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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council March 2023 County Council Meeting held on Monday 13 March 2023

### **PRESENT**

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| Bailey, C. | Lynch, M. |
| Carey, W. | Mahon, K. |
| Casserly, V. | McCrave, L. |
| Collins, Y. | McMahon, R. |
| Costello, T. | McManus, D. |
| Donaghy, L. | 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’Hara, S. |
| Hayes, A. | O’Toole, L. |
| Holohan, P. | Pereppadan, B. |
| Johansson, M. | Sinclair, L. |
| Kearns, P. | Timmons, F. |
| King, C. | Tuffy, J. |
| Lawlor, B. | Whelan, L. |
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### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

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| Chief Executive | D. McLoughlin. |
| Directors | J. Frehill, M. Mulhern, C. Ward. |
| Head of Finance | R. FitzGerald. |
| Head of IT | T. Kavanagh |
| Senior Executive Officer | C. Hurson |
| Senior Engineers | L. Magee, J. Helbert |
| Administrative Officers | D. Healy, M. Reilly |
| Senior Staff Officer | L. Abbey |
| Assistant Staff Officers | M. Dwyer, D. Murphy |
| Sord | A. O’Brien. |

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, presided.

Apologies were received from councillor D. Richardson.

**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 Deputy Mayor, Councillor J. Tuffy, 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 Chair.

### **H1/0323 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

Minutes of the February Council Meeting held on 13th February 2023 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor Y. Collins.

1. [February Council Minutes 13th February 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78023)

At this point in the meeting Councillor R. McMahon proposed a minute’s silence for Mr. Frank Feeley former County Manager and the Members AGREED.

### **H2/0323 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.*

### **H3/0323 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

### **H4/0323 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

**a) Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC**

**Attended:**

**Report of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC SPC Meeting 1st February 2023**

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| **Members** | **Council Officials** | |
| Cllr. Alan Edge (Chair) | Jason Frehill | Director of Service |
| Cllr. Mick Duff | Paul Fusco | County Librarian |
| Cllr. Teresa Costello | Ms. Orla Scannell | Arts Officer |
|  | Ms. Rosaleen Dwyer | Heritage Officer |
|  | Ms. Geraldine O Meara | Senior Executive librarian |
|  | Ms. Meabh Butler | Assistant Arts Officer |

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| **Sectoral Members** |
| Elaine Vince O'Hara  Ms. Freda Manweiler |

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| **Apologies** |
| Cllr. Alan Hayes, Cllr. Kenneth Egan |

**The meeting was Chaired by Cllr. Alan Edge.**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge opened the meeting at 17.32 and welcomed everyone.

**Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes**

The [minutes](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=77797) of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC meeting held on 2nd November 2022 were proposed by Cllr Alan Edge and seconded by Cllr Mick Duff.

**Agreed.**

**Item 2: Libraries Development Plan – Implementation/Year 1 Priorities**

Paul Fusco, County Librarian, presented a [Overview](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=77798) on the status of South Dublin Libraries Development Plan 2023 – 2027 – Our Library Our Future. The plan was adopted by South Dublin Council on 12th December 2022. It is currently being translated into Irish and is due for completion in the coming weeks. We will have a public launch in the Spring, at a time where it will receive maximum attention. The launch will possibly coincide with the launch of extended opening hours of Palmerstown Hub.

Implementation of the plan is underway. Champions have been appointed and are tasked with carrying out an audit of South Dublin library services in the areas championed. The audits will evaluate our current standing and identify needs/gaps in relation to information, facilities, and customer service. Audits will be completed by end of April 2023. In terms of Technology, we are drafting up procurement documents to upgrade our RFID self service kiosks and install My Open Library.

Paul Fusco spoke about the opening hours of the library service being extended. Palmerstown Library Hub has switched to Wednesday/Thursday opening. Friday/Saturday opening of the Hub is dependent on recruitment of 2 part time library assistants. This recruitment has been approved by Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is in the pipeline with SDCC recruitment. The introduction of My Open Library next year will provide additional opening hours and will offer the public accessibility to library services 365 days a year. Additional resources have been applied to improve the reliability of mobile library services. A relief pool of three drivers has been created. This means that fewer stops will be cancelled and allows for the participation in festivals such as the St. Patricks Day Parade.

Following the presentation, chair Cllr Alan Edge invited questions from the members.

Cllr Mick Duff commended the progress of the plan and commented that it was amazing to see the strategic planning moving forward so quickly. He passed on his compliments to the staff involved. Cllr Mick Duff was excited to hear about the additional openings hours and thought Palmerstown Hub would be an ideal location for the launch of the Development Plan. He is looking forward to seeing the introduction of My Open Library to South Dublin.

Cllr Teresa Costello commented on the great work being done in libraries in the areas of inclusiveness and outreach and how the libraries have expanded their offering. Cllr Alan Edge agreed with the Cllr’s comments and endorsed all that was said. He commented that he passed one of his favourite libraries when he was in Oslo, and it was amazing to see people in there at 10pm. Cllr Edge commented that it is great to see this service coming into our libraries and is something to look forward to in the future.

The report was **Noted**.

**Item 3: Heritage Plan – Update/Public Consultation**

Rosaleen Dwyer presented a [Review of Heritage Plan Update](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=77799) whose objective is to set out a framework for the protection, conservation, promotion and management of the County’s heritage for the period of the plan. The review is set within the context of the Council’s Corporate Plan and the objectives of the County Development Plan 2022 – 2028. The new Heritage Plan will be guided by the objectives of the 2022 National Heritage Plan ‘ Heritage 2030’ which sets out actions under three key themes of ‘Communities, Leadership and Partnership’. It aims to reflect the importance of ongoing collaboration between the Local Authority, Government Agencies, communities, heritage organisations, and individuals in caring an planning for our shared heritage. Rosaleen confirmed the Plan’s preparation will involve both internal consultation and public consultation processes and she outlined the Review stages and expected timeframes, culminating in finalising the South Dublin County Heritage Plan in Q4 of 2023.

Following the presentation, questions were invited from the members.

Cllr Teresa Costello commented that she is looking forward to see what findings the Heritage Plan come back with. She noted that Heritage is very important to the county and it was great to see such a focus on Heritage and the Community.

Cllr Edge agreed and said it was great to see the themes of “Community, Leadership and Partnership” in the National Heritage Plan as well. He noted that History can often be unseen and unappreciated and looks forward to the by in and greater understanding from communities.

The report was **Noted**.

**Item 4: In Context 5: Public Art Programme under % for Art Programme**

Meabh Butler, Assistant Arts Officer, presented a report on [In Context 5 - CONNECT](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=77800) - South Dublin County Council’s Public Art Programme under the % for Art Scheme 2022-2025. Orla explained it’s background, it’s main features and it’s evolution from In Context 4. Orla outlined In Context 5’s strategy development and the elements within it and detailed the budget breakdown by Construction project within Strand 1 of the programme. In summary, Context 5 – Connect should provide a foundation upon which we will build a future heritage to be proud of. Meabh then updated the members on the Current Position and next steps.

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge thanked and welcomed Meabh and invited questions.

Cllr. Teresa Costello commented that she is looking forward to engagement with the Public Art Programme. She said others might disagree but she has seen graffiti art in housing estates in the past that has not aged well. Cllr Costello noted that it’s important to liaise with the communities that the artwork is being produced in to ensure it is relevant to their area and maintained.

Cllr Mick Duff agreed with Cllr Costellos comments and mentioned that many years back there was an intergenerational mural created with Foroige that was very good but not looked after. Cllr Duff suggested that murals that are sustainable and maintained would be preferable such as the mural at Scoil Íosa. He commented that he is delighted to hear about the next steps of the Arts Programme and knows the current programme in schools such as St Aidans, is superb. Cllr Duff hopes to see Tallaght Community School included in the future of the programme.

Cllr. Alan Edge mentioned his involvement with the Public Art Steering Group and said it is exciting to hear about the Public Art Programme. Cllr. Edge commented that the programme and community engagement is even more important now in terms of the development and integration of migrants and welcoming them to the community. He suggested this is an area to perhaps look at working on in the future. Cllr Edge commented that arts mentorship has gone very well in Rua Red and Tallaght Community Arts and congratulated staff on their work.

The report was **Noted**.

**Item 5: Cultural Quarter Working Group**

Paul Fusco, County Librarian, presented [an update](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=77801) on the Cultural Quarter. He proposed the working group needed to investigate the integration of CQ into upcoming development strategies: Libraries, Rua Red and the Civic Theatre. He suggested that while they are collocated, they are not necessarily cohesive and have resulted in crossovers and conflicts in programming. Areas for the CQ working group to focus on include branding, demand analysis and vision development. The presentation showed the current composition of the Cultural Working Group and a proposed breakdown of budget going forward.

Following the presentation, questions were invited from the members.

Cllr. Alan Edge commented that he was co-opted to be chair of the Cultural Quarter Working Group after Cllr. Peter Kavanagh left, and it is now in his remit as chair of the Arts, Culture, Heritage, Gaeilge and Libraries SPC to see this group activated and get underway. Cllr. Edge mentioned that they cannot set a meeting date today as they do not have a full quorum.

Cllr. Mick Duff expressed his delight at the composition of the working group. He enquired if there were any plans to be included for County Hall as it could be used as an arts and heritage space also. He commented that it is a significant public building and asked if various works could be exhibited in the public space. Jason Frehill noted that it was a good suggestion. He pointed to the successful provision of My Doorstep in County Hall in using the public space to engage with members of the community. It was suggested the space in County Hall could be used and included for Culture Night .

Cllr. Alan Edge agreed with Paul Fusco’s point of wasted space at the back of Rua Red and Library and events such as the Black Lives Matter Solidarity Demonstration that took place showed how the space could be put to good use. He commented it would be good to get a meeting date for Cultural Working Group before the end of February. Paul Fusco agreed to get a meeting date in place by then.

Cllr. Teresa Costello was co opted onto the Cultural Quarter Working Group by agreement. Paul Fusco to follow up with an email.

The report was **Noted**.

**Item 6 : Action Items**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge invited contributions for Action Items.

Cllr. Alan Edge highlighted a number of vacancies in Cllr. Peter Kavanagh’s absence. They urgently need someone to take his place on the board of Rua Red and it needs to be an elected member from this SPC. Cllr Teresa Costello was put forward to sit on the board. This was supported by Cllr. Mick Duff.

These items were **Noted**.

**Item 7: Any Other Business**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge invited contributions for Action Items.

Cllr. Mick Duff put forward his thanks to Cllr. Alan Edge and commented on a fantastic job he did as Chair of the SPC.

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge thanked members for their attendance.

**The meeting concluded at 18.19.**

**Minutes of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC Meeting 2nd November 2022**  
**Attended:**

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| **Members** | **Sectoral Members** |
| Cllr. A. Edge (Chair) | Ms. Elaine Vince-O’Hara |
| Cllr. P. Kavanagh |  |
| Cllr. M. Duff |  |
| Cllr. Alan Hayes, |  |
| Cllr. Teresa Costello |  |

**Apologies:** Ms. Freda Manweiler, Cllr. Kenneth Egan

**Officials present:**

Mr. Jason Frehill, Director of Service

Mr. Paul Fusco, County Librarian

Ms. Orla Scannell

**Minute-taker:**

Ms. Cliona Graham, Library HQ

**The meeting was Chaired by Cllr Alan Edge.**

Chair Cllr. Alan Edge opened the meeting at 17:34 following a tour of the North Clondalkin Library and its facilities.

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| **Headed Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes**  The [minutes](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=76702) of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC meeting held on 7th September 2022 were proposed by Cllr Alan Edge and seconded by Cllr Peter Kavanagh. |

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| **Headed Item 2: Libraries Development Plan**  Paul Fusco, County Librarian, presented a [draft overview](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=76703) on the South Dublin Libraries Development Plan 2023 – 2027 – Our Library Our Future prepared in conjunction with ThinkActionable Consultants. The draft plan sets out South Dublin Libraries (SDL’s) purpose to inspire, support and enable the people of South Dublin to live, learn and thrive by removing barriers to knowledge and information and creating space to think, talk and explore. It affirms SDL’s aspiration to become a benchmark for what a public library can be in terms of engagement, relevance, innovation, and impact. The plan sits within a framework which includes the Libraries Capital programme, the Right to Read programme, Healthy Ireland etc. The high-level overview presented provided an insight into the key challenges and insights identified and the areas and objectives that the plan will be focussed on over the next five years.  The key elements include Expanding and Inspiring our community, Energising our Collection, Curating and Creating our Heritage, Rejuvenating our Physical and Virtual Space and Empowering our Staff. It sets out the Areas we will focus on, how to achieve success in these areas, the capabilities needed to support our efforts and the managerial support required to achieve success. Priority will be given to two distinct areas: growing our active and new membership by focusing on teenagers and young adults and responding to the great challenges facing our communities, societies, and the planet today and into the future.  Underpinning the plan’s success will be its flexibility, it’s responsiveness and it’s appointed Area champions who will be key drivers of the plan’s objectives. South Dublin Libraries will appoint a champion for each Area who will advocate and be responsible for delivery of its objectives and who can draw upon management and staff support and expertise. Each area is interlinked to form a comprehensive and impactful plan. Pathways are outlined to achieving success including the capabilities needed and the leadership and management required to support it. Identifying staff as one of South Dublin Libraries biggest assets, the plan looks to innovate, energise, expand, and empower.  Paul Fusco spoke about the importance of the plan’s success in ensuring that libraries continue to evolve, expand, and become vibrant, adaptable community hubs that have a broader membership base and with multiple uses. He placed particular importance on libraries heritage role, acting as hubs of local heritage both old and new, built, and social. He also spoke of the importance of fostering the Irish language, initially among staff. Paul also proposed that the draft plan be presented to the AGMs in advance of the next Council meeting to get broad input and feedback.  Following the presentation, chair Cllr Alan Edge invited questions from the members.  Cllr Peter Kavanagh, Cllr Alan Hayes, and Cllr Mick Duff commended the plan, it’s focus and flexibility. They acknowledged staff as Libraries greatest asset, liked the idea of edgier spaces and endorsed empowering staff to promote the Irish Language. Cllr Kavanagh agreed with identifying the challenges faced by Libraries and while not trying to become edgy spaces, being open to change and where successes were noted and would recommend the plan’s endorsement to the Council.  Cllr Alan Edge agreed with the Cllr’s comments and endorsed the idea of appointing area champions and the use of action plans. He concurred that the venue reflects the design – edgy spaces being engaging. Responding to Paul Fusco’s reference to South Dublin Libraries score of 53 on the NPS scale, he queried any NPS trends that could be measured across Libraries nationally and Paul will revert on this. Cllr Alan Edge liked the idea of Libraries curating our heritage and discussed their interaction with our existing and new heritage centres.  Jason Frehill noted that learning from the achievements of Think Big Space and the numbers who have already availed of the service that libraries are a resource as a heritage centre which can be used to capture the social history of the next generation and endorsed the idea of their use as hub locations to research family and local history for current and future generations.  Paul Fusco noted that South Dublin Libraries had always been considered creative and innovative, that a flexible adaptive plan was required to build on that and that the new Strategy design wise reflected that. Referencing the difficulty of planning for a situation such as the Covid pandemic he noted that plans need to be adaptive to society’s challenges. He felt that we can take inspiration from how LGBT events were championed and advocated for by staff and that a similar response could be achieved in promotion of the Irish language as referenced in the captured surveyed staff responses.  Responding to Cllr Peter Kavanagh’s enquiry regarding support for staff Champions, Paul Fusco noted that management roles within SDL currently transcended geographic locations and with a small core group based in HQ. He envisaged, the role of Area Champions would naturally map to existing Senior Executive Librarians taking advantage of their areas of expertise and that multiple working groups could be established to assist and support their role. He noted that working groups currently exist within SDL, like the membership group, which encompasses staff across grades and branches.  Paul Fusco confirmed that active membership had risen to 15% assisted through a concerted membership drive but that reaching the National objective of 30% would be challenging.  Ms. Elaine Vince-O’Hara thought the Area Champions were a great idea and suggested that links could be built between SDL and the ETB in common areas such as the Environmental and Sustainability Awareness and contact points could be suggested.  Paul Fusco responded to other questions asked.  Chair Cllr Alan Edge proposed that the Draft Libraries Development Report be put forward to the Council meeting in December and it was seconded by Cllr. Mick Duff.  The report was **Noted**. |

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| **Headed Item 3: Culture and Creative Strategy – Presentation and Discussion**  Orla Scannell presented a [Summary Report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsbyitem.aspx?itemid=76704) on the South Dublin County Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023 – 2027, which is a high level strategy that was prepared in collaboration with consultant Carla Fazio. The plan is moving into the final phase of preparation now and it will provide a framework for ongoing engagement for key policy stakeholders. The aim of the strategy is to strengthen community, economy, space and place by designating Culture and Creativity as the keystone to South Dublin County development and regeneration work. The strategy is a roadmap for the future growth and development of South Dublin by modelling How to place Culture and Creativity at the core of the work.  The vision of the Creative Ireland Programme 2023 – 2027 is to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation, so we can realise our full creative potential thereby promoting individual, community and national wellbeing. The programme will prioritise its work around five aspects which are Creative Youth, Creative Communities, Creative Industries, Creative Health and Wellbeing and Creative Climate Action and Sustainability.  It looks to leverage creativity to strengthen wellbeing, advance social cohesion and support economic development.  The new South Dublin County Cultural and Creative Strategy 2023 – 2027 looks to build on the partnership between SDCC and Creative Ireland expressed through Creative Communities and identifies roles for delivery of the strategy by the Culture and Creativity Team through Advocating, Collaborating, Innovating, Supporting, Giving a platform to and Reflecting. It sets out the ambitious Creative Ireland vision for South Dublin County and identifies the key strengths it will draw on in delivering that vision. It identifies how Creative Communities work through policies, practices, participation and partnership and outlines the four strategic priorities for South Dublin County which will enable us to use culture as an agent for social transformation and change. These priorities are Inspiring spaces, Celebrating Diverse Identities, Equal voices and Leaving it Better.  The South Dublin Culture and Creativity Team are in place to guide and oversee the implementation of this strategy, which will begin next year.  Following the presentation, questions were invited from the members.  Cllr. Alan Hayes thanked Orla for the presentation and noted the strategy’s broad based which transcends people and physical spaces and might therefore be relevant to other SPC’s. Orla Scannell acknowledged that the wide remit of the strategy required ongoing consultation and interaction with other areas such as Planning, Community, LCDC’s etc. She confirmed that further work was anticipated next year to highlight and prioritise areas of work and collaboration so that the SDC Culture and Creative Strategy becomes embedded within their strategies. Acknowledging Cllr. Edge’s reference to the difficulty in measuring outcomes where the core of the strategy aligned more to a vision statement, Orla Scannell confirmed that the Strategy met the requirements set out by the request by Creative Ireland who want to see more strategic alignment with other departments and agencies and for that to be reflected within Council plans nationally.  The report was **Noted**. |
| **Headed Item 4: Action Items**  Chair Cllr. Alan Edge invited contributions for Action Items.   1. **Libraries Development Plan.**   Cllr Peter Kavanagh enquired as to the level of input possible at the Area Committee Meetings. Cllr Alan Edge noted that the Libraries Development plan, which has now been recommended by the SPC in it’s current format, be available for discussion at the ACM’s in advance of the December Council meeting.  Paul Fusco agreed with Cllr. Peter Kavanagh that an action plan is needed to support the Development Plan and confirmed that ThinkActionable Consultants will be directly involved with devising the first Action plan in the new year.  This item was **Noted**. |
| **Headed Item 5: Any Other Business**  Chair Cllr. Alan Edge requested items for Any Other Business.  Cllr Alan Edge noted the benefit of visiting North Clondalkin library and confirmed that the SPC rules didn’t encompass changing SPC venue’s and sought views from members regarding the possibility of holding future SPC’s in differing locations. Cllr. Mick Duff thought varied locations was a good idea, giving insight into our facilities. Paul Fusco concurred and confirmed that Libraries could facilitate it.  Cllr. Alan Edge expressed his thanks on behalf of the SPC to Cllr. Peter Kavanagh, who is stepping down, for his contribution and dedication to date and wished him every success in the future. All members of the SPC acknowledged and thanked Peter for his work and commitment and would be sorry to see him go but wished him well  The requests were N**oted**.  Chair Cllr. Alan Edge thanked members for their attendance.  **The meeting concluded at 18:45** |

The Chair of the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC, Councillor A. Edge, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

**b) Environment, Water, Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC**

**Report of Environment Public Realm & Climate Change SPC Meeting held on 7th February 2023**

**In attendance:**

**Elected Members Sectoral Members**

Councillor David McManus (Chair) Mr. John Kiberd

Councillor Madeleine Johansson Ms. Deirdre Mooney (Teams)

Councillor Emma Murphy

Councillor Guss O’Connell

Councillor Francis Timmons

Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade (Teams)

**Officials**

Teresa Walsh, Director of Services

Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer

Fiona Hendley, Administrative Officer

Fionnghuala Ryan, CC & EAO

Juliene Helbert, Senior Engineer

David O’Brien, HSE

**Apologies**

Councillor Dermot Richardson

Mr. Donie Anderson

The Chair (Councillor David McManus) welcomed those in attendance in the Council Chamber and on Microsoft Teams.

**Item 1: Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 2nd November 2022**

The [minutes](http://intranet/cmas/documentsedit.aspx?id=77893&itemTxt=H-I1) of Environment SPC meeting held on 2nd November 2022 were proposed by Councillor McManus, seconded by Councillor Timmons, and agreed.

**Item 2: Environmental Noise Action Plan 2023 - 2027**

David O’Brien, Principal, Environmental Health Officer presented the [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsedit.aspx?id=77894&itemTxt=H-I2) to the committee.

Councillors Hagin Meade and O’Connell raised questions on the report in relation to promoting the plan, maps, quiet areas, air quality and final outcomes of the plan regarding noise levels (legislative limit), location of noise monitors across the county. David O’ Brien responded to the queries.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 3: Climate Change Implementation & Action Plan**

Juliene Herbert, Senior Engineer presented the [presentation](http://intranet/cmas/documentsedit.aspx?id=77896&itemTxt=H-I3) to the committee.

Councillor Madeleine Johansson suggested that we should be doing more on upgrading social housing stock faster than we are. Also noted the issues with public transport – we need to highlight this more in order to get people out of their cars. Asked could we promote public transport more than we do. Cllr Johansson complimented the council on the work we are doing in South Dublin.

Juliene Helbert provided an update on funding received from Dept of Housing.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 4: Circular Economy & Environmental Awareness Activities**

Fionnghuala Ryan, Climate Change & Environmental Awareness Officer presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsedit.aspx?id=77897&itemTxt=H-I4) on Circular Economy & Environmental Awareness activities for the year ahead.

Councillors asked a number of questions around bottle banks, the circular economy, repair cafes and Tidy Towns. The Manager agreed to follow up on any outstanding issues.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 5: SDCC Allotments Policy**

Fiona Hendley, Administrative Officer presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsedit.aspx?id=77898&itemTxt=H-I5) on the Draft Allotments Policy.

Members were asked to submit queries to the manager via email by COB on Friday 10th February 2023.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 6: Any Other Business**

Deirdre Mooney thanked the Public Realm Section for the new litter bins along the Dodder Greenway.

The meeting ended at 7.00 p.m. and the Chair, Cllr D. McManus concluded the meeting.

**Minutes of Environment Public Realm & Climate Change SPC Meeting held on 2nd November 2022**

**In attendance:**

**Elected Members Sectoral Members**

Councillor David McManus (Chair) Mr. John Kiberd

Councillor Madeleine Johansson Mr. Donie Anderson

Councillor Emma Murphy Ms. Deirdre Mooney (Teams)

Councillor Guss O’Connell (Teams)

Councillor Francis Timmons

Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade (Teams)

**Officials**

Teresa Walsh, Director of Services

Suzanne Furlong, Senior Parks Superintendent (Teams)

Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer

Fiona Hendley, Administrative Officer

Juliene Helbert, Senior Engineer

Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer (Teams)

Colum Fagan, Senior Executive Engineer (Teams)

**Apologies**

Councillor Dermot Richardson

Councillor David McManus (Chair) welcomed those in attendance in the Council Chamber and on Microsoft Teams.

**Item 1: Minutes of Environment SPC meeting held on 6th September 2022**

The [minutes](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76501) of Environment SPC meeting held on 6th September 2022 were proposed by Councillor McManus, seconded by Councillor Timmons, and agreed.

**Item 2: Draft Parks and Open Space Strategy**

Suzanne Furlong, Senior Parks Superintendent presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76478) to the committee.

Councillors Timmons, Johansson, Hagin Meade, O’Connell and Mr. Anderson thanked Suzanne for the report and raised some queries in relation to park safety, number of Park Rangers, dogs off leads, accessibility and general facilities within parks and open spaces.

Suzanne Furlong, Senior Parks Superintendent responded to the queries raised.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 3: Review of Litter Management Plan**

Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer presented the [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76503) and [presentation](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77018)  to the committee. Teresa Walsh, Director of Services added a comment to correct a typo in the presentation, the date on Draft Litter Management Plan should be 2023 - 2025.

Due to the volume of questions, the Chair requested that questions raised would be answered by email following the meeting. This was agreed.

Councillors Timmons and Hagin Meade raised queries on the report in relation to enforcement, dog fouling and strategy on events that take place along the border with other Local Authorities. Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer will respond to queries by email.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 4: Climate Action update, CCAP Annual Report 2022**

Juliene Helbert, Senior Engineer presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76459) on Climate Action and CCAP Annual Report 2022. There were no queries.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 5: Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes**

Teresa Walsh, Director of Services presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76476) on Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes. There were no queries.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 6: Report from joint EWCC and LUPT Biodiversity subcommittee**

Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer presented a [report](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76504) on behalf of the EWCC and LUPT Biodiversity subcommittee.

Councillors Timmons and Johansson raised queries in relation to protection of swans and alternative use to herbicides.

Rosaleen Dwyer, Heritage Officer responded to the queries raised.

The Report was **NOTED**

**Item 7: SPC Programme 2023**

The [draft SPC Programme 2023](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76505) was proposed by Councillor McManus, seconded by Councillor Timmons, and agreed.

The Update was **NOTED**

**Item 10: Any Other Business**

Councillor Timmons informed the group that the Tidy Towns results were out and wished to acknowledge all their hard work, especially in his own electoral area.

The meeting ended at 18.53 p.m.

The Chair, Cllr D. McManus concluded the meeting.

The Chair of the Environment, Water, Climate Change and Biodiversity SPC, Councillor D. McManus, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

**c) Economic, Enterprise & Tourism SPC**

**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members** | **Council Officials** |
| Cllr. L. O’Toole | Jason Frehill - Director of Service |
| Cllr. Cathal King (Chair) | Laura Leonard - Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr. Pamela Kearns | Thomas Rooney - Head of Enterprise |
|  | Allyson Rooney - Senior Staff Officer |
|  | Sandra Hickey - Administrative Officer |
|  | Dylan Rock -Clerical Officer |  |
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| **Representative** |  |
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| **Apologies** |  |
| Cllr. Ed O’Brien  Cllr. R McMahon  Cllr. L McCrave  Cllr. L Dunne |  |

**Headed Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of EETD SPC held on 9th November 2022 were Proposed by Cllr. C. King seconded by Cllr. P. Kearns and **Agreed**.

**Headed Item 2:**

1. **Local Enterprise Office-End of Year Review**

Mr. Thomas Rooney, Head of Enterprise, presented the report comprising updates to the Committee on the work and outputs of the Local Enterprise Office for 2022. The report included detail on: -

Financial supports

Business supports

Programmes & Networks

In addition Tom Rooney provided an update on the Innovation centre under two headings:-

Building Progress

Work IQ website development

1. **Shop Front Grant Scheme 2022**

Mr. Thomas Rooney, Head of Enterprise, informed members of the premises selected as winner of the Shop Front Grant Scheme 2022.

Following the contributions, Chair Cllr. C. King invited questions.

Questions were raised by Cllr. P. Kearns, Cllr. L. O’Toole and Cllr C. King

Thomas Rooney responded to questions raised and was thanked by the chair for the presentation and update.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 3: Innovation Centre Update**

Mr. Thomas Rooney, Head of Enterprise, presented a report updating members of the committee on the progress of construction of the Innovation Centre under two areas:-

Building Progress

Work IQ website development

Following the presentation, Chair Cllr. C. King invited questions.

Questions were raised by Cllr. P. Kearns, Cllr. L. O’Toole and Cllr C. King

Thomas Rooney responded to questions raised and was thanked by the chair for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 4: Grange Castle West Masterplan/Website Proposals**

Ms. Laura Leonard, Senior Executive Officer, presented the report comprising updates to the Committee on the Grange Castle West Masterplan/Website Proposals as follows:-

* Vision
* Placemaking principles
* Site massing
* Land use mix
* Employment potential
* Sustainability
* Website /Branding

Following the presentation, Chair Cllr. C. King invited questions.

Questions and contributions were raised by Cllr. L. O’Toole, P. Kearns and C. King

Laura Leonard and Jason Frehill responded to the questions raised and welcomed the positive comments. The chair expressed his thanks for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 5: Tallaght Stadium Progress Update**

Ms. Laura Leonard, Senior Executive Officer, presented the report comprising updates to the Committee on the Tallaght Stadium Project Progress as follows:-

* North Stand
* Main stand -internal works
* Time Lapse Video of works
* Stadium re-opening for fixtures
* Next Steps

Following the presentation, Chair Cllr. C. King invited questions.

Questions and contributions were raised by Cllr. L. O’Toole, P. Kearns and C. King

Laura Leonard and Jason Frehill responded to the questions raised and welcomed the positive comments. The chair expressed his thanks for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 6: A.O.B.**

* **LECP timelines update**

**The Report was Noted.**

**The meeting ended at 7 p.m.**

Cllr. C. King concluded the meeting.

**Report of the Economic Development, Enterprise And Tourism SPC Held on 8th February, 2023**

|  |  |
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| **Members** | **Council Officials** |
| Cllr. L. O’Toole | Jason Frehill - Director of Service |
| Cllr. R. McMahon | Laura Leonard - Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr. L. Dunne | Thomas Rooney - Head of Enterprise |
| Cllr. L. McCrave | Allyson Rooney, Senior Staff Officer |
| Cllr. E. O’Brien |  |
| Cllr. L. Whelan | Caroline Power-Programme Manager  Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan |  |
| Sherri Brennan | Kieran Walsh- SDCPPN Co-Ordinator |  |
|  | Norman Thompson- Economic Development Researcher Dublin City Council |  |

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| **Representative** |  |
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| **Apologies** |  |
| Cllr. C. King (Chair) |  |
| Cllr. P. Kearns |  |
| Sean Reid |  |
| Jack McDonnell |  |

Apologies having been conveyed by the Chair Cllr C. King, the members present agreed that the meeting be chaired by Cllr. R. McMahon.

Guest attendees and presenters, Kieran Walsh SDCPPN, Caroline Power DREP, and Norman Thompson, DCC were welcomed to the meeting.

**Headed Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of EETD SPC held on 14th September 2022 were Proposed by Cllr. R. McMahon seconded by Cllr. L. Dunne and Agreed.

**Headed Item 2: Presentation by Co-Ordinator PPN**

Kieran Walsh, Co-ordinator of the South Dublin County Public Participation Network [SDCPPN], was introduced by Laura Leonard, SEO and presented a report which provided members with an overview of the PPN. Detail of the structure, workplans, funding and governance were provided in the course of the presentation.

Following the contributions, Chair Cllr. R. McMahon invited questions.

Questions were raised by Cllr L. Dunne and Cllr. R. McMahon

Kieran Walsh responded to questions raised and was thanked by the chair for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 3: Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan**

Caroline Power, Programme Manager for the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024 was introduced by Laura Leonard, SEO and presented a detailed report to members on the plan covering the following -

* Vision
* Plan formulation
* Stakeholders /Consultation
* Strategic Objectives
* Implementation
* Oversight
* Government Policy
* Funding

Following the contributions, Chair Cllr. R. McMahon invited questions.

Questions were raised by Cllr L. Dunne, Cllr. L. O’Toole and Cllr. R. McMahon

Caroline Power responded to questions raised and was thanked by the chair for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 4: Research Report on Enterprise Hubs in Dublin**

Norman Thompson, Economic Development Researcher based in Dublin City Council was introduced by Laura Leonard, SEO and presented a detailed report to members on the Research into Enterprise Hubs in Dublin covering the following findings:-

* Desktop Review – Findings
* Distribution of Hubs across the County
* Unemployment Blackspots – location of Hubs
* Survey findings -Users and providers
* Impacts Covid 19
* Interventions and Supports

Questions were raised by Cllr. L. McCrave, Cllr. L. Dunne, Cllr. L. O’Toole and Cllr. R. McMahon

Norman Thompson responded to questions raised and was thanked by the chair for the presentation.

**The Report was Noted.**

**Headed Item 5: A.O.B.**

Query was raised by Cllr R. McMahon on Innovation Centre and the Dublin Mountains Project to which Jason Frehill DOS & Tom Rooney, Head of Enterprise responded.

**The meeting ended at 19:15**

Cllr. R. McMahon concluded the meeting

Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

**d) Housing SPC**

**Report of South Dublin County Council Housing SPC Meeting held on Thursday 16 February 2023**

**In attendance:**

Cllr. C O’Connor (Chair), Cllr. W. Carey, Cllr. L. Donaghy, Cllr. B. Lawlor, Cllr. S. Moynihan, Cllr. J. Tuffy, G. Stockil (PPN) and B. Tyrell-Collard (ICTU).

**Apologies:** Cllr. K Mahon, S Harty (PPN)

**Officials Present:**

C Ward (Director of Services), B. Pierce (Senior Executive Officer), N. Hanly (Senior Executive Officer), E. Leech (Senior Executive Officer), M. Murtagh (Administrative Officer), F. Keane (Senior Staff Officer) and M. Farrell (Clerical Officer).

**Others present:**

The Chairperson, Cllr. C O’Connor opened the meeting at 5.30pm

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the committee, held on 23 November 2022, were noted and agreed.

**2. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3. 2023 Housing SPC Work Programme**

C Ward referred to the report circulated in advance that was agreed by the CPG recently.

Cllr W Carey raised a query relating to Anti-Social behaviour and C ward responded that would be one of the areas they would review under the proposed new strategy.

The report was noted.

**4. Housing Delivery**

The Chair referred to the report that was pre-recorded by Brenda Pierce**.**

C Ward mentioned the PPP that was approved by the council at the recent meeting and he would bring updates as they progress. Also agreed at the council meeting was a proposal for Belgard cost rental.

Cllr Carey asked about the breakdown of social homes in the figures circulated and C Ward responded.

There was a query from Cllr Moynihan in relation to housing delivery in Palmerston/Fonthill in 2023 and B Pierce replied that there was no Part V agreed yet in the area for 2023 delivery. However, there is agreement of a Part V for three developments on the N4 and a Part 8 was approved in Palmerston village for 4 age friendly units (costs ran too high for Tuath Housing to make it work now). However, Tuath are exploring the option of acquiring an adjacent site which would enable a larger development and more economies of scale.

The report is noted.

**5. Allocations and Right Sizing**

The report was pre-recorded and is for noting by the committee.

There were questions from Cllr Moynihan who asked if the Rough Sleeper count could be included and if the waiting list could be broken down further into different categories. Cllr Carey enquired if it would be possible to enhance the profiles on CBL to help clients.

N Hanly responded to both queries and said he would review the data for the rough sleeper count and the waiting list and revert. In relation to CBL, the team are working to enhance the offering on the system.

Cllr O’Connor raised a question about the Age Friendly units in Springfield and N Hanly responded.

The report was noted.

**6. Vacant homes**

E Leech delivered a brief report outlining the vacant homes initiative in SDCC. Under housing for all, there was a provision for a vacant home officer and SDCC have now appointed two officers. There is a dedicated webpage on the SDCC website outlining all the relevant details.

There were queries from Cllrs Tuffy, Moynihan and Carey which were responded to by E Leech.

The report was noted.

**7. Next Phase of Affordable Purchase Housing – Kilcarbery**

C Ward gave a verbal update to the committee outlining the details of the second phase of the affordable purchase scheme in Kilcarbery. There will be 29 units to launch in March and there should be 5 further units in 2024 also.

There was a contribution from Cllr Carey referring to incidents where applicants may lose their help to buy scheme if their mortgage draw down is under 69%. C Ward and E Leech responded outlining the guidelines from the Dept of Housing around equity stakes in the properties and how it would be necessary for applicants to get independent financial advice before committing to the scheme.

The report was noted by the committee.

**8. Traveller Accommodation Pilot Choice Based Letting Initiative**

E Leech delivered a report and outlined the parameters of the scheme that would be advertised under Choice Based Lettings for Adamstown. A scheme of priority would apply if the interest is over six applications.

Cllrs Carey, Lawlor, Moynihan and Tuffy asked questions which were responded to by E Leech where she advised that families who identify as Irish traveller can apply to transfer, and Council staff would be available to help families complete the forms. C Ward advised that the properties are located within the SDZ of Adamstown and noted there is an existing similar development in Owendor Haven with no further plans to do a further upgrade in that development. He also advised that the current brochure for properties in Adamstown is in draft form and it would be the intention to include the floor plans in future drafts.

The report was noted.

**9. Strategic Housing Developments in South Dublin (pre-recorded)**

C Ward referred to the comprehensive pre-recorded report made available in advance of the meeting and said he would take any questions from the committee.

There were no questions, and the report was noted.

**10. Items for Noting**

a. AHB Communications Memorandum of Understanding

b. Relets Update

c. Progress Report on Planned Maintenance Programmes

d. Rental Inspections (Final 2022 Report)

e. Housing Grants (Final 2022 Report)

f. Local Authority Home Loan (Final 2022 Report)

Cllr Moynihan raised a query on the Planed Maintenance Programme and Relets which were responded to by C Ward.

The reports were noted.

**11. Items Requested by Members**

Reports provided in relation to agenda items requested by members of the Committee were noted in relation to:

**a**. G. Stockil: Fire Safety Matters

**b**. Cllr William Carey

G Stockil advised of the ongoing concerns of the PPN in relation to the significant deficits in the fire safety equipment in Tallaght Fire Station.

C Ward responded and noted that the Chief Fire Officer has been invited to address members at the next meeting of this committee and that the CFO attended the O, P&F meeting and did address some of the issues of concern.

He referred to the Inter-County Sub-Committee on Fire and Emergency Management and noted attendees are designated officials only. It was agreed the Director would arrange for Mr Stockil to attend the Environment, Water and Climate Change SPC meeting as an observer.

The reports were noted.

**12. Any Other Business**

The Chair noted that suggestions for agenda items should be submitted to consideration to the Director.

Cllr Tuffy suggested a site visit to Adamstown to view the developments.

Cllr Lawlor asked about the Local Community Safety Partnership and the Director responded that this would be dealt with through the JPC

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 6.40pm.

**Report of South Dublin County Council Housing SPC Meeting on Wed 23 November 2022**

**In attendance:**

Cllr. D. O’Donovan, , Cllr. W. Carey, Cllr. L. Donaghy, Cllr. B. Lawlor, Cllr. S. Moynihan, Cllr. J. Tuffy, G. Stockil (PPN), S. Harty (PPN) and B. Tyrell-Collard (ICTU).

**Apologies:**Cllr. K Mahon.

**Officials Present:**

C Ward (Director of Services), B. Pierce (Senior Executive Officer), N. Hanly (Senior Executive Officer), E. Leech (Senior Executive Officer), M. Murtagh (Administrative Officer), F. Keane (Senior Staff Officer) and M. Farrell (Clerical Officer).

**Others present:**Mr. John Hannigan, Chair of Housing Alliance & CEO of Circle VHA and Ms. Camille Loftus, Executive Director, Housing Alliance

The Chairperson, Cllr. Deirdre O’Donovan opened the meeting at 5.30pm

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the committee, held on 8th September 2022, were noted and agreed.

**2. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3. Presentation from the Approved Housing Bodies Housing Alliance**

J. Hannigan and C. Loftus of the Housing Alliance delivered a detailed presentation on the role of the Alliance which is a collaboration between six of Ireland’s largest AHBs with a focus on increasing supply & professionalism. They provided an overview of their strategic plan, level of housing stock and operations which was followed by questions and contributions from Cllrs. Carey, Tuffy and Lawlor, S. Harty and G. Stockil.

Mr. Hannigan and Ms. Loftus responded to the questions outlining their approach to communications, tenant engagement and other operational matters.  C. Ward outlined the Council’s commitment to ongoing positive partnership with the Alliance members and thanked Mr. Hannigan and Ms. Loftus for attending the meeting.

**4. AHB Communication Protocol**

B Pierce updated the committee on the proposed AHB Communications Protocol in the context of increasing AHB housing delivery in South Dublin and recognising the advocacy and representative role of local Elected Members.  The MoU provides a mechanism to facilitate formal and other engagement with AHBs will incorporate existing formal arrangements & informal communications.  The draft has been forwarded to AHB representative organisations (Housing Alliance & Irish Council for Social Housing) for input and review and it is proposed to have an agreed document in place by February 2023 for circulation to all AHBs operating for agreement.

Questions from Cllrs. Moynihan, Tuffy, Carey and O’Donovan were responded to by B. Pierce and it was agreed that committee members would provide any feedback on the draft by Friday 2nd December.

**5. Social Housing Re-letting Process**

E Leech outlined the recent social housing re-let review and the proposed revised approach to re-lets including maximising planned maintenance and energy retro-fit programmes, improved internal collaboration between Allocations & Maintenance teams, enhanced management of the process through the integrated housing system and utilisation of the targeted approach to “hard-to-let” properties with the objective of a target turnaround time of between 16 and 20 weeks.

Cllrs. Carey and O’Donovan raised queries in relation turnaround times and the performance of other local authorities, but it was noted that different stock profiles may support shorter relet times.

The report was noted.

**6. Housing Delivery Report (Pre-recorded)**

A pre-recorded presentation by B. Pierce was made available in advance of the meeting outlining the current status of the housing delivery programme, with projected substantial completion of 391 units by year end 2022, representing 98% of the delivery target. C. Ward also highlighted the proposed public/private partnership (PPP) site comprising of 120 social homes at Clonburris (in Phase 5 of the Council owned lands in the SDZ, near lynches Park) which will be subject of a “Section 85” agreement in Q1 2023 to authorise Dublin City to progress the design work for the site on the Council’s behalf.

There were questions and contributions from Cllrs. Tuffy, Carey, Lawlor, Moynihan and O’Donovan in relation to developments at Maplewood, Springfield, Homeville and Balgaddy which C. Ward responded to by outlining the projected timelines for same and then the report was noted by the committee.

**7. Allocations Report (Pre-Recorded)**

A pre-recorded presentation by N. Hanly was made available in advance of the meeting detailing housing allocations in 2022 as well as profiling the housing list with information on homeless, medical, refusals of offers of accommodation and age friendly need.  The proposed launch of an online social housing application process next week was also highlighted.  Questions and contributions from Cllrs, O’Donovan, Lawlor, and Carey, G. Stockil and S Harty which N. Hanly responded to by outlining the following:

* supports for the online application process would be made available where required
* housing applicants who are late responding to the Housing Needs Assessment initially may have their file re-opened if they make contact within a period of up to six months depending on their circumstances
* where mutual transfers are approved, required works should take place in advance of the transfer
* the rough sleepers figure will be included in the Allocations update for the next SPC meeting.

The report was then noted by the committee.

**8. Items for Noting**

Reports provided for the committee's information were noted in relation to the following:

* Healthy Age Friendly Homes Update (pre-recorded)
* Report from Housing Disability Steering Group
* Rightsizing Programme
* Leasing Overview
* Rent Assessment Protocol

**9. Items Requested by Committee Members:**

Reports provided in relation to agenda items requested by members of the Committee were noted in relation to:

* Fire Safety Matters

C Ward advised that the Council’s Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change, Teresa Walsh, manages the relationship with the Dublin Fire Brigade and that the Dublin Inter-County Sub-Committee on Fire and Emergency Management includes representation from four South Dublin councillors.

G Stockil advised of the ongoing concerns of the PPN in relation to the County not having a 42-foot ladder available given the number of high-rise buildings.  He said he would be raising his concerns with the PPN sub-committee also.

**10. Any Other Business**

Cllr. O’Donovan suggested that a presentation from Chief Fire Officer be made at the next meeting and C. Ward agreed to request this.

G. Stockil requested that the committee to review the effect of SHDs in the planning pipeline and notwithstanding that this may be more aligned to the work of the Planning SPC, C. Ward agreed that a report in relation to SHDs would be brought to the next meeting of this committee.

It was further agreed at the request of S. Harty that, where possible, the reports would be circulated in good time in advance of the next meeting  to ensure adequate time for review by committee members.

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 7.00 p.m.

The Chair of the Housing SPC, Councillor C. O’Connor, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

**e) Social, Community & Equality SPC**

**Report of the Social, Community & Equality Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Tuesday 21 February 2023**

**In Attendance**: Cllr. T. Gilligan (Chair), Cllr. C. Bailey Cllr. V. Casserly, Cllr. C. O’Connor, Cllr. S. O'Hara, Cllr. P. Holohan, L. Byrne (PPN) D. Hennessy (PPN).

**Apologies:** None.

**Officials Present:** C. Ward (Director of Services), J Lumumba (Administrative Officer), T. McDermott (Local Sports Coordinator), M. Nugent (Inter Agency Coordinator), P. Swayne (Age Friendly Officer), G Meehan (Slaintecare Co-ordinator), Su Clarke (Community Officer), M. Murtagh, (Administrative Officer) F. Keane (Senior Staff Officer), M. Farrell (Clerical Officer).

**Presenters:** Alix Brady and Marly Bah (Comhairle na nÓg), Eamon Seydak (S3 Solutions)

The Chair, Cllr. Gilligan opened the meeting at 3pm.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 15 November 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Gilligan, seconded by Cllr. Holohan and agreed.

**2. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3. 2023 Work Programme**

C Ward referred to the 2023 work programme which was made available in advance of the meeting and advised committee members to contact him with anything additional they would like to see included.

Cllr Bailey suggested adding Communications from Community Centres to members of the public to the programme and C Ward agreed to review. Communications around sports would be covered in the Local Sports Plan.

The report was noted.

**4. Comhairle na nÓg 2023 Programme.**

Alix Brady (Chair, South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg, 2023) and Marly Bah, (National Executive Representative, South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg, 2023) presented to the committee outlining the mission of Comhairle na nÓg, its governance and current topics of focus in 2023. Mental health is the chosen topic for this year and posters have been designed that will be circulated to schools and other organisations. A campaign with be launched with Mayor Emma Murphy over Easter.

There were contributions from Cllrs Holohan,Casserly, O’Hara and Bailey and the report was noted.

**5. Local Sports Plan**

E Seydak of S3 solutions reported on the consultations that have taken place relating to the Local Sports Plan. The 4 strategic themes are: Active Cities and Clubs; Active Spaces and Places; Active Communication and Active Partnerships and Systems. He outlined the next steps of the process and confirmed there would be a full draft strategy document ready by 10 March 2023. Follow up consultations would take place with appropriate stakeholders including Sport Ireland and other external organisations. Committee Members would also be invited to review the consultation document and strategy detail.

A full draft of strategy content would be submitted for consideration and sign off by this SPC at the next meeting (2nd April) with a public launch towards the end of April.

There were queries and contributions from Cllrs Bailey, Gilligan and Holohan and L Byrne PPN.

The report was noted.

**6. Community Grants 2023 including Community Recognition Fund**

P Swayne presented a report informing the committee members of the large number of Community Grants that are currently live and the systems used to administer the data (Salesforce).

She highlighted the Community Recognition Fund and the approaching deadline for submissions of the 16th of March. C Ward highlighted the challenges around this fund given that 60% of the €2.7 million funding needs to be spent in 2023.

There were contributions from Cllrs Gilligan, Bailey and D Hennessy (PPN) and the report was noted.

**7. Sláintecare:**

A pre-reordered report was made available to the members in advance of the meeting.

C Ward noted that there would be a piece in the CE report in April regarding the Slaintecare initiative.

The report was noted.

**8. Age Friendly Older People’s Council**

C Ward referred to the report made available in advance of the meeting and noted that this is a vibrant and active group with a work programme that was developed following a public consultation process.

As one of the initial actions under their work plan, the Older People’s Council have designed a flyer to be distributed across the county to introduce themselves to residents, clubs, groups and organisations of the county and to start communicating their aims and purposes and to facilitate engagement.

The Chair offered his assistance in advising where to distribute the flyers and the report was noted.

**9. Equality Initiatives**

C Ward referred to the report made available in advance of the meeting and highlighted the launch of the new Pool Pod in Clondalkin which was launched in January by Mayor Emma Murphy.

The report was noted.

**10. LECP**

M Nugent presented the committee with an update on the LECP process. The Council has tendered for a consultant to develop the new LECP and the tender evaluation is currently being undertaken.

The LECP Advisory Group most recently met on 20th January 2023 and agreed that it will reconvene once the consultant is appointed. Cllr. C O'Connor was the Social, Community and Equality SPC representative on the advisory group and a replacement is now required for this role given Cllr. O'Connor's recent move. It was agreed to action this.

There was a contribution from Cllr T Gilligan and the report was noted.

**11.AOB**

Cllr Bailey suggested a having information available to refugees/new arrivals to the county in different languages to inform them of what is available for them in the county.

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 4:21 p.m.

**Minutes of Social, Community & Equality Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Tuesday 15th November 2022**

**In Attendance**: Cllr. T. Gilligan (Chair), Cllr. V. Casserly, Cllr. C. O’Connor, Cllr. S. O'Hara, Cllr. P. Holohan, L. Byrne (PPN)

**Apologies:** Cllr. C. Bailey, D. Hennessy (PPN).

**Officials Present:**C. Ward (Director of Services), J. Moroney Ward (Senior Executive Officer, Community), T. McDermott (Local Sports Coordinator), P. McAlerney (Senior Community Officer), P. Swayne (Age Friendly Officer), L. Cush (Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator), A. Troy (Senior Staff Officer), M. Murtagh, (Administrative Officer) F. Keane (Senior Staff Officer), M. Farrell (Clerical Officer).

The Chair, Cllr. Gilligan, opened the meeting at 3pm.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 20 September 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Gilligan, seconded by Cllr. O’Hara and agreed.

**2. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**3. Healthy Ireland**

L. Cush, the Council's new Healthy Ireland co-ordinator provided an update on Healthy Ireland Initiative and its four key goals:

* Increase the proportion of people who are healthy and all stages of life
* Reduce health inequalities
* Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing and
* Create an environment where every individual and sector can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland.

She outlined the programme and its funding and there were contributions from Cllrs. Gilligan, Holohan, O. Hara and Casserly in relation to vaping, nitrous oxide cannisters, the need to focus on a combined approach to healthy lifestyles, the focus on physical activity and the inclusion of people with a disability which L. Cush responded to.  the report was then noted by the committee.

**4. Community Centre Management & Governance Support**

J. Moroney Ward delivered a report outlining the proposed community grants support for community centres to enhance  their operational capacity and forward planning through three strands of funding:

* Staffing/organisational - maximum grant of €30,000 to help build a sustainable organisational structure.
* Operational support – fund to cover key operational costs not covered by other grants.
* Events led support – centres to apply for event grants for full year and not just individual events to cut down on administration.

This will be delivered through the additional funding provided in the Council's Annual Budget.

Cllr. Gilligan welcomed the presentation and acknowledged the ongoing work of the Council in supporting community centres  and the report was then noted by the committee.

**5. Social Inclusion week**

A. Troy delivered a presentation outlining the schedule of events of Social Inclusion Week and detailed some selected highlights of the schedule which runs from 14th-20thNovember with 27 activities approved to date.  Cllrs. Gilligan and  O'Connor welcomed the schedule encouraging committee members to promote and share it with their networks and the report was noted by the committee.

**6. Other Items for Noting by the Committee**

**(a.) Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)**

J. Moroney Ward gave a report on the status of the LECP and the work of the advisory committee which is developing the associated high-level goals and work plan.  There were contributions from Cllrs. Gilligan and O’Connor and it was agreed that further updates on the process as it progresses will be brought to this SPC.

**(b.) Age Friendly Update (Pre-recorded)**

P. Swayne referenced the report noting the progress in relation to restarting the Older People’s Council in particular and there were contributions from Cllrs. Gilligan and Holohan who welcomed the report and all the supports for older people after which the report was noted.

**(c.) Healthy Age Friendly Homes Update (pre-recorded)**

The pre-recorded presentation from Mary Roach, Healthy Age Friendly Homes Co-ordinator, which was circulated in advance of the meeting, was noted by the committee.

**(d.) Sports Plan**

A report outlining progress to date in relation to the development of a local sports plan was noted by the committee with consultation due to take place with key internal and external partners through November.  It is intended that a draft of the Plan will be available for review by the committee by February 2023.

**(e.) Community Infrastructure Grants**

A report on distribution of the 2022 Community Infrastructure Fund, which provides €350,000 for community groups, including sports clubs, the opportunity to apply for funding to assist with the costs of either constructing new facilities or for the modernisation and/or expansion of existing facilities, was noted.

**7. Matters Raised by Committtee Members:**

**(a.) Accessible Toilets**

It was noted that within the Council’s community development grants programme, community groups are given the opportunity to submit applications for funding to assist with costs associated with organising local community events and festivals and that the community development team generally require the provision of accessible toilet facilities if the organisers consider it necessary to provide public toilet facilities for the event.

It is proposed to amend the funding application process to add a further requirement for the applicants to confirm the measures they are incorporating into their event proposal to ensure that it is accessible for all to attend and participate.  The Council’s Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer is providing advice on this and the proposed updated application reflecting the amendments will be introduced for new applications in 2023.

There were contributions from Cllrs. Gilligan and O’Connor enquiring about toilet facilities for the weekly park run events and J. Moroney Ward advised that this is being reviewed.

**(b.) Childcare**

J. Moroney Ward informed the committee that her team are committed to undertaking to produce a childcare analysis report in the first quarter of 2023. The team will work with the South Dublin County Childcare Committee to help provide a basis for understanding the future childcare needs of the community.  The report was noted.

**8. Any Other Business**

C. Ward advised the committee of the latest projected timelines for completion of Lucan pool which is likely to be completed by summer 2023 following which there were contributions from Cllrs. Gilligan and Casserly.

The meeting concluded at 4:20 p.m.

The Chair of the Social, Community & EqualitySPC, Councillor T. Gilligan, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

**f) Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC**

**MINUTES OF LAND USE, PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATIONSTRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24th NOVEMBER, 2022**

**PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** | **Council Officials** |  |
| Cllr Paul Nicholas Gogarty (Teams) | Mick Mulhern | Director of Services |
| Cllr Derren Ó Brádaigh (Teams) | Mary Maguire | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr Eoin Ó Broin (Teams) | John Hegarty | Senior Engineer |
| Cllr Yvonne Collins (Teams) | Gary Walsh (Teams) | Senior Engineer |
|  | Sheila Kelly | Administrative Officer |
|  | Susan Sinclair | Administrative Officer |
|  | Neal Murphy (Teams) | Assistant Planner |
|  |  |  |
| **Non Elected Members** |  |  |
| Eoin Ahern (TEAMS) | PPN |  |

Apologies received from Cllr Liam Sinclair who was unable to attend due to illness. In his absence it was agreed by the members that Cllr. Derren Ó Brádaigh would Chair the meeting.

**H-1 (1) Item 76970 - Minutes of 29th September 2022**

[Minutes of LUPT SPC held on 29th September, 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77634)

Minutes of Land Use Planning & Transportation SPC, held on 29th September, 2022 were proposed by

Cllr. Yvonne Collins, seconded by Cllr Eoin Ó Broin and **AGREED**

**H-1(2) Item 76973 - Development Contribution Scheme (DCS)- Indexation**

[**DCS -Indexation**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77847)

The report as circulated was presented by Ms. Mary Maguire, Senior Executive Officer

Ms. Maguire outlined the legal basis for the DCS, advised that the application of an increase in the indexation is an Executive Function based on the terns of the current scheme, and that the DSC 2021/2025 provides for indexation in accordance with the Chartered Surveyors of Ireland Construction tender price Index.

In accordance with the scheme, such indexation may apply annually on the 1st January, effective from 1st January 2022, and depending on economic and or other circumstances it may not be considered appropriate to apply this indexation in any year(s).

Ms. Maguire explained the rationale: why there is indexation and how it is applied.

* The proposed increase for 2023 calculates at 13.98%
* The various classes of public infrastructure which is funded by Levies are in the following order
* Transport Infrastructure and facilities
* Surface Water and Environment infrastructure and facilities
* Community facilities and amenities
* Parks and open space facilities and amenities
* Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, which includes libraries

The financial impact of the proposed 13.98% increase was considered as follows:

**Current Rates per sq m (from 1.1.22**)

Residential = €104.49

Commercial = €98.76

**From 1.1.23 (Proposed)**

Residential €119.10

Commercial €112.57

Ms Maguire provided examples of the financial impact on residential development on a sliding sq m.

Mick Mulhern, DOS informed the meeting that the DCS made 2 years ago had no indexation increase in the 1st year and indexation of 8.34% was applied in the second year (2022).

Ms. Maguire and Mr. Mulhern responded to questions from Cllrs Collins and ó Broin and advised that a decision will be taken by year end whether or not to apply the increases.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (3) Item 77066 – Strategic Housing Developments – Assessment**

[**SHD Assessment**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/76891)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. Neal Murphy, Assistant Planner

* The Council has had 22 SHD’s approved to date. One was quashed by Judicial Review (JR) and 3 more are subject to ongoing JR Challenge
* The Council is currently awaiting decisions from An Bord Pleanala (ABP) on 8 SHD’s
* Across the Country a total of 277 SHD Applications have been approved with development commenced on 100 sites to date.
* Information of the SHD’s can be obtained from FP Logue SHD Tracker (<https://www.flogue.com/shd_tracker/>)
* The SHD system has now been replaced by Large Scale Residential Development (LRD) . The LRD restores two stage planning process and the decision making on the LRD returns to the Planning Authority with rights of appeal to ABP.
* Apart from the 8 pending decisions with ABP, no further SHD applications will come forward within SDC.

Mr. Murphy provided a statistical overview of the SHD’s in SDCC Administrative area

* 21 Granted
* 8 awaiting decision of ABP
* 9 SHD’s on site
* 11 total no of commencement notices issued
* 2230 no. of 1 bed units granted
* 3584 total no of 2 bed units granted
* 1827 total no of 3 bed units granted
* 441 total no of 4+ bed units granted
* 408 total no of student beds granted
* 710 total no of 1 bed units pending decision
* 1006 total no of 2 bed units pending decision
* 420 total number of 3 bed units pending decision
* 97 total no of 4+ bed units pending decision
* 0 student units pending decision
* 68% 1 and 2 bed units granted
* 27% 3 and 4 bed units granted
* 5% student spaces granted

Mr. Murphy also advised regarding the number of “build to rent” versus “ build for sale”

* 543 build to rent awaiting approval
* 1462 number of build to rent granted
* There is provision of 1773 houses and 6,717 apartments and duplex’s

The areas where the SHD’s have been granted are as follows

* 6 in Tallaght
* 7 Fortunestown/Citywest/Rathcoole/Saggart
* 1 Clondalkin
* 2 Palmerstown
* 3 Rathfarnham/Ballycullen
* 1 Newcastle
* 1 Walkinstown

Mr. Murphy listed the nos. of apartments v houses built by area and presented a map outlining the SHD’s granted/under construction in each area.

In relation to Part V delivery through SHDs: To date 68 units have been delivered to SDCC under Part V 658 are granted but not constructed yet.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Mulhern answered questions raised by Cllrs. Ó Brádaigh, Ó Broin and Collins,

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (4) Item 76975 Lucan to City Centre Core Bus Corridor - Update**

[**Lucan to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Application 24112022**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/76911)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. John Hegarty, Senior Engineer

Planning Permission has been lodged with An Bord Pléanala by the NTA under Section 51(2) of Roads Act 1993 for the construction of this scheme.

The public can make submissions in writing to ABP between Wednesday 2nd November, 2022 and Wednesday 11th January 2023. Information can be obtained on [www.lucanscheme.ie](http://www.lucanscheme.ie) . This link will the public details of

1. EIAR Tab
2. CPO Tab
3. Approved Assessment Document Tab
4. Natura Impact Statement
5. Supplementary implementation
6. Drawings

SDCC will be making a submission as part of the consultation report.

Mr. Hegarty listed the preferred routes for the Bus Connects Scheme. There are 16 routes in all. Six applications have been lodged with ABP and six to go. The NTA do not wish for too many schemes commencing at the same time as it would cause a lot of disruption on the ground.

Mr. Hegarty responded to questions raised. Cllr Ó Broin enquired about owners on the CPO list. Mr. Ahern invited feedback for inclusion with the Council’s submission.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (5) Item 76974 – Cycle Track Condition Survey**

[Cycle Infrastructure Condition Survey](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/76757)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. Gary Walsh, Senior Engineer

**Background**

There is over 200km of existing cycle infrastructure around the SDCC administrative area, a lot of which is not up to the current design standards.

The Council will spend €400,000 spend annually to maintain these tracks

The Council employed Barry Transport to carry out a survey of the existing infrastructure based on several factors:

* Type of cycle infrastructure
* Width of infrastructure
* Treatment at junctions
* Pavement conditions

These were scored based on the type of link type.

The key findings of the survey were:

* Pavement surface is good in most instances
* Canal greenway has structural issues with clear signs of subsidence
* Majority of routes are in line with the old 1.5m standard, so adequate in most cases
* Junction design for cyclists is of a poor standard throughout the county

Assessment of findings:

* Advisory cycle lanes (on roads with insufficient width) are the weakest sections of the network and will require to be fully re-designed to rectify most instances
* On road cycle lanes with sufficient width could be converted to raised adjacent. Junction details to be assessed on a case by case basis
* Major junctions not providing a good service to cyclists and these too will also require detailed design to resolve.
* Side road junction details are consistent along each route. Standard details are sufficient to upgrade these in most cases.

Proposed works:

* To identify areas where rapid build cycle protection can be installed
* Identify any local links that will improve connectivity for cyclists
* Identify routes where the upgrade of side road junctions will improve the quality of the route in compliance with current cycling standards
* Establish a Maintenance contract to carry out these works

The Roads Maintenance Section will update the cycle survey on a quarterly basis to reflect the works carried out to date

2023 Plan

* Quarter 1- Identify and prioritise areas for works
* Quarter 1 - Ensure standard design works are applicable for the locations
* Quarter 1 - Carry out a non-statutory public consultation as part of Section 38 process
* Quarter 2 – Prepare tender documents
* Quarter 2 – Quarter 4 carry out the works
* Quarter 4 – review the 2023 programme and identify any areas for improvement
* Quarter 4 – Prepare the 2023 Plan

Mr. Walsh responded to queries raised by Eoin Ahern, Cllrs Ó Broin, Collins and Ó Brádaigh

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (6) Item 77063 - Operation Open City**

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. John Hegarty, Senior Engineer

Stakeholders met on 24th November 2022. Operation Open City will run from 1st to 24th December 2022.

The aim of the operation is:

* To ensure that Dublin city is open for business at this important retail time of year
* Movement of transport is facilitated and managed and
* City is always safe for all citizens

The main Garda actions include:

* Increased mobile units to ensure free flow of traffic, concentrating on the M50, M1, N2, N3, N4 and N7, N81 and M11/N11
* Increase vehicle checkpoints to ensure compliance with drink and drug driver compliance
* New drugs set to be used.
* City centre car parks will be patrolled, and traffic movement managed around these locations
* High visibility policing
* New patrols at late night drinking hotspots, railway stations and bus terminals to ensure law and order prevails
* New Garda centre behind Heuston station with twice camera capacity

Other Stakeholder Actions:

* Additional night bus services being provided
* Additional Luas services
* Additional night Irish Rail Services on key lines
* Additional security on routes
* Promote the message of travel at non peak times

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1(7) Item 77079 - AOB**

Ms Maguire updated the meeting in relation to certain local sites being used / proposed to be used by International Protection Accommodation Services (responsible for the provision of accommodation and related services to people in the asylum’ process) . She advised that SDCC is working closely with key stakeholders to ensure all relevant planning and building control requirements are met.

Members requested an update at a future meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.00p.m.

**MINUTES OF LAND USE, PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd February, 2023 at 5.30p.m.**

**PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** | **Council Officials** |  |
| Cllr Liam Sinclair (Chair) | Mick Mulhern | Director of Services |
| Cllr Paul Nicholas Gogarty (Teams) | Mary Maguire | Senior Executive Officer |
| Cllr Derren Ó Brádaigh (Teams) | John Hegarty (Teams) | Senior Engineer |
| Cllr Eoin Ó Broin (Teams) | Eoin Burke (Teams) | Senior Planner |
| Cllr Yvonne Collins (Teams) | Hazel Craigie (Teams) | Senior Planner |
| Cllr Baby Perapadan (Teams) | Sheila Kelly | Administrative Officer |
|  | Susan Sinclair | Administrative Officer |
|  | Ann Hyland | Senior Executive Planner |
|  | Tracy McGibbon | Executive Planner |
|  | Lea Clarke (Teams) | Executive Planner |
| **Non Elected Members** |  |  |
| Eoin Ahern (TEAMS) | PPN |  |

As Cllr Liam Sinclair has indicated earlier that HE was going to be delayed, it was proposed by Cllr Ó Broin and seconded by Cllr Ó Bradaigh that Cllr Yvonne Collins would take the Chair until Cllr Sinclair arrived.

**H-1 (1) Item 76970 - Minutes of 29th September, 2022**

[Minutes of LUPT SPC held on 29th September, 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77634)

Minutes of Land Use Planning & Transportation SPC, held on 29th September, 2022 were proposed by

Cllr. Yvonne Collins, seconded by Cllr Derren Ó Bradaigh and **AGREED**

**H-1(2) Item 78000 - Residential Zoned Land Tax**

[**SPC Meeting Residential Zoned Land Tax 23rd Feb 2023**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77847)

The report as circulated was presented by Ms. Leah Clarke, Executive Engineer

Ms. Clarke outlined the up-to-date position on the Residential Zones Land Tax. This was introduced in the Finance Act 2021 to activate vacant land for residential purposes by identifying land to which tax applies and to be payable from May 2024. This tax will not be collected by Local Authorities but by Revenue.

Ms. Clarke explained that there are two parts in the process:

1. The identification of the land and mapping of same. This is done by Local Authorities
2. Revenue will administer and collect the tax, commencing 2024 onwards.

Draft Maps were prepared by the Council of the land ‘considered to be in scope’, which was on public display from the 1st of November, with public consultation ending on the 1st of January 2023. 30 submissions were received.

Supplemental maps will be published on 1st May 2023 and the submission deadline for landowners will be June 1st, 2023. The deadline for LA’s to make decisions on requests for exclusion of lands is 1st September, and these can be appealed to ABP.

Final maps of liable lands will be published by December 1st, 2023, and the tax becomes operational from February 2024.

Ms. Clarke and Ms Craigie responded to queries raised by Cllrs Ó Bradaigh and Ó Broin regarding rezoning and review of maps.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (3) Item 78001 – Clondalkin Local Area Plan – Early Engagement**

[Clondalkin Local Area Plan early engagement](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77878)

The report as circulated was presented by Ms. Tracy McGibbon, Executive Planner

Ms. McGibbon informed the meeting that an initial report was brought to the SPC in 2022 and reminded the meeting of Objective QDP14 – 3 and EDE4 – 14, sets out proposals to prepare a LAP for Clondalkin, with the boundaries to be defined.

Ms McGibbon outlined the rationale for the LPA which includes:

1. A growing settlement
2. Opportunities for infill sites to unlock housing.
3. Close to City Edge/Clonburris
4. Village improvement
5. Historical context

Ms. McGibbon presented a map outlining the proposed area with the M50 to the east, N7 on southern boundary, R113 on west side and also next to the New Nangor Road to the North, City Edge to the east and lands at Clonburris to the north

Input to the LAP Process will be as follows:

1. Stage 1 Internal expertise
2. State 2 Data Analysis
3. Stage 3 – Draft Plan – publication of the Draft Plan which is informed by Stages 1 and 2 which will include CSO data being analysed and procurement of consultants Connect the Dots to prepare this consultation.

Workshops will be organised online and in person, and a survey will be issued in March.

The ACM members will be briefed in coming weeks on the consultation strategy prior to its commencement.

Public Consultation – Pre-Draft will commence in 2023 and the plan adopted in 2024.

Ms. McGibbon, Ms. Craigie and Mr. Mulhern responded to queries raised by Cllrs. Ó Brádaigh, Gogarty, Ó Broin and Sinclair regarding the extent of the boundary for the LAP, and possible enhanced consultation via leaflet drops.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (4) Item 78002 - Adamstown SDZ Amendment**

[Adamstown SDZ - Non Material Amendments](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77884)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. Eoin Burke, Senior Planner

Mr. Burke provided an update on the development status:

**Quarter 4, 2022**

* 7,200 units with permission
* 3,656 completed.
* 976 under construction

**Phasing**

* Phase 4 is completed.
* Phase 5 is ongoing, and units are being completed.

**URDF**

3 key projects

* Adamstown Plaza
* Central Boulevard Park
* Adamstown Civic Library

**LIHAF**

* Tandy’s Lane Completed
* Airlie Park – nearing completion
* Celbridge Link Road – opened February 2023

A new health centre and school have also received Planning Permission

Mr Burke stated that the Amendment is minor in nature, statutory provision is under Section 170A of the P&D Act (as amended) whereby a planning authority may make an application to An Bord Pléanala to request an amendment to the Planning Scheme.

The amendments are not considered to be material change and are in accordance with the criteria and are not going to have a significant effect on the environment.

Mr Burke outlined the main changes proposed, which are in relation to

1. the phasing requirements to schools
2. requirement for a construction of a leisure centre with a swimming pool,
3. some text amendment to QBC to reflect current status of NTA guidance (National Cycle Manual) and Bus Connects.
4. Minor text amendment to wording related to existing option of Planning Scheme to provide residential units should the fire station progress in Clonburris.

Mr. Burke responded to queries raised by Eoin Ahern regarding the NTA Cycle Manual, and Cllr Ó Broin regarding the swimming pool proposal, opening of Airlie Park and options for basketball pitches.

Mr Mulhern advised that the Minister is due to visit the area on Monday 27th February.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (5) Item 78003– Bus Connects – Planning Application Update**

[**Bus Connects Update 23 February 2023 Rev 1**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77900)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. John Hegarty, Senior Engineer

Mr. Hegarty provided update on Bus interchanges, Core Bus Corridor Applications and Update on Spine Route Services

* Liffey Valley – 6 bay bus terminus with bus lanes and bus gates which will include cycle way access and cycle parking
* Tallaght Interchange and Tallaght Public Realm Redevelopment – this will be delivered by the NTA along with the Tallaght to City Centre Core Bus Corridor. The public realm redevelopment will be delivered by SDCC under a Part 8 public consultation process.
* The Tallaght and Clondalkin Core Bus Corridors applications will be lodged with ABP in April 2023
* Rathfarnham Core Bus Corridor will be lodged with ABP in April 2023
* There will be Bus Service Improvements on the Tallaght to Maynooth Route, Tallaght to Newcastle and Celbridge to Hazelhatch will have more frequent services
* Road widening works south of Hazelhatch bridge have been approved to Design Stage. Consultants being procured.
* C2 Spine Route – South West Dublin C2 now using the Adamstown Boulevard and Celbridge link road now open.

Mr. Hegarty responded to questions raised by Eoin Ahern and Cllrs. Ó Broin, Gogarty, Collins and Ó Bradaigh regarding times for services, bike lanes in final draft for Rathfarnham Core Bus Corridor, width for safe bus passing at Adamstown, and cycling proposals at Hazlehatch.

The report was **NOTED**

**H-1 (6) Item 78188 - Update on Planning and Development Bill 2023**

[**LUPT SPC Feb 2023**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77886)

[**Outline of proposed Planning Bill**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Meetings/ViewDocument/77885)

The report as circulated was presented by Mr. Mick Mulhern, Director of Services who advised that the Bill was agreed by Cabinet in December 2022 and will make its way through all Houses of the Oireachtas. Final Bill should be ready summer 2023

Main Changes

* County Development Plan will be undertaken every 10 years.
* No more SDZ’s – reviewed by Minister and will now be called Urban Development Zones
* Plan Making requirements - LAPs gone to be replaced by Area based plans.
* Resident associations must be constituted and members named if a Judicial review is requested
* NGO’s will have to have at least 10 members.

The report was **NOTED**

The Chair Liam Sinclair informed the members that he will be stepping down as Chair of the SPC and a new Chair will be appointed.

**The meeting concluded at 7.15p.m.**

The Chair of the Land Use, Planning & TransportationSPC, Councillor L. Sinclair, gave an update on the work of the SPC.

The reports were NOTED.

### **H5/0323 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

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

**QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor R. McMahon and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 22, Questions numbered Q1 – Q27 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

**Q1/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the CE if there has been any research or work carried out in relation to a county wide anti-poverty strategy and would the CE consider doing so in the near future?

**REPLY:**

The Council’s ongoing social inclusion work looks to prioritise the needs of communities experiencing social or economic exclusion, including rural isolation poverty and social exclusion, and recognising that promoting social and economic inclusion requires us to recognise and seek to address the root causes of exclusion as well as developing strategies and mechanisms to promote and ensure inclusion.

The Council, with the oversight of the Local Community Development Committee and the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee, is currently in a process for the development of a new Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for South Dublin County.  The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the County, both by the Council itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.

In accordance with article 66B of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the LECP is required to be within the context of the principles of sustainable development. The UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice and tackle climate change, by 2030.  The SDGs a call for action by all countries to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand in-hand with strategies that lead to sustained, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and address a range of social needs, including education, health, social protection and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.  In this context, the LECP will include a priority objective to tackle poverty in the County, including through of community-based services  to promote social inclusion and tackle poverty and disadvantage and the associated implementation plan will detail actions in relation to education, training and skills development, the provision of life-long learning opportunities, and the development of training infrastructure to support greater access to employment and self-employment and improve people’s work readiness, including marginalised target groups and young people.  It will also provide a framework for the creation and sustainment of employment and self-employment opportunities, developing social, economic and physical infrastructure to address social exclusion, poverty and disadvantage, reverse social and economic decline and to realise growth potential and the sustainability of communities, including provision of services related to health and well-being, social integration, tackling disadvantage and combating poverty.

As part of preparation for the new LECP for South Dublin, a seminar supported by the Local Community Development Committee, the Children and Young Person’s Services Committee and the Council, was held in October 2022 to explore poverty experience, incidence, and mitigating factors with service providers working within South Dublin County.  In addition, a further event is being arranged for April 2023 to consult directly with young people on the issue of poverty for young people living in the Count.  The outcomes and recommendations from the event will inform the objectives and actions in the LECP.

The current Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018 – 2023 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies.  Administered by Pobal, SICAP is co-funded by through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training Programme 2021 -2027.

SICAP addresses high and persistent levels of deprivation through targeted and innovative, locally led approaches. It supports disadvantaged communities and individuals including unemployed people, people living in deprived areas, people with disabilities, single parent families, people on a low income, members of the Traveller and Roma community and other disadvantaged groups.

The programme is managed locally by the South Dublin Local Community Development Committees, with support from the Council, and the programme is delivered under contract by South Dublin County Partnership (SDCP).  SDCP work on an ongoing basis with marginalised communities and service providers using a community development approach to improve people’s lives and report to the LCDC on delivery of the programme and its key performance indicators.

### **Q2/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the CE if he will make a statement on the recently published report: 'Living Our Rights'-Building Capacity to address human rights failures and inequalities in South Dublin County.

**REPLY:**

While relevant departments of the Council were not consulted in relation to the report, the opportunity to both review the research methodology and analyse its findings in detail would be welcome.

### **Q3/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the Chief Executive, to confirm the number of local authority owned residential properties that have been retrofitted to a B BER rating in tabular form, over the last five years.

**REPLY:**

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP) was launched by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in 2021 with a national target of retrofitting 36,500 local authority owned homes to a BER rating of B2/Cost Optimal Equivalent by 2030.

The delivery of the programme has led to increased demand from local authorities for the required assessors and contractors and industry capacity to meet that demand has been an issue affecting the programme roll-out.

The current average grant available per property is €36,000 and since the launch of the programme, funding approval has been received from DHLGH for retrofit works to 263 properties in South Dublin.  Works are ongoing or completed for 236 properties to date with a further 80 properties to go to tender by the end of March 2023 and an additional 100 properties assigned to obligated parties for pre-works surveys.  While DLGH have not yet confirm our allocation for the 2023 programme and subsequent years, our Planned Maintenance Section are continuing to progress plans for an expansion of the programme.

The overview properties included in the South Dublin EERP is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Estate** | **Electoral Area** | **Complete** | **Commenced** | **Tender** | **Total** |
| Kilmahuddrick | Clondalkin | 18 |  | 34 | **52** |
| Liscarne | Clondalkin | 5 | 4 |  | **9** |
| Oldcastle Drive | Clondalkin |  |  | 14 | **14** |
| Allenton | Firhouse-Bohernabreena |  | 47  (due for completion April 2023) |  | **47** |
| Sarsfield | Lucan |  |  | 16 | **16** |
| Greenfort | Palmerstown-Fonthill | 15 | 30 |  | **45** |
| Limekiln | Rathfarnham-Templeogue |  | 8 | 8 | **16** |
| Willbrook | Rathfarnham-Templeogue |  |  | 4 | **4** |
| Cushlawn | Tallaght South | 29 | 62  (due for completion March 2023) |  | **91** |
| Castletymon | Tallaght South |  | 18 |  | **18** |
| St Maelruan’s | Tallaght South |  |  | 4 | **4** |
| **Total** |  | **67** | **169** | **80** | **316** |

### **Q4/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. Bailey**

To ask the CE to confirm the number of outstanding Local Authority owned residential homes yet to be retrofitted to a B rating, based on current funding mechanisms how long it is estimated it will take to complete same.

**REPLY:**

The Council has BER data for approximately 50% of our housing stock and based on this information and profiling the age of our housing stock, it is estimated that 85% of our current housing stock has a Building Energy Rating (BER) of C or lower.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) launched the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme in 2021 with a national target to 'retrofit' 36,500 local authority homes to the B2 BER (or cost optimal equivalent by 2030.  While this did not specific allocations for each local authority, it is estimated on a pro-rata basis that this could include up to 2,500 homes in this Council’s housing stock.

The current average grant available per property is €36,000 and since the launch of the programme, funding approval has been received from DHLGH for retrofit works to 263 properties in South Dublin.  Works are ongoing or completed for 236 properties to date with a further 80 properties to go to tender by the end of March 2023 and an additional 100 properties assigned to obligated parties for pre-works surveys.  While DLGH have not yet confirm our allocation for the 2023 programme and subsequent years, our Planned Maintenance Section are continuing to progress plans for an expansion of the programme but without confirmation of funding for a multi-annual programme, it is not possible currently to provide an estimated delivery programme of works.

### **Q5/0323 QUESTION:** **Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager for an update on projects that were awarded sports capital funding in the past 5 years

**REPLY:**

The status of projects with Council involvement that have received funding approval under sports capital grants since 2018 is outlined in the table below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project** | **Current Status** |
| Cholaiste Chillian AWP | Works to be progressed by third party-awaiting update |
| Greenhills Bowling clubhouse extension | Complete |
| Lucan Athletics Track Phase 2 | Club to revert with priority of works |
| Collinstown Park Pavillion part 1 | To progress under pavilion programme. |
| Cricket Pitch mower | At feasibility stage |
| Pitch 13 Griffeen Valley GAA | Tender stage |
| Pitch 84 Killinarden Soccer | Construction tender being assessed |
| Pitch 98 DV GAA | Tender stage |
| Pitch 74 Butler McGee Soccer | Tender stage |
| Lucan Athletics Track infield works phase 3 | Club to revert with priority of works |
| Pavilion Collinstown Phase 2 | Listed as part of pavilion programme |
| Water Sports Facility Lucan | Consultants tender completed, will require a 2nd trance of funding (application to be submitted in next round of SCG) |
| Killinarden GAA Pitch 82 | Construction tender being assessed |
| Kiltipper Soccer Pitch 02 | Proposed to tender as part of Phase 3 of Kiltipper Park (TBC) |
| Pavilion Dodder Valley Mount Carmel | Listed as part of pavilion programme, (will require a further application for 2nd tranche of funding in next round of SCG) |
| Glenaulin Park GAA Pitch 24 | Tender stage |
| Dodder Valley Mount Carmel BMX | Under construction |
| Bowling Green SWP | At concept stage |
| Ball Courts Dodder Valley | Complete |
| Ball Courts Beechfield | Complete |
| Storage Facilities Greentrees | Complete |
| Storage Facilities Ballymount | Complete |
| Ballymount GAA Pitch | At quotation stage |
| Clondalkin Park GAA Pitch 50 | At quotation stage |
| Storage Facilities Griffeen Park | Complete |
| Ball stop nets Kilnamanagh | Public Realm to progress |
| Weston Hockey Pitch Re-Surfacing | Lease agreed and being formalised. Works to be progressed by club. |

### **Q6/0323 QUESTION: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager how many people are currently on the housing list in the county broken down by areas of preference.

**REPLY:**

The most recent breakdown of the current housing list (February 2023) was provided to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Housing Need**  **(bedroom size)** | **North of Naas Road**  **Only** | **South of Naas Road**  **Only** | **Both Areas** | **Total No. of**  **Households** | **No. of**  **Adults/Children** |
| 1-bed | 736 | 1,212 | 945 | 2,893 | 3,391ad |
| 2-bed | 576 | 668 | 681 | 1,925 | 2,499ad/2,566ch |
| 3-bed | 309 | 296 | 261 | 866 | 1,408ad/2,471ch |
| 4-bed+ | 28 | 34 | 57 | 1198 | 225ad/675ch |
| **Totals** | **1,649** | **2,210** | **1,944** | **5,803** | **7,523ad/5,712ch** |

A detailed presentation on housing list and housing allocations data is provided to the Housing SPC on a quarterly basis.

### **Q7/0323 QUESTION: Councillor L. Dunne**

To ask the Chief Executive to outline if the Council is looking to increase the number of companies that are contracted by the Council to carry out Maintenance works and if so how would a company go about applying for a contract?

**REPLY:**

Our housing maintenance team are currently finalising a tender process for a new framework of external contractors for response maintenance works which will see an increased number of lots (from two to five) comprising smaller geographical areas to increase the availability and responsiveness of contractors.  The updated procurement also provides the opportunity to fully embed our contractors’ response works within the integrated housing system to enhance contract management, reporting and payment processes.

Companies interested in applying for any such contracts should register and apply on [www.etenders.ie](http://www.etenders.ie), the national electronic tendering platform administered by the Office of Government Procurement.

### **Q8/0323 QUESTION: Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Manager to explain if a social housing applicant can remain on 2 county council (eg DLR/DCC/Fingal) housing lists simultaneously?

**REPLY:**

A household may apply for social housing supports to one housing authority only, which shall be either the housing authority for the functional area in which the household normally resides or the authority for the functional area with which the household has a local connection.

When applying for social housing supports to South Dublin County Council, applicants can specify up to three areas where they would like to live. At least one of them must be in the South Dublin area, however the other preferences can include areas in the other Dublin Authorities – Dublin City Council, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown and Fingal.  The Local Authority that the applicants apply to would be the case manager and the preference for the other Dublin Authority is passed on to the relevant authority as a crossover preference.

If an applicant applies for social housing supports and includes another Dublin Authority in their area of preference on their initial application, then their time on both lists (South Dublin and other Dublin Authority) accrue from their approval date.

If, however, an applicant applies to change their existing housing file to include an area of preference for another Dublin Authority, then the applicant only begins their time on list for the other Dublin Authority from that date.  This is necessary as the average waiting times across the four Dublin Authorities vary considerably.

### **Q9/0323 QUESTION: Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Manager to describe, in tabular form, the length of time to process social housing applicants' transfers from one council area to another?

**REPLY:**

Mutual transfers, where two tenants agree to swap dwellings with the consent of the Council, can be completed between tenants of two separate local authorities once approval is given by both authorities.  Further conditions also apply including that each property must match the housing need of the prospective new tenant, existing rent accounts are clear, and properties are in good condition. While mutual transfers are facilitated wherever possible subject to these conditions, they are often time consuming and difficult to complete due to changing personal circumstances and preferences.  Since 2021, 40 mutual transfer applications have been received by this Council, of which seven involved tenants of other local authorities.  Of those seven applications, one is still progressing having been received in September 2022 but of the other six applications:

* one was approved but the applicants did not then wish to progress.
* one was withdrawn by the applicants.
* one did not progress as one of the applicants was transferred by the other local authority.
* one was refused due to the properties not meeting the housing needs of the applicants.
* two were refused due to the level of rent arrears.

Six mutual transfers were completed in 2022 and two have been completed to date in 2023.

### **Q10/0323 QUESTION: Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To as the Manager, when a social housing list applicant moves from one council area to another, if (and how) they can maintain their accrued years waiting for social housing in their new council area?

**REPLY:**

A household may apply for social housing supports to one housing authority only, which shall be either the housing authority for the functional area in which the household normally resides or the authority for the functional area with which the household has a local connection.

When applying for social housing supports to South Dublin County Council, applicants can specify up to three areas where they would like to live. At least one of them must be in the South Dublin area, however the other preferences can include areas in the other Dublin Authorities – Dublin City Council, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown and Fingal.

If an applicant applies for social housing supports and includes another Dublin Authority in their area of preference on their initial application then their time on both lists (South Dublin and other Dublin Authority) accrue from their approval date.

If, however, an applicant applies to change their existing housing file to include an area of preference for another Dublin Authority, then the applicant only begins their time on list for the other Dublin Authority from that date.  This is necessary as the average waiting times across the four Dublin Authorities vary considerably.

### **Q11/0323 QUESTION:** **Councillor P. Holohan**

What is the process for a landlord with sitting tenant, to sell their property to the council?

**REPLY:**

Any landlord, with a tenant currently in-situ where a valid notice of termination has issued in respect of that tenancy, who is interested in selling a property to the Council should, in the first instance, email [**housingeoi@sdublincoco.ie**](mailto:housingeoi@sdublincoco.ie) for submitting an 'Expression of Interest' form to the Housing Department.

While a very flexible approach is being taken to potential acquisitions of properties with tenants in-situ in the context of current circumstances, properties are subject to appropriate due diligence and checks before any commitment is made to acquire them.  These include ensuring a valid notice of termination/notice to quit has been served and assessment of the current tenant's housing need, time on list, rent account and estate management record.  In addition, properties are also surveyed and inspected to ascertain their current condition, potential costs of upgrade works required and compliance with planning and development regulations.  A valuation is then undertaken by the Council's Valuers prior to any negotiation/agreement on sale price with purchases being prioritised based on the date the notice is due to take effect.

Where an existing tenant is awaiting confirmation on a decision by the Council to purchase the property, they should continue to use the Choice Based Letting to express interest in available properties and we will also explore possible appropriate alternative accommodation options to prevent the risk of homelessness.

Members will be aware that a significant volume of such expressions of interest have recently been received and, with the previous shift in policy away from acquisitions of second-hand properties, it is taking time to re-establish resources and processes in this work area to meet this surge in activity so, in many cases, it is taking considerable time before confirmation of purchases can issue.

### **Q12/0323 Councillor P. Holohan**

What list of common restrictions/problems cause/prevent a sale of a private house with a sitting tenant to SDCC for social housing?

**REPLY:**

While a very flexible approach is being taken to potential acquisitions of properties with tenants in-situ in the context of current circumstances, properties are subject to appropriate due diligence and checks before any commitment is made to acquire them.  These include ensuring a valid notice of termination/notice to quit has been served and assessment of the current tenant's housing need, time on list, rent account and estate management record.  In addition, properties are also surveyed and inspected to ascertain their current condition, potential costs of upgrade works required and compliance with planning and development regulations.  A valuation is then undertaken by the Council's Valuers prior to any negotiation/agreement on sale price with purchases being prioritised based on the date the notice is due to take effect.

Issues that may prevent acquisition of the property usually relate to the condition of the property and projected costs to bring the property up to required housing standards with a general requirement for a minimum D BER rating and suitable heating systems to be installed.  In addition, where extension works/modifications have been carried out, they must be compliant with relevant planning requirements and the property must also at meet the housing need of the household for which it is being acquired.

Where an existing tenant is awaiting confirmation on a decision by the Council to purchase the property, they should continue to use the Choice Based Letting to express interest in available properties and we will also explore possible appropriate alternative accommodation options to prevent the risk of homelessness.

### **Q13/0323 QUESTION: Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive how many 4 bed units are expected to be delivered in 2023, broken down by LEA and the nature of new unit (ie AHB, Part V, New Build, Leasing)?

**REPLY:**

The four-bedroom homes currently in our housing delivery pipeline for 2023 is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Delivery Stream** | **No. of Properties** | **Local Electoral Area** |
| AHB Part V | 8 | Clondalkin (6), Lucan (2) |
| LA Build | 3 | Clondalkin |
| LA Acquisition | 1 | Clondalkin |
| LA Part V | 1 | Lucan |

Further opportunities to provide four-bedroom homes for delivery this year are also being explored while rightsizing transfers to newly completed homes in new age friendly housing developments across the County in late 2022 and across 2023 will provide several additional four-bedroom homes for reletting within our existing housing stock.

### **Q14/0323 QUESTION: Councillor E. Murphy**

Can the Council please report on the number of fines that were issued for illegal dumping and fly tipping in the County in 2022?

**REPLY:**

In 2022 there were 326 fines issued for littering and illegal dumping.

All reported and detected incidents of littering and illegal dumping 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.

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.

### **Q15/0323 QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive what the logic is of having one housing maintenance depot for the 10,000+ homes belonging to SDCC?

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Housing Maintenance Depot is located at the junction of the N81 and Killinarden Heights.  The depot is in a reasonably centralised location in the County, served by good transportation routes with easy access to all areas of the county via the N81, R136 (Outer Ring Road), N7 and the M50.  The location allows good access to our social housing stock, with 97% of properties located within an 8km radius of the depot.  The depot is the base for all maintenance staff (approximately 40), including clerk of works, foremen, plumbers, plasterers, painters, carpenters, caretakers, drivers, and general operatives and consists of all required ancillary facilities including consists of office space, staff canteen, welfare facilities, carpentry workshop, stores and vehicle parking for the full fleet.  The depot stores issues materials and tools across a wide area of works including multiple building trades and general building/ground maintenance works and the carpentry workshop houses various large-scale saws and has available floor space to allow for the preassembly of kitchen units, and manufacture of gates/doors.  Each morning, works are assigned to depot staff by their supervisors at the depot, with the tasks assigned determining the makeup of the crew and the materials/specialist tools required.  Once the task is assigned and materials issued, crews generally work in a localised area for the day to minimise the amount of travel incurred during working hours.

The Council previously had two housing maintenance depots operating in the County as a legacy from the mid-1990s handover to the Council of former Dublin Corporation housing stock and the associated depot.  The single depot model, as per the rationale outlined above, is vital to ensure that the depot is multi-functional to allow for the full scope of required works to be carried out by direct labour crews.  Replicating depot facilities in multiple locations across the County would require additional staffing, duplication of store/workshop facilities, additional stores and quantities of materials and tools, an increase in costs associated with depot overheads and various other inefficiencies.  Due to the geographical size of the County, the current location provides a single, well-equipped depot to most efficiently support the best use of our direct labour and other resources to maximise value and response to our housing tenants.

### **Q16/0323 QUESTION: Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask Chief Executive if he considers that having a maintenance office for say every 1000 homes in the possession of SDCC would give a greater sense of duty of care to tenants?

**REPLY:**

As part of the Council's ongoing digital transformation to provide enhanced and optimal customer service, the Housing Online (HOL) portal provides an online, fully mobile responsive self-service area that allows housing customers to self-serve 24/7 on any device for various housing services.  In this context, the online housing maintenance service facilitates the submission of maintenance requests straight into the system from any location which will allow a more timely and responsive service.

In relation to the service delivered by Housing Maintenance to specific areas, a team consisting of an area foremen, craft workers and general operatives are assigned dedicated areas within the county allowing the teams to develop both good relationships with local Council tenants and familiarity with areas and properties. In addition, our Estate Management teams also provide additional face-to-face services and supports to tenants within their locality.

Providing maintenance offices and staff for every 1,000 properties would require re-deployment of staffing and funding as well as duplication of services and facilities diluting existing efficiencies.  It is the view of the Council that continuing the combined approach of providing additional digital services to tenants and improving the local service delivery provides a greater impact on improving the quality of life for tenants and communities.

### **Q17/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to present an update on his actions in respect of the Relets programme; will he detail the number of boarded up houses in each Electoral area; will he give assurances that everything is being done to deal with the issue and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council's budget for re-let works for 2023 is €4.5m and our strategy for a revised approach to relet works to improve average turnaround times was set out at the Housing SPC meeting in November 2022.

We are currently reviewing tender submissions for a new framework of external contractors for relet works which will see an increased number of lots (from 2 to 5) comprising smaller geographical areas to increase the availability and responsiveness of contractors.  The updated procurement also provides the opportunity to fully embed our contractors’ re-let works within the integrated housing system to enhance contract management and turnaround times as well as reporting and payment processes.

Since 1st January 2023, 20 properties have been re-let with a cumulative average turnaround time of 27.12 weeks.

There were 111 vacant homes within our housing stock at the end of February 2023 representing approximately 1% of our overall housing stock, which are at various stages of the re-letting process by electoral area as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Electoral Area** | **Pre - Works** | **Work in Progress** | **Ready for Allocation** | **Total** |
| Clondalkin | 13 | 4 | 2 | **19** |
| Firhouse /Bohernabreena | 1 | 2 | 0 | **3** |
| Lucan | 5 | 3 | 0 | **8** |
| Palmerstown/Fonthill | 17 | 17 | 5 | **29** |
| Rathfarnham/Templeogue | 0 | 1 | 0 | **1** |
| Tallaght Central | 2 | 2 | 0 | **4** |
| Tallaght South | 16 | 29 | 2 | **47** |
| **Total** | **54** | **48** | **9** | **111** |

### **Q18/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to detail the number of Fines issued in 2022 in respect of matters relating to dogs and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

In 2022 there were 28 fines issued in respect of matters relating to dogs broken down as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Act/Regulations** | **Section/Article** | **Description** | **no. Fines** |
| Control of Dogs Acts 1986 and 1992 | Section 2 | keeping a dog without a licence | 1 |
|  | Section 9 | not keeping a dog under effectual control | 25 |
| Control of Dogs Regulations 1998 | Article 5 | relates to muzzling and leashing restricted breeds | 1 |
| Litter Pollution Act 1997 | Section 22 | relates to dog fouling | 1 |

South Dublin County Council currently employs two full time Dog Wardens within the administrative area.

The Dog Warden Service encourages responsible dog ownership and continually promotes the benefits of microchipping dogs and how this will assist in reuniting dog owners with their dogs if lost or worse stolen. Last year 496 stray and surrendered dogs were dealt with by the wardens, happily 127 dogs were reunited with their owners and a further 348 had been rehomed by the end of the year.

As part of their enforcement role under the Control of Dogs Act, the Dog Wardens will:

* Respond to complaints relating to dogs not under effectual control and/or dangerous dogs, including incidents of sheep worrying.
* Carry out licence checks and initiate enforcement proceedings if necessary.
* Collect unwanted and stray dogs.

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. In the absence of such testimony, fines cannot be issued. The Council continues to encourage residence groups and/or individuals to assist the Litter Warden Service in this regard.

### **Q19/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO if he has studied the recently launched report "Living Our Rights"; if he proposes any actions in respect of the report and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

While relevant departments of the Council were not consulted in relation to the report, the opportunity to both review the research methodology and analyse its findings in detail would be welcome.

### **Q20/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to update members on his ongoing efforts to tackle the housing crisis; will he give details and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council continues to progress a range of housing projects under our Housing Delivery Action Plan for the period 2022-2026 which projects delivery of 3,400 social homes and 1,500 affordable homes through direct build, Part V, Approved Housing Bodies, leasing and turnkey.  A full update on housing delivery is provided quarterly to the Housing Strategic Policy Committee with 391 new social homes substantially completed in 2022 and plans for over 700 social homes to be delivered in 2023.

In addition, the following measures are being utilised by the Council for additional housing supply in line with national housing policy:

* Responses to potential homelessness through purchases of properties with HAP/RAS tenants in-situ where notices of termination have issued (noting that this is subject to property suitability and sufficient resources to manage the surge in proposals for such acquisitions).
* The Targeted Leasing Initiative managed by the Housing Agency.
* Utilising recent changes to Affordable Housing Fund supports.
* A range of measures to addressing vacant homes to bring them into housing stock and productive use.
* A new land acquisition fund to support additional future social housing delivery.
* Temporary new provisions for accelerated housing delivery through exemptions to the Part 8 planning process.

### **Q21/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to detail actions being taken to tackle the vacant sites and dereliction issue throughout the County and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

**Derelict Sites**

In accordance with [**Section 3 of the Derelict Sites Act, l990**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1990/en/act/pub/0014/sec0003.html)a derelict site is defined as:

*Any land which detracts, or is likely to detract, to a material degree from the amenity, character or appearance of land in the neighbourhood of the land in question because of –*

*(a) the existence on the land in question of structures which are in a ruinous, derelict or dangerous condition, or*

*(b) the neglected, unsightly or objectionable condition of the land or any structures on the land in question or,*

*(c) the presence, deposit or collection on the land in question of any litter, rubbish, debris or waste, except where the presence, deposit or collection of such litter, rubbish, debris or waste results from the exercise of a right conferred by statute or by common law.*

In order to eliminate/abate dereliction the Council has and continues to rely on the following provisions of the Derelict Sites Act:

A **Section 11 Notice** is served where in the opinion of a local authority it is necessary to do so, in order to prevent land, situate in their functional area from becoming or continuing to be a derelict site,

A notice under this section becomes effective after the expiration of fourteen days from the date of service of the notice, and

* specifies the measures which the local authority consider to be necessary in order to prevent the land from becoming or continuing to be a derelict site,
* direct the person on whom the notice is being served to take such measures as may be specified in the notice, and
* specify a period (being not less than one month from the effective date of the notice) within which such measures are to be taken.

A **Section 8(2) Notice** is served by the Local Authority on the owner and occupier (where they can be ascertained by reasonable enquiry) before making any entry on the register in relation to any land advising of their intention to make such entry. The Local Authority shall consider any representations any owner or occupier may make in writing within such period as may be specified in the notice and may either make the entry or not as they think proper having regard to such representations.

A **Section 8 (7) Notice** is served by the Local Authority on the owner and occupier of a site where there is failure by the owner / occupier to respond to a Section 8 (2) Notice and where the owner / occupier has failed to take steps to render the site non derelict, advising that an entry has been made in the register.

**A Section 15 Notice** is served by the Local Authority on the owner and occupier of a site where it is intended to compulsorily acquire a derelict site.

A **Section 23 Notice**is served by the Local Authority on the owner and occupier of a site in respect of a levy / charge on the site where a market value has been determined (in accordance with Section 22) and which stands entered on the register on the first day of January of that financial year, until the dereliction is abated.

There are currently 10 derelict sites entered on the [Register of Derelict Sites](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/planning/derelict-sites/derelict-sites.html)maintained by the Council pursuant to Section 8 (1) of the Derelict Sites Act 1990.

**Vacant Sites:**

Under the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, local authorities have to compile a register of lands in its area that are suitable for housing but are not coming forward for development. The registers were established on January 1st 2017 and the identified sites have been charged a vacant site levy from January 2019 onwards.  There are 5 sites remaining on the Vacant Sites Register, noting that a number of sites have been removed because they no longer meet the criteria.

The vacant site register is publicly available at [Vacant Sites - SDCC](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/planning/vacant-sites/vacant-sites.html)

The vacant sites levy will be replaced by the Residential Zoned Land Tax in 2024.  This tax differs from the current levy in that it will be collected by Revenue and not by the Local Authority.  As per the relevant legislation, that is the Taxes Consolidation Acts, a draft RZLT map was published by the Council in November 2022.  A total of 30 submissions were received and determinations will be made by the local authority on their inclusion or exclusion from the map.

The RZLT is a more comprehensive mechanism for the identification of zoned lands which could be made available for residential use. The tax, to commence in 2024, will be 3% of the value of the lands.  A final map identifying all of the lands which will become liable to the tax will be published in December of this year.

### **Q22/0323 QUESTION: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to confirm his continued efforts to facilitate cycling across our County and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council's recently adopted County Development Plan (2022 - 2028) sets ambitious mode share targets of all trips including achieving a 15% walking and 10% cycling mode share within the life of the Development Plan. This would be an increase from 3% of trips made by cycling, based on 2016 CSO data.

To support this, the Council is committed to delivering the agreed Cycle South Dublin Programme (2021). The programme sets a vision for South Dublin to become one of Irelands most cycle friendly counties. To achieve this the programme identifies over 65 projects to be commenced and progressed by 2030. To date significant progress has been made on these with over 20 projects currently underway either in design or on site. This increase in planning and delivery work is being matched with an increase in spend on active travel schemes from c.11m in 2021 to c.15m in 2022 and with a funding allocation from the NTA for 2023 for c.22m.

Alongside the delivery of capital projects, the Council is also providing cycle training to schools and in 2022 provided training to nearly 900 students across the County.

All planning applications are now assessed against robust cycle friendly policy and must ensure they meet the highest cycle design standards as set by the NTA. This ensures that as private development comes forward it is playing its part in delivering a high standard and connected cycle network.

### **Q23/0323 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the chief executive would he issue a report into Tree removal given the public displays of concern to elected members, and would he consider ways of informing the public on their removal?

**REPLY:**

The issuing of notification to residents regarding planned tree removals is addressed under Section 4.2 of the Council's tree management policy document 'Living with Trees'.  The policy states the following:

*‘Public notification of any proposed tree removals will consist of a variety of methods that may include posting a list of trees on the Council’s website, emailing known residents associations, notices being attached to trees, and/or letter drops to adjacent properties. Timescales for notice will vary according to the type of work, whether it is urgent and the local significance of the tree but wherever practical, the period of notice will be at least 10 working days before any scheduled tree removals. We will not usually give notice where works involve the felling of dead trees or those in imminent danger of falling.’*

The issuing of letters to properties which are adjacent to the tree to be removed, and to those who are considered to be affected by the planned removal, is the method of notification which is used in most cases. The decision regarding which properties are to be notified is made on a case-by-case basis, depending on the position of the tree and the arrangement of houses in the vicinity of the tree.

In some cases, such as the recent tree felling in Corkagh Park; the tree felling is part of a wider project and is part of the public consultation for that; an outline of the Corkagh Park project and its public consultation is set out below:

South Dublin County Council are preparing to commence the construction stage for the upgrade works for Corkagh Park and the recent tree felling works carried out at the depot area and within St. John’s Wood car park at Corkagh Park are part of that process.

The upgrade works will include several new facilities and upgrades to existing recreational facilities including improvements to the popular fairy woodland trail, upgrades to St. John’s Wood car park, and the Green Isle Road car park, improvements to entrances, provision of way finding and information signs and a central meeting area within the park which will contain a coffee shop, public toilets, an events space, public seating areas and a play area and areas of new planting including new tree planting. These plans are the outcome of several rounds of public consultation and several of the proposals have been submitted as requests for upgrades by members of the public in recent years. The most recent consultation carried out being the public consultation during the statutory part 8 process.

That Part 8 Planning Procedure for Proposed Enhancements and Upgrades at Corkagh Park was advertised for public consultation in 2021 and 2022 and passed by the Council in February 2022. The proposals were summarised in a report displayed at Part 8 Stage (in addition to the other detailed information).

The Part 8 planning process was passed by Council on the 14th of February 2022.

Prior to the formal consultation, a non-statutory consultation was also carried out over several weeks to give the public a preview of the proposals and seek feedback before the proposals were finalised:

* On the 17th of November 2021 SDCC ran an online webinar to give an overview of the proposals.
* These proposals were displayed on a website that provided facilities for feedback.
* An in-person pre-Part VIII consultation event was held on the 20th of November 2021 in Corkagh Park, that was well attended by the public. There were 9 A1 boards that summarised the proposals, and postcards about the scheme were handed out on the day. Questions were answered at the event by the Design Team.  Attendees were invited to submit feedback via email or by post to SDCC.
* The Part VIII was advertised on site notices throughout the park and online  (<https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/sport-and-recreation/parks/corkagh-park.html>) from December 2021 through January 2022 and concluded on the 9th of February 2022.

Since then, SDCC have been preparing the detailed design drawings and tender package to prepare for the construction stage. However, it is important to carry out the tree works before the bird nesting season (1st March).

Prior to the commencement of the works; notification of the required tree work was posted on the South Dublin County Council Website.

To mitigate for the loss of trees; it is planned to plant 93 trees in various locations in the park as part of the upgrade works later in the year. This tree selection will be made up of various native Irish species, due to the importance of planting native trees to enhance biodiversity in our parks.

### **Q24/0323 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the chief executive for a report into how much is being spent on leasing housing for long term leases and how many houses are being leased by SDCC or ABB to provide housing in SDCC?

**REPLY:**

Under our Housing Delivery Action Plan includes a maximum of 290 additional homes to be provided under long-term leasing during the period 2022-2026 while the Council’s Revenue Budget currently provides for expenditure of €11,194,000 in 2023 in relation to costs associated with the provision of approximately 630 homes through long-term leasing.  This includes properties directly managed by the Council along with homes managed by Approved Housing Bodies.  Funding is received by the Council from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of the payments made to the landlords of these properties.

Separately, last August, the Targeted Leasing Initiative was announced, managed by the Housing Agency, with a for expressions of interest to deliver up to 1,000 homes nationally to provide additional supply targeted at areas of greatest need and aligned with local social housing needs.  This is similar to the existing long-term leasing model but with some changes to the to deliver better value for money and to provide a pathway for the local authority to acquire the homes at the end of the lease period.  A number of proposals under this initiative are progressing within South Dublin County under this initiative and are expected to be confirmed in the coming weeks.

### **Q25/0323 QUESTION:** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the chief executive for a report into Tree diseases, to outline the main ones and would he relate this to recent tree removal in the county that has caused huge public concern?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council wishes to ensure that its tree resource is managed in a way that reflects good practice, minimises risks to people and property; and protects the health and vitality of its tree resource. The Council’s policy with regard to tree management is outlined in its tree management policy ‘Living with Trees’.

As outlined South Dublin County Council’s Tree Management Policy Section 4.9 Pest & Disease Control: The Council will investigate signs of pests and diseases and where practicable, will respond in accordance with current best practice. In the last few years, several new pests and diseases have emerged in Europe as significant risks to tree health and plant biosecurity. The growth of global trade in plants and the increasing movement between countries of plant material increases the risk of new pests and diseases.  The predicted changes in climate may increase the risk of these pests and diseases spreading. Small changes in temperature or weather patterns, due to climate change, can enable organisms to become established in areas where previously they would have struggled to survive.

Monitoring tree health and protecting our trees, woodlands and forests from pests and diseases is an increasingly important part of sustainable tree and forest management. Some of the main tree diseases have occurred in South Dublin, for instance in 2022 Fire Blight was identified by a Dept of Agriculture officer on 3 street trees in Palmerstown. The infected trees were removed and buried safely in compliance with the Dept of Agriculture procedures. Ash trees showing signs of decline and dieback county-wide were also removed as a result of infection by ‘Ash Dieback’ (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus). Dead Elm and Alder trees were also removed due to 'Dutch Elm' and 'Phytophthora’ diseases.

The Council has a duty of care to ensure members of the public and staff are not put at risk because of any failure to take reasonable precautions to ensure their safety. All such processes balance the need for safety with the amenity and other benefits of trees on a risk assessment basis. Exposure to an element of risk is however accepted as an unavoidable consequence of all environments where trees are present.

The Council conducts a risk-based system of tree management based on a programme of regular inspection with the aim of promoting good tree health, condition, diversity, public amenity and a balanced age profile. The Council engages an appropriately qualified, skilled and experienced arboriculturist to carry out tree surveys and reports on identified high risk and mature trees on public roads, parks and open spaces under the Council’s control, for the purposes of tree risk management. This approach highlights necessary works at an early stage and enable hazards to be identified and made safe in a cost effective and efficient way. South Dublin County Council are remaining vigilant regarding its urban forest and urge private landowners and the public to do the same.

In relation to tree felling in recent weeks, the bird nesting season extends from March to end of August, during which there is a prohibition on tree and hedgerow pruning in general to protect nesting birds (with some exceptions contained within legislation). SDCC have several large scales and some small-scale projects currently underway that have been approved by the council and / or have achieved planning permission or Part 8 approval by the council. In order for these projects to proceed in a timely fashion and in order to decrease disruption to nesting birds, it was decided to carry out the tree felling works during the off season; hence the recent tree felling operations. These works were planned, the trees were subject to tree reports by qualified arboriculturists and decisions were made in conjunction with the project proposals and the final proposals were submitted for council approval and / or public consultation and Part 8 or planning approval, depending on the project size and scale in each case. The reason for tree felling can vary from project to project; some correspond with trees being felled for tree health, visitor safety, some tree felling is required by virtue of the project proposals and some tree felling may correspond with a mix of reasons. In all cases SDCC try to reduce, as much as possible, the need for tree removal and balance risk, tree health and safety requirements and the project proposals with the retention of trees.

In all cases where tree felling is unavoidable within a project, SDCC mitigate the loss of trees by additional tree planting within the scheme where possible, or elsewhere.

### **Q26/0323 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the chief executive for a report on how medical priority is decided, report to include the process involved, the decision maker, notification to the person and how often submitted applications are decided on?

**REPLY:**

Following revised procedures introduced in 2021, approved existing applicants for social housing supports can apply for medical priority by completing the appropriate form (HMD Form 1) which must be supported by two medical practitioners.  All such forms received are assessed by the Council’s independent medical referee who, based on the information submitted, will determine whether the priority provision of accommodation by the Council is required to assist with or improve the household’s medical circumstances outlined.

New applications for medical priority are forwarded to the independent referee on a monthly basis and the results of these assessments are then communicated directly back to the applicants.

The Council’s Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 commits to the provision of appropriate accommodation to meet the prevailing medical housing need and our construction, acquisition and allocations teams continue to work on planning for new delivery of homes to meet the existing medical priority needs on our housing list and in particular wheelchair accessible/liveable and specially adapted units.

Please see <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/housing/finding-a-home/medical-priority-housing/hmd-form-1-disability-and-or-medical-information-form.pdf> for further details.

### **Q27/0323 QUESTION: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the chief executive would he give a report into the local authorities role in the Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010?

**REPLY:**

In accordance with Section 9 of the [Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2010/act/29/enacted/en/index.html), the operator of a Dog Breeding Establishment must apply to the local authority responsible for the area in which it is situated for registration as a Dog Breeding Establishment.

A Dog Breeding Establishment is defined in the Act as follows:

"a premises at which bitches are kept, not less than 6 of which are-

(a) more than 6-month-old, and

(b) capable of being used for breeding purposes, ..."

There are no registered Dog Breeding Establishments in the South Dublin Administrative Area. Establishments with fewer than 6 bitches meeting the criteria at (a) and (b) above are not required to be registered under the Act.

Commercial Boarding Kennels must also apply for registration under the Act. Commercial Boarding Kennels are defined in the Act: “. a premises (other than an animal shelter) where dogs, not owned by the occupier of the premises, are temporarily sheltered, fed and watered in consideration of the payment of a fee”.

As required by the Act details of Commercial Boarding Kennels registered by South Dublin County Council are entered on the register of dog breeding establishments maintained in accordance with Section 9 of the Act. The [Register](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdcc.ie%2Fen%2Fservices%2Fenvironment%2Fanimal-welfare%2Fdogs%2Fcommercial-boarding-kennels.pdf&amp;data=05%7C01%7Ctwalsh%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C5a3f0e9d0dca4b3ed14c08db09f8c1be%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638114736223814824%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C7000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=vlKDSp2ArrdzFp2XVn7jE9p1ZAhNQUt21TOfpOdshbE%3D&amp;reserved=0) is available to view here and on the Council's website .

### **H6/0323 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

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

### **H7a/0323 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**LD 1575 Proposed disposal of substation site to the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) to service Pumping Station for Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ)**

At its meeting on 13 September 2021, the Council approved the disposal of plot of land and grant of permanent wayleaves, temporary wayleaves and permanent right of way to Irish Water in respect to Pumping Station for Clonburris SDZ - Certified Minute No. H7b/0921 refers.

The Electricity Supply Board (ESB) have now made an application to acquire the freehold interest in a plot of land for substation to service the Pumping Station at the above location. The subject plot is outlined in Red on attached Drawing No LR 03-23.

Accordingly, I recommend that South Dublin County Council disposes of its freehold interest in the plot of land outlined in red on Drawing No. LR 03-23 to the ESB in accordance with Section 211 & 212 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 subject to the following terms and conditions: -

1. That the Council disposes of its freehold interest in the plot of land outlined in red on attached Drawing No. LR 03-23.
2. That the subject plot comprises 7 square metres or thereabouts.
3. That the ESB agree to plant additional trees to ensure that the substation is adequately screened and visually disguised.  Landscape plan to be agreed with the Council’s Public Realm Section.
4. That the ESB is aware that the subject plot is encumbered with Irish Water wayleave.
5. That the ESB shall pay a contribution in respect of the Council’s legal fees.
6. That in the event of any name change to Applicant prior to formal completion of the legal transfer, the Applicant must provide documentary evidence to the Council proving that the new named party is one and the same as the named Applicant heretofore to enable the transfer to complete.
7. That each party shall use their best endeavours to complete the transaction within a reasonable timeframe following adoption of the disposal resolution.
8. That the Law Agent shall draft the necessary documents and include any further terms deemed appropriate in Agreements of this nature.
9. That no contract enforceable at law is created or intended to be created until such time as contracts have been exchanged.
10. That the disposal is subject to the necessary approvals and consents being obtained.

The lands being disposed of form part of lands acquired from P. H. I Investments Limited in 1994 for road purposes, and form part of the land acquired from Dublin City Council (Formerly Dublin Corporation) in 1997 as part of the Scheme of Transfer of Lands pursuant to the Local Government (Dublin) Act, 1993.

**Daniel McLoughlin**

**Chief Executive**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors J. Tuffy, E Ó Broin, L. O’Toole, a query was raised in relation to traffic issues.

Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development, responded to the Members query.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed disposal of substation site to the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) to service Pumping Station for Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

### **H7b/0323 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

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 |
| 54 Rathe Lawns, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin | James O’Driscoll | €202.62 |

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**

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor P. Kearns by and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed disposal of fee simple in 54 Rathe Lawns, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

### **H7c/0323 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**LD 1566 Proposed leasehold disposal to Moykerr Limited at**

**St. Edmund’s, Fonthill Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin**

The Council commenced discussion with Moykerr Limited The Grange,

Newcastle Road, Lucan Co Dublin to purchase a site at St. Edmund’s, Fonthill Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin, to facilitate the works as outlined in planning permissions SHD3 ABP 305857-19 & ABP 312275-21.

The matter was referred to the Council’s Valuer for examination and he has recommended the following terms which they consider to be fair and reasonable, and which have been accepted by Moykerr Limited.

Accordingly, I now recommend that the Council grants a 500 year lease on the plot outlined in red on the indicative aerial Map C attached which extends to an area of approximately 0.4172 hectares or thereabouts, to Moykerr Limited, in accordance with Section 211 & 212 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, subject to the following terms and conditions as recommended by the Council’s Valuer:-

1. That the subject property comprises a site shown provisionally outlined in red on indicative aerial Map C attached and extends to an area of approximately 0.4172 hectares or thereabouts. The Vendor shall provide a formal disposal PRAI compliant map for this transaction which shall be agreed between the parties.
2. That the Vendor shall dispose of the site by granting the Purchaser a 500-year lease at an initial annual rent of €50 (fifty euro) plus VAT if applicable, subject to review at 5 yearly intervals linked to variations in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
3. That the disposal price shall be the sum of €250,000 (two hundred and fifty thousand euro) plus VAT, payable in the following manner:

* 10% upon signing of contracts.
* 90% upon grant of leasehold title.

1. That the Vendor holds Registered Freehold Title.
2. That the Lessee is aware that there are a number of services traversing the site and will be responsible for carrying out the necessary surveys in locating the existing services on the subject site. The Lessee will be solely responsible for incurring the cost involved in this matter.
3. That the Vendor and the relevant Utility Companies will have access to their services by way of existing or new wayleave/easement agreements. The Lessee will make the necessary access arrangements with the relevant Utility Companies and all such wayleave agreements will require the written approval of the Vendor.

The Vendor and its nominees shall retain all appropriate rights to access services (existing and new) for no compensation except for suitable and reasonable accommodation works.

1. That no structures can be built or demolished on the subject property without the prior written consent of the Council.
2. That no trees can be planted, or other structures can be built upon or around, the existing services on the site.
3. That the Lessee will be responsible for the management and maintenance of the subject site.
4. That the Lessee will be responsible for insuring the subject site and will indemnify South Dublin County Council against any claims.
5. That the Lessee will be responsible for carrying out all works including inter alia, landscaping and construction of a pedestrian path, in compliance with planning permissions SHD3 ABP 305857-19 & ABP 312275-21.
6. That all works on the subject site will be subject to the approval of the relevant South Dublin County Council Departments.
7. That South Dublin County Council have the right to terminate this lease at its absolute discretion in part of the subject site if required for any infrastructural purpose or public transport or Sustainable Travel Project. In this event the Vendor i.e., South Dublin County Council shall pay compensation on a pro-rata basis of the disposal price agreed above at term 3 (i.e. €250,000 plus VAT) only, which shall be index linked to any increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index from the date of signing of contracts.
8. That this disposal will be subject to statutory Council consent and also subject to receipt of approvals from the relevant departments within the Council.
9. That each party shall be liable for their own fees incurred in this transaction.
10. That no agreement enforceable at law is created or intended to be created until exchange of contracts has taken place.
11. That the Councils Solicitor shall draft the Agreements, Contracts and Leases and may include further reasonable terms and conditions as deemed appropriate to give effect to the heads of terms set out herein.
12. That in the event of any name change to Applicant prior to formal completion of the legal transfer, the Applicant must provide documentary evidence to the Council proving that the new named party is one and the same as the named Applicant heretofore to enable the transfer to complete.

The lands being disposed of form part of lands acquired from the Dublin Corporation under the Scheme of Transfer in 1997 for Housing purposes and Eastern Health Board on the 16th October 1975 for Roads purposes

**Daniel McLoughlin**

**Chief Executive**

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor R. McMahon by and **RESOLVED:**

“That the proposed leasehold disposal to Moykerr Limited at St. Edmund’s, Fonthill Road, Lucan, Co. Dublin be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

### **H8/0323 MANAGERS REPORT** - **FOR NOTING**

The following reports, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. D. Mc Loughlin, Chief Executive, who advised the Members that the Council had recently received a letter of “provisional approval“ for the proposed Affordable Cost Rental apartments at Belgard North. He also informed of recent receipt of a Circular regarding Part 8 Planning Derogation for Social Housing, on which a report will be sent to Members.

The Reports were **CONSIDERED:**

[HI 8 a) March Chief Executives Report 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78003)  
[HI 8 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78056)  
[HI 8 c) Finance Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77941)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. Ó Brádaigh, M. Johansson, D. McManus, E. Ó Broin and K. Mahon. Queries were raised regarding childcare facilities, workers’ rights in relation to Council contractors and customer queries.

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

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H9/0323 AUDIT COMMITTEE - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. A. McNally, Internal Auditor and were **CONSIDERED:**

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors R. McMahon and T. Costello, a query was raised regarding the Internal Auditor.

Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive, responded to the Members query.

### [H9 (a) Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77963)

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **AGREED** that The Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2022, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

### [H9 (b) Audit Committee Charter](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77964)

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **AGREED** that The Audit Committee Charter, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

### [H9 (c) Audit Committee Work Programme 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77965)

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **AGREED** that The Audit Committee Work Programme 2023, be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

### **H10/0323 RAISING OF LOANS FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED HOUSING - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, and were **CONSIDERED:**

**RAISING OF LOANS FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED HOUSING**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has provided a Capital Allocation for Publicly Funded Housing Loans in the sum of €13,760,000.

The County Council is empowered to borrow from the Housing Finance Agency for the purpose of carrying out its functions under the Housing Acts.

Approval is now sought for authority to raise loans to a limit of €13,760,000 from the Housing Finance Agency plc for the Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) schemes.

[H10 (b) SDCC 2023 Allocation Letter](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78005)

Councillor D. McManus queried the timeframe for processing applications.

Mr. R. FitzGerald, Head of Finance, responded to the Members query.

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor W. Carey that the raising of loans for publicly funded housing be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**

### **H11/0323 UPDATE ON PROPOSED TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION REDEVELOPMENTS - FOR NOTING**

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

[H11 Update on Proposed Traveller Accommodation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78029)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors T. Gilligan, F. Timmons, W. Carey, L. Donaghy, M. Johansson, E. Ó Broin, D. McManus, L. Sinclair, R. McMahon, L. Dunne, P. Kearns, J. Tuffy, M. Duff, and E. Murphy. Queries were raised regarding permeability, temporary accommodation for current residents, and whether Council approval is required under Part 8.

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

### **H12/0323 COMMUNITY GRANTS – MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FUND - FOR NOTING**

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

South Dublin is currently served with thirty-five primary community facilities across the County and with plans to significantly expand this network in areas of new and additional development including Saggart, Balgaddy, Citywest, Kilcarbery, Killinarden, Ballycullen and Clonburris.

In working to ensure that centres are sustainable and well governed with boards of management engaging in strategic forward planning to maximise the use of and benefit of centres to their local communities, including through collaboration and synergies with other centres, a significant additional budget provision was made to provide appropriate supports for centres to progress on this pathway.  
An initial survey of all boards of management was undertaken last year to gather key information on governance structures, board skill sets, facility usage, programmes of activities and staffing models. Survey data and information from our local community development teams show that while all community centres are generally catering for large numbers of local residents and offer a considerable range of different activities and services targeted at meeting respective local community needs, there are some gaps in the strategic planning focus and management skills of several boards of management.

A number of centres also report ongoing difficulties with the lack of adequate staffing resources and/or funding to support staffing costs within centre. Support from labour activation programmes such as the Community Employment scheme, while continuing to provide a vital source of staff support, is increasingly inadequate due to continued high levels of participant vacancies across many of the activation schemes. These factors are often leading to reduced centre opening hours.

The new funding provision is now being aligned with the community grants funding that is traditionally used to support the community centre network with management assistance grants and funding for operational costs and running events. This provided the opportunity for a combined new management support fund to best respond to the identified current needs of boards of management, to also develop and improve governance levels and enhance strategic thinking including synergies between centres where appropriate, and to provide streamlined events funding and increased running costs funding.

As signalled to the Elected Members, the new Community Centre Management Support Fund was introduced in December 2022 with details circulated to relevant boards of management and a deadline of 13th January 2023 for receipt of completed applications. This offered the opportunity to apply for financial supports under the three defined funding strands within the one application:

* Strand 1) Operational Costs
* Strand 2) Employment, Training & Governance
* Strand 3) Local Community Events

The application process further interrogated the centre usage patterns, ongoing running costs, existing management and staffing structures. Where boards were applying for funding for additional staff and supports, details of the envisaged additionality, facility management and governance enhancements long-term sustainability were also required and future progress will be measured against these projections.  Boards of management were also asked provide copies of their annual business plans and to commit to participating in governance training workshops and networking events to be organised by the Community Department.

A total of thirty-three applications were received and assessed with due consideration given to existing core funding and income levels for each centre and how allocations of funding would assist centres to improve both service delivery to the local communities and make improvements to centre management operations.

For Elected members' information, the Community Services Department has now approved funding of €672,830 for various community facilities as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Community Facility** | **Operational Costs** | **Employment, Governance & Training** | **Community Events** | **Totals** |
| Bawnogue Youth & Community Centre | €8,000 | €30,000 | €5,300 | €43,300 |
| Belgard Youth & Community Centre | €8,000 | €0 | €3,400 | €11,400 |
| Knocklyon Youth & Community Centre | €5,000 | €0 | €0 | €5,000 |
| Knockmitten Youth & Community Centre | €8,000 | €1,000 | €5,600 | €14,600 |
| St Marks Youth & Family Centre | €8,000 | €0 | €0 | €8,000 |
| Brookfield Youth & Community Centre | €8,000 | €0 | €5,300 | €13,300 |
| Earlsfort Residents Centre | €5,000 | €0 | €0 | €5,000 |
| The WEB Project | €8,000 | €235 | €3,300 | €11,535 |
| Quarryvale Community & Leisure Centre | €8,000 | €550 | €5,800 | €14,350 |
| Fettercairn Community & Youth Centre | €8,000 | €1,560 | €3,400 | €12,960 |
| Whitechurch Community & Youth Centre | €8,000 | €15,990 | €3,300 | €27,290 |
| Kingswood Community & Leisure Centre | €5,000 | €3,550 | €5,600 | €14,150 |
| Jobstown Community & Youth Centre | €8,000 | €26,000 | €4,600 | €38,600 |
| The Park Community Centre | €8,000 | €25,000 | €5,000 | €38,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Rathcoole Community Centre | €8,000 | €3,000 | €5,000 | €16,000 |
| St Aengus Community Centre | €5,000 | €2,000 | €3,500 | €10,500 |
| Rowlagh Community Centre | €0 | €25,000 | €1,900 | €26,900 |
| Saggart Schoolhouse Community Centre | €6,000 | €30,000 | €2,000 | €38,000 |
| St Finians Community Hall | €8,000 | €23,220 | €3,900 | €35,120 |
| Greenhills Community Centre | €3,000 | €0 | €5,800 | €8,800 |
| Neilstown Community Centre | €8,000 | €30,000 | €2,600 | €40,600 |
| Perrystown Manor Estate Community Centre | €3,000 | €30,000 | €0 | €33,000 |
| Kilnamanagh Family Recreation Centre | €3,000 | €0 | €4,400 | €7,400 |
| Fettercairn Youth Horse Project | €3,000 | €0 | €2,700 | €5,700 |
| Glenasmole Community Association | €8,000 | €30,000 | €3,400 | €41,400 |
| Firhouse Community & Leisure Club Ltd | €3,000 | €3,515 | €2,000 | €8,515 |
| Adamstown Youth & Community Centre | €8,000 | €25,000 | €4,700 | €41,200 |
| Dominics Community Centre | €5,000 | €880 | €1,900 | €7,780 |
| Ballyroan Community & Youth Centre | €8,000 | €4,370 | €500 | €13,230 |
| Palmerstown Community & Youth Centre | €8,000 | €30,000 | €3,900 | €41,900 |
| Ballyowen Castle Youth & Community Centre | €5,000 | €20,000 | €4,100 | €29,100 |
| Killinarden Community Centre | €8,000 | €0 | €2,200 | €10,200 |
| **Totals** | **€203,000** | **€364,730** | **€105,100** | **€672,830** |

In addition, the Community Development team had invited grant applications from community groups interested in organising St. Patrick's Day Parades and Celebrations for their local areas and a number of grants were awarded as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organisation** | **Application** | **Amount** |
| 4 Districts St. Patrick’s Day Parade C/O St. Marys GFC | St Patricks Day Parade in Rathcoole & Saggart villages | €3,500 |
| Lucan St. Patricks Day Committee | Lucan St Patricks Day Parade | €5,000 |
| Clondalkin St Patricks Day Parade | Clondalkin St. Patrick’s Day Festival | €5,000 |
| St. Patrick’s GAA Club | St Patricks Day Parade | €1,500 |
| **Total** |  | **€15,000** |

These grants are subject to the terms and conditions of the Council’s Community Events Funding scheme and provision was made for this expenditure in the 2023 Budget.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors S. Moynihan, M. Duff, P. Kearns, T. Costello, C. King, P. Holohan, W. Carey, E. Murphy, J. Tuffy and L. McCrave.

The Members spoke in support of the various grants and commended the team for all their hard work, queries were raised regarding audits, self-funding, and single use community centres.

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

The Report was **NOTED**.

### **H13/0323 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2023 - FOR NOTING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. J. Hilbert, Senior Engineer, Environment, Water and Climate Change, and was **CONSIDERED:**

[H13 Climate Action Implementation Plan Update 2023 Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78019)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillor P. Holohan, E. Ó Broin, L. Donaghy, L. Dunne, D. Ó Brádaigh, R. McMahon, J. Tuffy, and C. O’Connell. Queries were raised in relation to decarbonised zones, workplace facilities for cyclists, bicycle stands, water fountains, LED lighting, windows and door refurbishment, land use and the statutory process of the plan.

Ms. J. Hilbert, Senior Engineer Environment, Water and Climate Change, responded to the Members queries.

### **C1/0323 REPLIES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

**Correspondence**

1. [Correspondence from Minister Roderic O’Gorman re Mother Baby Homes.](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78022)
2. [Correspondence from Sligo County Council re Sligo and North West](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77992)
3. [Correspondence from Cavan County Council re Irish Forestry](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77993)
4. [Correspondence from Cork Count Council re Uber](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77994)
5. [Correspondence from Kerry County Council re Jadotville](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77995)
6. [Correspondence from Sligo County Council re Fuel Allowance Payment Scheme.](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77991)

### **M1/0323 CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor A. Edge**

To ask the Chief Executive to implement signage for a 'Code of Conduct' to advise users of appropriate conduct when using all current and future Greenways throughout South Dublin.

**REPORT:**

South Dublin County Council appointed the specialist consultants to advise and assist in the development of the County Signage Strategy and the design of signage.

To date, substantial progress has been made on the development of proposals for the broad parameters for signage in parks across the county. Proposals are being developed to carry out an initial trial in Kiltipper Park. As Kiltipper Park also contains a section of the Dodder Greenway, consideration has also been given to the way finding and orientation signage for Greenways.

It is envisaged that a tender for suppliers and contractors will be issued for Kiltipper Park in the coming months, for manufacture and installation of these types of signs.

[M1 (b) Image submitted by Cllr Murphy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77953)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors E. Murphy, A. Edge, M. Duff, Y. Collins, L. Donaghy, L. Sinclair, P. Gogarty K. Mahon, W. Carey, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, P. Kearns, C. King, and L. Sinclair. Members spoke in support of the motion and queried the enforcement process.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use and Transportation responded to the Members query.

The Motion was **AGREED.**

### **M2/0323 REFERENDUM REGARDING IRISH WATER**

### **It was proposed by Councillor M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor P. Kearns**

This the Council write to the Taoiseach to call for a referendum on the ownership of our water services and call for the following wording be used in said referendum: 'The Government shall be collectively responsible for the protection, management and maintenance of the public water system. The Government shall ensure in the public interest that this resource remains in public ownership and management.'

**REPORT:**

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

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillor M. Johansson, P. Kearns, L. Whelan, C. King, D. Ó Brádaigh, G. O’Connell, K. Mahon, S. Moynihan, F. Timmons, L. Sinclair, J. Tuffy, D. McManus and M. Duff. Councillors spoke in support of motion.

The Motions was **AGREED**.

In accordance with **Standing Order No.22** it was **AGREED** with the consent of the Members to vary the sequence of business and to take Motion 3 **M3** (of similar subject matter) in tandem with Motion 8 **M8**.

### **M3/0323 ILLEGAL DUMPING**

### **It was proposed by Councillor C. King seconded by Councillor E. Murphy**

That this Council calls on the CEO to arrange for a strategy to be formulated within the overall County Strategy to Tackle Illegal Dumping in all its forms that utilises to its fullest affect the recently enacted "Circular Economy Act" that includes Codes of Practice that can be used by Local Authorities such as ours to utilise CCTV and other technologies.

**REPORT:**

The Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 was enacted on the 21st of July 2022.  The legislation provides for the use of CCTV and Mobile Recording Devices in the Local Government Sector for preventing, detecting, investigating, or prosecuting offences under the Waste Management Act 1996. With the assistance of the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Local Authorities are developing working a Code of Practice for CCTV and Mobile Recording Devices as required under S14(C) of the Waste Management Act.  The Code of Practice will provide guidance on the appropriate and effective use of CCTV and mobile recording devices in waste enforcement.

All reports of illegal dumping and littering 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.

A number of initiatives continue to be implemented through the Environment Water & Climate Change directorate.  The Council's Litter Management Plan has committed to the deployment of innovative and emerging technologies, including CCTV and Programmable Audio Messaging Devices to tackle the problem of illegal dumping and fly tipping.  In managing this service, the Council is mindful of resources available, and requests for the installation of such technologies are assessed on a case-by-case basis, having regard to certain criteria, including site suitability and the repetitive nature of illegal dumping and fly tipping.

Village cleansing programme is ongoing in all town and village centres on a daily basis Monday to Friday and also on Sundays. Existing cleaning schedules are reviewed and modified regularly, planned and scheduled clean-ups of areas prone to repeated littering / dumping incidents is ongoing, and there is continuing liaison with community groups for Clean-Up collections. Regard is taken of reports / survey findings e.g. IBAL, and resources as available and appropriate, are applied.

An ongoing proactive anti-litter and anti-illegal dumping programmes and campaigns are delivered as per the Eastern Midlands Waste Regional Waste Management Plan and the SDCC Litter Management Plan.  Some examples of the proactive initiatives that have been previously promoted/carried out include bulky waste collection pilots, bulbs not bonfires Halloween campaigns, Halloween campaigns involving tyre retailers, hazardous wastes collections and bring bank monitoring programmes.

Other proactive initiatives carried out include the Annual National Spring Clean, the PURE project, the Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti awareness grants, WEEE collection days, Eco -Week and annual anti-dumping schemes such as the mattress amnesties and area clean-ups.

Continued support is provided for through the Green Schools Programme, South Dublin County has 97 schools registered for this programme which has a theme specially dedicated to litter and waste. Support is provided on an ongoing basis to the green school’s programme through talks, workshops, competitions etc.

From January 2022 to date, there have been 102 applications received from residents and community groups and assistance provided through the social credits scheme, 41 for clean-up materials, 34 minor landscaping and 27 paint enhancement.

The following materials are available throughout the county, in the two Council offices and a number of community centres to successful applicants: litter pickers, bags, hi-vis vests, shovels and brushes, paint, paint brushes and native/pollinator seeds have been added to materials provided.

The council continues to examine all options available to it to improve the aesthetic appearance of the county and continues to work with the elected members to deliver the Litter Management Plan Annual Action Plans. As always, the public is encouraged to work with the Council in helping to identify culprits who engage in illegal dumping and to report any incidents observed.

Reports of littering and illegal dumping can be made on the**Council’s Litter Warden hotline on 01 4149220**and on the**Environmental Protection Agency’s anti-dumping hotline on 1850 365 121.**

Where there is an ongoing problem of illegal dumping in any area, local residents are urged to support the Council in taking the appropriate enforcement action by making reports to the Litter Warden Service for investigation and by providing evidence, including testimony, where possible. Additionally, residents are encouraged through the medium of the Council's Social Credits Scheme to seek rewards for community-based initiatives, such as community clean ups.

### **M8/0323 CCTV**

### **It was proposed by Councillor Y. Collins and seconded by Councillor E. Murphy.**

That this Council formulates a strategy re the use of CCTV and other technologies pursuant to the provisions of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022, to combat illegal dumping throughout the county.

**REPORT:**

The Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 was enacted on the 21st of July 2022.  The legislation provides for the use of CCTV and Mobile Recording Devices in the Local Government Sector for preventing, detecting, investigating, or prosecuting offences under the Waste Management Act 1996. With the assistance of the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Local Authorities are developing working a Code of Practice for CCTV and Mobile Recording Devices as required under S14(C) of the Waste Management Act.  The Code of Practice will provide guidance on the appropriate and effective use of CCTV and mobile recording devices in waste enforcement.

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A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. King, Y. Collins, E. O’Brien, F. Timmons, G. O’Connell, W. Carey, E. Ó Broin, L. McCrave, P. Gogarty. All Councillors spoke in support of the motion, queries were raised in relation to Code of Practice for CCTV, KPIs, use of drones, and enforcement.

At this point in the meeting the Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy proposed and the Members **AGREED** to extend Standing orders in order to complete the Motion.

Mr. L. Magee, Senior Engineer, Environment, Water and Climate Change, responded to the Members queries.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

### **M6/0323** **MINI WOODLANDS**

### It was proposed by Councillor A. Edge seconded by Councillor E. Murphy and **MOVED** without debate.

### In line with the Biodiversity and Climate Emergencies declared for South Dublin County in 2019, that this Council commits to a rapid roll-out of Mini-Woodlands / Stepping Stone Forests at suitable locations countywide with the support of local community groups and with a target of 25,000 trees by the end of this term.

**REPORT:**

To date a number of mini-woodlands have been planted across South Dublin County with assistance from local community and tidy towns groups.  A pilot project was initially undertaken at Sean Walsh Park which consisted of 3 distinct locations of 100 square metres each being planted with a total of 1,200 trees planted over the 300 square metre area. The progress of this pilot scheme is being monitored with trees being measured as required and this project is considered to be progressing well. Since that pilot scheme a further two locations have been planted as mini-woodlands and these are at Mill Lane in Palmerstown and at Greenhills Park with a further 1,200 trees planted at each location.

An information leaflet is being developed to inform and assist community and tidy towns groups who may be interested in taking part in this type of planting project, and also to inform private landowners who may wish to plant a mini-woodland on their own lands.  It is intended that proposals to plant additional mini-woodlands will be included in future tree planting programmes for the county.  Potential locations for such planting schemes are being examined and considered in the context of existing land use, existing ecology and management and maintenance resources available, to ensure the successful establishment and on-going management of mini-woodlands.  The selection of suitable locations will be informed by both the Council tree management policy and also by the green infrastructure strategy and it is expected that a number of such schemes will be included in the tree planting programme for the current year.

### **M9/0323 CHILDCARE**

### It was proposed by Councillor L. Sinclair and seconded by Councillor M. Johansson and **MOVED** without debate.

That this Council writes to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth demanding that a plan is put in place to provide preschool childcare for free at the point of use.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

### **M12/0323 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEGISLATION**

### It was proposed by Councillor L. Dunne seconded by councillor D. Ó Brádaigh and **MOVED** without debate.

This Council calls on the Minister of Justice Helen McEntee to further amend Domestic Violence legislation & amend the Safety Order section 6. (1) (a) by insertion of the following section: (VII) Is a family member of the applicant i.e. Parent, Grandparent, & Siblings who are too targeted by perpetrators through forms of abuse, intimidation, harassment through social media outlets, attacks on the person or homes.

**REPORT:**

If this Motion is passed, a letter will be issued to the Minister of Justice. The response, when received, will be circulated to the members.

Meeting Finished @ 19:05

**Motions not reached:**

### **M4/0323 NCS SUBSIDSIED HOURS**

### **Councillor P. Gogarty**

That this Council writes to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth requesting that all childcare providers register for and be in a position to provide NCS-subsidised hours for at least 50% of children in their care.

### **M5/0323 ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE**

Councillor L. Hagin Meade

South Dublin County Council supports the Animal Health & Welfare (Ban on Hare Coursing) Bill 2020 and will write to the Minister for Agriculture, calling for a ban on hare coursing.

### **M7/0323 TREE REMOVAL**

**Councillor C. Bailey**

That this Council agree a protocol that communicates to residents in writing when a public tree close to their home needs to be removed.

### **M10/0323 DEATHS**

**Councillor P. Holohan**

This council calls on the minister for health to set up an independent enquiry to explore the reasons for Irelands 2023 high excess deaths figures and to make a statement on it.

### **M11/0323 HOUSING RETROFITTING**

**Councillor E. Ó Broin**

This council agrees to set out an ambitious timeframe for retrofitting it's existing housing stock to a level that ensures (i) the comfort of tenants via efficient heating systems, (ii) the health of tenants by the elimination of damp and mould and (iii) that climate targets are met via a substantial reduction in the use of fossil fuels for heating and cooking.

### **M13/0323 DISABLED DRIVERS**

**Councillor F. Timmons**

South Dublin County Council condemns the re-imposition of what the Supreme Court described as arbitrary, unjust, discriminatory, and unnecessary criteria for the Disabled Drivers and Passengers Tax Concession Scheme (DDPS), an act that has all the hallmarks of being constitutionally unsound and calls on Government to introduce emergency legislation to address the situation.

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

Mayor

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