

DEPUTATION MEETING REPORT

Date & Time: Wednesday the 23rd of April 2025 @2.30pm

Deputation Group: Tallaght Tidy Towns

Deputation Group attendees: Tara De Buitlear, Sinead Tighe, Peter Daly, Norman Kelly, Liz Kennedy.

Elected Members: (Chair) Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr Niamh Whelan, Cllr Adam Smyth.

Council Officials: Meabh Butler (Assistant Arts Officer), Brendan Radmond (Senior Executive Parks), Alison Somerville (SO Community Dept), Cathrine White (SSO Community Dept), Fionnuala Keane (SEO Community Dept) Farhan Nasiem (Senior Executive Engineer), Claire Cummins (Senior Executive Engineer).

*Cllr Mick Duff presided. *

Items Discussed

Item 1 – Requests for planting of spring bulb (daffs, muscari and crocuses) planting for Autumn 2025 in suggested prominent areas.

Brendan Redmond (Senior Executive Parks) replied to the groups query:

Commitment given: The Manager thanked Tara for her detailed submission and committed to considering it as part of next year's Public Realm Works Programme, which South Dublin County Council presents to the Councillors for approval at year-end. He acknowledged that some of the proposed locations and clearances appeared limited, which may raise concerns. The Manager also indicated that the roundabout and main entrance to Tallaght Village could be reviewed as potential sites for planting.

Item 2 – Historic Public Art – Request for signage & information plaque for current statues (dancing girls) on Main Street/ & request for commission of a new statue.

Meabh Butler (Assistant Arts Officer) replied to the groups query:

Commitment given: The Manager provided a brief overview of her role and that of the Arts Office within the community. As this is a newly established position, the opportunity for long-term planning has only recently become possible. However, due to budgetary constraints, significant forward planning will not commence until 2026.

She acknowledged that signage is currently insufficient at many public sculptures and expressed a commitment to addressing this. Plans include developing activity sheets related to existing public sculptures and collaborating with local schools to enhance engagement and interpretation.

In the coming months, the Arts Office will focus on developing a comprehensive public art strategy. This plan will aim to consolidate the various funding streams available for public art, with particular attention given to heritage and memorial artworks. This initiative will be a major focus for 2026 and will align with national public art guidelines.

Item 3 – Standardise and harmonise appropriate village style street furniture – (lamp posts, bollards, bins and barriers). Speaker for Item 3:

Claire Cummins (Senior Executive Engineer), Farhan Nasiem (Senior Executive Engineer) replied to the groups query:

Commitment given: The Manager advised that much of their work focuses on village enhancement schemes and confirmed that a scheme for Tallaght is planned. She noted that the project would incorporate a range of ideas, including those put forward by the group, and emphasised the importance of cohesive design ensuring that street furniture elements are well-integrated and complementary.

The Manager also highlighted that there would be a public consultation process, involving all stakeholders, including the general public, interested parties, and Councillors. This will provide an opportunity for submissions and ensure the process remains transparent and inclusive.

Regarding the Part 8 planning query, the Manager stated that whether the scheme falls under Part 8 will depend on its scale, but it is likely that such a process will be required.

Item 4 – Additional signage advertising disabled parking and signage around parking in general.

Farhan Nasiem (Senior Executive Engineer) replied to the groups query:

Commitment given: The Manager confirmed that several measures agreed at last year's meeting have been implemented, including the installation of bollards to deter illegal parking. Any continued parking infringements, he noted, now fall under the remit of An Garda Síochána or, where applicable, the parking wardens.

He further reported that all accessible (disabled) parking bays are in place, with the exception of one outstanding sign, which will be rectified shortly. The installation of any additional signage must comply with Chapters 5 and 7 of the Traffic Signs Manual, limiting what can be erected without statutory approval.

Finally, the Manager indicated that the feasibility of installing dished (dropped-kerb) crossings at proposed locations will be examined as part of the forthcoming public realm enhancement projects.

The meeting ended as there was no other business.