



March 2025

Chief Executive's Report

Mini Woodland Planting in
Clondalkin Park

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



Planning Permission Granted for Clonburris North link Street

With the recent granting of permission for the proposed North Link Street project, another piece of critical and strategic infrastructure in Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) will now move forward to support further housing and amenity development.

The approval of the North Link Street planning application provides for streets, public parks/open space areas and services infrastructure works to facilitate the future development of the northern part of the SDZ with the proposed development comprises construction of 2.3km of the new street and approximately 800m of side streets and will include cycle facilities, pedestrian crossings, traffic signals, footpaths, on street car parking, public lighting and all servicing infrastructure (including for electricity, communications, water).

It will also include the provision of five new signalised junctions and the upgrade of a further seven junctions as well as the 2.78 hectare Na Cluainte Park North public open space, drainage infrastructure such as surface water attenuation areas, Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs) and landscaped areas.

This project forms part of a strategic infrastructure programme for the SDZ which is supported by funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund by the council for Clonburris under the Government's Urban Regeneration and Development Funding and the National Transport Authority along with matched funding by the council and other landowners in the SDZ.

The project will unlock and service key lands north of the railway line that have the potential for delivery of over 4,000 new homes there, demonstrating how important this milestone is.



Trail Criú hike to the Hell Fire Club

Dublin Mountains Community Archaeology Project

The Dublin Mountains Community Archaeology initiative aims to raise the profile of the archaeological story of the Dublin Mountains through the preparation of educational resources and events, while promoting respectful interaction with the monuments, through engagement.

In 2024, a digital Story Map of the mountain's heritage resource was developed. A lesson pack for primary schools was also produced and workshops held with recreation groups. To increase accessibility, Irish Sign Language interpretation was facilitated at public archaeology talks and a guided walk to the Hell Fire Club was arranged in conjunction with a local sports partnership. A new programme for 2025 is now being prepared.

House Extension Design Guide

In 2010, the council produced one of the Country's first House Extension Design Guides. The guide aimed to assist homeowners, planners, and architects to navigate the planning system and to understand what the local authority considers appropriate with regards to the impact of proposed house extensions on the receiving environment.

In collaboration with Stephen Foley Architects and Maremoto Architects, we have now reviewed and updated the guide to respond to policy changes, reflect how house typologies have evolved since 2010, and to address the needs of people in how they use and can maximise their homes.

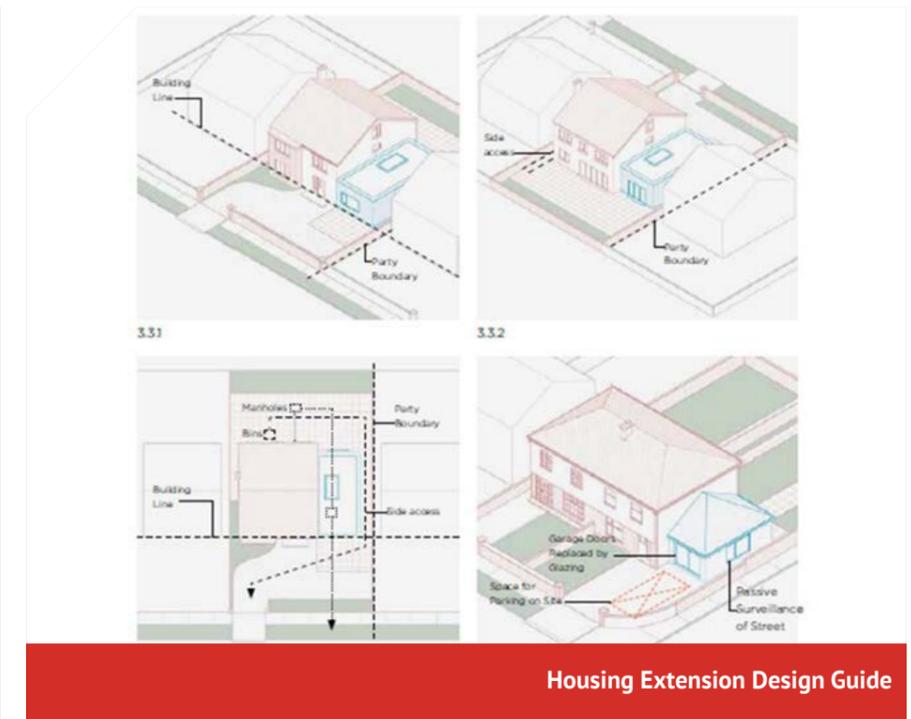
The guide now being published, provides a roadmap for users from the initial steps of developing a brief to extend their homes. It advises on considerations for the needs of those living in the house (adaptability), gives information on planning permission and legislation as well as design of extension elements and a clear set of policy parameters for each extension type, which can be used as a checklist for domestic proposals.



LED Public Lighting Programme

Since our public lighting programme began in 2014, we have upgraded approximately 22,000 public lights to LED luminaires, with 1,650 replacements carried out in 2024 and at least an additional 1,500 upgrades scheduled for this year under our Annual Service Delivery Plan.

As public lighting is one of the most significant energy users, this change in technology helps to improve energy efficiency, cut our energy costs and reduce CO2 emissions, playing a key part in helping us to reach the national target of 50% improvement in our energy efficiency by 20230 under our Climate Action Plan.



Housing Extension Design Guide



Housing, Social and Community Development

Comhairle na nÓg Present to Social, Community, Equality & Integration Strategic Policy Committee

Two members of the South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg, Saoirse and Kenny, gave a presentation on their work at the meeting of the Social, Community, Equality and Integration Strategic Policy Committee in February.

Their engaging presentation gave a synopsis of what Comhairle na nÓg is and of the influence that members have had in national policy, such as the youth travel card which was introduced after lobbying from the Comhairle National Executive.

They also outlined their representation on the Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) and outlined how, along with presenting annually to the SPC, they have regularly presented to the South Dublin Local Community Development Committee and at full Council meetings, ensuring young people's voices are heard by local elected representatives and

decision makers in South Dublin.

In 2024 the Comhairle focused on the issues of mental health and spaces for young people; topics which delegates voted on at the annual youth conference as issues they felt were most important to young people in South Dublin. They addressed these topics throughout the year including by designing a poster with a QR Code linking to lots of free or low-cost things young people can do in the area.

They also prepared a directory of all the mental health services available to young people and they have also sent a survey to schools to find out what local schools have safe spaces that students can go to. It is proposed to use the results of the survey to lobby for more safe spaces in schools.

The presentation also outlined how, following agreement on priorities at their

most recent youth conference held in October 2024, members of the Comhairle will continue their focus on mental health issues throughout 2025.



Energy Retrofit Programme Funding for 2025

EERP Programme 2025

We have been allocated a target to upgrade 83 homes in 2025 under the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme in 2025, with €2.82 million in funding allocated to the council for this work by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The programme allows for an average spend of €34,000 per property on eligible energy efficiency works.

A related project to assess the condition of our social housing stock has also commenced and will provide grading of the condition of windows, doors, bathrooms, kitchens, heating systems etc., to better inform future work programmes and budgeting requirements, with 2,500 homes expected to be surveyed within 12 months.

Interagency Health Talks

Healthy South Dublin kicked off the new year with two action-packed health fairs at Tallaght and North Clondalkin Libraries, embracing the 'new year, new me' spirit. Over 1,500 people attended, taking advantage of free health and wellbeing checks, as well as a variety of activities designed to inspire healthier living.

Fitness expert Karl Henry from Operation Transformation, shared insightful wellness tips, while instructors demonstrated accessible exercises such as Chair Yoga and Tai Chi.

Attendees engaged in workshops covering key health topics, including reducing the risk of common cancers, First Aid, child development, breastfeeding and supporting children with ADHD.

Active South Dublin introduced inclusive games like Bocchia, while Sláintecare Healthy Communities hosted a talk on improving energy use in the home and its impact on health. The fairs concluded with a mental health talk by former Olympic boxer Kenneth Egan, leaving attendees motivated and equipped with valuable insights to start the year.



Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant is available to complete refurbishment of vacant properties to bring them back into use. Up to €50,000 is available for refurbishment works on properties vacant for at least two years at time of application with an additional grant of up to €20,000 available for properties also deemed derelict or structurally unsound and dangerous.

We have received over 160 applications to bring vacant/derelict properties back into use with 41 grants paid to date and we are preparing a targeted information campaign to further highlight the supports available as we seek to bring all vacant properties back into use.



Interagency Health Talk in Tallaght Library



Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

Tallaght Stadium Upgrades Completed Ahead of Key Fixtures

We are delighted to announce recently completed upgrades to the dressing rooms at Tallaght Stadium, with both main team dressing rooms as well as the facilities for coaches and referees all fully modernised to meet UEFA Category 4 standards.

The project was completed by our partners Coneally Group between December and February, with work completed in time for key recent fixtures at the stadium. Shamrock Rovers historic recent UEFA Conference League knockout fixture against Molde from Norway and the FAI Women's National Team Nations League fixture versus Turkey were the first games to benefit from this upgrade which also provides optimal facilities for the start of the 2025 League of Ireland season.

The investment in bringing the changing

areas of the stadium up to international standard not only enhances the comfort of players and staff but also supports local sporting development and this will be further in evidence this month when the prestigious Leinster Schools Senior Cup Final will be played at Whitestown Way on St. Patrick's Day.

This event, which sees rugby make a welcome return to the stadium for the first time since 2014, is one of the most highly anticipated fixtures in the Leinster rugby calendar, showcasing some of the best emerging young rugby talent in the province.

As a municipal facility, the essence of Tallaght Stadium is about supporting a variety of sporting events and we are honoured to provide the setting for such an important occasion. The return of this rugby to the stadium and the

significance of such a fixture coming to Tallaght are notable landmarks as we continue to expand Tallaght Stadium's role in Dublin's sporting landscape.



Brú Chrónáin reopens this month

Brú Chrónáin To Reopen

A new operator has been selected for the Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre ahead of its reopening on St. Patrick's weekend.

Following extensive engagement with potential partners, we are pleased to announce that HFM Care Ltd. will provide café, retail and facility management at the centre.

This local business is currently operating the 'Whereelse café and event space' in Palmerstown and we are excited by their vision of bringing a new dynamism and an innovative approach to sustaining jobs and supporting the local community of Clondalkin, while running a facility that is a key part of our community, heritage and tourism offering

Unveiled: Mythology meets AI

Building on the innovative text-to-video AI work showcased during last year's Tallaween event, 'Unveiled' brings a fresh and exciting perspective to Irish mythology for Seachtain na Gaeilge. This series of events explores how Artificial Intelligence can bring Ireland's rich folklore to life for emerging generations, making it accessible in entirely new ways.

A highlight of the programme is an exclusive world premiere of AI-driven footage reimagining iconic images of Irish mythological characters, offering an immersive visual experience.

Additionally, writer and technologist Niall Austin will lead a special talk, "From Cúchulainn to The Children of Lir", discussing how AI can help preserve, reinterpret, and revitalize Irish legends for new audiences.

Events take place across South Dublin Libraries, including Tallaght (11th March 18:30, 12th March 16:00), Lucan (10th March 18:30), Ballyroan (13th March 16:00), and North Clondalkin (12th March 18:30), and in the Civic Theatre Studio (16th March 19:00), offering audiences the chance to engage with this groundbreaking fusion of technology, storytelling, and tradition.



Local Enterprise Awards 2025

Our Local Enterprise Office celebrated local businesses at the Local Enterprise Awards South Dublin 2025. The awards recognised nine category winners, with the One to Watch award going to "The MenoPal Limited - Victoria Finlay"; the Creative Economy award going to "Mechatronics Technologies Ltd - Peter Redmond"; the NEWS - Female Entrepreneur of the Year award went to "GORM Media DAC - Mamobo Ogoro"; the Tech / Innovation: Decision Analytics award went to "Eoin Carroll"; the Green Award was won by "Olly's Farm - Olly Nolan"; the award for Entrepreneurial Spirit went to "Beauty Business In a Box- Sarah Naylor"; the Food & Drink award went to "Happy Hour Foods - Angelica Oliveira"; the Export award went to "he Career Coach - Dan Potts"; whilst the 'Start-up' award went to "Flaunta - Angelina Sheridan and Hope Hayes". The overall winner on the evening was Aisling Tuck of Naked Bakes, who collected a €5,000 prize and go on to represent South Dublin in the National LEO Awards.

From 'Cúchulainn' to 'The Children of Lir', a talk by writer and technologist, **Niall Austin**, on how Artificial Intelligence can bring Ireland's rich mythology to life for emerging generations.

NOCHTAITHE
 O 'Cúchulainn' go 'Clann Lir', caint leis an scríbhneoir agus teicneolaí, **Niall Austin**, ar an mbealach ar féidir leis an Intleacht Shaorga míotaseolaíocht sháibhir na hÉireann a thabhairt beo do ghlúnta atá ag teacht chun cinn.

Lucan

Unveiled: Mythology meets AI



Corporate Performance and Change Management

Three Awards for South Dublin at LAMA Awards 2025

We were honoured to be one of the standout winners at the prestigious Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Community & Council Awards 2025, claiming three top awards and also being shortlisted for Council of the Year, highlighting our commitment to sustainable development, community wellbeing, and environmental innovation.

We scooped the **National Impact Award** for **Clonburris: A Transformative Vision and a Model for Sustainable Urban Development**, recognising our ambitious approach to sustainable urban planning, focusing on creating a vibrant, eco-friendly community for future generations.

In addition, we also won the **Local Authority Energy Decarbonisation Award** for the **Heatworks District Heating Scheme**, an innovative project designed to reduce energy consumption and

promote sustainability in the region.

South Dublin community volunteer Bernie Roche was also named Community Volunteer of the Year for her tireless efforts to improve the lives of those around her in her local area. We were also shortlisted for:

- **Best Enterprise & startup Hub** Work IQ & Innovation Quarter Tallaght
- **Best Energy Smart Initiative** Community Climate Action Fund
- **Best Community Wellbeing** Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme
- **Best CSR Project in the Community** Think Big Space/AWS in the Community
- **Best Environmental/Ecological Project** Mini Woodlands & Stepping Stones Forest
- **Best Communications** International Protection – Fact and Fiction

The LAMA Awards, which are now in their 19th year, continue to grow in stature, with 311 nominations from local councils across Ireland this year. For more information about our award-winning projects, please visit www.sdcc.ie



Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme Smoking Cessation

Smoking Cessation Scheme

Following on from previous successful smoking cessation programmes, we have facilitated a fifth (and largest to date) smoking cessation course for staff which commenced in February. This initiative is run through the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme, is delivered by two Stop Smoking Advisors and includes weekly support in a stop-smoking group over a six-week period.

The HSE stop smoking service is a free, friendly service for anyone who wants support to quit smoking or vaping and offers free stop smoking medication and weekly stop smoking support as well as covering healthy eating, stress management and other self-care supports.

Irish Language Training for Council Staff

As part of our comprehensive Seachtain Na Gaeilge programme for 2025, a series of Irish Language training has been offered to council staff with 63 people taking part across four different sessions. Key staff were invited to take part in a “Giving Speeches in Irish” workshop, which was provided by Gaelchultúr. This training aims to encourage and equip key members of staff to include Irish in their speeches when representing the council at events across the County.

Our Irish language Officer Muireann Ní Cheannabháin hosted two “Fáilte! Introduction to Irish” sessions, aimed particularly at those who did not attend school in Ireland or have had very little experience of Irish. This informal session gave a taste of the Irish language and culture, covering such topics as greeting people, how to say Irish names, and useful resources for learning Irish in an informal classroom setting.

These sessions were designed to encourage the use of Irish, and make staff of all backgrounds and levels more comfortable incorporating the language into the roles.



Annual Ethics Declarations Published

Annual ethics declarations, as mandated by the Standards in Public Office Act 2001, are crucial for maintaining transparency and accountability within public service in Ireland.

This legislation requires our elected members and certain prescribed staff to disclose their financial interests, ensuring that any potential conflicts of interest are identified and managed appropriately.

By mandating these disclosures, the Act aims to uphold the integrity of public office and foster public trust in local government institutions.

The closing date for 2024 returns was 28th February 2025 for 2024 and declarations made by councillors are available on www.sdcc.ie.



Staff Irish Language Training provided by Gaelchultúr



Environment, Water and Climate Change

Emergency Planning Exercise held at Tallaght Stadium

On 6th February with Tallaght Stadium gleaming on a crisp, clear morning, representatives and staff from key agencies attended a scheduled tabletop emergency planning exercise to explore potential match-day emergency scenarios and responses.

Stakeholders from South Dublin County Council, An Garda Síochána, Dublin Fire Brigade, Dublin Civil Defence and Shamrock Rovers Football Club, as well as various security contractor personnel were put through their paces by Michael Young of Vision Safety to refresh and enhance the emergency response capabilities for event management at the facility.

With the recent upgrades to the stadium providing for a capacity of 10,000 spectators for a match there

and potentially up to double that number for a concert, the exercise was timely and necessary for all involved.

Across the morning there were lively inter-agency discussions and examination of a range of possible solutions to the various emergency scenarios presented. With public safety always at the forefront of any actions proposed, it was fascinating how the many agencies involved had alternative approaches and insights on each scenario.

Combining these insights into learnings will produce a more robust emergency plan for Tallaght Stadium going forward and will help ensure the safety of all fans for many match days to come.

It is intended that these exercises will

become an annual event, with the next exercise being “live” rather than tabletop to further test the technical capabilities and incident response plans of all agencies involved.



National Tree Week 9th - 16th March

National Tree Week

National Tree Week takes place between the 9th - 16th March 2025, with this year's theme being 'Planting Trees, Growing Together'.

This is Ireland's largest annual tree celebration encouraging people and communities to come together and appreciate the beauty and importance of Ireland's trees. The council are delighted to play a role in this, with a number of planned events and a social media campaign to highlight the contribution of trees to our county.

A mini-woodland planting event will take place on the 15th and 16th March along with the ceremonial planting of two oak trees in Corkagh Park and Sean Walsh Park. In addition, tree walks will be held in Rathfarnham Castle Park and Waterstown Park to which members of the public will be invited to attend.

Interested in getting involved? Please keep an eye on our social media platforms for updates and schedules over the coming weeks.



Greentrees Park Upgrade

Following a €250,000 investment by the council, Greentrees Park in Perrystown recently reopened following extensive upgrades. Spanning 13 acres across two green spaces known as the “Five Acres” and the “Eight Acres”, the park now features a new footpath exercise loop, 100 mature trees, new park benches, and extensive bulb planting for seasonal colour.

Pedestrian entrances have also been improved to enhance access and connectivity, complementing existing playing pitches and the play space adjacent to the Perrystown Community Centre making the park even more welcoming and inclusive for all.

Council Achieves Smarter Travel Mark Accreditation

The council has achieved silver accreditation under the NTA's Smarter Travel Mark, marking a significant milestone in promoting sustainable and active travel within its staff community.

We have implemented various staff initiatives to promote, support and choose sustainable travel options and future plans will be based on a recent smarter travel staff survey which found that:

- 61% live within a cyclable distance of 10km or less
- 45% would like to cycle more often
- 38% commute through active and sustainable modes
- 5% live within a walkable distance
- 61% live within a cyclable distance
- 45% live within a 6-minute walk of
- A direct bus route.



Clr. Mick Duff receiving the Smarter Travel Mark with staff

Lucan Opportunity for Heritage, Community and Tourism



Consultation underway for Lucan House to complement public realm and accessibility investment

The council's recent acquisition of Lucan House, together with our investment in amenities, public realm and services in the area, now presents a unique opportunity to align our ambitions for Lucan with those of the local community, as well as shaping a place on the edge of Dublin city that can be a significant destination town in the county.

The heritage value of the property, together with the protected structures and the wonderful Italian buffalo artwork in the grounds of the house, now known as Parco Italia, and the setting along the River Liffey all combine into a place of great potential for both community and tourism use. Our partners Stephen Foley Architects have been engaged for

Grand Canal-Lucan Urban Greenway

The Grand Canal to Lucan Urban Greenway that is scheduled to begin construction in the coming weeks, will provide an important link for pedestrians and cyclists to Griffeen Valley Park, various schools, parks and other local amenities and onwards into the heart of Lucan Village, accompanied by new tree planting, seating, and lighting.

The first phase of the project runs from the Grand Canal at Grange Castle to the Lucan Newlands Road at Esker cemetery, traversing Griffeen Park, and will take approximately seven months to complete, with two further phases to be subsequently delivered. This exciting project will create important linkages across our county, delivering a fantastic public amenity and further supporting more and better active travel options.

a master planning process which will see stakeholder consultation, concept development, urban design, and land use planning processes that

will inform our future plans for Lucan House and Demesne.

Conservation and upgrade works to the house and grounds are the first part of what will be a series of phased works to the property and, immediately following agreement to acquire the property, we moved to resolve the long-standing collapsed section of boundary wall on the Leixlip Road. Although this was more extensive than first envisaged, it has recently been completed and includes a new retaining bank using materials and methods in keeping with the original structure due to its protected status.

This work enhances the aesthetic and public realm of Lucan, especially alongside the planned improvements to the village green, promenade and demesne entrance all of which are progressing under a single construction contract that is currently scheduled to be completed by September 2025. As well as providing a range of planting and environmental works, this is creating a new focal centre point for local

events and activities, with better accessibility and permeability and linked to the new urban greenway that will travel from the Grand Canal 12th Lock through Griffeen Park and into Lucan village.

The works to the promenade will enhance experience of the views and setting of the wonderful weir and bridge, while a new gateway is also being provided to the fabulous walking trails and river access of Lucan Demesne as we prepare to offer public tours of the grounds in partnership with the Society of Old Lucan in the coming weeks.

All of this aims to maximise the amenity potential of Lucan, through conservation and regeneration, and planning for sustainable future use, while better connecting the demesne with the village. We are inviting input into the master plan from everyone who is interested, so please contact us through our online portal or by attending upcoming in-person consultation sessions. (see www.sdcc.ie for more details.)



Lucan House and Demesne Consultation Underway

Seachtain Na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas 2025



This year's Seachtain Na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas (SnaGÁCT) festival was officially launched on 24th February at North Clondalkin Library. The programme of activities and events, which will run from 1st to 17th March, was announced by Cllr. Liona O' Toole (Lucan, Palmerstown & North Clondalkin Area Committee Chairperson) along with this year's festival patron, former world boxing champion Bernard Dunne and Gaeilge365 ambassador Ciarán Ó Feinneadha from Na Gaeil Óga, who were all joined on

the day by pupils from St. Peter Apostle Senior National School.

There is a packed calendar of events again this year for SnaGÁCT with something to suit all ages, including what is sure to be a great gig with Kíla on Saturday 8th March, Céilí Mór on 16th March, many art and music workshops and of course, the very popular coffee mornings "as Gaeilge" throughout the county as well as Irish classes for beginners and fluent speakers at many of our libraries and also in Áras

Seachtain Na Gaeilge in the Council

As part of Seachtain Na Gaeilge, the council have offered Irish language training for elected members, with 11 of the 40 Councillors (27.5%) signing up to take part. The five week course aims to enhance and encourage members' ability to use the Irish Language in their role as an elected representative in the county.

Chrónáin, in the heart of Clondalkin village.

We are very proud to support Seachtain na Gaeilge and to promote the 'Gaeilge le Chéile' campaign by creating more opportunities and encouraging people to use and speak Irish every day.

Gaeilge 365

In addition to Seachtain na Gaeilge, we are proud to be part of the Gaeilge365 initiative with Dublin's local authorities. This is an innovative Irish language programme which is dedicated to putting the Irish language at the heart of local authority services, to increase the number of daily Irish speakers in Dublin. This

initiative, which is included in the new programme for government, recognises that the Irish language is a huge resource, full of possibilities to enrich communities culturally, socially and economically. Gaeilge 365 seeks to build on this by placing local authorities at the centre of a plan which recognises that although the number of Irish speakers is increasing, the opportunities to use it are decreasing.

With over one thousand services being provided on a daily basis from arts and libraries to economic development and housing, local authorities can be the missing link in bridging this gap. By applying language innovation to such services, Irish can be a tool to not only improve public services, but also to create vibrant connections among communities. Among the initiatives introduced as part of Gaeilge365 is "An Chomhairle Chraiceáilte", a training programme for staff. Six SDCC staff are currently participating in this mentorship programme, with each participant identifying an opportunity to support and increase the speaking of Irish across the council's services. Our Chomhairle Chraiceáilte staff participants

recently joined a fact-finding trip to Belfast to visit a number of Irish language organisations where the focus was on meeting community needs through the medium of Irish, rather than solely promoting the language.

The participants visited and spoke to a total of 15 organisations and initiatives, including those working in education, youth work, tourism, sport, hospitality, and the arts. The fact-finding trip covered a large geographical area, including Turas in East Belfast, an Irish language training organisation founded by Linda Ervine, that has been heavily involved in the creation and opening of East Belfast's first Irish language primary school.

Inspired by the various initiatives and organisations visited, the initial Gaeilge 365 showcase took place in City Hall, Dublin on 4th March at "Féile na bhFéidearthachtaí" (the Festival of Possibilities) while the following day the four local authorities in Dublin came together to host a workshop with Ffionn Gruffudd from Cardiff Council who shared key learnings and processes to work towards meeting our Irish language recruitment targets.



SDCC staff on Gaeilge 365 fact-finding trip to Belfast

St. Patrick's Day Parade Returns to Tallaght



The vibrant community of Tallaght is set to celebrate the return of the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Organised by South Dublin County Council, the parade will feature a variety of local community and sporting groups. The event will bring joy, colour and culture on to the streets of Tallaght on the 17th March.

Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr.

Baby Pereppadan stated "We are thrilled to bring back the St. Patrick's Day Parade back to Tallaght."

It is clear that there was a huge demand for the event from the public. We are very excited to see everyone come together locally to celebrate our national day."

The parade's revival has

Dublin GAA star Cian Murphy to be the Grand Marshal

The Tallaght native and Thomas Davis's senior player expressed his delight, stating "I am honoured to have been asked to fulfil the role of Parade Grand Marshal for the Tallaght St. Patrick's Day Parade. I grew up watching the parade and I have great memories of the day. I am really looking forward to taking part."

Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr Baby Pereppadan further added "Cian is an upstanding member of the community. He is a role model to many citizens in the county and he has represented Tallaght with distinction with the Dublin GAA team. We are delighted he has accepted the invitation to fulfil the role of Grand Marshal at the upcoming Tallaght St. Patrick's Day Parade"

been met with widespread enthusiasm from residents and local community groups alike. The Council have been working

diligently to ensure that the event caters for all with over 40 groups participating in the event. The parade will feature an array of colourful floats, marching bands, dance groups, performing arts, community groups and live music from some of Tallaght's well know musicians.

The Tallaght Marching Band will lead the parade, given their rich history with the event and Dublin GAA star Cian Murphy has accepted an invitation to be the Grand Marshal of the parade.

The festivities will kick off at 11:30am, with live music, face painting and street games. This will be followed by the 5K road race organised by Tallaght Athletics Club at 12pm and the event will conclude with the parade taking place at 1.30pm.

As there is limited parking around the Tallaght Village area and a road closure notice will be in place, we encourage attendees to

walk rather than drive. Spectators are requested to arrive early to secure their viewing spots along the route. Inclusivity has also been a key focal point for the event organisers, with a designated viewing area and facilities to accommodate individuals with disabilities and neurodiverse children.

The return of the St. Patrick's Day Parade signifies a renewal of community bonds and a revival of local traditions. As the parade day approaches, anticipation continues to build, promising a memorable experience that honours the past while looking forward to a vibrant new chapter for Tallaght .

For more information about the parade visit www.sdcc.ie



Community Groups, An Garda Síochána and SDCC Community team at the recent launch of the Parade



Greater Opportunity for All – Annual Service Delivery Plan 2025

Our Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP) for 2025 was approved in February and sets out our key projects, service standards and targets as we work towards our purpose of creating greater opportunity for all, to realise our vision of being a place that meets the needs and ambitions of everyone in South Dublin.

Key targets for 2025 under the goals of our Corporate Plan include:

Climate Leadership:

- 45.5% improvement in our energy efficiency & 46.8% energy savings
- 90% of Climate Action Plan actions commenced
- 195 hectares of biodiverse meadowland maintained
- 19,000 metres of new/upgraded cycle and walking routes
- 1,500 LED upgrades to public lighting
- 480 climate/environmental awareness events
- Prevent use of 100,000 plastic bottles with drinking water fountains

Quality Housing:

- 772 new social homes & 278 new affordable homes
- 3,000 private homes approved for planning
- 20% reduction in homeless households
- Six new Traveller-specific homes
- Support 5,500 HAP and RAS tenancies
- 2,500 social housing stock condition surveys
- 60 vacant home grants
- 83 social housing retrofits

A Thriving Economy:

- 8,000 jobs sustained in Grange Castle Business Park
- 20 start-ups in WorkIQ
- €200,000 on business support

initiatives

- 5–7.5% growth in revenue and jobs through our Tourism Strategy
- Eight tourism festivals/events
- 120+ new contracts worth over €25,000 each
- Employ over 1,400 people & recruit five new apprentices

A Better Place:

- 10,000 trees pruned and 3,500 new trees planted
- 7,500 hectares of grass maintained
- 12 new pedestrian crossings
- 68km² of new/upgraded footpaths
- €5 million spend on village and district centre enhancements
- Four new safe school zones
- 1,000 planning applications (80%

through e-Planning)

Connected Communities:

- 750,000 visitors to leisure centres
- 120,000 participants in our sport, health and wellbeing events
- Two new community facilities
- 16 new recreational facilities
- 60 events in Tallaght Stadium
- 280 sports grants paid
- 50% of schools participating in Comhairle na nÓg

Cultural Richness:

- 50 integration support events
- 15 projects under Community Recognition Fund
- 1 million visitors to our libraries
- €1.1 million spend on new library stock
- 400,000 visitors to Arts Centres

People First:

- 20%+ more people engaging online with us
- 4,000+ participants in our public consultations

A Thriving Economy: Space for start-ups in WorkIQ



- 300+ Freedom of Information and Data Access requests
- Human Rights and Equality Action Plan in place
- 100% accessibility for our websites
- Implement the Charter for Digital Inclusion
- 350+ health and safety work site

inspections

Reporting:

We will report monthly on our progress on these targets at Council meetings, on www.sdcc.ie and through social media. An update on key corporate plan achievements for 2025 will then be presented to the elected members early in 2026 followed by detailed reporting in our 2025 Annual Report which must be published by June 2026. Our full Annual Service Delivery Plan is available on www.sdcc.ie

A Focus On

Our Annual Service Delivery Plan 2025



Quality Housing: Brady's Court Age Friendly Development

Images of the Month



New Tenants receive keys at Nangor Mill

Images of the Month



Jobstown Park Walk and Talk



Mini Woodland Planting at Ballycragh Park



South Dublin receive Smarter Travel Mark Accreditation

Images of the Month



Former Irish International Rugby Player Johnny Sexton at the recent Europa Conference League Fixture in Tallaght Stadium

Images of the Month



Seachtain na Gaeilge Launch in North Clondalkin Library



E-Scooter Awareness Campaign launched in conjunction with An Garda Síochána

LAMA Awards



South Dublin Councillors and Staff at the LAMA Awards held in Rochestown Park Hotel in Cork.

LAMA Awards



National Impact Award Winners for Clonburris: A Transformative Vision and a Model for Sustainable Urban Development



Deputy Mayor Alan Hayes and Cllr. Lynn McCrave accepting the Community Volunteer of the Year award on behalf of Bernie Roche



Local Authority Energy Decarbonisation Award Winners for Heatworks District Heating Scheme

Finance Report

Billing & Collection Statement (billed to 21st February 2025)

	(provisional) Arrears @ 31 Dec 2024	Adopted Budget 2025	Billed to 21st February 2025	Rec'ts/Credits to 21st February 2025	Arrears @ 21st February 2025	% of BILLED income achieved
Via Billing Systems						
Commercial Rates	€13,665,414	€153,170,200	€154,439,586	€16,350,812	€151,754,188	11%
Entry Year Property Levy (PEL)	€103,598	n/a	€0	€0	€103,598	0%
Housing Rents	€7,910,111	€36,293,800	€5,309,763	€5,051,844	€8,168,030	95%
Housing RAS Rents	€1,267,971	€2,246,400	€316,517	€286,795	€1,297,693	91%
						% of Budget Income Achieved
Via Cash Systems						
NPPR Charge	n/a	€20,000	n/a	€0	€0	0%
Planning Fees	n/a	€972,000	n/a	€60,544	€0	6%
Fire Certificates	n/a	€1,000,000	n/a	€86,011	€0	9%
Parking Fees	n/a	€820,000	n/a	€35,726	€0	4%
Uisce Eireann	€0	€6,937,500	€0	€0	€0	0%
	€22,947,094	€201,459,900	€160,065,866	€21,871,733	€161,323,508	

Rates Aged Debt			PEL Aged Debt		
Year	Bal O/S	%	Year	Bal O/S	%
2025	138,879,359	92%	2025	€0	0%
2024	5,623,187	4%	2024	€0	0%
2023	2,635,087	2%	2023	€7,738	7%
2022	1,015,714	1%	2022	€86,467	83%
2021	770,267	1%	2021	€1,864	2%
2020	95,232	0%	2020	€2,637	3%
2019	887,702	1%	2019	€579	1%
Pre 2019	1,847,639	1%	Pre 2019	€4,313	4%
Totals	€151,754,188	100%	Totals	€103,598	100%

Rents Aged Debt			
Category	Numbers	Amounts	% of Accounts
Accounts not in Arrears	5818	2,692,015	56%
0-6 weeks	2029	379,612	19%
7-12 weeks	497	363,337	5%
13-18 weeks	267	352,387	3%
19-24 weeks	226	361,176	2%
25-52 weeks	605	1,760,582	6%
1 - 2 years	513	2,711,125	5%
Greater than 2 years	514	4,931,824	5%
Totals	10,469	€8,168,030	100%

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