



October 2024

Chief Executive's Report

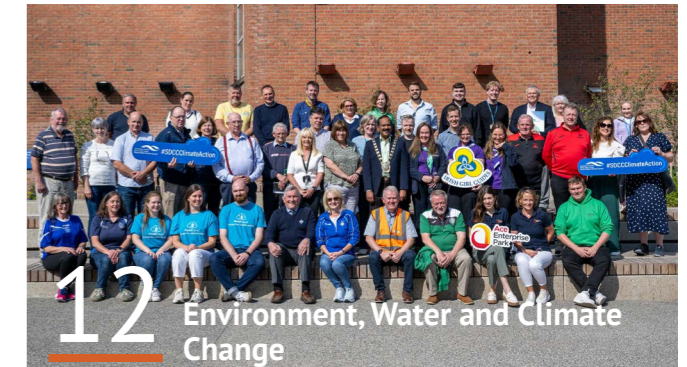
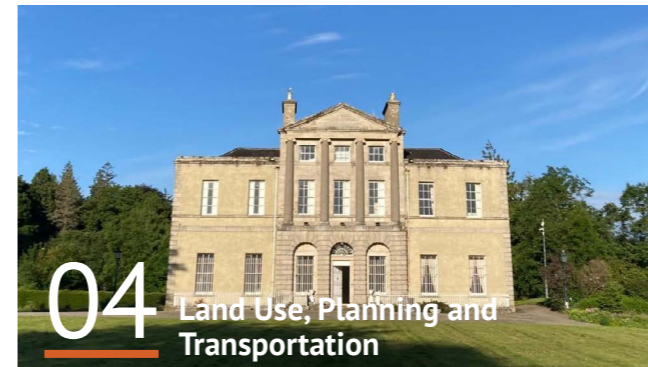
Minister Darragh O'Brien officially opens Tallaght Stadium Fourth Stand

About the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report for South Dublin County Council is presented to elected members at each monthly Council meeting. Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, requires the Chief Executive to prepare a management report in relation to the performance of executive functions, including implementation of policy or other matters required by the Council in the exercise of its reserved functions, and the provision of services. It should be viewed in conjunction with the various updates provided to Area Committee Meetings as well as the quarterly Capital Progress Report to full Council as part of the reporting structures to assist the elected members with their governance and oversight responsibilities.

The report includes important updates and information from across our various directorates and departments together with a range of key statistics that were developed in conjunction with the elected members. It provides the opportunity to highlight major news events and to focus on different areas of our work that may not always get the attention it deserves while a selection of images from recent events is also included.

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Land Use, Planning and Transportation



Work to begin on Lucan House Boundary Wall Preservation

Following the acquisition of Lucan House and Demesne by the Council, detailed assessments of the property and grounds are currently underway to develop a masterplan for the House and its 30 acres.

Remedial work is required on a 36m section of wall bounding Lucan House Estate which collapsed in June 2019, with the wall being both a protected structure and a retaining wall for the R835 Leixlip Road.

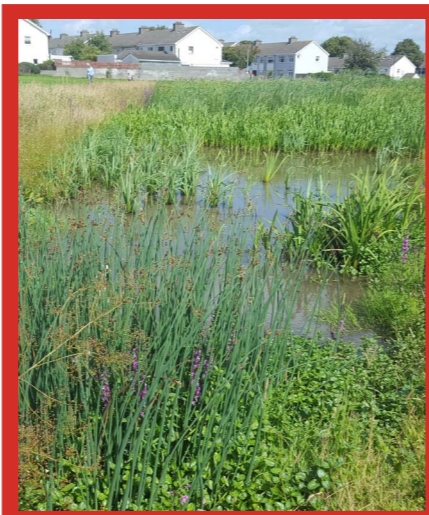
A design proposal had been prepared in 2023, in partnership with the previous owners of the estate the Italian Government, that consisted of drilling a large number of piles along the line of the wall to provide a retaining structure. Upon completion of the purchase SDCC undertook a revised design that uses an alternative Terramesh structure.

The benefits of Terramesh over concrete piles is reduced large scale civil works so less risk to remaining wall structure, reduced ecological impact, retaining wall incorporates vegetation so it provides a long-term ecological benefit and reduced construction cost and time

A contractor has now been procured and works on the wall repair are expected to begin in mid-October and will last for 16 weeks.

The tender process for the Lucan House masterplan is currently being concluded, which will see the imminent appointment of consultants to advance the preparation of the vision for the future development of Lucan House. The preparation of the masterplan will be a six month process and will include opportunities for public engagement. It is also the intention to facilitate public access to the grounds of

Lucan House and the Council will work with local groups in facilitating this, with further announcements to be provided in the weeks ahead.



Integrated Wetland System in Dodder Valley Park

Climate Action Week 2024

Our Heritage Officer hosted two events for Climate Action Week in September 2024, showcasing Council biodiversity projects that are assisting with adaptation to climate change.

A public biodiversity walk on the Tymon Esker highlighted the huge benefits that our Meadow Management Programme is providing for pollinating insects. These densely flowering meadows provide numerous insect species with a rich supply of pollen and nectar.

A second public walk with our Water Pollution Section in Dodder Valley Park, highlighted the Council's Integrated Wetland Systems (ICWs). These wetlands not only improve water quality entering the Dodder, but they also support many additional flower and insect species along the river.

Exceptional Loads on SDCC Roads

11 Exceptional Abnormal Loads of 490 tonnes each will be transported from Dublin Port to power generating sites within Grange Castle and Profile Park in South Dublin, beginning on the 26th September 2024,

These exceptional abnormal loads will be transported on the public roads during the night to coincide with the lowest background traffic numbers to mitigate against disruption for road users.

These loads comprise of gas turbines needed to generate electricity to supply to the National Grid in times of critical power usage.

The 11 generating units are the largest loads transported on our South Dublin Road network to date and are the culmination of months of combined planning by the Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, the National Transport Authority and the clients' design, and haulage teams.



Active Travel Phase 1b Construction

The procurement for the construction of Phase 1b Scoil Iosa to Greenhills Road of the Castletymon Road Active Travel Scheme was recently completed and is expected to start on site in November 2024. Construction is projected to take 6 months. A separate tender was published over summer 2024 for a consultant to develop the southern section of the scheme at Castletymon Road South (Phase 2) with the intention to appoint a consultant by the end of October 2024.

Castletymon Road Active Travel Scheme is a 2 km route that forms one of SDCC's National Pathfinder schemes and is being delivered in stages with the completed District Centre as the centre piece to the scheme. Castletymon Road North Phase 1a from the District Centre to Scoil Iosa was recently completed in May 2024.



Exceptional Abnormal Loads being transferred at night



Housing, Social and Community Development

Winners Announced at Community Endeavour Awards

The Community Endeavour Awards 2024 were held in The Plaza Hotel, Tallaght on the 3rd of October and hosted by Mayor Baby Pereppadan. The awards recognise and reward community effort and achievement in South Dublin.

We have been conscious of the efforts of the many individuals and community organisations to mobilise and start investing in their communities and have supported many of these groups to ensure their schemes are sustainable and inclusive.

The Awards provide an opportunity for community groups and organisations to have their work and achievements celebrated collectively and to share best practice and learning amongst community groups across the County.

Winners on the night were:

1. Sanctuary Runners, Tallaght -

2. Community Integration Award
2. Dodder Action Group, Stepping Stone Forest Initiative - Environment & Climate Action Award
3. Stephen Brennan - Walk & Talk Jobstown - Health and Wellness Award
4. Rebecca McDermott - This is Me Neurodiversity-Social Inclusion Award
5. Alan O'Flaherty - Dodder Valley Cycling -Age Friendly & Social Mobility Award
6. Knockmitten Youth Leadership Program -Youth Empowerment Award
7. Lucan Festival Committee - Culture & Heritage Award

Teresa O'Brien was awarded the Community Endeavour Award for 'Outstanding Contribution to a Community'. Teresa has been a community activist in Tallaght for over fifty years and was a member of the committee which helped to fund raise for St. Dominic's Community Centre. She has been the driving force for almost every

community initiative in the Dominic's/Avonbeg area. The success of St Dominic's Community Centre is a testament to her commitment.



Teresa O'Brien - Outstanding Contribution winner

Affordable Housing in Kilcarbery Grange

We are delighted to announce that a further 6 homes are available at a reduced price for buyers who are seeking to purchase in Kilcarbery. The portal is now open for online applications and will close at 4p.m. on Friday 1st November 2024. Full information on this opportunity and details of how to make an application and submit the required documentation, are available on our website. To date in 2024, 43 homes have been purchased in Kilcarbery, City West and Clonburris with a further 26 applicants in the process of purchasing their new affordable home. Proposals are also before the elected members for an additional 70 new affordable homes including a range of 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom properties in Kilcarbery.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme Update

The Council has successfully completed energy efficiency retrofit works on 243 homes in 2024, with an additional 60 projects expected to be finalised by the end of the year. This initiative primarily targets homes built before 2009, aiming to enhance their energy efficiency. The retrofit works encompass several key improvements:

- Installation of Heat Pumps
- Wall and Attic Insulation
- New Windows and Doors
-

Upon completion of these upgrades, each home is anticipated to achieve a Building Energy Rating (BER) of B2 or better. This rating indicates a high level of energy efficiency, which can lead to lower energy bills and a reduced carbon footprint. The retrofit works have also been implemented in several age-friendly developments constructed in or before the 1980s.

Feedback from residents has been overwhelmingly positive. Many have reported experiencing warmer homes, consistent access to hot water, and an enhanced sense of security due to the installation of new stairwell doors improving the quality of life for its residents.



Traveller Accommodation at Fonthill

Seven families have recently moved into their new homes at Fonthill Close, St Edmunds, Lucan. The allocation of these homes formed a key part of our delivery of new Traveller specific accommodation under our current Traveller Accommodation programme 2019-2024.

This new group housing development was delivered through Part V in partnership with the developer and with funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The homes have been constructed to the highest specifications with an energy efficient A-rating. The development is in close proximity to a range of local amenities, and facilities.



Affordable Homes Available in Kilcarbery Grange

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development



Seed to Success Event in Work IQ

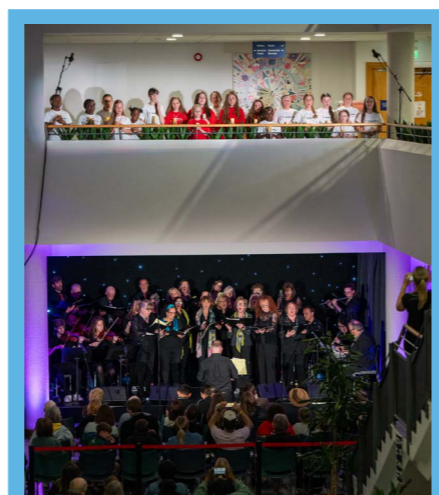
LEO South Dublin in collaboration with Oxford Innovation hosted "Seed to Success," Work IQ; a one-of-a-kind event dedicated to nurturing early-stage ideas that have the potential to tackle real-world challenges through innovative solutions. Topics covered on the day included Idea Incubation, Community Engagement, Innovation, Inspiration and Motivation, as well as Cultural Exchange. There were wide ranging discussions, with up to 50 people in attendance and everyone got involved in exploring the key themes in a very collaborative environment.

Tom Rooney from the Local Enterprise Office South Dublin discussed how LEO services can support budding entrepreneurs in achieving growth within a feasible timeframe. He highlighted that entrepreneurship should not be a solitary endeavour and emphasized the importance of nurturing a fertile ecosystem around South Dublin. Tom also talked about the financial supports available for startups and for businesses ready for growth and

expansion. LEO Client, Feebee Foran, the owner of Forager, an award-winning 100% natural Irish skincare brand spoke on her 20 years experience gained in digital marketing, digital strategy, PR, brand identity, marketing, and brand communications. Feebee provided valuable tips and insights for those who are just starting out. While Daniel Halpin, Business Growth Manager at WorkIQ, delivered an insightful presentation on the pillars and core values of DesignThinking and the importance of Ikigai, a Japanese concept that signifies 'what gives your life worth, meaning, or purpose.

The event was well attended and great feedback was received with a desire from all participants to be involved in more collaborative events of this nature. Following on from this event, Daniel and the team from Oxford Innovation will be hosting another Seed to Success event in the WorkIQ building soon and endeavour to host a series of similar events over the coming months. Work IQ is very much fully open, with new

businesses operating from this state-of-the-art facility; and with events like 'Seed For Success' taking place support for start-up businesses in the County couldn't be brighter.



Arabella Voices with MGSD children's chorus in County Hall

Culture Night in South Dublin

Culture Night took place in Parthalán Place and across the County with new venues in County Hall and the Old Courthouse Rathcoole adding to the rich cultural programme for 2024.

County Hall hosted Music Generation South Dublin's concert featuring Ceol, SubSounds, Arabella Voices with MGSD children's chorus, performing 'What do I Love about Tallaght' by Damien Gallagher, bilingual Poet Ben Mc Caoillte reflected on place and memory.

Two Paths Meet, in the Old Courthouse Rathcoole, was a vibrant celebration of Irish and Ukrainian folk culture presented on the night.

Massy's Woods Conservation Works Begin

Hellfire, the transformative project in the Dublin Mountains, which will offer a range of exciting amenities and activities for visitors of all ages reached a key milestone with the commencement of conservation works at Massy's Wood. Hellfire represents an important gateway to the Dublin Mountains, offering visitors a place of orientation and interpretation, informing them about the geography, archaeology and history of the area, particularly around Montpelier Hill, Massy's Wood, and, of course, the Hellfire Club itself.

The conservation work at Massy's Wood is a significant milestone in safeguarding the historic character of the area and bringing it to life for the local community, visitors and generations to come. In delivering the Hellfire Project and enhancing the area's facilities, these works will support the area's cultural identity and increase awareness of its rich history and heritage value.

The works will continue over a period of three months, taking place across the area encompassing Massy's Wood and its walled garden. Visitors will still be able to access the Hellfire Club, Massy's Wood, the trails and walks in the area during the works.



My Open Library Launched

The My Open Library service offers extended opening hours by providing library access to members from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week, 365 days of the year. My Open Library is an unstaffed self-service library, outside of regular opening hours. With My Open Library, patrons can borrow and return items, print, photocopy, use the internet, access Wifi and use our study spaces.

My Open Library was launched on Saturday 28th September as part of the National Public Library Open Day celebration, which encourages everyone to take a closer look at the range of services available in your library. This service will be offered in Lucan Library initially, with the intention to roll it out to other libraries in the years ahead.



Conservation Work begins at Massy's Wood



Corporate Performance and Change Management



An Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta
 Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

Participatory Budgeting Review Concludes

Recommendations have been presented to the Council to improve the delivery and enhance the Have Your Say participatory budgeting initiative, which began in 2017 and ran until 2023 and was the first of its kind in the Country.

These recommendations have been formulated following extensive international research into similar participatory budgeting initiatives and through stakeholder engagement workshops. The recommendations focus on 3 key areas: Project selection and implementation, Awareness, participation and inclusion, Communications, Collaboration and Value Creation

Overall the review has commended the initiative and the Council for successfully delivering the first initiative of its kind in the country and for the positive feedback from all stakeholders, despite the obvious refinements which arose in the research. The next step is for a steering group to be created to take the recommendations forward



Women's Caucus Returns

The first meeting of the Women's Caucus following the recent local elections took place on Thursday 26th of September in the Council Chamber with new members joining their colleagues for the first time.

The Women's Caucus is apolitical and open to current and past female Councillors with the aim of increasing women's engagement and representation in local politics.

The current council is represented by 47.5% Women, which is the highest representation of women on any local Council in the Country and an increase from 39% from the previous election in 2019.

3,100 Businesses in South Dublin Receive €13,765,577 under the Increased Cost of Business Grant Scheme

3,100 businesses in South Dublin have received €13,765,577 in grant funding under the Government's Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) scheme.

The ICOB grant was designed by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment to help SME's with the increased costs associated with running a business and was administered by the Local Authorities.

Nationally, 74,716 businesses have received grants and a total of €241.68m has been paid to businesses across the country.

Colm Ward, Chief Executive of SDCC said: "As part of Budget 2024, the Government signed off on a package of €257m for the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) Grant as a vital measure

for small and medium businesses.

South Dublin County Council, funded through the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE), managed the rollout of the grant to qualifying businesses within South Dublin.

Eligible businesses received a once-off grant payment, and businesses within the tourism and hospitality sector received a second grant payment, to assist with the rising costs faced by businesses."

Following the recent Budget 2025 announcement, the government has announced a powerup grant which will also be facilitated by Local Authorities. Following our recent successful ICOB

schemes, the Power Up Grant of €4,000 is designed to provide a direct financial boost to our small and medium enterprises.



Nominations underway for Council SPC's

SPC Schemes Nominations Due

Nine submissions were received and considered for inclusion following a public consultation on the Draft Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) Scheme. The SPC Scheme 2024 – 2029 was adopted at the September Council Meeting and the following are the six SPCs:

- Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism
- Land Use, Transportation and Planning
- Social, Community and Equality
- Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change
- Housing
- Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries

The nomination process for stakeholder groups is currently underway and all SPC meetings will commence in the coming weeks.



Have Your Say Review Concludes



Environment, Water and Climate Change

Have a Happy & Safe Halloween!

Bulbs not Bonfires campaign is here again. Every year we encourage residents of the county to look after their environment at Halloween by providing communities with bulbs to plant for lovely spring flowers instead of a scarred open space as the result of a bonfire. Community groups, environmental groups, resident associations, and schools can apply. This year we have 400 bags of mixed pollinator bulbs, including Crocus, Muscari, Alliums, Snowdrops & Daffodils.

To receive bulbs groups are asked to fill out our simple application form and attach a photo to let us know where the bulbs are planted. The application form can be found on www.sdcc.ie and applications will be accepted from Thursday 3rd October. As this initiative is oversubscribed all applications will be dealt with on a first come first served basis. Please send your application to envawareness@sdblincoco.ie.

South Dublin County Council is providing a Free Pass to Ballymount Civic Amenity Centre to every Social Credit applicant / group to help dispose of bonfire material. One pass allows entry for one car and will be valid from Tuesday 22nd October until Friday 29th November 2024.



Leaf Collection Service Returns

Together with our nominated road sweeping contractor Oxigen, we will be providing a leaf collection service from now until January 2025. Leaves are removed from public roads and footpaths throughout the County. The service includes a road sweep on request from residents and the collection of bagged leaves. Leaves can be placed in compostable bags and left outside driveways or gates on the public path. Residents can contact the Public Realm section publicrealm@sdblincoco.ie to advise of the location of the leaves and Oxigen will be notified to arrange removal. Resident Associations and Community Groups can also request compostable bags from the Environment Section by emailing envawareness@sdblincoco.ie

SDCC Staff Learn Energy Awareness from Industry Experts

Heat Pumps by Firebird, One Stop Shop by SSE Green Generation, Optimising Power at Home by the OPW, Home Energy Saving Kits by South Dublin Libraries and Solar PV Panels by Pinergy were all on display at a staff Energy Awareness Event held in County Hall on Sept 25th 2024.

Our Active Travel e-Bikes were also on display for the day, with some brave staff taking a spin around the car park. The new EV's, which were recently added to our fleet, were also available for viewing. Staff were encouraged to make suggestions of Energy Saving Ideas for the Workplace with over 150 suggestions made.

The Chief Executive was on hand to launch the Council's Energy Policy, which together with the recent formation of an SDCC Energy Team, is the first major

step in progress towards ISO 50001 Energy Management Certification for the organisation. Short presentations were given by industry experts and SDCC Staff.

Guest speakers included Alan Cooke from the OPW, Kieran Larkin from Pinergy and Rory Dowd from Circle K and covered topics ranging from the benefits for energy upgrade as well as easy wins and top tips for saving energy at home including SEAI grants. Kieran focused on Photovoltaic (Solar Electric Panels) installations, the associated investment and payback periods for the home and also detailed the SEAI grants available. Rory's presentation explained the benefits of switching from diesel to biofuel (HVO) in vehicles. John McCormack gave an update on the Council's Housing Retrofit Programme and Patricia Brennan gave an overview

of Energy Management in the Council. Due to the success of the event, further Staff Energy Awareness lunch and learn events are being planned for later this year and again in 2025.



Council's Energy Policy Launched

28 Community Climate Projects receive €1.17 million

€1.17 million has been allocated to 28 Community Climate Projects by South Dublin County Council through Strand 1 and 1a of the Community Climate Action Programme.

A range of community organisations, from sports clubs to scouts, and charities to social enterprises have been supported to take climate action, that has an impact.

With funding coming from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, these local community projects in South Dublin form a crucial part of the Council's ongoing response to climate change.

Congratulations to all!



SDCC receives €2.6m in Community Sport Facilities Funding

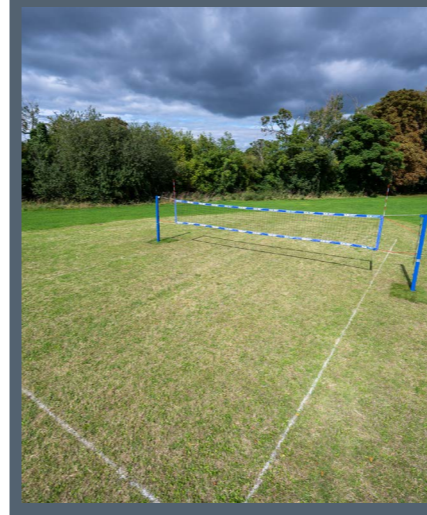


South Dublin County Council submitted 31 applications for Sports Capital Grant funding in 2023, for new and upgraded facilities in our parks and public open spaces. We welcome the recent announcement that all our grant applications were successful. The projects that will benefit cross a wide variety of sports and range

from small scale to large scale projects.

Previously called the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme, the name of the programme has been changed to the Community Sport Facilities Fund to better reflect the community focus of the grant programme.

Sand Volleyball Court for Corkagh Park



Examples include:
The provision of funding for upgrades to existing grass pitch upgrades across the County to help improve playability and adaption in the face of

climate change, additional funding towards the Council's sports pavilion programme and a water sports pavilion at Lucan Demesne beside the River Liffey, funding for goal storage compounds, additional funding towards some of our park upgrades, to enable new facilities at Quarryvale, St. Cuthbert's and Jobstown Parks, such as basketball, a pump track, multi-use games areas (MUGA), parkour, etc.

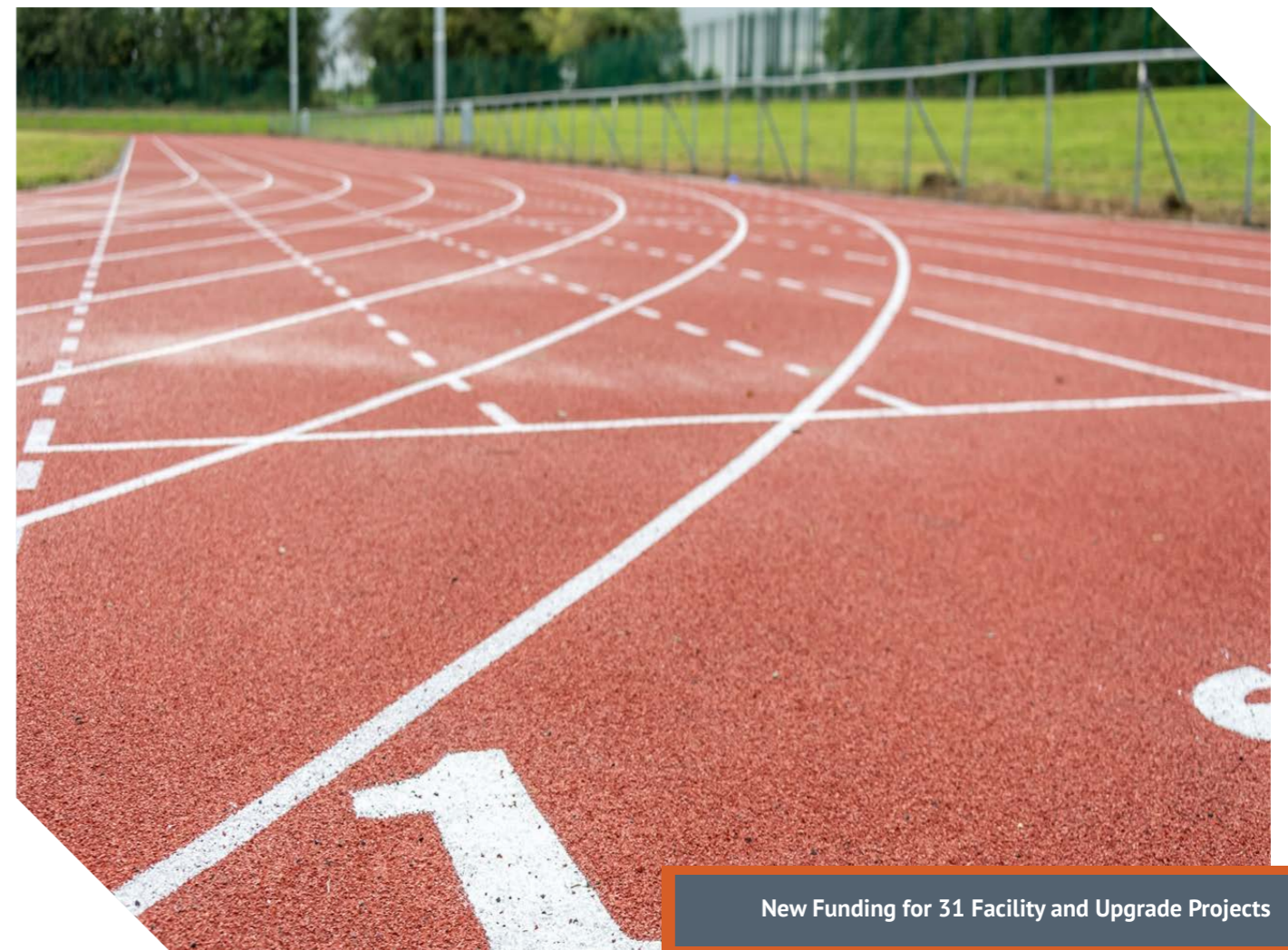
The funding also includes funding for upgrades to existing, well-loved multi use games areas at MacUilliam, Balgaddy and Jobstown Parks, funding to upgrade the popular grass volleyball court at Corkagh Park to a sand volleyball court. This will be the first of its kind in a public park in Ireland, There is also funding for contributions

towards the upgrade of existing athletics facilities at Griffeen Valley and Bancroft Parks.

The total amount of grant funding received by the Council in this round of Community Sport Facilities Funding Allocations is €2,660,274.

This programme is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Further information on the grant announcement and a full breakdown of the project funding for South Dublin is available [here](#).



New Funding for 31 Facility and Upgrade Projects

Red Line Book Festival 2024



A Week of Literature, Storytelling, and Community

The Red Line Book Festival brings an exciting programme of literary events to South Dublin County from October 14th – 20th. With over 40 literary events and an eclectic mix of established writers and new voices, there's something for all ages and all interests. Highlights include

an evening with internationally bestselling author, Marian Keyes; the ever-popular True Crime Night with former detective Pat Marry and investigative journalist Mick Clifford in conversation with Muireann O'Connell; Donal Ryan in the beautiful surroundings of

Tallaween: Enter the Inferno!

Brace yourself for the ultimate Hallowe'en experience!

A storm is brewing, unleashing an ancient force within Tallaght Library that brings the library's darkest tales to life.

Monsters, demons and zombies are escaping the pages and descending upon Parthalán Place on Saturday 19th October at 5:30pm.

With live performance AR Mobile Game and Laser Light Show, don't miss it!

Rathfarnham Castle, and comedian Emma Doran talking about her debut book, 'Mad Isn't It?' with host Amy Huberman.

Journalists Sean Murray, Nicky Ryan and Christine Bohan will share the

harrowing true story of the Stardust Tragedy as they discuss their new book, 'The Last Disco'.

For history buffs, Dr. Ian Miller will be at Rua Red talking about his intriguing book 'A History of Ireland in Ten Body Parts', while Clodagh Finn and John Morgan will be discussing some forgotten heroes of WWII featured in their book 'The Irish in the Resistance'.

Speaking at the festival launch, Deputy Mayor Councillor Alan Hayes said, "Books have the unique ability to connect us, to spark conversations, to inspire new ideas, and to transport us to different worlds. Here in South Dublin, we are proud to celebrate this rich tradition and to provide a platform for authors from all walks of life to share their stories. This year's programme is a true testament to the power of the written word. We are in for a journey that spans genres, voices, and perspectives. From acclaimed authors to our vibrant local talents, the festival promises something for everyone, whether you are a reader, a

writer, or simply a lover of stories."

The festival also aims to foster local writing talent, with a range of writing workshops in different genres taking place in our libraries, as well as our Comedian in Residence programme with Sharon Mannion which will mentor participants in a series of workshops looking at all aspects of comedy writing and performance, culminating in a showcase event at the Coach House in Palmerstown which will close out the festival on Sunday 20th October.

The festival's Family Fun Day returns to Parthalán Place in Tallaght on Saturday 19th October, and promises to be a day of literary magic and Hallowe'en fun for all ages with activities including storytelling sessions, illustration workshops, live music, creative events, children's entertainment and lots more.

For details of all Red Line Book Festival events, see www.redlinefestival.ie



South Dublin Libraries team at the Red Line Book Festival Launch

South Dublin Olympians Honoured at County Hall



Reception held in County Hall Tallaght for South Dublin Athletes and Local Clubs

The Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Baby Pereppadan welcomed some of the South Dublin Athletes who represented Ireland at the recent Paris Olympics to a reception in County Hall.

Olympic Taekwondo athlete

Jack Woolley, Irish Men's Hockey Olympian Shane O'Donoghue and Olympic swimmer Ellen Walshe were in attendance, with Irish Rugby 7's player Terry Kennedy represented by Paudge McGill of St. Mary's College RFC and Athletics star Rhasidat Adeleke represented

South Dublin Olympians

- South Dublin was represented at the 2024 Paris Olympics by 5 Athletes:
- Swimmer Ellen Walshe of Templeogue Swimming Club
 - Rugby 7's player Terry Kennedy of St. Mary's College RFC Templeogue
 - Track Athlete Rhasidat Adeleke of Tallaght Athletic Club
 - Taekwondo Athlete Jack Woolley of South Dublin Taekwondo
 - Mens Hockey player Shane O'Donoghue of Glenanne Hockey Club

St. Marys Boxing Club in Tallaght was also represented with two athletes who train in their Gym; Grainne Walsh and Kellie Harrington, the latter returning with the Olympic gold medal.

The Athletes were joined by local elected officials, family members, club members and local volunteers for a reception to honour their achievements and impact with all present commenting on the sense of

of pride they have brought to South Dublin.

The event also honoured and acknowledged the work of local sports clubs, such as Templeogue Swimming Club, Glenanne Hockey Club and Tallaght Athletic Club which have helped the Athletes achieve their success, with members of St. Mary's Boxing also in attendance. St. Mary's boxing club, based in Tallaght is the home of Olympian Grainne Walsh and double Olympic gold medallist Kellie Harrington.

The event concluded with a Q&A with the Athletes present and The Echo Newspapers Will O'Connor, discussing their experiences at the Paris Olympics and what is next for them on their sporting journey.

Speaking at the event, Mayor of South Dublin, Councillor Baby Perappadan said; "As an avid sports fan, I know very well the impact and the effect that sport has on a nation

and on the local communities within that nation. Club members here in South Dublin from Athletics, Boxing, Rugby, Swimming & Taekwando all stood taller, knowing that their guy or girl was there at the Olympics, performing at the pinnacle of sporting achievement."

Elaine Leech, Director of Housing, Social and Community Development at South Dublin County Council added; "Those athletes who represented Ireland and our local clubs in Athletics, Boxing, Hockey, Rugby, Swimming and Taekwando were introduced to their sport by volunteer coaches and I would also like to pay warm tribute to them for the great social benefit they have brought to our community. "The South Dublin Olympians have created an ethos of success and respect for your sport, your club and your area. We will look to support that so that you can continue the path for this and the next generation for Los Angeles 2028 and beyond."



Cllr. Baby Perappadan, Mayor of South Dublin with some of the South Dublin Athletes

Minister O'Brien Officially Opens Tallaght Stadium North Stand



The newly constructed North Stand and enhanced corporate facilities at Tallaght Stadium was unveiled by the Mayor of South Dublin Cllr. Baby Pereppadan and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O'Brien TD, during the highly anticipated League of Ireland match between Shamrock Rovers and Bohemians on Monday, September 23rd. The North Stand, along with the improved corporate and hospitality offerings, marks a new era for Tallaght Stadium. The enhanced capacity now allows for over 10,500 spectators, up from the previous 8,000, solidifying the stadium's position as one of Ireland's premier sporting venues. The upgraded facilities provide for a state-of-the-art venue for sporting events, as well as a modern, versatile space for corporate events, media, and hospitality services. Key features

of the upgraded stadium development include:

North Stand: With a capacity of 2,500 seats, the new stand offers modern seating with excellent sightlines and increased comfort for fans.

Corporate and Hospitality Facilities: The Main Stand has undergone significant refurbishment, including new VIP seating areas and upgraded corporate boxes, ensuring a world-class experience for guests and media.

Accessibility Improvements: Enhanced accessible seating with protective canopies in the South Stand and the addition of a Changing Places facility ensure the stadium is more inclusive for all patrons.

The investment of €13.5 million, which was funded by the Council and through the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage's Urban Regeneration and Development Fund, ensures that Tallaght Stadium remains a UEFA Category 4 venue, capable of hosting top-tier European football matches. With the Women's National Team playing Georgia in the upcoming UEFA European qualifier and Shamrock Rovers qualifying for the UEFA Conference League group stages, the new facilities will play a



crucial role in hosting internationally important sporting events in the months and years ahead. The venue's expansion promises to attract even more events, including concerts and large-scale public gatherings, with the stadium's capacity for large-scale events now reaching 22,000 after the recent upgrade works.

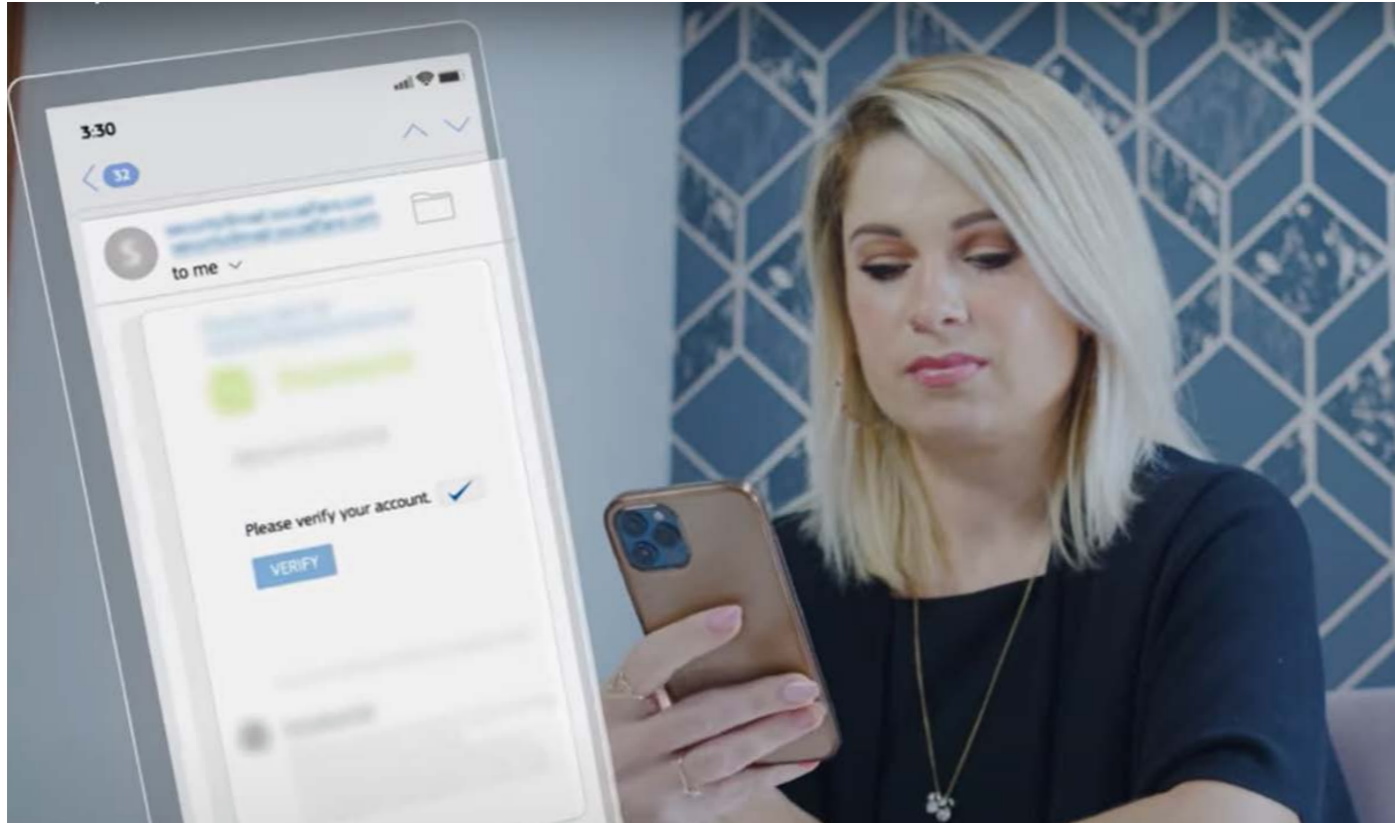
As well as launching the Tallaght Stadium Fourth Stand and enhanced corporate facilities, We are also pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) for the use of Tallaght Stadium.

This agreement strengthens the relationship between the Council and the FAI, ensuring Tallaght Stadium will continue to be a key venue for future FAI matches and events, furthering the stadium's role as a home for Irish football at all levels.

With the launch of the upgraded Stadium and the strengthening of relationships with its sporting partners, the Council looks forward to welcoming the community, sports fans, and corporate partners to this newly improved facility and to celebrating the next chapter of Tallaght Stadium's storied history.



Mark Scanlon (Director of LOI), Nicola Coffey (Tallaght Stadium) Jason Frehill (SDCC) Colm Ward, Cllr. Baby Pereppadan, Mayor of South Dublin, Minister Darragh O'Brien, John Martin (Shamrock Rovers CE) Laura Leonard (SDCC) Ciam Medlar (Chariman of Shamrock Rovers)



The rise in cyber threats necessitates a robust, adaptive, and proactive cybersecurity strategy. Its importance has never been more pronounced, particularly in light of the increasing sophistication and frequency of cyber threats. As part of the European Union's Cybersecurity Month for 2024, a series of initiatives have been planned to raise awareness and promote best practices among staff, our elected members, and the public. This month's activities emphasises the critical role of cybersecurity in both personal and professional contexts.

Cybersecurity is essential for protecting sensitive information and maintaining the integrity of both corporate systems and an individuals digital life.

In South Dublin County Council, a variety of activities are scheduled

to engage individuals in cybersecurity awareness including workshops tailored to meet the cyber needs of an individual's professional and personal life. Special in-person sessions will take place for our outdoor workers, ensuring they receive targeted education on cybersecurity relevant to their unique personal and work environments.

Throughout the month, online sessions will be available, with recordings for those who can't attend live. The mandatory Cyber Essentials training for

new employees will be relaunched and extended to elected members for better digital preparedness. In collaboration with our libraries, around 10 public sessions will educate the community on cybersecurity, with online access to enhance its reach.

A notable initiative this year is the Cyber Champions programme, designed to empower staff to advocate for cybersecurity within their work place and their communities, regardless of their technical expertise. Participants will receive

the necessary knowledge and skills to engage in informed discussions about cybersecurity, promoting awareness and best practices. To further enhance awareness, daily cybersecurity tips will be published on the Council's intranet and interactive screens, encouraging staff to stay informed and be proactive in their cybersecurity practices.

Participants will learn to recognize risks like phishing, smishing, and vishing, and adopt preventive measures like two-factor authentication.

Additionally, we're raising awareness of the EU's NIS 2 Directive which aims to enhance cybersecurity across the European Union, imposing significant penalties for non-



compliance.

Several best practices are being recommended including strong and unique passwords, two-factor authentication, and regular software updates. Staff can stay proactive by following advice and guidance being

made available and joining in with the Month's events.

As Cybersecurity Month gets underway, all are encouraged to participate in the various activities planned and to foster a culture of security and resilience. By engaging in workshops, training sessions, and public discussions, individuals can contribute to a safer digital environment. Stay Safe. Stay Vigilant. Stay Ahead.

A Focus On

Enhancing Cybersecurity: EU Cybersecurity Month 2024



EU Cyber Security Month 2024 - #ThinkB4Uclick

Images of the Month



European Week of Sport - Glow Dance at the Park Community Centre

Images of the Month



Former Cllr Charlie O'Connor with Minister Dara O'Brien and Nicola Coffey



Launch of Conservation Works at Massy's Wood



Launch of the Templeogue Heritage Trail App

Images of the Month



Culture Night in County Hall

Images of the Month



Dublin Brickcon at Castletymon Library



South Dublin Olympian Reception held in County Hall

Images of the Month - Community Endeavour Awards



SDCC Councillors at the Community Endeavour Awards

Images of the Month



Teresa O'Brien with CLl. Baby Pereppadan, Mayor of South Dublin and Marty Whelan



Lucan Festival - Winner of the Culture and Heritage Award



Community Integration Award Winners, Sanctuary Runners Tallaght

Images of the Month



SDCC Community and Integration team with Marty Whelan

Images of the Month



Winner of the Social Inclusion Award, This Is Me Neurodiversity Support Group



Winner of the Health and Wellness Award, Walk and Talk



Winner of the Environment and Climate Action Award, Dodder Action Group

Images of the Month



Winner of the Youth Empowerment Award, Knockmitten Youth Leadership Programme

Images of the Month



Winner of the Age Friendly and Social Mobility Award, Dodder Valley Cycling



Outstanding Contribution to a Community Winner Teresa O'Brien with friends and family

Finance Report

Billing & Collection Statement (billed to 27th September 2024)

	(provisional) Arrears @ 31 Dec 2023	Adopted Budget 2024	Billed to 27th September 2024	Rec'ts/Credits to 27th September 2024	Arrears @ 27th September 2024	% of BILLED income achieved
Via Billing Systems						
Commercial Rates	€14,674,021	€145,432,500	€148,793,212	€128,229,096	€35,238,137	86%
Entry Year Property Levy (PEL)	€386,056	n/a	€0	€255,239	€130,818	66%
Housing Rents	€8,189,799	€32,963,500	€25,404,294	€25,492,842	€8,101,251	100%
Housing RAS Rents	€1,042,041	€2,267,400	€1,755,984	€1,596,274	€1,201,751	91%
						% of Budget Income Achieved
Via Cash Systems						
NPPR Charge	n/a	€150,000	n/a	€114,680	€0	76%
Planning Fees	n/a	€1,288,000	n/a	€645,446	€0	50%
Fire Certificates	n/a	€1,200,000	n/a	€1,231,954	€0	103%
Parking Fees	n/a	€780,000	n/a	€525,837	€0	67%
Irish Water	€373,437	€6,596,300	€3,542,615	€3,923,406	-€7,354	59%
	€24,665,354	€190,677,700	€179,496,104	€162,014,773	€44,664,602	

Rents Aged Debt			
Category	Numbers	Amounts	% of Accounts
Accounts not in Arrears	5929	2,697,235	57%
0-6 weeks	1851	345,252	18%
7-12 weeks	475	312,569	5%
13-18 weeks	274	298,621	3%
19-24 weeks	215	355,715	2%
25-52 weeks	631	1,715,257	6%
1 - 2 years	532	2,616,341	5%
Greater than 2 years	540	5,154,729	5%
Totals	10,447	€8,101,251	100%

Rates Aged Debt			PEL Aged Debt		
Year	Bal O/S	%	Year	Bal O/S	%
2024	25,668,793	73%	2024	€0	0%
2023	3,475,071	10%	2023	€7,738	6%
2022	1,427,548	4%	2022	€108,215	83%
2021	1,018,782	3%	2021	€2,738	2%
2020	177,659	1%	2020	€2,637	2%
2019	1,184,323	3%	2019	€2,791	2%
2018	797,574	2%	2018	€1,370	1%
pre 2018	1,488,388	4%	Pre 2018	€5,329	4%
Totals	€35,238,137	100%	Totals	€130,818	100%

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