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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council September 2023 Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 12 September 2023 through Microsoft 365 Teams and in Person in the Council Chambers. Today’s Area Committee Meeting was webcast as the Council has extended webcasting to all Area Committee meetings from January 2023. The extension of webcasting Area Committee meetings demonstrates our commitment to promoting transparency and supporting understanding and participation in local democracy.

### **Councillors Present**

### Lyn Hagin Meade

### Alan Edge

### Pamela Kearns

### Ronan McMahon

### David McManus

### Carly Bailey

### Lilian Guéret

### Lynn McCrave

### Yvonne Collins

### Mark Lynch

### Emma Murphy

### **Officials Present**

### Senior Executive Officer Mary Maguire

### A/Senior Executive Officer Fiona Hendley

### Administrative Officer Sheila Kelly, Raphy McGarry

### Senior Executive Librarian Laura Joyce

### Senior Engineer Gary Walsh, John Hegarty, Leo Magee

### A/Senior Engineer Mick McAdam

### Executive Engineer Stephen Cullen

### Senior Staff Officer Adrienne McGee

### Staff Officer Ashling Byrne

### Clerical Officer Declan Hession

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Pamela Kearns, presided.

### **RTFB/275/H1/23 Item ID:79838 - Minutes**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee dealing with Housing, Community, Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries, Corporate, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Environment, Water & Drainage held on 13th June 2023 which have been circulated, were submitted, and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor L Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor R McMahon, and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 13th June 2023 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

[H1(i) Minutes of June RTFB ACM](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79574)

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/276/H2/23 Item ID:79825 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/277/C1/23 Item ID:79814 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/278/M1/23 Item ID:79907 – Proposed Dublin Mountains Dark Skies Status**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That South Dublin County Council will explore the opportunity to gain Dark Skies Status for the Dublin Mountains, in the Firhouse-Bohernabreena area, in conjunction with Parks and Wildlife, adjacent Councils, and the Dublin Mountain Partnership, to improve access, tourism, and environmental education, and work towards a feasibility study for designated Dark Skies status.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

A dark sky preserve is an area that restricts artificial light pollution to preserve the natural darkness of the night sky and promote astronomy. There are a number of designations given by the International Dark Sky Association (IDA), who are a non-profit organisation that advocates for the protection of the nocturnal environment.

Kerry International Dark Sky Reserve, which covers 700 square kilometres of land, and Mayo International Dark Sky Park have both been awarded a gold tier for the quality of their night skies, free from light pollution. The country’s newest dark sky block is the OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory in Northern Ireland.

Other regions in Ireland are seeking international accreditation for the quality of their natural skies. Proving night skies are pristine or up to the standard of IDA accreditation can be challenging, especially within the outskirts of the largest urban area on the Island. It can take many years to achieve dark sky status and interested groups have had to undertake regular sky quality assessments, that involves submitting light meter readings in the darkest areas of their region.

Notwithstanding this, South Dublin County Council will make contact with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Dublin Mountains Partnership to explore the idea.

Following contributions from Councillors L Hagin Meade, A Edge, Y Collins, P Kearns, L McCrave, R McMahon, Ralph McGarry Administrative Officer Responded to Queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **RTFB/279/H3/23 Item ID:79828 – New Works**

NEW WORKS (No Business)

### **RTFB/280/H4/23 Item ID:79834 – Library News & Events**

The following report was presented by Laura Joyce Senior Executive Librarian

[H4(i) Libraries Event Statistics](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79562)
[H4(i) Libraries Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79573)

Following contributions from Councillors D McManus, Y Collins, A Edge, L Guéret, R McMahon, L McCrave, P Kearns and M Lynch, Laura Joyce Senior Executive Librarian Responded to queries raised and the **Report was Noted**

### **RTFB/281/H5/23 Item ID:79835 – Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants (No Business)

### **RTFB/282/C2/23 Item ID:79816 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/283/H6/23 Item ID:79824 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/284/C3/23 Item ID:79813 – New Works**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Performance & Change Management**

### **RTFB/285/H7/23 Item ID:79829 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/286/C4/23 Item ID:79818 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Water & Drainage**

### **RTFB/287/H8/23 Item ID:79833 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/288/C5/23 Item ID:79822 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/289/Q1/23 Item ID:79716 – Tree Maintenance during Nesting Season**

Proposed by Councillor C. Bailey

To ask the Manager to provide a report to understand the decision to prune trees in the Temple Manor Estate during nesting season, whether this was carried out by a contractor or by SDCC crews directly and how it was decided which trees would be pruned.

**REPLY:**

The Council carries out a programme of tree maintenance all year round to ensure public safety and minimise tree hazards in line with the Councils Tree Management Policy. The Council’s tree maintenance crews or contractors engaged by the Council, are required to thoroughly check trees for nesting birds during the nesting period (1 March - 31 August) and take appropriate measures to prevent disturbance prior to the commencement of routine works. This is in line with the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended in 2000), the principle legislation protecting nesting birds in Ireland.  Prior to any works commencing in Temple Manor Estate a full survey of all trees was carried out to inform the programme of the level of work required and to check for the presence of nesting birds.  The Council’s tree crew carried out works in Temple Manor Estate in June 2023 as per recommendations made by arborists who surveyed the estate. Where a tree was found to have nesting birds present it was left untouched, such trees will now be returned to for completion of the maintenance programme and this will take place during the period September 1st to February 28th.

### **RTFB/290/Q2/23 Item ID:79717 – Evaluation of Sand Bedded Pitches in Tymon Park**

Proposed by Councillor C. Bailey

To ask the Manager to give a report/evaluation on the efficacy of the raised, sand bedded pitches installed in Tymon Park and whether this project is likely to be rolled out for more clubs to avail off

**REPLY:**

The sand based pitches in Tymon Park were built on receipt of sports capital grants in 2017. The proposal and agreement for the sand based pitches was made sometime prior to that. Sand based pitches are a particular type of pitch upgrade that are resource demanding and are not suitable to all locations, uses and conditions. In recent years climate change has resulted in atypical weather patterns of prolonged droughts both summer and winter, sometimes followed by heavy deluges of rain over a short period. In some cases, the prolonged droughts resulted in water shortages and a requirement to conserve water. It is uncertain if this pattern will continue. SDCC have proposed within SDCC's Sports Pitch Strategy to upgrade grass pitches to improve their playability. The particular type of pitch upgrade proposed will depend on a number of factors such as type of pitch, its use, location, soil conditions, prevailing weather etc. and decisions are best made on a case by case basis.

It is worth noting that an upgrade of a pitch to 'Good' quality status supports 3.5 No. matches per week to be played on a GAA pitch, 4 No. matches per week to be played on a Rugby pitch and 3 No. matches to be played per week on a Soccer pitch; anything above that deteriorates the pitch surface and eventually results in decreased ability to play matches. Training is not permitted on SDCC pitches as it damages the pitches and leaves them unavailable for match play.

SDCC's Sports Pitch Strategy recommends a number of actions that will ensure clubs have sufficient pitches to train and play on. The proposed upgrade of grass pitches is one action, but it is linked to the proposed provision of Artificial Grass Pitches, as grass pitches alone are not sufficient to provide for SDCC's growing demand.  Artificial Grass Pitches support 10 match equivalents for (for soccer / Rugby) *and* 40 hours of training per week. In the absence of adequate Artificial Grass Pitch provision SDCC's grass pitches will come under increasing demand, further deteriorating their quality and playability; whether they are subject to pitch upgrades or not.

### **RTFB/291/Q3/23 Item ID:79958 – Wellington Lane Public Toilets Repair Works**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins

To ask for an update re any proposed repair works to the public toilets at the Wellington Lane entrance of Tymon Park.

**REPLY:**

The temporary toilets at the Wellington Lane entrance to Tymon Park have been examined and are functional, there are no plans to carry out any further upgrade works to these toilets at the present time. The Council will continue to maintain and repair any defects should they arise.  The proposed Intergenerational Centre which is due to be developed at this location will contain toilets which will be open to park users during park opening times.  Once that facility has been opened to the public the temporary toilets will be closed and removed.

### **RTFB/292/Q4/23 Item ID:79950 – Proposed One Way Traffic System in Bohernabreena Cemetery**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any plans to consider creating a one-way system for traffic in Bohernabreena Cemetery to avoid traffic congestion.

**REPLY:**

Currently there are no plans to establish a one-way traffic system at Bohernabreena Cemetery, both roads into and out of the cemetery are considered to be wide enough to comfortably accommodate two vehicles passing each other. The Council will monitor traffic visiting the Cemetery and review this position if required, however to date there has not been a demand to establish such a traffic management system.

### **RTFB/293/Q5/23 Item ID:79951 – Provision for Maintenance & Cleaning of Laneways in RTFB**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Chief Executive if he has plans to make provision for additional funding in the upcoming budget for the maintenance and cleaning of lanes in the Rathfarnham- Templeogue and Firhouse-Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas.

**REPLY:**

The preparation of budget 2024 has commenced however it is not possible to make any comment at this point in time with regard to what funding, or additional funding, will be provided for any work programme in the coming year.

A specific fund was provided in both the 2022 and 2023 budgets for the recruitment of temporary/seasonal staff to carry out a laneway cleaning programme in the Dublin 12 area.  Regrettably the efforts made to recruit these seasonal staff were unsuccessful and the laneway cleaning programme has only carried out in part over that time period and this work has been done by existing staff resources.

No specific provision has been proposed for inclusion in budget 2024 for this work programme.  This programme of work will once again be carried out from within existing staff resources with staff numbers increasing through the filling of vacant posts and an expected increase in staff numbers available.

### **RTFB/294/Q6/23 Item ID:80027 – Pedestrian Bridge Inspection on Dodder View Road**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect the condition of a pedestrian bridge from Dodder View Road into Bushy Park, located west of the new Dodder Greenway bridge, to arrange any repairs as necessary, and if a statement is available, please?

**REPLY:**

The bridge in question crosses the Dodder River which forms the boundary between Dublin City Council and South Dublin County Council administrative areas, it leads from Dodder View Road into Bushy Park as described here.  The bridge which is maintained by South Dublin County Council has been recently inspected with regard to its current condition and need for repairs and maintenance.  The bridge deck and handrails were all found to be in good condition and not in need of any immediate attention.  The bridge is located under the tree canopy and is likely to have a covering of leaves during the leaf fall season.  This matter will be referred to the Tymon operations depot for monitoring over the winter months, for the removal of fallen leaves as required.

### **RTFB/295/Q7/23 Item ID:79784 – Grass Cutting / Maintenance of Laneways Schedule Update**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

To ask the Council for a report on the maintenance of the laneways between Woodlawn Park Drive and Avenue and to detail the schedule for grass cutting, general maintenance, litter picking and tree pruning along the area.

**REPLY:**

Grass cutting is carried out at a frequency of once every two weeks during the grass growing season, prior to cutting the grass Public Realm Operations staff will litter pick the grass areas to ensure they are clean before cutting commences.

At the end of the growing season in 2022 Public Realm staff removed briars and undergrowth beneath the trees along the path between house numbers 30 and 87 Woodlawn Park. Tree suckers at the base of the trees were also removed to aid visibility in the laneway. The Council has conducted tree pruning in the area earlier this year, and further tree maintenance works were undertaken following Storm Betty.

As part of the 2022 Public Realm Improvement Works Programme the Council upgraded the footpath surface in the laneway.  In 2022 a tree trail was installed at this location, and this has enhanced the local area and increased the local awareness of trees and their importance.

### **RTFB/296/H9/23 Item ID:79831 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/297/C6/23 Item ID:79820 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/298/M2/23 Item ID:79754 – Bin Replacement at Woodfield Estate**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, seconded by Councillor A. Edge

To resolve that the bin which was removed from the entrance to Woodfield estate during recent works to the new crossing be reinstated.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The bin in question at the entrance to Woodfield Estate was recently removed to facilitate works, the Council plans to reinstate the bin at this location in the coming weeks.

Following contributions from Councillor E Murphy this Motion was **Agreed**

### **RTFB/299/M3/23 Item ID:79905 – Sensory Gardens and Areas**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade seconded by Councillor A. Edge

That South Dublin County Council will create, as part of the parks strategy, sensory gardens and areas, in addition to those in playgrounds, in the Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse Bohernabreena area, for the benefit of adults with additional sensory needs, disability, and dementia.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

In 2019 a universally accessible sensory garden was installed in Firhouse village, this was installed in conjunction with the Central Remedial Clinic. In addition to this as part of the Have Your Say participatory budget scheme there is a proposal to have a health and wellbeing garden installed beside the Firhouse Community Centre which is likely to include sensory features and planting. This is being delivered by the Council's Community Section.

It should be noted that public parks are considered sensory landscapes with benefits for all to enjoy with features, surfaces, objects and plants that stimulate the senses through touch, sight, scent, taste and hearing. When designing parks, playgrounds, and public realm areas, sensory needs are integrated in the design to create inclusive and engaging environments that cater to a wide range of individuals, enhancing the overall experience for all visitors.

Following contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**

### **RTFB/300/M4/23 Item ID:79959 – Cleansing of Keadeen Walkway, Dublin 12**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, seconded by Councillor C. Bailey

That this Council carries out long overdue clearing and cleaning works to the Keadeen Walkway, Dublin 12 and confirms that this area has been included on a cleaning schedule such that it will be regularly inspected and cleared as necessary going forward.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Keadeen Walkway has been scheduled for cleaning and removal of weeds and this work will be carried out in the coming weeks.  The area is monitored by the litter warden for the area and any illegal dumping which is found is reported to the Public Realm Operations Section for removal.  This laneway is on the cleaning programme for the D12 laneways and in accordance with this programme it is scheduled to be cleaned, weed removal and any other necessary tasks carried out at a frequency of once per year.

Following contributions from Councillors Y Collins, C Bailey, D McManus, P Kearns and L Guéret, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/301/M5/23 Item ID:79977- Remedial Work on Angel Plot at Cruagh Cemetery**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this Area Committee requests remedial work on the Angel Plot at Cruagh cemetery and in particular replacement of any rotten wood in the cemetery enclosure.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Cruagh Cemetery is inspected regularly by Public Realm supervisory staff with maintenance works scheduled as required following those inspections. The timber that has been referred to here as rotten has been inspected and found to be weathered but not rotten. This timber forms the surround to the angels plot, it is felt that it would be best left in place and not disturbed as to do so might also cause some disturbance to the angels plot itself.  It is also felt that the timber surround is in keeping with the setting, it is regularly painted and sealed by Council staff to protect it from moisture damage.  The plot will be examined again to determine if some work could be carried out there to improve the aesthetic appearance of the plot.

Following contributions from Councillor A Edge this Motion was **Agreed**

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/302/Q8/23 Item ID:79979 – Illegal Dumping at Ellensborough**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge

Has any identification evidence been found in respect of the recent spate of illegal dumping in the area of Ellensborough and have any fines or prosecutions followed?

**REPLY:**

Any incidents of illegal dumping reported or detected recently at this location were investigated by the Council's Litter Warden Service. Unfortunately, no evidence to identify the alleged offenders was identified on any occasion in the dumped material; therefore no enforcement action could be taken under the provisions of the Litter Pollution Act.

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

### **RTFB/303/Q9/23 Item ID:79964 – Disposable Vapes**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any measures that can be implemented by South Dublin County Council to restrict the usage of disposable vapes and reduce environmental pollution as a result of reckless disposal of these vapes in Rathfarnham-Templeogue & Firhouse-Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas.

[Q9 (i) Radio Advert](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79590)

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council is running a two-week radio campaign, which commenced on Monday the 4th of September, in relation to the disposal of Vapes. The ads highlight the fact that disposable Vapes can be safely disposed of in WEEE Ireland blue battery boxes.

### **RTFB/304/Q10/23 Item ID:80031- Legal Standings for Off Lead Dogs**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus

To ask the Chief Executive the precise legal standing for dogs to be on leads in Tymon Park, who is responsible for enforcement and how SDCC manages this across our public parks?

**REPLY:**

The Parks and Open Space Bye-Laws 2011 are in force to ensure that parks provided as a public amenity, are used by members of the public to the maximum extent in safety and comfort.

The Council's Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws provide as follows in relation to animals:

**4.1       Dogs:-**

**4.1.1**No person:

1. a) Shall take into or allow to remain in a Park any dog unless it is under effective control on a leash other than in areas designated (dog runs) or at times specified by the County Council.
2. b) In charge of a dog in a Park shall engage it in coursing or permit it to be engaged in coursing in a Park.

**4.1.2**Persons in charge of a dog in a Park shall

1. a) Take reasonable care to prevent it from causing annoyance to any person using the Park or worrying, chasing, injuring or disturbing any animals, birds or other creatures in the Park.
2. b) Be liable for any damage or injury which may be caused by the dog.
3. c) Remove it from the Park if so directed by an Employee of the Council or an Authorised Person.

The Public Realm Section have a Park Ranger service that enforces the bye-laws during the course of their duties.

The Council's Dog Wardens do regular checks of the parks and work with the Park Rangers when necessary. The dog wardens are responsible for the enforcement of the Control of Dogs Act 1986 as amended. This includes responding to complaints relating to dogs not under effectual control and/or dangerous dogs, carrying out of Licence Checks, the initiation of enforcement proceedings where possible and the seizure and collection of stray dogs and removal to the Dog Shelter.

### **RTFB/305/Q11/23 Item ID:79785 – Update on Graffiti in Stocking Wood / Ballycullen**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

To ask the Council for a report on graffiti in the Ballycullen and Stocking Wood areas including the amount of graffiti that has been cleaned up in the area and the cost of that clean up.

**REPLY:**

From January 2023 to date, Public Realm has removed graffiti from 12 areas in the Ballycullen/Stocking Wood area. There were an additional 10 more that have been forwarded to the public lighting section for their examination and action.

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. 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. The Litter Management Plan 2020-2022 has been reviewed and the Draft replacement Litter Management Plan is currently out for public consultation and the members have been invited to make submissions. The report on the public consultation will inform the content and reporting arrangements in respect of the new plan.

All reports of graffiti are dealt with by our removal crews as they are reported. Other staff remove graffiti also, including the painter and other construction staff. 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.

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.

It is not possible to quantify the Council's response to graffiti, in terms of time spent on this activity.  Our response covers a number of aspects, including painting staff removing graffiti from litter bins and bring banks for example, construction crews removing graffiti from blockwork walls using a cement-wash technique, as well as a specialist chemical removal of graffiti carried out by specialist contractors, and a crew managed by the probation service.  The budget provision for all of these activities in 2023 for the whole county is €98,100 and is likely to be similar in 2024.

### **RTFB/306/H10/23 Item ID:79826 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/307/C7/23 Item ID:79811 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/308/M6/23 Item ID:79570 – New Trees on Ballyroan Road**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, seconded by Councillor Y. Collins

That this area committee asks the Chief Executive to plant new street trees on Ballyroan Road in appropriate locations as a number of trees were removed in previous years?

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Council has plans to plant a number of trees on Ballyroan Road in the 2023/2024 tree planting programme. Additional tree planting has been included for assessment in the 2024/25 Tree Planting Programme. This is subject to suitable locations for tree planting being identified.  The tree planting programme will be presented to the areas committees in advance of the planting season and the tree planting programme commencing.

Following Contributions from Councillors D McManus, Y Collins and L McCrave, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/309/Q12/23 Item ID:79743 – SDCC Energy Retrofit Scheme**

Proposed by Councillor C. Bailey

To ask the Manager to outline details of the SDCC Energy Retrofit scheme for both LEAs under this ACM. To outline which estates/homes are included under the scheme, what works are being completed and timelines of when works will start and expected completion dates. If the Manager could outline what percentage/number of social housing stock and age friendly housing this scheme will cover and what percentage/number of SH stock and AF housing remain outstanding and what the expected timeline when all will be completed.

**REPLY:**

Detailed below is a breakdown of properties currently listed under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme. Based on the works completed and or awarded to contractors, to date approximately 25% are age friendly properties.

Funding and targets for the works are allocated by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on an annual basis. As such, at this time, Housing Maintenance cannot confirm 2024 and beyond targets.  In the expectation of delivery targets being increased for 2024, additional surveys have been completed for 2024 works which will be tendered in Q3 2023.  Additional properties for surveying are also being identified.  Procurement options are under consideration to expand the availability of suitably qualified contractors to carry out a potentially expanded programme of works.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Estate** | **Electoral Area** | **Completed 2022/23** | **Contractor Appointed/Works Commenced** | **At Tender or Survey** | **Totals** |
| Kilmahuddrick | Clondalkin | 18 |   | 38 | **56** |
| Liscarne | Clondalkin | 5 | 4 |   | **9** |
| Oldcastle Drive | Clondalkin |   |   | 14 | **14** |
| Allenton | Firhouse-Bohernabreena | 49 | 6 |   | **55** |
| Sarsfield | Lucan |   | 16 |   | **16** |
| Greenfort | Palmerstown-Fonthill | 15 | 26 |   | **41** |
| Shancastle | Palmerstown-Fonthill |   |   | 22 | **22** |
| St Ronans Drive | Palmerstown-Fonthill |   |   | 18 | **18** |
| Tór an Rí | Palmerstown-Fonthill |   |   | 18 | **18** |
| 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 | 89 |   | 10 | **89** |
|   |   |   |   |   |  |
| **Sum** |  | **202** | **60** | **183** | **435** |

### **RTFB/310/Q13/23 Item ID:79948 – Windows & Doors Program in RTFB LEA**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Chief Executive if he plans to provide additional funding in the upcoming budget for the Windows and Doors Programme in Rathfarnham-Templeogue and Firhouse-Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas.

**REPLY:**

Housing Maintenance Section are currently replacing windows and doors under a number of different funding programmes.  In each case, the funding provided is on a county wide basis and is allocated to properties based on an established need rather than a geographical location. The options for replacing windows and doors currently are as follows.

1. Following a countywide survey of properties completed in 2017/18, the Windows and Doors capital replacement programme was established in 2019. Due to covid the completion of the programme was delayed.  The survey specifically identified properties with single glazed timber or aluminium units.  Approximately 600 properties across the county requiring works were identified. Currently there are approximately 150 properties with contractors, with the remaining 200 properties surveyed, with tender preparation underway.  Once these works are complete, this specific programme will end.
2. Emergency Works are carried out on properties where due to the current condition of the windows, a safety risk is evident.
3. Windows and Doors typically form part of the work under the Energy Retrofit Programme. Funding is allocated annually by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.   Going forward, this will be the main source of funding used to replace windows and doors. In order for the replacement to take place, other upgrade works, including insulation, heating and ventilation, will be carried out at the same time.  Tenants will be required to agree to all aspects of the works, in particular the conversion of existing gas and oil heating systems to more energy efficient low pollutant option, such as air to water heat pumps.  The overall aim of the scheme is to carry out upgrade works to the building fabric and heating systems to achieve a minimum Building Energy Rating of B2.  Housing Maintenance are currently working to expand the availability of contractors to allow for additional capacity to deliver the works required subject to availability of funding.

### **RTFB/311/Q14/23 Item ID:79783 – Anti-Social Behaviour in Daletree & Beechdale Estates**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

To ask the Council for a report on any anti-social behaviour issues that have arisen and been reported in Daletree and Beechdale, Ballycullen over the last number of months

**REPLY:**

A small number of complaints have been received from residents of the Beechdale Estate relating to children climbing walls and throwing eggs at cars.  All complaints are fully investigated by the Councils Allocations Support Team and appropriate action taken as necessary should a Council tenant be found to be in breach of their Tenancy Agreement.  Reports of anti-social behaviour issues can be made by emailing **estmgt@sdublincoco.ie** or by phoning 414 9265 and all such complaints will be fully investigated.

### **RTFB/312/H11/23 Item ID:79827 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/313/H12/23 Item ID:79869 – Quarterly Housing Supply Report**

The following report was presented by Fiona Hendley A/Senior Executive Officer

[H12 Quarterly Housing Supply Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79609)

Following contributions from Councillors L McCrave and P Kearns, Fiona Hendley A/Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the **Report was Noted**

### **RTFB/314/C8/23 Item ID:79815 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Community**

### **RTFB/315/Q15/23 Item ID:79949 – Reports of Nitrous Oxide Use in RTFB LEA**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Chief Executive if there are reports of increased problems with Nitrous Oxide usage in the Rathfarnham-Templeogue and Firhouse-Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas.

**REPLY:**

The Interagency Section, Community Department has not received any reports of increased problems with nitrous oxide usage in relation to the Rathfarnham - Templeogue and Firhouse - Bohernabreena Local Electoral Areas, however, other areas in the County have reported an increase in usage of nitrous oxide and issues regarding the disposal of the cannisters.

The issue of nitrous oxide usage, sale and supply and disposal of cannisters has been raised at the Joint Policing Committee.  Draft Legislation in relation to the sale and supply of nitrous oxide is currently with the Oireachtas.

Tallaght Drugs and Alcohol Task Force have released an awareness video which can be viewed at this [link](https://youtu.be/Ga1KLVLfUfw).

Smaller nitrous oxide cannisters can be placed in household bins. Collection of larger industrial sized cannisters or other drug paraphernalia can be arranged with Public Realm.

### **RTFB/316/H13/23 Item ID:79823- New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/317/C9/23 Item ID:79812 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/318/M7/23 Item ID:79904 - Feasibility of Play Streets in RTFB LEA**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade seconded by Councillor M. Lynch

That this council will explore the feasibility of Play streets in residential areas in Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse, and Bohernabreena. The Council will promote awareness of play streets and develop a promotional activity pack to support neighbourhoods who wish to learn more and participate in the play street programme, which supports children and families to play outdoors.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Community Department is aware of a creative space initiative called "A Playful City". We will engage with them and assess the feasibility of delivering a series of schemes designed to promote usage of residential space as play areas with the endeavour of creating more playful, sustainable, healthy, and inclusive public spaces. On completion the Dept will report back to the Area Committee.

Following contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade this Motion was **Agreed**

### **RTFB/319/M8/23 Item ID:79908 – Use of “Understand Together” Stickers in Council Buildings**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

To ask that South Dublin County Council pilot the use of the dementia inclusive community sticker "Understand Together" in council run buildings in Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse, Bohernabreena area.

[M8 Dementia Inclusive Community](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79611)

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Dementia: Understand Together campaign aims to work towards building dementia inclusive communities. By using this symbol, businesses/organisations are asked to send an important message to staff, visitors, customers, patients, members and all other stakeholders that they want to create an environment and community that represents all of society. ([Please see document attached for further information](http://intranet/Cmas/documents/Rathfarnham%20-%20Templeogue%20-%20Firhouse%20-%20Bohernabreena%20Area%20Commi/2023/September/September2023Rathfarnham-Templeogue-Firhouse-BohernabreenaAreaComm/9bc715fe-8852-4bc7-856e-695cec48fa26.pdf))

If the motion is approved by the elected members, the proposal will be included on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting of South Dublin Age Friendly Alliance which is scheduled to be held on 21st September 2023.

Following contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade this Motion was **Agreed**

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/320/Q16/23 Item ID:80028 – Manhole Repair**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus

To ask the Chief Executive to examine and repair an open-manhole on public road outside (address provided). Residents believe this may have been left unfinished during the Grange Road cycle scheme works. A red cone covers the open manhole at present.

**REPLY:**

 This chamber was inspected and it is the property of EIR. We have requested for EIR to carry out repair works to it

### **RTFB/321/Q17/23 Item ID:79787 – Yield Signs & White Lines in the Woodlawn Park Grove Estate**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

To ask the Council about the installation of yield signs and white lines at junctions within the Woodlawn Park Grove estate, in particular at the entrance by Carrigwood, where speeding and failure of parents collecting children from Scoil Treasa to stop at this junction continues to be a problem.

**REPLY:**

It is not customary to provide signing and lining within housing estates.  However, this item has been listed for examination and a report will be brought to the September Traffic Management Meeting.

### **RTFB/322/H14/23 Item ID:79832 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/323/H15/23 Item ID:80013 – Glendown Road Cycle Scheme**

The following report was presented by Stephen Cullen Executive Engineer

[H15(i) Glendown Road Cycle Scheme](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79594)

Following contributions from Councillors L Guéret, Y Collins, D McManus and P Kearns, Stephen Cullen Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/324/H16/23 Item ID:80056 – Taking in Charge**

Declaration of Public Roads, Talking in Charge of a Housing Estate under Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000

**Address: Wilkins Court, Dublin 12**

The following report was presented by John Hegarty Senior Engineer:

The following advertisement was published in newspapers and on the Council Consultation Portal:

"In accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, South Dublin County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to consider the making of a declaration that the road listed hereunder be a public road.

**Wilkins Court, Greenhills, Dublin 12.**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended, the Council considers the Taking in Charge of the open spaces, sewers, watermains, storm drains and public lighting within the attendant ground of the development.

This matter will be considered by South Dublin County Council at its Council Meeting on **9th October 2023**.

Maps showing the roads and the areas to be taken in charge are available for viewing at the Council’s public consultation portal at <http://consult.sdublincoco.ie> from **8th July 2023** until **8th August 2023**.

Objections or representations regarding the above proposal may be made via the portal or in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 A3XC.

The latest date for receipt of postal objections or representations via the portal is **22nd August 2023.**

Objections or representations should be made in one Medium only and will only be accepted in either format outlined above.

**Web:** [**www.sdcc.ie**](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdcc.ie%2F&amp;data=05%7C01%7Ccshanahan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7Ce459c51f347d4404d6f008db79565f90%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638237184114169439%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=71dLNTiuW%2FW8nc%2Bu5Oz0su1cZ%2FucvgAXI3TDxM7fbcE%3D&amp;reserved=0)"

There was 1 submission received on this proposal which was fully supportive of the scheme and raised three minor issues for clarification as follows:

1. That the developer tops up the bark in the play area.

2. That the developer change the street signs in the Estate to the correct translation of Wilkins in Irish Uilcín.

3. That SDCC consider appropriate street markings to ensure access for emergency services through all route around the estate.

**SDCC response on the items raised:**

1.SDCC will, as a matter of course, replace or top up the Bark mulch in the play area. This bark mulch is a safety feature of the play space.

2. The Irish translation of the Street signs has been corrected since this submission was received

3. SDCC will ensure that emergency vehicle access is maintained within the estate. SDCC will keep this item under review and implement any appropriate actions necessary.

This Council is satisfied that this estate is constructed to a high standard of specification and quality and recommends that the Wilkins Court estate be taken in charge by the Council.

The recommendation of the Area Committee is required as follows:

**That the proposal to declare the roads to be public roads, and to Take in Charge the open spaces, sewers, watermains, storm drains and public lighting within the attendant ground of the Wilkins Court development shall be considered by the Full Council at the October  2023 meeting.**

[H16(i) TIC Drawing](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79566)
[H16(i) TIC Schedule](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79553)
[H16(i) TIC Submission](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79554)

Following contributions from Councillors C Bailey, L McCrave and P Kearns, John Hegarty Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/325/C10/23 Item ID:79821 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/326/M9/23 Item ID:79416 – Pavement Resurfacing**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That the paths serving (address provided by email) are resurfaced, this section of the estate having apparently being missed when the estate was last done.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

This area will be listed for consideration in the 2024 RWP. The area engineer has also agreed to consider the roadway in next year’s RWP.

Following contributions from Councillor A Edge, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/327/M10/23 Item ID:79426 – Pedestrian Crossing Audio Levels**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this Council increases the audio levels of the pedestrian crossings in the Rathfarnham area, in particular at the junction of Main Street, Rathfarnham Village with Butterfield Avenue and at the junction of Rathfarnham Road and Willbrook Road, as they are very difficult to hear above the noise of traffic which is extremely hazardous and stressful for the blind or visually impaired.

[M10 Audio Level Engineers Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=79565)

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The audio beep at both pedestrian junctions detailed in this motion will be examined and adjusted where necessary.

Following contributions from Councillor Y Collins, John Hegarty Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/328/M11/23 Item ID:79738- Children at Play Signs**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, seconded by Councillor A. Edge

That this committee calls on the manager to reconsider the discontinuation of children at play signs from residential estates.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Council provided 30 kph SLOW ZONE signs at entrances to all estates taken in charge by South Dublin County Council as part of the 2017 Speed Limit Review.

In exceptional circumstances additional signs may be considered, but in the main, it is not considered necessary or prudent to provide further signs throughout estates.

The Council will initiate a speed limit review in 2024, with the purpose of making new Road Traffic Speed Limit ByeLaws, and this issue may be revisited as part of that process.

Following contributions from Councillor P Kearns, Sheila Kelly Administrative Officer responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/329/M12/23 Item ID:79906 – Proposed Pilot Reduced Mobility Route Planner App**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That South Dublin County Council will develop a pilot route-planner app, based on user experience and consultation, to facilitate active route planning for those with reduced mobility, or using disability aids in the Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse, Bohernabreena Area.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Route Planner App's are expensive to develop and maintain, such App's are available from a number of sources, the most useful one which is regularly updated is proved by Transport for Ireland; [Plan A Journey | Transport for Ireland](https://www.transportforireland.ie/plan-a-journey/)

The Active Travel team has recently developed a dedicated website to provide information on active travel projects and the Cycle South Dublin Programme. This website is fully accessible on desktop and mobile devices, SDCC Active Travel have no plans to procure and develop a separate App.

The website can be accessed at this weblink; [Active Travel - SDCC](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdcc.ie%2Fen%2Factive-travel%2F&amp;data=05%7C01%7Cmmcadam%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C5a28de8f2be644fe8a5c08dbaa0b3580%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638290737340470470%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=bZeE%2F54KJzP06I6DgKQWqnqeDX5duVFtym9F1T78IBI%3D&amp;reserved=0)

Public Realm facilities are mapped online and can be found here: [Community Facilities - Ag teacht le chéile (arcgis.com)](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsdublincoco.maps.arcgis.com%2Fapps%2Finstant%2Fminimalist%2Findex.html%3Fappid%3Dd3b507aa199a483f8203b0acec37454d&amp;data=05%7C01%7Cmmcadam%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C5a28de8f2be644fe8a5c08dbaa0b3580%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638290737340470470%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=j7h004hw5vA34n8RBNiEtBhNTZE%2BrlWs4ilSHv8qT5c%3D&amp;reserved=0)

This map also includes paths and routes within Parks, such as the Dodder Greenway.

The mapping on the website shows the Dodder Valley Greenway. The locations of the bike parking stands across the county are being added to the mapping.

All Public Realm facilities are mapped (playground, entrances, basketball/tennis courts, teen spaces, etc.). They are stored in GIS format and are also available to the organisation through ArcGIS online (a type of GIS cloud database). Anyone creating a map can access and use these files.

Following contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade, Michael McAdam A/Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/330/M13/23 Item ID:80030 – Pay & Display Machines in Rathfarnham Village**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, seconded by Councillor Y. Collins

That this area committee requests the Chief Executive to examine the operation of all pay & display parking machines in Rathfarnham Village, the number in operation, how some can become out of order and repairs needed, and if the machine opposite AIB on Main Street is functional?

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The following are the locations for the parking meter machines in Rathfarnham:

41 – Opposite AIB other side of road, working fine.

44 – Main St, working fine.

49 – Old Butterfield Ave / Main Street, working fine.

58 – Outside St. VDP/ COI, working fine.

62 – Outside AIB Main Street, working fine.

64 – Outside The Haven / Top Main Street, working fine.

63 – Main Street, working fine.

There is various reason why machines can become "out of order" including coin/ paper jams, battery issues, signal failures, user errors etc.

Park Rite is the Council's contractors for the provision of managed car parking services throughout the county, and this contract includes the Maintenance of all P&D machines throughout the county.  The contractor endeavours to fix these faults as soon as possible.   Meter faults are repaired within 3 hours of notification of fault by the contractor.

The Council initiated a parking meter replacement programme as part of the managed car parking contract (Provision of parking machines - replacement programme).  Two (44 and 49) of the seven machines are now new. These new machines are solar operated, and have the facility to pay by card, coin and there is also an online payment facility using the parking app Parking Tag.

Following contributions from Councillors D McManus, L McCrave and L Guéret, Sheila Kelly Administrative Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/331/M14/23 Item ID:79957 – Rosemount District Enhancement Scheme Funding**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this Council reviews the funding allocated for the Rosemount District Enhancement Scheme and increases it as necessary, to ensure that sufficient funding is in place to properly finance the works bearing in mind inflation and the increase in building costs since this project was initially costed.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

 Part VIII public consultation for this scheme was launched on Sept 8th.

The design consultant is now doing a cost estimate, and this will determine whether the level of funding currently allocated to the scheme is sufficient. SDCC will examine a wide range of material options to ensure that the right balance of quality and value is reached

Following contributions from Councillors Y Collins, L Guéret and P Kearns, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/332/M15/23 Item ID:79978 – Road Markings on Piperstown Road**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That the central road markings on Piperstown Rd (particularly at the hidden junction at Friarstown Lane) be reinstated following a recent resurfacing

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was read:**

 Road Maintenance will arrange for these road markings to be re-instated in the coming weeks.

Following contributions from Councillor A Edge, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/333/H17/23 Item ID:79830 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/334/C11/23 Item ID:79819 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

The meeting concluded at 16:56

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An Cathaoirleach