenway that would see the first phase delivery significantly improved active travel connections between the Grand Canal and Lucan.

Agreed a programme of School Street improvement projects for enhanced active travel and traffic calming works at several schools across the County and commenced design works at the first four school locations.

The Council carried out a public call for applications for new bike stands, following this, 30 schools, 20 sports clubs and 7 parks were identified for bike stand installation commencing in 2020.

The South Dublin County Council (Control of Parking) Byelaws 2021 were made by resolution of the Council in May.

Held multiple events as part of National Bike Week from 13 to 18 September.

The Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) continued to meet during 2021 and oversee the implementation of the Road Safety Action Plan.

The 2021 annual maintenance and upgrade programme was delivered and included upgrades to; 97,583 sqm of road; 74,985 sqm of footpath; and 14,127 sqm of cycle paths.

The Winter Maintenance programme was carried out.

Objective 3: Through the built environment, promote a sense of community in the different places of South Dublin

Enhancements works commenced in Templeogue Village as part of the Council approved village enhancement scheme.

Public consultation commenced on the statutory Part 8 planning application for the Castletymon District Centre enhancement project.

A consultant team was appointed to develop the Lucan Village Enhancement schemes, which include two proposals. Firstly, improvement works at the entrance to the Lucan Demenese and along the Liffey Promenade and secondly, improvement works to the Village Green and Main Street. As part of the design development, a series of informal consultations took place with local stakeholders.

Repair work to 5,543 public lights across the County was carried out and 1,561 new LED lights were installed.

The Naming of Infrastructure Committee met twice and agreed that the pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Dodder that links Bawnville and Kilininny be named the Jim Lawlor Bridge. A commemorative plaque was also agreed upon in recognition of Dr Noël Browne (Minister for Health 1948-51) and all those women and men who fought for the eradication of tuberculosis and the advancement of the social conditions of the working class

Continued support was provided for the national ePlanning tool as well as the progression of other online public engagement options for the Council.

Formed the Internal Steering Group for Biodiversity to provide governance structures to oversee the implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan.

The video 'Clondalkin's Tangible Threads - Irish Crochet in the world of haute couture' produced by the Council for National Heritage Week 2021 was awarded a County Award by the Heritage Council.

Funded seven projects through the Built Heritage Investment Scheme for the amount of €171,511 with €99,511 in private leveraged funds.

Housing, Social and Community Development

Objective 1: Deliver quality social and affordable housing across the county to meet housing needs

Developed a new Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 outlining proposals to deliver 3,707 new social homes across the County as well as 2,730 affordable homes over the next five years.

Approved a development agreement to deliver over 1,000 homes, including 310 social homes, at Kilcarbery, Clondalkin.

620 new homes (including 125 social homes and 372 affordable homes) were approved for Council-owned lands at Killinarden, Tallaght.

Continued the development of 120 new age-friendly homes in partnership with Clúid Housing at Springfield and Whitestown Way in Tallaght.

Approved three new age-friendly housing developments at Pearse Brothers Park, St. Aongus' Green and St. Ronan's Crescent.

Progressed the delivery of social homes at sites in Ballyboden, Lucan, Kingswood and Clondalkin and approved

Objective 2: Provide optimal and innovative housing management, supports and regulation for better tenures, tenancies and estates

Management and maintenance of the Council's social housing stock of 9,688 homes continued.

Introduced a new online integrated housing system to maximise customer service and organisational efficiency.

A new planned maintenance workstream was formed within the Council for enhanced delivery of planned and cyclical maintenance and the Energy Efficiency Retrofit programmes.

Continued to roll out a Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age-Friendly Accommodation, which was also awarded a Chambers Excellence in Local Government award for an Age-Friendly Initiative.

By the end of 2021, there were a total of over 4,800 active Housing Assistance Payment tenancies (including enhanced HAP) in the County, along with 1,065 homes through the Rented Accommodation Scheme.

Progressed consultation on the new Dublin Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2022 -2024 and continued to work with the South Dublin Homeless Forum to maximise support for homeless persons.

Administered our €2.9 million allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability allocation of €2,900,000 and introduced a pilot new Caravan/Mobile Home Loans Scheme with an allocation of €450,000.

411 housing adaptation grants were awarded to make existing private homes more suitable to live in for a person with a physical, sensory or intellectual disability or mental health difficulty.

Objective 3: Lead inclusion, equality and interagency initiatives for integrated and socially connected communities

Continued to implement the South Dublin Age Friendly County Strategy 2020-2024.

Launched the Residents' Association Handbook aimed at helping residents' associations within the County set up and run their groups.

The Social Inclusion Festival took place between 15 and 21 November to promote social diversity in South Dublin County and Bealtaine Festival was held in May.

The Joint Policing Committee continued its work with community and elected representatives along with An Garda Síochána and the Council in addressing policing and crime issues.

Provided Age-Friendly Digital Supports to citizens through an HSE Health and Wellbeing grant.

Supported a community resilience project for the Balgaddy area that aims to improve community safety and quality of life for residents in the area.

224 Community Grants were issued to community and voluntary groups.

Supported the launch of a countywide LGBT+ network.

Provided funding and support for the Creative Places art project delivered in Mac Uilliam estate, Tallaght

Delivered a second round of the COVID-19 Emergency Fund grants for community groups.

Supported the South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum for representatives of new communities in South Dublin County to collaborate, network and actively participate in the County.

Administered an overall budget of €350,000 for the Communities Infrastructure Fund.

Objective 4: Lead a healthy, active and participative county

€355k was approved by the Local Community Development Committee under the Department of Rural and Community Development Community Enhancement Programme for local and community groups.

Continued to implement the Healthy South Dublin County strategic plan.

Over 210,000 people accessed South Dublin County Council's leisure facilities in the year.

Over 74,000 participants took part in one of 587 sports programmes coordinated in 2021.

Supported over 3,300 students from 41 primary schools to participate in the Marathon Kids.

Held Sports Partnership Disability Summer Camps

Supported the establishment of three new running clubs in Bawnogue, Clondalkin and North Clondalkin through the South Dublin County Sports Partnership.

Agreed a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Health under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme to work together to reduce health inequalities by addressing the wider social determinants of health in communities experiencing high levels of deprivation.

Environment, Water and Climate Change

Objective 1: Create a sustainable low carbon and climate-resilient county

Continued to implement the South Dublin County Council Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2019 - 2024 and reported on its progress.

Continued to implement actions from SDCC's Pollinator Action Plan 2021-2025. The Pollinator Action Plan is based on the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and it sets out a broad range of actions that South Dublin County Council has committed to over the next five years.

Continued to support the Climate Action Regional Office and worked together with the other Dublin Local Authorities to deliver Climate Action Plans and regional strategies.

Construction progressed on the Tallaght District Heating Network and Energy Centre. Trading as Heatworks, Ireland's first publicly owned, not-for-profit energy company, will provide low carbon heat to local community buildings.

The Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme was granted planning approval and we continued to progress flood alleviation schemes on the Poddle and Camac rivers

Major emergency planning training was available online for staff to better understand the LA roles under the MEM Framework to respond to severe weather and other events. A Rest Centre activation exercise was carried out with Dublin Civil Defence and SDCC Housing and Community Staff.

Citizen engagement on climate change continued with the rollout of the first Dublin Climate Action Week, National Spring Clean, Dublin Community Clean Up, Eco Week, and Climate Action Workshops.

Launched a Climate Action Newsletter to keep citizens informed of the climate change-related work being out by the Council and began to develop a new Climate Change section on the Council's website.

Objective 2: Improve the visual appearance of our County in the interest of economic and social development

The Derelict Sites Register was maintained with 212 Dangerous Buildings / Derelict Sites inspections carried out during the year.

Continued to roll out the Litter Management Plan 2020- 2022 while using environmental monitoring initiatives to help combat illegal dumping and other litter issues.

Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park and Rathfarnham Castle Park were all awarded Green Flag Awards.

South Dublin Canvas was delivered for a fourth consecutive year.

Agreed and carried out a programme of improvement works for parks, the public realm and open spaces for 2021 that consisted of 59 minor works schemes areas amounting to a total expenditure of over €1 million.

Carried out actions identified in the Council's Pollinator Plan including the annual cutting of 145 ha of meadowland, maintenance of existing pollinator-friendly flower beds and the addition of 8 new pollinator planting schemes.

Delivered a range of projects and campaigns under the Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness Fund.

Provided the road sweeping and associated services contract including the annual cleaning of all road gullies and the provision of weed control and leaf removal services.

Delivered a pilot South Dublin County Council Climate Grant.

Launched a new 'Living with Trees 2021 - 2026' tree management policy while continuing to operate a three-year rolling programme of tree maintenance.

The construction of the 2nd phase of the N81 landscape works re-commenced following Covid lockdown in 2021 and was approaching completion by year-end.

Objective 3: Support a Green Infrastructure Network across the county to provide a shared space for amenity, recreation, biodiversity protection, flood management and adaptation to climate change

Ongoing implementation of SDCC's Biodiversity Action Plan.

Continued implementation of SDCC's Sports Pitch Strategy.

Inspected 14,466 trees around the County while planting 688 and pruning a further 7,537

Completed and opened playspaces at Ballycragh Park, Tandy's Lane Park, Whitechurch

Completed and opened teenspaces at Ballycragh Park, Collinstown Park and Tandy's Lane Park.

Officially opened Tandy's Lane Park at a ceremony with Minister Darragh O'Brien. Tandy's Lane Park is approximately seven hectares in size and includes extensive areas of footpaths with seating.

Completed the Part 8 planning process for the upgrade of Killinarden Park

Completed the Part 8 Planning process and secured €1.29million in the capital budget for an Intergenerational Centre at Tymon Park.

Completed the Part 8 Planning process for an Astro at Sean Walsh Park and commenced its detailed design.

Incorporated SDCC's first Green Infrastructure Strategy into the Draft County Development Plan currently under development.

Continued the development of a Parks and Open Space Strategy for the County.

Opened Ireland's first purpose-built callisthenics and functional workout area at Tymon Park.

Commenced the public consultation and part 8 process for the proposed enhancements and upgrades at Corkagh Park.

Progressed the pavilion construction programme and officially opened the Old Bawn Pavillion while launching an innovative online pavilion booking system.

Progressed the planning for wetlands at five locations in conjunction with the Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project.

Objective 4: Manage Regulatory, Licensing and Enforcement requirements, including Service Level Agreements

Implemented National Waste Prevention, Management and Enforcement priorities for 2021.

Delivered proactive litter and waste enforcement services to ensure high standards of cleanliness in the County.

Developed and implemented the 2021 RMCEI Inspection and Compliance Plan, carrying out over 11 thousand environmental inspections across the Waste, Litter, Noise, Air, and Water licensing and enforcement workstreams.

Continued to liaise with the Eastern Midlands Regional Waste Office in implementing actions and goals under the eight strategic objectives of the Waste Management Plan 2015–2021.

Progressed environmental monitoring contracts on historic unauthorised landfill sites in the county as well as the proposed remediation of the Bohernabreena landfill.

Managed waste licenced facilities at Ballymount and Arthurstown to a high standard and in compliance with the terms of the relevant waste licences.

Accepted a total of 30,016 tonnes of waste materials at Ballymount civic amenity recycling centre, of which 14,892 tonnes were recycled and the remainder recovered.

Monitored compliance under the Control of Horses and Control of Dogs legislation and appointed Midland Animal Care Limited to provide dog shelter services.

The Annual Service Plan for 2021 was agreed upon with Irish Water and the service continued to be provided under a Service Level Agreement.

Joined Irish Water and Dublin City Council at a sod-turning on a new reservoir in Saggart.

The 2021 Service Plan was agreed for delivery with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

Continued to implement the programme of measures arising from the River Basin Management Plan 2018 - 2021.

Supported the delivery of Dublin's Emergency and Fire Services.

Continued the implementation of the Dublin Environmental Noise Action Plan 2019 – 2023.

The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 was delivered, setting out 14 broad measures and several associated actions to address the exceedance of the nitrogen dioxide annual limit value.

Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLA) 2021 work plan was agreed upon by the 12 Eastern Local Authorities.

Organisational Capacity and Accountability

Objective 1: Support the policy and leadership role of councillors in providing effective local government.

The Annual Council Meeting was held in June and the Budget Council Meeting for the 2022 Budget was held in November 2021. Over the year 111 meetings were supported across the full Council, Corporate Policy Group, Area Committees, Organisation Procedures and Finance Committee, Strategic Policy Committees, the Joint Policing Committee, and with Oireachtas Members.

The Draft Register of Electors, which came into force on 15 February 2021 and remains in force until 14 February 2022, was published with 194,077 people registered in the County.

Council meetings were held online to ensure compliance with government physical distancing guidelines.

A voter registration promotional campaign was held and a 'Women in Politics' website section and promotional video were launched to support women running for election in local government.

The first South Dublin County Council Women's Caucus of the Council's current and past female elected members and a programme of work was agreed.

A 'Coiste na Gaeilge', an Irish language committee was launched and operates as a working group of the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries Strategic Policy Committee to support and promote the use of Irish among the general population.

The Civic Honour of Mayoral Receptions were held on three occasions during 2021 for Shamrock Rovers, Rhasidat Adeleke and Jodie Brown of Tallaght Martial Arts to celebrate their significant sporting achievements.

Objective 2: Deliver quality services that treat all service users with dignity, respect and equality.

Customer Services operated throughout the pandemic with staff providing the service while working from home when necessary, utilising the Council's online systems and answering phones. In total 74,269 customer queries were received and responded to, 48,835 of which were Housing-related, and 230,507 telephone calls were answered.

A Customer and Digital Services Transformation Strategy was launched, and a working group formed of senior managers across the organisation to actively support the Council's Digital Transformation agenda and an accompanying Channel Shift Strategy to promote greater use and development of the Council's digital services.

South Dublin County Council's Human Rights and Equality Framework was significantly progressed in 2021 with the formation of a cross-departmental working group of the executive and the engagement of equality and human rights expertise, to work with the members of the working group in deepening their understanding of human rights and equality issues, further develop the framework and agree their programme of work.

Make Way Day was marked and actively supported with an online seminar and National Accessibility Week in November was supported with events and promotional campaigns highlighting accessibility issues and positive examples in practice.

Pride Month, International Transgender Day of Visibility and International Transgender Day of Remembrance were marked by flying the respective flags at County Hall. A 'Trans Pride at Work' virtual conference took place in March.

Objective 3: Foster a strong governance culture in the organisation.

The Audit Committee met on five occasions during 2021 to execute its statutory functions and to provide assurance on the corporate governance within South Dublin County Council. In addition, the Chair of the Audit Committee attended the County Council meeting on 8th November 2021 to present the Committee's report on their consideration of the audited Annual Financial Statement 2020 and the Auditor's Report. The Audit Committee Annual Report for 2020, its Charter and Work Programme for 2021 was reported to the Council for noting at the Council meeting in March 2021.

The new Corporate Procurement Plan 2021–2023 was agreed and launched. The Procurement Steering Group met on six occasions during 2021 to monitor and lead the Council's procurement activity, including 71 tenders published and participation in 38 OGP procurement processes and 7 LGOPC processes.

Processed and issued 295 decisions in 2021 in respect of requests under Freedom of Information, Access to Information on the Environment, Data Protection and Ombudsman legislation.

The Quality Assurance Report under the Public Spending Code was published and submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission.

The National Performance Indicators for 2020 and the Corporate Services Department carried out an analysis of the Council's performance with particularly good performance in the number of private rented inspections and social housing vacancy rates highlighted, in comparison to other local authorities.

The Ethics Declarations for all Councillors and relevant staff were received, and the register was publicly available. The declarations of all Councillors were published on the website, along with all declarations of political donations and the Section 142 Register of all payments made to Councillors, including the representational payment, the allowance and travel and subsistence payments.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2021 was approved by Council at the February Council meeting and the Annual Report for 2020 was approved at the May Council meeting. The Chief Executive's Monthly Report to Council was presented at every Council meeting and then widely disseminated through social media and the website.

Objective 4: Build public trust through the delivery of effective communications and citizen engagement.

The Seachtain na Gaeilge programme of events was held throughout March.

Twelve community-led projects were selected by the public to be funded in the Tallaght Central Electoral Area through the €300k Have Your Say participatory budgeting initiative.

The Mayor's Initiative was held in June as a pillar of light was shone from Tallaght Stadium to pay tribute to all those who have worked on the frontline in the fight against COVID-19 and to reflect on the impact of the pandemic.

Reach across South Dublin County Council's social media channels was approximately 17 million post views with engagement with the Council's social media posts totalling over 480,000.

South Dublin County Council features 1,140 times in media coverage in the local and national press.

A summer and winter edition of the Citizen's Newsletter was published, and regular staff digital newsletter updates to support the communications to all stakeholders.

Webpages on the Council's website www.sdcc.ie were viewed over 2,700,000 times in 2021.

There were 9,410 separate responses from people engaging in the Council's public consultations and citizen engagement initiatives, a significant increase from previous years.

Objective 5: Develop organisational capacity to actively support the delivery of the Corporate Plan objectives and the local government reform programme.

The Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan continued to support employees through the organisation of numerous health and wellbeing seminars and the Digital Health Platform was available for staff and elected members to better support mental and physical wellbeing. Additional direct employee supports were also provided wherever needed through the Employee Assistance Programme and the employment of the new Staff Welfare Officer. The Health and Safety of all employees continued to be monitored and supported through the effective operation of the Safety Management System and the Corporate Safety Statement.

A series of internal events were held for Innovation Week 2021 to promote, encourage and support innovation within the Council, including the Staff Innovation Awards, launching the new Lean Six Sigma programme across the Council, and hosting a national Innovation Conference as part of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's programme of events for Innovation Week.

The Council's senior executive team embarked on a strategic workforce planning process across all staff, supported by the formation of a cross-departmental People Strategy Group made up of senior managers and a significant focus on HR data analytics. We also commenced preparations for the introduction of a formal Blended Working Policy to support this initiative while maintaining our commitment to the delivery of the highest standard of public services directly to citizens and local communities.

The Council welcomed 165 new staff to the organisation to fill vacancies bringing the headcount to over 1,300. We significantly improved the induction and onboarding programme as a result of feedback from new employees and to address the challenges of the pandemic for new employees.

The organisation was delighted to be recredited on the Engineers Ireland CPD accredited employers standard for the maximum period of 3 years following an extensive audit of our CPD programme.

Objective 6: Advance the Council's use of information and communication technology (ICT) through secure, modern, and intelligent initiatives enabling better experiences and outcomes in service delivery

Supported and delivered technology throughout the organisation to ensure service delivery continued during the pandemic.

Ensured the Council's cyber security measures were constantly, reviewed, updated and monitored with awareness raised among staff.

Developed dashboard capability for performance monitoring and reporting.

Supported project delivery throughout the organisation through the provision of cloud technologies and other online tools and facilities.

Objective 7: Provide robust financial management and risk management systems

Reviewed and updated the risk register throughout the organisation.

Continued to monitor and internally promote the Capital Project Monitoring System which tracks the progress of projects to provide reliable and up to date information which facilitates better coordination and more efficient management for the delivery of the projects.

Continued to develop the debt management unit to ensure timely income billing and debt management across the organisation.

Prepared the annual accounts for audit in line with the Local Authority Accounting in Ireland Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations.

The Annual Budget for 2021 was actively monitored and controlled with quarterly reports issued to Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The 3-year capital programme incorporating projects of €751m was produced for 2022–2024.

Consulted with the public on the local property tax variation procedure and brought proposals to elected members for approval.

The Council adopted a 2022 Revenue budget of €282m.

The 2020 Annual Financial Statement was prepared with subsequent audited accounts and audit report submitted to Council and the audit committee.

Appendices

Appendix 1.1 Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) at 31 December 2021 (Unaudited)

	Gross Expenditure 2021 €	Income 2021 €	Net Expenditure 2021 €
Housing and Building	83,654,125	85,988,469	(2,334,344)
Roads Transportation and Safety	30,265,657	6,112,547	24,153,110
Water Services	12,097,928	8,545,179	3,552,750
Development Management	19,473,384	10,995,747	8,477,637
Environmental Services	36,046,397	5,110,257	30,936,140
Recreation and Amenity	38,559,537	5,660,534	32,899,003
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	1,431,956	601,046	830,911
Miscellaneous Services	35,377,980	44,243,282	(8,865,302)
Total Expenditure/Income	256,906,965	167,257,061	
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates and Local Property Tax			89,649,904
Rates			131,418,709
Local Property Tax			5,449,671
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			47,218,476
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(47,191,515)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			26,961
General Reserve @ 1 January 2021			12,210,776
General Reserve @ 31 December 2021			12,237,737

	2021 €	2020 €
Fixed Assets		
Operational	2,156,328,553	2,128,057,110
Infrastructural	1,151,706,525	1,136,198,253
Community	11,385,832	11,631,281
Non-Operational	88,543,225	83,798,948
	3,407,964,136	3,359,685,593
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	72,716,391	79,791,799
Long Term Debtors	195,246,399	188,130,089
Current Assets		
Stocks	-	-
Trade Debtors and Prepayments	55,722,856	63,796,289
Bank Investments	412,170,467	335,370,466
Cash at Bank	9,612,240	36,736,854
Cash in Transit	33,676	33,676
	477,539,238	435,937,285
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)		
Bank Overdraft	-	-
Creditors and Accruals	110,200,473	104,107,487
Finance Leases	-	-
	110,200,473	104,107,487
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	367,338,765	331,829,798
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)		
Loans Payable	170,396,717	178,147,941
Finance Leases	-	-
Refundable deposits	33,858,775	31,814,255
Other	62,958,849	50,677,957
	267,214,340	260,640,153
Net Assets	3,776,051,350	3,698,797,125
Represented by		
Capitalisation Account	3,407,964,136	3,359,685,593
Income WIP	73,719,608	87,457,637
General Revenue Reserve	12,237,737	12,210,776
Other Specific Reserves	-	-
Other Balances	282,129,869	239,443,119
Total Reserves	3,776,051,350	3,698,797,125

Appendix 1.2 Entertainment and Associated Expenses

Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2001 requires that the annual report of a local authority record the expenditure and other particulars in connection with the provision of receptions and entertainment in relation to:

- a. Distinguished persons, and
- b. In connection with the holding of special events relevant to its function.

Pursuant to this requirement, South Dublin County Council hereby confirms that this figure was €833.00 in total for 2021.

Appendix 2.1 Current Elected Members

Clondalkin

Councillor Trevor Gilligan	FF
Councillor Shirley O'Hara	FG
Councillor Kenneth Egan	FG
Councillor Francis Timmons	IND
Councillor William Joseph Carey	SF
Councillor Peter Kavanagh	IND
Councillor Eoin Ó Broin	SD

Rathfarnham – Templeogue

Councillor Carly Bailey	SD
Councillor Yvonne Collins	FF
Councillor Lynn McCrave	FG
Councillor Pamela Kearns	LAB
Councillor Ronan McMahon	IND
Councillor David McManus	FG
Councillor Laura Donaghy	
Green	

Lucan

Councillor Ed O'Brien	FF
Councillor Vicki Casserly	FG
Councillor Liona O'Toole	IND
Councillor Paul Gogarty	IND
Councillor Joanna Tuffy	LAB

Palmerstown – North Clondalkin

Councillor Guss O'Connell	IND
Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh	SF
Councillor Madeleine Johansson	PBP
Councillor Alan Hayes	IND
Councillor Shane Moynihan	FF

Firhouse – Bohernabreena

Vacant Seat	Green
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Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan	FF
Councillor Brian Lawlor	FG
Councillor Emma Murphy	FF
Councillor Alan Edge	IND

Tallaght Central

Councillor Kieran Mahon	SOL
Councillor Charlie O'Connor	FF
Councillor Mick Duff	IND
Councillor Teresa Costello	FF
Councillor Cathal King	SF
Councillor Liam Sinclair	ARG

Tallaght South

Councillor Patrick Pearse Holohan	IND
Councillor Leah Whelan	SOL
Councillor Dermot Richardson	SF
Councillor Louise Dunne	SF
Councillor Baby Pereppadan	FG

Appendix 2.2 Payments made to Councillors in 2021

Payments made to Councillors under Section 142 of the Local Government Act

• Representational Payments Total	€859,825.18
• Area Committee Allowance	€21,144.33
• Monthly Payments	€251,777.29
• Vouched Expenses	€18,667.01
• Strategic Policy Committee Chairperson's Allowance Total	€45,000.00
• Mayor's Allowance	€29,892.20
• Deputy Mayor's Allowance	€5,979.48
• Training	€7,310.24
• Conferences	€3,123.37
• Other Payments	€1,676.20

Total of Expenses paid to members in respect of attendance at meetings of the County Council and its Committees	€1,244,395.29
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Appendix 2.3 Council Membership of Committees and Other Bodies

Area Committee Chairs

Clondalkin	Councillor Francis Timmons
Lucan / Palmerstown / North Clondalkin	Councillor Joanna Tuffy
Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse /Bohernabreena	Councillor Alan Edge
Tallaght	Councillor Teresa Costello

Audit Committee

The composition of the Audit Committee in 2021 was as follows:

- Eilis Quinlan, (Chair) Quinlan & Co Chartered Accountants
- Ann Horan, Non-Executive Director of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland
- George Kennington, Partner Audit, Crowe Ireland
- Martin Nolan, Director of Compliance and Professional Standards, Relate Software.
- Councillor Ed O'Brien*
- Councillor David McManus
- Councillor Guss O'Connell
- Councillor Teresa Costello*

* In October 2021, Councillor Teresa Costello replaced Councillor Ed O'Brien on the committee.

Joint Policing Committee Membership for 2021

Councillor Peter Kavanagh, Mayor
Councillor Emma Murphy (Chair)
Councillor Yvonne Collins
Councillor Carly Bailey
Councillor Derren O Bradaigh
Councillor Mick Duff
Councillor Louise Dunne
Councillor Cathal King
Councillor Lynn McCrave
Councillor Shane Moynihan
Councillor Eoin Ó Broin
Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan
Councillor Shirley O'Hara
Councillor Liona O'Toole
Councillor Baby Pereppadan

Sean Crowe T.D.
John Lahart T.D.
Emer Higgins T.D.
Paul Murphy T.D.
Mark Ward T.D.

Colm Ward, South Dublin County Council

Chief Superintendent Finbarr Murphy
Chief Superintendent Peter Duff
Superintendent Ian Lackey
Gemma Carton, Garda Diversion
James Phibbs, Garda Síochána

Sue Dorgan, PPN
Enda Creegan, PPN
Emer Meighan, PPN
Trevor Bissett – Drug and Alcohol Task Force Community
Grace Hill, Drug and Alcohol Task Force Community

Local Community Development Committee

Representative	Sector
Mary Corcoran	Community
Phil Mulvaney	
Tony Fegan	
Larry O'Neill	South Dublin County Partnership
Tricia Nolan	Public Participation Network Community Pillar
Gerry Stockil	
Kattia Siles Tomney	
Justin Byrne	Public Participation Network Environment Pillar
Aiden Lloyd	Public Participation Network Social Inclusion Pillar
Maurice Walsh	
Jessica Conlon	
Bibiana Savin	
Andy Leeson	Youth Services
Cllr Kieran Mahon	Elected Representatives
Cllr Alan Hayes	
Cllr David McManus	
Colm Ward	South Dublin County Council
Thomas Rooney	South Dublin Local Enterprise Office
Padraig Rehill	Health Services Executive
Margaret McQuillan	
Deirdre McKeon	Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB
Marguerite Gallagher	Department of Social Protection
Eugene Donnelly	

Appendix 3 Training and Conferences Attended

Name	Date	Location
AILG Module 1	16/09/21	Kerry
	18/09/21	Waterford
	23/09/21	Wicklow
	02/10/21	Sligo
	05/10/21	Tipperary
	07/10/21	Galway
Celtic Conference – Health & Safety	24/09/21 – 26/09/21	Cork
Celtic Conference – Mental Health	08/10/21 – 10/10/21	Cork
LAMA Annual Conference	03/11/21 – 05/11/21	Sligo
AILG Module 2	06/11/21	Galway
	10/11/21	Kilkenny
Irish Planning Institute Conference	17/11/21 – 19/11/21	Wexford

Appendix 4 Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty

Section 42 of the 2014 Local Government Act requires public bodies to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality, and protect human rights for staff, service users and policy beneficiaries across all their functions. Specifically, public bodies are required to implement three steps:

1. **Assess:** establish those issues that face the identified groups for the Duty that have a relevance for the functions of SDCC.
2. **Address:** check plans and policies at the final draft or review stage to establish what actions are being taken to address these issues and what further actions need to be included for an adequate and appropriate response to these issues.
3. **Report:** report annually on progress made in implementing the Duty and addressing the issues identified.

The identified groups, for the Public Sector Duty are those:

- covered by the grounds under our equality legislation: gender (including gender identity); civil status; family status (including lone parents and carers); age; disability; sexual orientation; race (encompassing race, colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins); religion; and membership of the Traveller community; and
- groups covered by the ground of socio-economic status, who are at risk of or experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

In 2021, the Council established an Equality and Human Rights Working Group to guide and monitor the implementation of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty.

To date the working group has:

- Participated in equality and human rights training and training specifically on the Duty,
- Developed an equality and human rights values statement for the organisation which sets out benchmarks for our ambition in implementing the Duty,
- Gathered the evidence for and completed an assessment of equality and human rights issues facing the identified groups for the Duty, and relevant to our functions, in compliance with the first step of the Duty,
- Presented the assessment of issues to a cross-section of civil society organisations representative of the identified groups, and received their contribution to and validation of the assessment,
- Drafted the detailed SDCC equality and human rights framework for implementing the Duty,
- Identified key moments to implement the Duty during 2022 which include new strategies, and a review of current policies and operational procedures in the first annual workplan developed for the Duty,
- Prepared a draft communications campaign to roll out in 2022.

Appendix 5 Energy Efficiency Report

The Energy Efficiency Report for 2021 will be included in the full Annual Report once the report has been finalised.

Appendix 6 Protected Disclosures

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 requires the publication of an annual report relative to Protected Disclosures received.

Pursuant to this requirement, South Dublin County Council hereby confirms that no reports were received in 2021.

Appendix 7 Local Performance Indicators

Corporate Performance and Change Management	2021 Totals
Number of Customer Queries received	83715
Number of Customer Queries closed within deadline	74269
Number of Members Reps received	10233
Number of Members Reps closed within deadline	5580
Number of Freedom of Information/Data Access Requests responded to	295
Number of Citizens actively engaged in Council consultations (incl. consultation portal, citizen surveys and PB votes)	9410
Telephone calls answered	230507
Answered within 20 seconds (%)	94.325
Media queries responded to	348
Fix your street queries responded to	5654
Social Media Reach	16673289
Social Media Engagement	482378
Web pages opened	2275387
Staff employed - WTE	1311
Percentage attendance rate on courses	85.4167
Percentage of Training Programme for 2020 delivered (April to April)	42.333
Apprenticeships/graduates	23
Number of Customer Care Queries/Complaints received in Irish	0
Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development	
LEO - jobs supported	45
LEO - projects approved	32
LEO - training participants	2081
LEO - mentoring sessions	573
Business support grants spend	17116.15
Business support grant spend (projects)	22
Business initiative with Chamber meetings held	211
Shopfront grants paid	64675
Grange Castle jobs sustained	5328
Library - visitors actual	271794
Library - visitors online	99887
Library - items borrowed	681823
Library - computer sessions	10438
Libraries - events hosted	2025
Library wi-fi users	22672
Arts grants paid	130
Arts events hosted	125
Visitors civic theatre	4884
Visitors Rua Red	67284
GC Jobs (Construction)	788
SDCC Investment in Tourism Projects	9486.99
SDCC Investment in Grange Castle Business Park Projects	0

Environment, Water and Climate Change	2021 Totals
Grass cut - Hectares	6511
Trees inspected	14466
Trees pruned	7537
Trees removed	521
Trees planted	688
Tonnage of waste collected - street bins	500.34
Tonnage of waste collected - litter/illegal dumping	7235.26
Tonnage of waste collected - road sweeping/gullies	10683.32
Km. of roads swept monthly	930
Derelict site/Dangerous building inspections	212
No. of environment inspections	1767
Litter - fines issued	388
No. of waste enforcement notices issued	77
% of unaccounted for water	36.0525
Drinking water network repairs completed	634
Water pollution incidents dealt with	72
Plastic bottles saved through the use of drinking water from fountains	70042
Number of environmental/climate action awareness sessions	68
No. of dogs impounded	240
Number of horses impounded	45
DFB fire incidents mobilised	2000
DFB Ambulance incidents mobilised	14192
Housing, Social and Community Development	
Total housing stock	9688
Construction starts	10
Construction completions	2
Total housing needs assessed	7233
Allocations - New Tenancies	577
No. of voids	91
Time taken to re-let dwellings (weeks)	29.8758
Total RAS units	1065
Total HAP units	4073
Total units leased	1803
No. of housing grants approved	411
Housing Maintenance requests received	17202
Housing Maintenance requests completed	13933
No. of PRTB Inspections	907
Total PPN registrations	65
Planned Maintenance - units completed	53
No. of community grants issued	224
No. of sports programmes	587
No. of community events	18
No. of sports programme participants	74025
No. of community event participants	1209
Visitors to leisure facilities	210304
BER inspections	0
BER Certs published	0
Mechanical Inspections	1680
Energy upgrades completed	0
Electrical inspections completed	954
No of anti-social incidents reported	891
No of actions taken in response to reports	6018
JPC and Policing Fora meetings held	92
No of Local Festivals supported	0
DPG Works	173
Tidy Towns Groups Supported	1
No. of CE participants	84
% of CE participants allocated	63.333

Land Use, Planning and Transportation	2021 Totals
Planning applications received - new housing	125
Planning applications received - new housing (units)	2907
Planning granted new houses - applications	45
Planning granted new houses - applications (units)	989
Planning applications housing - applications	170
Planning applications housing - applications (units)	3896
Planning Refused - no of houses	567
Planning applications - other	916
Planning other - no granted	790
Planning other - no. refused	58
Additional information requests - all classes	337
% decisions upheld by ABP	65.5
Pre-planning meetings held	97
Planning enforcements initiated	244
Enforcement files closed	62
Building control inspections (number of units inspected)	197
Commencement notices received (number of units commencing)	1272
TIC requests received	8
TIC completions	1
Area of footpath repaired in m2	74985
Area of new footpath in m2	1100
Area of road repaired in m2	97583
Area of new road in m2	1440
Area of cycle track repaired in m2	14763.25
Area of new cycle track in m2	14127
No of public lights in charge	30752
No of public lights repaired	5543
Traffic lights repaired	707
Public Lighting LED Programme	1561

Appendix 8 Senior Management Team

Chief Executive	Daniel McLoughlin
Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management	Lorna Maxwell
Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development	Frank Nevin (retired); Jason Frehill
Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change	Teresa Walsh
Director of Housing, Social and Community Development	Colm Ward
Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation	Mick Mulhern
Head of Finance	Ronan Fitzgerald
Head of Information Systems	Tommy Kavanagh
County Architect	Eddie Conroy
Law Agent	Lorcan Gógan (retired); Sean O'Shea