



January 2025

# Chief Executive's Report

Jobstown Park Official Opening

# 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.

# Contents



## Features

- 14 TradFest Comes to South Dublin**  
TradFest will celebrate 20 years in 2025 with an expanded programme which comes to South Dublin
- 18 South Dublin Becomes the First Council with a Majority Female Membership**  
South Dublin Becomes the First Council with Majority Female Membership. Co-options bring total female Councillors to twenty-one.
- 20 Council Focus - Capital Programme 2025-2027**  
The €1.75 billion Capital Programme for 2025-2027 was presented at the December Council meeting.
- 22 Images of the Month**





# Land Use, Planning and Transportation

## Clondalkin Local Area Plan

Following a briefing for Area Committee members in October, the Planning Department engaged a facilitator to support a third round of public consultation on the Clondalkin Local Area Plan. Over three weeks in November and December the facilitator and a planner from the Local Area Plan team held meetings with 59 different individuals and local interest groups.

These meetings provided opportunity for detailed input and feedback, particularly focusing on transport and movement within and around the village. Stakeholders represented different sectors of Clondalkin, including schools (both principals and students), businesses, residents' associations and community groups.

The input, which was valuable and informative, will now be used to refine options for the Local Area Plan. The emerging options will be presented at three ticketed events to be held in Clondalkin in the coming weeks with scheduled dates and venues to be confirmed shortly.



## Dart+ South West Update

An Bord Pleanála has approved a Railway Order for the Dart+ South West scheme between Heuston and Hazelhatch Stations. This gives the go-ahead to the project which will see an upgrade to higher frequency services and Dart-style trains with the potential for additional stations in the future. This will benefit residents, workers and visitors to South Dublin County, particularly servicing Adamstown, Clonburris, Clondalkin and City Edge, by significantly improving public transport, providing an alternative to car use and helping achieve our climate change targets. The Order authorises CIÉ (Córas Iompair Éireann) to carry out all works necessary to enable the construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of the railway between Hazelhatch and Heuston Station Dublin.

## €22.78m of Active Travel Infrastructure delivered in 2024

Major elements of the Cycle South Dublin programme were completed by our Active Travel team, in 2024 with the assistance of €22.785 million grant funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA). The programme, which commenced in 2021, has received €106 million in funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to date.

Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) is also a key part of the Active Travel programme. Now in Round 3, the SRTS programme has delivered Safe School Zones at 12 Schools in the County in rounds 1 and 2 as well as part completion of active travel schemes in these areas. Active Travel schemes completed in 2024 included; Grange Road, Dodder Greenway Section 4 - Springfield Avenue & Dodder Road Lower, D12 Bike Bus Route, Killinarden Park and Greenway Scheme, D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network Phase 1.

School's projects were also completed at Scoil Maelruain National School (NS), St Dominics NS, Bishop Shanahan NS, St Pius X NS and Sacred Heart Senior NS, Tallaght and Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcáin, Coláiste Chillain Clondalkin, Scoil Bride and Scoil Lorcain Palmerstown.

The SDCC Safe School Zone and Quiet Street programmes will be launched in 2025, with SRTS Round 3 works commencing at Scoil Áine Naofa Lucan, Scoil Naomh Aine Clondalkin, St Thomas' Junior NS Lucan, St. Colmcille's Senior NS Knocklyon and Glenasmole NS. Other routes to be progressed in 2025 include Dodder Greenway Section 5, D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network Phase 2, Castletymon Road Active Travel Scheme, Wellington Lane Scheme - Phase A, Templeville and Glendown Road, along with the Tallaght to Clondalkin Active Travel Scheme.

The delivery of the programme will continue into 2025 with significant NTA and Council funding available to help develop facilities on significant routes.



Dodder Greenway Upgrades

## Unique Rosemount Shelter

Enhancement works at Rosemount District Centre will include bespoke sheltered seating designed by Irish start-up company Bladebridge as part of the scheme.

Following assessment of various options, the preferred choice was the innovative shelter design by Bladebridge who re-purpose end-of-life wind turbine blades into seating and shelter structures. These blades are made from a dense polycarbonate material that cannot be recycled or re-used and would be destined for landfill otherwise.

The structure, incorporating two seating benches and a cantilever section providing shelter for three bikes, was designed specifically for this site, and its installation will be completed this month.



BladeBridge Sheltered Seating

**New Housing Development at Nangor Mills/Nangor Court**



# Housing, Social and Community Development

**Community Recognition Fund 2025**

The third and final application window for the 2024/25 Community Recognition Fund (CRF) is now open for applications from organisations across the county.

Applications should be submitted by midnight on 26th January 2025. All details on eligibility of projects and how to apply to the fund can be found on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie). Our community team are available to assist local sports, community and voluntary organisations with their applications.

The Community Recognition Fund was introduced by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) in 2023 to recognise the huge efforts made by communities in welcoming and supporting new arrivals to Ireland seeking safety and protection here. Applications must be for capital projects between €50,000 and €500,000 that will deliver medium to long term benefits for the communities in which they are located. Submissions relating to ongoing operational/running costs are not eligible for funding.

The first CRF application window saw €801,000 approved by DRCD for five South Dublin projects with funding awarded for:



**Staff from South Dublin County Partnership receiving the keys to their new bus**

- Renovation of Tallaght Community Arts premises
- Mini-buses for South Dublin County Partnership & the Four Districts Day Care Centre
- JADD: community outreach bus
- Development of a social space and theatre by Gaelphobal Tamhlachta

Four of these projects have now been completed with works progressing on the social space and theatre at Geelphobal Tamhlachta

Seven community projects were submitted to DRCD in application window 2 and decisions are awaited on those applications, with groups to be updated once we are notified of successful applications.

**New housing developments at Balgaddy and Nangor Road**

We are thrilled to have officially taken handover of the final phases of 162 newly built homes in two new social housing developments at Balgaddy, Lucan and Nangor, Clondalkin from Cunningham Contracts who constructed both projects.

The Balgaddy development comprises of 69 homes in total in a mix of one, two and three-bedroom homes. Delivered across various typologies, this project includes two storey houses, duplexes and apartments with many new residents receiving the keys to their new homes in time for Christmas.

The development of 93 quality new homes at Nangor Mills/Nangor Court comprises 60 apartments, 15 houses and 18 duplexes. We have recently commenced advertising these properties on Choice Based Letting which can be

accessed through our Housing Online Platform.

These projects reflect our aim to provide a range of housing options that are high quality and energy efficient to meet the needs of households our social housing list. Both are in close proximity to existing local community services and form part of our ambitious construction programme under the Council's Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026.



**Active South Dublin Community Walks**

**Step into the New Year with Free Community Walks!**

Looking for a good way to stay active, meet new people, and enjoy the outdoors? Active South Dublin's Free Community Walks are the perfect opportunity to connect with others, have a chat, and take in the beauty of South Dublin's parks.

Join us for these walks on Tuesday, 21st January in Dodder Valley Park, Tuesday, 28th January at St Enda's Park, and Tuesday, 4th February in Corkagh Park with all starting at 10:30am.

This is a great way for adults who love a gentle stroll with good company and also helps us to stay healthy and socially connected at the same time! Sign up at <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/free-community-walks-3941903>



**New Housing Development at Balgaddy**



## Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

### Contractor Appointed for Grand Canal Greenway from 12th Lock to Hazelhatch

The tender process for appointing a contractor to construct the Grand Canal Greenway from the 12th Lock to Hazelhatch has successfully concluded. Following tender evaluation, the contract has been awarded to John Craddock Ltd., a contractor with extensive experience in delivering large-scale infrastructure projects. Preparatory work is now underway to facilitate the commencement of construction which is scheduled to begin this month.

The works will involve the construction of a 4.6-kilometre section of greenway along the northern towpath of the Grand Canal, connecting the 12th Lock to Hazelhatch at the Kildare boundary. The project is expected to take approximately nine months to complete, ensuring that the extended greenway is on track for completion this year.

This significant addition to the greenway network represents another important step in the ongoing development of Ireland's interconnected greenway system, which, when fully realised will create a continuous route stretching all the way to Shannon Harbour in County Offaly. Once completed, this section of the greenway will enhance the recreational and amenity opportunities for residents and visitors, while also providing an attractive and sustainable commuting option for employees of the adjacent Grange Castle Business Park.

Additionally, it will contribute to the expansion of the countywide cycle network, further promoting active travel and sustainable tourism. This project underscores the Council's commitment to improving local infrastructure, supporting healthier, more sustainable lifestyles and fostering regional

connectivity and marks a significant milestone in enhancing both local infrastructure and quality of life for residents.



Behind the Curtain at The Civic

### Behind The Curtain Arts in Education Workshop

The Civic encourages and nurtures young people's active participation in arts and culture in South Dublin.

Behind the Curtain – The Road to Leaving Cert, an interactive arts-in-education workshop was delivered in partnership with Real Learning Ltd. Facilitated by professional actors, 5th year students engaged in activities fostering creativity, collaboration, and confidence for their Leaving Cert journey.

This applied learning approach highlighted arts as a tool for better communication and understanding. It also served to introduce students to the power of the Arts as a medium for communication and creativity. Watch feedback here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqctY25PLuQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqctY25PLuQ)

### Colossus - By John Conway

Colossus is a socially engaged art project led by John Conway with Elaine Hoey and Shaun Dunne. It explores North Clondalkin's unspoken and unacknowledged oral histories related to loss and bereavement by suicide.

Through a series of workshops, a group of local young people aged 15 – 18 years old, worked across augmented reality, 3D scanning, theatre, and voice over performance. A script, devised with theatre maker Shaun Dunne and developed separately with adults from the area who have lost a loved one to suicide, was recorded by the participants to accompany these sculptures as audio.

These co-created artworks will be positioned back within the community in a series of digital sculptures dispersed across the local area which will be viewable through augmented reality on mobile devices.

The launch of the Digital Sculpture trail will take place on 8th February in North Clondalkin Library. There is huge pride in bringing these impactful sculptures to the local community of Clondalkin to highlight the importance of social issues, as well as the evolving role of technology in bringing art to life.



### Christmas Markets & Craft Fairs

On 6th December, Parthalán Place in Tallaght hosted over 20 vendors offering artisan produce, crafts, and hot food, alongside local entertainment. Despite Storm Darragh, nearly 400 visitors attended, while Tallaght Library's Christmas craft fair drew 1,600 people.

Rathfarnham Castle Parks' established market followed on 8th December, with over 40 vendors and hundreds enjoying food, crafts, and castle tours.

An estimated 7,500 people visited the markets and Libraries' Craft Fairs across the weekend, showcasing strong public interest. Such has been the success of the markets and craft fairs, plans for 2025 include expanding these events to Clondalkin and Lucan.



Colossus at North Clondalkin Library



## Corporate Performance and Change Management

### 30 Year Anniversary and Staff Awards

Over 200 staff and elected members, past and present, gathered in County Hall on 4th December to celebrate the first 30 years of South Dublin County Council. On the evening, to mark this milestone, the Mayor unveiled a newly commissioned artwork by Holger C. Lonze, an accomplished sculptor, renowned for his innovative work in cast and repoussé bronze.

The evening was also an opportunity to recognise the contributions of current staff, including those with 30 years or more service, former Councillors and colleagues, particularly those who retired during the Covid 19 pandemic. A video reflecting on some of our achievements over the past 30 years, was also a highlight of the evening, featuring interviews with key people involved along the way, while The Bohemian String Quartet also played

as old colleagues and friends shared memories from their time at SDCC.

Chief Executive of SDCC, Colm Ward said; "The past 30 years have seen the Council deliver some major change. I want to say thank you to our current staff and Councillors and to everyone who has been part of the Council over the last 30 years. Your dedication and ambition have made South Dublin a success story and we will continue to strive to be the best we can be."

Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Baby Pereppadan added; "I'm immensely proud to be in office to mark this occasion. The Council has played a major part in all our lives and is so much more than just a job, you should all be very proud of the contributions you have made. The Council

has achieved so much over the last 30 years and the spirit of innovation and collaboration is still alive and well."



2024 Gender Pay Gap Report Published

### Third Gender Pay Gap Report Published

South Dublin County Council has published its third annual Gender Pay Gap Report, highlighting the percentage difference between what men and women are paid on average in the organisation, irrespective of roles or levels. Employers with more than 150 employees in Ireland are required to publish their gender pay gap data before the end of 2024 and within six months of their reference date.

Our 2024 report shows a Gender Pay Gap of -9.77%. This figure reflects the fact that the average earnings of all females in South Dublin County Council is 9.77% higher than the average earnings of all males in the organisation.

### Christmas Cyber Security and Cyber Security Month Success

The Cyber Security Month 2024 campaign, part of the European Cybersecurity Month (ECSM), produced impressive results, underlining the importance of cybersecurity awareness in today's digital age. The initiative involved staff, elected members, and citizens, delivering extensive training, simulations, and workshops.

Key Achievements included over 21 staff workshops which were conducted across all council directorates, addressing specific operational systems and security measures. A customised cyber security awareness training video was developed and issued to all Councillors. In collaboration with South Dublin Libraries, 12 cyber safety workshops for the public emphasised phishing, smishing, and social engineering risks, with options for in-person and online attendance.

South Dublin County Council remains committed to fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness, reflecting the ECSM motto: "Cyber Security is a Shared Responsibility" and with that in mind, we wish to offer a reminder to stay secure both personally and professionally, with criminals targeting new devices, personal information, and finances following the Christmas period.



### Blue Monday at SDCC

Often considered the most depressing day of the year, Blue Monday is typically observed on the third Monday of January. In 2025, it falls on 20th January and serves as a reminder to everyone to prioritise their mental wellbeing. As part of our recently launched Staff Wellbeing Strategy and to support our hard-working staff, we will again host chair massages, yoga, and sound therapy sessions for staff throughout the day.

Blue Monday is a key part of our 2025 programme of health and wellbeing Initiatives and ensures focus on the core pillars of the Staff Wellbeing Strategy: physical, social, and mental wellbeing.



Cyber Security Event at Ballyroan Library



## Environment, Water and Climate Change

### Five South Dublin Parks Receive Green Flag Award

Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park, and Rathfarnham Castle Park, have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award by An Taisce. This recognition celebrates our commitment to high standards in park management, environmental responsibility, and community engagement.

The Green Flag Award scheme aims to promote the development of high-quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in an environmentally sustainable manner. It encourages parks and green spaces to achieve high environmental standards and effective management, with awards based on eight key criteria. Additionally, Tymon Park and Waterstown Park received high commendations in the All Ireland Pollinator Award.

Speaking on the announcement, Chief Executive of SDCC, Colm Ward said; "Achieving Green Flag awards for five of our parks recognises our commitment to the continued development and management of high-quality parks and green spaces. It is a great to achieve this prestigious award for our parks which are a haven for recreation and enjoyment by all"



### Clondalkin Decarbonizing Zone

Under the National Climate Action Plan, each local authority was tasked with identifying a key climate action area. Clondalkin is designated as our Decarbonizing Zone (DZ), focusing on reducing carbon emissions from everyday activities.

The goal is to cut emissions by 51% by 2030 through sustainable and local solutions, such as improved air quality and reduced waste. Extensive engagement has shaped the Clondalkin DZ Implementation Plan.

A community team is being formed to drive this low carbon area. Please visit [sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/clondalkin-dz/](https://sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/clondalkin-dz/) for more info.

### €2.5million Upgrade of Jobstown Park Open to the Community

The €2.5m upgrade of Jobstown Park was completed and opened to the public by the Mayor, Cllr Baby Pereppadan on 16th December.

The 29-acre park at Jobstown has been transformed into a welcoming, secure, and thriving neighbourhood park designed to meet the growing needs of the community.

This forms part of a network of park developments, strategically planned to enhance pedestrian and biodiversity connectivity across West Tallaght, while improving access to public amenities for the local community.

The upgrade includes focal park entrances, a teen space, an outdoor workout area, a pump track, a natural playground, a dog park, a footpath exercise loop, and a Cycle South Dublin

link connecting to the wider cycle infrastructure, along with landscaping and biodiversity enhancements, including the planting of 300 mature trees.

Native wildflower seeds from Tymon Park were harvested and sown in Jobstown Park to create new meadows. This innovative approach supports biodiversity and pollinators, as the seeds are well-suited to the local climate and soils.

We are grateful as always to the local community and elected members for their input and ongoing support during design and construction of this collaborative project, from our Public Realm Section who worked alongside Nicholas de Jong Associates on planning, design and project management, and Clonmel Enterprises

Ltd. who expertly delivered the construction stage.



Turning the sod at Kiltipper Park

### New Works Start at Kiltipper Park

Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Baby Pereppadan turned the sod to officially mark the commencement of the second phase of works at Kiltipper Park. Works are underway to deliver car parking, footpath and entrance improvements, construction of new pitches and a viewpoint area.

This phase is supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development and Sports Capital Grant funding.

We thank the local community for all their assistance and support for the project and kindly ask them to bear with us as we move to the construction phase, during which we will endeavour to minimise any inconvenience for park users.



Tymon Park, one of our five parks awarded Green Flags

# TradFest Comes to South Dublin



## Expanded festival will highlight the venues of South Dublin

TradFest will celebrate 20 years as Ireland's leading trad and folk festival this year. Known as a joyful celebration of Irish music and culture, the festival takes place each January in Dublin.

For the first time, it will extend to South Dublin, offering a dynamic programme of events, celebrating Irish traditional music, culture, and

community across vibrant venues throughout the County, which runs from Wednesday 22nd to Sunday 26th January 2025.

This exciting addition to the well established TradFest will give South Dublin locals and visitors alike a fresh opportunity to experience performances by acclaimed artists and engage

## TradFest 20 in South Dublin

For 20 years, Tradfest has been lighting up dark January evenings with colour, culture, craic agus ceol. In 2025, such luminaries as Peggy Seegar, Ralph McTell, Phelim Drew and Syster amongst others will be lighting up wonderful non-traditional event spaces across South Dublin County for the first time. We are delighted to welcome old friends and new to experience a celebration of Irish music and culture in the likes of Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre, and Áras Chrónáin in Clondalkin, the Court of Petty Sessions in Rathcoole, St Maelruain's Church in Tallaght village, and the Glenasmole Community Centre in the heart of the Dublin Mountains. But there is more, with the help of local organisations and business we have been able to programme an exciting array of fringe events to bring that festival feel to Rathcoole, Tallaght and Clondalkin.

with cultural activities. From Rathfarnham Castle to Pearse Museum and beyond, South Dublin will play host to a diverse lineup of

events for music lovers of all ages. The festival will feature intimate live performances, interactive workshops, and family-friendly activities, showcasing both emerging and established artists who embody the spirit of traditional Irish music. Performers like Ralph McTell, Peggy Seeger, and Daoirí Farrell are among those set to captivate audiences with their exceptional talents.

In addition to world-class performances, TradFest South Dublin will offer unique opportunities for hands-on engagement. Events such as the interactive "Try the Pipes" session will invite attendees to learn to play the uilleann pipes, introducing a new generation to this iconic instrument. Workshops and talks will delve into Irish music's rich cultural history, fostering appreciation for its enduring influence.

Film screenings and heritage-focused events will further enhance the festival's offerings, celebrating the stories and traditions that have shaped Irish cultural identity. Iconic

venues like Rathfarnham Castle will provide stunning historical backdrops, blending South Dublin's rich architectural heritage with its artistic programming.

The festival will embrace a family-friendly atmosphere, ensuring activities are accessible and engaging for music enthusiasts of all ages. Whether exploring heritage, attending live performances, or trying out traditional instruments, visitors will have countless opportunities to connect meaningfully with Ireland's vibrant traditions.

Anticipation is already building for TradFest's arrival in South Dublin. Its celebration of tradition, culture, and community promises to create an exciting and enduring legacy, solidifying the festival as a key annual event on Ireland's cultural calendar.

Further information on the festival is available at <https://tradfest.com/2025-overview/south-dublin-venues/>



Tradfest Launched in Rathfarnham Castle

# TRAD Fest 20

## IN SOUTH DUBLIN

22-26 JAN 2025

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas South Dublin County Council



**Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh**

Live at the Court of Petty Sessions  
5.00pm Jan 25

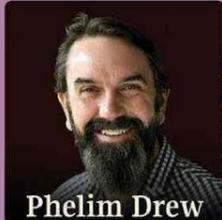
Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas South Dublin County Council



**Systir**

Live at St. Maelruains Church  
8.00pm Jan 24

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas South Dublin County Council



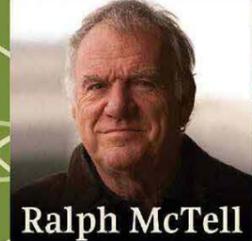
**Phelim Drew**

Live at Áras Chrónáin  
4.00pm Jan 26



**Peggy Seeger**

in conversation  
Live at Áras Chrónáin  
8.00pm Jan 23



**Ralph McTell**

in conversation  
Live at Áras Chrónáin  
8.00pm Jan 24

Plus many more



Tickets on sale only at [tradfest.com](http://tradfest.com)

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas South Dublin County Council

Systir performing at the TradFest launch in Rathfarnham Castle



# TRADfest 2025

## 22-26 JAN



SDCC Elected Members and staff at the launch of TradFest in Rathfarnham Castle

# SDCC First Council in the State with Majority Female Membership



## Co-options Bring Our Total Female Councillors to Twenty-One

Following the recent General Election which resulted in three South Dublin County Councillors being elected to Dáil Éireann, three new Councillors, Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave (Labour), Cllr. Jacqueline Sheehy (Fianna

Fáil) and Cllr. Helen Farrell (Independent), were co-opted at a Special Meeting of the Council on 19th December.

With the addition of Councillors Farrell and Sheehy, South Dublin County Council is now

## National Female Representation

Only 25% of the 174 newly elected TD's entering the new Dáil are women, which is an increase of 2% from 2020.

246 women ran in the general election which made up 36 per cent of all candidates and was a 5% increase on 2020.

the first Council in the history of the State to have majority female membership, with 21 women now representing 52.5% of the Council.

The Local Elections in June saw 19 of the 40 local Council seats in South Dublin going to female candidates, which was the then highest proportion of women on any Council in the country. With these co-options, that

representation now exceeds 50% for the first time for any local authority in Ireland.

Speaking at the Special Meeting of the Council, Deputy Mayor of South Dublin Cllr. Alan Hayes, said: "I want to wish my former colleagues the best as they take their seats in Leinster House. I would also like to welcome our newest colleagues to the chamber. Today is a significant day, one which shows the women of South Dublin that their voice is heard louder than ever in this chamber.

I would also like to commend the current and former female Councillors who have paved the way for this historic moment, particularly former Councillor Breda Cass, who had the honour of being the first woman in South Dublin elected as Mayor in 1995."

Chief Executive of SDCC Colm Ward, added; "Congratulations to all three newly co-opted Councillors. This is a notable milestone for us as a Council and for local government in Ireland. To have majority female membership on the Council reflects how progressive and diverse our County is and builds on the work of our Women's Caucus which supports continued and new female participation in local politics.

Our Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty Framework commitments will see us continue to support greater opportunity for all to engage in local democracy, particularly those from minority communities or who feel marginalised, to ensure that our Council is representative of everyone in South Dublin."



Newly co-opted Councillors with newly elected South Dublin TDs



The €1.75 billion capital programme for 2025 to 2027 presented at the December Council meeting in accordance with Section 135 of the Local Government Act 2001 signals increased investment in the future social and economic development of the County, reflecting our commitment to enhance the future prosperity and quality of life of our citizens, communities and businesses.

As we begin the first full year of the new Council term, the programme is aligned with national policy and the commitments and objectives in both the County Development Plan and our new Corporate Plan, and reflects our key priorities, particularly in terms of housing delivery, climate action, economic and tourism development, compact growth, sustainable development and improving public and social infrastructure to provide greater opportunities for all in South Dublin. The programme provides for projected expenditure of more than €1.746 billion over three years, representing an increase of over €162 million, or 10.24%, on

the previous, already ambitious, programme. This includes a range of current projects that are approved and progressing, along with additional projects that are committed to or are in the planning stage and those that we have an ambition to deliver, having regard to the financial and other resources available.

While funding of the programme assumes and relies on a level of grant funding from central government as well as other funding partners, all projects have realistic funding streams identified. It is again particularly noteworthy that over €125 million of the programme funding comes from provisions made

in the revenue budget adopted by Councillors in recent years, reflecting their commitment and ambition to deliver significant additional social value for our communities. In addition, the proposed application of €141million of levies on various transport, surface water, environment, community, parks, open space, economic, enterprise, tourism and library projects, demonstrates the impact of development levy contributions on our County. Detailed project listings are contained in the various sections of the programme, but key provisions include:

- Increased delivery of social, affordable purchase and cost rental homes and Traveller

accommodation, in line with our Housing Delivery Action Plan.

- Strategic infrastructure planning and delivery, to support compact growth and further housing delivery.
- Further economic and tourism development initiatives including expansion of Grange Castle Business Park, the 12th Lock project, continued enhancement of town, village and district centres and implementation of our Tourism Strategy.
- Climate action and mitigation initiatives under our Climate Action Plan including expansion of district heating, flood alleviation projects, public lighting upgrades, EV charging infrastructure, active travel schemes and urban greenways.
- Multiple projects to enhance the social, physical activity, recreational and amenity opportunities for all in our



parks, public realm, open spaces, library, community, cultural, sports and leisure facilities.

- Asset management and energy efficiency improvements for social housing stock, community and leisure facilities and other Council owned buildings.
- Depot restructuring and corporate workplace

refurbishment projects to support more efficient public service delivery.

- Updates to the programme will be provided on a quarterly basis at Council meetings as we progress projects of significant scale and impact across all our programme areas, with the objective of continuing to create and develop more opportunities for all who wish to live, work, visit and do business in a vibrant and inclusive South Dublin.

## A Focus On

# Three Year Capital Programme 2025-2027



# Images of the Month



South Dublin Chamber honouring 30 years of South Dublin

# Images of the Month



Newly co-opted Councillors Sheehy, Cosgrave and Farrell



Official Opening of Jobstown Park



Councillors at Christmas Tree Lighting in Clonsilla

# Images of the Month



Laurence Collieran (Parks) presented on accessible playspaces to Barcelona Municipal Council

# Images of the Month



Councillors past and present at 30 Year Anniversary event



Music Night at Adamstown Community Centre



Christmas Market at Rathfarnham Castle

# Finance Report

## Billing & Collection Statement (billed to 20th December 2024)

	(provisional) Arrears @ 31 Dec 2023	Adopted Budget 2024	Billed to 20th December 2024	Rec'ts/Credits to 20th December 2024	Arrears @ 20th December 2024	% of BILLED income achieved
<b>Via Billing Systems</b>						
Commercial Rates	€14,674,021	€145,432,500	€148,822,319	€147,742,299	€15,754,041	99%
Entry Year Property Levy (PEL)	€386,056	n/a	€0	€280,206	€105,850	73%
Housing Rents	€8,189,799	€32,963,500	€33,563,524	€33,875,319	€7,878,005	101%
Housing RAS Rents	€1,042,041	€2,267,400	€2,281,646	€2,068,909	€1,254,779	91%
						<b>% of Budget Income Achieved</b>
<b>Via Cash Systems</b>						
NPPR Charge	n/a	€150,000	n/a	€126,650	€0	84%
Planning Fees	n/a	€1,288,000	n/a	€835,027	€0	65%
Fire Certificates	n/a	€1,200,000	n/a	€1,438,408	€0	120%
Parking Fees	n/a	€780,000	n/a	€797,645	€0	102%
Irish Water	€373,437	€6,596,300	€4,050,239	€3,938,985	€484,691	60%
	€24,665,354	€190,677,700	€188,717,729	€191,103,447	€25,477,366	

Rates Aged Debt			PEL Aged Debt		
Year	Bal O/S	%	Year	Bal O/S	%
2024	7,480,607	47%	2024	€0	0%
2023	2,941,377	19%	2023	€7,738	7%
2022	1,246,253	8%	2022	€87,890	83%
2021	916,361	6%	2021	€2,693	3%
2020	141,432	1%	2020	€2,637	2%
2019	1,002,821	6%	2019	€579	1%
2018	728,031	5%	2018	€1,370	1%
pre 2018	1,297,160	8%	Pre 2018	€2,943	3%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>€15,754,041</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>€105,850</b>	<b>100%</b>

Rents Aged Debt			
Category	Numbers	Amounts	% of Accounts
Accounts not in Arrears	6068	2,801,424	58%
0-6 weeks	1845	362,789	18%
7-12 weeks	451	319,456	4%
13-18 weeks	255	286,665	2%
19-24 weeks	216	375,863	2%
25-52 weeks	605	1,670,202	6%
1 - 2 years	525	2,745,471	5%
Greater than 2 years	513	4,918,981	5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,478</b>	<b>€7,878,005</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Follow us on Social media



South Dublin County Council



@sdublincoco



Southdublincoco



South Dublin County Council



@sdublincoco

Website [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)