



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Chambers
Ireland



December 2023

Chief Executive's Report

Excellence in Local Government Awards

About the Chief Executive's Report

South Dublin County Council's Chief Executive's Report is presented to elected members at Council every month and details important achievements across our various departments whilst highlighting key statistics and images from events that took place that month.

The report also highlights major news pieces and puts a focus on an area of the Council that doesn't always get the attention it deserves.

Contents



Features

14 **Excellence in Local Government Awards**
Tallaght District Heating Scheme scoops Climate Change Award at the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023.

16 **Global District Energy Climate Awards**
Tallaght District Heating Scheme Triumphs to take home the 'Emerging District Energy Market' award in Brussels, Belgium.

18 **European Union Access Cities Award**
South Dublin County shortlisted for EU Award for our accessible playspaces.

20 **Council Focus - Budget 2024**
Councillors have approved the Annual Budget for 2024.

22 **Images of the Month**





Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Historic Structures Fund 2024

Following another successful year of the Historic Structures Scheme (HSF) in 2023, this National Architectural Conservation Grant scheme is continuing next year and applications for 2024 projects are now open.

The closing date for applications under the scheme is the 19th January 2024.

The primary focus of the Historic Structures Fund is on caring for & restoring historic structures & buildings for the benefit of communities & the public.

In addition, refurbishment or reuse projects that share a clear residential or community benefit, aimed at essential repairs & smaller capital works for the refurbishment & conservation of Protected Structures.

The upgrade to the former St Luke's, Church of Ireland Church at Peamount Hospital is an example of the types of project delivered through this fund.

This unique 20th Century corrugated purpose built structure has been completely repaired and revamped.



Housing Task Force report

The Dublin local authorities report quarterly to the Department (DHLGH) on housing supply. In Q3 2023, there were 80 sites of 10+ units with planning permission in South Dublin including 39 active sites, a 5% increase from Q3 2022. The total number of units permitted on the 80 sites is 15,521. The active sites have a total of 9,150 units permitted with 3,776 under construction, a further 1,916 not commenced and 3,458 already completed.

Nine sites are SHDs, with 2,003 residential units under construction on lands at Kilcarbery (one), Fortunestown/Citywest (three), Palmerstown (two) and Tallaght (three).

Launch of a new School Street for Scoil Maelruain

SDCC, working with Scoil Maelruain, launched the first "school street" in the county on Wednesday November 22nd. The mayor was on hand to cut the ribbon along with the principals.

The school street is on the cul-de-sac section of Old Bawn Avenue where car access will be limited to residents and school staff during school drop-off and collection times.

This will reduce danger to children and parents from drivers. The school street will also provide a calmer and more welcoming environment for all children and parents at the school gate.

This initiative has had strong support from the school community, residents, and An Garda Siochana and has been

developed with Safe Routes to Schools and the NTA.

As a first step, the school street has been established using new road signs. In 2024, additional traffic calming and school-themed placemaking measures will be installed at the front of school, further improving safety and emphasising the school function of the area.

There will also be upgrades to the approaches to the school which will calm traffic, improve safety and hopefully increase the already significant number of children and parents walking, wheeling, and cycling to school.

The official launch event took place on Wednesday 29 November and was

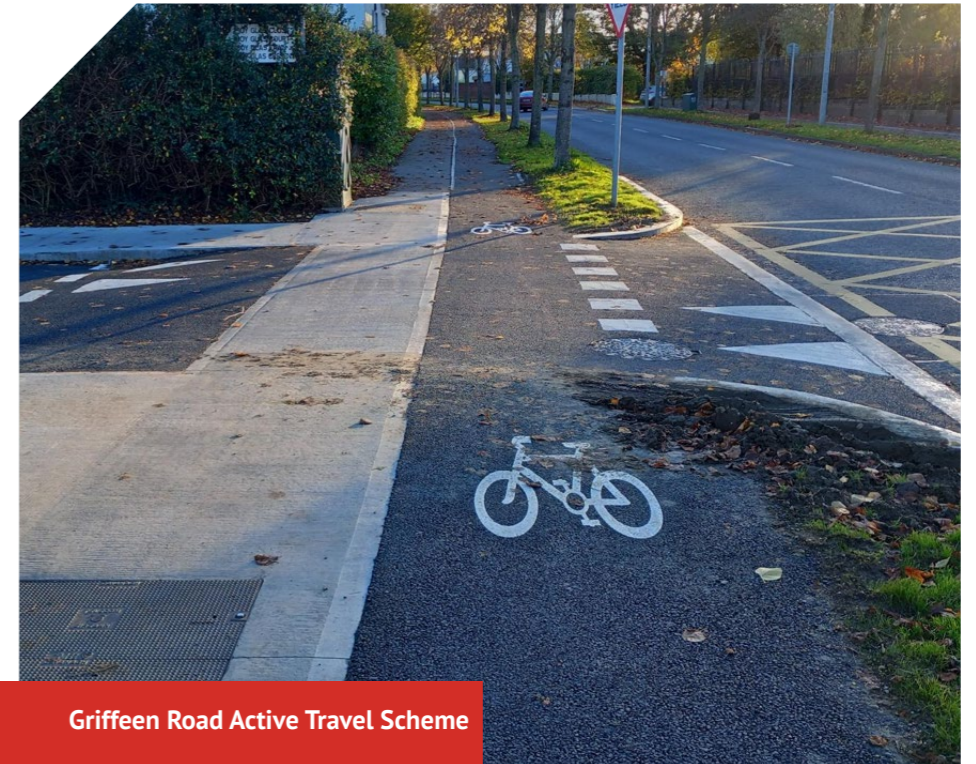
attended by Mayor Alan Edge as well as local Councillors, An Garda Siochana with the assistance of local parents and school staff.



Historic Structures Fund 2024

Griffen Road active travel

The Griffen Road active travel scheme has delivered improved active travel network between Griffen Avenue and Willsbrook Road. The works have included narrowing the junctions, providing at grade pedestrian and cycling crossing, ramps and traffic calming works. The works help to slow traffic entering estates while also providing safer and more consistent infrastructure for sustainable transport modes. The works were completed in November and took place over a three months and whilst there were some teething problems the scheme has been successfully delivered and the Council will now seek to deliver comparable schemes elsewhere.



Griffen Road Active Travel Scheme



Launch of Active South Dublin in Tallaght Stadium

Active South Dublin, Sport & Physical Activity Plan 2023-2028 was launched on November 21st by Deputy Mayor Cllr Yvonne Collins alongside the Chief Executive Colm Ward and Chief Executive of Sport Ireland, Dr. Una May. In attendance were a wide range of groups including primary and secondary school pupils, representatives of sports bodies and agencies and members of the local community active retired, women's sheds and disability groups.

Attendees also got the opportunity to have their photo taken with the Sam Maguire, the All-Ireland Ladies GAA cup won by Dublin, Shamrock Rovers League of Ireland trophy and the Women's League of Ireland trophy won by Peamount Utd which were on display at the event.

Active South Dublin outlines the

commitment of South Dublin County Council to promote a broad range of initiatives that support the diverse community in South Dublin County.

This includes individuals of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds, encouraging them to stay physically active throughout their lives. Active South Dublin encompasses various forms of physical activity, whether the emphasis is on exercise, fitness, team sports, walking, cycling, dancing, or even participation in volunteering and coaching.

The Active South Dublin Plan outlines a broad range of actions under 11 different ambitions and 4 different themes – Active Communities & Clubs; Active Spaces & Places; Active Communication and Active Partnerships.

In addition to the Plan's initiatives, a significant new development involves the integration of South Dublin County Sports Partnership and the sports office of South Dublin County Council into a unified unit - Active South Dublin. Moving forward, all communications will undergo rebranding under the name Active South Dublin.



South Dublin County Council Scholarship Awards

Mayfield Social Housing Development Completed

The final 18 homes have now been completed at the Mayfield Park social housing development in Clondalkin.

This high-quality new development has delivered energy efficient new homes as part of our ambitious housing delivery plan under the national housing plan, Housing for All.

It completes a 43-home project that has 19 3-bed houses, and 24 two-bed apartments. The new homes are currently being allocated to applicants from the housing list by our housing allocations team.

South Dublin County Council Scholarship Awards

On Monday 6th November the South Dublin County Council Scholarship Awards took place in the Synergy Building on the TU Dublin, Tallaght Campus.

This prestigious event recognises and celebrates the academic excellence of local students.

In 2006, the Council entered into an agreement with the Institute of Technology Tallaght to fund an Access to Third Level Scholarship Programme.

The programme was developed to encourage students from local schools to progress to third level education by providing funding towards 3rd level expenses.

South Dublin County Council continues to support this programme with TU Dublin.

Deputy Mayor, Yvonne Collins, attended the event and presented 8 first year students and 8 second year students with an award of €2,500 each for the 2023/2024 academic year.



Garda Commissioner visits South Dublin JPC

The South Dublin Joint Policing Committee were delighted to welcome Garda Commissioner Drew Harris to County Hall on Friday 17th November.

The purpose of these committees is to provide a forum where a local authority and the senior Garda Officers responsible for policing that area can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters of policing that area.

Commissioner Harris answered questions raised by the Joint Policing Committee Members covering a wide range of issues including local Garda Stations, resourcing, and visibility in the County.



New Social Housing Development at Mayfield Park, Clondalkin



Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

300 Lucky Young Readers attend David Walliams Visit

Bestselling author David Walliams was in South Dublin on 17th November at the Civic Theatre. County Librarian Paul Fusco welcomed almost 300 children from schools all over the County to the event, with excitement at fever pitch amongst the lucky young readers in attendance.

David discussed the inspiration and ideas behind his bestselling books. He also read from his new book 'The Blunders' (his most hilarious yet!) and answered a myriad of questions from the audience on his own favourite books and funniest characters. Throughout the session he engaged with all of the school children, enthraling them with his love of books and how they can inspire creativity and bring such joy to people's lives. As well as selling millions of books around the world, David Walliams is one of the most

borrowed children's authors in our libraries so we knew we had a lot of big fans in the County! Meeting authors is a great way for children to connect with books and reading and we were delighted to host David on what was a memorable morning for all in attendance.

David was also suitably well impressed with the venue, as the Civic Theatre brought great drama to the event, showcasing the diversity of the Culture Quarter and its range of cultural infrastructure, with a theatre space hosting a library event. This multi-use of Arts space is a sign of things to come, with all of the institutions in the Cultural Quarter working together to demonstrate the County's fervent Arts scene.

With well known authors Like David

Walliams coming to visit Tallaght, the future of our Cultural Quarter is extremely exciting as the public realm works move closer to completion.



Galpal Collective Coffee Conversations

ComicFest Back With a Bang

ComicFest returned this November with a county-wide programme supported by Creative Ireland South Dublin. Writers and illustrators working in the comics industry delivered a range of talks and workshops for all ages.

Participants had the opportunity to meet artists who've worked on their favourite characters from companies like Marvel and D.C., and learn the techniques of comic art from some of the biggest names in the Irish comics industry including Declan Shalvey, Stephen Mooney, Triona Farrell, Philip Barrett, Hugh Madden, and Wayne Talbot.

Galpal Coffee Conversations

The Galpal Collective held a Coffee Conversations entitled 'Get Your Foot in the Door' at Rua Red on Saturday 4th November, 2023. This pilot event was organised in association with the LEO Office and focused on Finances for individuals who are thinking about Starting your Own Business.

The event was attended by individuals who are establishing their careers within the creative field at some capacity - filmmaker, screenwriter, costume design, production design, illustration, graphic design, music.

There was a very positive reaction to this workshop from this diverse group and LEO are planning to support them by hosting a number of additional workshops in 2024 covering Social Media, Marketing, Sales and Web-site development.

With the continued growth in the SCENE network, the development of the film/media centre in Grange Castle being advanced by Lens Media, as well as progress on the delivery of the 12th Lock Masterplan, there is a real opportunity to support businesses in the media sector and their continued development.



Rathfarnham Christmas Market

Rathfarnham Castle Christmas Market returns on Sunday 10th December 2023. Building on the success of the previous couple of years, the market will offer something for everyone and will provide a lovely festive atmosphere in the lead up to Christmas.

The unique backdrop of Rathfarnham Castle provides a beautiful location for the showpiece Christmas market in the County. The market will consist of 40 Food and Craft traders, live entertainment and festive decoration. The event will open to the public from 11am-3pm and will highlight local artisan products, food, craft and local businesses.



Spiderman at South Dublin Libraries as part of ComicFest



Corporate Performance and Change Management

Tallaght and Clondalkin Tree Lighting & Opening Hours

As we enter into the festive season, our nightscape is now illuminated with bright Christmas lights across the County, including at County Hall and Clondalkin Civic Offices.

Mayor Alan Edge had the pleasure of officiating the official lighting of the Christmas Tree at County Hall Tallaght and at County Buildings in Clondalkin where he was joined by local Councillors and community groups.

The lighting of the tree event at County Hall, Tallaght were treated to Christmas carol singing, arranged in conjunction with The Civic Theatre and South Dublin County Libraries, while the Clondalkin event were treated to Christmas Carols from the local Clondalkin RAMS, followed by mince pies in the Clondalkin Heritage Centre.

The South Dublin County Council Offices will close for Christmas on Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12pm, reopening Tuesday 2nd January 2024 at 9.00am. For out of hours emergencies, citizens can contact 01 4574907.



South Dublin County Today

The Winter edition of South Dublin County Today, the Councils Citizen Newsletter has been released and includes up to date information on the diverse range of services and initiatives delivered by South Dublin County Council.

This edition includes Be Winter Ready tips, capital projects updates including our new AstroTurf playing pitches, Housing updates and details on the Councils new Climate Action Plan.

You can download your copy of the Winter Edition by visiting www.sdcc.ie

National Accessibility Week 2023

National Accessibility Week took place across the County from November 27 and culminated on International Day of Disabled Persons which takes place annually on 3 December.

National Accessibility Week, which is led by local authorities across the country, is an important opportunity to encourage all people to focus on issues of accessibility and universal design. Councils, businesses, and community groups use the Week to highlight the accessibility of their facilities and services and to encourage wider society to be more inclusive of the varied access needs of disabled people of all ages.

In partnership with organisations across the County, the Council developed a diverse programme of events for National Accessibility Week which included Wheelchair Self Defence, assisted climbing, and ISL Interpreted tours of key South

Dublin heritage sites.

South Dublin Libraries will showcase the vast range of accessibility available across the County network by providing sensory friendly library times, reading books that have accessibility themes during children's story times; providing access to sensory friendly spaces and equipment including the new sensory cubbies, audio books, and dual read Braille books.

South Dublin County Council are committed to equality, inclusion and providing services that are accessible to the whole community throughout the year, evidenced by the recent shortlisting of the Council for an EU Access City Award for our accessible playspaces, the event was attended by Mayor Alan Edge, Cllr. Vicky Casserly and Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, Laurence Colleran on 1 December. The Council have also been shortlisted in the

"Advancing Disability Equality Award" in the National Diversity and Inclusivity Awards, which are due to be held in February 2024.



Christmas Tree Lighting at County Hall, Tallaght

Recruitment Update

Our current workforce comprises 1,466 posts, representing a 4% increase since the start of the year to support continued public services to growing and diverse population as well as delivery of our ambitious capital programme. In the ten-month period from January to October 2023, we have filled 185 vacancies with a number of additional appointments pending in the coming weeks, although over the same period we saw 114 existing staff leave, 29% of whom retired. We have had a very active recruitment schedule to minimise the impact of this staff turnover, with 50 competitions advertised to date to increase our workforce, attracting 1,330 applications and resulting in 137 days of interviews. Please check www.sdcc.ie for current and future job opportunities.



New Council Staff from 2023



Christmas Decoration Competition 2023

Christmas is fast approaching and as we prepare to eat, drink and be merry, we are asking everyone to think about the environment, especially at this time of year.

Did you know? Annually each household generates a lot of extra packaging waste over Christmas, an estimated 54kgs per household.

With this in mind, we would like to invite all schools to enter our Christmas Decoration Competition, with a difference. Decorations must be made from recyclable materials and household packaging.

Please send a picture of your decoration along with the application form to envawareness@sdblincoco.ie. Application forms also available via this email.

Closing date for all applications is Monday 11th December 2023 at 5pm. Best of luck to all who enter, we look forward to seeing all your amazing enteries.



Be Winter Ready 2024

Shorter days, darker mornings and a noticeable chill in the air means that Winter has well and truly arrived. In preparation for the season, our Winter Maintenance Plan for roads includes the salt gritting of primary and secondary routes to aid safe travel during icy conditions.

Drainage maintenance and the clearing of trash screens at rivers and streams to prevent local flooding will continue, with a rolling programme of gully cleaning further strengthening our resilience to heavy rainfall events. Up to date information and guidance can be found on the Council's social media platforms.

Community Climate Action Programme

Applications are now open for the Community Climate Action Programme. The programme will see over €1 Million available to local, not-for-profit community groups/organisations in South Dublin over an initial 18-month period to undertake local climate action projects, with additional funding available for projects with a Northern Ireland aspect.

Projects should help to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities, thus helping to achieve Ireland's national climate and energy targets.

Therefore, projects should seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and/or build climate resilience, helping us to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Projects should also maximise the wider gain to the community as much as possible.

Examples of project themes include community energy, travel, food and waste, shopping and recycling, and local climate and environmental action, with project proposals encouraged to address multiple themes where possible.

Support is available from SDCC's dedicated Community Climate Action Officer. Please get in touch at your earliest opportunity at climatechange@sdblincoco.ie if you are considering making an application. The application period ends on 28 February 2024 after which proposals will be competitively assessed.

Please see the following link for more specific fund information including eligibility, the types of projects that will be considered, and information on how to apply:

www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/community-climate-action-programme/



Tidy Towns Awards

Public Realm Improvement Works

The Improvement Works Programme for Parks and open spaces is now nearing completion for this year. The Programme consisted of 80 schemes of which 32 were footpath improvements, 16 were planting/landscaping schemes, 12 were improvements to access or boundary treatments and five were Public Lighting schemes. There were two improvements to playspaces and the remaining 13 schemes included car park marking and bridge and handrail installation. A total of €1,723,000 was provided in the 2023 Revenue Budget for this Programme of Improvement Works. The 2024 Works Programme is being finalised.

Part 8 Planning Process for Carrigmore Park

Excellence In Local Government Awards SDCC Scoop Climate Change Prize



At the annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, which took place last night (23rd November 2023), SDCC, scooped the Climate Change Award for the Tallaght District Heating Scheme.

The 20th annual Awards ceremony showcases and celebrates the best of Local Government in Ireland and are held in association with the

Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, and proudly sponsored by Ørsted.

South Dublin County Council were shortlisted in 10 of the 16 categories on the night, including Local Authority of the Year.

Tallaght District Heating Scheme was delivered in collaboration between

South Dublin County Council, Amazon Web Services, Fortum (the Finnish energy-supply company), with Codema (City of Dublin Energy-management agency) being instrumental in the development of this innovative, low-carbon initiative.

This scheme has resulted in a low-carbon solution, leveraging recyclable heat through bespoke

Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023

SDCC Local Government Awards Nominations included:

1. Tallaght District Heating Network in Climate Change
2. Voices of Ukraine in Diversity & Inclusion
3. Balgaddy Better Block Event in Festival of the Year
4. Teenspace Programme in Health & Wellbeing
5. Dublin Mountains Community Archaeology Initiative in Heritage and Built Environment
6. Green Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2028 in Supporting Sustainable Communities
7. Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project in Sustainable Environment & Biodiversity
8. Sightless Cinema Tallaght in Sustaining the Arts
9. The Street; Tallaght Innovation Quarter in Urban Revival
10. Local Authority of the year

innovative heat-pump technology.

Minister from the department, Darragh

O'Brien TD was the guest of honour on the night. and speaking at the event, he said; *"Time and again local authorities display immense agility in responding to the challenges which they are presented with – whether that's a global pandemic or an unjust war and the unprecedented influx of people fleeing it."*

"The calibre of applications are outstanding again this year and I want to commend all the applicants, those shortlisted and indeed the winners. While the award ceremony offers us a chance to acknowledge and celebrate the work undertaken by our local authorities I would like to reiterate the Government's appreciation of our local authorities all year round,"

There were 15 awards presented on the night, as well as the overall award for Local Authority of the Year. Individual awards were sponsored by: European Recycling Platform (ERP), Healthy Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, IPB Insurance,

Waterford Crystal and EirGrid.

South Dublin were represented on the night by Council staff from each of the projects nominated along with the Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Alan Edge, Peter Byrne; Chief Executive of South Dublin Chamber of Commerce, South Dublin County Council Chief Executive Colm Ward and Theresa Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change at SDCC.

This award follows previous awards won by the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, including the 'Emerging District Energy Market' award at the Global District - Energy Climate Awards in Brussels which is highlighted below.



Official Opening of the Heatworks, Tallaght District Heating Scheme earlier in the year

Global District Energy Climate Awards Tallaght District Heating Scheme Triumphs



The Tallaght District Heating Scheme (TDHS) has won the prestigious 'Emerging District Energy Market' award at the Global District - Energy Climate Awards in Brussels.

The award recognises the successful implementation of a district energy system in a country where district heating is currently being established. The Global District

Energy Climate Awards celebrate success and collective attainment in the District Heating and Cooling sector. The ceremony was held during the Euroheat & Power Summit on 14-15 November 2023 in Brussels, Belgium.

The finalists represented local district energy pioneers showcasing leadership in delivering clean and

Euroheat and Power Summit

Euroheat and Power, established in 1954, is the European association promoting sustainable district heating and cooling in Europe and beyond.

With over 140 members spread across 30 countries, Euroheat and Power brings together a diverse community of stakeholders from national associations, companies, start-ups, consultancies, and universities.

sustainable energy solutions. The Council is delighted that its company Heat Works was been recognised among such a high standard of entries.

The annual Euroheat & Power Summit in Brussels serves as a dynamic platform for the awards ceremony,

attracting over 230 professionals from global organisations, industry leaders, policymakers, and civil society representatives.

Heat Works, Ireland's first not-for-profit energy utility, is fully owned by South Dublin County Council. The TDHS is the first large-scale district heating network of its kind in Ireland. Launched earlier this year, the scheme represents a significant leap forward in the Ireland's efforts to deliver low-carbon heating solutions.

The heart of the innovation lies in the fact that waste heat generated by the nearby Amazon data centre is harnessed to supply heat to the TDHS network. The collaborative effort between South Dublin County Council, Amazon Web Services, Fortum (the Finnish energy-supply company), has resulted in a low-carbon solution, leveraging recyclable heat through bespoke innovative heat-pump technology. The partnership between South Dublin County Council and Codema (City of Dublin Energy-management agency) has been

instrumental in the development of this innovative, low-carbon initiative.

The environmental impact is substantial, with the TDHS set to save almost 1,500 tonnes of CO2 annually. This achievement not only establishes Tallaght as a leader in climate change innovation but also contributes significantly to the county's carbon reduction goals. By showcasing the environmental value and potential of district heating in Tallaght, the project aims to inspire similar initiatives across Ireland.

Funded with the support of the European Union's Interreg NWE programme (HeatNet), the Project Ireland 2040 Climate Action Fund, SEAI, and with direct funding from the Council, the Tallaght District Heating Scheme aligns with the ambitious targets set in the Government's Climate Action Plan 2023. The plan envisions Ireland reaching up to 0.8 TWh of district heating by 2025 and up to 2.7 TWh by 2030, emphasising the commitment to sustainable energy solutions.



Tallaght District Heating Building

EU Access City Awards

South Dublin win Special Mention Award



South Dublin County wins Special Mention Award at European Union Access City Awards

South Dublin County was today awarded the special mention award for landscape and playground areas at the European Union Access City Awards event held in Brussels, Belgium for accessible playspaces in the County.

The Access City Award has been created by the European Commission to reward cities that have prioritised

accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Accessible spaces – both physical and virtual – are the first step to equality. If persons with disabilities cannot access transportation, shops, parks, websites and so on, they cannot make their own choices and take control of their lives.

EU Access City Awards

The Access City Award has been created by the European Commission to reward cities that have prioritised accessibility for persons with disabilities. Accessible spaces – both physical and virtual – are the first step to equality. If persons with disabilities cannot access transportation, shops, parks, websites and so on, they cannot make their own choices and take control of their lives. A city is accessible when persons with disabilities can:

- Get information
- Use buses, trams and metros
- Enjoy parks and playgrounds
- Get in and around buildings like the library, sports halls and County Hall

The Access City Awards were also held on European Day of persons with disabilities, which took place on Friday 1 December 2023. This week is also National Accessibility Week across the County, which is an important annual opportunity for local authorities to encourage everyone to focus on issues

of accessibility for disabled people. Councils, businesses and community groups across the country are using the Week to highlight the accessibility of their facilities and services; and to encourage wider society to also be more inclusive of the varied access needs of disabled people.

While accepting the award on behalf of the County, Mayor Alan Edge said; *"I am deeply grateful to the staff of South Dublin County who have worked tirelessly with the elected representatives, sharing a vision of a more accessible and inclusive county."*

Across every department their unwavering dedication and passion have been the driving force behind the initiatives that have brought us to this moment.

Play is a basic human right for all children but play alone is not enough. Children deserve to spend their childhoods in close contact with nature and to benefit from its many gifts. This can be especially important to children with Autism and other sensory issues.

Realising this and bringing the values of inclusion, respect for the natural world and community participation into our projects has guided our decision making and delivered enormous benefits."

South Dublin County was represented at the event by the Mayor of South Dublin Cllr. Alan Edge, Cllr. Vicki Casserly and Laurence Colleran, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent at South Dublin County Council.

The Council has also been announced as a finalist in the National Diversity and Inclusion Awards in the "Advancing Disability Equality Award" along with other nominees such as Allianz, Bank of Ireland, Dalata Hotel Group, Hays and the Houses of the Oireachtas Service.

South Dublin County Council are also the only Local Authority represented in any category in these awards. The Awards Ceremony will take place on 8 February 2024 at the Dublin Royal Convention Centre.



South Dublin representatives, Cllr. Vicki Casserly, Mayor Alan Edge and Laurence Colleran, SDCC.



A budget for 2024 with proposed expenditure totaling €338,321,100 was approved by the Elected members of South Dublin County Council at our annual budget meeting on 16th November 2023.

This represents an increase of 10.5%, or €32,250,700, on the 2023 budget, reflecting the need to maintain and expand our services for a growing and diverse population while also responding to the local impact of various global and national economic challenges.

The budget also addresses key local priorities by expanding our housing services, funding enhanced climate action initiatives and continuing to support the economic development of the County.

In housing, increased funding is provided for more homes through

A Focus On Budget 2024

Approved Housing Bodies and leasing, and to support exits from homelessness, as well as €20.6m to maintain our increasing social housing stock, including €2m for new planned maintenance works.

An additional €3.5m is provided to expand our climate actions as we launch a new Climate Action Plan in 2024. This will accelerate retrofitting of our buildings and vehicle decarbonisation along with continued LED street light upgrades and other community climate initiatives.

We also continue our €1m business support fund and have provided funding for the Innovation Centre in Tallaght (opening in early 2024), the 12th Local Masterplan and key projects under our new Tourism Strategy.

Investment in social amenities, public realm and infrastructure for local communities also continues with over €2m for parks upgrades in Cuthberts, Quarryvale, Jobstown and Perrystown and additional funding for community centre

management, teenspaces, pitch improvements, litter bins, the library book fund and a new integration team. €1.5m extra is provided for footpath, road, lane and tree repairs highlighted by local Councillors along with funding for new initiatives on digital accessibility, water refill points, domestic violence awareness and play streets.

Our financial position this year benefited from an increase to €11.5m in base funding from Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage.

This has allowed the various new measures to be introduced even with a Local Property Tax reduction of 15%. In addition, given the cost-of-living



challenges for households and business, there are no increases in our housing rents or commercial rates. However, we have reduced the refund for rates on vacant commercial

properties from 50% to 25% to encourage their productive use and to deter dereliction.

We are able to provide the necessary funding and increases in staffing to service an increasing number of capital projects while also addressing key priorities and planning to meet the needs of our citizens, communities, and businesses in 2024 from a sustainable financial position that allows us to positively shape the future for the County and the Council.



Images of the Month



Park Rangers Event in County Hall Ante Chamber

Images of the Month



Mayor Alan Edge in the new Sensory Room at North Clondalkin Library



David Walliams With SDCC Libraries Staff



Knockmitten Community Centre Health and Wellbeing Event

Images of the Month



Mayor Alan Edge, Cllr. Shane Moynihan, JPC Chair with Commissioner Harris

Images of the Month



Launch of MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) at Sean Walsh Park



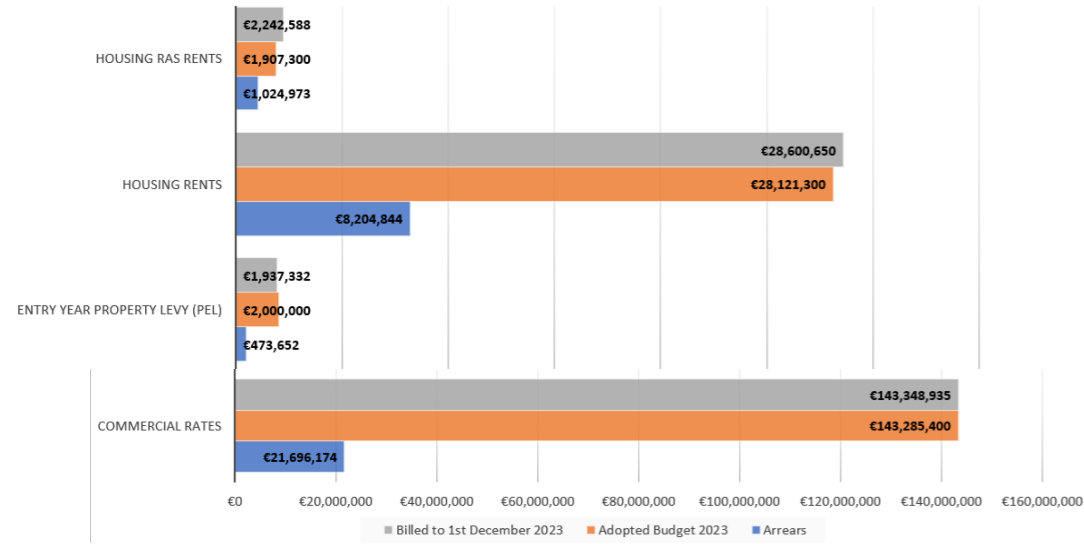
New Calisthenics at Clondalkin Park



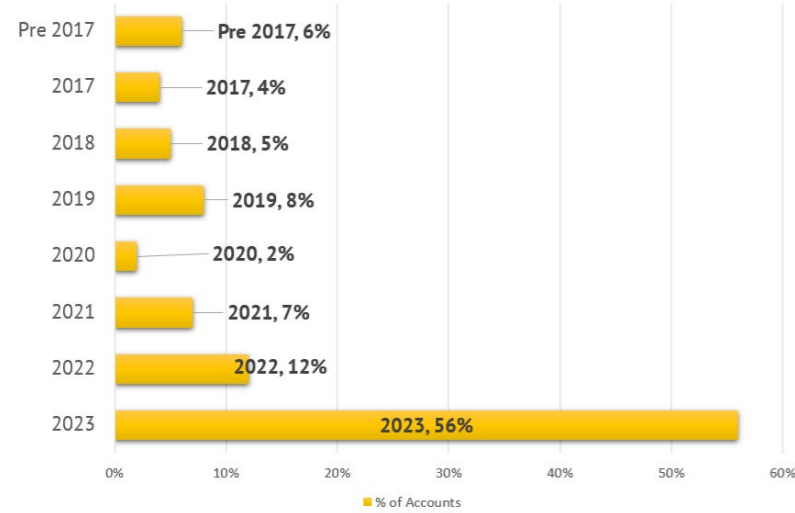
Deputy Mayor Yvonne Collins at the launch of Active South Dublin

Finance Report

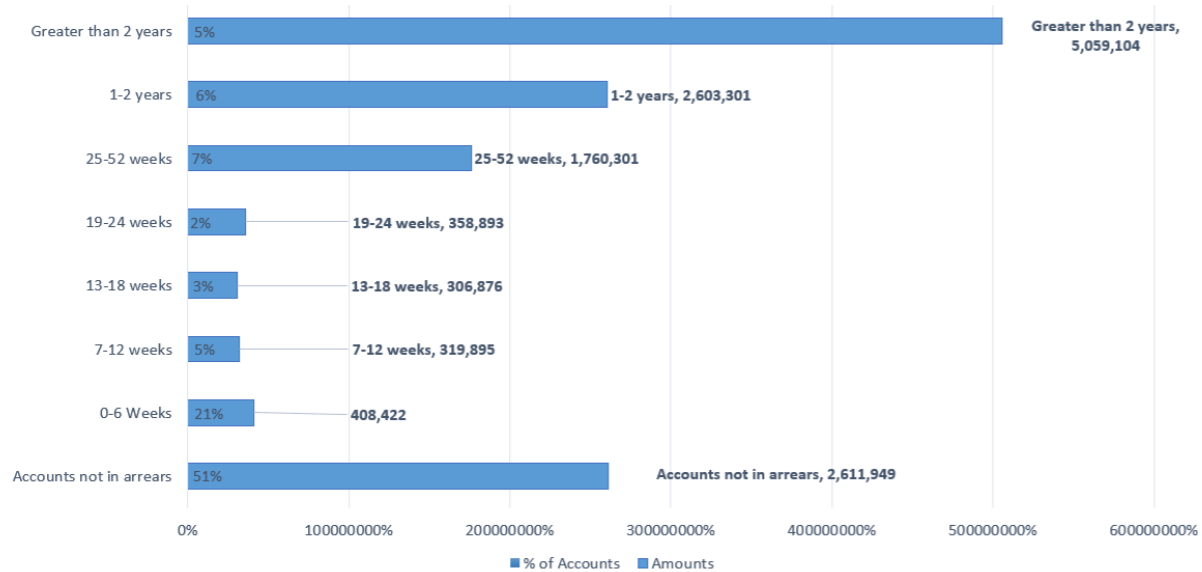
Billing & Collection Statement



Rates Aged Debt



Rents Aged Debt



You can view the full Finance Report under the Manager's Report headed item of the monthly Council meeting agenda.

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