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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council December 2023 Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 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

### Brian Lawlor

### Ronan McMahon

### David McManus

### Lilian Guéret

### Lynn McCrave

### Yvonne Collins

### Mark Lynch

### Emma Murphy

### Justin Sinnott

### **Officials Present**

### Senior Executive Officer Mary Maguire, Sharon Conroy

### A/Senior Executive Officer Edel Clancy, Vivienne Hartnett, Mary Connell

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

### Executive Engineer Joseph Kelly

### Senior Executive Librarian Laura Joyce

### Senior Staff Officer Adrienne McGee

### Staff Officer Eimear O’Sullivan

### Assistant Staff Officer Eduardo DeOliveira

### Clerical Officer Vikki Cryan, Sharayu Mishra

Apologies were received from Cathaoirleach Pamela Kearns and Councillor Alan Edge

Councillor Emma Murphy, presided

### **RTFB/446/H1/1223 Item ID:81489 - 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 14th November 2023 which have been circulated, were submitted, and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor E Murphy, seconded by Councillor M Lynch, and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 14th November 2023 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

[H1 Minutes of November 2023 RTFB ACM](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80896)

## **RTFB/447/1223 – Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor E Murphy, seconded by Councillor Y Collins and **RESOLVED** “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1 - 13 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**

## **Community**

### **RTFB/448/H2/1223 Item ID:81343 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/449/H3/1223 Item ID:81341 – Deputations for Noting**

Deputations for Noting (No Business)

### **RTFB/450/C1/1223 Item ID:81331 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/451/M1/1223 Item ID:80988 – Sensory Boxes Roll Out**

Proposed by Councillor L. Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

As part of our continued inclusion strategy, that sensory boxes are rolled out to community centres and youth clubs in the RTFB area, for the use of neurodiverse children, teens and adults in our community who use these venues.

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

The Community Department will look into providing sensory boxes in some centres on a pilot basis. Following on from a review of the pilot, if successful, we will look to secure funding to roll out the service to the wider area.

Following Contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade, Edel Clancy A/Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was Agreed.

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/452/H4/1223 Item ID:81347 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/453/H5/1223 Item ID:81467 – Q3 Quarterly Report on Anti-Social Behaviour**

The following Report was presented by Mary Connell A/Senior Executive Officer.

**Quarterly Report on Anti-Social Behaviour**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTING & STATISTICS FOR RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE/FIRHOUSE/BOHERNABREENA** | | | | | |  |
| **Incidents** | **2022 TOTAL** | **1st Qtr 2023** | **2nd Qtr 2023** | **3rd Qtr 2023** | **4th Qtr 2023** | **2023 TOTAL** |
| **CATEGORY A** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drugs Activity reported to SDCC | **3** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Criminal Activity reported to SDCC | **1** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Joyriding reported to SDCC | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Violence/intimidation/ harassment reported to SDCC | **9** | 0 | 0 | 2 |  | **2** |
| **CATEGORY B** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Squatters/illegal occupiers reported to SDCC | **5** | 1 | 2 | 0 |  | **3** |
| Vandalism reported to SDCC | **4** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Physical condition of property reported to SDCC | **7** | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | **1** |
| Physical condition of Garden reported to SDCC | **2** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Racism reported to SDCC | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Vacant House reported to SDCC | **10** | 3 | 1 | 2 |  | **6** |
| Neighbour Dispute (including parking) reported to SDCC | **3** | 1 | 4 | 0 |  | **5** |
| **CATEGORY C** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Noise/disturbance reported to SDCC | **3** | 0 | 1 | 0 |  | **1** |
| Pets/animal nuisance reported to SDCC | **2** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Children Nuisance reported to SDCC | **0** | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | **1** |
| Selling alcohol | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| **Total Incidents reported to SDCC** | 55 | 7 | 8 | 5 |  | 20 |
| **Total Complaints reported to SDCC** | **64** | 10 | 10 | 4 |  | **24** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Actions taken by Allocations Support Unit Staff - Main actions listed below** | **296** | 57 | 53 | 19 |  | **129** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Housecall / Inspection | **58** | 8 | 11 | 2 |  | **21** |
| Demand for Possession Section 15 & 17 | **0** | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | **1** |
| Abandonment notice served | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Surrenders Obtained (including Termination of Tenancy under Section 15) | **5** | 0 | 1 | 0 |  | **1** |
| Warnings issued | **6** | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | **0** |
| Interviews held (formal office and by phone) | **39** | 6 | 7 | 4 |  | **17** |
| Pre-Tenancies (includes following up Tenancy Checks) | **26** | 10 | 5 | 0 |  | **15** |
| Complaints received by Whatsapp | **0** | 0 | 0 | 1 |  | **1** |

### Following Contributions from Councillor E Murphy, this Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/454/H6/1223 Item ID:81381 – Q3 Housing Delivery Report**

The following report was presented by Vivienne Hartnett A/Senior Executive Officer

**Housing Delivery Report**

[H6 Housing Delivery Update Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80882)

Following Contributions from Councillors M Lynch, E Murphy and D McManus, Vivienne Hartnett A/Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised, committed to circulating additional information relating to legal challenges and engagement with residents in Pearse Brothers Park and an update on the new housing development in Templeogue. The Report was **Noted.**

### **RTFB/455/C2/1223 Item ID:81334 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/456/Q1/1223 Item ID:81321 – Planning Permission Breaches**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins

That this Council sets out the number of instances of a reported breach of planning permission in relation to the use of a property within the last 3 years to date in this ACM, the procedure it follows to investigate same and the length of time between the Council becoming aware of a possible breach and taking the appropriate action in the matter.

**REPLY:**

The planning system will not allow the user to extract the detail of information to report on the question as requested.

A summary of open, closed and live enforcement files is detailed below for the years 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023 to the 30th of November 2023

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the LA during the year that were investigated | 278 | 236 | 176 | 193 |
| Number of cases that were closed during the year | 76 | 59 | 342 | 295 |
| Live Cases |  |  |  | 534 |

On receipt of a written complaint, where it would appear to the Council that unauthorised development may have been, is being or may be carried out, the Council must issue a warning letter to the owner or person carrying out the alleged unauthorised development, unless the development in question is considered of a trivial or minor nature, or the Council considers that the complaint is without substance.

The warning letter, referred to as a [**Section 152 notice**](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2000/act/30/section/152/enacted/en/html#:~:text=Planning%20and%20Development%20Act%2C%202000.%20Warning%20letter.%20152.,is%20not%20vexatious%2C%20frivolous%20or%20without%20substance%20), must issue within 6 weeks of receipt of the written complaint being made and must:

* state that an unauthorised development may have been, or is being, carried out.
* state that the person has 4 weeks to make a submission to the planning authority on the allegations.
* state that if the authority forms the view that the development is unauthorised, an enforcement notice (see below) may issue.
* state that the authority’s officials may enter the land for the purposes of inspection.
* explain the potential penalties involved; and
* explain that a court action may be taken to recover costs incurred by the authority.

Once the letter has issued, the Council investigates the matter with a view to deciding whether further action is required. This decision must be taken as expeditiously as possible, although there is a statutory objective to decide this within 12 weeks of the warning letter issuing.

In making the decision, the Council must take into account the original written complaint received and any representations / submissions from the person who was served with the warning notice.

Where the Council establishes, having carried out an investigation that unauthorised development is being carried out which is not trivial or minor, and the person carrying out the development does not move to remedy the situation (e.g., by removing the offending development or by applying for and being granted planning permission) the Council must take further action.

The Council's decision, and the reasons for it, must be entered on the planning register, which is available for viewing in all planning authority offices.

Where the Council decides not to pursue enforcement action it has two further weeks to notify the complainant and anyone else who had been earlier notified of the original warning letter issuing.

**Timescale for Warning Letter Process**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Action** | **Timescale** |
| Written complaint received by planning authority | Start |
| Warning letter issued | Within 6 weeks |
| Response from alleged unauthorised developer | Within a further 4 weeks |
| Local authority to carry out investigation and decide whether further action is required | Within 12 weeks of issuing the warning letter |
| Local Authority reply to complainant | Within a further 2 weeks (i.e., within 2 weeks of making its decision) |

Once a planning authority has decided to pursue enforcement action, an Enforcement Notice, [**See Section 154**](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2000/act/30/section/154/enacted/en/html) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended,  is served on:

* the person carrying out the development; and (if necessary) the landowner.
* the person occupying the land (if they are not the owner); and any other person concerned.
* Notification of the issuing of the enforcement notice is also sent to the original complainant and anyone else concerned, although failure to do this will not affect the validity of the enforcement notice. In the meantime, if the authority becomes aware that other people may also be responsible for the unauthorised development it can serve notice on them also, extending the deadline for compliance as appropriate.
* An enforcement notice is effective from the date it is served, and it states the following:

where the development is being carried out without planning permission, that it must cease.

where the development has planning permission but is not being carried out in accordance with it, that it must fully comply with the permission concerned.

that certain steps are to be taken within a specified period, including the removal, demolition, or alteration of any structure; the discontinuance of any use of land; or the restoration of the land to its previous state before the unauthorised development began.

that where these steps are not taken within the period stated, the person will be guilty of an offence and that the planning authority may enter the land and do the work itself with the cost being recoverable from the person.

that other costs involved with taking the enforcement action can be recovered from the person by the authority, e.g., investigation, employee and consultant costs.

The carrying out of any works for restoration, etc. on foot of an enforcement notice or court order (see below) does not need planning permission, given that failure to do this would place the person in breach of planning law.

The following general points about enforcement notices also apply:

* all details of enforcement notices are entered on the planning register and listed in the Local Authority’s annual report.
* an enforcement notice has effect for 10 years from the date of its serving.
* in addition to the offences described above, it is also an offence to assist or permit the failure of someone to comply with an enforcement notice.

It is desirable that planning enforcement matters be resolved without recourse to legal intervention.

However, there are cases where, instead of issuing an enforcement notice (or subsequent to issuing an enforcement notice, in the event the notice is not complied with) the Council may, where an unauthorised development is being, or is about to be, undertaken, can also apply to the Circuit or High Court for an injunction preventing it.

Notwithstanding the above, due to resources required, it is not always possible to deal with complaints of alleged planning enforcement within the prescribed timeframe, and often cases are prioritised as necessary.

At present there are 534 open / live enforcement files of varying dates to hand, for which it is not possible to put timeframes for closure.

### **RTFB/457/Q2/1223 Item ID:81324 – Temporary Haul Road at Our Lady’s School, Templeogue**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins

To ask for an update in relation to the status of the temporary Haul Road in Our Lady's School, Templeogue now that the recent building works have been completed.

**REPLY:**

Contact was made with the project Architect who has reported that works have been carried out to reinstate the route of the temporary haul road, which was required to facilitate the extension works at the school.

Snags are being identified and fixed shortly.

Particular items of concern (if they exist) should be advised to the Traffic Senior Engineer / Senior Executive Engineer, who will refer these along to the project Architect for action.

### **RTFB/458/H7/1223 Item ID:81350 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/459/C3/1223 Item ID:81337 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/460/M2/1223 Item ID:81209 – Improved Access to Limekiln Rd. for Temple Manor Residents**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the manager investigates improved access to Limekiln Road Dublin 12 for residents in the Temple Manor Estate.

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

 The transportation team welcomes an opportunity to discuss access issues in this area.   Regrettably, the motion as submitted provides insufficient detail on issues / the exact location(s) etc, to enable a detailed reply at this point in time.

Following Contributions Councillor J Sinnott, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/461/M3/1223 Item ID:81317 – Commemorative Plaque for WT Cosgrave**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

That this area committee requests the Chief Executive to install a small plaque to commemorate local resident WT Cosgrave - a veteran of Easter Rising 1916, first elected President of the Executive Council of Saorstát Éireann in December 1922 - to be displayed on the public wall of the Southern Courtyard within Rathfarnham Castle Park, that such work will include careful consultation with his family, local community and Council management?

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

**Section 5 of the The Naming of Infrastructure Policy** agreed by the Council provides as follow in relation to the provision of **Plaques and Memorials:**

The provision of plaques and memorials can support heritage and cultural awareness in addition to promoting tourist sites and locations. The council receives many requests for recognition of historic figures and events by way of plaque on their residence or at a location of significance so there is validity to inclusion of this category of commemoration in the policy. The following guidelines would apply: -

5.1 Wording on commemorative plaques, memorials or statues should be kept to a minimum. The use of Irish and English is desirable, and proposers should be aware of the need to comply with the requirements of the Official Languages Act 2003 at all times

5.2 Normally an individual or event can only be commemorated with one plaque or monument within the County.

5.3 In general only one commemorative plaque should be erected on any building/structure.

5.4 The design should be consistent with County Branding templates and construction should require little maintenance and should be resistant to vandalism.

5.5 All proposals to erect monuments, memorials or plaques will have to comply with planning regulations. Due to the general nature and size of monuments or statues proposals for these may require planning permission, this facilitates public engagement and submissions.

5.6 Early advice should be sought on the erection of a plaque, memorial or monument on, or within the curtilage of, a Protected Structure, ACA, Conservation area, Heritage or Biodiversity site (including Special Areas of Conservation and proposed Natural Heritage Areas), as planning permission may be needed in order to proceed.

5.7 The erection of a plaque, memorial or monument on, or in the vicinity of, a Recorded Monument will require 2 months prior notification to the National Monuments Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs or in the case of a National Monument ministerial consent will be required from the Minister of Arts, Heritage Regional Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. There are official forms that must be submitted in relation to notification or consent which are available from the National Monuments Service (www.archaeology.ie).

5.8 Requests for memorials and plaques from family members in cases of tragic deaths will not come under this policy, such requests will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the relevant Department of the Council.

The types of Commemorative Memorials that should be considered to mark significant historical events, anniversaries or people are as follows:

Plaques – A flat tablet of metal, stone or other material which includes text or images and is fixed to a wall or other surface.

Plaques are generally erected to commemorate the residence, or a location associated with an important individual or the site of a significant event.

Monuments or Statues – A three-dimensional structure or object of architectural or sculptural design erected in memory of a person, association, anniversary, or event. The size, composition, and positioning of the plaque, monument or statue should be appropriate to, and reflective of, the event or person being commemorated and to the location proposed.

Based on the policy the Naming of Infrastructure Committee (NIC) set the following criteria which must be met when considering requests:

1. Principle of proposal agreed by Department
2. The Exact Location
3. Is it on Public Land/Owned
4. The Plaque Design and wording/ language
5. Consultation with the relevant bodies/families
6. Budget and Fee
7. Next Step

While the motion asks for the Chief Executive to erect a plaque on the public wall of the Southern Courtyard within Rathfarnham Castle Park to commemorate WT Cosgrave, further details will be required as outlined above, as well as the need for the proposal to be validated by the relevant Director of Services, in this case EETD, before referral to an All-Party Infrastructure Naming Committee which will be chaired by the Mayor.

Following Contributions from Councillors D McManus, R McMahon and L McCrave, Mary Maguire Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/462/Q3/1223 Item ID:81232 – Whitechurch Road Footpath Repair**

Proposed by Councillor M. Lynch

The pathways on Whitechurch Road are in a bad state of repair and are disintegrating in places. See attached map. There is also uncut greenery and brambles along the pathway. Both if these issues are causing a health and safety hazard for users of the pathway. Are these pathways on the schedule for repair and if not, could an engineer be assigned to examine the area with a view to having them repaired.

**REPLY:**

SDCC carried out some repairs on Whitechurch Road in 2021 and 2022 but were advised by the resident engineer on the Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme that paths on Whitechurch Road would likely be excavated as part of their future scheme.

It was decided to suspend any future footpath repairs until the extent of this scheme was known.

[Q3 Whitechurch Road Map2](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80663)

### **RTFB/463/Q4/1223 Item ID:81272 – Wheelchair Accessible Car Parking Spaces**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Manager for the number and location of Wheelchair Accessible Car Parking Spaces in Rathfarnham/ Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area.

**Report:**

There are 15 Wheelchair Accessible Car Parking Spaces between Rathfarnham and Templeogue. Ten in Rathfarnham and 5 in Templeogue.

### **RTFB/464/Q5/1223 Item ID:81273 – Age Friendly Car Parking Spaces**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Manager for the number and location of the Age Friendly Car Parking Spaces in Rathfarnham/ Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area.

**REPLY:**

It is an objective of the SDCC Age Friendly Strategy 2020 /2024 (Led by Community Department) to consult with older persons on future public transport initiatives including road, cycle, walkway, and parking facilities, and to lead an age friendly parking scheme across public car parking facilities and encourage private participation in this scheme.

To date AFP has been delivered at 7 locations, primarily at community centres and at Co Hall, none of which are in these EAs.

There are no AFP spaces provided as yet by SDCC Transportation Dept in the public realm (Streets and public car parks).

### **RTFB/465/H8/1223 Item ID:81352 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/466/H9/1223 Item ID:81354 – Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads - (NO BUSINESS)

### **RTFB/467/H10/1223 Item ID:81356 – Templeville Road Cycle Route Phase 2’**

The following report was presented by Joseph Kelly Executive Engineer.

**Templeville Road Cycle Route Phase 2**

[H10 Templeville Road Cycle Scheme P2](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80883)

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, D McManus, L Guéret and R McMahon, Joseph Kelly Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/468/C4/1223 Item ID:81339 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/469/M4/1223 Item ID:81053 – Ballyroan Crescent Pedestrian Crossing Inspection**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the Chief Executive inspects, and repairs broken tactile paving at the pedestrian crossing on Ballyroan Crescent Rathfarnham, and if works could be prioritised as the crossing is heavily used by children and parents going to local schools?

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

SDCC have repaired the tactile paving at this location

Following Contributions from Councillor D McManus, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/470/M5/1223 Item ID:81208 – Ballycullen Road Safety Audit**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the manager undertakes a road safety audit in the Ballycullen area. The lack of pedestrian crossings in the area is also an issue that needs to be considered.

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

The request in its present form covers a large geographical area.  I am happy to investigate specific traffic hazards that are identified.  When the traffic section have specific items to address we can carry out safety assessments and carry out appropriate actions.

In relation to pedestrian crossings, we are likely to have a budget in 2024 to look at candidate sites for additional pedestrian facilities.  The traffic section will be generating a list of proposed sites based on need, county geographical spread and the level of available funding.

We will organise a workshop with the members to prioritise the chosen sites for safety measures and pedestrian crossings for 2024.

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/471/M6/1223 Item ID:81210 – Yellow Box Request for Tara Hill & Grange Road Junction**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the manager arranges for a yellow box at the entrance to Tara Hill Road on Grange Road Dublin 14 in a future roads and works programme.

[M6 Yellow Box photo(i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80640)

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

The traffic section will assess the proposed location and will construct a yellow box if it is deemed prudent and safe to do so.

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/472/M7/1223 Item ID:81316 – Footpath Repair**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the Chief Executive examines the public road outside [address provided], the public footpath outside [address provided], and public footpath where a public tree is lifting the concrete pavement outside [address provided], for consideration of 2024 road and footpath repair programme?

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

These locations have been inspected and listed for repair.

One location the defect is a result of tree damage and road maintenance will engage with public realm on this.

Following Contributions from Councillor D McManus, the Report was **Noted**.

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **RTFB/473/Q6/1223 Item ID:81240 – New Library Plans for Templeogue / Greenhills / Perrystown**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Manager if there are any plans for the Construction of a Library Building in the Templeogue/ Greenhills / Perrystown area.

**REPLY:**

South Dublin Libraries current branch network consists of 6 full-time branches of varying size and age and one small, part-time branch in Palmerstown. In addition, our mobile library service operates across the county, serving a catchment population of around 10,000 people through the public stop timetable. In addition, the mobile library service delivers housebound services and visits to schools, creches, nursing homes, and other facilities. There are also two satellite services, Think Big Space in Tallaght, and Stewart’s Library in Palmerstown.

The following projects are included in the County Development Plan (2022-2028) or have been included in the current Capital Programme:

* Clondalkin Library – Access Improvement and Refurbishment Works (Part 8 process due to commence)
* Adamstown – New Development (Pre-planning)
* Citywest – New Development (Pre-planning)
* Rathcoole – New Development (Initiation)

While there are no current plans for a library for the area in question, preliminary planning work for future developments, i.e. analysis of our current network coverage, has commenced. The process will be led by the County Development Plan and influenced by the requirements to maintain and refurbish our current network. Other factors to be considered include; geographical area and population; location of next nearest library service; social impact; project complexity; potential for external funding; and range of ultimate cost.

### **RTFB/474/H11/1223 Item ID:81348 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/475/H12/1223 Item ID:81328 – Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants (No Business)

### **RTFB/476/H13/1223 Item ID:81342 – Library News & Events**

The following report was presented by Laura Joyce Senior Executive Librarian

**Library News & Events**

[H13 Libraries Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80832)  
[H13 Library Statistics](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80799)

Following Contributions from Councillors L Guéret, R McMahon, M Lynch, L McCrave and E Murphy, Laura Joyce Senior Executive Librarian Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/477/C5/1223 Item ID:81335 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/478/Q7/1223 Item ID:81233 – Rathfarnham Architectural Inspection**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager if a architectural heritage impact assessment has been carried out as part of the initial preparation for the Rathfarnham Castle Masterplan? The castle is a national monument and protected structure and is subject to a Preservation Order under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014.

**REPLY:**

There are certain procedures and requirements associated with National Monuments and SDCC will undertake all relevant studies as part of the Part 8 process with regard the Rathfarnham courtyard project.  Any proposed development of the above location will be subject of a Part 8 planning process including public consultation.

### **RTFB/479/H14/1223 Item ID:81345 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/480/C6/1223 Item ID:81333 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Performance & Change Management**

### **RTFB/481/H15/1223 Item ID:81349 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/482/C7/1223 Item ID:81336 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/483/H16/1223 Item ID:81344 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/484/C8/1223 Item ID:81332 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/485/M8/1223 Item ID:81315 – Letters to NTA, Dublin Bus & GoAhead re S6 Bus Route**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge

That this Area Committee write to NTA, Dublin Bus and GoAhead to express our disappointment in relation to aspects of the new bus services, particularly the cancellations occurring on the S6 route and the increased journey time of students to UCD and IADT.

In the absence of Councillor A Edge, this motion **Falls**.

## **Water & Drainage**

### **RTFB/486/Q8/1223 Item ID:81236 – Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme**

Proposed by Councillor M. Lynch

Can the manager provide an update on the Poddle Flood Alleviation Scheme. Residents in Wainsfort Manor Drive and Green report that work has not been completed on the River going through / bordering their estate.

**REPLY:**

Works have not commenced on the River Poddle FAS as it was only granted planning approval by An Bord Pleanala in June 2023. The scheme will be constructed by the OPW Eastern Region Construction Section and following initial discussions with the ERCS it is hoped to commence the scheme in Q1 2024, subject to the required statutory licences being in place.

When the licences are secured, the works will initially commence on the embankments, flow control structure and Integrated Constructed Wetlands in Tymon Park. It is currently estimated that proposed works in the Wainsfort area won’t commence until Q1 2025.

In order to minimise the impacts of proposed works in residential areas, sufficient notification will be provided to residents prior to works commencing in these areas. It is also planned to host Pre Construction Information Events throughout the scheme where interested parties will be provided the opportunity to discuss the possible impacts of the construction works in their areas. The first of these is provisionally scheduled to be held in Q1 2024 and will be advertised when the start date of the works is confirmed.

### **RTFB/487/H17/1223 Item ID:81353 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/488/C9/1223 Item ID:81340 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/489/Q9/1223 Item ID:81135 – Update on Tree Pruning at Willowbank Drive**

Proposed by Councillor M. Lynch

To ask the manager to provide an update on the arrangements for tree pruning works on Willowbank Drive near the junction of the R817, as agreed at the October meeting in motion 2. Item ID 80211.

**REPLY:**

The trees at the junction of Willowbank Drive and Ballyroan Road are scheduled to be pruned before the end of the year.  Due to the presence of overhead power lines a specialist contractor has been engaged to carry out this work.

### **RTFB/490/Q10/1223 Item ID:81207 – Request for Public Lighting Extension in Greenhills Park**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager for an update on a motion passed at a previous area committee meeting requesting a lit pathway through Greenhills Park.

**REPLY:**

This matter was raised under motion 4 on the agenda of the April 2023 meeting of this area committee, the response given to that motion is copied below.

'Public lighting is already in place in Greenhills Park along the main pathway through the park, from the entrance at Limekiln Lane/St Joseph's Road running along the boundary with Wilkins Estate and turning down to the bus terminus at Limekiln Avenue.  In total there is over 360 linear metres of footpath with public lighting provided along it at the present time.  This footpath currently provides connectivity and permeability between the Saints Roads, Limekiln Avenue and Road and Temple Manor estate as suggested in the motion.'

The Public Realm Section is currently examining and costing a proposal to extend the public lighting over to the park entrance on St James' Road.  It is hoped to include this scheme on the 2024 Public Realm Improvement Works Programme which will be presented in draft form to the meeting of the area committee in January.

### **RTFB/491/Q11/1223 Item ID:81314 – Dodder Valley Park Running Track**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge

To provide an update on the running track in Dodder Valley Park, addressing issues such as marking, lighting, storage and signage as well as liaison with local stakeholders.

**REPLY:**

The running track in Dodder Valley Park will be allocated to a club through our allocation process which we use for the allocation of our pitches. The running track will be allocated to Brothers Pearse Athletics Club for the 2023/2024 season. Should any other athletics club be interested in using this facility they can contact Public Realm at publicrealm@sdublincoco.ie

The grass athletics track at Dodder Valley Mt Carmel has been completed in line with the Part 8 that was passed by the Council. Lighting was not proposed as part of the facility and is not permitted in the area, in line with the Part 8 for the facility.  
Storage areas have been provided on site, however as the athletics club have specific additional requirements, they are currently investigating the type of additional facility they can acquire and will revert to SDCC for approval.  
Signage was not proposed as part of the Part 8 and SDCC grass pitches / tracks are not normally signed as this would lead to visual clutter in many of our parks.  Line marking is an operational matter and is carried out by the clubs who are allocated pitch/track facilities in parks and open spaces.

### **RTFB/492/Q12/1223 Item ID:81323 – Rathfarnham Castle Playground**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins

To ask for an update in relation to the proposed works to be carried out to the surface of the playground in Rathfarnham Castle Park as the surface is very slippy and there have been some falls recently.

**REPLY:**

A commitment was given earlier in the year that some repairs were required and would be carried out on the playground surface in the Rathfarnham Castle playground.  This was in response to motion number 6 on the agenda of the May 2023 meeting of this area committee. This repair work is scheduled to take place early in the new year.

### **RTFB/493/H18/1223 Item ID:81351 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/494/C10/1223 Item ID:81338 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/495/M9/1223 Item ID:81056 – Hedge Pruning on Ballyboden Way**

Proposed by Councillor M. Lynch, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the council undertakes urgent pruning of hedges, shrubs, brambles etc on the footpath and cycle lane on Ballyboden Way which is a main thoroughfare for school children and other pedestrians, and undertakes to conduct regular pruning to ensure that this infrastructure remain usable, before, during and after the Old Bawn Active Travel Scheme works.

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

Arrangements are being made to prune the bushes and hedges which line the cycle track on Ballyboden Way, from Templeroan Road to Ballyboden Road. This work is scheduled to be done before the end of the year. Arrangements are also being made to sweep and remove leaves from the road, footpaths and cycle lanes at this location.  This sweeping is due to be done in the coming days. The pruning of the hedges and bushes at this location will be added to the annual hedge cutting programme and the sweeping of cycle lanes will be scheduled on a monthly basis, to ensure that the area is maintained to an acceptably high standard on an ongoing basis.

Following Contributions from Councillor M Lynch, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/496/M10/1223 Item ID:81206 – Laneway Cleansing in Dublin 12**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the manager includes the cleaning of laneways in D12 in the next schedule (weeds, paths) and for the lanes to be added to a regular schedule going forward.

[M10 (areas) D12 laneway cleaning](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80921)

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

Provision has been made in the 2024 budget for a laneway cleaning programme and arrangements are being made to put this in place commencing from January.  A number of laneways will be cleaned before the end of the year on a trial basis to establish the level of staff and machinery resources required across the 70 or so locations, all of which are different in terms of the issues to be resolved.  In some cases laneways are already relatively clean whereas others have a heavy build up of weeds which need to be removed.  It is proposed to carry out the work in 3 phases with large illegally dumped items to be removed first and the laneway will then be swept to remove all leaves, weeds and other small litter.  Following this the laneway will be treated with herbicide to control future weed growth.

The full list of Dublin 12 laneways to be included in the programme is attached in a separate document.  The elected members will be kept informed as the programme progresses throughout the course of the year with before and after photographs made available of all laneways as they are cleaned.

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/497/M11/1223 Item ID:81276 – Footpath & Green Area Maintenance at Scoil Carmel**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the Manager arranges for the regular maintenance of the Green area and footpath at the back of Scoil Carmel in Firhouse to enable the School Children to gain access to the Dodder Greenway for exercise during School Terms.

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

A commitment was given previously to provide a footpath link from the entrance at the rear of Scoil Carmel to the path network in Dodder Valley Park and this work has been carried out in part with the area having been excavated and hardcore laid.  The new footpath link will be surfaced in the new year. This will connect with the existing system of footpaths in the park which are at the rear of the new playing pitch, running track and the school.  Some of these paths are also in need of surfacing and this matter will be examined and considered for inclusion in the public realm improvement works programme, possibly on a phased basis over a number of years.  The green area mentioned is intended to be left as a low maintenance area in the interests of encouraging wildlife and biodiversity, the outer border of this green area alongside the footpath can be included in the regular maintenance and grass cutting programme in the park and this will commence in the new year.

Following Contributions from Councillor L Guéret, the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/498/M12/1223 Item ID:81320 – Hedge Pruning at Monalea Wood**

Proposed by Councillor B. Lawlor

That the Manager arranges to prune back the hedge which runs along Monalea Wood (details supplied) Firhouse. I've had complaints from neighbours about it. There are wheelchair users, walking frame users and parents with buggies in our estate who can no longer pass on the path. [address provided] .

In the absence of Councillor B Lawlor, this motion **Falls**.

### **RTFB/499/M13/1223 Item ID:81322 – Environmentally Sensitive Lighting at Rathfarnham Castle**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That this Council explores the possibility of environmentally sensitive lighting in Rathfarnham Castle Park, limited to that part of the park used by the Rathfarnham WSAF Athletics Club, for the benefit of the club´s Juvenile Athletes during evening training sessions in the Autumn/Winter months, bearing in mind that it would be for approx. 2 hours, 2 nights per week. Currently, the club uses mobile lighting transported manually from the clubhouse to the park and has done so for many years. It is a very successful club and an enormous asset to the community and more efficient lighting during the winter months would be very welcome.

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

Public lighting in parks and open spaces is in general only provided where there are short pedestrian links between residential areas which are lit to facilitate permeability.  It may not be safe to attract members of the public into a park in darkness by providing lighting as this may also attract anti-social elements into the area.  Parks should therefore not be used during darkness when alternative lit routes are available along public roads which are passively supervised by passing traffic.

The provision of lights in our parks would also increase the carbon footprint of the Council and it could be considered to be an unacceptable intrusion into the ecology of the area.

The Council has always held the position that parks are closed to the public at fall of light and does not install lighting to facilitate night-time training in public parks for a number of reasons including possible exposure to legal action if an accident were to happen, concentrated wear in the vicinity of the lights especially in the winter when ground conditions are often poor, as well as the environmental and ecological issues already mentioned.

Rathfarnham AC have had use, for the most part informally, of the park at Rathfarnham Castle for their youth training.  The club has been repeatedly advised that that there are no proposals to provide lighting in this park to accommodate out of hours usage, and no financial provision has ever been made in that regard.

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, D McManus, L McCrave and R McMahon, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised. He reiterated that lighting would not be accommodated but committed to exploring the possibility of storage to assist the club in their juvenile training program and the Managers report was **Noted**.

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/500/Q13/1223 Item ID:81274 – EV Charging Points**

Proposed by Councillor L. Guéret

To ask the Manager for an update on the number and location of EV Charging Points in Rathfarnham/ Templeogue/ Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area.

**REPLY:**

Due to the rapidly changing nature of the EV Charging market and infrastructure, SDCC does not maintain a register charging points located within the county.  As per the information on the council web site, members of the public are redirected to a third party website ( [www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com)), that allows the registering of charging points and provides real time information in relation to charger locations, charger numbers, charger type and their current use status.  The charging point listed are provided by third parties, on private land, for public use.

### **RTFB/501/H19/1223 Item ID:81346 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/502/C11/1223 Item ID:81330 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/503/M14/1223 Item ID:81211 – Bin Replacement Request at Bus Stop at St Enda’s Drive**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the manager arranges for the replacement of the bin at the bus stop of St Enda's Drive on the Grange Road Dublin 14.

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

Arrangements will be made as requested to remove the litter bin from Grange Road close to the junction with St Enda's Drive and to replace it with a new litter bin.

[M14 New Bin photo(i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=80641)

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, the report was **Noted**.

The meeting concluded at 15:57

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An Cathaoirleach