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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council May 2022 County Council Meeting held on Monday 9 May 2022 hybrid through Microsoft 365 Teams.

### **PRESENT**

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

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin.  |
| Directors/ Heads of FunctionHead of FinanceHead of I.T.County Librarian | L. Maxwell, J. Frehill, M. Mulhern, C. Ward, T. Walsh R. FitzGerald.T. Kavanagh.P. Fusco |
| Senior Executive OfficersSenior Executive Planner Executive Planner | C. Hurson, S. ConroyS. DuffJ. Phelan |
| Administrative Officers | M. Reilly, N. Noonan |
| Senior Staff OfficerStaff OfficerAssistant Staff OfficerGraduateSord | L. AbbeyA. MallonA. Hagan, D. MurphyB. CoughlanA. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor, P. Kavanagh presided.

Apologies were received from Councillor E. O’Brien

A minute’s silence was observed as a mark of respect for the recent death of the husband of Councillor L. McCrave.

The Mayor, Councillor P. Kavanagh, welcomed everyone and informed the Members of the etiquette for Hybrid Meetings:

Members attending remotely must check that they can access the “Chat Function” before commencing the meeting

Members can indicate they wish to speak on an item through the chat function – using “Speak please”

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

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

Members attending in person can indicate they wish to speak by signalling to the Mayor.

**WEBCASTING NOTICE**

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Councils website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014, the Data Protection Act 1988, General Data Protection Regulations (EU) 2016/679 and the Defamation Act 2009. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the legislation.

Therefore, by entering the Council Chamber and using the seats around the meeting tables, public gallery etc. you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting.

At the outset of the meeting Councillor S. Moynihan, on behalf of the Fine Fail group, paid tribute to Councillor E. O’Brien as former Group Leader and for his work as Mayor 2020-2021.

At this point the Mayor Councillor P. Kavanagh proposed and the Members **AGREED** to vary the sequence of items on the agenda in order to take Headed Item no. 2 **(H2)** out of sequence.

### **H1/0522 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

(a) Minutes of the April Council Minutes on 11th April 2022 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor P. Kavanagh seconded by Councillor F. Timmons

[(a) April Council Meeting Minutes - 11th April 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75086)

### **H3/0522 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

### **a) Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee**

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

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

**b) Clondalkin Area Committee**

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

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

**c) Tallaght Area Committee**

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

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

**d)** **Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin Area Committee**

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

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

### **H4/0522 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

### **H5/0522 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

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

### **H6/0522 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

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

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 22 (f), Questions numbered Q1 – Q26 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0522 QUESTION: Councillor Yvonne Collins**

Does the Chief Executive acknowledge that the creation of new Tree Preservation Orders is a valid mechanism for enhanced preservation status for specific trees and will a public consultation take place in regards to the Council's Tree Preservation Orders policy?

**REPLY:**

The Council’s agreed ‘Living with Trees – SDCC tree management policy’ plays a key role in detailing how the Council will manage, maintain, enhance, and increase our tree coverage within the County. This policy, alongside policies and objectives in the County Development Plan and in the Climate Action Plan and Corporate Plan, also ensure that new development proposals give adequate consideration to existing trees on a development site and wherever possible these policies seek to retain trees or where there is an impact ensure that suitable mitigation and reprovision measures are taken. The management and protection of trees on potential development sites and on Council owned lands is strongly outlined in the recently prepared Draft County Development Plan and the Living with Tree SDCC Tree Management Policy 2021 -2026.  As such, the protection of all existing trees in the County on potential development sites is carried out through the assessment of planning proposals (planning applications, Part 10s, and Part 8s). Protection and management of all existing trees on Council lands in the public realm will be carried in accordance with the Living with Trees SDCC Tree Management Policy 2021 -2026.

The establishment of a TPO does bring a specific designated tree / trees under planning control and therefore additional restrictions do apply.

Should the planning authority propose to make a TPO this would involve a public consultation process as set out in section 205 of the consolidated Planning and Development Act

### **Q2/0522 QUESTION: Councillor Yvonne Collins**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm when will the review of the existing Tree Preservation Orders be carried out and will the review set out formally the stated reasons which could apply to Tree Preservation Orders under Section 205 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)?

**REPLY:**

As set out in the Council’s agreed ‘Living with Trees - SDCC tree management policy’ the Council will carry out a review of existing TPO’s within the County. It is intended to carry out this review within the year. Initiating a review of an existing TPO or an assessment of a possible TPO is an executive function. Decisions related to the final making, amending, or revoking a TPO is a reserved function. The making, amending, or revoking of a TPO would need to include stated reasons to inform any final decision. Each assessment would need to be carried out on its own merits and it is not intended to have a set of criteria, however, any recommendation from the executive to make a new TPO would need to demonstrate significant value.

### **Q3/0522 QUESTION: Councillor Yvonne Collins**

To ask the Chief Executive, where planning permission is granted for a development to build to sell and the developer subsequently opts to retain the units and rent them, what if any impact does this have on the Council's entitlements under Part V - noting the Council's preference is to acquire properties rather than leasing them

**REPLY:**

Any Part V agreement is made through negotiations with the Developer.  Where the Planning Permission is granted for build to sell units within a development, there is no impact on the Council's entitlements under Part V.  All of the following options are open to the Council in respect of Part V, subject to negotiation with the Developer and funding approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage:

* Transfer of completed houses on-site
* Transfer of houses off-site
* Leasing of houses on or off site
* Combinations of the above, including transfer of on-site land

Although it is the Councils preference to acquire Part V's there are instances where this it is not always possible and in these instances the Council and Developer will negotiate to agree one of the alternative options that is acceptable to both parties.

### **Q4/0522 QUESTION: Councillor T. Costello**

Following on from the motion passed by the Council in December with regards to the Halloween Event for youths in Tallaght Stadium. Can the Chief Executive provide an update on what actions has been taken since?

**REPLY:**

The Council had engaged with an event provider to explore the feasibility of hosting a Halloween Event to be held in October 2022. The costs suggested were prohibitive. Discussions on an event in accordance with the Council's budget and in light of constraints associated with the construction project are ongoing; proposals when further developed will be brought to members attention.

### **Q5/0522 QUESTION: Councillor M. Duff**

Would the Chief Executive inform this Council as to the number of applicants who are twelve years or longer on the Waiting List and how many of those applicants are waiting for suitable four bed accommodation?

**REPLY:**

There are currently 436 households on the social housing list who have been twelve years or longer on the list, including 24 households with a four-bedroom housing need.

Choice Based Letting (CBL) has been the Council’s primary method of housing allocation since October 2011. CBL allows applicants to remain on the housing list until they secure an allocation in a property in an area that they are interested in with many applicants, who would likely be successful with an expression of interest for available homes, choosing to wait to express interest in specific properties in certain areas.  The average waiting time on list for all allocations completed in 2021 was 9.67 years.

### **Q6/0522 QUESTION: Councillor L. Dunne**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the average waiting time for HAP applications to be approved?

**REPLY:**

HAP applications are being processed within approximately four weeks at present. However, it should be noted that HAP applicants must first be approved for social housing supports (eligible for inclusion on the social housing list) before they can submit a HAP application.  The HAP application is a completely separate process and, in so far as possible, applicants should submit a housing application in advance of attempting to secure private rented accommodation with HAP support.

The submission of application forms, both for social housing and HAP support, without full details and all relevant supporting documentation can result in longer processing times.

### **Q7/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor L. Dunne**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the average time a family spends in a hotel/homeless hub before an offer is made for a social house and what time on the social housing list would a family have before entering such homelessness accommodation?

**REPLY:**

The length of time households spend in homeless services varies greatly depending on a range of particular family circumstances including length of time on the housing list, length of time availing of homeless services (emergency accommodation) prior to moving to a family hub, their level of engagement with support workers and whether or not the family is searching proactively for private rented accommodation through the HAP scheme, which generally offers the quickest exit from homeless services.

Choice Based Letting (CBL) is the Council’s primary method of housing allocation and is the best option for applicants to secure social housing, unless they have been approved as a priority applicant (homeless/medical).

The current average time in family hubs is approximately nine months while the average time on the housing list for households allocated accommodation by the Council during 2021 was 9.67 years.

### **Q8/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor L. Dunne**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on what plans have been initiated by the Council in relation to the motion passed in December with regards to the Halloween Event for youths in Tallaght Stadium and what actions has been taken since?

**REPLY:**

The Council had engaged with an event provider to explore the feasibility of hosting a Halloween Event to be held in October 2022. The costs suggested were prohibitive. Discussions on an event in accordance with the Council's budget and in light of constraints associated with the construction project are ongoing; proposals when further developed will be brought to members attention.

### **Q9/0522 QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

To ask the Chief Executive how many Data Centres are in the County Council area and how it compares to other local authorities?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council hosts a significant number of data centres within the Dublin Metropolitan Area.  The most comprehensive figures are from May 2021 indicating that 61 out of the 66 data centres nationwide were in the Greater Dublin area, with almost 50% of those within South Dublin. As of early 2022 there are estimated to be approximately 70 operational data centres in Ireland.

As of May 2021, there were 34 operational data centres in South Dublin or immediately adjacent. Twenty-three of these were within Grange Castle/Profile Park/Dublin 22 with a further eleven operational within CityWest/Parkwest/Dublin 24.  A breakdown of operational, under construction and planning approved is provided below.

***Table 1.0 Data Centres in South Dublin and immediate surrounds***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Operational** | **Under Construction** | **Planning Approved** | **Planning Application** |
| Grange Castle/Profile Park/Dublin 22 | 23 | 2 | 8 | 4 |
| CityWest/Parkwest/Dublin 24 | 11 | 1 | 4 | - |
| Total | 34 | 3 | 12 | 4 |

 Source: Bitpower Energy Solutions Biannual Report May 2021

### **Q10/0522 QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

Can the Chief Executive give a report on the Tallaght District Heating System to include, the legal and commercial basis on which the holding company was established, what protections exist to maintain the company and infrastructure in public ownership - where any decisions regarding future changes in the ownership model lie?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin District-heating CLG is a not-for-profit Company Limited by Guarantee incorporated under the Companies Act 2014.

Trading as “Heatworks”, it is a single-share company fully owned by South Dublin County Council . It is registered with the Office of the Revenue Commissioners and for VAT. Audited accounts have been prepared and approved. As a Company Limited by Guarantee, it is one of a number of companies for specific purposes established by SDCC such as Grange-Castle Business-park, Tallaght Leisure Services, Civic-theatre etc.

The company’s mission is to promote a low-carbon economy in South Dublin County including the development of a range of renewable technologies. This will initially focus on the potential of district-heating through a pilot project centred on Tallaght town-centre and based on the intensification and use of recyclable waste heat from the ADSIL (Amazon Data-Services Ireland Ltd.) datacentre at the junction of Belgard Road/Airton Road.   As the first publicly owned heat utility in Ireland, this project has proved innovative in terms of international Green-procurement, the development of new Energy-supply contracts, the design and construction of 4G large-scale air-to-water electric heat pumps and medium-voltage boilers. It is hoped that as the district-heating network is rolled out that new opportunities in training and education in renewable-heat technology will be developed including in partnership with TUD-Tallaght who will be connected to the heat-network.

In commercial terms, the company infrastructure is being constructed with the benefit of grant-support from Inter-Reg NW and more significantly from the National Climate Action Fund through the Dept. of Environment, Climate and Communications. The company will be aided by the provision of recyclable waste-heat at no charge by Amazon Data Services Ireland Ltd. This heat needs to be increased in temperature to transmit it through the heat-network and this will be achieved through efficient air-to-water electric heat-pumps.  While the company is not-for-profit, the system has to be properly maintained and efficient to ensure its low-carbon targets and will need additional capital funding to allow its expansion in Tallaght.  The company must remain viable while offering good value to its customers and its customer-charges will reflect this balance.

Heatworks has contracted e-Next Forum, an Irish subsidiary of Fortum- a Finnish multi-national energy-supply company to Design-Build-Operate-Maintain the heat-network.  This contract is for a period of 10 years. The network is still under construction and the operational phase of the network i.e., distribution of heat will commence late August 2022. There are no plans to change the company status or structure before the end of this initial contract period.  Any changes in ownership or structure will lie with South Dublin County Council.

### **Q11/0522 QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

Can the Chief Executive update on the status of the Noel Browne commemoration as agreed by Council. At last asking in November 2021 I was informed through Membersnet that the commemorative stone had been ordered. Can the Chief Executive please provide an image of commemorative piece?

**REPLY:**

After a significant and regrettably unexpected delay, the commemorative stone 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 is expected to be installed on the grass verge, in the vicinity of Peamount Hospital, w/c 2nd May 2022.

The inscription will be made onto the stone once installed.  This is to ensure that the script "levels" are correct.

See attached image

[Q11 Commemorative Stone - Dr Noel Browne: Mock-up image](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75062)

### **Q12/0522 QUESTION: Councillor David McManus**

To ask the Chief Executive the number of housing rent accounts in arrears currently, the number as a percentage of total, and the number of these accounts in arrears more than one year, three years and five years, and if a statement can be made on efforts to ensure better collection?

**REPLY:**

The number of accounts currently in arrears is 5,859, this includes 2,161 accounts that are less than 6 weeks in arrears, leaving 3,698 accounts in arrears of more than 6 weeks.

5,859 represents 59% of the housing rents accounts in SDCC.

The accounts in arrears greater than one year are summarised as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of accounts in arrears | Number of years in arrears |
| 1065 | 1-3 years |
| 218 | 3-5 years |
| 67 | Greater than 5 years |

The Council’s Debt Management Unit take a compassionate approach to tenants who have found themselves accruing housing rent arrears and have been endeavouring to engage with tenants in rent arrears through several means, including:

* Regular correspondence with tenants concerning their arrears
* “Face to face” contact with our Housing Inspectors to assist tenants to understand their arrears situation
* Discussing various payment options to address the arrears within a reasonable period
* Agreeing sustainable debt management plans to resolve the arrears issue.

During the period of the pandemic, in line with Government policy, the Debt Management Unit did not engage in any legal action for the recovery of dwellings. The Debt Management Unit continues to engage with tenants with arrears to assist in resolving their arrears. While the focus of the Debt Management Unit is to engage with tenants and help them address their arrears, it is becoming evident that a number of tenants are refusing to engage constructively in addressing their arrears which is resulting in an increase in litigation.

### **Q13/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor David McManus**

To ask the Chief Executive the average social housing rent charged per week in 2019 and now in 2022, and if a statement is available on differential rent re-assessments that took place during COVID-19 pandemic, with households' reduced incomes?

**REPLY:**

The weekly rent charged by the Council to social housing tenants under our Differential Rent Scheme is based on total household income.  The average social housing weekly rent payable in March 2019 was €47.79 while the average weekly rent payable in March 2022 was €55.24.

The Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) scheme commenced on 24th March 2020 and 1,286 households submitted evidence of PUP during this period which resulted the re-assessment the rent charged for 486 households.  The PUP scheme ceased on 24th March 2022 and the rents team are currently in the process of reviewing the relevant accounts to request updated income details for re- assessment purposes.

### **Q14/0522 QUESTION: Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update report on previous motion (Item No: 69755) April 2021 - agreeing to pilot project mapping discarded nitrous oxide cartridges (AKA silver bullets) across the county and any subsequent actions now planned in response or deemed appropriate?

**REPLY:**

The motion relating to this matter which was on the July 2021 County Council meeting agenda requested that we map finds of nitrous oxide cannisters.  This exercise has been undertaken by the Public Realm Section since August '21 and in the first report in November '21 finds had been reported at a total of 18 locations and repeat finds and reports had been made about some of these locations.  Those locations included -

* Council parks (Sean Walsh Park, Corkagh Park, Bancroft Park, Killenarden Park, Dodder Valley Park, St Cuthberts Park)
* Housing Estates (Boden Park, Monalea, Aylesbury, Woodford, Quarryvale, Adamstown, Balgaddy)
* Other locations (N7 pedestrian bridge at the Red Cow, Hellfire Club, Cruagh Wood, Grand Canal, Kilakee viewing point).

The exercise to gather this information is continuing, it has been ongoing for 9 months and will continue to August '22 to cover a full 12 month period.  Only larger scale finds are being reported by Public Realm staff, finds of one or two 'silver bullets' are occurring daily across the county through daily cleaning activities and these are not being reported. Since the last report finds continue to be reported in the locations previously listed, large scale finds have since been reported in the following additional locations -

* Bolbrook Estate,
* St Cuthberts Meadows,
* Neilstown Shops,
* Greenfort Estate,
* Rowlagh Estate,
* Finnstown Priory,
* Lealand Estate,
* St James' Road.

The finds indicate use of these cannisters at some of the locations, while in other cases they appear to have been dumped in large quantities at the location of the find.  The finds of larger cannisters of the substance appear to be more frequent now with each of these estimated to be equivalent to approximately 50 'silver bullets'.  It has not been possible to quantify the number of small cannisters found as on occasions they have been found to number in the hundreds at a location.  The data gathered to date shows that nitrous oxide use is occurring across the county however it cannot be used to determine how widespread this use is.  It should be noted that use of this substance is currently not illegal and anecdotal evidence suggests that the cannisters can be easily purchased on-line.

### **Q15/0522 QUESTION: Councillor Eoin Ó Broin**

The rural areas and towns of South Dublin County qualify for rural development funding directly from Government through the Dept of Rural and Community Development. Over a billion euro of funding is currently allocated to implement the current 2021 to 2025 policy (Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025). Given that significant emphasis in the current policy is focused on town and village regeneration, what is SDCC strategy to maximize the percentage of program funding available for Brittas, Saggart, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Bohernabreena and Glenasmole?

**REPLY:**

A number of village schemes have been delivered recently and in the coming weeks Templeogue Village Improvement will be completed.

Staff resources are currently being allocated to delivering the District Centre Enhancement Programme. It is expected that the Castletymon scheme will start construction before the end of the year.

Government funding opportunities for villages will continue to be monitored and if resource capacity is available then an application will be made.

### **Q16/0522 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail his endeavours to facilitate Ukrainian Refuges; will he confirm contacts he has had in respect of the issue and future plans in that regard and will he make a general statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council has re-established the South Dublin Community Response Forum to coordinate the community-led response to support Ukrainian refugees as they arrive in the County. The forum, which is chaired by the Council’s Chief Executive, brings relevant statutory, community and voluntary agencies together at a local level to be an information source and signpost to services including local health, education, social and other integration needs as well as identifying and addressing issues arising for Ukrainian refugees in the County where possible. The Mayor of South Dublin County, Councillor Peter Kavanagh, also participates in this forum on behalf of the Elected Members of the Council.

The Council is providing relevant online information in English and Ukrainian, including on the Council's website and through a Facebook page with details also shared on other social media channels.  The Forum gathers updates from all partners and will continue to share relevant information through these channels.  Any updates from state, community and voluntary agencies can be sent to communityresponseforum@sdublincoco.ie for inclusion on the website and Facebook page.  Please see  <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/news/community-response-forum-for-ukraine.html> for further details.

The Government is currently providing accommodation to Ukrainian refugees through the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) with the oversight of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY).  Housing supports are not being directly provided by this Council at this stage, but this Council is supporting DCEDIY and IPAS as required in their ongoing work to provide accommodation.  Further information in this regard is available here:<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/d9f43-international-protection-accommodation-services-ipas/>.

### **Q17/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive how many Housing/Homeless applications the Council has received so far this year; will he detail actions being taken and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council has received 553 new housing applications to date in 2022 including application requiring homeless supports.

Increasing housing supply is critical to meeting current housing need, including for homeless households, and the Council's Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 outlines our approach to meeting the social housing delivery targets set for the Council under the national housing plan, Housing for All.

Our Homeless Unit provides assistance to those who find themselves homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.  This unit operates an advice clinic in County Hall and provides outreach and place-finding services across the County as well as detailing emergency accommodation options including central placement, self-accommodate, family hubs and other supported accommodation.  Staff in the homeless unit will organise emergency accommodation for those assessed as homeless through the Assessment and Placement Service.

### **Q18/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to detail actions being taken to promote this Council's message with regard to Climate Change and will he present an update in that regard?

**REPLY:**

A Communications Plan was developed to document and promote the work being carried out by South Dublin County Council to achieve the targets of the Climate Change Action Plan.

Through this Climate Change Communication Plan we aim to capture and promote all this activity through a range of communications channels including but not limited to:

* Climate Change newsletter – giving updates on actions in the Climate Change Action Plan and general climate news.
* Climate Change website – currently in development. This will provide a new home for all climate issues in South Dublin, giving citizens advice and guidance on how they can live more sustainably, while also providing updates on progress being made by South Dublin County Council.
* Social Media – the Council’s social media channels are used to deliver climate messages and updates to citizens. The hashtag #SDCCClimateAction is used to promote climate messages.
* Events – South Dublin County Council delivers a range of events every year to inform and educate the citizens of the county on a range of climate issues. Amongst these are Dublin Climate Action Week which is delivered in partnership with the other Dublin Local Authorities, CARO and Codema. The Week aims to inspire, share knowledge, and highlight best practice on climate action as we work toward creating a healthier, more sustainable Dublin.

### **Q19/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm plans to further promote Exercise and Wellbeing throughout our County and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Community Department has recently published a tender for a strategic review and forward planning for sports and recreation in the County. This process is intended to engage specialist consultants to develop a multi-annual plan for sport and recreation to maximise and synergise the resources of both the local sports partnership and the Council's sports development team.  It will assess the potential impact of collaborative working with the newly funded programmes coming within the remit of the local authority, including through Sláintecare Healthy Communities, Healthy Ireland, and Active Cities.  The plan will align with the key goals of the Healthy Ireland and Sports Ireland national frameworks as well as existing plans for active travel and public realm development across the County.  It will also outline the key opportunities ahead to ensure the maximum impact of all health, sport and recreation resources, sports amenities, and infrastructure across South Dublin County.

The proposed new local sports plan will be developed and progressed in conjunction with the Social, Community & Equality Strategic Policy Committee and should be published by early 2023.

### **Q20/0522 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to give details on the progress of the Tree Programme as agreed at Budget time and may we have a statement?

**REPLY:**

We are currently in the final year of the three year tree maintenance programme covering the period 2020 to '22.  Detailed reports on progress in the delivery of the programme are presented twice yearly to the area committees, the last reports having been presented in October/November of 2021.  It is proposed that the next detailed updates will be presented to the June meetings of the area committees. The table below gives a summary of the number of locations (estates or roads) which were included in the programme for tree maintenance works also indicating how many have been completed, how many are in progress and how many have not yet commenced.  Of the total of 151 locations included for maintenance in the 3 year programme, works at 142 of those locations are now completed (94% complete).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Completed** | **In progress** | **Not started** |
|  Lucan, Palmerstown, North Clondalkin |  42 locations | 2  | 2 |
|  Clondalkin |  20 locations | 3 | 0 |
|  Tallaght |  26 locations | 0  | 2 |
|  Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena |  54 locations | 0 | 0 |
|  **Totals** | **142 locations** | **5** | **4** |

Tree planting took place in the period January to March this year, the following are details of the number of trees planted.  Arrangements are being made for further tree planting during the next suitable period being November '22 to March '23.

* Jan '22  -  1,248 trees planted
* Feb '22  -     400 trees planted
* March '22  -  977 trees planted

### **Q21/0522 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to furnish details of cases being pursued across the County under the Derelict Sites Act; may we have those details in respect of each Electoral area and may we have a statement?

**REPLY:**

The information requested is set out below. Sites/properties that constitute derelict sites within the definition contained in Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 are entered on the Register of Derelict Sites. Sites that are under investigation are not routinely entered on the register until such time as investigations are completed and a determination made that the site is derelict.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DS Ref**  | **Reg No**  | **Address of Property**  | **Owner**  | **Address of Owner**  | **Occupier**  | **Electoral Area**  | **Section 8(2) Notice Intention to Register**  | **Section 11 Notice Works Required**  | **Section 8(7)Entered on to Register**  | **Valuation**  | **Valuation Date**  | **Levy applied from**  | **Annual value of Levy to date 31/12/19**  | **Annual Value of Levy 2020**  |
| 1595X  | 19  | Sites at No,3 Ballymount Road Lower, Walkinstown, Dublin 12  | Mr. Yung Yiu Ronnie Tang & Miss Sokam Wong  | c/o 65 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1  | Unoccupied  | Rathfarnham - Templeogue  | 21/02/2014  | 14/03/2014  | 26/06/2014  | €300,000  | 20/03/2020  | 2016  | €15,000  | €21,000  |
| 1734  | 20  | Capri' Bungalow, Whitechurch Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16  | Cashwood Poles Ltd  | Cashwood Poles Ltd.Ballycrystal,Bunclody,Co. Wexford  | Unoccupied  | Firhouse - Bohernanbreena  | 03/03/2014  | 26/01/2015  | 29/07/2014  | €750,000  | 18/03/2020  | 2016  | €16,500  | €52,500  |
| 1317A  | 22  | Ballyroan House Lodge, Ballyboden Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16  | Ballycragh Developments Ltd  | 4 Inver Mews, Old Chapel Ground, Arklow, Co. Wicklow  | Unoccupied  | Rathfarnham - Templeogue  | 14/11/2013  | 05/02/2013  | 04/11/2014  | €300,000  | 20/03/2020  | 2018  | €7,500  | €21,000  |
| 1726  | 27  | 38 Russell Crescent, Jobstown, Tallaght,   Dublin 24  | Sean McGowan  | 38 Russell Crescent, Jobstown, Tallaght,        Dublin 24  | Unoccupied  | Tallaght South  | 08/12/2014  | 21/01/2014  | 16/02/2015  | €70,000  | 30/03/2016  | 2018  | €2,100  | €4,900  |
| 1759  | 30  | Land Between New Hall & Deselby, N81 opp Topaz,Tallaght, Dublin 24  | David McCreevey & Kevin O'Hare  | 2 Saggart Lakes, Citywest. Saggart, Co. Dublin & River Lodge, Firhouse, Dublin 24  | Unoccupied  | Tallaght South  | 29/05/2015  | 18/09/2014  | 26/08/2015  | €65,000  | 14/04/2016  | 2018  | €1,950  | €4,550  |
| 1701  | 34  | 35 Wheatfield Road, Palmerstown, D.20  | Della Moynihan  | 3/4 Ushers Quay, D.8  | Unoccupied  | Palmerstown - Fonthill  | 10/06/2016  | 08/07/2014  | 15/08/2016  | €275,000  | 24/01/2017  | 2018  | €8,250  | €19,250  |
| 1817  | 40  | Lynch's Lane, Newcastle, Co Dublin  | Anthony Mc Dermott  | 36 Cloona Crescent, Dunmurray, Belfast BT17 OHG, Northern Ireland  | Unoccupied  | Clondalkin  | 30/11/2016  | 16/09/2016  | 02/02/2017  | €160,000  | 20/07/2017  | 2018  | €4,800  | €11,200  |
| 1825  | 45  | 61 Swiftbrook Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24  | Permanent TSB  | 56-59 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2  | Unoccupied  | Tallaght South  | 29/03/2017  | n/a to date  | 16/03/2018  | €180,000  | 16/10/2018  | 2019  | €5,400  | €12,600  |
| 1865  | 48  | Chetwynd's Cottage, Greenhills Road, Dublin 12  | Walkinstown Capital Development Ltd  | 29, Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2 D02Y Y38  | Unoccupied  | Rathfarnham - Templeogue  | 11/12/2018  | n/a  | 27/02/2019  | €290,000  | 01/11/2019  | 2020  | ------  | €20,300  |
| 1880  | 49  | Land adjacent to Rowlagh House, Saint Mark’s Crescent, Clondalkin, Dublin 22  | Michael O’Connor  | Rowlagh House, Saint Mark’s Crescent, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, D22V0A3Ballymount House, Parkway Business Centre, Ballymount Road Lower, Dublin 24, D24XNE2C/O Kelland Group Limited, Russell Square Centre, Unit 5 Fortunestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 D24TX4H19 Bellevue Copse, Booterstown. Blackrock, Co Dublin, A94W524  | Unoccupied  | Palmerstown - Fonthill  | 18/05/2021  | N/A  | 08/06/2021  |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1882  | 50  | 9 Castle Lawns, Tallaght, Dublin 24  | Niamh Pawle  | 9 Castle Lawns, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24EYH7  | Unoccupied  | Tallaght Central  | 18/05/2021  | 03/03/2020  | 08/06/2021  |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1807  | 51  | 24, 24a, 24b, 24c St. Maelruan's Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24  | Ashleigh Roche, Receiver, Grant Thornton  | 13 - 18 City Quay, Dublin 2, D02 ED70  | Unoccupied  | Tallaght Central  | 02/06/2021  | 09/11/2016  | 12/07/2021  |   |   |   |   |   |

### **Q22/0522 QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive has he considered producing a booklet in Ukrainian on available education classes , foodbanks, supports etc within SDCC for the Ukrainian refugees?

**REPLY:**

As part of the South Dublin Community Response Forum to coordinate the community-led response to support Ukrainian refugees as they arrive in the County, the Council is providing relevant online information in English and Ukrainian, including on the Council's website and through a Facebook page with details also shared on other social media channels.  The Forum gathers updates from all partners and will continue to share relevant information through these channels.  Any updates from state, community and voluntary agencies can be sent to communityresponseforum@sdublincoco.ie for inclusion on the website and Facebook page.

Please see  <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/news/community-response-forum-for-ukraine.html> for further details.

### **Q23/0522 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive how the issue of wheelchair accessibility in Community Centres can be addresses and to ask would he make a statement on same?

**REPLY:**

A recent review of community facilities requested that all relevant boards of management outline accessibility levels within their centres, including providing details of ramps, accessible entrances/exits, toilets, and lifts. Some follow-ups are now required to complete the full picture of current accessibility levels across our community centres.

Accessibility is built into the universal design process employed by our Architects' Department for all recent and planned community facilities and where accessibility is an issue in older community facilities, this will be addressed where possible and practicable within the planned maintenance programme for community centres.

### **Q24/0522 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive how the issue dog fouling can be addressed within our county and he intends to address it?

**REPLY:**

Under [**Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997,**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1997/act/12/section/22/enacted/en/html)where faeces has been deposited by a dog in any place to which the section applies, the person in charge of the dog shall immediately remove the faeces and shall ensure that it is properly disposed of in a suitable sanitary manner.

The difficulty with enforcement of Section 22 is the requirement for witness testimony, to report that the offence happened and that an identified person is the person in charge of the dog.  The Council continues to encourage residents groups and/or individuals to assist the Warden Service in this regard.

SDCC have continued to raise awareness of the issue of Dog fouling and has mounted a number of campaigns on radio, newspapers and on social media in that regard.

Dog litter, if properly bagged can be disposed of in a standard litter bin. The Council provides standard type litter bins in its main parks and at the dog runs which have been provided in those parks. In total there are approximately 130 litter bins provided at parks locations in the County, this number has increased in recent years and will continue to increase as the need arises. There are a further 650 litter bins provided on streets and in villages and urban centres. Currently, dog litter stickers are being piloted on existing litter bins demonstrating that these receptacles are suitable for such litter.

Dog Litter Signage is available and requests for signage are considered on a case by case basis and signs are erected on demonstrated need. The location of the request is examined for suitability and if deemed suitable signs can be erected. If there is/are registered group(s) in existence in an area, signage may be provided directly to the group through the Social Credit Scheme with the caveat that such signage erected must have due regard for public health and safety, and must not impede visibility or restrict traffic, cycling and pedestrian flow.

The Green Dog Walkers Programme is a non-confrontational, friendly way to change people's attitudes about dog fouling.  It is a community based scheme which volunteers in the community can adopt and promote in their own area.  Members of the public can apply through Social Credits at [**www.socialcredits.ie**](http://www.socialcredits.ie/)

Volunteers who become Green Dog Walkers are provided with an armband and bone shaped bag dispenser and commit to the following -

* wear the armband or put the Green Dog Walker collar on their dog when out walking
* clean up after their dog
* carry extra dog waste bags
* be happy to be approached to lend a dog waste bag to those without
* be a friendly reminder to other dog walkers to clean up after their dogs

### **Q25/0522 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive how the issue of Litter can be addressed within our county, how he intends to address it, and the cost of both to SDCC?

**REPLY:**

The South Dublin County Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 proposes to address the negative impacts of litter on our county, improve the quality of life and sense of wellbeing of our residents, and enhance our commercial and tourism potential through effective and efficient enforcement of legislation and regulation, management and maintenance of our public realm and communication, education, and awareness. The Litter Management Plan includes annual action plans. Progress on the annual action plans is reported twice yearly to each Area Committee. A full report was presented to members at the February Area Committee Meetings.

Initiatives ongoing include but are not limited to the following:

* Planned / Scheduled public realm works including scheduled and reactive clean-ups
* Village cleansing
* Road sweeping
* Litter Bin provision and replacement
* Anti-Dumping Grant applications to DCCAE via WERLA
* Education and awareness programmes
* Dog Foul campaigns - cinema and radio advertisements / dog foul bags / green dog walker promo
* Social Credits Scheme - Landscaping projects / community clean-ups supports / Small Paint Schemes
* Dublin Canvas
* Graffiti removal
* Litter Warden Patrols - Fixed Penalty Notices
* Use of CCTV and other technologies

Improvements have been achieved which have been reflected in IBAL and Tidy Towns reports, and once again the Council is very appreciative of the community and voluntary efforts that are made alongside the Council’s work to bring about these positive changes.

All incidents of litter and illegal dumping reported or detected in any area are investigated by the Council's Litter Warden Service and all dumped material is searched for evidence. Where evidence is found, the appropriate enforcement action is taken under the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended. Increasingly, it is found that no personal information relating to polluters is contained within the dumped material, with personal information having been removed or shredded. 392 Litter Fines were issued in 2021; 117 fines have been issued up to the end of March 2022.

To date in 2022 12 cases have been heard in Court; 5 of which were successful. Currently, there are an additional 30 cases awaiting hearing.

As part of the Council's commitment to deliver on the objectives of the Corporate Plan and Litter Management Plan, there is an increased targeted focus on known litter generator areas; a number of structured routes have been identified for continuous patrol, as well as ad hoc patrols and investigations as required.

As always, the Council is grateful for assistance and support from local residents or others in their investigations of such incidents as they arise. In the absence of substantive evidence / witness statements and the presence of such witnesses in court it is not possible for us to bring successful prosecutions.

A revenue expenditure budget of €1,811,500 is provided in 2022 for Litter Management, which includes Litter Warden and Environmental Awareness Services.

The following cleansing services are provided by the Public Realm Section.  A total of €8.1m has been provided in the annual budget 2022 against the provision of these services  -

* Daily cleaning of town and village centres including on weekends and bank holidays,
* Daily servicing of on-street litter bins across the county,
* Daily cleaning of parks and servicing of park litter bins,
* Daily removal of illegal dumping and collections from community clean ups,
* Clean ups and litter picks of estate open spaces as required,
* Road sweeping and associated services contract as provided by Oxigen Environmental.

### **Q26/0522 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive how SDCC can provide housing and accommodation to Ukrainian refugees?

**REPLY:**

The Government is currently providing accommodation to Ukrainian refugees through the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) with the oversight of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY).  Housing supports are not being directly provided by this Council at this stage, but we are supporting DCEDIY and IPAS as required in their ongoing work to provide accommodation.

Further information is available here:<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/d9f43-international-protection-accommodation-services-ipas/>.

### **H7/0522 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

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

### **H8/0522 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

### The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development, and were **CONSIDERED:**

1. Disposal of fee simple in 34 Páirc Mhuire, Saggart, Dublin

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ADDRESS | LESSEE(S) | PURCHASE PRICE |
| 34 Páirc Mhuire, Saggart, Dublin | Elizabeth Lucey | €44.78 |

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

**Daniel McLoughlin**

**Chief Executive**

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh , seconded by Councillor M. Duff , and **RESOLVED:**

“That theDisposal of fee simple in 34 Páirc Mhuire, Saggart, Dublin be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **H9/0522 MANAGERS REPORT** - **FOR NOTING**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. D. Mc Loughlin, Chief Executive and were **CONSIDERED:**

[HI 9 a) Chief Executive's Monthly Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75049)

[HI 9 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/75116)
HI 9 c) Finance Report



Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive commented on the Statistics Report informing that a review of the report will be carried out after a 6-month period.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors K. Mahon, E. Ó Broin, D. McManus, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, W. Carey, S. Moynihan, L. O'Toole, Y. Collins, P. Holohan, D. Ó Brádaigh and M. Duff. Queries were raised regarding housing issues, rent review/arrears, the planning portal, wildflower meadows, commercial rates, and CCTV for illegal dumping.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive responded to the members queries.

The reports were **NOTED**

### **H2/0522 FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY ON SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH S.19 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR S. MCENEANEY**

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

**REPLY:**

As a result of the resignation of Suzanne McEneaney as a Councillor on 22nd February 2022, a casual vacancy has occurred on South Dublin County Council (Firhouse - Bohernabrenna).

[**Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2001/en/act/pub/0037/sec0019.html) provides that a casual vacancy shall be filled by the co-option by the Local Authority of a person to fill the vacancy and such co-option shall be made at the next meeting of the local authority after the expiration of 14 days from the occurrence of the vacancy or as soon after the expiration of the 14 days as circumstances permit.

Ms. Lyn Hagin Meade has been duly nominated by the Green Party, being the registered political party who nominated Councillor McEneaney for election, and in accordance with Section 19 (5) Ms. Hagin Meade's written consent to her proposed co-option has been received.

Members are required to ratify the co-option of Ms. Hagin Meade at today’s meeting.

[H2 (b) Letter of resignation from Councillor S. McEneaney](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=74917)
[H2 (c) Green Party Nomination - L. Hagin Meade](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=74918)
[H2 (d) Green Party Nomination - L. Hagin Meade's Acceptance](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75002)

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh seconded by Councillor L. Donaghy and **AGREED**.

“That Ms. L. Hagin Meade be co-opted to fill the vacancy occurring as a result of the resignation of Councillor S. McEneaney on the 22nd February 2022.”

Former Councillor S. McEneaney thanked management, staff, and her colleagues for their help during her time as Councillor and wished newly appointed Councillor L. Hagin Meade best wishes.

Councillors L. Donaghy, E. Murphy, K. Mahon, C. King, L. Sinclair, P. Kearns, A. Edge, D. McManus, C. Bailey, P. Kavanagh all paid tribute to former Councillor S. McEneaney and welcomed Councillor L. Hagin Meade.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive thanked and wished former Councillor S. McEneaney well and welcomed Councillor L. Hagin Meade.

Councillor L. Hagin Meade gave a speech accepting her new position as a Councillor.

**REPLY:**

A number of vacancies existed on the following committees/statutory bodies previously held by Suzanne McEneaney who resigned as a Councillor on 22nd February 2022 and subsequently is disqualified from membership of these committees.

* **Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC**
* **Eastern & Midlands Regional Assembly**

It is now before this Council to approve the appointment of Councillor L. Hagin Meade to the above committees/statutory bodies.

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh , seconded by Councillor C. King , and **AGREED** that Councillor L. Hagin Meade be appointed to the **Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC** to fill the vacancy occurring as a result of the resignation of Councillor S. McEneaney on the 22nd February 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh , seconded by Councillor C. King , and **AGREED** that Councillor L. Hagin Meade be appointed to the **Eastern & Midlands Regional Assembly** to fill the vacancy occurring as a result of the resignation of Councillor S. McEneaney on the 22nd February 2022.

### **H10/0522 SECTION 85 AGREEMENT WITH KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO THE M4 UNDERPASS – FOR APPROVAL**

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

###

[H10 Section 85 - Agreement](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75075)
[H10 Section 85 - Introduction](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75074)

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kavanagh , seconded by Councillor M. Duff, and **RESOLVED:**

**“**That the Section 85 agreement with Kildare County Council to carry out works to the M4 Underpass be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **H11/0522 DODDER PHASE 5 PART 8 COMMENCEMENT – FOR NOTING**

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

###

[H11 Dodder Greenway Phase 5 Firhouse Road - Commencing Part 8](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75022)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors K. Mahon, R. McMahon, C. King, E. Ó Broin, B. Lawlor, D. McManus and M. Duff who welcomed the report. Queries were raised in relation to litter bins, collaboration with Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council and the Dodder Greenway Steering Group.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use Planning and Transportation responded to the members queries.

The report was **NOTED.**

### **H12/0522 CITY EDGE PLANNING FRAMEWORK - FOR NOTING**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning & Transportation, Ms S. Duff, Senior Executive Planner and Mr. J. Phelan, Executive Planner and were **CONSIDERED**.

###

1. [City Edge Framework report to Council May 22](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75052)
2. [Strategic Framework Document](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75082)
3. [International Best Practise Housing Study](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75055)
4. [Strategic Flood Risk Assessment](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75053)
5. [Surface Water Management Plan](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75054)
6. [City Edge Presentation to Council 9.5.22](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75114)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Dunne, E. Ó Broin, C. Bailey, E. Murphy, K. Mahon, M. Johansson, B. Lawlor, P. Holohan, W. Carey, L. O'Toole, P. Kearns, and P. Kavanagh who welcomed the report and raised queries in relation to timeframe and method of delivery of the plan, job creation, existing communities, seveso site, current planning applications, housing, and educational facilities.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use Planning and Transportation responded to the members queries.

The reports were **NOTED**

### **H13/0522 COMMENCEMENT OF THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY CONSULTATION – FOR NOTING**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. P. Fusco, County Librarian, Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development, and were **CONSIDERED:**

[H13 Library Development Strategy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75046)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Kavanagh, A. Edge, K. Mahon, E. Ó Broin, J. Tuffy, L. O'Toole, M. Duff, T. Costello, C. Bailey, and C. King. All members welcomed the Strategy, queries were raised regarding provision of libraries in South Dublin, the Heritage Centre, English language barriers, mobile libraries, and collaboration with bordering counties.

Mr. P. Fusco, County Librarian responded to the members queries.

The report was **NOTED**

### **C1/0522 REPLIES & CORRESPONDENCE**

**Replies:**

[(a) Reply from Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75031)

[(b) Reply from the British Embassy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75032)

[(c) Reply from Minister for Education](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75033)

**Correspondence:**

[(d) Correspondence from Galway County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75035)

[(e) Correspondence from Wexford County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=75034)

The replies and correspondence were **NOTED**.

### **M1/0522** [**HOSTILE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=75048)

**It was Proposed by Councillor Peter Kavanagh and seconded by Councillor L. Dunne**

This County Council agrees to avoid the use of hostile architecture in the design of low walls and street furniture to tackle antisocial behaviour and agrees that, while antisocial behaviour remains a serious concern, that the correct manner to deal with such activity is through intervention, prevention, and legal action.

**REPORT:**

The design of the built environment does influence behaviour. Poorly designed spaces and buildings can facilitate anti-social behaviour. The design of the built environment must be informed by its context. 'Designing out crime' is a well established design approach, whereby design seeks to prevent future anti-social behaviour. Such preventative design measures are important and help to reduce the need for more formalised intervention and legal action.  Any such interventions do need to be balanced against the need to ensure universal access but must considered on a project by project basis.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Kavanagh, L. Dunne, E. Murphy, M. Johansson, D. O Brádaigh and C. King, who spoke in support of the motion.

The Motion was **AGREED**

### **M2/0522** [**SERVERS HOSTING UNREGULATED DIGITAL CURRENCY EXCHANGES**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74938)

**It was Proposed by Councillor Liam Sinclair and seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh.**

That, due to the intense energy usage required, this Council calls for a nationwide ban on servers hosting unregulated digital currency exchanges. Following agreement of the motion that a letter issues to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, and the Minister of Finance.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, and the Minister of Finance. Responses, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Sinclair, P. Kavanagh, C. King, K. Mahon, P. Kearns, S. Moynihan, R. McMahon, W. Carey who spoke in support of the motion.

The Mayor Councillor P. Kavanagh then called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE** and the Members **AGREED** the result of which was as follows:

**FOR: 27 (TWENTY SEVEN)**

**Councillors C. Bailey, W. Carey, Y. Collins, T. Costello, L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, M. Johansson, P. Kavanagh, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, R. McMahon, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, C. O'Connor, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy and L. Whelan.**

**AGAINST: 0 (ZERO)**

**ABSTAIN: 3 (THREE)**

**Councillors B. Lawlor, D. McManus, and B. Pereppadan.**

The Motion was **AGREED**

### **M3/0522** [**GENERAL MAINTENANCE COLLECTIONS AGENCY**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74939)

**It was Proposed by Councillor T. Costello and seconded by Councillor E. Murphy.**

That this Council calls on the Minister of Social Protection to introduce a General Maintenance Collections Agency, given the continuous difficulties that single parents face collecting maintenance and the need to go to court to have court orders enforced when they are not abided by. This Agency is necessary in order to protect parents from having to chase these payments and in order to put an end to this form of financial abuse.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Social Protection. A response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillor T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, C. Bailey, Y. Collins, D. O Brádaigh, K. Mahon, B. Lawlor, C. King, and S. Moynihan.

In accordance with Standing Orders the Mayor, Councillor P. Kavanagh

proposed and the members unanimously agreed to suspend standing orders for 3 minutes in order to deal with Motion 3 (M3)

It was proposed by Councillor M. Duff and seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan to amend the Motion to include:

*“An amendment To add in after DSP and the Minister of Children, Equality Disability, Integration and Youth and the Minister of Justice.”*

The amended Motion was **AGREED**

### **M12/0522** [**PILOT SCHEME FOR ARTISTS WITH DISABILITIES**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74948)

**It was Proposed by Councillor M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh and MOVED without debate:**

That this council calls on the Government and Minister of Social Protection to introduce a pilot scheme for artists with disabilities, to co-exist for the duration of the Basic Income for Artists pilot scheme, which would remove the weekly earnings limit & means test from those in receipt of disability supports.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Social Protection. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

The meeting ended at 19.03.

**Items not reached**

### **(M4)** [**COST OF LIVING**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74940)

**Councillor C. King**

That this Council calls on the Taoiseach to immediately implement a set of measures to tackle the Cost of Living Crisis that is Devastating Families across the State from both Working and Middle Class Demographics, which has seen 70% increases in Heating Oil, 30% increase in Gas, 25% increase in Electricity, 8% Increase in Rents and €1,200 average increase in petrol prices for the average driver along with increases in Groceries and other Essential Goods. This has resulted in the Highest inflation rates in 20 years of more than 5,5% and that's without the Governments scandalous proposed increases in Carbon Tax at a time of crisis. These measures at the least should include: The introduction of a living wage, the introduction of a cost of living payment based on annual income, the scrapping of Carbon Tax Increases, a ban on Rent increases for 3 years, Increase in Fuel allowance criteria, Removal of VAT on Energy Bills during winter Months, the Establishment of a discretionary utility debt Fund. These measures should form a base for tackling the crisis for struggling Families across the State.

### **(M5)** [**LOCAL AUTHORITY RENTS**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74941)

**Councillor B. Lawlor**

That this Council writes to Minister for Housing and Local Government, Darragh O'Brien, to support his Department's initiative of setting up a working group to examine the possibility of utilising the Housing Act of 2013 to allow for local authority rents to be withdrawn directly from social welfare payments where tenants

### **(M6)** [**IRISH NEUTRALITY**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74942)

**Councillor L. Donaghy**

That this Council confirms its pride in, and continued support for, Ireland's traditional policy of military neutrality, and writes to the Taoiseach to declare these views

### **(M7)** [**DECRIMINALISATION OF DRUG USE**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74943)

**Councillor F. Timmons**

That this Council supports the decriminalisation of drug use, meaning that people will no longer be made criminals simply because of their use of a drug: that people's drug use should be dealt with as a public health issue rather than as a criminal issue and that the resources currently used to process the 72% of drug convictions that are for personal possession should be redirected to treatment and support services and to more effective policing of the drugs trade. We commit to sending this motion to the Minister for Justice and the Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy for their consideration and response.

### **(M8)** [**CARBON TAX**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74944)

**Councillor K. Mahon**

An increase on Carbon Taxes of €7.50 was announced in Budget 2022, from €33.50 to €41.00 per tonne of carbon dioxide emitted. The increase applies from 13 October 2021 for auto fuels and 1 May 2022 for all other fuels and is set to rise to €100 per tonne emitted by 2030.  The carbon Tax is not tackling the environmental damage caused by the producers and profiteers of fossil fuel emissions, including the approximate 14 Data Centres, and major pharmaceutical companies listed in the South Dublin County Council area. It is another tax on workers and energy that hits the poorest and those on limited incomes hardest and is exacerbating the cost-of-living crisis. It represents the opposite of a “just transition”.

This council calls for the scrapping of the carbon tax increases due from May 2022 and the reversal of 2021 increases. We call for immediate direct taxation of a national or local variety on big polluters, the implementation of increased price controls on energy for households,  and a rapid shift to renewable energies under public ownership and communicates this motion to the Minister for Environment, Climate,

### **(M9)** [**BOARDED UP/DERELICT HOUSES**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74946)

**Councillor P. Holohan**

This Council calls on central government to make the funding available ASAP to complete the necessary works on all boarded up/derelict houses owned by SDCC returning them to Council stock. Considering the emergency housing crisis the

### **(M10)** [**40% CANDIDATE QUOTAS**](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=74949)

**Councillor A. Edge**

That this Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Taoiseach, The Minister of State for Local Government and the Minister of State for Electoral Reform requesting that legislated candidate gender quotas of 40% be introduced to apply to the local elections in 2024.

### **(M11)** [**NTQ**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=75011)

**Councillor L. Dunne**

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to review and change the Councils current Housing Policy which only allows Social housing/HAP applicants to access the higher homeless rate of HAP 6 weeks before the applicant's Notice to Quit is enacted. Taking into account the length of time it is taking for families/couples/individuals to find private accommodation, this change will allow for the applicants to access the higher homeless rate of HAP from the date of issue of the NTQ to the Council.

### **(M13)** [**EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=75027)

**Councillor M. Duff**

That this Council calls on the Chief Executive to ensure that any family that are referred /given temporary or emergency accommodation, through the SDCC Homeless Section, either in the County or the City, are placed in accommodation that is suitable to the needs of that family, that they have access to kitchen facilities, have access to bathrooms, have the basic access to the Internet to facilitate students in that family who are studying for their Junior or Leaving Cert or are attending 3rd level College and that the family are not required to leave the accommodation every day at 0.8am and "allowed" to return at 1700 hours and that he address this issue with the necessary authorities or agencies.

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

Mayor

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