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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council May 2024 County Council Meeting held on Monday 13 May 2024

### **PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Carey, W. | Mahon, K. |
| Casserly, V. | McCrave, L. |
| Collins, Y. | McMahon, R. |
| Costello, T. | McManus, D. |
| Donaghy. L | Moynihan, S. |
| Duff, M. | Mulhall, V. |
| Dunne, L. | Murphy, E. |
| Edge, A. | Ó Brádaigh, D. |
| Egan, K. | O’Brien, E. |
| Gilligan, T. | Ó Broin, E. |
| Gogarty, P. | O’Connell, G. |
| Guéret, L. | O’Connor, C. |
| Hagin Meade, L. | O’Hara, S. |
| Hayes, A. | O’Toole, L. |
| Holohan, P. | Pereppadan, B. |
| Johansson, M. | Richardson, D. |
| Kearns, P. | Sinnott, J. |
| Lawlor, B. | Timmons, F. |
| Lynch, M. | Tuffy, J. |
|  | Whelan, L. |
|  |  |

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chief Executive | C. Ward. |
| Directors | J. Frehill, M. Mulhern, T. Walsh, E. Leech, L. Maxwell, R. Fitzgerald |
| Head of IT | T. Kavanagh |
| County Architect | C. Harte |
| Senior Executive Officer | | M. Murtagh |
| Senior Executive Officer | | L. Leonard |
| A/ Senior Engineer | | M. McAdam |
| Administrative Officer | M. Reilly |
| Communications Manager | D. Healy |
| A/Senior Staff Officer | K. McLoughlin |
| Active Travel Officer | A. Gannon |
| A/ Staff Officer | D. Murphy |
| Assistant Staff Officer | L. Farrell |
| Sord | A. O’Brien |

The Mayor, Councillor A. Edge, presided

Apologies were received from Councillor C. King

**H1/0524 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL**

[H1 April Council Minutes 8th April 2024](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82752)

Minutes of the April Council Meeting held on 8th April 2024 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor A. Edge and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons.

**H2/0524 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

**a) Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee**

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**b) Clondalkin, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Brittas Area Committee Meeting**

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**c) Tallaght Area Committee**

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**d)** **Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin Area Committee**

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**H3/0524 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL**

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**H4/0524 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**H5/0524 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING**

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**Questions:**

It was proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh and **RESOLVED**:

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 22, Questions numbered Q1 – Q42 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

### **Q1/0524** **Councillor T. Gilligan** To ask the Chief Executive to give a report on how many parking fines were issued in 2022,2023,2024 and to date, the report should include value of the fines, how much was collected and paid to the council?

**REPLY:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2022:** |  |
| Tickets Issued: | 9507 |
| Tickets Issued Amount: | €449,480.00 |
| Revenue collected: | €342,993.00 |
|  |  |
| **2023:** |  |
| Tickets Issued: | 11,340 |
| Tickets Issued Amount: | €542,450.00 |
| Revenue collected: | €418,908.00 |
|  |  |
| **2024 to date (19/04):** |  |
| Tickets Issued: | 3331 |
| Tickets Issued Amount: | €156,430.00 |
| Revenue collected: | €98,759.00 |

### **Q2/0524** **Councillor T. Gilligan**

To ask the Chief Executive if/when they will be reinstating the carbon monoxide alarm, security lock scheme for elderly and council house tenants?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Partnership have agreed to partner with the Council's Age Friendly Programme Manager on the delivery of safety and security initiatives. This will include the provision of a home safety pack consisting of a carbon monoxide alarm, smoke alarm and fire blanket.

The Age Friendly Programme Manager and SDCP are finalising details on how the new scheme will be rolled out and is expected to be advertised in Quarter 3 with delivery in Quarter 4, 2024.

### **Q3/0524** **Councillor T. Gilligan**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a report on the vacant homes grant, the report should include how many have been requested, approved and allocated for 2023/2024?

**REPLY:**

To date, 85 applications for the vacant property refurbishment grant have been submitted to the Council. The current status of these applications is set out in the following table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Applications approved / Approved in principle | 58 |
| Further information required/Inspection requested | 17 |
| Applications declined | 6 |
| Applications withdrawn | 1 |
| Grants issued | 3 |
| **Total** | **85** |

The Council’s Vacant Homes Officer supports applicants in this process and can be contacted by emailing [vhu@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:vhu@sdublincoco.ie).

### **Q4/0524** **Councillor P. Gogarty**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the provision of a transient accommodation site facility for members of the Travelling Community in the County, given that this was inserted as an objective into the County Development Plan; and if a statement can be made on the matter?

**REPLY:**

The South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028 includes an objective "to provide transient sites in accordance with legislation and to liaise with the other Dublin local authorities on the need for and, if necessary, identify suitable locations for such provision in order to provide for a coordinated approach in the Dublin region".

A coordinated approach to the provision of transient accommodation as part of an overall network of transient sites provided by each local authority is currently under consideration at national level. There is also ongoing dialogue at a regional level between the local authorities in the Greater Dublin area.

The provision of transient accommodation in the County forms part of the consultation process in advance of the consideration and adoption by the members of the new Traveller Accommodation Programme (TAP) 2025-2029.  In order to establish the existing and projected accommodation needs of Travellers in the South Dublin area, members of the Traveller community were recently consulted on the need for a transient site in the county.  An analysis of the responses is currently underway and will inform the new TAP.  Formulation of policy around transient sites continues to be discussed at both the Local and the National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committees.

### **Q5/0524** **Councillor P. Gogarty**

That the Chief Executive reports on how many trees were cut down during the lifetime of this Council; how many were planted; how this compares to other local authorities if data is available; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**REPLY:**

Under the Council's Tree Maintenance Programme during the period 1st January 2020 to 31st March 2024 a total of 2,848 trees have been removed during that 4 year and 3 month period.  During the same period a total of 7,581 trees have been planted by this Council.  In addition to these the Council has also planted 6 mini-woodland sites with approximately 1,200 sapling trees planted at each, totalling 7,200 trees.  This information has been requested from the other Dublin local authorities for comparison purposes however these details are awaited and can be made available to the elected members when received.

### **Q6/0524** **Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on talks/actions with TII about reducing noise pollution and air pollution from the M50 for residents living in estates along the route/ near exits, with current plans for reducing the impact of these concerns?

**REPLY:**

The Council is progressing work on its Noise management mapping Project, Phase 2 of this project involves the production of a Noise Action Plan which will include measures to address priorities and apply in particular to the most important areas as established by strategic noise mapping.  It also requires Plans to identify and protect quiet areas against an increase in noise. There is currently a period of formal public consultation underway from Friday 12th April 2024 to 23:59 p.m. Friday 24th May 2024 and members of the public are welcome to submit their views on this draft Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan.  <https://consultation.dublincity.ie/environment/dublin-agglomeration-noise-action-plan-2024-2028/consultation/intro/>

Some of the research and mapping does show that within South Dublin the areas most affected by noise are along our road network including along the M50. That report will identify measures to try and mitigate some of these impacts. It should be noted that the management of noise impacts generated from the M50 would be responsibility of TII. Once the Noise management mapping study is complete the Dublin Local Authorities will liaise with TII and seek their views on how best to address these.

### **Q7/0524** **Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Chief Executive about waste produced from insulation panels during Council retrofits. How is it controlled and managed?

**REPLY:**

Waste produced under the Council’s Energy Efficiently and Retrofit Waste Programme (ERRP) from both external insulation board and mineral wall extraction is disposed of in accordance with Waste Management Legislation. Our team/contractors ensure that minimal external insulation waste is produced as we only use this type of insulation on certain property types. The Council also works with our energy retrofit contractors during the initial assessment phase of the properties selected for retrofit to ensure that only the amount of material required to insulate the building is procured to reduce the potential for excess waste.

### **Q8/0524** **Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report in tabular form on the number of stand-alone rural home new builds. Report to include planning applications and approvals processed between 2016-2023

**REPLY:**

The table attached gives details of all planning applications for houses in the rural areas of South Dublin with the zoning RU or HA over the period of the previous 2016-2022 South Dublin County Development Plan and the period up to December 2023 of the current 2022-2028 Development Plan.

In total there have been 139 planning applications for houses in the rural areas.  It should be noted that some of these are repeat applications on the same site or amendments to permissions and these are included in the overall numbers.

The decisions on these can be broken down in summary as:

3 applications currently awaiting a decision by the Board

1 application is awaiting receipt of additional information from the applicant

20 applications were granted permission. Of these, just 9 have lodged a commencement notice. Of the grants, 5 of them were within the life of the current Development Plan, equating to an average of 3.3 grants per annum. The remaining 15 were granted over the 6 year life of the 2016 Development Plan, equating to an average of 2.5 grants per annum.  The majority of those granted were in the RU zoning, with just 4 granted in the HA zoning.  Three grants were made by An Bord Pleanala following a decision to refuse by the Council.

The majority of grants were in Newcastle Electoral District (ED, 8 grants), followed by Bohernabreena ED with 4 and Rathcoole with 3.

112 applications were refused over the period (June 2016 – December 2023).  43 of these were in the HA zoning.  25 refusals were upheld by An Bord Pleanala.  The majority of refusals were in the Electoral District of Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Bohernabreena.  As indicated above, a number of these were repeat applications on the same site.

3 applications were withdrawn over the period.

[Q8(b)Rural planning applications](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82748)

### **Q9/0524** **Councillor L. Hagin Meade**

To ask the Chief Executive in tabular form, for the number of days monthly, grass sports pitches in SDCC parks were unplayable to compare the 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons.

**REPLY:**

Data available from Met Eireann shows that both 2024 to date and 2023 have been extremely wet periods when compared to long-term average (LTA) rainfall in Ireland.  Taking data from the nearest weather station at Baldonnell the average annual rainfall is 754mm.  Rainfall in 2023 at this location was recorded at 870mm (15% above the LTA) and in the 12 month period from May '23 to April '24 the recorded rainfall was 907mm (20% above the LTA).   The months of February, March and April of this year have been particularly wet with average rainfall being exceeded by 48% over those 3 months and this followed an extremely wet second half of 2023 where average rainfall was exceeded by 33%.  This left ground super-saturated and unable to carry heavy grass cutting machinery.  Every effort has been made to address this situation in recent weeks when weather improved and this involved in many cases cutting and lifting the grass, cutting the pitch again and then rolling the pitches to make them playable.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2022** | | | **2023** | | |
| Week ending | No. of pitches | No. of pitches unplayable | Week ending | No. of pitches | No. of pitches unplayable |
| 04-Sep-22 | 172 | 0 | 03-Sep-23 | 172 | 0 |
| 11-Sep-22 | 172 | 0 | 10-Sep-23 | 172 | 0 |
| 18-Sep-22 | 172 | 0 | 17-Sep-23 | 172 | 166 |
| 25-Sep-22 | 172 | 0 | 24-Sep-23 | 172 | 25 |
| 02-Oct-22 | 172 | 0 | 01-Oct-23 | 172 | 30 |
| 09-Oct-22 | 172 | 57 | 08-Oct-23 | 172 | 6 |
| 16-Oct-22 | 172 | 0 | 15-Oct-23 | 172 | 166 |
| 23-Oct-22 | 172 | 27 | 22-Oct-23 | 172 | 166 |
| 30-Oct-22 | 172 | 97 | 29-Oct-23 | 172 | 107 |
| 06-Nov-22 | 172 | 99 | 05-Nov-23 | 172 | 119 |
| 13-Nov-22 | 172 | 9 | 12-Nov-23 | 172 | 67 |
| 20-Nov-22 | 172 | 13 | 19-Nov-23 | 172 | 29 |
| 27-Nov-22 | 172 | 62 | 26-Nov-23 | 172 | 47 |
| 04-Dec-22 | 172 | 24 | 03-Dec-23 | 172 | 29 |
| 11-Dec-22 | 172 | Xmas closure | 10-Dec-23 | 172 | 43 |
| 05-Feb-23 | 172 | 21 | 17-Dec-23 | 172 | Xmas Closure |
| 12-Feb-23 | 172 | 0 | 21-Jan-24 | 172 | 41 |
| 19-Feb-23 | 172 | 2 | 28-Jan-24 | 172 | 41 |
| 26-Feb-23 | 172 | 1 | 04-Feb-24 | 172 | 21 |
| 05-Mar-23 | 172 | 1 | 11-Feb-24 | 172 | 172 |
| 12-Mar-23 | 172 | 166 | 18-Feb-24 | 172 | 150 |
| 19-Mar-23 | 172 | 166 | 25-Feb-24 | 172 | 74 |
| 26-Mar-23 | 172 | 24 | 03-Mar-24 | 172 | 172 |
| 02-Apr-23 | 172 | 28 | 10-Mar-24 | 172 | 21 |
| 09-Apr-23 | 172 | 20 | 17-Mar-24 | 172 | 172 |
| 16-Apr-23 | 172 | 0 | 24-Mar-24 | 172 | 64 |
| 23-Apr-23 | 172 | 0 | 31-Mar-24 | 172 | 128 |
| 30-Apr-23 | 172 | 0 | 07-Apr-24 | 172 | 90 |
| 07-May-23 | 172 | 15 | 14-Apr-24 | 172 | 51 |
| 14-May-23 | 172 | 1 | 21-Apr-24 | 172 | 36 |
| 21-May-23 | 172 | 0 | 28-Apr-24 | 172 | 19 |
| 28-May-23 | 172 | 0 |  |  |  |
| 04-Jun-23 | 172 | 0 |  |  |  |
| 11-Jun-23 | 172 | 0 |  |  |  |
| 18-Jun-23 | 172 | 0 |  |  |  |
| 25-Jun-23 | 172 | 0 |  |  |  |

### **Q10/0524** **Councillor P. Holohan**

### What is the process for people in the homeless sector to have access to voting registration?

**REPLY:**

If a person is not residing at any premises at the time of applying to register to vote, they can submit an [ERF2 form](https://www.sdcc.ie/!ECQJ5O) to register to vote.

The applicant may provide an address for correspondence, if they have no address for correspondence it can be arranged for correspondence to be collected from the Council offices.

The person can provide an address near to where they spend most of their time this will be used for voting registration purposes. They must provide a reason for using this address e.g. at which the person wishes to be considered ordinarily resident.

### **Q11/0524** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of inspections of Private Rented accommodation carried out in 2023 and Q1 2024 including any enforcement/improvement notices?

**REPLY:**

In 2023, 3,139 private rented accommodation inspections were carried out.  A total of 2,032 improvements letters issued, of which 1174 following 1st inspection and 858 following re-inspection.  As a result, no enforcement/improvement notices were served.

In Q1 2024, 815 inspections have been carried out.  A total of 707 improvement letters issued, of which 662 following 1st inspection and 45 following re-inspection.  No enforcement/improvement notices were served.

It should be noted, that the Environmental Health Officers have the authority to serve an improvement notice where an improvement letter has not been complied with, and a prohibition notice where an improvement notice has not been complied with.

### **Q12/0524** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive how many approvals were issued in 2023 for changes to existing granted planning applications in relation to removal of community space or childcare spaces?

**REPLY:**

7 planning applications for development which have been categorised as Childcare / Creche were received in 2023. None of these related to removal of childcare space.

7 planning applications for development which were categorised as Community in 2023 were received in 2023. None of these relate to removal of community space.

There may be mixed development, commercial or residential development applications, which include an element of community or childcare facilities, but it is not possible to easily identify which of these contain specific types of development as our system does not provide a distinct category to capture  amendment planning applications. However, if there are any specific developments that you have a query on, you can search on the Planning Portal at the following link to view the relevant planning application: [Planning Portal (agileapplications.ie)](https://planning.agileapplications.ie/southdublin/search-applications/)

### **Q13/0524** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive to produce a report on the cost in 2023 of housing maintenance work carried out by private contractors?

**REPLY:**

The costs incurred for response maintenance works (excluding planned maintenance) carried out by private contractors in 2023 is €4,032,917. This includes expenditure on response maintenance repairs reported by tenants including electrical repairs and upgrades, heating system repairs and replacement, specialist cleaning and miscellaneous works.

### **Q14/0524** **Councillor M. Johansson**

To ask the Chief Executive to produce a report outlining the progress on items and money spent on the Accelerated Planned Maintenance Programme as agreed under HI 11 at the April 2019 council meeting?

**REPLY:**

In April 2019, the Council approved €10.75m in funding for a comprehensive accelerated housing maintenance works programme to minimise future response maintenance activity with the aim of transitioning to a planned/preventative maintenance model for our housing assets. However, the programme was significantly delayed in 2020/21 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Once restrictions were lifted in the construction industry sector, we recommenced the programme with the establishment of a dedicated combined planned maintenance/energy efficiency retrofit workstream with additional staff resources to accelerate delivery of the programmes. Expenditure spent and committed to date is €18m for the combined programmes.

The next phase of this programme, will see the introduction of periodic property inspections, whereby properties will be inspected on a 5-year cycle. The findings of the surveys will feed into an ongoing multi-annual Stock Investment Programme, with the aim to reduce the current level of reactive maintenance requests and to improve the overall value for money and enhanced delivery of the service to tenants. Funding has been provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to carry out the stock condition surveys with a new asset management application. Tender documents are currently being drafted to award the contract(s) and surveys are expected to commence later this year.

Detailed below are the status of planned maintenance/energy upgrade works within our housing stock since 2019:

**Windows and Doors**

The following gives a breakdown of the windows and doors programme by electoral area:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEA** | **Tender Stage** | **Contractor Stage** | **Complete** | **Total** |
| Tallaght South | 24 | 153 | 155 | **332** |
| Tallaght Central | 3 | 32 | 35 | **70** |
| Firhouse /Bohernabreena | 0 | 7 | 10 | **17** |
| Rathfarnham/ Templeogue | 0 | 35 | 9 | **44** |
| Clondalkin | 20 | 0 | 39 | **59** |
| Palmerstown/ Fonthill | 24 | 1 | 54 | **79** |
| Lucan | 4 | 0 | 5 | **9** |
| **Total** | **75** | **228** | **307** | **610** |

It is anticipated that a tender for replacement windows and doors in an additional 100 properties will be advertised during 2024.

**Painting Programme**

The following gives a breakdown of painting works completed to date, including painting of external and internal walls, doors and windows.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Estate** | **No. of Units** |
| Balgaddy | 59 |
| Mac Uilliam | 57 |
| **Total** | **116** |

**Balgaddy Planned Maintenance Works**

Works to date include roofing repairs, additional public lighting, utility meter doors and frames and the installation of mechanical ventilation.

**Safety Works**

Works to date include fire safety works, electrical works and mechanical ventilation. Ventilation Works across the county are detailed in the table below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEA** | **To Measure** | **Contractor Stage** | **Completions** | **Total** |
| Tallaght South | 0 | 13 | 12 | **25** |
| Tallaght Central | 0 | 0 | 3 | **3** |
| Firhouse /Bohernabreena | 0 | 0 | 1 | **1** |
| Rathfarnham /Templeogue | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| Clondalkin | 0 | 6 | 3 | **9** |
| Palmerstown/Fonthill | 0 | 20 | 24 | **44** |
| Lucan | 0 | 3 | 4 | **7** |
| **Total** | **0** | **42** | **47** | **89** |

**Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme**

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is a significant element of our planned maintenance programme. The following table sets out  the current status of properties by electoral area:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEA** | **Tender Stage** | **Contractor Stage** | **Complete** | **Total** |
| Tallaght South | 0 | 0 | 82 | **82** |
| Tallaght Central | 55 | 1 | 22 | **78** |
| Firhouse/ Bohernabreena | 0 | 0 | 54 | **54** |
| Rathfarnham/ Templeogue | 0 | 4 | 8 | **12** |
| Clondalkin | 0 | 43 | 22 | **65** |
| Palmerstown/ Fonthill | 41 | 17 | 56 | **114** |
| Lucan | 0 | 0 | 16 | **16** |
| **Total** | **96** | **65** | **260** | **422** |

### **Q15/0524** **Councillor R. McMahon**

To ask the Chief Executive what is the average Local property Tax (LPT) paid in the county in 2023 by private (excluding Social Housing) households?

**REPLY:**

The Revenue Commissioners are responsible for the collection of Local Property Tax (LPT) and they provide details on the collation of data for the LPT. At the time of preparation of the 2024 budget, the data available to the Council from Revenue indicated that the average Local Property Tax (LPT) paid in the county in 2023 by private (excluding Social Housing) Households was €321.28

### **Q16/0524** **Councillor R. McMahon**

To ask the Chief Executive how many private households are there in each LPT band?

The Revenue Commissioners are responsible for the collection of Local Property Tax (LPT) and they provide details on the collation of data for the LPT. At the time of preparation of the 2024 budget, the data available to the council indicated the number of private households per band to be as follows:



### **Q17/0524** **Councillor D. McManus**

To ask the Chief Executive to provide construction costs for direct build social housing and cost rental housing by SDCC secured through competitive tender for the period **2019-2024** and to include dwelling type, construction unit cost, utilities/levies, professional/design fees, VAT, land value per unit and any other sunken or legacy costs?

**REPLY:**

Detailed below are the direct social and cost rental build costs incurred by the Council for the period 2019 - 2024. The tables list both our completed developments and schemes currently under construction.

Projects listed as complete but denoted with an \* asterisk are currently within the contractual post-completion defects period, therefore a final account has not yet been agreed.

Figures provided for contracts under construction are the agreed tender costs, with additional costs that have been approved by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH)

All projects tendered were submitted to the DHLGH for budget approval prior to appointment of the relevant services.  The total all-in budget includes construction costs, professional design team fees, VAT, utility connections, site surveys, administration fees and land costs (where applicable) as approved by the Department



### **Q18/0524** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify the responsibility for public safety when traffic management companies (TTM) are using unsafe work practices at construction sites.

**REPLY:**

Ultimately SDCC is responsible for the safe and efficient management of the regional and local public road network in our County.  Transport Infrastructure Ireland are ultimately responsible for the safe and efficient management of the National Road network.  Both these bodies have protocols in place for the management of traffic at construction sites.

**Dealing with SDCC Road network:**

If the works to the road are being carried out by a third-party contractor (ie ESBN, Broadband companies etc....) then the responsibility for the site where the works are being carried rests with that contractor. They are responsible for the safe management of the site.

To secure consent to carry out works on the road, a contractor must secure a road opening licence consent which will include various permissions and conditions. If the contractor is breaching their granted consents, for example they do not have an adequate construction management plan in operation then SDCC would visit the contractor and ensure future compliance with the granted construction management plan conditions. Persistent non-compliance would trigger planning enforcement action.

If construction companies are undertaking work on the Public road adjacent to the construction site, they have to apply to South Dublin County Council for a Road Opening licence.  In the granted road opening licence, South Dublin County Council would impose conditions in relation to maintaining safety for vehicles using and passing the construction site.  Also, safe pedestrian routes must be maintained passed the site.

If the contractor was not adhering to the conditions imposed in the road opening licence, SDCC would insist that all conditions being in compliance with the granted licence. In cases of persistent  non-compliance, SDCC would revoke the contractors licence to work on the Public Road.

Therefore, South Dublin County Council, the contractor and their agents have responsibilities to be discharged in relation to traffic safety around construction sites.

### **Q19/0524** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive as to the role of the local authority with regard to traffic management plans around construction sites, the monitoring of same, and the enforcement role of the local authority with regard to the road safety aspect of such plans.

**REPLY:**

A traffic management plan (TMP) is a detailed document that outlines strategies and measures to manage traffic flow, safety, and accessibility in specific situations. These plans are typically developed for construction sites, roadworks, events, or other scenarios where traffic needs to be controlled.

It may be a condition of the planning permission to formally submit a construction TMP before commencement of work on site, and this may involve collaboration with various stakeholders including the road authority, contractors and emergency services.

Depending on the scale of the work TMPs can include specific actions, which may involve the following:

* Traffic Signs and Signals: Placement of signs, signals, and road markings.
* Lane Closures: Determining when and where lanes need to be closed.
* Pedestrian Crossings: Ensuring safe pedestrian access.
* Speed Limits: Setting appropriate speed limits.
* Temporary Traffic Lights: Installation of temporary lights.
* Diversion Routes: Providing alternative routes during roadworks.

Regular monitoring is required to ensure the TMP remains effective, and in certain cases adjustments may be necessary, based on real-time conditions and collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

If construction companies are undertaking work on the public road adjacent to the construction site, a Road Opening Licence (ROL)is required from the roads authority.  In the granted road opening licence, South Dublin County Council would impose conditions for maintaining safety for vehicles using and passing the construction site.  Also, safe pedestrian routes must be maintained passed the site.

SDCC would insist on compliance with all conditions of the ROL. In cases of persistent  non-compliance, the licence to work on the Public Road may be revoked.

### **Q20/0524** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive as to what progress has been made in procuring and rolling out equipment to clear debris and growth from segregated cycle lanes in the County and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**REPLY:**

The Council's Road Sweeping Programme which is provided under contract by Oxigen Environmental Ltd focuses on the high priority areas of town and village centres, main roads and housing estates with sweeping provided at a frequency of monthly for urban centres and main roads and quarterly for housing estates.

In addition to this segregated cycle tracks are now being swept monthly using a 'microsweeper' under the contract with Oxigen. The Active Travel team work closely with the EWCC Cleansing team to inform them of new segregated cycle tracks and infrastructure which is then added to the contractors sweeping programme.

### **Q21/0524** **Councillor S. Moynihan**

To ask the Chief Executive if the Council made an application for a grant award under the Community Monuments Fund and if not, why not.

**REPLY:**

An application was prepared by the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, SDCC to seek funding under the Community Monument Fund 2024.  The application was submitted to the Councils Architectural Conservation Officer who appraised and submitted the CMF application to the Department.  Grant funding was sought under CMF 2024 Stream 2 for the development of a Conservation Management Plan, which will allow identifying measures for conservation repair and works to the Hellfire Club (protected structure), as part of the wider Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre Project.

The application was successful, and the Department have awarded €30,000 to SDCC for this project.  EETD and the Architectural Conservation Section, LUPT will continue to liaise on this project under the conditions set by the Department.

### **Q22/0524** **Councillor V. Mulhall**

To ask the Chief Executive what plans SDCC have to mark national bike week

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**BIKE WEEK 2024**

**# Bike week**

**South Dublin County Council - Events planned for National Bike Week 2024**

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| **SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2024** | |
| **DODDER GREENWAY COMMUNITY CYCLE** - **Pedal for your Medal**  **Time:** 11.00am-1.00pm  **Date:** Saturday 11th May 2024  **Location:**Cycle starts from carpark opposite Speaker Connolly, Firhouse.  **Suitability:**All Ages  **For more information and to book a place click link below**  [Dodder Greenway Community Cycle Pedal for your Medal Tickets, Sat, May 11, 2024 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.com%2Fe%2Fdodder-greenway-community-cycle-pedal-for-your-medal-tickets-900032871547%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C02%7Cbkeenan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C928e810795184594767a08dc6e9f2baa%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638506877104490034%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Pby%2B4BDrfzVxnT16hDFCaNH%2FtkhTlHkYQKowzeCGsWc%3D&reserved=0) |

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| **SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024** |
| **SOFA TO SADDLE 50+** <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/897259215467?aff=oddtdtcreator>  **Time:** 10am-12pm  **Date:** Sunday 12th May 2024  **Location:** Collinstown Sports and Leisure Complex  **Suitability:** For over 50’s who want to boost their confidence at cycling  **For more information click HERE** [https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/897259215467?aff=oddtdtcreator](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.ie%2Fe%2F897259215467%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C02%7Cbkeenan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C29f70609d9ac40f77d8408dc6b74ec29%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638503397127424708%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pnKOmoxTXNFewa18u05X5xZwPB8g4QxOlg%2F3dVGd6lA%3D&reserved=0) |

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| **MONDAY 13TH MAY 2024** |
| **Bike Maintenance Clincs at Schools in South Dublin**  **Time:**8.30am-3.30pm  **Date:** Monday 13th May 2024  **Location:**Various Schools across South Dublin area  **Suitability:**School Students |

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| **TUESDAY 14TH MAY 2024** |
| **Webinar with** [**Fred van Schoonhoven**](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdutchcycling.nl%2Fexperts%2Ffred-van-schoonhoven%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cbkeenan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C7cce4d9fe32d4bdf0fc408dc6e701900%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638506674976145662%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=QOZlcepR8ca1FpkHRryPzA%2FLIjtEsp1T4AmWW7b%2FwlY%3D&reserved=0) **about Making Cycling Fun**  **Time:**7.00pm-8.00pm  **Date:** Tuesday 14th May 2024  **Location:**Online through Teams  **Suitability:**All Ages Welcome  **For more information and to access the link to join click below**  [Making Cycling Fun Again Webinar with Dutch expert Fred Van Shoonhoven Tickets, Tue, May 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.com%2Fe%2Fmaking-cycling-fun-again-webinar-with-dutch-expert-fred-van-shoonhoven-tickets-900148808317%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C02%7Cbkeenan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C6eedee480ea14aa72dc908dc6eac9b29%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638506934816593479%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nbEZ1ggUZxVTR7J3zHKcXQXQBD87GloOpb6AP4tupaU%3D&reserved=0) |

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| **WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY 2024** |
| **BIKE TO WORKDAY**  **Time:** All day  **Date:** Wednesday 15th May 2024  **Location:**County Hall Tallaght  **Suitability:** Everyone interested in Cycling  **Information: Bike Display and chat with bike supplier and Active Travel Team** |

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| **THURSDAY 16TH MAY 2024** |
| **Webinar with** [**Marco Mulder**](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdutchcycling.nl%2Fexperts%2Fmarco-mulder%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cbkeenan%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C7cce4d9fe32d4bdf0fc408dc6e701900%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638506674976137112%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2zYnApdQznquSBDLTk28h6K1GSV0IKrpUp2Pa%2FACg2E%3D&reserved=0) **about Cycling Networks**  **Time**: 7.00pm-8.00pm  **Date:** Thursday 16th May 2024  **Location:**Online through Team  **Suitability:**All Ages Welcome  **For more information and to access the link to join click below**  <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/building-a-cycle-network-webinar-tickets-900136050157?aff=oddtdtcreator> |

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| **FRIDAY 17TH MAY 2024** |
| **Women on Wheels** <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/897269245467?aff=oddtdtcreator>  **Time:** **Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm  **Date:** Friday 17th May 2024  **Location:**Collinstown Sports and Leisure Complex  **Suitability:**Confidence training for women to start back cycling  **For more information click HERE** <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/897269245467?aff=oddtdtcreator> |

### **Q23/0524** **Councillor V. Mulhall**

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on tree maintenance and planting for the county.

**REPLY:**

The current three year tree maintenance programme covering the period 2023 to '25 is nearing the half way point.  The programme was presented to the meetings of the area committees at the end of 2022.  The county wide programme contains a total of 176 locations including roads and whole estates where tree maintenance works are proposed, in addition to this the tree management section responds to once-off requests for maintenance work to be carried out on trees where they are examined and works are deemed necessary and where the location had not been included on the 3 year programme.  During the period from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 March 2024 a total of 11,629 tree inspections have taken place, a total of 6,417 trees have been pruned, 948 trees have been removed, 313 stumps have been removed and 3,054 trees have been planted. Progress on the programme of works is considered to be on track and will achieve completion of approximately 65 to 70% of the programme by end of year at which time we will be two thirds of the way through the programme period.

### **Q24/0524** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive to present in tabular form how much income SDCC has received in property tax in each LEA since 2019?

The Revenue Commissioners are responsible for the collection of Local Property Tax (LPT) and the allocation of the Local Property Tax is provided on a county wide basis. Details are not provided on the basis of Local Electoral Area.

The Local Property Tax allocation for South Dublin for the years 2019 to 2024 are computed as follows:

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### **Q25/0524** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive what measures he has in place to encourage new accommodation in underutilized rooms over shops?

**REPLY:**

Our Vacant Homes Officer is available to provide information, advice, and support for owners of vacant properties and those considering buying a home that is currently vacant. They deal with queries from members of the public and key interested parties on vacant homes/properties and provide advice on bringing a vacant property back into use. This officer plays a crucial role in promoting and ensuring the provision of new homes from a number of refurbishment and redevelopment initiatives currently available including:

* **Vacant properties grant**: a grant of up to a maximum of €50,000 is available for the refurbishment of a vacant property into a principal private residence or to be made available for rent, including the conversion of a property that has not been used for residential purposes before. The property must be vacant for two years or more and be built before 2008.
* **Derelict properties grant**: a maximum of €70,000 is available for the refurbishment of a derelict property. For a property to be deemed derelict (i.e. structurally unsound and dangerous), the applicant must confirm this by submitting an independent report prepared by an appropriately qualified professional along with the application form.
* **The Repair and Leasing Scheme** is targeted at owners of vacant properties who cannot afford or who do not have access to the funding required to bring those properties up to the standard for a rental property.  Owners of properties that have been vacant for at least one year and which require repairs to bring the property to rental standards can contact the Council, stating that they wish to apply for the repair and leasing scheme. If the property is eligible and requires repairs to bring it up to standard for letting, the Council will pay for this repair work, up to a maximum of €80,000 (including VAT) per dwelling. In return, the property is made available for social housing for a period of between five and 25 years. The value of the repairs will then be offset against the agreed rental payment over a defined period within the lease.
* **The Buy and Renew Scheme** supports local authorities in purchasing and renewing housing units in need of repair and making them available for social housing use. It is a matter for the Council to determine a property’s suitability for social housing. It aims to help tackle the problem of dereliction and to improve an area’s appearance.  As a complementary initiative to the Repair and Leasing Scheme, it provides the option for suitable properties to be purchased rather than leased, if that is the property owner’s preference.
* **SEAI energy efficiency grants** are available to homeowners and information is available on [**www.seai.ie**](http://www.seai.ie)
* There are also **Planning Permission Exemptions** for certain vacant commercial premises for those who wish to convert the premises - including vacant areas above ground-floor premises and former pubs - into residential units.  This exemption relates to properties that are vacant for a period of two or more years.   Planning Permission is not required for such works.  Information on this change of use is available on the Councils website [**www.sdcc.ie**](http://www.sdcc.ie/).  The exemptions are in place until the end of 2025.

Further information on all supports is available on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage [**www.gov.ie-Refurbishing Vacant Property - All Supports**](http://www.gov.ie-refurbishing/). The Councils Vacant Homes Officer can be contacted by emailing [**vhu@sdublincoco.ie**](mailto:vhu@sdublincoco.ie) and will provide support and assistance.

### **Q26/0524** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive how many households are on the housing list by time on list, size of accommodation sought and north or south of Naas Road?

**REPLY:**

The table below shows the social housing list broken down by time on list, accommodation need and location;

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Housing List - 6,231             No of Bedrooms** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **North & South Naas Road** | | | | | **North Naas Road** | | | | **South Naas Road** | | | |
| **Years** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **1 to 5** | 826 | 504 | 170 | 24 | 436 | 262 | 149 | 16 | 573 | 275 | 104 | 9 |
| **5 to 10** | 220 | 139 | 80 | 10 | 316 | 210 | 126 | 10 | 427 | 249 | 112 | 9 |
| **10 to 21** | 129 | 80 | 53 | 14 | 87 | 117 | 60 | 7 | 232 | 121 | 65 | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sub total** | **1175** | **723** | **303** | **48** | **839** | **589** | **335** | **33** | **1232** | **645** | **281** | **28** |
| **2249** | | | | | **1796** | | | | **2186** | | | |

### **Q27/0524** **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive how many households are on the HAP Transfer list by time on list, size of accommodation sought and north or south of Naas Road?

**REPLY:**

The table below shows the HAP transfer list broken down by time on list, accommodation need and location;



### **Q28/0524** **Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to furnish an update on the availability of grave spaces in the County into the future; will he give details and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The preparation of a burial grounds strategy is currently underway and this process is examining among other things the provision of grave spaces in the County.  The examination of related issues will look at the current and future provision of grave spaces in privately developed graveyards as well as Council owned ones.

There are 3 Council owned graveyards where graves are available for sale and these are Bohernabreena, Saggart and Newcastle graveyards.  Following the recent completion of construction works on section A3 there are now 646 plots available for sale in Bohernabreena with scope for the development of another 1,600 plots in the undeveloped sections of A5 and A6.  There are also cremation plots and angels plots available in Bohernabreena and these are being developed in accordance with need and demand for them.

The extension to Saggart graveyard in 2001 provided approximately 700 additional spaces with 300 of these still remaining.  There is no scope for further development of additional plots in Saggart graveyard.

The Muslim graveyard at Newcastle currently has 69 plots available for both adults and children and this section will be further developed as required.  There is scope for the development of an additional 800 plots in the Muslim section.  In the non-denominational section of Newcastle graveyard there are 454 plots available with scope to develop a further 1,600 plots in the future.

There are no grave plots remaining in Esker graveyard however provision has been made for the development of a Columbarium Wall for cremation urns, a tender process to procure the necessary construction contract will commence soon.  A new privately operated graveyard, Esker Lawns Cemetery, has opened recently in the area with 3,400 grave plots available there.

The privately operated graveyards at Newlands Cross, Mount Venus and Kilmashogue continue to operate and the available capacity at these locations will be established through the review process and preparation of the burial grounds strategy.

### **Q29/0524** **Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to give assurances regarding the level of Fire Services available in our County; will he present details of the necessary provision of equipment needed in that regard and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The following response has been provided by Dublin Fire Brigade; Fire appliances are generally equipped with a broad range of standardised equipment designed to allow the Firefighter complete a broad range of activities. Firefighters must undergo training on all equipment and maintain skills in order to perform activities efficiently and safely. Equipment needs are kept under review and are updated, replaced or enhanced as required.

### **Q30/0524** **Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm actions being taken to deal with the ongoing concerns of many in respect of the Relets issue; will he detail the number of boarded up Council houses across the County and his plans in that regard and will he make a statement?

**REPLY:**

The Council engages five re-let repair contractors who together with our own direct labour crews actively work to bring vacant properties up to standard for allocation in the shortest possible timeframe. To date 56 properties have been allocated in 2024 with an average turn-around time of 20.48 weeks. The Council’s housing maintenance team continues to work closely with the housing allocations and estate management teams to increase efficiencies with the objective of reducing turnaround times to a maximum of 16-20 weeks.

A summary of vacant properties by electoral area is detailed below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Electoral Area** | **Survey Stage** | **In Progress** | **Ready** | **Total** |
| **Lucan** | 0 | 1 | 5 | **6** |
| **Clondalkin** | 2 | 4 | 5 | **11** |
| **Palmerstown-Fonthill** | 4 | 6 | 9 | **19** |
| **Tallaght South** | 4 | 12 | 16 | **32** |
| **Tallaght Central** | 1 | 1 | 6 | **8** |
| **Firhouse-Bohernabreena** | 1 | 0 | 2 | **3** |
| **Rathfarnham-Templeogue** | 0 | 1 | 0 | **1** |
| **TOTAL** | **12** | **25** | **43** | **80** |

### **Q31/0524** **Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive as we approach the end of the term of this Council, to confirm his ongoing and future plans to deal with the huge challenge of Climate Change; will he understand the importance of this issue and will he make a detailed statement?

**REPLY:**

SDCC's [Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2029](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/image-library-pdfs/pdf-folder/cap-24-29-documents/south-dublin-county-council-climate-action-plan-2024-2029.pdf), was adopted by this Council in February 2024. Responding to the continuing challenges presented by climate change, the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 lays out South Dublin County Council’s (SDCC) course of action over the five-year lifetime of the plan, with these next five years being vital for meaningful climate action.

The plan is centred around actions that collectively address the four key targets of this plan, which are framed by the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 and the National Climate Action Plan 2023:

• 50% improvement in the Council’s energy efficiency by 2030;

• 51% reduction in the Council’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030;

• To make Dublin a climate resilient region, by reducing the impacts of future climate change-related events; and

• To actively engage and inform our communities on climate action.

The CAP sets out measures/actions to reduce our impact on the climate and prepare South Dublin residents and businesses to adapt to the effects of climate change. It is ambitious in its targets, in considering actions where the local authority can influence, co-ordinate/facilitate and advocate for climate action in wider society. A full overview on how the CAP actions will be progressed and delivered is documented in the [Implementation Plan](http://intranet/Cmas/documents/County%20Council/2024/April/April2024CountyCouncilMeeting/439056be-d973-4220-b522-dc96caa94167.pdf) which was presented at the April 2024 Council meeting.

A full progress report on the actions from CCAP 2019-2024 was given in the recent [**Climate Change Plan Annual Report 2023.pdf**](http://intranet/Cmas/documents/County%20Council/2023/December/December2023CountyCouncilMeeting/834975e2-36a3-4f85-8e58-46ed02321f0f.pdf)

A dedicated climate action website [**www.southdublinclimate.ie**](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.southdublinclimate.ie%2F&amp;data=05%7C02%7Ctwalsh%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7Cab18821a0f0b4a88a2f908dc6b71010b%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638503381003367289%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C4000%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=Mmk2ruPk%2BDCP1Ez4Jbux6yCE0KxTRWQDjtA2pnWtEVc%3D&amp;reserved=0) is maintained and showcases climate action delivery in the county, spotlights on our key responses to the climate crisis, and a latest news section on local, regional and national climate change responses. We want to inspire climate action and the website is a place for citizens to find out what they can do to make a difference.

[Climate Newsletter](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/latest-news/climate-action-plan-newsletter-9.pdf): Citizen engagement via the website is complemented by a quarterly citizens climate newsletter, which details current Council climate action on a specific, rotating thematic area. The Climate Team works with the Communications Unit to promote our website news articles and newsletters via our social channels.

Dublin Climate Action Week (DCAW) is delivered regionally in partnership with Fingal County Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Dublin City Council, the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO), and Codema, Dublin’s Energy Agency. The week offers a range of events which aim to inform citizens, increase awareness and highlight the need for urgent climate action by all sectors of society. Specific workshops and engagement days are also delivered to communities, 3rd level, and schools to build climate engagement throughout the year.

Furthering citizen engagement, in Q3 South Dublin County Council will distribute the Community Climate Action Fund, worth €1,073,000. This fund is crucial to activate climate action outside of the direct control of the Council to address the wider emissions profile in the county.

### **Q32/0524** **Councillor C. O’Connor**

To ask the Chief Executive if he has had any contact with the Garda Siochana with regard to the effective implementation of the legislation introduced to deal with the menace of illegal scramblers; will he outline his own actions and make a statement?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council  assisted the Gardaí from the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) South and DMR West Divisions who conducted a Day of Action on Thursday 11 April 2024, targeting electric motorbikes suspected of being used in criminal activity including drug dealing, money laundering, transporting firearms, Drug Related Intimidation (DRI) and other serious offences.

These electric motorbikes are often driven on footpaths, parks and laneways in order to avoid detection by An Garda Síochána and have caused immense damage to our natural environment in the South Dublin County area. During the Day of Action 19 search teams comprising 120 members of An Garda Síochána searched 40 properties. During the searches, the following items were seized:

Ten Surron electric motorbikes, Twelve motorbikes and scramblers, Twelve electric bicycles and e-scooters and Three quad bikes.

SDCC will continue working with and assisting An Garda Síochána in relation to this matter.  While the Council is ready to assist again at any time it should be noted that this was a Garda operation and any decision on further similar days of action will be taken by the Gardai and not by the Council. The Council would like to extend thanks to the Gardaí for conducting these searches which contribute to the safety of our estates, parks and green spaces.

### **Q33/0524** **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive can the County Council preclude a private contractor from a Council tendering process if that contractor has provided a less than adequate service to the Council on a previous contract for services?

**REPLY:**

Yes this is provided for under Article 57 of Public Sector Directive 2014/24/EU (as implemented by SI 284 of May 2016), whereby an Economic Operator will be excluded from the procurement process if it has shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions.

### **Q34/0524** **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive to give a report on what supports are available between the Council and local Residents Associations in relation to anti-litter initiatives and local clean ups?

**REPLY:**

The Council's Environmental Awareness team supports communities through the following initiatives:

* Social Credit Scheme
* Tidy Towns
* Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Awareness Grant

**Social Credit Scheme:**

The Social Credit's Scheme rewards community groups who take ownership & improve their local area by carrying out pro-environmental actions.

There are three elements to the Social Credits Scheme:

* Clean ups scheme - materials are supplied and bags are collected after clean up
* Paint enhancement scheme - paint and painting materials are provided to groups
* Minor community landscaping scheme - helps groups carry out minor planting work in their area

**Tidy Towns:**

Responsibility for managing the Tidy Towns funding moved to Environmental Awareness in 2023. The Budget in 2024 is €100,000.00.

There are three rounds of funding in 2024:

* The seed funding round (up to €2,000.00) closed on the 16th of February
* Round 2 opened...
* Round 3 will open in October/November

In addition to managing the funding, the Environmental Awareness team has provided a Tidy Towns Information Seminar and works with groups to deliver events e.g. Repair Café delivered with Clondalkin Tidy Towns.

**Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Awareness Grant Scheme 2024**:

Applications are currently being accepted for funding of projects which qualify as Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness Initiatives. Applications should seek to promote public awareness and education in relation to litter and/or graffiti.

This Grant Scheme has a particular focus on voluntary initiatives by community and environmental groups, and on involving schools and young people in anti-litter and anti-graffiti awareness actions.

Applications can be submitted up to 5 p.m. on Friday the 7th of June 2024.

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The Environmental Awareness team also delivers annual Litter campaigns in conjunction with the community e.g.:

* National Spring Clean in April
* Gum Litter Task Force in June
* Halloween Campaigns: Bulbs mot bonfires; Ballymount passes for Social Credit Scheme groups
* Christmas campaigns: radio ads; promotion of Christmas tree recycling

Additional awareness campaigns include:

* dog fouling
* vape/ cigarette butts
* WEEE
* anti-dumping

The environmental awareness team may be contacted at [envawareness@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:envawareness@sdublincoco.ie)

### **Q35/0524** **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive what plans are being considered in relation to the increasing number of waterlogged pitches and weekends where pitches cannot be used.

**REPLY:**

The Council’s Public Realm Section has in the past 5 to 7 years installed drainage systems on pitches in Tymon Park (4), Jobstown Park (1), Butler McGee Park (1), Clondalkin Park (1) and Ballymount Park (1).  These schemes have been funded through a combination of sports capital funding as well as council own capital and revenue resources, with other funding where available.   A further 4 pitches have received sports capital funding and these are under tender at present.  In addition to these another 10 pitches have been included in the current sports capital funding application and a decision is awaited on these.   The installation of such drainage schemes will improve waterlogging and playability issues on those pitches which require this level of intervention.  In addition to this the annual pitch maintenance programme includes aerating of pitches where this is considered necessary, these pitches are then top dressed with sand and fertilised as necessary.  An audit of pitches across the county has commenced to determine the medium to long term requirements in terms of pitch improvements in the county.  It is worth noting that the sports pitch strategy which was carried out in recent years identified the need to provide artificial grass pitches in the county which will not be affected by excessive rainfall. The roll-out of this programme is well under way with 2 No. Artificial Grass pitches delivered; a full GAA-sized Pitch at Airlie Park and a full soccer-sized pitch at Sean Walsh Park; and another 3 No. facilities are planned across the county.

Data available from Met Eireann shows that both 2024 to date and 2023 have been extremely wet periods when compared to long-term average (LTA) rainfall in Ireland.  Taking data from the nearest weather station at Baldonnell the average annual rainfall is 754mm.  Rainfall in 2023 at this location was recorded at 870mm (15% above the LTA) and in the 12 month period from May '23 to April '24 the recorded rainfall was 907mm (20% above the LTA).   The months of February, March and April of this year have been particularly wet with average rainfall being exceeded by 48% over those 3 months and this followed an extremely wet second half of 2023 where average rainfall was exceeded by 33%.  This left ground super-saturated and unable to carry heavy grass cutting machinery.  Every effort has been made to address this situation in recent weeks when weather improved and this involved in many cases cutting and lifting the grass, cutting the pitch again and then rolling the pitches to make them playable.

### **Q36/0524** **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive if it is possible for the Council to work in partnership with Residents Associations and Volunteer Groups across South Dublin County Council in relation to the removal of graffiti and specifically if materials to remove graffiti could be supplied to such groups?

**REPLY:**

To assist in combatting Graffiti, the Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness Grant is made available to community groups and schools through the Environmental Awareness Section. Applications are currently being accepted for funding of projects which qualify as Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness initiatives. This Grant Scheme has a particular focus on voluntary initiatives by community and environmental groups, and on involving schools and young people in anti-litter and anti-graffiti awareness actions.

Applications can be submitted up to 5 p.m. on Friday the 7th of June 2024.

The Social Credits Scheme which supports and rewards community groups and individuals who take ownership of their environment and improve their local area by carrying out pro-environmental actions such as community clean-ups, maintenance of community gardens, graffiti removal, weeding of footpaths etc. The scheme is open to all community groups in South Dublin County's administrative area including:

* Environmental groups
* Primary and post primary schools.
* Resident's Associations
* Volunteer groups
* Youth groups

The Social Credits Scheme is broken into 3 elements. Clean ups, Minor Landscape Scheme and Paint Enhancement Scheme.  Under the paint enhancement scheme the council provides paint to groups for the removal of graffiti or to carry out minor enhancement projects in their area.  We also supply materials including paint brushes and rollers.

Contact the Environmental Awareness team at [envawareness@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:envawareness@sdublincoco.ie)

### **Q37/0524** **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive if there are any plans for an anti-litter campaign across the South Dublin County Council area?

**REPLY:**

The Council's Litter Management Plan 2023-2025 aims to address the negative impacts of litter on our county, improve the quality of life and sense of wellbeing of our residents, and enhance our commercial and tourism potential. A key strategy of the Litter Management Plan is to promote an anti-litter message in South Dublin.

 Several anti-litter campaigns are delivered throughout the year. These include;

* National Spring Clean Campaign in April
* Gum Litter Task Force in June
* Halloween Campaigns: Bulbs not bonfires; Ballymount passes for Social Credit Scheme groups
* Christmas campaigns: radio ads; promotion of Christmas tree recycling

Campaigns such as the current an anti-dog fouling one, which is featured on radio, in cinemas, on local papers and on the Council’s social media campaigns ensure a clear, consistent message is delivered to the citizens of South Dublin.

Additional planned and continuing awareness campaigns include:

* vape/ cigarette butts
* WEEE
* anti-dumping

### **Q38/0524** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report into how a builder can change the purpose of a building from community/enterprise to apartments with no planning permission.  Report to include action taken by the Council when made aware of such developments

**REPLY:**

There are two instances where planning law allows for the change of use from community/enterprise use to apartments without planning permission (set out below). Potential breaches of planning law are investigated by the Enforcement Section on receipt of a written complaint.

* Class 20F of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) allows for the temporary change of use from community centre/light industrial building/warehouse to residential accommodation for refugees (displaced persons and people seeking international protection)
* Article 10 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) allows for the conversion of some vacant commercial premises (including shops, offices and guest houses) to create up to 9 no. apartments

### **Q39/0524** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive for a report into how Pilgrim paths in our county can be protected from modernisation. Pilgrim paths, such as Knockmeenagh Lane (An tSli Mhor),  were raised in the county development plan.

**REPLY:**

The County Development Plan has as an objective:

**NCBH 17 Objective 7:**

*To record heritage / pilgrim pathways in South Dublin County, such as the Slí Mór in Clondalkin village, to have this record collated in a comprehensive manner, and to develop mechanisms to initiate cultural heritage discussions regarding such pathways with a view to a formal quantification, assessment, sympathetic maintenance and protection of these routes as potential features of important local heritage interest.*

The Clondalkin Local Area Plan will include a Conservation Plan and Knockmeenagh Lane is being reviewed as part of the work being undertaken to inform both the Conservation Plan and the LAP.  As part of the work being undertaken for the Conservation Plan and the LAP, Heritage Walks including along Knockmeenagh Lane have been held with representatives from local heritage interest groups in Clondalkin to garner feedback.  This will inform the appropriate conservation actions for the lane.

### **Q40/0524** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive has there been any progress and consideration to satellite Acas in areas of conservation. This was raised at the County Development Plan

**REPLY:**

Policy and objectives for Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) is set out in Chapter 3, section 3.5.3 of the County Development Plan.  An ACA is described as ‘*An Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) is a place, area, group of structures or townscape that is of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest or value or that contributes to the appreciation of Protected Structures.’*  The designation afforded from inclusion in an ACA only applies to the exterior and streetscape.  There are 18 ACAs in South Dublin.  Each is provided with a brief description in the section 3.5.3. and is mapped on the County Development Plan maps.

Policy NCBH20 and associated 9 objectives and 2 SLOs set out the Council’s requirements for ACAs and development within them.  This is further augmented by advice and good practice design and information to be included with planning applications in Chapter 12 of the Development Plan.

A review of ACAs was undertaken as part of the County Development Plan. As a result, 6 new ACAs were added to the 12 already existing within the County. These were:

* 9th Lock and Ballymanaggin Lane, townlands of Clonburris Great and Ballymanaggin, Clondalkin
* Nos 1-8 Red Cow Cottages and 1-8 Woodfarm Cottages, Old Lucan Rd, Palmerstown
* Nos 168-186 Whitehall Road
* Brigid’s Cottages, townland of Bushelloaf, Clondalkin
* Maelruan’s Terrace (Goose Park), Old Bawn Road, Tallaght Village
* TJ Byrne Cottages, Old Bawn Road

The concept of ‘satellite’ ACAs does not exist. Each one is an ACA in its own right and the policy and objectives outlined in the County Development Plan apply to each equally.

### **Q41/0524** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive to issue a report into glass bottle recycling in SDCC, report to include how bottle banks are emptied as it has been reported that these may be mixed and going into same truck collection ?

**REPLY:**

Glassco Recycling collect colour segregated glass from the bring banks in South Dublin under a Service Contract which is managed by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. Under the terms of the Contract the service provider maintains colour segregation of the material throughout all stages of the operation including collection, transport, storage, and processing.

This colour segregation is maintained using specific purpose collection vehicles as well as banks which are segregated by colour. While the service vehicles may appear to have only one large truck body, this is in fact a top loaded compartmentalised collection vehicle with 3 distinct compartments separated by internal doors. This allows the glass to be deposited in the truck by crane keeping the colours separated, with the operator positioning the container above the appropriate compartment before emptying commences. The use of this specific equipment will ensure that all collections of colour segregated material is maintained throughout collection and processing and will minimise any potential colour cross-contamination. Once delivered to Glassco Recycling Ltd. processing plant in Naas, all glass collected is stored in colour specific bays and is processed through the plant as either flint (clear), green or amber (brown) input material.  The processing plant is also capable of separating material by colour and this is used to remove the possibility of any cross contamination by colour through the processing phase.

Glassco Recycling Ltd’s primary outlet for recycled glass is to the glass remelt sector where the glass cullet is melted down to be manufactured into new glass packaging. Approximately 87% of all glass that is delivered to Glassco Recycling Naas, goes to remelt. The balance goes to open-loop uses, such as a shot-blast media, as water filtration or as an equestrian surface with an overall recycling rate of material collected at approximately 97%.

### **Q42/0524** **Councillor F. Timmons**

To ask the Chief Executive are there plans for SDCC to employ an archivist in line with best practice in other Councils?

**REPLY:**

Fingal County Council Archives retain the archival records of Dublin County Council, and the business records of South Dublin County Council Meetings are managed and maintained by Corporate Services.

For people who wish to study the development of South Dublin County and its rich history and heritage, we provide public access to our Local Studies Collection, held in Tallaght Library. The collection includes over 10,000 books, periodicals, audio-visual material, photographs, prints and maps relating to the history and social, demographic and economic development of South Dublin County. Smaller collections are held in branch libraries. The collection can be searched on the South Dublin Libraries catalogue, and is maintained and managed by library staff.

As South Dublin County Council is not a repository for records of Dublin County Council, our requirements for an Archivist are not the same as other counties.

**H6/0524 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS**

*It was* ***NOTED*** *that there was* ***NO*** *Business under this Heading.*

**H7/0524 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES /SITES FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. J. Frehill, Director for Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development, and were **CONSIDERED**.

Disposal of fee simple in 45 Pairc Mhuire, Saggart, Co. Dublin

Councillor E. Ó Broin raised a query regarding historical issues relating to land ownership.

Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development responded to the Member’s query.

Proposed disposal of plot of land to Gas Networks Ireland at Mountain Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24

The reports were proposed by Councillor T. Gilligan, seconded by Councillor A. Edge, and **AGREED**.

**H8/0524 MANAGERS REPORTS - FOR NOTING**

### The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. C. Ward, Chief Executive, and were **CONSIDERED**

[HI 8 a) May 2024 Chief Executive's Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82740)  
[HI 8 b) Finance Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82690)  
[HI 8 c) Statistics Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82762)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Gogarty. C. O’Connor, D. McManus, T. Costello, P. Holohan, J. Tuffy, L. Dunne, M. Johansson, D. Ó Brádaigh, Y. Collins, L. McCrave, R. McMahon, W. Carey, V. Casserly, G. O’Connell, P. Kearns, S. Moynihan, L. O’Toole, and A. Edge.

Queries were raised in relation to Lucan House, Lucan Pool, Airle Park, County Hall, housing construction, St. Johns House, Dublin Mountain Visitors Centre, Rosemount District Enhancement, Rathfarnham Stables, Orchard Lodge, housing rent arrears and the Junior Safety Forum.

Mr. C. Ward, Chief Executive, responded to the Members’ queries.

The reports were **NOTED**.

**H9/0524 APPROVAL OF POLLING CARDS FOR THE LOCAL ELECTIONS – FOR APPROVAL**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms .L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management, and was **CONSIDERED**.

**REPLY:**

In accordance with [**Article 55 of the Local Election Regulations 1995**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1995/en/si/0297.html) and [**S 54 of the Electoral (Amendment) Act 2001**](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/2001/en/act/pub/0038/sec0054.html)a local authority may decide that polling information cards shall be sent to electors at an election.

"Polling information card" means a card informing an elector of the elector's number (including polling district letter) on the register of electors and of the place at which the elector will be entitled to vote and containing a statement in relation to the specified documents required for identification.

Where a local authority decides in accordance with *sub-article (2)* that polling information cards shall be sent to electors and where a poll is to be taken in a local electoral area at the election of members for such local authority, the returning officer shall send a polling information card to every elector whose name is on the register of electors for the **local electoral area** and is not on the postal voters list or the special voters list.

A polling information card shall be addressed to the elector at the address in respect of which the elector is registered in the register of electors and shall be sent so as to be delivered at that address not later than the third day before the polling day

This matter is now before the Members for consideration. It is recommended that the Council pass the following resolution:

***'That polling information cards will be issued to local electors for the forthcoming Local Elections to be held on 7th June 2024.'***

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors D. Ó Brádaigh, D. McManus, A. Hayes and Y. Collins with queries raised in relation to the register of electors, polling cards and postal votes.

Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management responded to the Members’ queries.

It was proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor R. McMahon, and **AGREED *'That polling information cards will be issued to local electors for the forthcoming Local Elections to be held on 7th June 2024.'***

**H10/0524 CASTLETYMON ACTIVE TRAVEL PART 8 - FOR APPROVAL**

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Mr. M. Mulhern, Director for Land Use, Planning and Transportation, and were **CONSIDERED**

[H10(a) CE Part 8 Report Castletymon Road South](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82760)  
[H10(b)02 Site Notice Castletymon](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82681)  
[H10(c) Part 8 - Planning Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82682)  
[H10(d) Drawing Castletymon South](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82684)  
[H10(e) Poster for CRS 2024](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82685)  
[H10(f) Impressions of CRS](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82686)  
[H10(g) Options Selection Summary CRATS](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82687)  
[H10(h) Castletymon Road Active Travel Scheme Environmental Reports](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82688)  
[H10(j) Castletymon Road presentation for CE P8 Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82728)

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors M. Duff, P. Holohan, T. Costello, V. Mulhall, K. Mahon, E. O’Brien, L. Dunne, E. Ó Broin and W. Carey with queries raised in relation to traffic issues during construction, compound location, National Basketball Arena, Balrothery Rise greenspace, tree planting, cycle lanes, and road space.

Mr. M. Mulhern, Director for Land Use, Planning and Transport, responded to the Members’ queries.

The Castletymon Active Travel Part 8 was proposed by Councillor A. Edge, seconded by Councillor V. Mulhall and **AGREED**.

**H11/0524 COMMUNITY & SPORT DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR NOTING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. E. Leech, Director for Housing and Community Development, and was **CONSIDERED**

**REPLY:**

The online rolling application process provides community and voluntary groups who are responding to locally identified needs within their communities with the opportunity to apply for assistance from the Council under the following categories:

* Community Development Grants
* Community Events Funding
* Sport Developments Grants

Applications are assessed by the Community Development Team under the following criteria:

* Impact on local community and local community involvement.
* Proven track record of project delivery and non-duplication of activities in the local area.
* Sustainable and value for money projects with clear/accurate costings.
* Existing funds available to the group/alternative funding sources.

Following the assessment process and having regard to the available budget **38** grants totalling **€65,861.97** were approved for **35** local groups summarised as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **No:** | **Amount** |
| Community Development Grants | 16 | €25,869.97 |
| Community Events Funding | 3 | €2,850.00 |
| Sports Development Grants | 19 | €37,142.00 |
| **Total** | **38** | **€65,861.97** |

The final list of approved grants together with their respective approved grant amounts is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Group** | **Funding Category Applied For** | **Sub-Category of Grant** | **Amount** |
| Brookfield Community Centre | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| Citywest Community Council | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| Citywise Education | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| Fettercairn Community and Youth Centre | Community Development Grant | Major Equipment | €4458.32 |
| Killinarden Sister Shed | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €860.00 |
| Knocklyon Network Ltd. | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| Knockmitten Youth and Community Centre | Community Development Grant | Environmental Improvement | €200.00 |
| Knockmitten Youth and Community Centre | Community Development Grant | Community Centre Based I.T. Infrastructure | €2200.00 |
| Larkfield Residents Association | Community Development Grant | Environmental Improvement | €500.00 |
| Larkfield Residents Association | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €650.00 |
| Lucan Women's Group | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| North Clondalkin Running Club | Community Development Grant | Major Equipment | €3300.00 |
| Rossfield & Brookfield Women's Club | Community Development Grant | Major Equipment | €5000.00 |
| Templeogue Community Men Shed | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €701.65 |
| Walkinstown Greenhills Resource Centre | Community Development Grant | Minor Equipment | €2000.00 |
| 142nd Dublin Esker Scout Group | Community Development Grant | Running Costs | €1000.00 |
| Afro In Diaspora Centre | Community Events Funding | Africa Day | €2000.00 |
| Citywest Community Council | Community Events Funding | Easter Community Celebration | €500.00 |
| Knockmitten Youth and Community Centre | Community Events Funding | Village / Community Festival | €350.00 |
| Adamstown Cricket Club | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €6000.00 |
| An Garda Síochana | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €500.00 |
| Beacon of Light Counselling Centre | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €2000.00 |
| Citywise Education | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €1500.00 |
| Cycling Without Age Ireland | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €492.00 |
| Fettercairn Community and Youth Centre | Sports Development Grants | Coach Training | €1000.00 |
| Foroige South Dublin | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €400.00 |
| Irish Mountaineering Club | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €2000.00 |
| Killinarden Family Resource Centre | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €2500.00 |
| Kilnamanagh AFC | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €5000.00 |
| Marks Celtic Football Club | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €6000.00 |
| Parkvale Football Club | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €5000.00 |
| Relay for Life Clondalkin | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €1000.00 |
| Scoil Aoife Community CNS | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €1200.00 |
| South Dublin County Partnership Ltd. | Sports Development Grants | Equipment | €400.00 |
| Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Ireland (SBHI) | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €500.00 |
| St Cillian's NS | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €750.00 |
| Women's Collective Ireland Ronanstown | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €600.00 |
| Women's Collective Ireland - Liffey Valley | Sports Development Grants | Programme Delivery | €300.00 |

Councillor E. Ó Broin raised a query in relation to the grant to An Garda Síochana.

Ms E. Leech, Director of Housing & Community responded to the Members’ query.

The report was **NOTED**.

**H12/0524 REPLIES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE**

**Replies:-**

[H12(a) Response from Minister of Housing RE time on the list carried over between Councils](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82652)

[H12(d) Minister for Mental Health and Older People](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82741)

**Correspondence:-**  
[H12(b) Westmeath County Council supports IFA 'enough is enough' campaign](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82653)

[H12(e) Letter from Senator R. Gallagher](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?noinc=true&id=82813)

**Acknowledgements:**-  
[H12(c) Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration Youth,](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82739)

The Correspondence were **NOTED.**

At this point in the meeting The Mayor, Councillor A. Edge, paid tribute to Members who are not running in the upcoming Local Elections, Councillors K. Egan, E. O’Brien and particularly Councillors C. O’Connor and G. O’Connell who have served on the Council since 1991 thanking them for their years of service.

A discussion followed, with contributions from Councillors L. Dunne, M. Duff, M. Lynch, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, E. Ó Broin, D. McManus, F. Timmons, S. Moynihan P. Gogarty, R. McMahon, V. Mulhall and E. O’Brien who paid tribute to Councillors C. O’Connor and G. O’Connell and wished them well in their retirement.

Mr. C. Ward, Chief Executive, thanked the Councillors G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor, E. O’Brien, and K. Egan, for their service and wished best of luck to the Members going forward for election.

The Mayor, Councillor A. Edge and Mr. C. Ward, Chief Executive, made a presentation to Councillors C. O’Connor, and G. O’Connell to commemorate their years of service.

Councillors G. O’Connell, C. O’Connor and E. O’Brien thanked the Members for their kind words and wished them well in the forthcoming elections.

### **M1/0524 Autism Friendly Community**

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

That South Dublin County Council become an Autism Friendly Community, joining Dublin City and communities nationwide, by signing up to the AsIAm Autism Friendly Community Commitment and creating a 3 year inclusion plan. Full details are available here: <https://asiam.ie/autism-friendly-communities-portal/>.

**REPORT:**

The AsIAm Autism Friendly Communities initiative works with towns across the country to create a space which is accessible for autistic people to fully take part in their community. It is a journey of constant improvement for an entire community. This is accomplished through several steps taken across the community by Autism Friendly Town Champions.

Firstly an Autism Friendly Town Committee must be created, bringing together representatives from the community. The Town committee will put in place a three-year plan, which sets ambitious goals unique to the community. The three year plan acknowledges that communities will have different contexts and autistic people in these communities may have different priorities.

Secondly the community will require a number of Autism Friendly Champions. These are businesses, public services and voluntary organisations who are making a commitment to becoming autism-friendly.

Finally Autism friendly communities and those who take part are expected to continue the work by running broader education campaigns. By spreading the word about autism accessibility and how to make it possible, change can be introduced at a grassroots level. Ultimately these changes are small and inexpensive but make a huge difference and will aid any person with literacy differences or sensory issues.

South Dublin County Council is very happy to work with and support any local town or village that wishes to engage in this programme, and was the first local authority in the State to become JAM Card© friendly in 2020. The JAM Card© was created by NOW Group, a social enterprise that supports people with learning difficulties and autism into jobs with a future and their service users told them that they would like a way to relay to people that they need a little extra time or patience. JAM stands for Just A Minute. For those with alearning difficulty, autism or any condition where there can be a communication barrier, the JAM Card allows users to relay to others that they may need a little extra time in a simple, effective non-verbal manner. In this way, together with the Council’s longstanding commitment to access and equality, South Dublin County Council is an autistic friendly organisation and the executive together with the elected members work hard to ensure our services are inclusive and fully accessible to disabled people.

SDCC is also a literacy friendly local authority, for example, our current Corporate Plan achieved NALA plain English accreditation and all corporate documents, policies and procedures are plain English, access and equality proofed.

Braille and tactile way finding signage is provided across the County including in County Hall, Civic Offices Clondalkin, South Dublin Libraries and community facilities such as Tallaght Stadium and the community centres.

Evidence of the Council’s deep commitment to access and inclusion for disabled people includes establishment of the South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel, installation of Changing Places toilet facilities in County Hall and North Clondalkin Library, the innovative Jobot’s Access All Areas accessibility game, and delivery of a significant programme of access works across the County, including the Inclusive Playspaces programme that recently featured in the EU Access Cities Awards.

It should be noted that all of these services and initiatives were initiated and supported by Selina Bonnie, the Council’s Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Officer for over 18 years who sadly passed away earlier this year. The organisation’s commitment to Selina’s legacy is to ensure that these measures will continue to be supported and built upon for future improvements in all matters related to access and equality.

Councillor L. Hagin Meade spoke on the motion.

The motion was **AGREED**.

### **M2/0524 Vaccine Trials**

Proposed by Councillor F. Timmons and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.

That this committee calls on the Taoiseach to launch an enquiry into the Vaccine Trials that looks at all aspects of the no consent, the issue of child abuse and the state, the Church and the pharmaceutical role and responsibility in this national child abuse scandal between 1934 to 1973. We commit to write to the Taoiseach.

**REPORT:**

If this motion is passed, a letter will be issued to the Department of the Taoiseach. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

Councillor F. Timmons spoke on the motion.

The motion was **AGREED**.

### **M3/0524 Public Lighting**

Proposed by Councillor C. O'Connor and seconded by Councillor A. Edge.

That this Council calls on the Chief Executive to take immediate and effective action to deal with the situation where many public lights across our County are out of order and subject to huge delays regarding repairs?

**REPORT:**

There were 1,000 public lights reported out of order at the March Council Meeting. This number has remained stable due to the fact that we have been using any recycled lamps we have available to make repairs, addressing the oldest outages first.

These lamps have been harvested from the limited number of estates that are currently being upgraded to LED throughout the county.

In order to carry out these upgrades we must liaise on site with ESBN. The resource issue with ESBN and their availability to attend site with us has not improved since the last report to Council on the matter in March.  We, on the other hand, continue to send in service requests to them, seeking agreed dates for site works. Our own maintenance contractor remains fully resourced to meet any responses by ESBN to our requests. Unfortunately, only a very small number of these are currently being scheduled by ESBN into their own works programme, resulting in very few estates being upgraded throughout the county at present.

The more upgrades take place, the more recycled lamps we have to repair outages. In addition, as the number of LEDs in the county increases, the less of these old orange lamps are left for us to maintain.

We are continuing to communicate with ESBN to effect an increase in their allocated resource to progress our programme. We will also continue to keep Councillors informed on any progress with ESBN that may result in alleviating this undesirable situation.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. O’Connor, W. Carey, E. Ó Broin, E. Murphy, P. Kearns, and M. Duff.

The motion was **AGREED.**

### **M4/0524 Tallaght Stadium**

It was proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor A. Edge and **MOVED** without debate:

That this Council agrees to permitting Tallaght Stadium to be used to play a soccer match against Palestine if requested by the FAI or alternatively a League of Ireland club.

**REPORT:**

It is acknowledged that Bohemians Football Club have confirmed their women's side will play against Palestine in a friendly in May of this year in Dalymount Park. Similar to hosting other fixtures and events, South Dublin County Council is supportive of using Tallaght Stadium for matches if requested by the FAI or a League of Ireland Club subject to all licensing requirements and the requirements of the Emergency Services, including An Garda Siochána being met.

### **M5/0524 CCTV Dodder Valley Park**

It was proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, seconded by Councillor F. Timmons, and **MOVED** without debate:

That, in the wake of the deliberate destruction of a large number of cherry trees and saplings in Dodder Valley Park recently, the Council requests the Data Protection Commissioner to review its finding that the Council may not install CCTV as appropriate in its public parks to act as a deterrent against such acts of vandalism in the future

**REPORT:**

Following an audit by the Data Protection Commission, issues relating to meeting a legal basis for operation of the following CCTV systems which were operational within the Tallaght and Rathfarnham/Templeogue / Firhouse/ Bohernabreena Area committee areas were raised.

* Dodder Valley Green Walkway x 6
* Grange Road Cycle and Walkway Route x 2

Accordingly, surveillance activity was ceased at these locations in November 2023, and the systems were decommissioned, and signage removed.

### **M6/0524 Rainbow Crossings**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Mulhall, seconded by Councillor A. Edge, and **MOVED** without debate:

To ask the Chief Executive to implement more Rainbow crossings at various locations across South Dublin to continue to promote diversity and inclusion.

**REPORT:**

Following an agreed Council motion a rainbow crossing was delivered at a pedestrian crossing in Clondalkin village. The Council would be supportive of providing rainbow crossings at additional locations and if Councillors have preferred locations then please notify the transport and traffic team and these locations can be assessed for delivery.

### **M7/0524 Day of Action**

It was proposed by Councillor E. Ó Broin, seconded by Councillor A. Edge and **MOVED** without debate:

This council welcomes the recent day of action on the 11th April targeting electric motorbikes and agrees to repeat such efforts across the county.

**REPORT:**

South Dublin County Council  assisted the Gardaí from the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) South and DMR West Divisions who conducted a Day of Action on Thursday 11 April 2024, targeting electric motorbikes suspected of being used in criminal activity including drug dealing, money laundering, transporting firearms, Drug Related Intimidation (DRI) and other serious offences.

These electric motorbikes are often driven on footpaths, parks and laneways in order to avoid detection by An Garda Síochána and have caused immense damage to our natural environment in the South Dublin County area. During the Day of Action 19 search teams comprising 120 members of An Garda Síochána searched 40 properties. During the searches, the following items were seized:

Ten Surron electric motorbikes, Twelve motorbikes and scramblers, Twelve electric bicycles and e-scooters and Three quad bikes.

SDCC will continue working with and assisting An Garda Síochána in relation to this matter.  While the Council is ready to assist again at any time it should be noted that this was a Garda operation and any decision on further similar days of action will be taken by the Gardai and not by the Council. The Council would like to extend thanks to the Gardaí for conducting these searches which contribute to the safety of our estates, parks and green spaces.

**The meeting ended at 18:50.**