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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council April 2023 County Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11 April 2023.

### **PRESENT**

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

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

The Mayor, Councillor E. Murphy, presided.

Apologies were received from Councillors D. Richardson, K. Mahon, A. Hayes, and L. Whelan

**WEBCASTING NOTICE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**H1/0423 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

Minutes of the March Council Meeting held on 13th March 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. [March Council Minutes â€' 13th March 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78325)

**H2/0423 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

1. **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, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Brittas Area Committee Meeting**

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

The report from the Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin Area Committee was **NOTED**.

**Lucan / Palmerstown/ North Clondalkin Area Committee, Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

At its meeting on 28th February 2023, the Following MOTION was AGREED and in the course of the discussion, it was requested that the item be brought as a Report of Committee to the Council Meeting.

**MOTION NO. 2**

**MOTION: Councillor Joanna Tuffy**

That in light of reports that the remains of Patrick Sarsfield, first Earl of Lucan, have been located at Huy, Belgium, that the Council would prepare to make the case that if his remains are repatriated to Ireland, it should be to Lucan.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will issue to the Department of Foreign Affairs seeking information on the process and costs involved. The response, when received, will be circulated to Members for consideration.

**H3a/0423 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**April 2023**

Notes: April Council meeting moved to Tuesday 11th April due to bank holiday.

April Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee moved to 18th April to avoid clash with April Council meeting.

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| **DATE** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 3rd April | **CPG Meeting** | 3:00pm |  |
| Tue. | 4th April | **Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC)** | 3:00pm |  |
| Wed. | 5th April |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 6th April |  |  |  |
| Fri. | 7th April | **Bank Holiday** |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 10th April | **Bank Holiday**  |  |  |
| Tue. | 11th April | **Council Meeting** | 3:30pm - 7:00pm | 24/3/23 |
| Wed. | 12th April |  |  |  |
| Thur. | 13th April |  |  |  |
| Fri | 14th April |  |  |  |

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| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 17th April |  |  |  |
| Tue. | 18th April | **Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 31/3/23 |
| Wed. | 19th April | **Clondalkin – Newcastle - Rathcoole - Saggart - Brittas Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning**Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 3/4/23 |
| Thur. | 20th April |  |  |  |
| Fri | 21st April |  |  |  |

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| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 24th April | **Tallaght Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 6/4/23 |
| Tue. | 25th April | **Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin** *Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 11/4/23 |
| Wed. | 26th April | **Deputations** | 3.00pm - 6.00pm |  |
| Thur. | 27th April |  |  |  |
| Fri | 28th April | **JPC** | 10:00am |  |

**May 2023**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 1st May | **Bank Holiday** |  |  |
| Tue. | 2nd May | **CPG Meeting****Environment, Water, Climate Change & Biodiversity SPC** | 3:00pm5:30pm – 7:00pm |  |
| Wed. | 3rd May | **Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC** | 5:30pm – 7:00pm |  |
| Thur. | 4th May |  |  |  |
| Fri. | 5th May |  |  |  |
|  |
| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 8th May | **Council Meeting** | 3:30pm - 7:00pm | 21/4/23 |
| Tue. | 9th May | **Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse - Bohernabreena Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 24/4/23 |
| Wed. | 10th May | **Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development SPC** | 5:30pm – 7:00pm |  |
| Thur. | 11th May | **Housing SPC** |  5:30pm-7:00pm |  |
| Fri | 12th May |  |  |  |

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| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 15th May |  |  |  |
| Tue. | 16th May | **Social & Community SPC** | 3:00pm – 4.30pm |  |
| Wed. | 17th May | **Clondalkin – Newcastle - Rathcoole - Saggart - Brittas Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning**Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 3.00pm - 6.00pm | 3/5/23 |
| Thur. | 18th May | **Traffic Management Meeting****(Rathfarnham – Templeogue – Firhouse – Bohernabreena)****Traffic Management Meeting****(Clondalkin)****OP&F****Women’s Caucus** | 2:00pm – 2:45pm2:45pm – 3:30pm3.30pm - 6.00pm6:00pm | 4/5/23 |
| Fri | 19th May |  |  |  |

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| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 22nd May | **Traffic Management Meeting****(Tallaght)****Tallaght Area Committee***Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 2:15pm – 3:00pm3.00pm - 6.00pm | 8/5/23 |
| Tue. | 23rd May | **Traffic Management Meeting****(Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin)****Lucan-Palmerstown-North Clondalkin** *Public realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Community, Housing, Transportation, \*Planning Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Corporate Support, Performance & change Management* | 2:15pm – 3:00pm3.00pm - 6.00pm | 9/5/23 |
| Wed. | 24th May | **Deputations** | 3.00pm - 6.00pm |  |
| Thur. | 25th May | **Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC** | 5:30pm – 7:00pm |  |
| Fri | 26th May |  |  |  |

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| **Date** | **MEETING / FUNCTION** | **TIME** | **CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF BUSINESS** |
| Mon. | 29th May |  |  |  |
| Tue. | 30th May |  |  |  |
| Wed. | 31st May |  |  |  |
| Thur. |  |  |  |  |
| Fri |  |  |  |  |

The draft calendar of meeting dates was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor E. Murphy and Seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan and **AGREED**.

**H3b/0423 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**REPLY:**

**The following report went to the March OP&F meeting -**

[**Section 142 (5) of Local Government Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/zza37y2001s142.html) provides for the authorization of Members’ attendance at conferences both home and abroad.

**Training Notified Since January 2023**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organisation** | **Location** | **Date** |
| AILG Module 2 | AILG | Fairways Hotel, Co. Louth | 25th March 2023 |

**Training Attended Since January 2023**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organisation** | **Location** | **Date** | **Councillors in Attendance** |
| Regions in Focus 2023 | Association of Irish Regions | Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan. | 7th Feb - 9th Feb 2023 | Cllr D. McManusCllr B. LawlorCllr P. KearnsCllr L. Hagin MeadeCllr J. TuffyCllr B. PereppadanCllr K. Egan  |
| AILG Module 1 | AILG | Radisson Blu Hotel, Co. Limerick | 25th February 2023 | Cllr S. O'HaraCllr B. PereppadanCllr R. McMahonCllr B. Lawlor |
| LAMA Spring Seminar | LAMA | Westlodge Hotel, Co. Cork | 2nd - 4th March 2023 | Cllr D. McManusCllr B. LawlorCllr S. O'HaraCllr G. O'ConnellCllr R. McMahonCllr B. PereppadanCllr K. Egan |

Listed below are conferences which have been notified to South Dublin County Council and whose appropriateness has been vetted by the members’ working group in accordance with Circ. Letter 02/10.

**Conferences Notified Since January 2023**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organisation** | **Location** | **Date** |
| None |   |   |   |

**Conferences Attended Since January 2023**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organisation** | **Location** | **Date** | **Councillors in Attendance** |
| None |   |   |   |   |

**Requirements on members in relation to attendance at conferences**
(1) Having been authorised to attend an event under section 142, a councillor is required in all circumstances to –

1. a) attend that event and participate in the proceedings to the greatest extent possible, and
2. b) submit a written report within 15 days to the Cathaoirleach, who shall submit the report to the next ordinary meeting of the council. The report must indicate the nature of the meeting and contain a summary of the proceedings. This report shall be made available free of charge on request to any member of the public; for this purpose it may be put on the local authority’s website. The requirements in relation to reports by attendees and making the report available to the public are in large part new requirements under section 142(5)(f) (as amended) and section 142(5)(fa).

As authorisation under this section is a reserved function Members are required to pass the following resolution:

“In accordance with Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act, 2001 attendance by Members at the Conferences / Seminars outlined in the report is hereby authorized."

**This is now before Council for final approval.**

The report on Conferences/Seminars was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor E. Murphy and seconded by Councillor L. Hagin Meade and **AGREED**.

**H3c/0423 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**REPLY:**

**The following report went to the March OP&F meeting -**

A vacancy exists on the Land Use, Planning and Transportation SPC following the resignation of Councillor L. Sinclair as Chair of the SPC and it is a matter for the Council to nominate a replacement to fill the vacancy.

This is now before the Council for consideration.

The nomination of Councillor L. Hagin Meade as the new Land Use, Planning and Transportation SPC Chair was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor L. Sinclair and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.

**This is now before full Council for final approval.**

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor L. Sinclair, and **AGREED** that Councillor L. Hagin be appointed as the Chair to the Land Use Planning and Transportation SPC.

**H3d/0423 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**The following reports went to the March OP&F meeting –**

Vacancies exist on the following committees/statutory bodies previously held by former Councillor P. Kavanagh who recently resigned his position as Councillor on South Dublin County Council and subsequently disqualified from membership of these committees:-

* **Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC**
* **Civic Theatre Committee**
* **Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board**
* **Dublin Bus/Luas Community Forum**
* **South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee**
* **Infrastructure Naming Committee**

It is a matter for the Council to appoint a replacement(s) to the above positions and this is now before the Members for consideration and recommendation.

### It was proposed by Councillor A. Edge seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan and **AGREED** that the following items be **deferred** to the May OP&F meeting:-

* **Civic Theatre Committee – Liam Sinclair P:**
* **Dublin Bus/Luas Community Forum**
* **South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee**
* **Infrastructure Naming Committee**

The nomination of Councillor M. Lynch to the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor L. Hagin Meade and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.

The nomination of Councillor L. Sinclair to the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor A. Edge and seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan.

A vacancy exists on Dodder Greenway Steering Group following Councillor Laura Donaghy's move to the Clondalkin Electoral area. South Dublin County Council are now seeking 1 nominee from the Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area.

This is now before the Council for consideration.

The nomination of Councillor M. Lynch to the Dodder Greenway Steering Group was **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor L. Hagin Meade and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.

**These are before full Council for final approval.**

 It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan, and **AGREED** that Councillor M. Lynch be appointed to the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage & Libraries SPC.

 It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan, and **AGREED** that Councillor L. Sinclair be appointed to the Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board.

 It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor S. Moynihan, and **AGREED** that Councillor M. Lynch be appointed to the Dodder Greenway Steering Group.

**H4/0423 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

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

**H5/0423 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 D. Ó Brádaigh, and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 22, Questions numbered Q1 – Q24 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0423 Question: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager can I get a break down of support staff in place to support people in homeless accommodation, for eg how many outreach workers are there and how many people on average are they responsible for helping

**REPLY:**

The Council's homeless team currently has eight positions including one full-time outreach worker.  The staff all advise and support homeless households in relation to their accommodation options and circumstances, working in conjunction with external resources in both the Dublin Region Homeless Executive Supports Workers and the Simon Outreach Team.  The outreach and support roles include interviewing, assessing and providing advice to clients seeking a homeless service, enabling and assisting clients to source suitable private rented accommodation, working with clients placed in emergency facilities with a view to securing long term accommodation and where possible, avoiding continued placement in emergency facilities, allocating emergency accommodation as appropriate or where a client is eligible for social housing, providing information and assistance in presenting the application.  Our outreach worker is currently engaging with eight rough sleepers in the community to connect them with homeless services and other support services, as well as assisting with "Housing First" tenancies.

The are currently 511 homeless households on the Council’s housing list, of which 313 are single person households.

### **Q2/0423 Question: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager how many properties have been purchased through the tenant in situ Scheme in the county ytd

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

Where expressions of interest are received from property owners, various standard due diligence checks are undertaken in relation to property condition, valuation and conveyancing and the general steps in the process are as follows:
• Determine the housing need status of the household.
• Determine the validity and timelines of the Notice of Termination
• Explore options for suitable alternative accommodation where possible.
• Arrange a property condition survey and property valuation.
• Commence negotiation on acquisition price for the property.
• Where the sale price is agreed the Council’s Law Department commence and complete the conveyancing process.

Individual property purchases can be delayed for various reasons such as the owner not having full legal title, various planning issues, outstanding property taxes, general contractual conditions of sale not in place etc. and the process is also reliant timely progress from the vendor’s legal and sales agents, so timeframes vary from purchase to purchase. However, the Council has temporarily assigned additional resources to this work area from elsewhere within the Housing, Social and Community Development directorate and we are also procuring additional external technical resources to ensure that the existing potential acquisitions are progressed as promptly as possible. The level of activity and resource requirements for tenant in-situ purchases will continue to be reviewed in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the coming months to ensure that we are able to prevent homelessness where possible.

The tenant in-situ acquisitions scheme does not specify criteria for eligibility relating to under or over occupancy, time on list, time in receipt of housing supports etc. and the Council is applying sufficient flexibility to the assessment process to prevent homelessness wherever possible. Inter-authority arrangements are also in place with neighbouring and other local authorities as required to progress potential acquisitions for South Dublin housing applicants in HAP supported tenancies at risk of homelessness in other local authorities’ administrative areas and vice versa.

### **Q3/0423 QUESTION: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager how many applications are there currently for landlords wishing to sell their property to SDCC

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

Where expressions of interest are received from property owners, various standard due diligence checks are undertaken in relation to property condition, valuation and conveyancing and the general steps in the process are as follows:
• Determine the housing need status of the household.
• Determine the validity and timelines of the Notice of Termination
• Explore options for suitable alternative accommodation where possible.
• Arrange a property condition survey and property valuation.
• Commence negotiation on acquisition price for the property.
• Where the sale price is agreed the Council’s Law Department commence and complete the conveyancing process.

Individual property purchases can be delayed for various reasons such as the owner not having full legal title, various planning issues, outstanding property taxes, general contractual conditions of sale not in place etc. and the process is also reliant timely progress from the vendor’s legal and sales agents, so timeframes vary from purchase to purchase. However, the Council has temporarily assigned additional resources to this work area from elsewhere within the Housing, Social and Community Development directorate and we are also procuring additional external technical resources to ensure that the existing potential acquisitions are progressed as promptly as possible. The level of activity and resource requirements for tenant in-situ purchases will continue to be reviewed in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the coming months to ensure that we are able to prevent homelessness where possible.

The tenant in-situ acquisitions scheme does not specify criteria for eligibility relating to under or over occupancy, time on list, time in receipt of housing supports etc. and the Council is applying sufficient flexibility to the assessment process to prevent homelessness wherever possible. Inter-authority arrangements are also in place with neighbouring and other local authorities as required to progress potential acquisitions for South Dublin housing applicants in HAP supported tenancies at risk of homelessness in other local authorities’ administrative areas and vice versa.

### **Q4/0423**  **Question: Councillor T. Costello**

To ask the manager for a step by step guide on the process of local authority purchasing properties with tenants in situ from start to finish and average time this takes

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

Where expressions of interest are received from property owners, various standard due diligence checks are undertaken in relation to property condition, valuation and conveyancing and the general steps in the process are as follows:
• Determine the housing need status of the household.
• Determine the validity and timelines of the Notice of Termination
• Explore options for suitable alternative accommodation where possible.
• Arrange a property condition survey and property valuation.
• Commence negotiation on acquisition price for the property.
• Where the sale price is agreed the Council’s Law Department commence and complete the conveyancing process.

Individual property purchases can be delayed for various reasons such as the owner not having full legal title, various planning issues, outstanding property taxes, general contractual conditions of sale not in place etc. and the process is also reliant timely progress from the vendor’s legal and sales agents, so timeframes vary from purchase to purchase. However, the Council has temporarily assigned additional resources to this work area from elsewhere within the Housing, Social and Community Development directorate and we are also procuring additional external technical resources to ensure that the existing potential acquisitions are progressed as promptly as possible. The level of activity and resource requirements for tenant in-situ purchases will continue to be reviewed in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the coming months to ensure that we are able to prevent homelessness where possible.

The tenant in-situ acquisitions scheme does not specify criteria for eligibility relating to under or over occupancy, time on list, time in receipt of housing supports etc. and the Council is applying sufficient flexibility to the assessment process to prevent homelessness wherever possible. Inter-authority arrangements are also in place with neighbouring and other local authorities as required to progress potential acquisitions for South Dublin housing applicants in HAP supported tenancies at risk of homelessness in other local authorities’ administrative areas and vice versa.

### **Q5/0423**  **Question: Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Manager the % of public procurement contracts and % of public procurement contract funds, in excess of €25,000, that are awarded to businesses, contractors employed by SDCC within the South Dublin administrative area for 2022?

**REPLY:**

 In 2022, 27% of public procurement contracts in excess of €25,000 were awarded to businesses and contractors within the South Dublin County Council Administrative area.

The total value of these contracts was 49.60% of the public procurement contract funds.

### **Q6/0423 Question: Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the manager in relation to the District Heating Project in Tallaght, how service users will be charged (prices) for heating and if the charges will be linked to energy price increases in Ireland and Europe?

**REPLY:**

The Tallaght District-heating network is designed to deliver low-carbon heat as a decarbonising technique under the Councils Climate-action strategy.

Due to the high efficiency of its centralised system which recycles waste-heat as an input fuel, the cost of heat will be lower for the customer than that provided by individual air-source heat-pump technology, the only other viable alternative system not dependent on fossil fuel. Waste heat is recycled and consolidated using electricity and as a result will fluctuate with electricity-market prices in Ireland.

Heatworks CLG is a publicly owned not-for-profit heat-energy supplier. The heat price to customers will reflect the actual costs of producing the heat and maintaining the efficiency of the network including significant carbon-savings.

### **Q7/0423 Question: Councillor P. Holohan**

Regarding the climate action bill we were presented at march council meeting, has there been an economic report regarding how it might effect peoples cost of living in a positive or negative way?

**REPLY:**

The process for the preparation of the updated SDCC Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029 was presented at the March Council Meeting. This outlined that SDCC will increase the level of ambition in the existing Council's Climate Action Plan (CAP) to align with the actions and targets in the National Climate Action Plan 2023 and the key responsibilities set out by the Local Authority CAP Guidelines. The climate actions set out by SDCC's CAP are measured against the key climate action goals in relation to achieving 50% improvement in Energy Efficiency and a 51% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2030 and providing climate adaptation measures.

As part of the process for updating the Climate Actions within the plan, we will work to assess the impacts of the actions (social impacts, environmental impacts, etc). It is to align with the goal of a Just Transition (adopted at Government level), to ensure that these targets are addressed in a way that delivers fairness and promote a balanced socio-economic transition, in a partnership with those impacted by the transition to net zero by 2050.

Certain actions will have a clear impact on the cost of living, such as the goal to retrofit SDCC's social housing to a BER level of B2 which will reduce energy costs for residents, or the provision of home energy savings kits for public use.

### **Q8/0423**  **Question: Councillor P. Holohan**

Regarding the climate action bill we were presented at march council meeting, are the stake holders described state funded or independent ?

**REPLY:**

The process for the preparation of the updated Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029 was presented at the March Council Meeting. This outlined that SDCC will increase the level of ambition in the existing Climate Action Plan (CAP) to align with the actions and targets in the National Climate Action Plan 2023 and the key responsibilities set out by the LA CAP Guidelines.

The LA CAP Guidelines were issued to each Local Authority by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, to set out the requirements for the LA Climate Action Plans. These guidelines were developed by a Multi Stakeholder Project Advisory Group of Experts comprising:

* Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC).
* Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – an independent public body under the DECC.
* Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) – the national sustainable energy authority which is Government funded).
* Codema – Dublin’s Energy Agency – funded by the four Dublin Local Authorities.
* CARO (Climate Action Regional Offices) – Government funded.
* MaREI Research Institute for Energy, Climate and Marine research innovation – Government funded and industry support.
* Climate Change Advisory Council – an independent advisory body that is community funded.
* Tipperary Energy Agency – Local Government funded.
* 3 Counties Energy Agency – Local Government funded.
* Various Local Authorities.

The SDCC CAP will be developed by SDCC with support from Codema, Climate Action Regional Office and the Dublin Local Authorities. Private consultancies will be procured to undertake particular packages of work, such as the independent Environmental Assessments and the Climate Change Risk Assessment. Public Consultation will be held to obtain input from other stakeholders to the proposed plan.

### **Q9/0423 Question: Councillor K. Mahon**

To ask the Manager how much South Dublin County Council has been spent on consultants in 2022 and how many of the projects for which consultants were engaged do not have a Department within South Dublin County Council that deals with the relevant issues?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council incurred a total expenditure of €9,115,242 in professional and consultancy fees in 2022, this is marginally higher than the €7,930,491 incurred in 2021, when the Councils operations were curtailed by Covid 19. All capital projects are assigned a lead department for management and accountability purposes. The lead department for each project is presented in the attached report to Question 10.

SDCC only engages the services of professionals and consultants where the specific expertise is not readily available within the organisation at the time required or due to prevailing work commitments additional resources are required to meet necessary / contractual deadlines.

### **Q10/0423**  **Question: Councillor K. Mahon**

To ask the Manager how much South Dublin County Council spent on external consultants in 2022 and to list the projects for which consultants were engaged?

**REPLY:**

The attached spreadsheet provides the list all 120 projects for which consultants were engaged under the capital programme in 2022, with a total expenditure of €9,115,242.

[Q10 (b) Professional Consultancy projects in Capital Account 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78323)

### **Q11/0423 Question: Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the Tenant In Situ Scheme. Report to include the criteria for eligibility for the scheme e.g. for RAS/HAP landlord, suitable family size in the property, length of time the property has been occupied and required time the tenant has been in receipt of Social Housing Supports.

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

Where expressions of interest are received from property owners, various standard due diligence checks are undertaken in relation to property condition, valuation and conveyancing and the general steps in the process are as follows:
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### **Q12/0423** **Question: Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on abandoned vehicles within the county between Feb 2022 – Feb 2023, in tabular format. Report to include notices issued to registered owners, costs, monies recovered, and number of vehicles correctly disposed.

**REPLY:**

The numbers of vehicles reported to South Dublin County Council as abandoned and the outcomes of these cases including the numbers of vehicles removed by the Council in 2022 and to the end of February 2023 are set out in the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2022** | **2023 to end February** |
| **Number of Vehicles reported to SDCC as abandoned** | **374** | **53** |
| Moved by owner or not at location when investigated | 230 | 25 |
| Garda matter | 13 | 1 |
| Owner selling or putting back on road | 28 | NIL |
| Parking Issue | 82 | 18 |
| **Deemed abandoned and removed by SDCC** | **19** | **NIL** |
| Investigation ongoing at year/month end | 2 | 9 |
| Cost of removal (inc. VAT) | €7,002.98 | n/a |

Each report received is investigated by the Council's Litter Warden Service. As a result of these investigations, the number of vehicles deemed to be abandoned and removed by the Council is low.

The outcomes of most of the reports received fall into four broad areas as follows:

* the vehicle was either moved after the owner was contacted by the Council or was not at the reported location when investigated.
* the vehicle is in use or being sold/put back on the road by the owner
* Garda matter
* relates to parking issues

### **Q13/0423** **Question: Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the number of applications of the Tenant In Situ Scheme since it reopened in April 2022. The report to include the number of properties purchased, currently with the Valuers Office / Council Law Department, refused by Council and withdrawn by landlord.

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

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### **Q14/0423** **Question: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to give assurances that everything possible is being done to provide supports for those presenting as homeless in our County; will he give details of his actions in that regard and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council continues to work proactively to address the ongoing challenges for households in need of accommodation through increasing new housing supply including in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies, ongoing choice-based letting and other allocation options, turning around vacant Council properties for re-letting, supporting HAP tenancies, and engaging with landlords on potential tenant in-situ acquisitions.

Households at risk of experiencing homelessness should engage with the Council to examine prevention measures including possible alternative accommodation and our Homeless Unit continues to provide assistance to those who find themselves homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.  Working in conjunction with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive, this unit operates an advice clinic in County Hall and provides outreach services across the County as well as detailing emergency accommodation options including central placement, self-accommodate, family hubs and other supported accommodation.  Staff in the homeless unit will organise emergency accommodation for those assessed as homeless through the Assessment and Placement Service and the Council continues to actively explore further options for the provision of emergency accommodation across the County in collaboration with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive, with a new family hub recently opened in the Clondalkin area.

In addition, the homeless outreach service operates all year around for rough sleepers across the County, working with other agencies, including the HSE, in identifying rough sleepers and connecting them with appropriate accommodation and support services and this service will also play a vital role in assisting homeless rough-sleepers during the winter months.  In addition, the Council is also committed to the provision of housing first tenancies where appropriate.

### **Q15/0423 Question: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO to confirm contacts he has maintained with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of housing targets; will he detail any new proposals he has presented and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

Our Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 outlined the Council's plans to meet our targets for social and affordable housing delivery from 2022 to 2026 with approximately 3,700 new social homes projected for delivery through build, AHB supply, Part V delivery and leasing and a further 1,500 affordable homes for purchase and rental to be delivered.  There is ongoing contact with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to progress on all aspects of the plan and policy developments including:

* maximising 2023 housing delivery and accelerating subsequent social and affordable housing delivery,
* responses to homelessness including acquisition of properties with HAP/RAS tenants in-situ and other measures associated with the ending of the winter eviction ban,
* targeted leasing initiative to provide additional social homes,
* addressing vacancy,
* updates to affordable housing fund supports, and,
* a new land acquisition fund managed by the housing agency to support future social housing delivery.

### **Q16/0423 Question: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO if his consideration of all matters relating to last year's Bonfire Season has informed proposals to deal with the challenges of the 2023 Season; will he appreciate the concerns of many regarding the annual cost of dealing with the issue and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council recognises the difficulties that Halloween causes for many communities through the illegal burning of waste on Halloween bonfires, the damage to local amenities, and the threat to property and local services, and the annual cost of dealing with these issues.

In response to Halloween in recent years the Council has adopted a cross departmental approach utilising the services of Public Realm, Waste Enforcement, Environmental Awareness, Library Services, Housing and Community Services Departments to prevent damage and promote the “Safe Halloween” message. The Council's response to Halloween in 2022 involved the following elements as it has done in other recent years:

* Various awareness measures to highlight the dangers associated with bonfires and the harm done to the environment.
* Funding of community-based activities which are intended to divert children away from bonfires and other anti-social behaviour.
* Action by the Council's Environmental Licensing and Enforcement Section to deal with commercial premises and their obligations to properly store their waste including waste tyres and pallets (including aerial surveys of premises where necessary).
* The Public Realm response to remove stockpiles of bonfire materials commences in early September and continues throughout September and October. It will intensify as Halloween approaches.
* The Public Realm Section will have operational staff on duty over the bank holiday weekend of Halloween this year and the previous weekend collecting bonfire materials. In 2022 these collections captured in the region of 283tonnes of materials and diverted it away from bonfires.
* Liaison with An Garda Siochana with regard to action being taken by them and by the Council in relation to this matter.
* Liaison with local residents’ groups who can help to identify the locations of material stockpiles.
* Continuation of the ‘bulbs not bonfires’ scheme which is a reward provided through South Dublin County Council’s Social Credit Scheme. This initiative provides communities with flowers in the Spring instead of scarred open space throughout the year. In recent years the Council has spent approximately €2,500 per year on bulbs for this popular scheme and it is envisaged that a similar sum will be spent again this year on the scheme.
* The social credits scheme will once again facilitate groups who are registered on the scheme with the disposal of materials at the Council's civic amenity site in Ballymount, and this will help to reduce the amount of materials being handed over for bonfires.

**Electrical Recycling Collections for Halloween**

RecycleIT, in association with South Dublin Country Council and in partnership with WEEE Ireland hosted a series of free door to door electrical recycling collection days in residential areas across South Dublin prior to Halloween in 2020, 2021 and 2022.  These collection days are now annual events and help ensure hazardous electrical equipment and batteries don’t find their way onto seasonal Bonfires.  This scheme helps residents to recycle all types of electrical, electronic and battery-operated equipment including old heaters, electronic toys, TV’s, washing machines, cookers, kettles, phones and computers, and any other item with a plug or battery (including batteries).  RecycleIT are in contact regularly with residents associations regarding this service and collections will be arranged again this year for the period prior to Halloween.

Recycle IT is very happy to work with community groups and resident’s associations to arrange free electrical recycling collections in September and October and throughout the year. Groups can call 01 4578321 or email **info@recycleit.ie** to learn more and take the first steps to arranging a FREE collection event for your estate or neighbourhood.

**Mattress Recycling**

South Dublin County Council intends running a mattress amnesty again this year in the month of September in conjunction with our social enterprise partners [**RecycleIT**](http://www.recycleit.ie/).  Used mattresses will be collected, free of charge, at a number of designated collection points on dates during the course of September which will be notified to the public in due course.  This event ran very successfully in 2022 with close to 1,000 used mattresses collected.

The **Bulbs not Bonfires Scheme** continues to run annually as part of the Council's response to issues arising at Halloween.  This is part of the wider Social Credits Scheme which is operated by the Council's Environmental Awareness Section.  Consideration is being given to changing the type of bulb provided to participants in the scheme.  To date the Council has issued daffodil bulbs only and these can continue to be provided to community groups who request these.  Where a group requests pollinator friendly bulbs it is proposed that crocus, muscari, snowdrop, allium and other bulbs can be supplied.  The Council policy is to map areas of biodiverse planting and in time this mapped information will be made available to the public.  The assistance of community groups who plant such areas will be requested in this mapping process, so that the Council's grass cutting programme can be organised to work around the areas which are planted by community groups. For more information please contact the office at **envawareness@sdublincoco.ie**

A total of **184 bonfire sites** were recorded around the County in 2022, very similar to the number in 2021 which was 180.  This is in keeping with the major reduction on the numbers from previous years, 280 in 2020 and over 300 in preceding years.  The Council held meetings with Kilnamanagh Neighbourhood Watch as well as residents from Aylesbury and Tymon North this year in advance of Halloween to coordinate the efforts of the residents, the Council and the Gardai in identifying and removing material stockpiles and minimising the impact of bonfires on those areas.  A meeting was also held with Clondalkin area elected members on the same matter.  The tonnage of material collected by the Council prior to Halloween in 2022 was 283 tonnes, this figure was 332 tonnes in 2021. The tonnage collected after Halloween was 296 tonnes in 2022, while this figure was 276 tonnes in 2021. Total tonnage collected in 2022 was 579 tonnes compared to 608 tonnes in 2021.  It is proposed that meetings with concerned residents groups as mentioned above will be arranged again this year.

The clean-up of bonfire sites was completed in November 2022, landscape reinstatement at sites where required started to take place in March of this year once ground conditions were suitable.

It is not possible to provide information on costs for 2022, as all costs have not yet been accounted for, however it is expected that the overall cost will be down slightly on the 2021 cost which was €155,000. Reinstatement of bonfire sites where needed is currently taking place as ground conditions become suitable.

The costs associated with Halloween bonfires have increased in recent years and this relates to the increased efforts of the Council to intercept material, and the tonnage of material that is being intercepted before it reaches a bonfire.   While it is not possible to attribute a reduction in costs to the various Halloween initiatives, we do know that the number of fires held and the number of open spaces damaged or destroyed by bonfires has reduced dramatically and this reduction relates directly to those initiatives mentioned.  The diversion of mattresses away from bonfires in particular is welcomed, as the burning of this type of material in the open obviously gives rise to environmental pollution.

The Council will continue to work with An Garda Siochana, Resident's Associations and local community groups to reduce the number of bonfire sites and materials, as outlined above the measures taken in 2023 will be broadly similar to those taken over the last few years which have yielded a reduction in the number of sites and an increase in the amount of potential bonfire materials collected pre Halloween night.

### **Q17/0423 Question: Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the CEO to detail supports available to Community Centres throughout our County to ensure that the needs of their communities are being catered for and will he present a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council continues to support and work with community centres throughout the County providing a direct source of advice and assistance through the work of the local Community Development Teams and also provides a wide range of financial support opportunities through the administration of a variety of funding support schemes.

The newly developed Community Centre Management Support Fund expands on the traditional funding streams provided by the Community Services Department with additional Council funding for a specifically tailored funding scheme that responds directly to current needs identified by community centre boards of management. As advised to the Elected Members at the March Council Meeting, a total funding allocation of €672,830 has been approved through this fund to support boards of management with employment and training costs, delivery of local community events and other running costs.  In addition, our community development team is also organising a series of governance training workshops for local boards of management to improve the governance, strategic planning and collaboration of community centre boards.

The Council sponsored Community Employment Schemes continues to provide a very valuable source of staffing and funding support for many local community centres and we will also shortly launch the 2023 Community Infrastructure Fund which will provide the opportunity for support for planned capital works and upgrades to centres.

### **Q18/0423** **Question: Councillor C. O'Connor**

To ask the CEO if he has sought further funding from Government to allow the purchase of homes across the County; will he give full details of the programme he is following in that regard and table a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

At the end of March 2023, 165 expressions of interest have been received for potential acquisitions with 16 properties purchased or at sale agreed stage, including four purchases completed in 2023. 51 further properties are at valuation/negotiation stage where the Council is seeking to purchase having completed all pre-purchase checks, and another 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks. Sales are not currently proceeding in relation to the expressions of interest received for a further 35 properties due to either the property being vacant/tenant no longer in-situ, the tenant having been made a reasonable offer of alternative accommodation or where the property is the subject to planning issues.

Where expressions of interest are received from property owners, various standard due diligence checks are undertaken in relation to property condition, valuation and conveyancing and the general steps in the process are as follows:
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The tenant in-situ acquisitions scheme does not specify criteria for eligibility relating to under or over occupancy, time on list, time in receipt of housing supports etc. and the Council is applying sufficient flexibility to the assessment process to prevent homelessness wherever possible. Inter-authority arrangements are also in place with neighbouring and other local authorities as required to progress potential acquisitions for South Dublin housing applicants in HAP supported tenancies at risk of homelessness in other local authorities’ administrative areas and vice versa.

### **Q19/0423 Question: Councillor L. Sinclair**

That the chief executive outline council policy regarding buying houses where tenants facing eviction are currently residing, to prevent them becoming homeless.

**REPLY:**

The Council has been notified of approval for 150 acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

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### **Q20/0423 Question: Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief executive would he consider looking at how SDCC could promote webcasting in the public interest of Transparency and accountability?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council, through our Communications Unit, promote decisions taken by the Council by providing the link to particular discussions on social media following the Council meeting. The information on all meetings is provided and kept up to date on the Council's website. We will promote the accessibility of public meetings through our Meetings Online Portal across our existing communications channels (social media, website, newsletter etc.), with the aim of driving more traffic to live meetings and also the webcast library, where all meetings remain accessible. The Council will also promote the upcoming agenda through these channels, to make citizens aware of topics being discussed at meetings.

### **Q21/0423 Question: Councillor F. Timmons** To ask the Chief Executive how does the manager aim to deal with the issue of Graffiti that is a scourge in our communities?

**REPLY:**

The South Dublin County Council Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 proposes to address the negative impacts of litter on our county, improve the quality of life and sense of wellbeing of our residents, and enhance our commercial and tourism potential through effective and efficient enforcement of legislation and regulation, management and maintenance of our public realm and communication, education, and awareness. The Litter Management Plan includes annual action plans. Progress on the annual action plans is reported twice yearly to each Area Committee. Graffiti is managed in accordance with the provisions of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended, and through the Council's supporting Annual Action Plan.

All reports of graffiti are dealt with by our removal crews as they are reported. We continue to take immediate action to remove or cover offensive or politically motivated graffiti as a priority once a report is received.

SDCC has a Memorandum of Understanding with the ESB and a number of other utility companies, who have agreed to remove graffiti from their premises/assets once reported to them.

From January 2023 to date, Public Realm has removed graffiti from 42 different locations. Of the 42 locations, multiple incidents of graffiti were removed at each of those locations.

SDCC has used some anti-graffiti paints in a limited number of areas such as some boundary walls and bridges. These paints/coatings are used to form a layer over a surface to prevent graffiti from attaching to that surface. Graffiti can then be removed using power hoses from surfaces that are treated in such a way. The addition of the paint/coating does not prevent further graffiti; however, it does make the area affected easier to clean.

SDCC are currently procuring for a specialist contractor for graffiti removal from block and stone face walls and other specialist graffiti removal.

### **Q22/0423 Question: Councillor F. Timmons** To ask the Chief Executive are developers held to account for damage to roads and paths due to their building works?

**REPLY:**

For a large development, roads and footpaths being made good following development works would generally be covered as part of a construction management plan. The preparation of a construction management plan would generally be condition and agreed by the LPA. If the road or footpath is damaged and not made good planning enforcement could be progressed if deemed appropriate. The planning bond could also be used to address these defencies.

If an applicant/developer requires a Road Opening Licence to carry out works on the street there are re-instatement conditions and specifications attached to the grant of that licence. The licence requires the developer to pay re-instatement fees as part of the application and this is refundable if the re-instatement works are done correctly. However, if the works are not done in line with the specifications or if damage it caused then the re-instatement fee can be used to rectify this.

### **Q23/0423 Question: Councillor F. Timmons**  To ask the Chief Executive are LAPs legally binding and to report how they are enforced ?

**REPLY:**

Local Area Plans (LAPs) are provided for in Part II, Chapter II, sections 18 to 20 of the Planning and Development Acts. As such, they are statutory plans setting out the policy and land-use objectives for a particular area. Section 19 of the Act states that:

*A local area plan may be prepared in respect of any area, including a Gaeltacht area, or an existing suburb of an urban area, which the planning authority considers suitable and, in particular, for those areas which require economic, physical and social renewal and for areas likely to be subject to large scale development within the lifetime of the plan.*

LAPs are part of a plan-led system aimed at ensuring proper planning and sustainable development of land through a hierarchy of inter-related and complementary plans and policies at national, regional and local levels. LAPs fall immediately below the Development Plan in this hierarchy and must be consistent with it, providing for more detailed planning policies for areas where significant development and change is anticipated.

Section 28 Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Local Area Plans was published by the Department in June 2013. The guidelines set out the procedures and requirements of local area plans and state:

*Statutory local area plans provide for proper consultation with the public and statutory consultees, and are subject to approval by elected members and together with the Development Plan, establish a key element of the policy context for making decisions on planning applications and appeals.*

LAPs are implemented through the development management process as part of the assessment of planning applications.  They can also serve as policy instruments to promote economic renewal, for instance, in regeneration and ensuring the protection of environmental qualities. It is important to note that an LAP is Plan used to guide development and is not a legally binding contract.

### **Q24/0423 Question: Councillor F. Timmons** To ask the Chief executive has an online voting registration started and to explain how it works?

**REPLY:**

Voter.ie has been in place across the four Dublin local authority areas since 2018 which allows for online Voter registration.   The [Electoral Reform Act 2022](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2022/act/30/enacted/en/pdf), which came into effect in October 2022, amended the process of the Register of Electors -  the Draft and Live Registers have now been replaced by a rolling Register of Electors, which is continuously updated.

Voters in the South Dublin County Council administrative area can continue to register to vote online at [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie) or at [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie).

Voters can now pre-register to vote at 16 years old.  Voters can also amend their details online as necessary e.g:

* Change their address.
* Update or correct personal details.
* Be removed from the Register.

Local and National campaigns are going to encourage all voters to check they are registered and to check their details online to ensure the accuracy of the register.

**H6/0423 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

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

**H7/0423 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**H8/0423 MANAGERS REPORT** - **FOR NOTING**

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

[HI 8 a) April 2023 Chief Executives Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78294)
[HI 8 b) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78350)
[HI 8 c) Finance Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78320)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Sinclair, D. Ó Brádaigh, S. Moynihan, C. Bailey, E. Ó Broin, Y. Collins, P. Kearns, and E. Murphy. Queries were raised regarding safety of library staff amid protests, Homeless HUBs, the Tallaght to Ballyboden Active Travel Scheme, and affordable housing in the Kilcarberry development. The Councillors commended the launch of the District Heating Scheme, completion of developments in Balgaddy ahead of schedule and the Local Enterprise Awards.

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

The Report was **NOTED**.

**H9a/0423 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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

[H9 (a) Annual Financial Statement 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78293)

The Annual Financial Statement 2022 was **NOTED.**

**H9b/0423 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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

**AUTHORISATION OF ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE 2022**

As anticipated in the Revised Budget process, there was an increase in expenditure for 2022 over the Adopted Budget. The Annual Financial Statement for 2022 has recorded a surplus of €44,756. Actual expenditure compared to budget,

for a number of services and divisions, differed from projections. This is a normal part of service provision and the excess expenditure is offset by additional receipts, grants/recoupments or savings in other areas. Accordingly the increase in expenditure from the revised budget was funded from increased grant and other income.

The approval of the members is required, in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, for changes to the 2022 budget as outlined in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service** |  | **Actual2022** | **Revised Budget 2022** | **Actual v Revised Budget 2022** |
| A01 | Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units | 21,809,148  | 21,507,700  | 301,448  |
| B04 | Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement | 17,487,435  | 17,342,000  | 145,435  |
| B06 | Traffic Management Improvement | 3,072,615  | 3,044,700  | 27,915  |
| B10 | Support to Roads Capital Prog | 927,240  | 868,400  | 58,840  |
| E02 | Recovery and Recycling Facilities Operations | 672,901  | 672,900  | 1  |
| E04 | Provision of Waste to Collection Services | 243,522  | 230,300  | 13,222  |
| E06 | Street Cleaning | 8,558,655  | 8,490,800  | 67,855  |
| E11 | Operation of Fire Service | 22,562,935  | 21,037,500  | 1,525,435  |
| F03 | Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations | 24,518,626 | 24,274,700  | 243,926  |
| F05 | Operation of Arts Programme | 5,508,608 | 5,391,200  | 117,408  |
| H03 | Administration of Rates | 17,850,962  | 15,979,400  | 1,871,562  |
| H05 | Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses | 56  | 0  | 56  |

A discussion followed with a query from Councillor R. McMahon regarding rates expenditure.

Mr. Ronan FitzGerald, Head of Finance, responded to the Member’s query.

The Additional Expenditure report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy seconded by Councillor C. King and **RESOLVED**:

That, in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001, the additional expenditure not provided in the 2022 budget as outlined in the table attached be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**

**H9c/0423 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

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

Annual Financial Statement 2022

“That the County Council Approves of the transfer to reserves of the sums provided for various capital purposes in the Annual Financial Statement for 2022 as noted for the financial year ending 31st December 2022”.

The Approval of transfers report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy and seconded by Councillor M. Duff and **RESOLVED**:

That, the County Council approves of the transfer of reserves of the sums provided for various capital purposes in the Annual Financial Statement 2022 as noted for the financial year ending on 31st of December 2022.

**H10/0423 2022 ANNUAL REPORT – FOR APPROVAL**

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

[H10 Draft Annual Report 2022](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78326)

A discussion followed with queries raised by Councillors L. Dunne and C. Bailey regarding Tallaght Stadium and customer care.

Ms. Lorna Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management,

responded to the Members queries.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor C. King, and **RESOLVED**:

“That the 2022 Annual Report be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**”.

**H11/0423 VACANCY ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC REALM & CLIMATE CHANGE SPC - FOR APPROVAL**

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

**REPLY:**

A vacancy exists on the Environment, Public Realm & Climate Change SPC following the appointment of Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade as Chair of the Land Use, Planning & Transportation SPC.

It was proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor M. Lynch, and **AGREED** that Councillor L. Sinclair be appointed to the Environment Public Realm and Climate Change SPC.

**H12/0423 EXTINGUISHMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY – 46 – 48 MOORFIELD AVENUE, CLONDALKIN – FOR APPROVAL**

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

MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

HEADED ITEM NO H12

**HEADED ITEM: C. Performance and Change Management Directorate**

**RT/4/363 - EXTINGUISHMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY – 46 – 48 MOORFIELD AVENUE, CLONDALKIN**

The attached report was considered at the Lucan Palmerstown North Clondalkin Committee Meeting on Tuesday, February 23rd 2023.

It was proposed by Councillor E. O’Brien , seconded by Councillor P. Gogarty  and **AGREED:**

**“That this Committee recommends to the Council that the public right of way on laneway between nos. 46 & 48 Moorfield Avenue, Clondalkin – Map Ref:  RE 5010 be extinguished.”**

The extinguishment is to be effected by means of a gate.

The decision regarding the extinguishment of a public right-of-way is a reserved function of the Council.

If the Council agrees to the recommendation, the following resolution is required:

**“South Dublin County Council in pursuance of its power under Section 73 of the Roads Act, 1993 hereby orders that the public right-of-way on laneway between nos. 46 and 48 Moorfield Avenue, Clondalkin as shown coloured red on Drawing No. RE 5010, be extinguished.**

[H12 (b) Drawing RE 5010](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78274)
[H12 (c) Report to LPNC ACM on Feb 28th 2023](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78273)

A discussion followed with queries from Councillors E. Ó Broin, S. Moynihan, and D. Ó Brádaigh regarding the nearby Teen Space and permeability of the area.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Land Use, Planning & Transport responded to the Members queries.

It was proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, and **AGREED** that:

**“South Dublin County Council in pursuance of its power under Section 73 of the Roads Act, 1993 hereby orders that the public right-of-way on laneway between nos. 46 and 48 Moorfield Avenue, Clondalkin as shown coloured red on Drawing No. RE 5010, be extinguished.”**

**H13/0423 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT – FOR NOTING**

### The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. D. McLoughlin, Chief Executive.

To: The Mayor and each Member of South Dublin County Council

Re: Three Year Capital Programme Progress Report – April 2023

Dear Member,

This Quarterly Capital Progress Report sets out briefly the current position in relation to Capital Projects in the 2023 – 2025 Capital Programme.

**Housing**

**Large Housing Sites:**

**Kilcarbery:** Development progressing towards Phase 3 with 78 social, 16 affordable purchase and 74 cost rental (with Tuath Housing) homes delivered in 2022 and 103 social and 29 affordable purchase homes projected for delivery in 2023.

Proposed social and affordable development of adjacent site (former proposed educational site) will go to ACM in April.

**Clonburris SDZ: Phase 1 Kishogue (266 social, affordable and cost rental homes):** final stage tender for construction works to issue in Q2 2023 with site start anticipated in Q3.

**Phase 2 Canal Extension 116 social and affordable homes):** final stage tender for construction works closing April 2023 with site to start in summer 2023.

**Phases 3, 4 & 5:** Tender for external design teams tender currently live.

**PPP site (120 social homes):** Following approval of S.85 agreement, consultants have been appointed to progress design in consultation with SDCC technical inputs.

**Killinarden:** Planning granted in Feb 2023 and preparations being made for site commencement in Q2 2023 subject to finalisation for development agreement including potential to incorporate cost rental into tenure mix.

**Belgard North:** Contractor appointment progressing with start on site planned for May 2023 and projected completion by Q2 2025.

**Rathcoole:** Architects appointed to prepare revised masterplan for site which is expected to go to ACM in Q2 2023.

**Part 8 Approved Sites**

Developments at St. Marks Ave, Templeogue Village, St. Catherine’s, Riversdale Phase 1 comprising 85 units, including 18 age friendly units are all now substantially completed, and allocations processes are being finalised.

Additional Part 8 approved social housing developments currently on site or progressing to on site are detailed below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Site** | **No.** | **Update** |
| Old Bawn, Brady’s Field (age friendly) | 12 | On site with projected completion in Q3 2023. |
| Fernwood/Maplewood (age friendly) | 40 | New contractor on site with Maplewood due for completion by May 2023 and Fernwood due for completion in July 2023. |
| Riversdale, Clondalkin (Phase 2) | 18 | On site with projected completion in Q4 2023. |
| Whitestown Way (age friendly) | 81 | On site with projected completion in Q4 2023. |
| Homeville | 16 | Tender for new contractor currently live. |
| New Nangor Road | 93 | On site with projected delivery at end 2023. |
| Grand Canal, Lindisfarne | 19 | Works to resume in April 2023 with projected completion in Q4 2023. |
| Balgaddy | 69 | On site with projected completion of social homes and community centre by mid-2024. |
| Clonburris-Canal Extension | 60 | Final stage of construction tender closing April, followed by start on site. |
| Clonburris-Kishogue | 93 | Final stage of construction tender to be advertised Q2. |
| St Aongus, Pearse Brothers Park & St. Ronan’s (age friendly) | 31 | Tenders for contractors to be advertised from May 2023 onwards. |
| Old Lucan Road, Palmerstown (age friendly) | 4 | Project viability to be reviewed in conjunction with potential acquisition of adjacent site. |
| **Total** | **536** |  |

**Housing Developments Proposed for Use of Planning Exemption**

The following proposed Council housing developments are anticipated to avail of the recently introduced exemption under section 179A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended.

More details on this are provided under the separate Headed Item on the Council meeting agenda.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site** | **Proposed Tenure** | **No. of Homes** | **Design to ACM** | **Publish Plans** | **Start on Site** |
| Rossfield | Social | Up to 11 | 2022 | Q2 2023 | Q4 2023 |
| Deansrath/Melrose  | Social – age friendly | 24 | 2022 | Q2 2023 | Q4 2023 |
| Owendoher Haven | Traveller accommodation | 9 | 2022 | Q2 2023 | Q1 2024 |
| Alpine Heights | Social – age friendly | 13 | Feb 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q1 2024 |
| Sarsfield Pk, Lucan | Social – age friendly | Up to 6 | April 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q1 2024 |
| Stocking Lane | Social | 32 | Feb 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q1 2024 |
| Oldcastle Park, Clondalkin | Traveller accommodation, social and affordable | 130 | 2022 | Q3 2023 | Q2 2024 |
| Castlefield, Firhouse | Social and affordable | 34 | Feb 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q2 2024 |
| Kishogue Park | Traveller accommodation | 15 |  | Q2 2023 | Q2 2024 |
| Kilcarbery 2 (school site) | Social and affordable | 80 | April 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q3 2024 |

**Traveller Accommodation:**

**Adamstown:** New group homes completed and being allocated through Choice Based Letting in April 2023.

**Fonthill Road:** Preliminary site works are commencing with construction programme for the Part 8 approved seven new group homes due to start this month.

**Owendoher Haven:** Proposed development of nine group houses agreed and progressing to detailed design and then tender with the aim of starting on site by Q1 2024 at latest (subject to decanting of existing residents).

**Oldcastle Park:** Design proposals are being finalised for 18 Traveller specific homes within wider mixed tenure development on site. To progress to detailed design with a view to using the planning exemption and achieving progressing to site by mid-2024, subject again to decanting of existing residents.

**Kishogue Park:** Design proposals are being finalised for 15 Traveller specific homes to progress to detailed design with a view to using the planning exemption and progressing to site by mid-2024, subject again to decanting of existing residents.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Homeless**  | **No. Households** |
| Homeless Register -Jan 2023 | 474 |
| Exits from EA to Allocations YTD | -25 |
| Exits from EA to HHAP Tenancies YTD | -18 |
| Added to Register YTD | 80 |
| **Current Homeless Register** | **511** |
|   |   |
| New Presentations to Homeless Services YTD | 160 |
| HHAP Tenancies YTD – Homeless Prevention | 26 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Social Housing Support in Private Rented Properties** | **HAP** | **Homeless HAP** | **RAS** | **Total** |
| Active Tenancies Jan 2023 | 2,819  | 2,032  | 866 | **5,717** |
| New Tenancies Created 2023 to date | 30  | 44  | 0 | **74** |
| Tenancies Ceased 2023 to date | (108)  | (23) | (23) | **(154)** |
| **Total Current Tenancies 2023** | **2,741** | **2,053**  | **895**  | **5,689** |

**Tenant in situ acquisitions**

We have received 165 expressions of interest from current landlords looking to sell their property to the Council under the tenant in-situ acquisitions process with the current status of responses to these as follows:

* 16 properties purchased or sale agreed.
* 51 properties at valuation/negotiation stage.
* 63 properties at various stages of due diligence & pre-purchase checks.
* Sales not currently proceeding for 35 properties due to tenant no longer in-situ or other factors or offer of alternative accommodation made.

**Energy Efficiency Retrofit & Planned Maintenance Programmes**

**Energy Efficiency Programme:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Estate** | **Electoral Area** | **Complete** | **Commenced** | **At Tender or Survey** | **Totals** |
| Kilmahuddrick | Clondalkin | 18 |  | 38 | **56** |
| Liscarne | Clondalkin | 5 | 4 |  | **9** |
| Oldcastle Drive | Clondalkin |  |  | 14 | **14** |
| Allenton | Firhouse-Bohernabreena |  | 47 |  | **47** |
| Sarsfield | Lucan |  |  | 16 | **16** |
| Greenfort | Palmerstown-Fonthill | 15 | 30 |  | **45** |
| Shancastle | Palmerstown-Fonthill |  |  | 21 | **21** |
| St Ronan’s | Palmerstown-Fonthill |  |  | 30 | **30** |
| Limekiln | Rathfarnham-Templeogue |  | 8 | 8 | **16** |
| Willbrook | Rathfarnham-Templeogue |  |  | 4 | **4** |
| Castletymon | Tallaght Central |  | 18 |  | **18** |
| St Maelruan’s | Tallaght Central |  |  | 4 | **4** |
| Saint Aongus | Tallaght Central |  |  | 39 | **39** |
| Tymon North | Tallaght Central |  |  | 16 | **16** |
| Cushlawn | Tallaght South | 29 | 62 |  | **91** |
| **Totals** |  | **67** | **169** | **190** | **426** |

**Windows & Doors Programme 2023:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Electoral Area** | **Contractor Appointed** | **At Tender Stage** | **Totals** |
| Clondalkin | 27 | 14 | 41 |
| Lucan |  | 1 | 1 |
| Palmerstown-Fonthill | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| Rathfarnham-Templeogue | 4 | 31 | 35 |
| Tallaght Central | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Tallaght South | 61 | 56 | 117 |
| **Grand Total** | **108** | **110** | **218** |

**Tourism and Enterprise Projects**

Progress can be summarised as follows:

* The Dublin Mountains Project – at tender for consultants to do detailed design and delivery – closing date 5th May.
* Corkagh Park/Camac Valley Tourism Cluster Study – tenders received and under assessment – expect to be onsite in May.
* The Rathfarnham Castle Stables Tourism/Retail Opportunity – at final offer stage with shortlisted bidders – tender to appoint architect team running concurrently – hope to agree partner by June and be on site in January 2024.
* Tallaght Innovation Centre – on target for completion by September 2023.
* Tallaght Heritage/Interpretive Centre – interpretative consultant and design architects appointed. Initial design to be shared with Councillors in May.
* The Grand Canal Greenway has received Part 8 approval – revised design of ducting and chambers being reviewed with Waterways Ireland and ESB – may necessitate retender of project.
* The Grand/Royal Canal Loop Study – Part 8 approved – expect contractor appointment by August.
* 12th Lock Masterplan – presented to Council – now proceeding to appoint consultant architects and agree sequencing of renovations and programming of uses.
* Lucan Schoolhouse – awaiting formal conveyancing before appointing design consultants.

**Town and Village Public Realm Enhancement Programme**

Progress can be summarised as follows:

* Castletymon underway and due for completion in November. Tenders under assessment for Rosemount, Bawnogue and Dodsboro.
* Lucan Village Improvement Works – will commence in June.
* Tallaght Town Centre public realm works including Chamber Square, Innovation Plaza, Mobility Hub and connecting pedestrian ways has commenced and will take 12 months.
* N81 Landscaping Project – Phase 3 scope and cost under consideration.
* Tallaght District Heating Project – officially opened on 6th April.
* Clondalkin Village improvement design to be undertaken in conjunction with LAP preparation which is underway.
* City Edge Masterplan Naas Road – report noted by both Councils and submitted to the Department. A variation to the County Development Plan is under preparation.
* Adamstown URDF – The central plaza project is practically complete with adjoining shops recently opening.

**Roads and Drainage**

Progress can be summarised as follows:

* The LIHAF funded Celbridge Link Road is now complete and open to traffic.
* The East West Airton link is in the final stages of design.
* The business case for €186m of URDF funding and €18m of NTA has been approved – the construction of the Southern Link Road (Phase 1) is ongoing and on programme to be completed in June 2024.
* The Dodder Greenway Walking and Cycling Scheme – Phase 4 – Springfield will be complete in May. The Dodder Lower will commence in May and will take eight months to complete. The Blue Haven phase is on programme to start in August.
* Other Active Travel projects include Templeville to be completed in May, the Wellington Lane scheme is undergoing trials at Rossmore and Whitehall Road, Ballyboden Way will go to Part 8 in November, a contractor will be appointed for Firhouse/Knocklyon by the year end and the contractor for Limekiln has just been appointed.
* River Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme**-** The scheme remains in Part 10 planning with An Bord Pleanála.
* Camac Flood Alleviation Scheme – Stage 1 currently estimated to be completed by year end – site investigation tenders currently under assessment.
* Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme–commenced in March.
* Integrated Constructed Wetlands – three complete and decision taken not to proceed with Kilnamanagh.

**Sport, Recreation and Libraries and Community facilities**

* Citywest Library – tender process for EOI to deliver underway with Phase 2 of same to close imminently – if acceptable then agreement should be possible in coming months.
* Adamstown Library – agreement on pricing and construction schedule due in coming month with expectation to be onsite by October 2023.
* Airlie Park – pavilion almost complete, some issues with soil remediation but hopefully complete in May.
* Lucan Pool – regrettably delays persist due to contractor capacity issues – working with approved operator on internal layout – now scheduled for completion at end of summer.
* Teen Space Programme – Griffeen Valley complete. Bancroft – underway but awaiting equipment delivery. Avonbeg MUGA scheduled for completion April.
* Griffeen and Corkagh Park pavilions at tender stage – retender may have to be considered due to poor response and pricing.
* Killinarden Park Regeneration – working with tenderer towards final pricing and works agreement with start date in coming weeks.
* Whitestown Stream Amenity Works – Phase 1 complete including 850 metres of railing, 13 gates and landscaping - Phase 2 to commence this month.
* St Cuthberts Park – tenders to issue this month with projected start date of August 2023.
* Quarryvale and Jobstown Parks – preliminary report and environmental assessments completed. Design consultants appointed – Part 8 consultation starting ​in April.
* Kiltipper Park – Phase 2 - tenders to issue in April for footpaths, signage, planting, viewing area and playground.
* Dodder Valley BMX Pump Track completion end of April.
* Tallaght Stadium 4th Stand and the West Stand enhancements – on target for September completion.
* Saggart Community Centre – onsite, experiencing some delays – projected completion September.
* Orchard Lodge Age Friendly Centre – works to commence late April and due for completion in July.
* Killinarden, Kilcarbery and Balgaddy Community Centres to be delivered in conjunction with respective housing schemes.
* Citywest Community Centre – at planning application stage.
* Newcastle Community Centre – awaiting planning for adjacent site – FI has been submitted.
* Ballycullen Community Centre – to be delivered in conjunction with the Whitepines private housing development, currently the subject of Judicial Review.
* Templeogue Intergenerational Facility – tenders received and under assessment – on site in June.
* Rathcoole Courthouse Extension – due for completion in April 2023.
* Sean Walsh Astro under construction and scheduled for completion in May. Astro east of M50 will go to public consultation later this month.
* Community Centre Upgrades – upgrade/extension works on a number of centres to be brought to Part 8 in 2023, starting with Ballyroan Community Centre, followed by The Park Community Centre, Knockmitten Community Centre and Perrystown Manor Community Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel McLoughlin

Chief Executive

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Gogarty, M. Duff, M. Johansson, L. Dunne, E. O’Brien, J. Tuffy, P. Kearns, L. O’Toole, C. Bailey, D. McManus, Y. Collins, S. Moynihan, W. Carey, and C. King. Queries were raised in relation to Adamstown Library, Lucan Swimming Pool, Parks and Pavilions, the Grand Canal greenway, St. Dominic’s Shopping Centre, Killinarden Hill, HAP & RAS Schemes, Orchard Lodge, Rosemount car park, Poddle Flood Alleviation scheme, Palmerstown housing scheme, Homelessness, and the Tenant in situ scheme.

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

The Report was **NOTED**.

**H14/0423 SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL’S ALLOTMENT POLICY – FOR NOTING**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. T. Walsh, Director for Environment and Climate Change.

[H14 (a) Allotments Policy](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78355)
[H14 (b) Allotments Policy Presentation](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78288)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Gogarty, P. Holohan, J. Tuffy, R. McMahon, Y. Collins, C. O’Connor, E. Ó Broin, L. McCrave, L. O’Toole, W. Carey, L. Dunne, S. Moynihan, and C. King. Queries were raised regarding allotment management, new spaces, fees and waiting lists.

Ms. T. Walsh, Director for Environment and Climate Change, responded to the Members queries.

The Reports were **NOTED**.

**H15/0423 LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS - TEMPORARY PLANNING EXEMPTION - FOR NOTING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. C. Ward, Director for Housing & Community.

[H15 LA Housing Developments-Temporary Planning Exemption](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78338)

A discussion followed with contributions from L. Dunne, C. King, D. Ó Brádaigh, P. Gogarty, J. Tuffy, M. Johansson, C. O’Connor, W. Carey, C. Bailey, Y. Collins, R. McMahon, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons, G. O’Connell, A. Edge, P. Kearns, and L. O’Toole. Queries were raised in relation to the Rossfield development site.

Mr. C. Ward, Director for Housing & Community responded to the Councillors queries.

The Report was **NOTED**.

**C1/0423 REPLIES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

  **Correspondence**

1. [Correspondence from Minister for Children, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O’Gorman](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78297)

[(b) Correspondence from Sligo County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78299)

[(c) Correspondence from Tipperary County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78300)

[(d) Correspondence from Tipperary County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78301)

[(e) Correspondence from Wexford County Council](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=78302)

### **M1/0423 Rainbow Steps**

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

To ask the Chief Executive to implement a 'Rainbow Steps' initiative at various locations across South Dublin to promote diversity and inclusion within the County.

**REPORT:**

The Council is happy to support measures that promote diversity and inclusion. On the proposed rainbow steps, it should be noted that the Council has previously delivered a 'rainbow crossing' in Clondalkin as requested by local Councillors. The Council will assess where a new 'rainbow steps' initiative could be delivered.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors A. Edge, F. Timmons, C. King, T. Costello, Y. Collins, M. Duff, C. Bailey, R. McMahon, P. Kearns, L. McCrave and W. Carey who spoke in favour of the motion. Queries were raised regarding Tidy Towns.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director of Director of Land Use, Planning & Transport responded to the members queries.

The motion was **AGREED**.

### **M2/0423 NCS Subsidised Hours**

**It was proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty and seconded by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh**

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.

**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.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Dunne, P. Kearns, C. King, L. Sinclair, C. Bailey, D. Ó Brádaigh, Y. Collins, J. Tuffy, E. Murphy and P. Gogarty

**An amendment to the motion was proposed by Councillor L. Dunne and seconded by Councillor C. King.**

“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 all children in their care.”

Councillors C. Bailey, P. Kearns and P. Gogarty requested a Roll Call Vote on the amended motion. The result for which was as follows:

**FOR: 17 (SEVENTEEN)**

Councillors C. Bailey, L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, P. Gogarty, M. Johansson, C. King, D. McManus, D. Ó Brádaigh, E. Ó Broin, G. O’Connell C. O'Connor, S. O'Hara, L. O’Toole, B. Pereppadan, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons.

**AGAINST: 5 (FIVE)**

Councillors Y. Collins, P. Kearns, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, J. Tuffy.

**ABSTAIN: 5 (FIVE)**

CouncillorsC. Bailey, T. Costello, L. Hagin Meade, M. Lynch, E. Murphy.

As a result of the Roll Call Vote, the Motion **PASSED.**

### **M3/0423 Hare Coursing**

**It was proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade and seconded by Councillor C. Bailey that:**

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.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is agreed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors L. Hagin Meade, D. McManus, F. Timmons, M. Duff, G. O’Connell, J. Tuffy, L. Donaghy, C. Bailey, L. Sinclair, P. Kearns, M. Johansson, R. McMahon, C. King, P. Gogarty, S. O’Hara, and E. Murphy.

Councillors D. McManus, S. O’Hara, and B. Pereppadan requested a Roll Call Vote on the motion. The result for which was as follows:

**FOR: 17 (SEVENTEEN)**

Councillors C. Bailey, Y. Collins, T. Costello, L. Donaghy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, P. Gogarty, L. Hagin Meade, M. Johansson, P. Kearns, M. Lynch, L. McCrave, E. Murphy, G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, L. Sinclair, F. Timmons

**AGAINST: 6 (SIX)**

Councillors W. Carey, R. McMahon, D. McManus, S. O’Hara, B. Pereppadan, J. Tuffy

**ABSTAIN: 2 (TWO)**

Councillors C. King, D. Ó Brádaigh.

As a result of the Roll Call Vote, the Motion **PASSED.**

### **M8/0423 Updates to Housing Online CBL System.**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor A. Edge and **MOVED** without debate:

The Chief Executive update the Housing Online CBL system to include information on each property on numbers of applicants that have expressed interest in that property and the time on list of highest applicants.

**REPORT:**

A report is currently being developed through the Council's integrated housing system and Housing Online (HOL) portal, using choice based letting data, that will show details of recently let properties to include the longest time on list from all the expressions of interest received for that property.  It is anticipated that this report will be finalised in conjunction with the Housing SPC at its May meeting and then will be made available on the Council's website and on our HOL online portal.

Social housing applicants should continue to check the CBL website on a weekly basis for suitable advertised properties, noting that applicants with the applicant longest on time on the social housing list who express interest in that property will be contacted and offered the tenancy of that property, subject to review and update of their file including household income and estate management checks.  Unsuccessful CBL applicants are not contacted but should continuing applying for available properties through CBL.

**Meeting Ended at 19:17**

**Motions Not Reached:**

### **M4/0423 COMMUNICATION FOR PUBLIC TREE REMOVAL** **Proposed by 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.

### **M5/0423 HIGH EXCESS DEATHS IN 2023** **Proposed by 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.

### **M6/0423 RETROFITTING OF EXISTING HOUSING STOCK** **Proposed by 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.

### **M7/0423 DISABLED DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS TAX CONCESSION SCHEME (DDPS)****Proposed by 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.

### **M9/0423 HOUSING MAINTENANCE REPLIES RETAINED THROUGH MEMBERS NET.****Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh**

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to agree to have the previous procedure for Elected Members for submitting representations and receiving replies for housing maintenance, retained through the existing members rep system.

### **M10/0423 AGE FRIENDLY HOUSING SEMINAR**

**Proposed by Councillor T. Costello**

To assist people with the process of right sizing housing SDCC will arrange information seminars to outline, the requirements, the rules, the facts about living in age friendly housing.

### **M11/0423 EXTENSION ON BAN ON EVICTIONS**

**Proposed by Councillor W. Carey**

This Council calls on the Government to extend the ban on evictions until the end of the January 2024 and to write to the Office of the Taoiseach in this regard.

### **M12/0423 ROAD TRAFFIC & ROADS BILL 2021**

**Proposed by Councillor C. O'Connor**

That this Council agrees that the passage of the Road Traffic and Roads Bill 2021, which deals with the issue of scramblers, is taking too long and calls on the government to expedite the process.

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

Mayor

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