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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council March 2025 Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11 March 2025 through Microsoft 365 Teams and in Person in the Council Chambers.

## **Councillors Present**

Sarah Barnes

Yvonne Collins

Paddy Cosgrave

Alan Edge

Pamela Kearns

Brian Lawlor

Roisin Mannion

Lynn McCrave

Ronan McMahon

David McManus

Emma Murphy

Justin Sinnott

## **Officials Present**

Senior Executive Officer Mary Maguire, Sharon Conroy

Senior Engineer Gary Walsh, Leo Magee

A/Senior Engineer Derek Sargent

Senior Executive Engineer Farhan Nasiem, Andrew O’Mullane

Executive Librarian Siobhan Bermingham

Road Safety Officer Orlaith Maguire

Staff Officer Eimear O’Sullivan

Assistant Staff Officer Eduardo de Oliveira

Clerical Officer Vikki Cryan, Dylan Hayes

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Pamela Kearns presided.

### **RTFB/83/H1/0325 Item ID:86355 - Minutes**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Minutes of Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee dealing with Corporate, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, and Libraries & Arts held on 11th February 2025 which have been circulated, were submitted, and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor P Kearns, seconded by Councillor R McMahon, and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 11th February 2025 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

[H1 Minutes](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85551)

**RTFB/83A/0325 - Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor P Kearns, seconded by Councillor R McMahon and **RESOLVED** “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1 - 8 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

**Point of Order**

Prior to the commencement of consideration of the business of the meeting, the Area Committee Members reiterated that while some items being submitted related to Reserved Functions and the business of the Council, there is a common understanding and “gentle persons” agreement that items referring to “X address supplied” are more suited as Members’ Representations and should not be submitted by AC Members or accepted by Meeting Administration.   Similarly, items of a TMM nature should not be submitted by the AC members or accepted for inclusion on AC agenda.

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/84/H2/0325 Item ID:86370 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/85/C1/0325 Item ID:86358 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Performance & Change Management**

### **RTFB/86/H3/0325 Item ID:86375 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/87/C2/0325 Item ID:86362 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/88/Q1/0325 Item ID:86247 - Loreto Avenue Tree Works**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus

To ask the Chief Executive about recent tree cutting on open green space between Stonepark/Aranleigh estates backing onto Loreto Avenue (DLRCC), that this ACM requested large trees be dealt with, however recent works included clearing back all bushes and brambles leaving the area very exposed, the rationale for such additional clearance work and if a statement may be available?

**REPLY:**

As stated here a commitment was given at the October 2023 ACM to prune back the growth overhanging the rear gardens of Loreto Abbey from Stonepark and Aranleigh Estates. The existing undergrowth was found to be blocking access and was preventing the maintenance crew from getting access to the trees. This access was vital to allow crews conduct appropriate works along this boundary and alleviate the issues being experienced. Leaving this growth in place would have prevented works from being fully completed and therefore in order to comply with the commitment given it was necessary for it to be removed. This growth will now be allowed to regenerate over time.

### **RTFB/89/H4/0325 Item ID:86377 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/90/C3/0325 Item ID:86364 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/91/M1/0325 Item ID:86045 - Pedestrian entrance Tymon Park**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

That this council installs a pedestrian entrance and crossing at the Limekiln carpark entrance into Tymon Park as a matter of urgency.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

There is currently no budget allocated for a new pedestrian entrance into Tymon Park. If this area committee agrees, the proposed entrance into Limekiln Car Park will be considered for inclusion in the 2026 Public Realm Improvement Works list, which is presented to the ACM in January and noted at the full council meeting.

The Public Realm Section will engage with the Roads Department to explore the feasibility of a new pedestrian crossing as part of these considerations. The Roads Department will assess the suitability of the location and determine the best approach, with input from the Public Realm team where relevant.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Kearns, L McCrave, R McMahon and Y Collins, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/92/M2/0325 Item ID:86261 – Wildflower Garden Firhouse**

Proposed by Councillor B. Lawlor

That this Committee gets agreement for remedial works to be completed at the wildflower garden in Firhouse at the Church

In the absence of Councillor B Lawlor, this motion **falls.**

### **RTFB/93/M3/0325 Item ID:86269 – Public Realm Maintenance Schedule**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

This Committee notes and acknowledges the considerable amount of improvement works that take place across the Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena area by South Dublin County Council. To help communicate that works are taking place and to reduce the number of reps this Committee requests the Council provide (where possible) to members a schedule of future environmental works (tress and hedges) that are taking place in residential areas and reasons for said works across the Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena area.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Public Realm maintenance schedule is available to all residents on the Council website at the following link - [**Public Realm Operations Map | South Dublin County Council**](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Home/CleansingMap). The schedule currently contains planned dates for cleansing and grass cutting as well as collection of waste which has been collected by tidy towns and environmental groups. The road sweeping schedule as implemented by Oxigen Environmental Ltd on the Council's behalf is also available at this location. The proposal to make both hedge and tree maintenance information available will be examined and these will be added to the online maintenance schedule if possible. The hedge maintenance programme will conclude at the end of February in accordance with the wildlife act exclusion between March 1st and August 31st. If the hedge maintenance schedule can be made available online, then this will be done for the next programme which will commence after September 1st.

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/94/M4/0325 Item ID:86393 - Hermitage Tree Replacement**

Proposed by Councillor R. Mannion, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

To ask if SDCC plan to replace the trees recently vandalised on the green in Hermitage please and if so, is there a timeline for same?

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Council's Public Realm Section is currently progressing through a programme to plant 3,500 trees across the county during 2025. While incidents of vandalism such as this one at Hermitage Estate are regrettable it is proposed to consider replacing these damaged trees as part of a future tree planting plan in an effort to allow the current plan to remain on track. It is hoped that this can be included in the tree planting which will take place during the period November '25 to March '26. The Council would urge the public to report any such incidents of criminal damage to public property to An Garda Siochana for investigation, and to the Council so that replacement planting can be considered in due course.

Following Contributions from Councillors R. Mannion, A Edge, L McCrave, Y Collins and P Kearns, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/95/M5/0325 Item ID:86409 - St Patricks Road Trees**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this Council to carries out an inspection of St. Patrick's Road, Dublin 12 with a view to removing any remaining tree stumps and planting trees to replace those here previously.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

An extensive survey was conducted along St. Patricks Road to identify suitable locations for tree planting during the Spring of 2024. A total of 8 locations were identified as suitable for tree planting and a further 4 locations were highlighted by local residents as potentially suitable locations. One of the 4 locations identified by residents was considered unsuitable due to the density of overhead cables. Of the 11 locations identified by the Council and local residents a total of 5 trees have now been successfully planted at these locations, the remaining 6 locations could not be planted due to a combination of unsuitable ground conditions and refusals by homeowners to allow trees to be planted in front of their properties.

Considering the hard surfacing, surrounding infrastructure including below ground services and overhead cables, there are no further positions currently available for planting along St. Patricks Road. The area will be listed for surveying to identify the locations of any remaining stumps which require removal.

Following Contributions from Councillor Y Collins, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/96/M6/0325 Item ID:86310 – Tree Inspection Request**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

To ask the manager to contact the Resident at (Address Provided) regarding a tree behind their property that is on public land but causing issues on their property. The tree is very large and has encroached on the wall leaving a crack. As I understand it they contacted the Council back in 2023 and was advised at that time that it would be inspected.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Council is arranging for an arborist to visit this site at Village Green, Rathfarnham to assess the tree in question and identify its contribution to the issues being experienced. The Council's architectural conservation officer has also been contacted and requested to provide advice on the matter and following this, arrangements are now being made to have a conservation specialist examine the wall and advise with regard to what action is required. Following on from the inspections by both the arborist and the architectural conservation specialist the Council will arrange for any necessary works to be conducted without further delay.

This Motion was **Unanimously Agreed and Moved without Debate**

### **RTFB/97/M7/0325 Item ID:86403 – Greentrees Park Entrance**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That this committee calls on the manager to upgrade the entrances to Greentrees Park (five acres) in line with the excellent work done at the section known as the eight acres. The work done to date has proven to be a huge success however, the access points to the five acres are very poor and potentially a health and safety risk due to the nature of the surface

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Greentrees Park has recently been upgraded with a €250,000 investment from South Dublin County Council spanning across the 5 acres and 8 acres. The access point that has been identified is an informal desire line and is not an official entrance into the park. If this area committee agrees, the proposed entrance will be considered for inclusion in the 2026 Public Realm Improvement Works list, which is presented to the ACM in January and noted at the full council meeting.

Following Contributions from Councillor P Kearns, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/98/M8/0325 Item ID:86410 – Boden Park / Ballyboden Way Kissing Gate**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the kissing gate from Ballyboden Way into Boden Park (opposite the entrance to the Ballyboden St Enda's all weather pitch) be made easier for bicycles to negotiate

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The kissing gate in question here at the entrance to the Boden Park open space from Ballyboden Way controls access and is intended to prevent unauthorised access to the area by scrambler motorbikes for example. While the request to remove this control and to create easier access to the area for bicycles and other users is in keeping with the Council's aims to provide universal access, it should be noted that a proposal to provide a new access and footpath into Boden Park at another location has met with some opposition among local residents.

If the current proposal is agreed by the members of the area committee, then it will be included on the draft improvement works programme for 2026. A commitment has been given to carry out local consultation with regard to the proposed new access and footpath, it is proposed that these requested changes to the existing kissing gate control could be included in that consultation process also.

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, P Cosgrave, L McCrave and P Kearns, Leo Magee Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/99/H5/0325 Item ID:86372 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/100/C4/0325 Item ID:86356 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/101/M9/0325 Item ID:86413 – Illegal Signage**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, Seconded by Councillor A. Edge

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the rise of illegal signage across the Firhouse - Bohernabreena LEA on public land and public boundaries.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The [Litter Pollution Act 1997](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.irishstatutebook.ie%2F1997%2Fen%2Fact%2Fpub%2F0012%2F&amp;data=05%7C02%7Csconroy%40SDUBLINCOCO.ie%7C01587eebeae94b6165ca08dd5fca805e%7C6a3c00c019d0492da8de95fad8fda1d4%7C0%7C0%7C638772045543305785%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&amp;sdata=lPTCJhR1Kt8I99fHgs5udIMupHxmaH8%2FL8hLesmXc%2Bg%3D&amp;reserved=0), as amended, was introduced to provide for the prevention and control of litter pollution and the prevention of the defacement of certain places and matters relating thereto. This Act gives the Council extensive powers to deal with litter and litter offenders and outlines general obligations, offences and enforcement.

The Council enforces the provisions of Section 19 of the Act with regard to all illegal signage, and fines are issued where possible. All signage erected illegally is subject to enforcement action under the Act and in the event where those responsible fail to remove signs, the Council arranges for removal.

It should be noted that in some instances of illegal signage, difficulties can arise in successfully communicating with the company listed on illegal signage / promotional materials. There is a current high-profile instance of illegal signage, spanning several local authority administrative areas which exemplifies this difficulty.

With regard to repeat offenders, it is the policy of the Council to initiate direct prosecution against the alleged offender. It should be noted that a difficulty arises in identifying the owners of businesses which use website addresses or phone numbers only and therefore enforcement action proves problematic in this regard. It should be noted however that, in accordance also with the provisions of the Section 19 Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended, signage is not illegal if placed on private property with the consent of the property owner. In some high-profile areas signage has been erected on private property with the permission of the owner and fines/prosecution cannot be pursued in such instances.

There are currently several files relating to illegal signage with our Law Department. While it is not possible to provide the detail by electoral area, I can confirm that a number of companies relating to this electoral area are among those files currently with Law. There are many repeat offences for a small number of companies. 175 fines were issued across the county for unauthorised signs under section 19.1 of Litter Pollution act, from 1st January 2024 to 10th March 2025.

Following Contributions from Councillors E Murphy, A Edge, R McMahon, R Mannion and P Kearns, Sharon Conroy Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Water & Drainage**

### **RTFB/102/H6/0325 Item ID:86379 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/103/C5/0325 Item ID:86366 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/104/M10/0325 Item ID:86395 – TIC Wastewater Sewer**

Proposed by Councillor R. Mannion, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That the Chief Executive agrees to immediately engage with Uisce Eireann to address taking in charge issue with the sewage line(s) that are currently not included in Uisce Eireann plans along the Old Knocklyon Road

[M10 Map of Watermains and Drain](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85565)

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

SDCC has engaged with Uisce Éireann regarding their wastewater sewers in the area of the Old Knocklyon Road. It’s understood this matter relates to a blockage in late 2024 in the area of Taoibh na Coille estate. Uisce Éireann have supplied us with an extract of their services in the area and explained that they have no wastewater sewers in Taoibh na Coille estate. The estate is not taken in charge and all drainage there is private, including the 225mm pipe highlighted on the attached to as far as it’s connection to Uisce Éireann’s 525mm wastewater sewer. The 225mm pipe highlighted on the attached is private and was installed by the developer of Taoibh na Coille estate.

Members are reminded that Uisce Éireann has a Local Representative Support Desk which can be contacted at localrepsupport@water.ie

Following Contributions from Councillors R Mannion, P Cosgrave and P Kearns, Derek Sargent Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/105/M11/0325 Item ID:86402 – Water Outage Bohernabreena**

Proposed by Councillor A. Edge, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

To request a report on the recent 3 day water outage in Bohernabreena, addressing how such outages can be minimised in future as well as how communication between Uisce Eireann, SDCC and the public is managed.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

SDCC has been in contact with Uisce Éireann to enquire regarding any recent water outages affecting the Bohernabreena area. Uisce Éireann have informed us that there was an outage over the weekend of 23rd and 24th of February affecting Bohernabreena, Montpelier, Piperstown, Glassamucky and surrounding areas. They provided and updated information on this outage on their website and also notified all customers in the area via their text alert system, and also notified elected representative, as they worked as quickly as possible to resolve the outage. Updates on the outage were notified throughout the weekend, and a tankered alternative water supply was provided at St Anne's church carpark.

Uisce Éireann is the national water services authority responsible for all public water supplies. Members are reminded that Uisce Éireann have a Local Representative Support Desk which can be contacted at localrepsupport@water.ie

Following Contributions from Councillors A Edge, P Kearns and E Murphy, Derek Sargent Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/106/Q2/0325 Item ID:86309 – Grange Road Residential Development**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager if the Council are in a position to provide a further update regarding the new apartment residential development at the bottom of Grange Road / Nutgrove Avenue in Rathfarnham.

**REPLY:**

As of the date of this reply, an application under the Capital Advance Leasing Facility from an Approved Housing Body to acquire these units is currently under consideration by the Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage. Following notification of a decision an update will issue to members.

### **RTFB/107/H7/0325 Item ID:86373 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/108/C6/0325 Item ID:86360 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Community**

### **RTFB/109/Q3/0325 Item ID:86415 – Swimming Pool Plans**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Chief Executive please outline when he envisages that plans for a swimming pool within the area covered by this area committee will be included in the Capital Programme as provided for in the current County Development Plan?

**REPLY:**

There is no provision within the current Capital Programme 2025-2027 to provide a swimming pool with leisure facilities in the Rathfarnham /Knocklyon / Firhouse / Ballycullen areas.

We are currently prioritising the progression of other community facilities which are provided for in the current three year capital programme in the area including the delivery of a shared sports facility in Whitechurch and extensions to both the Ballyroan Youth and Community Centre and The Park Community Centre.

### **RTFB/110/H8/0325 Item ID:86367 - Deputations for Noting**

Deputations for Noting (No Business)

### **RTFB/111/H9/0325 Item ID:86369 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/112/C7/0325 Item ID:86357 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/113/Q4/0325 Item ID:86157 – Double Yellow Lines Cremorne, Firhouse Road**

Proposed by Councillor P. Cosgrave

To ask the Manager for an update as to when the double yellow lines are to be repainted at Cremorne, Firhouse Rd. This Council has agreed that the lines would be repainted.

**REPLY:**

This has been listed for renewal. Road markings require dry and warm weather, so we are now starting to tackle requests received in the last number of months

### **RTFB/114/H10/0325 Item ID:86380 - Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads (No Business)

### **RTFB/115/H11/0325 Item ID:86378 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/116/C8/0325 Item ID:86365 – Correspondence for Noting**

Correspondence

[(i) Response from NTA re Item 85887 from the February 2025 RTFB ACM](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85556)

This report was **Noted**

### **RTFB/117/M12/0325 Item ID:86322 – ETNS Riverview**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, Councillor P. Kearns, Councillor Y. Collins, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That this committee calls on the manager to allocate school wardens to Riverview ETNS, Limekiln Road, Greenhills. We are aware that Riverview is part of the Safe Routes to School programme, however, it is our assertation. supported by confirmation from the manager at our last ACM that this should not preclude them from having a school warden, as evidenced by other local schools in the area that have several wardens in tandem with the programme.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

SDCC has received multiple requests in relation to the potential for assignment of a school warden to assist school going children cross the road to attend Riverview ETNS.

All of these requests have been considered in the context of the following:

1. **Safe Routes to School**

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Programme was developed in partnership by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Green-Schools, as a response to the need to support schools to increase walking and cycling to school. Details of the SRTS Programme can be found online at this website; [**Safe Routes to School - Green-Schools (greenschoolsireland.org)**](https://greenschoolsireland.org/saferoutestoschool/)

The current SRTS Programme was launched in March 2021 and was open to all schools in Ireland to apply for active travel funding and delivery. Nationally, the programme received expressions of interest from 932 schools, almost one in four schools in the state. Funding for the scheme is provided annually by the NTA as part of the overall annual allocation to roads authorities, and SDCC receives such allocations relative to the school approved.

Riverview ETNS (RETNS) was approved under Round 1, and as a school in the SRTS programme, was surveyed regarding the school’s students’ requirements for travel to and from the school, with an outline delivery plan issued in June 2022.

The report provides meaningful information regarding the origin of school pupils and their mode (method) of travel. From this school survey it was noted that the school attendees predominantly originate in residential areas to the northeast of the school. These areas include Drimnagh, Walkinstown, Perrystown and Greenhills.

RETNS was incorporated into the Council’s Wellington Lane Active Travel Cycle scheme, for the specific purpose of accelerating delivery of the SRTS works for the school. However, see immediately below - the RETNS SRTS scheme is now for delivery in 2026/2027 as a result of incorporation into the Wellington Lane Active Travel Cycle Scheme

**2**. **Wellington Lane Active Travel Cycle Scheme**

As referred to above, the SRTS RETNS work was incorporated into the Council’s Wellington Lane Active Travel Cycle scheme, for the specific purpose of accelerating delivery of the SRTS works for the school.

This enabled the school team from An Taisce to liaise with RETNS to develop and agree a draft delivery plan. The recommendations from that plan were incorporated into the Wellington Lane AT scheme (Limekiln Road element).

Members of this committee will be aware that the Wellington Lane AT Scheme received Part 8 Approval at the December 2022 Full Council Meeting. However, as part of that approval, amendments to the Part 8 were approved by Councillors, requiring that trial designs be put in place initially on Rossmore and Whitehall Road. In effect, this has delayed the planned work in front of RETNS proposed under the initial Part 8 scheme.

The Rossmore trial element is now substantially complete while the Whitehall Rd. trial is yet to be commenced.

Progress on the detailed design of the rest of the Wellington Lane scheme has been ongoing, and it is planned that the scheme will be delivered on a phased basis from 2025, the delivery of the works will be aligned with the available resources and ongoing NTA funding for 2026 (and beyond).

**3. Dublin 12 Bike Bus**

It was also observed that active travel, as a travel mode, was well established in the school community with a “bike bus” group who travelled to the school from the areas mentioned. In response to this the Council brought forward for delivery a significant active travel scheme providing cycle tracks and a quiet street route towards the school.

This scheme, the “**D12 Bike Bus Route - Light Segregation Scheme”,** was completed in 2024 and included junction tightening along Fernhill Road / Mountdown Park to lower car turning speeds and shorten the pedestrian crossing distance, and the construction of a cycle track along Limekiln Lane.

These works exceeded €2 million in capital expenditure and were funded by the NTA. The scheme provided safety improvements for most active travel school attendees. See details of the scheme here:

[**Limekiln and Whitehall Road West Cycle Scheme | South Dublin County Council's Online Consultation Portal (sdublincoco.ie)**](https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/consultation/limekiln-and-whitehall-road-west-cycle-scheme)

**4. School warden assisted crossing criteria**

Each local authority can arrange for school traffic wardens to patrol places where school children cross public roads. The school traffic warden’s role is to ensure that primary school children cross public roads safely to and from school and so, School Wardens are not assigned to schools but rather to road crossings.

Requests for School Warden assisted crossings are examined on a case by case basis along the following lines

* **Traffic Volume and Speed**: The number of vehicles passing through the crossing and their speed
* **Pedestrian Volume:** The number of children and other pedestrians using the crossing - a higher number of pedestrians, especially young children, indicates a greater potential need for a warden assisted crossing
* **Visibility**: Visibility of the crossing to both pedestrians and drivers
* **Complexity of location**: It is acknowledged that wider and more complex crossings are more challenging for children to navigate safely
* **Gap in Traffic**: The frequency of safe gaps in traffic are considered, e.g. if there are not enough safe gaps for children to cross, a crossing may need to be assisted to create these gaps.
* **Age of Unaccompanied Students**: Younger children typically need more assistance as they may struggle to judge the speed and distance of oncoming vehicles and so the scheme applies to crossings in the vicinity of primary schools
* **Local Policies:** All staff appointments are subject to approved HR workforce numbers and budgets.

**Summary:**

Members from the Traffic Management Office and the Road Safety Office met recently with the Principal to discuss her expressed safety concerns around the school.

It now transpires that the areas of concerns are around the Limekiln Park and Mountdown Park areas, as these are the walking routes of the children attending the school.

It must be noted that Limekiln Park is a cul-de -sac and Mountdown Park already has traffic calming measures installed and junction tightening works undertaken at the internal junctions (as referred to above in D12 Bike Bus Route).

It has been demonstrated that there has been extensive investment in safety and active travel school related improvement at this location / vicinity of this location, and there are now very limited, if any, remaining options for implementation in the absence of additional identified resources.

It is acknowledged that there are remaining planned and already agreed works for outside RETNS.

In conclusion, this is not considered a priority location, and it is not appropriate to contemplate reassignment of an existing approved work force plan School Warden to this location.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Kearns, L McCrave, Y Collins, J Sinnott and R Mannion, Mary Maguire Senior Executive Officer, Orlaith Maguire Road Safety Officer and Andrew O'Mullane Senior Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/118/M13/0325 Item ID:86158 – Yellow Box Cremorne**

Proposed by Councillor P. Cosgrave, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That the Manager agrees to have the yellow box repainted at the entrance to Cremorne, Firhouse Rd.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

This yellow box will be renewed in June as part of the active travel scheme currently being constructed on Firhouse Road.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Cosgrave and P Kearns, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/119/M14/0325 Item ID:86249 – Stone Wall Grange Road**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this area committee asks the Chief Executive to examine the condition of a public stone wall along Grange Road, Rathfarnham as stones are falling off due to mortar disintegrating loosening the stones, the concern being that in time water ingress will occur to these walls and cause further damage and loose stones are lying about the base of the walls, if appropriate repairs may take place and if a statement may be made available?

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

An inspection of the wall will be carried out to determine the extent of the issue and how best to resolve. If the issue is widespread, it may require altering the capping detail which would be expensive

[M14 (ii) Photo](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85237)
[M14 (iii) Photo](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85236)
[M14 (iv) Photo](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85235)

This Motion was **Unanimously Agreed and Moved without Debate.**

### **RTFB/120/M15/0325 Item ID:86287 – Cycle Track Rathfarnham**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

This committee proposes the extension of the bike lane from the entrance at Rathfarnham Castle to the entrance to Rathfarnham Castle Park opposite the yellow house pub so that it joins up with the existing split pedestrian / bike lane that continues on to the Grange Road and Nutgrove Avenue.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

 Cycle tracks are provided on Grange Road south of its junction with Nutgrove Avenue following the Active Travel scheme completed in 2024. Rathfarnham Bypass and Grange Road North of its junction with Nutgrove Avenue are included in the "TEMPLEOGUE / RATHFARNHAM TO CITY CENTRE CORE BUS CORRIDOR SCHEME". This scheme proposes cycle tracks, Toucan Crossings and upgraded junctions between Rathfarnham Castle and the cycle tracks recently provided in the 2024 Grange Road Active Travel Scheme.

Following Contributions from Councillor J Sinnott, Andrew O'Mullane Senior Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/121/M16/0325 Item ID:86404 – Yellow Lines Woodstock Estate**

Proposed by Councillor S. Barnes, Seconded by Councillor L. McCrave

That the Chief Executive consider the preference of residents in regards to the following. (Further to my Members Rep ID 1850660 in late 2024) it was agreed that single yellow lines would be painted on both sides of the entrance of Woodstock Estate, off Knocklyon Road. Whilst the residents are happy that SDCC has agreed to paint yellow lines to prevent cars parking and blocking access to their estate, they would prefer that double yellow lines be painted on the corner entering the estate and then for approx. 100 yards only along the entrance road. Some residents need to park on the entrance road and therefore do not want yellow lines on both sides. They don't want cars at the entrance, on the corner, which blocks larger vehicles, such as bin collection trucks and would also block a fire engine, if it needed to access the estate.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Members Rep ID 1850660 was discussed in the Traffic Management Meeting (TMM), and it was agreed that yellow lines would be installed. A draft proposed road marking design has been shared with the members for their comments. SDCC welcome this feedback on the draft proposal. Our traffic staff will be making contact with the elected members in the next number of weeks to discuss the details of preferred lining. Following these contacts, SDCC will make the necessary adjustments to the line marking design. When a final line marking design is agreed by the elected members and residents, the yellow no parking road markings and signage will be installed as per the agreed design.

Following Contributions from Councillor S Barnes, Farham Nasiem Senior Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/122/M17/0325 Item ID:86411 – Road Re-Surfacing**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy, Seconded by Councillor B. Lawlor

That this area committee adds Ballycullen Road and Ballycullen Drive to the programme for roads resurfacing this year.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The 2025 footpath programme has been finalised, but these two schemes will be listed for consideration for the 2026 programme.

Following Contributions from Councillors E Murphy, B Lawlor and R Mannion Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/123/M18/0325 Item ID:86265 – Junction at St. James and St. Joseph Roads**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

To ask the Chief Executive to consider recent work carried out by a contractor on behalf of SDCC whereby the mini roundabout at the junction of St. James's Road and St. Joseph's Road was removed; there is now confusion on the part of many motorists when travelling through this junction - while a new stop sign and line have been put in place for traffic exiting St. Joseph's Road, a lot of the time drivers travelling in either direction along St. James's Road are still yielding to the traffic exiting from St. Joseph's Road. This is because the painted yield signs and the mini roundabout are appearing to oncoming traffic as though these are still in place. The road surface is uneven at this spot that the junction needs to be properly resurfaced and if a statement is available?

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

**Subject:**

The Traffic Section has inspected the junction at **St. James's Road and St. Joseph's Road** following recent works. We acknowledge the concerns raised regarding driver confusion due to the remnants of the previous road markings still being visible.

SDCC are currently seeking prices for the resurfacing works.

To address this issue, the existing surfacing material will be planed out, replaced with new surface material and new fresh line marking will be applied to the new surface material. This will ensure that the markings and signage are clear to the motorist. SDCC are currently seeking prices for the resurfacing works and subject to having available funding the works will be completed.

Following Contributions from Councillors D McManus, P Kearns and R Mannion, Farhan Nasiem Senior Executive Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/124/M19/0325 Item ID:86407 – Rumble Strips at Ford’s Bridge**

Proposed by Councillor S. Barnes, Seconded by Councillor A. Edge

That the Chief Executive re-assess the rumble strips that have been placed recently on the road at Ford's Bridge, the residents of two houses very close by would like the need for these strips to be reviewed, as traffic has to go very slowly anyway, but the noise from vehicles going over the strips is impacting negatively on these residents.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

There have been a number of bridge strikes at Fort Bridge over the last year including a significant incident where the parapet wall was knocked. Rumble strips were installed on both approaches so that approaching vehicles would reduce their speed in advance of the bridge.

The area engineer will review the design on the southern approach to try resolve the issues the residents have

Following Contributions from Councillors S Barnes and A Edge, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/125/Q5/0325 Item ID:86250 – Laneway TIC**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus

To ask the Chief Executive to examine a taking in charge application for a small section of a laneway that is not part of S98A/0676 (which took place on private land between "Address Provided") and to provide a statement to Councillors. A screenshot from https://planning.agileapplications.ie/ is attached which indicates where the private planning application starts and ends which is separate to the public laneway for a taking in charge application.

**REPLY:**

No official Taking in Charge application for this link has been received by the Council. Such TIC application must come from the owners of land being considered for Taking in Charge.

It should be noted that the link lane between Aranleigh Mount Road and Barton Drive is only **partially** Taken in Charge by the Council.

The condition of some parts of the private link would not be to Taking in Charge standards. For example, the archway opening is not to a taking in charge standard. It is not wide enough and the head height for cyclists is not met. There can be no gate on a general public link. The road surfacing is of a poor standard in places.

There are no bond monies held by the Council in relation to any recent development in the area, that could be used to make any of the necessary improvements mentioned.

 Therefore, the owners of all the relevant pockets of land would need to contact the Council to start discussions on resolving these issues, before the link could be Taken in Charge.

[Q5 (ii) Area not Taken in Charge](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85527)
[Q5 (iii) Walkway not part of S98A 0676 - area in yellow added by Cllr D McManus](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85247)

### **RTFB/126/H12/0325 Item ID:86376 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/127/C9/0325 Item ID:86363 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/128/H13/0325 Item ID:86371 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/129/C10/0325 Item ID:86359 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **RTFB/130/Q6/0325 Item ID:86414 – Firhouse / Ballycullen Library**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Chief Executive please outline when he envisages that plans for a library for the Firhouse / Knocklyon area will be included in the Capital Programme as provided for in the current County Development Plan?

**REPLY:**

Significant progress has been made towards the delivery of the objectives of Policy COS10; construction will soon commence on Citywest Library and pre-planning is underway for Adamstown Library. Improving our existing spaces, a key area of focus of "Our Library, Our Future" has seen the introduction of My Open Library in Lucan, and progress towards the refurbishment of Clondalkin with the Part 8 proposal adopted by Council in February. Improvements are underway in Tallaght and Ballyroan also, with work underway to make the latter our second My Open Library.

In the case of Firhouse/Ballycullen, work has been undertaken by the Libraries and Planning Departments to identify suitable sites for the development of a library. The next stage will be to carry out a feasibility study on the sites identified, in order to short-list and make a final selection. Although work has commenced on identifying a suitable site, the development of the library will only appear in the capital programme when a final site has been selected, and a Part 8 Proposal is drafted. At that stage it will be possible to determine when expenditure on the project will commence and estimate a timeline for its delivery.

### **RTFB/131/Q7/0325 Item ID:86307 – Ireland Reads Day**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager if SDCC libraries will take part in "Ireland Reads Day" on 22nd February.

**REPLY:**

Ireland Reads is an initiative of the Government of Ireland to celebrate the joy of reading. It runs throughout February with a special Ireland Reads Day on February 22nd. All South Dublin Libraries took part.

Events to celebrate Ireland Reads in **Ballyroan library** included:

**The Book You Love -** A chance for readers to celebrate their favourite book by sharing it with others.

**The body in the library: a celebration of crime fiction** with author Gill Perdue discussing the history of the crime fiction genre, sharing her favourite crime writers and also her experience of writing in this tradition.

**Book Swap** - an opportunity to rehome your recently read books and pick up some new ones.

**Reading Circle** - a chance to enjoy listening to a story or poem - no pressure to talk or read.

Ballyroan library is also calling on our readers to Stop Scrolling and Start Reading in our new reading project for adults.

**Ballyroan Bookworms Junior Bookclub** For ages 8-10 years.

**Regular Monday Storytimes**

Events in **Castletymon library** included:

**Date with a Book** - mystery book display to encourage readers to try something new.

**Author Visits** - with Eilish Fisher visiting a primary school class and Ray Lane speaking to a TY class.

**Monster Doodle** – for all the family with author and illustrator Tatyana Feeney.

Events in the **Mobile Library Service**:

“Ireland Reads at Rathcoole” was a joint collaboration between the Mobile Libraries and the Community department. The Mobile Library bus went out to Rathcoole Community Centre on Saturday 22nd February from 12 to 4pm. The Community department brought indoor games for preschoolers. The Mobile Libraries brought their staff storyteller, a face painter, a balloon sculptor and Reuben the entertainer/magician who performed from 2.30 to 3.30pm. The Mobile Libraries also had an information stand on book clubs, the Library at Home service and the Mobile Library schedule in the Centre. Promotional bags were distributed.

### **RTFB/132/Q8/0325 Item ID:86308 – Right to Read**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager if SDCC libraries are part of the national Right to Read network.

**REPLY:**

Right to Readis a national programme to promote literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds. It was launched as part of the *Opportunities for All: the public library as a catalyst for economic, social and cultural development 2013-2017* libraries strategy.

Currently, the main focus of the Right to Read programme is support for children and families. South Dublin Library Service run a number of events and programmes to support Right to Read including seasonal programmes such as Spring into Storytime, Summer Stars, Children’s Book Festival and Family Time at Your Library. Other activities include regular Story Times, Parent and Toddler Groups, Baby Book Clubs, adult book clubs and the Reading Circle. Reading promotions for adults have also been introduced: D24 Reads (Tallaght and Castletymon), Stop Scrolling and Start Reading (Ballyroan). We also offer wide-ranging themed stock collections to encourage adults and children of all abilities to read and trained staff can offer advice on reading development and book selection.

### **RTFB/133/H14/0325 Item ID:86368 – Library News & Events**

This report was presented by Siobhan Bermingham Executive Librarian

Library News & Events

[H14 (i) Library Report](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85382)

[H14 (ii) Library Event Stats](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85400)

Following Contributions from Councillors A Edge and P Kearns, Siobhan Bermingham Executive Librarian Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted.**

### **RTFB/134/H15/0325 Item ID:86354 - Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants (No Business)

### **RTFB/135/C11/0325 Item ID:86361 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## Meeting Concluded at 16:51

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 **An Cathaoirleach**