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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council April 2025 Tallaght Area Committee Meeting held on Monday 24th March 2025

### **PRESENT**

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cllr M. Duff | Cllr K. Keane |
| Cllr D. Donnelly | Cllr D. Richardson |
| Cllr L. Dunne | Cllr J. Spear |
| Cllr P. Holohan | Cllr N. Whelan |

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Senior Executive Parks & Landscape Officer | Brendan Redmond |
| Senior Executive Officer | Edel Clancy, Amanda Mills, Sharon Conroy |
| Senior Engineer | Gary Walsh |
| Senior Planner | Hazel Craigie |
| Executive Librarian | Emma McDonald |
| Assistant Arts Officer | Meabh Butler |
| Staff Officer | Mark Brown |
| Assistant Staff Officer | Marian Travers, Bill Fowler |

Councillor M. Duff, presided

### **H1/0425 Item ID:86715**

Proposed by Housing Administration

"Minutes from Tallaght Area Committee Meeting 24th February 2025".

[Minutes from Tallaght Area Committee Meeting held on Monday 24th February 2025](file:///%5C%5Csdcc-cifs%5Chscd%5CHousing%5CHsadm1s%5CADMINISTRATION%5CACM%20%20SPC%27s%20LCDC%20JPC%20LTACC%5CTallaght%20ACM%5CMinutes%5C2025%5CDraft%20-%20February%202025%20Tallaght%20Area%20Committee%20Meeting%20Minutes.docx)

Minutes of Tallaght Area Committee Meeting held on 24th February 2025 which had been circulated, were submitted, and APPROVED as a true record and signed.

It was proposed by Cllr M. Duff, seconded by Cllr P. Holohan, and RESOLVED:

"That the recommendations contained in the Minutes of the Tallaght Area Committee Meeting held on 24th February 2025 be Adopted and Approved.”

**Questions**

It was proposed by Cllr M. Duff, seconded by Cllr L. Dunne, and RESOLVED:” That pursuant to Standing Order No 1, Questions 1-23 be Adopted and Approved.”

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

It was proposed by An Cathaoirleach M. Duff and **AGREED** in accordance with Standing Orders no 96 to suspend Standing Orders to deal with the following emergency motion:

It was proposed by Councillor L. Dunne, seconded by Councillor M. Duff:

This Area Committee expresses deep concern over the risk of closure of Sacred Heart Junior National School due to a funding deficit and the rising costs of electricity, heating, and insurance.

Recognising the severe impact this will have on students, staff, and the wider community, this Committee writes to the Minister for Education to urgently intervene by:

1. Doubling the capitation and DEIS funding as a matter of urgency to address the financial pressures faced by the school.

The risk of closure of Sacred Heart Junior National School would result in a return to remote learning, a measure that has already been proven to have significant detrimental effects on children’s education and well-being, as seen during the COVID-19 pandemic. This Committee urges the Minister to act immediately to prevent further disruption to students' education and to safeguard the future of the school.

The Motion was taken without **DEBATE** and **AGREED**

### **C1/0325 Item ID:86341**

Proposed by Housing Administration

Correspondence

## **Corporate Support**

### **H2/0325 Item ID:86344**

Proposed by Corporate Support

New Works (No Business)

### **C2/0325 Item ID:86552**

Proposed by Housing Administration

Correspondence received from the NTA in response to Motion 2 passed at the February 2025 Tallaght Area Committee Meeting (for noting)

**REPLY:**

The following response was received through South Dublin County Council's Customer Contact System on Tuesday 11th March:

*Dear Edel,*

 *Thank you for your letter of 27th February 2025 in relation to a motion passed at SDCC Tallaght Area Committee on 24th February 2025.*

 *The National Transport Authority acknowledges that there were significant service delivery issues on certain Go-Ahead Ireland routes coincident with the launch of the latest Phase of BusConnects network redesign at the end of January and into early February. This was due to a shortage of bus fleet, associated with a shortage of craftworkers and spare parts, exacerbated by seasonal illnesses in Go-Ahead’s Ballymount depot. The National Transport Authority has been closely monitoring the operator’s performance over recent weeks, and we are pleased to report that operated service kilometres are now within contractual standards.*

*As is the case with all contracts with transport operators in Dublin, the Authority will continue to monitor operator performance, and where performance falls below thresholds set out in the contract, contractual payment deductions apply. Overall, the performance of Go-Ahead Ireland relative to other bus operators is good, and we have no plans to end their contracts with us.*

*Regards*

*Jeremy Ryan*

### **C3/0325 Item ID:86332**

Proposed by Corporate Support

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Performance Change Management**

### **H3/0325 Item ID:86349**

Proposed by Performance Change Management

New Works (No Business)

### **C4/0325 Item ID:86336**

Proposed by Performance Change Management

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **Q1/0325 Item ID:86525**

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

To ask the Manager if there are any plans to replace the shrubbery and bushes removed from the back of Virginia Heights, with any sort of scaled back greenery?

**REPLY:**

The vegetation at the back of Virginia Heights was heavily impacted by the accumulation of household waste. To facilitate the removal of this waste and restore the area to a maintainable condition, it was necessary to cut back the existing vegetation. As the growing season is now commencing, natural regeneration of the vegetation will occur. The site will be monitored, and if necessary, supplementary planting will be considered to ensure the area remains green and well-maintained.

### **Q2/0325 Item ID:86538**

Proposed by Councillor P. Holohan

update on plans for community/sensory garden beside Jobstown community centre?

**REPLY:**

The grounds of the old playground are in the remit of Public Realm.  Discussions have taken place between Public Realm and Community with a view to redeveloping the playground into a Community and Sensory Garden.  Further consultation will be required with the Board of Management of the Community Centre and Council Departments to ensure community buy in and project sustainability.

### **Q3/0325 Item ID:86536**

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff

Could the Manager confirm that the small area of open space, outside Belgard Industrial Estate on the Mayberry Road, Kilnamanagh, is in Council ownership and will be added to the scheduled grass cutting programme

**REPLY:**

The area outside Belgard Industrial Estate on Mayberry Road, Kilnamanagh, is privately managed and not under the Council's ownership or responsibility.  The Public Realm Section have been in contact with the property management company who are responsible for maintenance of this area and will continue to pursue the matter with them until such time as the area is being maintained to an acceptable standard.

### **Q4/0325 Item ID:86539**

Proposed by Councillor P. Holohan

What is the plan for the small astro park beside Tallaght leisure centre in Jobstown Park?

**REPLY:**

The area identified beside Tallaght Leisure Centre in Jobstown Park is the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). South Dublin County Council (SDCC) has secured €72,678 in Sports Capital funding for its upgrade. Formal approval from the Department has been requested, and once granted, the Council will proceed with the upgrade works.

### **Q5/0325 Item ID:86543**

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

Can the manager please report on the plan for Kiltipper Park, Tallaght to reduce use of scramblers in an anti social manner?

**REPLY:**

The preliminary work on phase 2 of improvements to Kiltipper Park began in October 2024, with works progressing through 2025. This work will include the construction of an extended car park; footpath and northern pedestrian entrance improvements; sports pitch construction & associated drainage; construction of a new viewpoint area; hedgerow rejuvenation works; and all associated ancillary site drainage and landscaping works.

The sporadic use of scrambler bikes in South Dublin parks is an issue that SDCC have been tackling with the assistance of the Gardai since before the implementation of current improvements at Kiltipper Park. Before the current improvements to the park “Anti-motorbike barriers” were in place. As the council have seen at countless locations over the years including at Kiltipper; these barriers were ineffectual at reducing or indeed preventing access by scramblers or motorbikes, however they did act to reduce access by legitimate bicycle users / wide buggies / prams and others. Most worryingly, we received communications from local wheelchairs users that they were excluded from the park by these barriers.

The current entrance points are designed to be universally accessible, specifically to facilitate wheelchairs, of which there are several users in the area. In addition, Kiltipper Park is part of the Dodder Greenway which allows for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists in a pedestrian priority environment. It is not feasible to restrict or reduce the size of access points under these circumstances. We have had some communications with residents in the area who inform us that the use of scramblers in the park has decreased since the increase of more legitimate uses of the park by visitors due to the improvements to access, footpaths and so on, however the issue does re-occur from time to time. SDCC has contacted Tallaght Garda Station and the Community Gardai to request patrols to be carried out in the park. It is envisioned that current and future improvements will continue to encourage an increase in the number of legitimate park users, consequently resulting in a reduction of this and other types of anti-social behaviour in Kiltipper Park; however, SDCC will continue to monitor this situation and keep it under review. The recent actions of central government facilitating the Gardai to seize scramblers being used illegally in parks and open spaces will also assist in this regard and we encourage anyone with information on the illegal use of scramblers in South Dublin parks to contact publicrealm@sdublincoco.ie and An Gardai Siochana at Tallaght Garda Station.

### **Q6/0325 Item ID:86546**

Proposed by Councillor K. Keane

To ask the management when will the promised bins be installed in Kiltalown Park. Cllr Kay Keane.

**REPLY:**

A bin has recently been installed adjacent to the play area in Kiltalown Park.

### **H4/0325 Item ID:86351**

Proposed by Public Realm

New Works (No Business)

### **C5/0325 Item ID:86338**

Proposed by Public Realm

Correspondence(No Business)

### **M1/0325 Item ID:86498**

Proposed by Councillor L. Dunne Seconded by Cllr M. Duff

"This Area Committee notes the increase in antisocial behaviour in Carrigmore Park, prompting increased Garda patrols. However, many residents remain fearful of walking in the park due to inadequate lighting. Therefore, we call on the Manager to install public lighting to improve safety and enhance community use of the park?"

**REPORT:**

Following extensive public consultation, the Council approved the Part 8 masterplan for the Carrigmore Park upgrade. As part of this, a number of recreational elements have already been completed, including the teen space and playground upgrade. The increased use of the park and its facilities has naturally led to greater passive supervision, which plays a key role in discouraging antisocial behaviour.

South Dublin County Council's parks and playgrounds close to the public at dusk, with seasonal closing times ranging from 9pm in summer to 5pm in winter. In general, public lighting is only provided in parks where there are essential pedestrian links between residential areas, ensuring safe connectivity while not encouraging general nighttime use of park spaces.

Providing extensive lighting within parks could unintentionally attract antisocial behaviour, create safety risks by drawing people into unmonitored areas after dark, and impact the park’s ecology. There is a 100m key pedestrian link from Carrigmore Green and Verschoyle Green which is currently lit. No additional lighting is required within the park, as the existing street lighting provide sufficient illumination for pedestrian movement.

Concerns regarding antisocial behaviour in Carrigmore Park have been raised with An Garda Síochána, who have committed to increased patrols to monitor the situation and take appropriate action as needed

There were contributions from Cllr L. Dunne and Cllr M. Duff

Brendan Redmond, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer, will look at the area between the two estates to see if more lighting is needed and will come back to the councillors

The Motion was **AGREED**

### **M2/0325 Item ID:86544**

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear Seconded by Cllr M. Duff

"This area committee agrees that Council replace bins removed for works in Tallaght at the following locations"

1. In Brookmount, Tallaght at approx. 53.290288, -6.333628
2. Bus stop 2424 facing Castletymon Shops in Tallaght at approx. 53.295108, -6.341368

**REPORT:**

The bin at the end of Brookmount Avenue/Tymon Lane was removed approximately two years ago due to persistent dumping of household waste at that time. There are two bins, in close proximity to this location, one at the end of Brookmount Lawns/Old Blessington Road (approximately 100m away) and another adjacent to Glenview Lawns/Old Blessington Road (approximately 200m away).

The Council's approach to litter bin provision follows the Litter Bin Installation Protocol, which is set out in the Litter Management Plan, to ensure bins are strategically placed for maximum effectiveness. This protocol prioritises locations such as town and village centres, key pedestrian routes and larger park while discouraging placement in areas prone to illegal dumping and vandalism. Requests for new or replacement bins are assessed based on these criteria including proximity to existing bins (in general a bin is considered not necessary where there is an existing bin within 400m), maintenance requirements and overall service optimisation.

Given the presence of two nearby bins and the previous issues with household dumping at this location a replacement bin is not currently proposed at this location. However, the site will continue to be monitored to assess ongoing litter management needs.

Regarding the bin at the bus stop 2424 facing Castletymon Shops in Tallaght a replacement bin has been ordered and is being scheduled to be installed.

There were contributions from Cllr J. Spear, Cllr L. Dunne, Cllr N. Whelan and Cllr M. Duff

Brendan Remond, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer agreed to look at the vicinity around the entrance to Tymon Park for installing a new bin

## **Environment**

### **Q7/0325 Item ID:86527**

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

Can the manager provide an update on the progress made to use CCTV as a means to tackling illegal dumping in the Tallaght area?

**REPLY:**

Following the publications of the LGMA's codes of practice for the Operation of CCTV for the purposes of Prevention, Detection and Prosecution of Waste Offences and Litter Offences South Dublin have in the first instance developed a suite of documents and procedures to ensure any proposed use of CCTV and the data recorded is GDPR compliant.

CCTV is appropriate where it is intended for deterring environmental pollution and aiding in the detection and prosecution of offences under the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended and the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended. CCTV can only be deployed for specific operational tasks in specific designated locations and not used for general patrol/ surveillance, i.e. a camera can only be focused on a discrete location and not a broad general area and automated number plate recognition and facial recognition devices are explicitly excluded.

To justify the necessity of implementing a CCTV Scheme for environmental enforcement issues at a specific location, evidence to prove necessity is based on the number of:

* Relevant complaints received from the public
* Relevant enforcement actions taken and successful prosecutions
* Relevant recorded observations from the local authority

Before proposing a CCTV scheme, SDCC has to demonstrate, in accordance with the codes of practice, that less intrusive measures have been considered.

South Dublin has a listing of sites across the county in which less intrusive measures are being deployed and it is only where these less intrusive measures fail that a business case for the deployment of a CCTV scheme may be prepared for recommendation by the CCTV oversight board to the Chief Executive for authorisation. Presently we have 4 business cases prepared for the oversight board.

### **H5/0325 Item ID:86346**

Proposed by Environment

New Works (No Business)

### **C6/0325 Item ID:86330**

Proposed by Environment

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Water Drainage**

### **H6/0325 Item ID:86353**

Proposed by Water Drainage

New Works (No Business)

### **C7/0325 Item ID:86340**

Proposed by Water Drainage

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Housing**

### **Q8/0325 Item ID:86547**

Proposed by Councillor K. Keane

To ask the management how many retrofits of social houses have been completed in the Tallaght area.? What are the current figures for commencement of work retrofitting social houses in Tallaght? Cllr Kay Keane

**REPLY:**

The purpose of the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP) is to bring properties with low energy efficiency rating to a building energy rating (BER) of B2. The works to each property can include combination of new window and doors, upgrading on existing building fabric insulation and the installation of energy efficient air to water heating systems. Funding and deliverable targets are provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

In 2024, the Planned Maintenance team successfully exceeded the departmental targets, completing EERP works on 85 social housing units.

For 2025, a funding allocation of €2,822,000 has been approved to facilitate retrofit works on an additional 83 properties. This substantial investment demonstrates the continued commitment to improving the energy performance of our social housing stock.

104 homes within the Tallaght Central and Tallaght South areas have already benefited from EERP works. Further works are scheduled for 49 properties during the current year, and detailed energy performance surveys have been completed for 62 additional homes to inform future retrofit planning.

The Council has also made provision of €5m expenditure in our 3 year Capital Programme 2025-2027 for window and door replacement in our social housing stock.

287 homes are scheduled for replacements in 2025. 139 homes have been issued to our contractors with a further 81 homes at pre/tender stage with expected award of tender in Q2, 2025. 67 homes have received new window and door replacements so far this year. The number for subsequent upgrades will be determined by stock conditional surveys.

The table provides a summary for works under the Windows and Doors Programme for the Tallaght electoral area:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEA** | **Pre & Tender Stage** | **Contractor Stage** | **Complete** | **Total** |
| Tallaght South |  21 |  63 |  48 | **132** |
| Tallaght Central | 3  |  10 | 6 | **19** |
| **Total**  | **24** |  **73** | **54** | **151** |

### **Q9/0325 Item ID:86104**

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on how many new build social homes in the Tallaght area were built with an air to water system last year 2024.

**REPLY:**

There were 207 new build social homes delivered in the Tallaght Central and Tallaght South LEA's in 2024. All of these properties have air-to-water heat pumps installed.

### **Q10/0325 Item ID:86105**

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

To ask the Chief Executive how many houses were granted permission in the Tallaght area to install a stove or refurb a fireplace in their home since 2020.

**REPLY:**

Any alterations to a Council dwelling, including but not limited to the installation of stoves or refurbishment of fireplaces, require prior written approval from the Housing Maintenance Section. Our records indicate that no permissions have been granted for such works in Council homes within the Tallaght area since 2020.

Furthermore, it is the policy of the Housing Maintenance Section to decommission open fireplaces in alignment with the Council's commitment to transitioning away from fossil fuel usage. Consequently, permitted works related to fireplaces are typically limited to instances where the fireplace serves as the primary source of heating for the property.

### **Q11/0325 Item ID:86387**

Proposed by Councillor K. Keane

To ask the Chief Executive why South Dublin County Council has no emergency accommodation/placements for single females in the Tallaght area?

**REPLY:**

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) is provided by Dublin City Council as the lead statutory authority on the response to homelessness in Dublin and adopts a shared service approach across the Dublin region on behalf of South Dublin County Council, Fingal County Council and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

Within South Dublin County the following single emergency accommodation is currently provided**:**

* Finnstown: privately managed facility comprising 45 rooms (with capacity for sharing) for single females
* Killininny: managed by Peter McVerry Trust with capacity for 21 for single males
* Kiltipper: managed by Peter McVerry Trust with capacity for 15 single males
* Riversdale House, managed by Dublin Simon, with 25 rooms for single, older persons

Refuge facilities, provided and managed by Saoirse supported by the Council are operational at two locations in the County to support victims of domestic violence. Additional supported/step down/transitional accommodation is also provided by approved housing bodies and other voluntary organisations including at Springfield, Kiltalown, Glencarrig and Neilstown.

The Council, in conjunction with the Dublin Region Homeless Executive will continue to explore potential options for additional hubs and other supported accommodation in the County.

### **Q12/0325 Item ID:86493**

Proposed by Councillor L. Dunne

To ask the Manager for an update on ongoing discussions with transport providers regarding the reliability and safety of public transport services in Tallaght, with a particular focus on addressing concerns related to the Luas Red Line, including incidents of violence, open drug dealing, and overcrowding, as well as issues regarding frequent bus cancellations?

**REPLY:**

Council officials work closely and attend meetings of the Local Transport Forum made up of representatives from Dublin Bus, Go Ahead and Luas, with local community representation, Elected Representatives and senior members of An Garda Síochána to address issues raised by transport providers following the partial withdrawal of bus services to West Tallaght. The forum allows transport providers to express their safety concerns and to share recent incidences of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity on their services with the Gardai.

Works previously completed by the Council and continuously monitored to support and ensure full services to the Tallaght area included -

* LED upgrade to public lighting and the provision of additional lighting as requested by Dublin Bus.
* Hedge cutting and tree pruning at locations identified by Dublin Bus.
* Removal of illegal waste and rubbish.

Issues relating to overcrowding and frequent bus cancellations are not discussed at local level. These issues are brought directly to the National Transport Authority and the Minister for Transport.

### **Q13/0325 Item ID:86526**

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

To ask the manager, how many expressions of interest have been made for in situ purchases to SDCC since November 2024 and what stage are each of them at?

**REPLY:**

Since November, 2024 the Procurement Section have received 31 expressions of interest in relation to the Tenant in situ scheme. At time of reply, 27 expressions of interest are at the due diligence stage and 4 are not progressing.

### **Q14/0325 Item ID:86535**

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff

Will the Manager inform this Area Committee as to the procedure of when a tenant requests Alterations to a Council dwelling, will the Council provide Occupational Therapists to assist the tenant with the necessary OT Report or is the tenant expected to go through the HSE, which has a backlog of approx 2+ years?

**REPLY:**

The Disabled Person's Grants (DPG) scheme is available for Council tenants who require alterations to be carried out to their Council home to assist with their disability needs.  Applicants should submit a completed application form together with a fully completed Doctors certificate a full Occupational Therapist (OT) report, to South Dublin County Council, Medical Section for consideration.

In 2024, a total of 129 applications for the DPG scheme were received from Council tenants each accompanied by an OT report as required.

The Council does not engage the services of Occupational Therapists to provide assessments for Council tenants.

### **H7/0325 Item ID:86347**

Proposed by Housing

New Works (No Business)

### **C8/0325 Item ID:86334**

Proposed by Housing

Correspondence (No Business)

### **M3/0325 Item ID:86497**

Proposed by Councillor L. Dunne Seconded by Cllr M. Duff

"This Area Committee calls on the Manager to install CCTV monitoring signs on boarded-up Council owned properties in the Tallaght area immediately upon vacancy, to deter illegal dumping in their gardens?"

**REPORT:**

The Housing Maintenance and Refurbishment section undertake re-let works on vacant housing stock throughout the County to ensure stock is brought back into productive use for letting as soon as possible. Essential works carried out on all properties being re-let are delivered through a combination of our direct labour team and specialist contractors as necessary, who co-ordinate the essential craftworkers required to ensure the properties are delivered at the earliest opportunity whilst ensuring all site activities are carried out in accordance with health and safety and other requirements.

The cumulative average re-let times for properties to be re-let in 2023 was 26.79 weeks. In 2024, there have been significant improvements in the delivery of vacant properties with the average vacancy turnaround time at 20.64 weeks. The Council continues to identify and implement measures to reduce turnaround times to a maximum target of 16- 20 weeks.

CCTV monitoring signs cannot be installed on vacant housing stock where there are no CCTV cameras in operation. To justify the necessity of implementing a CCTV Scheme for environmental enforcement issues at a specific location, for issues such as illegal dumping, evidence to prove necessity is based on the number of:

* Relevant complaints received from the public
* Relevant enforcement actions taken and successful prosecutions
* Relevant recorded observations from the local authority

Before proposing a CCTV scheme, SDCC has to demonstrate, in accordance with the codes of practice, that less intrusive measures have been considered.

South Dublin has a listing of sites across the county in which less intrusive measures are being deployed and it is only where these less intrusive measures fail that a business case for the deployment of a CCTV scheme may be prepared for recommendation by the CCTV oversight board to the Chief Executive for authorisation.

There were contributions from Cllr L. Dunne, Cllr P. Holohan and Cllr K. Keane

Sharon Conroy, Senior Executive Officer, agreed that the Environment department would help any residents who were interested in doing a clean up in their area to get rid of the rubbish. Sharon Conroy agreed to set up additional monitoring in the area highlighted by Cllr K. Keane and will work with councillors when they bring areas to their attention.

The Motion was **AGREED**

## **Community**

### **H8/0325 Item ID:86343**

Proposed by Community

New Works (No Business)

### **C9/0325 Item ID:86331**

Proposed by Community

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Transportation**

### **Q15/0325 Item ID:86494**

Proposed by Councillor L. Dunne

To ask the Manager what plans are in place to enhance communication and engagement with Tallaght residents, particularly regarding further upcoming projects on active travel that will provide opportunities for public participation?

**REPLY:**

For all projects undertaken by the Council, compliance with legislation regarding public consultation is required. Typically, a non-statutory “section 38” or a statutory “Part 8” public consultation will be required. A “Part 8” procedure is required when a scheme such as an Active Travel scheme, amongst other things, extends outside the existing public road. Public interaction, with a public consultation, in both cases is similar with a project display period of four weeks and a two-week submission period. Notices of public consultations are required to be published in local newspapers and prominently displayed on site. Additional notices are provided on the Councils’ social media.

Currently consultation is undertaken online on the Council’s public consultation portal and submissions can be received both online and by post. Link, <https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en>. The consultation portal hosts all the necessary documentation, drawings and reports available for inspection by members of the public. A physical copy of all documents is also available for inspection as indicated in the consultation notice.

In addition to the statutory consultation, and particularly with complex schemes, non-statutory consultations and surveys are carried out to identify issues and ideas from members of the public and gauge a preference for options that may be available.

At the consultation stage meetings and open evenings are held where the project team can meet with residents explain any pertinent aspects of the project that may assist a resident with a submission they wish to make.

On completion of the consultation process an approved project is developed into a fully detailed design scheme and procured for construction. As construction commences any changes require additional expenditure and may not be covered under the project permission. However, the project team and contractor will work with adjoining properties on specific accommodation requirements and legal entitlements they may have.

Finally general information of the projects undertaken by the Road Design, Construction and Active Travel Section are available on the Active travel web site: [Active Travel - SDCC](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/active-travel/)

### **Q16/0325 Item ID:86521**

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

Can the manager provide an update on the road safety officer that was to conduct a traffic and pedestrian flow survey for Scoil Santain National School?

**REPLY:**

SDCC has carried out a number of significant safety improvements at Scoil Santain in recent times.

Pencil bollards and roundels installed at the school entrance on the Avonmore Road.

Pencil bollards and roundels installed along Homelawn Gardens.

A raised belisha beacon flashing light pedestrian crossing on Homelawn Road.

A further site visit was conducted by the Road Safety Officer on Wednesday 19th February 2025, and students were observed coming and going from the school at afternoon pick up.

The approach roads to the school on Homelawn Gardens and Avonbeg Gardens are both within residential areas and are cul de sac roads. The posted speed limit on these roads is 30km/h.  It was observed that speed was not a problem on both approach roads to the school.

After discussion with both the SDCC Traffic and the Active Travel teams, it was agreed to move the existing pedestrian crossing on Homelawn Gardens slightly to the left away from an existing vehicular access.

Otherwise, no further safety issues were observed at the school.

### **Q17/0325 Item ID:86531**

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff

Could the Manager please inform this Area Committee of a timeframe for commencement of works on the BusConnects corridor through Birchview, Kilnamanagh and the Construction Compound at Bancroft.

**REPLY:**

SDCC have not been contacted by the NTA in relation to a construction start date for the Tallaght to City centre core bus corridor scheme.

However, SDCC have been given notice that the Compulsory Purchase Order for the additional land required for the construction of the Tallaght to City centre bus corridor is now "in operation".  This means that effectively the NTA can start to enter the detailed lands and make preparations for the future Bus Corridor scheme.  I understand that the NTA are still finishing the detailed design of the scheme and construction tender documents.

SDCC have contacted the NTA to get a timeline update for the main deliverables of the scheme.

We will inform the members of the NTA response as soon as we receive it.

### **Q18/0325 Item ID:86542**

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

Can the manager please report on when the recently appointed road safety officer will commence their traffic and pedestrian flow survey for Scoil Santain, Tallaght?

**REPLY:**

SDCC has carried out a number of significant safety improvements at Scoil Santain in recent times.

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After discussion with both the SDCC Traffic and the Active Travel teams, it was agreed to move the existing pedestrian crossing on Homelawn Gardens slightly to the left away from an existing vehicular access.

Otherwise, no further safety issues were observed at the school.

### **Q19/0325 Item ID:86548**

Proposed by Councillor K. Keane

To ask the management is there an update on repairs to the street lights at Kiltalown Court? Cllr Kay Keane.

**REPLY:**

There is a fault in the supply from an ESBN pillar to P5 and P6 at this location. We contacted ESBN about this on 21st December with a Service Request to repair it.

We brought it up at our ESBN monthly project meeting this morning and we have received a commitment from them to get it repaired as soon as possible.

### **Q20/0325 Item ID:86549**

Proposed by Councillor K. Keane

To ask the management are they aware of clamping at the Quarter in Citywest. Has a licence been granted to CPMS to carry out clamping in the area? Cllr Kay Keane

**REPLY:**

The Council's parking prohibitions and restrictions are set out in the Control Of Parking ByeLaws and the area of application relates to public "on" and "off street" parking places, taken into charge / maintenance of the Council, but excluding Co Hall, Tallaght.

These prohibitions and restrictions are managed under contract to a single operator (Parkrite) which does not provide for clamping.

SDCC Transport Department has no remit in the clamping of vehicles at the Quarter, City West

### **H9/0325 Item ID:86352**

Proposed by Transportation

New Works (No Business)

### **C10/0325 Item ID:86339**

Proposed by Transportation

Correspondence (No Business)

### **M4/0325 Item ID:86530**

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff Seconded by Cllr J. Spear

That this Area Committee calls on the Manager to commence a programme of removing graffiti from public light poles in the Tallaght area.

**REPORT:**

Our maintenance contractor AREL only carry out this task if we request them to at a specific location. In addition, we only accept requests from residents and elected members for the removal of offensive graffiti.

 If you provide us with a list of specific locations of offensive graffiti, we will then review the number of poles in question, given budget constraints.

There were contributions from Cllr M. Duff, Cllr N. Whelan and Cllr K. Keane

Gary Walsh, Senior Engineer, agreed to pass the query in relation to the Council supplying paint to Sharon Conroy

The Motion was **AGREED**

## **Planning**

### **Q21/0325 Item ID:86541**

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

Can the manager please report on the plan to manage and maintain heritage buildings in Tallaght Village, including St Dominic's Hall, Tallaght village?

**REPLY:**

Protected Structures and historic buildings which add to the character of Tallaght Village Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) are protected under Part IV of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and managed by policy under SDCC County Development Plan 2022-2028.  The routine maintenance of protected structures and historic buildings in the ACA is the responsibility of the owner/occupiers.

Previous reports have been made in relation to St. Dominic’s Hall in Tallaght Village.  St. Dominic's Hall was damaged by fire during December 2022.  The property is owned by the Dominican Order, Tallaght Priory and therefore any plans to refurbish the building is the responsibility of the owners.  The owners can seek pre-planning advice for works or future use from SDCC Planning Dept. This building is not a Protected Structure.

### **H10/0325 Item ID:86463**

Proposed by Housing Administration

"Tallaght Town Centre LAP - Extension".

**REPLY:**

The elected members of South Dublin County Council resolved to make the Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan on 8th June 2020 and the Plan has effect from 20th July 2020.

Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 introduced a provision that amended Section 19 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, whereby a Planning Authority may extend the life of an existing Local Area Plan (LAP), which is normally 6 years, for a further 4 years i.e. up to a total of 10 years from adoption. This is dependent on the Planning Authority resolving to extend the life of the Plan within 5 years of its original adoption date.

**Legislative Context**

The process set out in Section 19 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 (as amended) provides that the members can resolve to extend the life of a Local Area Plan following receipt from the Chief Executive of:

(i) an opinion that the Local Area Plan remains consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the relevant development plan,

(ii) an opinion that the objectives of the LAP have not been substantially secured, and

(iii) Confirmation that the sending and publishing of notices to commence the review of the LAP may be deferred and the period for which they may be deferred**.**

The purpose of this briefing is, therefore, to demonstrate that: -

* The Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan remains consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028; and
* The objectives of the Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan 2020 have not been substantially secured.

Considerations

* Consistency with National, Regional, and Local Policies
* Progress to date with respect of URDF investment (Public Realm, 4th Stand of Tallaght Stadium, Innovation Centre, Airton Road, Sean Walshe Park Astro Pitches), Active Travel and Development in the wider Tallaght Area
* Need for increased compact growth and housing delivery in areas with high frequency transport links (LUAS and BusConnects), as well as close to services, retail, employment and education hubs
* Covid-19  Pandemic:

In 2019 and 2020, a worldwide pandemic occurred, Covid-19, caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), impacted daily life until January/February 2022.

As well as the major strain on Ireland's healthcare service, the pandemic measures severely damaged Ireland's economy, disrupted construction and had far-reaching impacts on society, including house building and delivery of services and infrastructure during the pandemic period. Many of these impacts are still being felt, almost 5 years on from the formal beginning of the pandemic.

The pandemic impacted the first number of months relating to the implementation of the LAP from June 2020 to Feb 2022 (approx. 20 months)

This is an additional consideration to factor in with regard to the Tallaght Town Centre LAP, as the pandemic timeline had a significant impact on the early implementation of the LAP.

**Conclusion**

Thus, it is considered, that while some areas of the LAP have seen significant achievement with regard the delivery of the objectives, the overall delivery of housing and wider objectives and phasing has not progressed significantly to date and cannot be said to have been substantially secured at this moment.

Therefore, it is recommended that the LAP be extended to align with the expiry of the current SDCC County Development Plan 2022-2028.

[HI 10 PRESENTATION](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85596)

Hazel Craigie, Senior Planner, gave the presentation on the Tallaght Town Centre LAP – Extension

There were contributions from Cllr L. Dunne, Cllr P. Holohan, Cllr J. Spear and Cllr M. Duff

The Report was **NOTED**

### **H11/0325 Item ID:86350**

Proposed by Planning

New Works (No Business)

### **C11/0325 Item ID:86337**

Proposed by Planning

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Economic Development**

### **Q22/0325 Item ID:86495**

Proposed by Councillor L. Dunne

The closure of local businesses, such as Bliss Cafe in St Dominic's Shopping Centre, highlights the economic challenges facing the community. While it is encouraging that the cafe has reopened under new ownership and retained most of its staff, what initiatives are being considered to support and revitalize local businesses in Tallaght? Additionally, how can the Council assist in addressing the challenges faced by small enterprises in the area?

**REPLY:**

Local Enterprise Offices provide a range of complementary supports to support people who want to start up or grow a business.  The supports range from providing an initial "First Stop Shop" service where individuals can receive advice on the steps involved in setting up a business, to the provision of grants for feasibility studies, provision of financial support for the establishment of new businesses or expansion of existing ones and the provision of a range of soft supports such as training and mentoring.

Financial supports are available to qualifying businesses only, in the establishment and/or growth phase of their business and who employ up to ten people.  Businesses operating in the domestic market (regardless of numbers employed) such as sole traders, micro businesses and small and medium sized companies may avail of the soft supports available from the Local Enterprise Office, such as First Stop Shop, Mentoring and/or Training programmes.

The range of supports is designed to assist businesses to grow by being able to provide targeted, and appropriate, assistance at each stage of their development. These supports are outlined in more detail on the Local Enterprise Office South Dublin website under the following:

* [Financial Supports](https://www.localenterprise.ie/discover-business-supports/financial-supports/financial-supports.html)
* [First Stop Shop](https://www.localenterprise.ie/Discover-Business-Supports/First-Stop-Shop/First-Stop-Shop.html)
* [Training Programmes](https://www.localenterprise.ie/Discover-Business-Supports/Training-Programmes/Training-Programmes.html)
* [Mentoring](https://www.localenterprise.ie/discover-business-supports/mentoring/mentoring.html)

The government announced two particular support to aid small businesses on their sustainability and their digitalisation journeys. Both grants outlined below are open to businesses with 1 to 50 employees subject to eligibility criteria.

**Green for Business and Energy Efficiency Grants**

The Energy Efficiency Grant supports the investment in technologies and equipment of enterprises **following on from a Green for Business Report, GreenStart Report or a SEAI Energy Audit** with 75% of eligible costs from a minimum grant of €750 to a maximum of €10,000. The aim of the scheme is to reduce the impact of enterprises on the environment thereby increasing the agility and resilience of these businesses, to operate in a sustainable manner.  The support provided should be to support the recommendations of one of the above reports.

This scheme supports all aspects of sustainability project expenditure associated with the operation of an enterprise including water; energy; circular economy etc. Enterprises should be signposted to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland for grant aid in respect of the building they are located in.

**Grow Digital Grant**

The Grow Digital Voucher, also called the Grow Digital Grant, offers vital financial support to help Irish SMEs thrive in the digital age.

This government-backed initiative, funded by Ireland’s Digital Transition Fund as part of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, provides up to €5,000 in funding for digital tools and training.

The Grow Digital Voucher empowers SMEs to streamline operations with cutting-edge software, reach new customers through digital channels, and stay competitive in today’s tech-driven market. Along with financial assistance, you’ll receive expert guidance on assessing your digital capabilities and tailored support to enhance your online presence.

All of these supports can be checked out on the [www.localenterprise.ie/southdublin](http://www.localenterprise.ie/southdublin) website.

South Dublin County Council offer additional supports to retailers and micro businesses.

**Shop Front Grant**

Retailers can avail of a Shop Front Grant to support renovation and access alterations to their retail unit The Shop Front Grant Scheme is intended to improve the appearance of independently owned shops fronting public streets. Grants are available to improve the look of your shopfront (50% of the overall cost of works). Example Grant with overall approved costs of €1,200: SDCC pay €600 - you pay €600.

Grants are available for something as simple as painting your shop, replacing signage or even replacing your entire shopfront, certain T&C’s may apply.

**Business Support Fund**

Micro businesses can avail of grant supports for renovation of vacant industrial unts under the Business Support Fund. Two of the funds support physical works and are aimed at encouraging occupiers to improve the investment potential of industrial estates or units in which they are resident, in particular those industrial estates experiencing high levels of obsolescence, dereliction, vacancy and abandonment. Two of the funds are specifically aimed at supporting existing small scale businesses and start-up businesses utilising previously vacant units.  In summary the four funds are as follows:-

***Industrial Area Improvement Schemes***

This fund applies to groups of businesses that are in a position through a management company or other mechanism to work together to upgrade a wider, larger part of their industrial area.

***Individual Unit Supports***

South Dublin County Council will also support businesses that wish to upgrade their external, public facing property. The Council will support upgrade works such as boundary treatment, wall repair, painting, landscaping, and other works that contribute positively to the appearance of their premises. Applications can be made on an individual basis.

***Microenterprise Development Fund***

This fund will apply whereby an owner seeks support to upgrade an existing vacant premises for the purposes of enabling new employment, microenterprise or innovation use.

***Microenterprise/Start-up Support (Rates)***

In order to encourage new micro enterprise, the following graduated “rates holiday” for up to two years is available. Where previously vacant enterprise space, is made available to, and occupied by, a new microenterprise, (less than 10 employees).

Check link [Business Support Fund - Local Enterprise Office - SouthDublin](https://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/Enterprise-Development/Business-Support-Fund/)

### **H12/0325 Item ID:86345**

Proposed by Economic Development

New Works (No Business)

### **C12/0325 Item ID:86333**

Proposed by Economic Development

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Libraries Arts**

### **H13/0325 Item ID:86328**

Proposed by Libraries Arts

Application for Arts Grants

[Arts office programme](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85729)

Meabh Butler, Assistant Arts Officer, gave a presentation on Arts Programmes

There were contributions from Cllr L. Dunne

The Report was **NOTED**

### **H14/0325 Item ID:86342**

Proposed by Libraries Arts

Library News & Events

[Library Event Stats](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85557)
[Tallaght Library Report March 2025](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85564)

Emma McDonald, Executive Librarian, gave the presentation on Library News and Events

There were contributions from Cllr M. Duff and Cllr L. Dunne

The Report was **NOTED**

### **H15/0325 Item ID:86348**

Proposed by Libraries Arts

NEW WORKS (No Business)

### **C13/0325 Item ID:86335**

Proposed by Libraries Arts

Correspondence (No Business)

There was no further business and the meeting ended at 4.09 p.m.