

South County Dublin LECP

Goal 1: For the County of South Dublin to become a better place in which to live and work.

Objective 1.1: Support the provision of housing that meets the requirements of an expanding population with varying needs.

Actions:

1.1.1. In line with the County Development Plan, continue to deliver Housing for All, the Housing Delivery Action Plan, Homeless Action Plan, Traveller Accommodation Plan and any subsequent plans.

1.1.2. Work in collaboration with housing developers to ensure that large new housing developments and their respective masterplans are designed to embrace the urban village concept.

1.1.3. Work to facilitate the continued creation of increased housing options for older people (e.g. rightsizing), people with disabilities, Travellers and those with additional needs, to support the provision of independent and/or assisted living.

Objective 1.2: South Dublin is to be a safer place for all.

Actions:

1.2.1. Support the expansion of women's refuge facilities to meet local demand in South Dublin.

(Awaiting further comment from SDCC)

1.2.2. Support the provision of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence services in South Dublin by creating a communications campaign creating awareness to prevent and mitigate against domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.

1.2.3. To work with COSC, The National Office for the prevention of domestic, sexual and gender based violence.

1.2.4. Continue to support the existing Community Based CCTV Scheme.

1.2.5. Further develop and promote the network of Garda Clinics across South Dublin to facilitate easy interaction between residents, businesses and An Garda Síochána.

1.2.6. Create a directory of Community Gardai in the County, contact details and their services. Support the recruitment of additional Community Gardaí.

1.2.7. In an effort to help design crime out of new housing and public realm schemes, An Garda Síochána are to be consulted on the design of all new proposed SDCC public realm and housing schemes.

1.2.8. Explore opportunities to deepen the interaction between South Dublin County Council and An Garda Síochána, including sharing information and consultation with regards to the significant reduction of anti-social behaviour.

Objective 1.3: Improve the aesthetic appearance of our County in the interest of its Economic and Social Development.

Actions:

1.3.1. Continue to address areas of dereliction and vacancy. Provide advice on grants schemes/assistance to property owners.

1.3.2. Support the installation of striking, impressive public art across South Dublin.

1.3.3. Deliver on the Actions of the Litter Management Plan 2023 -2025. Continue to support Tidy Towns groups, other community groups, and individuals in their efforts to keep their area clean.

1.3.4. Where practical, all publicly funded public realm schemes are to primarily use high-quality natural materials.

1.3.5. Support the aesthetic appearance of our industrial and retail units through the role out of an enhanced Business Support Fund and Shop Front Grant Scheme.

Objective 1.4: Enhance the citizen and visitor cultural experience of South Dublin through arts, culture, heritage and tourism.

Actions:

1.4.1. Support the continued development of a vibrant and innovative arts and cultural scene across South Dublin through the implementation of the ReFRAME Arts Development Strategy and any subsequent plans.

1.4.2. Support the implementation of the South Dublin Heritage Plan and any subsequent plans.

1.4.3. Support the implementation of the South Dublin Tourism Strategy.

1.4.4. Support the progression of key tourism capital projects including: Lucan House, Rathfarnham Castle Courtyard and Stables, Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre, and Tallaght Tourism and Heritage Project.

1.4.5. Implement Our Library, Our Future: South Dublin Libraries Development Plan 2023–2027, incorporating the Libraries Capital Programme for the establishment of new libraries.

1.4.6. Support community-based and other local businesses in the cultural, craft and tourism related sectors.

Objective 1.5: Increase Employment across the County and support both existing and new businesses.

Actions:

1.5.1. Expanding on the success of Grange Castle Business Park, South Dublin County Council will continue to look to attract both foreign and national investment in line with the implementation of the Grange Castle Business Park masterplan, which will support the creation of up to 12,000 new jobs.

1.5.2. Sustain and grow businesses by:

- a) Providing SMEs funding for early-stage business development, growth and business expansion.*

- b) *Provide training and mentoring support to develop the upskilling of all businesses within the County.*
- c) *Expand on the existing NEWS/ SCENE network and the creation of Leaders in Business network.*
- d) *Promotion and continued growth of the Business Support Fund across the County.*

1.5.3. *In line with the DREP, encourage and support the development of clusters within the region. As part of this, provide for incubation space within the County to meet the needs of different business sectors.*

1.5.4. *Promote the role of social enterprises within the County through job creation and delivering services to the citizens of South Dublin through collaboration on joint initiatives between relevant stakeholders. Highlight the importance of Social Enterprises and the work they do within the community. Support Social Enterprises to scale and diversify, thereby creating job opportunities within local communities.*

1.5.5. *Support existing and new businesses by improving the business environment across the County through: (A) The delivery of the Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan (B) The implementation and development of the City Edge Masterplan.*

Goal 2: To improve the physical and mental health of those living and working in South Dublin.

Objective 2.1: Work with national and local health agencies to support the residents of South Dublin in improving their health, well-being, and lifestyle.

Actions:

2.1.1. *Harness the Healthy Ireland framework and the Sláintecare Healthy Communities programme for targeted, evidence-based initiatives on awareness, participation, physical activity, engagement, mental health, and alcohol / drug abuse.*

2.1.2. *Mindful of South Dublin's expanding population, conduct a study to ascertain the needed expansion of disability services for those with complex and non-complex needs.*

Objective 2.2: Develop opportunities to promote a healthy and active County.

Actions:

2.2.1. *Maximise the use and benefit of community, sports, and leisure facilities in the County for participative, health and wellbeing and community-led activities.*

2.2.2. *Implement the Active South Dublin Plan with emphasis on sports, recreation and activity for all and support existing and new sports partnerships and programmes to increase participation levels and physical literacy, especially for families, women, school children, young people, vulnerable, and people with disabilities.*

2.2.3. *Deliver capital works, including the development of additional parks, recreational, teen and sporting facilities.*

2.2.4. *Support clubs and sporting organisations through proactive pitch maintenance and management, and the booking of these facilities.*

2.2.5. Develop safe walking and cycle routes within the county.

Objective 2.3: Promote Healthy Eating in the County.

Action:

2.3.1. Facilitate the roll out of HSE initiatives such as Healthy Food made easy any subsequent programmes.

2.3.2. Promote a “grow your own” education programme to schools, communities and businesses.

Objective 2.4: Work to decrease substance misuse across the county through education and supports.

Actions:

2.4.1. Continue to support the development of innovative social programmes that address substance misuse and its impact on the community.

2.4.2. Continue to work with An Garda Síochána to address drug related intimidation

2.4.3. Continue to support the work of the Clondalkin Drug and Alcohol Task Force (CDATF) and Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force (TDATF).

Goal 3: Increase access to education, upskilling and lifelong learning to further meet the social and economic needs of residents and employers now, and into the future.

Topic of discussion for LCDC. Are Objective 3.1 and its actions feasible?

Objective 3.1: Support the creation of a pre-school/creche, primary school and secondary school education ecosystem designed to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Actions:

3.1.1. Assess the funding requirements and capacity issues of primary schools and creche/pre-school providers across South Dublin to permit a comprehensive programme of assessment of needs for young children.

3.1.2. Support the development of pre-school service providers – both new and existing – to provide a level of service to children from disadvantaged backgrounds which will help them thrive (e.g. provision of baby rooms, play therapy sessions, speech therapy, assistance to parents about nutrition).

3.1.3. Support the provision/expansion of afterschool homework clubs in primary schools and secondary schools, especially DEIS schools. In DEIS primary and second level homework clubs work to provide attendees with hot dinners

Objective 3.2: Develop more educational opportunities to ensure that everyone living in South Dublin gains the skills they need to succeed economically and socially.

Actions:

3.2.1. Work with the Department of Education to monitor and unlock delivery of the schools, in particular those new schools within our growing Regeneration and LAP Areas.

3.2.2. Support the provision of enhanced library services. This is to be done through opening new libraries where needed, physically expanding existing buildings where needed, offering complimentary library services, free Wi-Fi, and internet access across all branches, expanded opening hours through My Open Library and developing a series of educational programmes and events.

3.2.3. Develop the presence of the outreach programmes from TU Dublin and other universities into South Dublin, especially in areas of disadvantage (e.g. additional funding for Access Programmes, homework clubs run by post-graduate students, visits by college students to primary and secondary schools, visits by primary and secondary level students to third level campuses).

3.2.4. Support the expansion of vocational education programmes aimed at ensuring those who left school early, at risk of leaving school early, former prisoners and those recovering from substance abuse issues, have the skills to succeed in the workforce.

3.2.5. Support the expansion/creation of innovative education programmes that engage post-primary students with STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and encourages them to pursue further education in associated courses.

3.2.6. With local companies that factor ESG/CSR into their operations, explore the possibility of collaborating with local education and training providers and put more students – especially those from a disadvantaged backgrounds – into the workplace as part of their course. Support visits from local businesspeople/employees to schools and visits from local schools to businesses.

3.3.7. Promote the engagement of students in entrepreneurship through Schools Enterprise Programme.

Objective 3.3: Ensure that further education providers in South Dublin continue to provide courses that meet the changing needs of local employers.

Actions:

3.3.1. Support the development and ongoing provision of higher-level education and further education in the County, and develop Tallaght as a hub for education, cross collaboration and employment to provide further opportunities for the County's workforce.

3.3.2. Work with further education providers to expand the provision of vocational courses in South Dublin.

3.3.3. Work with TU Dublin to create scholarships and other supports to students from disadvantaged backgrounds who wish to enter 3rd level education.

3.3.4. Through meetings and research continue to ensure a strong relationship between local employers, LEO and further education providers in South Dublin.

Objective 3.4: Develop a Life-long learning provision for the people of South Dublin.

Actions:

3.4.1. Ascertain any potential barriers people have which impacts their possible participation in life-long learning. Ascertain the ability of libraries, museums, arts centres and further education providers to meet the life-long learning goals of residents and work with providers to address any gaps. Provide additional courses that meet the life-long learning goals of South Dublin's residents.

3.4.2. Support older residents in upskilling to start their own business.

Objective 3.5: Increase access to education for all.

Actions:

3.5.1. Continue to support efforts by education providers to develop training programmes that are accessible digitally and/or in-person to people of all ages, backgrounds and capabilities. Enhance the physical accessibility of training locations.

3.5.2. Continue to support the provision of appropriate education for those with special and additional needs. Assess what additional education facilities and resources are needed for South Dublin's growing number of residents with complex needs.

3.5.3. Work to improve physical connections (e.g. bus routes and times, footpaths and crossing points, public lighting, cycle lanes) between South Dublin with TU Dublin's Tallaght Campus and other further education providers in South Dublin.

3.5.4. Continue to support the development of literacy, numeracy, household finance and nutrition education programmes for people living in disadvantaged areas.

3.5.5. Continue to offer relevant training to meet the current requirements of the business community.

Objective 3.6: Deepen connections – especially research – between TU Dublin, DDETB and South Dublin's businesses and communities.

Actions:

3.6.1. Support stronger research and development partnerships and wider engagement between TU Dublin, DDETB and local businesses.

3.6.2. Encourage greater use of South Dublin by various departments within TU Dublin (e.g. tourism, marketing, entrepreneurship, planning & health sciences) as a place to conduct research, fieldwork and field schools. Ensure any relevant research is brought to the attention of South Dublin County Council and pertinent communities/community groups.

Goal 4: Fairness, collaboration and innovation to be at the core of South Dublin's transition to becoming a low carbon County.

Objective 4.1: Significantly enhance biodiversity levels across South Dublin.

Actions:

4.1.1: Implement the County Biodiversity Plan and any successor documents.

4.1.2. In collaboration with local residents, manage – where appropriate – all public green areas in South Dublin for biodiversity.

4.1.3: Where appropriate and practical, all new Local Authority parks, greenways, buildings, social housing etc., are the designed to encourage high biodiversity levels.

4.1.4. Provide assistance to farmers and other significant landowners to manage their land in a manner that will encourage greater biodiversity. Where appropriate, work to facilitate landscape

restoration. Care must be taken to address possible impacts of landscape restoration on neighbouring landowners and surrounding communities.

4.1.5. *Create an innovative and ambitious education programme which empowers all residents, community groups, charities/NGOs, government employers and businesses to contribute positively to improving habitats and biodiversity levels.*

Objective 4.2: Support South Dublin’s businesses and entrepreneurs to take greater advantage of opportunities in the green economy.

Actions:

4.2.1. *Attract and support companies that are focused on high potential areas of the green economy (e.g. manufacturing and retrofitting).*

4.2.2. *Engage with communities and businesses to develop skills, promote learning, and build knowledge on climate change and environmental sustainability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the uptake of renewable energies.*

4.2.3. *Support and promote green procurement policies and initiatives across all SDCC departments to reduce waste, reduce carbon dioxide, emissions and improve energy efficiencies.*

Objective 4.3: Make it easier for South Dublin’s residents, businesses and farms to conserve energy, generate green energy and adopt circular economy practices.

Actions:

4.3.1. *Support the implementation of the South Dublin Climate Action Plan.*

4.3.2. *Continue to develop partnerships with local and national bodies including Technological University of Dublin – Tallaght / University Hospital Tallaght / Government Services, Tidy Towns, South Dublin Chamber of Commerce Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) group, to achieve targets on greenhouse gas emissions and improve health and lifestyles of the citizens of South Dublin.*

4.3.3. *Complete and implement the South County Dublin Decarbonization Zone Plan. The lessons from the Decarbonization Zone Plan are then to be applied throughout South Dublin.*

4.3.4. *Continue to explore and exploit opportunities for the further development and expansion of district heating.*

4.3.5. *Continue to support initiatives to reduce waste and increase the adoption of circular economy practices through green training and bespoke advice.*

4.3.6. *Encourage and educate best practices in the maintenance and refurbishment of homes and businesses in energy management, retrofitting, and renewable energy generation.*

Objective 4.4: Promote the benefits of active travel and sustainable mobility.

Actions:

4.4.1. *Continue to develop more segregated cycle lanes and greenways, improve and construct footpaths as needed, improve street lighting and continue to the roll out of LED, construct/improve pedestrian crossings.*

4.4.2. Support the NTA on the design and delivery of rail and bus transport projects.

4.4.3. Facilitate greater levels of walking, cycling and getting the bus to school (e.g. more bike and scooter parking facilities, safe school zones developed, bike trains).

4.4.4. Collaborate with businesses to make it easier for workers to use active and sustainable travel options. Industrial estates are to be made safer and more pleasant to cycle and walk across.

4.4.5. Promote the delivery of EV charging facilities in accordance with local, regional and national policy and guidance.

4.4.6. To support the implementation of the EV Charging Strategy for the Dublin Region.

Goal 5: Empower communities through SMART initiatives and skills development to help make their areas better places in which to live, work and visit.

Objective 5.1: To support the development of South Dublin County as a SMART city that utilises technology to make life easier for residents and business; particularly how and where people spend their time.

Actions:

5.1.1. To support the promotion of skills, education and awareness raising in the energy efficiency sectors, promoting smart technologies and well-connected communities and businesses.

5.1.2. To support the development of smart initiatives to enable safer communities.

Objective 5.2: Make South Dublin a leader in Ireland for embracing a SMART approach to regeneration.

Actions:

5.2.1. Provide community groups, charities and NGOs with mentoring and training in SMART approaches to regeneration (e.g. use of technology, sustainability, transport, active travel, public realm design, economic development, retail, tourism).

Objective 5.3: Empower community groups, social enterprises, NGOs and charities with training, mentoring and advice to increase their social and economic impact.

Actions:

5.3.1. Provide community groups, social enterprises, charities and NGOs with mentoring and training in relevant areas (e.g. governance, stakeholder consultation, funding, volunteer management and retention, project management, use of technology) to increase their effectiveness.

5.3.2. Provide assistance to community groups, NGOs and charities that wish to merge in order to streamline governance, management and administration practices and thereby create greater impact.

5.3.3. Identify, support and mentor a network of community champions and leaders.

5.3.4. Support and empower existing social enterprises. Facilitate the development of innovative social enterprises that satisfy a community need not otherwise being met.

Objective 5.4: To enable a strong, inclusive and resilient economy, supported by enterprise, innovation and skills through the creation of places that can foster enterprise and innovation and attract investment and talent.

Actions:

5.4.1. Support deeper communication between the Local Authority (i.e. LEO, Economic Development, Forwards Planning), South Dublin County Partnership, the IDA, Enterprise Ireland, TU Dublin, the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses to ensure that – in line with the County Development Plan – the infrastructure, workforce, training and building needs of businesses are being met.

5.4.2. Through greater collaboration between the Local Authority (LEO, Economic Development, Forwards Planning), South Dublin County Partnership, the IDA, Enterprise Ireland, TU Dublin, the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses, develop a hierarchy of sites and premises (e.g. incubation centres, various sizes of food preparation premises) that permit start-ups and established companies to scale up as needed.

5.4.3. Support the provision of food hub/food processing spaces and market spaces for food and craft start-ups.

5.4.4. Continue to carry out actions that improve the attractiveness of urban village centres as shopping destinations and places to socialise (e.g. paint schemes, public realm works, strong active travel connections with surrounding community, retailer training and mentoring, greater assistance with online trading, promotion, events and festivals).

Objective 5.5: That start-ups, entrepreneurs and SMEs take full advantage of the available funding and training opportunities and in turn, the grants and training opportunities are continuously reviewed to ensure they meet the changing needs of the business sector.

Actions:

5.5.1. Continue to provide training and grant supports that meet the needs of local SMEs and entrepreneurs (e.g. agile project management, scaling their business, greater adoption of technology, use of AI, green economy and sustainability).

5.5.2. South Dublin County Council, South Dublin County Partnership and other relevant organisations are to meet regularly to consider how they can adapt their grants and other supports to meet the changing needs of starts-ups, entrepreneurs and SMEs in general. Where possible, the overall local grants and supports offering is to be coordinated. Where the ability of organisations in South Dublin is limited by central State control, the relevant Government Dept. is to be informed of the issues so that it may modify the relevant grants or supports programme to better fit the needs of local business.

Goal 6: For society within South Dublin county to be more inclusive, equitable and welcoming of diversity. South Dublin is to become a county where there is significantly less poverty. (LCDC to discuss)

Objective 6.1: Support and promote social inclusion within the county.

Actions:

6.1.1. Develop and implement a successor to A More Inclusive County: South Dublin County Council Integration Strategy.

6.1.2. Provide ongoing integration supports to International Protection Applicants, Programme Refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Accommodation to enable them to live independently in the community.

6.1.3. Continue to collaborate with relevant stakeholders to ensure that vulnerable/marginalised members of society can easily navigate public services.

6.1.4. Continue to support the implementation of the national LGBT+ Strategies.

6.1.5. Implement the South Dublin Age County Friendly Strategy and any subsequent strategies.

6.1.6. Continue to support the work of Comhairle na nÓg and other youth services in South Dublin.

6.1.7. Work with the South Dublin Children and Young People's Services Committee to support services that are coordinated, responsive and meet the needs of children, young people and families in South Dublin.

6.1.8. Collaborate with and support various communities within South Dublin that wish to develop enterprises.

Objective 6.2: Increase physical accessibility of South Dublin to all.

Actions:

6.2.1. Public realm design is to follow best practice in the creation/remodelling of spaces accessible to all. Careful consideration will be needed in providing sufficient parking at appropriate locations for older people and those with mobility issues or additional needs. Accessibility to these sites via sustainable transport modes should also be improved where practical.

6.2.2. Where appropriate, continue to increase physical accessibility to public/community buildings and customer facing business.

6.2.3. Within buildings where members of the public access services (e.g. libraries, community centres, sports clubs, medical centres, retailers) support the development of management practices and sensory rooms that make these places more welcoming to people with additional needs.

6.2.4. Provide training and funding to community groups to encourage their committees and wider activities to become more welcoming of those with additional needs.

Objective 6.3: Develop creative and innovative programmes to support the community development needs of local communities across South Dublin County.

Actions:

6.3.1. Promote targeted social inclusion activities and events for all, particularly through anti-poverty, refugee integration and inclusivity measures.

6.3.2. Work with relevant groups to expand the provision of minority sports in South Dublin as needed.

6.3.3. *Support engagement programmes from sports clubs and other social clubs that encourage participation together by people from a diversity of backgrounds.*

6.3.4. *Develop a series of events and festivals that bring people from different backgrounds together and celebrates cultural diversity.*

6.3.5. *Enhance community development by providing online community grants, robust governance of community centres and facilitated community engagement through the Public Participation.*