**Re: €300K Have Your Say – Participatory Budgeting for Tallaght South & Saggart areas**

The €300K Have Your Say initiative for the Tallaght South and Saggart areas was launched by the Mayor on 13 March 2023 in Brookfield Youth and Community Centre. The submission period for the development of ideas was open between 13 March and 21 April. Four workshops were held during this period in St. Mary’s GAA Saggart, Jobstown Community Centre, Killinarden Community Centre and one online workshop.

The Communications campaign for the initiative during this period focused first on promoting the workshops and then on obtaining idea submissions from the public through website. This was done through social media, local press and leaflets delivered to households and local businesses in the area advertising the initiative. The Council’s community team also reached out to local groups and the Public Participation Network during this time.

By the close of the submissions period on 21 April with the Council had received 187 project submissions from the public. Each submission was then assessed under the agreed criteria by the Executive team and then considered by the Steering Group. All submissions were assessed for eligibility under the following criteria, previously agreed by the Steering Group:

* A project that would benefit a significant number of people living in their community.
* A project that is achievable within the maximum €300,000 allocation and without significant maintenance costs thereafter
* A project that is deliverable within 12 months
* A project that is not already planned for by the Council within an existing programme of work.
* A project that is within the remit of the Council and is not the responsibility of another government department or public body.
* Is not project that would be considered for funding through an existing grant scheme, such as the Council’s Community Grants Scheme
* On land that is in public ownership and is not on private property.
* A project that is within the Tallaght South LEA or the Saggart Community area.
* The purchase of vehicles is excluded from this initiative.

The attached shortlist of 22 projects is the outcome of this process and the approval of the Members is now required for the Shortlisted projects.

**Next Steps**

The following is a summary outline of the next steps following today’s Council meeting.

1. All submissions will receive a response indicating if they were shortlisted, and if not shortlisted, an explanation will be given of the reason.
2. There will follow a multi-channel communications campaign to promote the shortlisted projects and encourage the public to vote.
3. The online voting portal will be prepared for voting to open on 15 May for a two week period. Voting is online and at the following locations / dates
* Heritage centre – Saggart – Evening (6-9pm), Wednesday 17th May & Wednesday 24th May (this location has to be manned by SDCC staff)
* Brookfield Youth and Community Centre, Full Day – Community Centre staff to man – Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 17th – 19th
* Jobstown Community Centre, 22nd – 26th May
* Fettercairn Centre, 17th  – 22nd May
* Killinarden Centre, 17th – 26th May
1. The voting period closes on 28 May and the public announcement of the winning projects will be announced at the Results night on 7 June in Fettercairn Youth and Community Centre.
2. The winning proposals will be implemented within 12 months where possible.