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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council November 2022 Annual Budget Meeting held on Thursday 17 November 2022

### **PRESENT**

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

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| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin. |
| Directors/ Heads of Function  Head of Finance  Head of I.T.  County Architect  Financial Management Accountant  Executive Accountant | L. Maxwell, J. Frehill, M. Mulhern, C. Ward, T. Walsh.  R. FitzGerald.  T. Kavanagh.  E. Conroy.  M. Kelly.  A. O’Melia. |
| Senior Executive Officers | C. Hurson, J. Moroney Ward, S. Conroy. |
| Administrative OfficersSenior Parks Superintendent | M. Reilly, D. Healy.S. Furlong. |
| Senior Staff Officer  Staff Officer  Assistant Staff Officer  Sord | L. Abbey.  A. Mallon.  D. Murphy, A. Hagan.  A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, presided.

Apologies were received from Councillors C. Bailey and L. Donaghy.

**WEBCASTING NOTICE**

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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.

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, 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.

### **H1/1122 CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 2023**

[(a) Draft Budget 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76762)  
[(b) i) Circular - Fin 08 2022 Provisional 2023 LPT Allocation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76798)  
[(b) ii) Circular - Fin 09 2022 Budget Meeting 2023 and Other Budgetary Matters](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76799)  
[(C) Chief Executive's Introduction](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76784)  
[(D) Budget Presentation by Directorate](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76785)  
[(E) Consideration of Divisions](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76786)

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, thanked the Corporate Policy Group and the Members in relation to pre-Budget discussions and informed that the Budget being presented reflects same, he referred to his presentation in the Budget 2023:

*Dear Mayor and Elected Members,*

*As we have done in the past, the Head of Finance and I met with political groupings and individual members to gauge priorities in advance of finalising the Budget with the CPG. A diverse range of issues were discussed and unsurprisingly members views converged in a lot of areas. As many of the items will be dealt with within headline maintenance budgets and may not be immediately obvious, I want to set out hereunder the budgetary response to matters raised. Items are not attributed to individuals or groupings:*

* ***Protection of front-line services –*** *This has been achieved and where possible, budgets increased to counteract inflation. In all, inflationary impact increases of €10.2m have been provided, of which €3.9m relates to energy and €6.3m to general inflation.*
* ***Protect planned maintenance –*** *As in 2022, €1.4m has been provided for the windows and doors programme.*
* ***Funding to improve relet times –*** *An additional €1.1m has been provided.*
* ***Halloween Event –*** *€20,000 has been provided and will be informed by the 2022 pilot event.*
* ***More money for Jobstown Stream –*** *An additional €500,000 has been provided.*
* ***Jobstown playground –*** *A new playground will be designed into the redesign of Jobstown Park. €500,000 has been provided for the upgrade of Jobstown park.*
* ***Budget for private estate roads –*** *The existing budget of circa. €3.1m adjusted for inflation has been provided. Projects will be agreed at ACM as usual.*
* ***Litter problem Clondalkin –*** *This problem needs evaluation. The Tidy Towns group, local fast-food outlets and Council staff will try to work together in this regard.*
* ***Park benches –*** *Existing budgets repeated and deemed adequate.*
* ***Bins in Adamstown and generally -*** *€70,000 is provided for new bins and bin maintenance, which is considered adequate.*
* ***Mobile CCTV litter/dumping –*** *Awaiting an update on the Code of Practice to be approved by the Minister. If allowable, sufficient finance will be available to undertake CCTV surveys.*
* ***Decrease Rates Vacancy –*** *CPG agreed to retain at 50%.*
* ***Active travel–seats Lucan Hills –*** *Appropriate locations need to be agreed but not regarded as needing additional funding, as costs likely to be manageable within projects.*
* ***Upgrade older playgrounds –*** *An additional budget of €150,000 has been provided in this regard.*
* ***Playground Maintenance –*** *Non–pay Budget increased from €250,000 to €263,000.*
* ***Esker Embankment – Permeability/public realm scheme –*** *Part 8 as approved is not workable. We are committed to re-examine with local Councillors in 2023.*
* ***Creche spaces Adamstown –*** *Not for Budget - SDZ envisaged 5 – three with planning, one provided, one under construction and two further to be agreed at Adamstown station and Tandy’s Lane.*
* ***Accessibility audit Lucan -*** *€10,000 provided to undertake audit.*
* ***Accessibility – dishing of footpaths -*** *€50,000 additional provided to deal with specific wheelchair / access issues that arise – this will be kept under review.*
* ***Solar panels Community Centres -*** *€200,000 provided to initiate a fund for this purpose. A viability study will be conducted in the first instance on all major Council buildings, including Community Centres.*
* ***Childhood literacy –*** *An additional €30,000 for Children’s Arts Programmes, with a focus on Clondalkin, Adamstown and Brookfield. €30,000 additional has been provided for the Youth Music Programme – Noise Music. The budget for the “Think Big” space has been doubled to €34,000.*
* ***Live music events –*** *As in 2022, €160,000 provided.*
* ***Energy monitors – elderly -*** *€20,000 has been provided to explore options in this regard.*
* ***Review of Traveller group housing –*** *An energy audit and retrofit survey will be undertaken.*
* ***Traveller Enterprise Fund -*** *€50,000 previously provided has been ringfenced, pending a proposal from the LTACC*
* ***Tree pruning – area backing onto Arthur Griffith Park –*** *To be carried out as part of the 2022 programme.*
* ***Angels plot Esker Cemetery –*** *An**appropriate surround to be provided from the cemeteries budget.*
* ***Griffeen Park – extend carpark where model track was –*** *A**feasibility and usage study to be undertaken in the near term.*
* ***Social integration initiatives including Ukrainian refugees -*** *€20,000 additional specific budget provided to support integration events.*
* ***Orchard Lodge – additional funding*** *– An additional €50,000 provided.*
* ***St Cuthberts – additional funding –*** *€500,000 provided as in 2022.*
* ***Knockmitten Community Centre – additional funds –*** *Any additional funding must be on foot of an appropriate and successful grant application under the Community Infrastructure Fund.*
* ***Bird breeding area – Waterstown Park –*** *Requires assessment to understand potential conflicts between general park usage, including dog walking etc.*
* ***Silverbridge land purchase for access –*** *Will be provided for in the Capital Programme.*
* ***Additional funding Community Centres –*** *€500,000 provided in addition to that provided in 2022.*
* ***Lighting and heating Community Centres –*** *Dealt with as part of the national government programme.*
* ***Laneways –*** *This is covered in wage provision for additional outdoor staff.*
* ***Tree planning D12 -*** *€25,000 for a trial scheme of planters locally, where ground conditions do not allow for standard planting methods.*
* ***Additional funding Teen Spaces -*** *€500,000 provided as in 2022.*
* ***Waterstown House – roof -*** *€30,000 provided for this project.*
* ***CPO more land –*** *Assessment of future housing land options actively underway, with the expectation that Government will support land purchase in 2023 and beyond.*
* ***Public Toilets –*** *To be dealt with in the Capital Programme.*
* ***Retrofitting budget increase –*** *This is a national government funded programme and it is anticipated that annual budgets will increase in the years ahead.*
* ***Storage sports equipment –*** *This needs to be further considered to agree appropriate solutions - €50,000 provided on a pilot basis.*
* ***Staff liaison – Tidy Towns –*** *In place.*
* ***Communication boards in playgrounds -*** *€10,000 provided in 2022 and signage at 18 playgrounds on a pilot basis to be completed by the year end. If successful, this can be repeated given the relatively small cost.*
* ***Tymon Park – Limekiln Roadside – repair and upgrade –*** *This will be followed up directly from within the annual maintenance budget*
* ***Teenage budget – 10k per LEA -*** *€20,000 provided in 2022 for a trial project with Comhairle na NóG.**Once this project and the final 300k Have you Say Initiative have been completed, a general review of collaborative budgeting will take place for future funding beyond 2023.*
* ***More money All Weather Pitch Programme -*** *€500,000 additional provided.*
* ***Garden maintenance older people –*** *A pilot initiative will be explored with the SDVC.*
* ***Home security locks –*** *Demand has decreased substantially, but €10,000 has been provided to deal with any remaining applications.*
* ***Cleaning road signs –*** *This will be raised with roads crews.*
* ***Library opening Saturday –*** *The outcome of a pilot initiative in Palmerstown will be evaluated in the context of a broader review of library opening hours.*
* ***Anti - dog fouling initiatives –*** *Already in place. The Mayor launched the national dog fouling campaign on 4th July.*
* ***Alternatives to kissing gates –*** *A review is underway of all kissing gates on NTA funded cycle routes.*
* ***Columbarium Wall -*** *€150,000 provided for a pilot project in Esker cemetery.*
* ***Cycle lane maintenance -*** *€400,000 again provided in 2023 and following extensive review of cycling lane infrastructure, a new maintenance approach beyond just resurfacing existing tracks is now being finalised.*
* ***Footpath repairs retain -*** *€1.45m budget retained.*
* ***Hedgerow maintenance – cycle lanes and parks –*** *Hedgerows are cut once a year between the 1st of September and 28th of February. It may not be possible to get to every single hedge in this timeframe and some may regrow to a certain degree. Every effort will be made to prioritise those areas that potentially impact on cyclists and pedestrians.*

Yours sincerely,



Daniel McLoughlin

Chief Executive

[**(d) Budget presentation by Directorate**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/68046)

**Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, presented the Financial Analysis 2022.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors T. Gilligan, F. Timmons C. King, B. Lawlor, R. McMahon and P. Kearns, who welcomed the report and raised queries regarding the LPT.

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

**Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development presented Divisions A, D, F & G.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, K. Mahon, E. Ó Broin, T. Costello, and P. Holohan. Queries were raised regarding additional emergency accommodation and services, modular housing, AHBs and the management of community centers.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development, responded to the members’ queries.

**Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation, presented Divisions B and D.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors Y. Collins, C. King, R. McMahon, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, A. Edge, V. Casserly, D. McManus and L. McCrave. Queries were raised regarding LED upgrade, funding for dishing of footpaths and bridge repairs.

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

**Ms. T. Walsh, Director Environment, Water and Climate Change, presented Divisions C, E, F, G & H.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. Ó Broin, R. McMahon, T. Costello, V. Casserly, F. Timmons, C. King, B. Lawlor, J. Tuffy, P. Kearns, L. Dunne, M. Duff, D. McManus, W. Carey, Y. Collins, L. McCrave and E. O’Brien. Queries were raised regarding Irish Water, dog wardens, dog fouling, playspaces, seasonal workers, tree inspection and grass cutting.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, responded to the members queries.

**Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, presented Divisions D and F.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors T. Costello, D. McManus, R. McMahon, S. Moynihan, F. Timmons, C. King, S. O'Hara, B. Lawlor, Y. Collins, L. McCrave, A. Edge, V. Casserly, P. Kearns and C. O'Connor. Queries were raised regarding libraries, Rathfarnham Castle, the Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre, Grand Canal Greenway, and the Business Support Fund.

Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, responded to the members’ queries.

**Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management, presented Divisions D and H.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, J. Tuffy, R. McMahon, B. Lawlor, C. King, P. Kearns and F. Timmons. Queries were raised regarding the €300K Have Your Say, the Register of Electors, Twinning and webcasting of Area Committee meetings.

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

**Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance presented sections of Division H.**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors R. McMahon, P. Gogarty, Y. Collins, D. Ó Brádaigh, L. Dunne, L. McCrave, J. Tuffy and C. King. Queries were raised regarding rates and the energy grant.

Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, responded to the members’ queries**.**

**Motions to Amend the Draft Budget**

**Motion 1 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division D – Development Management - D0906 – Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors B. Lawlor, Councillor S. O'Hara and Councillor D. McManus was proposed by **Councillor B. Lawlor**:

“Transfer €35,000 from D0906 to FO401 Community Grants, to allocate this funding to "Sister Sheds".”

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, requested clarification on the funding stream for D0906.

Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance informed the Members that funding in D0906 is received from Enterprise Ireland for the operation of the LEO office from which funding cannot be transferred.

As a result of the clarification the Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy ruled the Motion, **Out of Order**.

**Motion 2 to amend the Draft Budget**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors F. Timmons, L. Dunne, L. O’Toole, and G. O'Connell was proposed by **Councillor F. Timmons:**

“That €2,298,700 for the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme including additional funding for Ukrainian responses and supports and the €503,900 for additional social inclusion initiatives including: south Dublin Migrant Integration Forum events and Ukrainian integration

The word **Ukrainian** should be replaced with the word **refugees** in order to keep with the spirit of full social inclusion and full integration of our communities”

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, requested clarification on the SICAP funding.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development, informed the Members that this funding from SICAP is specific to Ukrainian responses and supports therefore cannot be amended and referred to social inclusion initiatives and supports for those seeking international protection.

As a result of the clarification the Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy ruled the Motion, **Out of Order**.

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy proposed that as Motion 3 and Motion 7 were in relation to **Division H – H0906** that they be taken at the same time, the Members agreed.

**Motion 3 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division H – Miscellaneous Services - H0906 – Conferences Abroad**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors S. Moynihan, P. Kearns, A. Hayes, L. Hagin Meade, A. Edge and M. Duff was **proposed** by **Councillor S. Moynihan** and **seconded** by **Councillor Y. Collins :**

“We move the following, to reallocate the €70,000 from Heading H0906 to the appropriate budget line, as determined by the Head of Finance, as follows:

* €5,000 to be allocated to a Master Composting Scheme;
* €5,000 to be allocated of a piloting a GIS Community Dashboard on SDGs;
* €10,000 to be allocated to a fund for the purchase of wheelchair-capacity play equipment in playgrounds in the County;
* €14,000 to be allocated to fund an Intercultural Food Day in the seven LEAs, €2,000 per LEA;
* €10,000 to be allocated for Communication Boards in parks in the County where they are not already available;
* €10,00 additional funding to be provided for the mobile equipment storage scheme;
* €6,000 additional funding to be provided to the accessibility and dishing initiative;
* €10,000 to support the work of the South Dublin Volunteer Centre with their engagement with refugees and those seeking international protection in South Dublin, as requested by the Women’s Caucus.”

**Motion 7 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division H – Miscellaneous Services - H0906 – Conferences Abroad**

**Division D – Development Management - D0903 – Town Twinning**

"To amend the budget to allocate a total of €90 000 from D0903 Town Twinning (€20 000) and H0906 Conferences Abroad (€70 000) to the employment of a manager in the Clondalkin Equine Centre."

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, requested clarification on Motion 7 as it related to employment of staff.

Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, informed the Members that the employment of staff is an Executive Function.

As a result of the clarification the Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy ruled the Motion, **Out of Order**.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors S. Moynihan, M. Johansson, V. Casserly, K. Mahon, P. Kearns, F. Timmons, L. Hagin Meade, L. Dunne, L. Sinclair, E. Ó Broin, W. Carey, M. Duff, L. Whelan, L. McCrave and G. O'Connell. Queries were raised in relation to the Clondalkin Equine Centre.

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

Councillor R. McMahon then submitted an amendment (Motion 10) under H0906.

Councillors M. Johansson, K. Mahon and L. Whelan called for a **ROLL CALL VOTE** on Motion 3 to amend the Draft Budget as follows:-

*“We move the following, to reallocate the €70,000 from Heading H0906 to the appropriate budget line, as determined by the Head of Finance, as follows:*

* *€5,000 to be allocated to a Master Composting Scheme;*
* *€5,000 to be allocated of a piloting a GIS Community Dashboard on SDGs;*
* *€10,000 to be allocated to a fund for the purchase of wheelchair-capacity play equipment in playgrounds in the County;*
* *€14,000 to be allocated to fund an Intercultural Food Day in the seven LEAs, €2,000 per LEA;*
* *€10,000 to be allocated for Communication Boards in parks in the County where they are not already available;*
* *€10,00 additional funding to be provided for the mobile equipment storage scheme;*
* *€6,000 additional funding to be provided to the accessibility and dishing initiative;*
* *€10,000 to support the work of the South Dublin Volunteer Centre with their engagement with refugees and those seeking international protection in South Dublin, as requested by the Women’s Caucus.”* the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 34 (THIRTY FOUR)**

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

**AGAINST: 1 (ONE)**

**Councillor M. Johansson.**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **PASSED.**

**Motion 10 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division H – Miscellaneous Services - H0906 – Conferences Abroad**

Following of the **PASSING** of Councillors S. Moynihan, P. Kearns, A. Hayes, L. Hagin Meade, A. Edge and M. Duff amendment the following amendment in the name of Councillor R. McMahon **FALLS:**

Transfer €9,000 from H0906 Conferences Abroad to FO401 Community Grants, to allocate this funding to "Sister Sheds".

**Motion 4 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division A – Housing and Building – A04 – Housing Community Development Support**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors L. O'Toole, F. Timmons and G. O'Connell was **proposed** by **Councillor L. O’Toole** and **seconded** by **Councillor A. Hayes:**

“To allow for a budget of 40K to be ringfenced within section A04 Housing Community Development (pg.45) to provide for the setup of a Community Engagement Forum on a pilot basis in the Adamstown Area.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. O’Toole, L. Dunne, V. Casserly, T. Gilligan, E. Murphy, Y. Collins, E. Ó Broin, D. Ó Brádaigh , A. Edge, P. Gogarty, J. Tuffy, T. Costello, M. Duff, and E. O'Brien. Queries were raised regarding the source of funding for the amendment.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development responded to the members informing the funding for this amendment would be taken from discretionary funding for Estate Management activities.

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy then called for a **ROLL CALL** **VOTE** on **Councillor L. O’Toole’s** amendment *“To allow for a budget of 40K to be ringfenced within section A04 Housing Community Development (pg.45) to provide for the setup of a Community Engagement Forum on a pilot basis in the Adamstown Area.”* the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 4 (FOUR)**

**Councillors A. Edge, P. Gogarty, L. O'Toole, F. Timmons.**

**AGAINST: 17 (SEVENTEEN)**

**Councillors W. Carey, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, L. Hagin Meade, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, R. McMahon, E. Murphy, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, J. Tuffy, L. Whelan.**

**ABSTAIN: 12 (TWELVE)**

**Councillors V. Casserly, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, D. McManus, S. Moynihan, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan.**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **FELL.**

**Motion 5 to amend the Draft Budget**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors K. Mahon, M. Johansson and L. Whelan was proposed by **Councillor K. Mahon** and seconded by **Councillor L. Whelan:**

To amend The Draft Annual Budget Document 2023 Pg 8, Bullet point 4 to read as follows:

“There is no increase in in the Differential Rent Scheme for 2023. Differential Rent calculations for 2023 will exclude any increases in Social Welfare Payments from the 2023 National Budget that may normally be applicable to the calculation of rent. This exclusion extends to HAP, RAS or other schemes tied into the Differential Rent Calculation.”

Councillors K. Mahon and M. Johansson spoke in favour of the Motion.

A discussion took place with contributions from Councillors R. McMahon, W. Carey and L. Dunne queries were raised on validity of the amendment.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development and Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management clarified to the members that any amendment to the draft Budget must identify a corresponding adjustment in order to balance the budget.

As a result of the discussion and clarification the Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy ruled theamendment **Out of Order.**

**Motion 6 to amend the Draft Budget**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors L. Whelan, M. Johansson and K. Mahon was proposed by **Councillor L. Whelan** and seconded by **Councillor K. Mahon:**

“To amend Page 9 of the Draft Budget 2023 document as follows.  After the sentence

“The services provided by South Dublin County Council support the commercial sector and so it is appropriate that that commercial entities make a contribution toward the environment in which they operate”

To delete the next two sentences and replace the proposal for no increase in Commercial Rates with …

“It is proposed that the ARV for 2023 will be increased by 50% to 0.414 increasing anticipated income by €70 million to be allocated to capital spending, and to fund further supports for small and medium enterprises

Acknowledging pressures on small and medium enterprises, South Dublin County Council will allocate funding to a **Small and Medium Enterprise Support Scheme** **to support small and medium businesses operating in the County.**

**In line with other Local Authorities, the Support Scheme will operate as a rebate on commercial rates.**

The rebate will be accessible to a commercially rated property in South Dublin County which meets the following criteria;

* Total commercial rates invoice(s) to a maximum of €50,000 in 2022
* The Commercial Rates relating to the relevant account must be paid in full by 31st July 2023 if using any payment method other than Direct Debit
* Applicants paying by Direct Debit are eligible provided the commercial rates account is paid in full by 31st December 2023.

**Exceptions**

* Pipeline, Mast/Antenna, Generating Station, Advertising Station, Global Valuations and ATMS
* Accounts where the total commercial rates charge for 2022 was more than €50,000
* Vacant Property
* Applicants must occupy applications (landlords)

The support payment, aimed specifically at small and medium-sized enterprises in the county, is set at a maximum of 35% of the annual cost of commercial rates for 2023 for the rated occupier within the category.”

At this point of the meeting Councillor R. McMahon raised a point of order on the legality of the amendment.

Councillors L. Whelan and M. Johansson spoke in favour of the motion.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, addressed the Members on the amendment.

As a result of the discussion The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy ruled theamendment **Out of Order.**

**Motion 8 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division B – Road Transport & Safety – B03 – Regional Road – Maintenance and Improvement**

The following Motion in the names of Councillor E. Ó Broin, was proposed by **Councillor E. Ó Broin** and seconded by **Councillor R. McMahon :**

“This council acknowledges that maintenance of Road Signs e.g. Directional signs, Speed limit signs, Signposts, Yield Signs is not routinely carried out e.g. cleaning moss from them, straightening out their poles or removing branches of trees and hedges that are blocking them. As such a sum of €50,000 from B03 and B04 is ringfenced for 2023 for this purpose. The exact sub budget sub category to be determined by management.”

Councillor E. Ó Broin requested to **WITHDRAW** his amendment and the Members **AGREED**.

**Motion 9 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division D – Development Management – D0501 – Tourism Promotion**

The following Motion in the names of Councillor D. McManus, was proposed by **Councillor D. McManus** and seconded by **Councillor B. Lawlor:**

“To transfer €300,000 from D0501 Tourism Promotion and allocate this to F0301 for additional tree maintenance across South Dublin County Council.”

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. McManus, V. Casserly, A. Edge, L. Dunne, C. King, T. Costello, E. O’Brien, P. Kearns, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons and D. Ó Brádaigh.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to the members informing of an adequate budget of €3million for tree maintenance.

Councillors D. McManus, B. Lawlor and R. McMahon then called for a **ROLL CALL** **VOTE** on **Councillor D. McManus’** *amendment “To transfer €300,000 from D0501 Tourism Promotion and allocate this to F0301 for additional tree maintenance across South Dublin County Council.”* the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 6 (SIX)**

**Councillors K. Egan, B. Lawlor, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan.**

**AGAINST: 26 (TWENTY SIX)**

**Councillors W. Carey, V. Casserly, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, T. Gilligan, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, L. O'Toole, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy, L. Whelan.**

**ABSTAIN: 1 (ONE)**

**Councillors Y. Collins.**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **FELL.**

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy proposed that as Motion 11 and Motion 12 were in relation to **Division D – D0903** that they be taken at the same time, the Members agreed.

**Motion 11 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division D – Development Management - D0903 – Town Twinning**

The following Motion in the names of Councillors D. McManus, Councillor B. Lawlor and Councillor S. O'Hara was proposed by **Councillor D. McManus** and seconded by **Councillor R. McMahon :**

“Transfer €20,000 D0903 Town Twinning to FO401 Community Grants, to allocate this funding to "Sister Sheds".

**Motion 12 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division D – Development Management - D0903 – Town Twinning**

The following Motion in the names of Councillor M. Johansson was proposed by **Councillor M. Johansson** and seconded by **Councillor K. Mahon :**

“That €20 000 be allocated from D0903 Town Twinning to the Clondalkin Equine Club fund to use for their management and/or operations in 2023”

At this point of the meeting Councillor C. King raised a point of order regarding submission of amendments.

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy responded stating no further motions could be taken.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors B. Lawlor, M. Johansson, L. Dunne, T. Gilligan, P. Kearns, C. King, L. McCrave, A. Hayes and J. Tuffy queries were raised on the validity of the amendment.

The following amendment to Councillor D. McManus’s amendment to the Draft Budget in the name ofCouncillor L. McCrave, was proposed by **Councillor L. McCrave** and seconded by **Councillor V. Casserly**:

“To transfer €20,000 Town Twinning to F0401  Community Grants, allocating this funding equally between “Women Sheds” and “Sister Sheds”.

Mr. C. Ward, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development, responded to the members queries.

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy then called for a **ROLL CALL** **VOTE** on **Councillor L. McCrave’s** amendment to Councillor D. McManus’s amendment*:-*

*“To transfer €20,000 Town Twinning to F0401  Community Grants, allocating this funding equally between “Women Sheds” and “Sister Sheds”.”* the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 7 (SEVEN)**

**Councillors B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan, D. Richardson.**

**AGAINST: 25 (TWENTY FIVE)**

**Councillors W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, T. Gilligan, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, L. O'Toole, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **FELL.**

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy then called for a **ROLL CALL** **VOTE** on **Councillor D. McManus’** *amendment* “*Transfer €20,000 D0903 Town Twinning to FO401 Community Grants, to allocate this funding to "Sister Sheds".* the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 7 (SEVEN)**

**Councillors B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan, D. Richardson.**

**AGAINST: 25 (TWENTY FIVE)**

**Councillors W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, T. Gilligan, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, C. King, K. Mahon, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, L. O'Toole, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

**ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **FELL.**

**Motion 12 to amend the Draft Budget**

**Division D – Development Management - D0903 – Town Twinning**

The following Motion in the names of Councillor M. Johansson was proposed by **Councillor M. Johansson** and seconded by **Councillor K. Mahon :**

“That €20 000 be allocated from D0903 Town Twinning to the Clondalkin Equine Club fund to use for their management and/or operations in 2023”

Councillors M. Johansson, K. Mahon and F. Timmons called for a **ROLL CALL** **VOTE** on **Councillor M. Johansson’s** amendment the result of which is as follows:

**FOR: 3 (THREE)**

**Councillors M. Johansson, K. Mahon, F. Timmons**

**AGAINST: 25 (TWENTY FIVE)**

**Councillors W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, K. Egan, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, C. King, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, L. O'Toole, D. Richardson, L. Sinclair, J. Tuffy.**

**ABSTAIN: 5 (FIVE)**

**Councillors T. Gilligan, B. Lawlor, D. McManus, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan.**

As a result of the **ROLL CALL VOTE** the amendment to the Draft Budget 2023 **FELL.**

[e) Consideration of Divisions](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=72905)  
Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, outlined details of proposed expenditure and income on the following divisions:

**DIVISION A – Housing and Building**

Division A was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION B – Road Transport and Safety**

Division B was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION C - Water Services**

Division C was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION D – Development Management**

Division D was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION E – Environmental Services**

Division E was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION F – Recreation and Amenity**

Division F was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION G – Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare**

Division G Was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

**DIVISION H – Miscellaneous Services**

Division H was **NOTED** and **AGREED**

### **H2/1122 ADOPTION OF FORMAL PROPOSALS FOR:**

[H2 a) Adoption of Budget 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76778)

### The following Motion was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor S. Moynihan** and **seconded** by **Councillor A. Edge**.

## 

## “That the County Council ADOPT for the financial year ending 31st December 2023 the Annual Budget set out in Tables A to F as amended”

A **ROLL CALL VOTE** was called for on the Motion the result of which was as follows:

## **FOR: 24 (TWENTY FOUR)**

**Councillors W. Carey, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, T. Costello, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, K. Egan, T. Gilligan, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, C. King, S. Moynihan, E. Murphy, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. O'Brien, E. Ó Broin, C. O'Connor, L. O'Toole, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy.**

## **AGAINST: 9 (NINE)**

## **Councillors M. Johansson, B. Lawlor, K. Mahon, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O'Hara, B. Pereppadan, D. Richardson.**

## **ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)**

The Resolution was **PASSED.**

[H2 b) Determination of Annual Rate on Valuation for 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76779)

### The following Motion which was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor E. Murphy** and **seconded** by **Councillor L. Dunne**:

## “That the County Council DETERMINE in accordance with the Annual Budget as adopted, the rate as set out in Table A to be the general Annual Rate on Valuation to be levied for the purposes set out in Tables A to F. The general Annual Rate on Valuation being determined at 0.276 as amended”

The Mayor proposed and the members **AGREED** that The Resolution was **PASSED.**

[H2 c) Determination of the Rates Vacancies Refund Scheme for 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76780)

### The following Motion which was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor E. Murphy** and **seconded** by **Councillor Y. Collins**:

## “That in accordance with the provisions of Section 31 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Part V of the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014, it is hereby resolved to maintain the level of rates refunds on vacant properties within the administrative County of South Dublin that applies to eligible persons at 50% for the financial year ending 31st December 2023 .”

The Mayor proposed and the members **AGREED** that The Resolution was **PASSED.**

[H2 d) Approval of Transfers to Reserves](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76781)

The following Motion which was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor E. Murphy** and **seconded** by **Councillor P. Kearns**:

## “That the County Council approves of the transfers to reserves of the sums provided for various capital purposes in the Annual Budget 2023 as Adopted for the financial year ending 31st December 2023 as amended.”

The Mayor proposed and the members **AGREED** that The Resolution was **PASSED.**

[H2 e) Approval of Additional Expenditure in the Revised Budget 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76782)

### The following Motion which was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor E. Murphy** and seconded **by Councillor M. Duff:**

In accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, the approval of the members is required for the following items of additional revenue expenditure which exceeded the adopted budget expenditure. The additional Divisional and Service expenditure and the explanation for same are set out below:

**Resolution**

That the County Council approves of the additional expenditures contained in the Revised Budget 2022 for the financial year ending 31 December 2022 as set out in Tables A to F of the Annual Budget 2023 and considered during the budget process.

The Mayor proposed and the members **AGREED** that The Resolution was **PASSED.**

[H2 f) Consideration of the 3 Year Capital Programme 2023 - 2025](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76783)

### The following Motion which was read by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance was **proposed** by **Councillor E. Murphy** and **seconded** by **Councillor T. Costello**:

In accordance with Section 135 of the Local Government Act 2001 the Chief Executive shall before the start of the financial year prepare a report on the three year capital programme which may be considered at the Budget meeting or at such other meeting as the elected Council may by resolution decide.

## “That the Three Year Capital Programme 2023 – 2025 be considered at the December 2022 Council Meeting.”

The Mayor proposed and the members **AGREED** that The Resolution was **PASSED.**

### **H3/1122 (a) Presentations From Special Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee Meeting**

[Presentation from OPF](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76794)

**Closing Statements from Party Leaders**

The Mayor Councillor E. Murphy, the Group Leaders and Independent Councillors thanked the Chief Executive, Mr. D. McLoughlin, all the Management and staff and in particular Mr. R. FitzGerald and his staff on the considerable work involved in the preparation and balancing of the Budget.

### Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, thanked the Corporate Policy Group, the Members, and staff for their co-operation in preparing the Draft Budget.

### 

### The meeting ended at 22:00

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

Mayor

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