

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of South Dublin County Council October 2025 County Council
Meeting held on Monday 13th October 2025.

PRESENT

Adelaide, D.	Kearns, P.
Barnes, S.	Lawlor, B.
Brady, C.	Mannion, R.
Carey, W.	McCrave, L.
Collins, Y.	McManus, D.
Casserly, V.	Moore, G.
Cosgrave, P.	Murphy, E.
de Courcy, L.	Ó Broin, E.
Donnelly, D.	O'Hara, S.
Duff, M.	O'Toole, L.
Dunne, L.	Pereppadan, Baby
Edge, A.	Pereppadan, Britto
Farrell, H.	Richardson, D.
Gilligan, T.	Smyth, A.
Hayes, A.	Spear, J.
Holohan, P.	Timmons, F.
Johansson, M.	Tuffy, J.
Keane, K.	Whelan, N.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Chief Executive	C. Ward.
Directors	J. Frehill, E. Burke, T. Walsh, E. Leech, L. Maxwell, R. FitzGerald.
County Architect	C. Harte
Senior Executive Officer	B. Shannon
Communications Manager	D. Healy
Administrative Officer	M. Reilly
Senior Executive Architect	P. Harrington
Senior Staff Officer	K. McLoughlin
Staff Officer	P. Mens
Assistant Staff Officer	A. Holohan

The Mayor, Councillor P. Kearns, presided.

Apologies were received from Councillors N. Fennell, R. McMahon and J. Sinnott.

WEBCASTING NOTICE

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Therefore, by entering the Council Chamber and using the seats around the meeting tables, public gallery etc. you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting.

The Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns, welcomed everyone and informed the Members of the etiquette for Hybrid Meetings:

Members attending remotely must check that they can access the “Chat Function” before commencing the meeting.

Members can indicate they wish to speak on an item through the chat function – using “Speak please.”

Members must be able to be seen, specifically for roll call, when speaking and voting.

Mics to be on mute until invited to speak through the Chair.

Members attending in person can indicate they wish to speak by signalling to the Chair.

H1/1025 CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of the September Council Meeting held on 8th September 2025 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED**.

(a) September 2025 Council Minutes

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 19th September 2025 which had been circulated were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed in the proposition of Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor D. McManus and **AGREED**.

(b) September 2025 Special Meeting of County Council

H2/1025 REPORTS OF AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING

a) Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

b) Clondalkin Area Committee

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

c) Tallaght Area Committee

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

d) Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin Area Committee

Dealing with Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

H3/1025 STANDING COMMITTEES ORGANISATION, PROCEDURE & FINANCE - FOR APPROVAL

The following reports by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, were presented by Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Community and were **CONSIDERED**:

- [\(a\) Calendar September to December 2025](#)
- [\(b\) International Travel For Elected Members](#)
- [\(c\) Report on Conferences & Training](#)

The reports were **APPROVED** on the proposition of Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED**.

H4/1025 STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING

a) Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC

- [HI 4 \(a\) \(i\) Report of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC Meeting held on 3rd September 2025](#)
- [HI 4 \(a\) \(ii\) Minutes of Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC Meeting held on 7th May 2025](#)

b) Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

- [HI 4 \(b\) \(i\) Report of Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC 2nd September 2025](#)
- [HI 4 \(b\) \(ii\) Minutes of Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC held on 6th May 2025](#)

c) Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

- [HI 4 \(c\) \(i\) Report of Economic Development meeting 10th September 2025](#)
- [HI 4 \(c\) \(ii\) Minutes of Economic Development meeting 14th May 2025](#)

d) Housing

- [HI 4 \(d\) \(i\) Report of the Housing SPC held 11th Sept 2025](#)
- [HI 4 \(d\) \(ii\) Minutes of the Housing SPC held 8th May 2025](#)

e) Social Community Equality and Integration

- [HI 4 \(e\) \(ii\) Minutes of Social Community Equality and Integration SPC May 14th](#)

f) Land Use Planning and Transport

- [HI 4 \(f\) \(ii\) Minutes of May 2025 LUPT SPC](#)

The reports were **NOTED**.

H5/1025 REPORTS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMITTEES - FOR NOTING

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor A. Smyth and **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No. 22, Questions numbered Q1 – Q24 be ADOPTED and APPROVED”

Q1/1025 Councillor Y. Collins

To ask for details of the Council's local climate adaptation strategies, how it is investing in green infrastructure, and details of the supports available for community led resilience initiatives

REPLY:

Adaptation measures in the current Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 build on work achieved in the previous CCAP 2019-2024 to safeguard the county from the impacts of climate change.

Practical actions such as flood alleviation schemes on the River Poddle, the Whitechurch Stream, and the River Camac are being progressed, with both the River Poddle and Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation schemes currently at construction stage. These schemes will reduce the impacts of fluvial flooding, taking into account projected climate changes.

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) are also being implemented to better manage rainfall and surface water and to build resilience for the additional pressures of climate change. SuDS are a way of managing rainfall that mimics the drainage processes found in nature to address the issues with conventional drainage, such as constrained capacity. The approach to SuDS compliments a further adaptation strategy of gully and stormwater network maintenance works, to manage capacity in the network for surface water runoff.

To support the SuDS approach, SDCC published a ‘*Sustainable Drainage Explanatory Design and Evaluation Guide*’ in 2022, providing developers with practical direction on incorporating SuDS into new projects. The guidance, now mandatory for all new developments, aligns with the county’s Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy. Its goal is to create multifunctional spaces that not only regulate water quantity and quality but also enhance biodiversity and improve local amenities.

“A Householders Guide to SuDS” was also developed for South Dublin Residents, as an ‘easy to use’ practical guidance for smaller scale domestic SuDS application.

Information on Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) may be found here, including the helpful guides, mentioned above:

<https://sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/environmental-health/natural-water/sustainable-drainage-systems/sustainable-drainage-systems-suds.html>

Other adaptation strategies include the promotion of alternative systems, such as brine, for the treatment of roads during cold weather. This solution provides a faster acting treatment and uses less salt, while increasing the residual salt on the road. It adheres better to road surfaces, further reducing the amount of salt wasted through ‘bounce off’, and results in environmental benefits with less salt being spread.

To further strengthen our adaptation strategies, there is an action to identify any areas that might be vulnerable to the impacts of increased heat effects due to climate change.

The importance of green infrastructure in relation to climate adaptation is recognised. SDCC have a comprehensive Green Infrastructure (GI) Strategy which is implemented daily across the County, and which is also integrated into the development management processes. The strategy focusses on the protection and enhancement of Green Infrastructure corridors and utilises measures such as the meadow management programme, mini woodlands, hedgerow management, invasive species removal and tree planting. It also includes the protection of riparian corridors and the development of wetlands. These initiatives receive a high level of community support and cooperation.

The GI Strategy is also implemented internally every day in how Public Realm carries out management and maintenance operations in Parks and Open Spaces. The focus is on protecting and enhancing existing habitats, creating new habitats and linking habitats to develop corridors for nature. This approach is also taken in the development of all new parks and the upgrading of existing parks.

The recent Parks and Open Space Strategy focuses on creating multi-functional green spaces that support biodiversity, provide recreational opportunities, and contribute to the County’s green infrastructure network.

Green Infrastructure is a key consideration in SDCC's planning policies. Green Infrastructure must be considered as part of every planning application where Applicants must evaluate their site in terms of the wider Green Infrastructure of the County and include that in their applications. SDCC were also the first local authority in Ireland to implement a Green Space Factor in all developments. This has had a very positive impact on the quality of developments being approved across the county. SDCC are also leading the way in the implementation of Nature Based Solutions, such as SUDs. As well as managing stormwater to reduce floods, SUDs are used to improve biodiversity and create Green Infrastructure Corridors.

Through these initiatives, SDCC is ensuring investment in green infrastructure. SDCC is implementing the GI Strategy directly through its own developments and management practices and it is also ensuring GI is developed across the County with every new Planning/Development site.

For **community led climate resilience initiatives**, funding may be sought by eligible groups from the Community Climate Action Programme.

Actions across climate mitigation and climate resilience are supported by the fund. For climate resilience, examples may include installing Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), ranging from smaller interventions like water butts and rainwater planters up to larger projects such as mini wetlands. Other examples may include supporting the County's Green Infrastructure Strategy by creating more green community areas that absorb carbon, are thriving with biodiversity, and that help us adapt to the impacts of climate change, or by planting native trees and hedgerows. Groups are also encouraged to explore innovative climate resilience projects not listed above that meet the objectives of the Programme.

With funding from the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, a new call for applications will open 28 October 2025, with a total fund of €1.073 million available in South Dublin.

Interested groups and organisations should contact climatechange@sdublincoco.ie to discuss further.

More information on the Community Climate Action Programme is available at <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/climate-action/community-climate-action-programme/>

Q2/1025

Councillor Y. Collins

To ask the Council to set out the steps it takes where it has been notified of a clear and ongoing breach or breaches of planning permission and the timescale involved in this process

REPLY:

A guide to Planning Enforcement

Statutory Basis:

Planning enforcement is currently legislated under Part VIII of the Planning and Development Act 2000 AS AMENDED (soon to be replaced by Part 11 of the Planning and Development Act 2024).

The effectiveness of planning legislation to plan for and manage the development of urban and rural areas is dependent on an enforcement system that can enforce breaches of planning control speedily and efficiently.

Planning Enforcement should seek:

- that planning permissions and any conditions attached to the permissions are complied with;
- that, insofar as is practicable, any land is restored to its condition prior to any unauthorised development having taken place; and
- to address breaches of planning control which would have an unacceptable impact on the amenities of an area

Unauthorised:

“Unauthorised development” means, in relation to land, the carrying out of any unauthorised works (including the construction, erection or making of any unauthorised structure) or the making of any unauthorised use;

“Unauthorised structure” means a structure other than— (a) a structure which was in existence on 1 October 1964, or (b) a structure, the construction, erection or making of which was the subject of a permission for development granted under Part IV of the Act of 1963 or deemed to be such under section 92 of that Act or under section 34, 37G or 37N or 293 of the 2000 Act, being a permission which has not been revoked, or which exists as a result of the carrying out of exempted development (within the meaning of section 4 of the Act of 1963 or section 4 of the 2000 Act).

“Unauthorised use” means, in relation to land, use commenced on or after 1 October 1964, being a use which is a material change in use of any structure or other land and being development other than—

(a) exempted development (within the meaning of section 4 of the Act of 1963 or section 4 of the 2000 Act), or

(b) development which is the subject of a permission granted under Part IV of the Act of 1963 or under section 34, 37G, 37N or 293 of the 2000 Act, being a permission which has not been revoked, and which is carried out in compliance with that permission or any condition to which that permission is subject.

“Unauthorised works” means any works on, in, over or under land commenced on or after 1 October 1964, being development other than—

(a) exempted development (within the meaning of section 4 of the Act of 1963 or section 4 of the 2000 Act), or

(b) development which is the subject of a permission granted under Part IV of the Act of 1963 or under section 34, 37G, 37N or 293 of the 2000 Act, being a permission which has not been revoked, and which is carried out in compliance with that permission or any condition to which that permission is subject

Process & Procedure

The legislation sets processes and procedures, including statutory time limits for enforcement proceedings within which complaints of planning infringements must be investigated. It establishes a common procedure for all type of planning offence – issue of a Warning Letter, service of an Enforcement Notice and commencement of legal proceedings.

Where a **"Warning Letter"** (S.152) has been issued, the planning authority affords the recipient a statutory four week period to respond and must carry out an investigation into the alleged unauthorised development. If the planning authority determines that unauthorised development has taken place, it must also determine whether the requirements of the warning letter have been met before taking further action.

The planning authority should, where possible, make its decision on further action within 12 weeks of sending the warning letter. Further action will normally take the form of an enforcement notice requiring the person concerned to rectify the situation.

An **"Enforcement Notice"** (S.154) will normally request specific action to be taken within a specific period.

On the expiration of an Enforcement Notice, a Planning Officer will visit the site to confirm whether or not the Enforcement Notice has been adhered to.

If the Enforcement Notice has been adhered to, a planning report is prepared and a Decision Memo signed with recommendation issued for the closing of the file and all parties notified of the decision.

Should the Enforcement Notice be found not to have been complied with, then a planning report is prepared and a Decision Memo signed with a recommendation for prosecution under Section 154(8) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

7 Year Limit:

For both Warning Letters and Enforcement Notices the 7 year limit runs either from:

- the date of commencement of development (for development without a planning permission), OR
- for seven years following the expiry of the planning permission.

Summary Prosecutions:

Legal proceedings should initiate with the registered owner(s) of the property. Where summary prosecutions are instituted, these must commence

- within 6 six months of the offence being committed , OR,
- within 6 six months of sufficient evidence being available to justify, whichever is later.

Q3/1025 Councillor Y. Collins

To ask the Chief Executive how the Council proposes to build in digital offerings, support digital transitions, and design effective online services to maximise public engagement with Council initiatives, projects and resources

REPLY:

The cornerstone of South Dublin County Council's digital strategy is the procurement of a modern, scalable Digital Services Platform designed to meet the Council's evolving requirements. This platform will enhance public engagement and operational efficiency through accessible, mobile-first, and where appropriate human operated AI-enabled services that promote self-service, automation, and seamless integration with national systems.

To realise this vision, the Council will advance its digital transformation through cloud-based infrastructure, support for hybrid

working models, and robust change management initiatives. The overarching goal is to ensure that all services delivered are inclusive, responsive, and aligned with the dynamic needs of our communities.

Building in Digital Offerings

South Dublin County Council is advancing a Digital First, Mobile First strategy, ensuring all operational interfaces are optimised for seamless access across devices and locations. Solutions will be intuitive, responsive, and capable of leveraging mobile features such as cameras, GPS, and push notifications to enhance user experience and streamline case management. A dedicated mobile application for Android and iOS is essential, with white-labelling to reflect Council branding and enable publication via official SDCC accounts. The platform will also deliver a comprehensive end-to-end digital experience that is faster, more accurate, and easier to use for both customers and staff. Enhanced tracking, reporting, and accessibility are key, with artificial intelligence—under human oversight—supporting automation, predictive analytics, and data-driven decision-making to improve responsiveness and service delivery.

In addition, the Council is committed to enabling 24/7 self-service, allowing customers to create accounts, raise issues, and engage with services independently of support hours—enhancing accessibility and inclusivity. An omnichannel communication strategy will offer flexibility and convenience by supporting preferred contact methods such as WhatsApp, SMS, and email. The platform will also integrate seamlessly with national and local services, leveraging the national service catalogue for consistency and incorporating MyGovID.ie for secure, unified citizen authentication.

Supporting Digital Transitions

To underpin digital transformation, the Council has embedded digital resourcing into its Strategic Workforce Planning process, aligned with the Corporate Plan 2025–2029. Key roles such as the Digital Transformation Manager and Developer have been established to lead innovation and platform development, with a focus on meeting national targets for 90% digital service consumption by 2030. Through organisational restructuring, reallocation of staff, and the creation of a rebranded Digital function, the Council ensures its digital initiatives are strategically resourced, scalable, and responsive to evolving service demands.

South Dublin County Council is implementing a hosted Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) digital platform to eliminate the need for internal infrastructure management and enable seamless data migration from

existing systems. This transition supports a hybrid work environment, allowing staff to operate effectively both remotely and on-site, ensuring continuity and flexibility in service delivery. The Council expects the chosen supplier to provide comprehensive support—including system testing, user training, and ongoing development—to facilitate smooth adoption and long-term sustainability.

Designing Effective Online Services to Maximise Public Engagement

South Dublin County Council's digital platform will be fully accessible and inclusive, complying with Ireland's National Disability Authority standards and WCAG 2.1 AA to support users with disabilities and assistive technologies. Accessibility features will be available in both English and Irish, with built-in feedback mechanisms to support continuous improvement. The platform will also offer multilingual support and provide tailored self-service portals for various user groups—including elected members, media, and committees—alongside a secure customer portal for managing requests and accessing information. A dedicated frontline mobile app will enable field staff to interact with jobs and tasks in real time, including offline functionality, GPS integration, media capture, and secure authentication.

To maximise engagement, the platform will incorporate natural language processing to deliver conversational interfaces, intelligent automation, and predictive analytics that personalise user experiences and proactively address citizen needs. Sentiment analysis and feedback tools will help the Council monitor satisfaction and identify areas for enhancement. For location-based services such as pothole reporting, geolocation and mapping features will allow users to pinpoint issues with precision, improving service accuracy and responsiveness. Advanced search capabilities will further support users in finding relevant information quickly and easily.

Maximising Engagement with Council Initiatives, Projects, and Resources

South Dublin County Council is committed to proactive and inclusive digital service design that prioritises customer self-service and tailored support to drive higher satisfaction and engagement. The platform will harness data-driven analysis and reporting to identify trends, improve operational efficiency, and adapt services to meet evolving community needs. By integrating with existing Council systems—including housing, planning, and other core functions—the

SDCC platform will break down data silos and enable a unified, seamless service experience for both staff and citizens.

To ensure long-term success, the infrastructure will be scalable and future-proofed, capable of supporting hundreds of public services and can adapt to growing demands. This approach will foster greater collaboration across departments, improve visibility of Council initiatives, and empower residents to engage more meaningfully with local projects and resources.

Q4/1025

Councillor H. Farrell

To ask the Chief Executive to make a statement on what additional resources, supports, and inter-agency collaboration may be required for SDCC to effectively meet the Government's revised annual housing delivery target of 3,217 new dwellings per year, up to 2034.

REPLY:

The Government recently issued revised housing supply targets for local authorities through the 'National Planning Framework (NPF) Implementation – Housing Growth Requirements' Guidelines for Planning Authorities ('the 2025 Guidelines'). For SDCC, the new baseline annual housing growth requirement for the County is 3,217 new dwellings per annum up to 2034 and 2,414 from 2035-2040. These are the cumulative delivery targets across all types of housing for the County.

The current County Development Plan 2022-2028 provides for growth of 15,576 new dwellings (2,613 per annum) to meet the targets at time of adoption. Current delivery is broadly in line with the 2022 targets at c.2,500 per annum, as per SDCC data: Housing Supply Monitor.

A Report to the Elected Members, including a review of the adequacy of existing zoned lands is presented at this meeting as a Headed Item.

The Programme for Government 2025 includes the introduction of a new, all of government national housing plan to follow Housing for All, underpinned by a multi-annual funding commitment for cost rental and affordable purchase homes and local authority social housing build programmes. It is expected that the detail of new national housing plan with revised SDCC delivered housing targets will be published at the end of October/ early November.

SDCC will continue to engage with the various sections of the Department of Housing and Local Government (DHLGH), including the new Housing Activation Office (HAO) and other key stakeholders

and landowners, to maximise collaboration, resource support and capital funding opportunities to deliver housing in the County.

Q5/1025

Councillor H. Farrell

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the dates for the remaining phases of Bus Connects, and summary of changes expected in each remaining phase.

REPLY:

There are 12no. core bus corridors planned for Dublin. It is expected that all twelve Dublin core bus corridors will be completed by 2030. The construction of the bus corridors will be delivered on a phased basis by the NTA in order to reduce the traffic impacts that could arise should all twelve be constructed concurrently. There are 3no. schemes in the South Dublin County Council local authority area and these are explained in more detail below:

Liffey Valley to City Centre Core Bus Corridor:

The National Transport Authority has signed a contract with GMC Group Ltd. for the detailed design and construction of a 9.2 km route Core Bus Corridor from Liffey Valley to the city centre, which partly runs through South Dublin local authority.

The estimated total scheme cost of the route will be up to €274 million. Construction will be commencing in December 2025, and the works will continue for around three years and are due to conclude in early 2028. I attach a detailed design and construction programme for this scheme.

Clondalkin and Tallaght to the City Centre Core Bus Corridor:

The Tallaght / Clondalkin to City Centre Core Bus Corridors measures approximately 15.5km with an additional offline cycling facility approximately 3.9km in length consisting of two sections, namely the Tallaght to City Centre section and the Clondalkin to Drimnagh section.

The detailed design and construction contract for this scheme is expected to be signed by mid year of 2026 with construction starting at the end of 2026.

Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor:

The third scheme in South Dublin is the Rathfarnham to City Centre core bus corridor scheme, which is expected to start after the Clondalkin scheme is progressing.

Additional Bus Route upgrades and Improved Bus services:

In addition to the core bus routes above, the NTA and SDCC are improving a number of bus routes with local infrastructure improvements such as new bus stops, upgraded existing bus stops, and bus hub improvements. Two new bus hubs at Liffey Valley and Adamstown are now in place, and a new bus hub in Tallaght is planned as part of the core bus corridor delivery.

The aim on these bus routes is to improve the bus infrastructure along the routes, increase bus frequency and comfort and to improve journey time reliability. Several new routes have been upgraded such as the C spine, W spine, and G spine routes under these initiatives.

As passenger demand increases, especially to serve the new development areas in our county, additional bus routes and increased frequency of service will be delivered. This has happened in Adamstown, where the C spine routes have been expanded as the development has been completed.

Therefore, there is expected to be several key bus and active travel improvement schemes delivered in our county over the next 5 years, which will significantly add to the sustainable travel options in our Local Authority.

Q5 (b) Liffey Valley to City Centre bus corridor programme

Q6/1025

Councillor N. Fennell

To ask the Chief Executive if there is a time period for an applicants Garda clearance and if so how long is does the applicants Garda clearance have to be in days/months/years

REPLY:

Section 15 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1997 provides for housing authorities to request 'Garda Checks' in respect of persons applying for social housing. When an offer of housing with the council has been accepted by an applicant(s) a request is then issued to the relevant Garda station in respect all persons over 18 years old in the household. An applicant must have two years Garda clearance at the time of acceptance for a council property.

Year	Number of Garda checks requested	Average turnaround time
2025 to date	2289	1 week

Q7/1025

Councillor E. Ó Broin

To ask the Chief Executive if he prioritises SDCC social housing dwellings with the lowest Building Energy Ratings (e.g. E, F, G) when determining which ones to apply energy efficiency retrofits to?

REPLY:

The selection of homes for inclusion in the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is based on several key criteria. These criteria include the age of the property, the condition of existing windows and doors, the current heating source, and the type of dwelling (e.g., age-friendly). Stock condition surveys are also utilised to provide an additional layer of data to aid in the selection of suitable homes. Attic insulation, condition of windows and doors and existing heating source are all examined as part for the survey.

Homes that satisfy the criteria are then listed for inclusion in the programme ensuring that there is an even distribution of retrofitting works across our social housing stock throughout the county.

Q8/1025

Councillor E. Ó Broin

To ask the Chief Executive if any by laws exist that would allow Park Rangers to address speeding e-scooters and scramblers in public parks?

REPLY:

In accordance with the South Dublin County Council Bye-Laws for Parks and Open Spaces, no person without the permission of the council is permitted to bring into a park any mechanically propelled vehicle which includes motorcycles, motor-cross / quad bikes or other powered vehicles. In the case where a mechanically propelled vehicle is permitted access to the park, the vehicle must be driven with care on authorised routes in accordance with a maximum speed limit of 20Kph. In general, similar speed limit also applies for non-motorised bicycles, skateboards, and scooters whilst used in park areas. In addition, the Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023 provide enforcement powers for the controls of use of light vehicles such as e-bikes and e-scooters in public places, including parks.

In relation to enforcement actions to address speeding e-scooters and scramblers, SDCC Park Rangers liaise with local Gardaí on an ongoing basis to determine the most appropriate method of enforcement, either through existing bye-laws or legislation such as the Road Traffic and Roads Act 2023.

Q9/1025

Councillor E. Ó Broin

To ask the Chief Executive to describe the work that has been carried out in 2025 to implement the Cycle South Dublin programme?

REPLY:

The Cycle South Dublin programme consists of 45 projects to be delivered as 63 schemes to provide a cycle network of 263km of high-quality cycle track by 2029.

This network will build on pre-2021 schemes such as the Grand Canal Greenway, Willsbrook Road, Monastery Road and the R120 new Nangor Road to Adamstown project amongst others. The developing network will link into future Bus Connect corridors connecting South Dublin into Dublin City Centre.

A significant number of projects have already been delivered under the Cycle South Dublin programme, this includes Sections 1 to 4 of the Dodder Greenway, Avonbeg Greenway, D24 neighbourhood Network Phase 1, D12 Bike Bus Route and others. At this point in time, 50% of the Cycle South Dublin network will be delivered or will be ready to commence works. Continued delivery of the Cycle South Dublin is dependent on significant annual funding provided by the National Transport Authority.

In addition to the active travel and cycle routes, the national “Safe Routes to School” and South Dublin “Safe School Zones” schemes are developed and delivered by the Active Travel section. These schemes are included in Cycle South Dublin projects where schools are on, or adjacent to the Cycle South Dublin network. Current activity related to Cycle South Dublin is as follows.

Projects completed or due to be completed in 2025:

- Airton Road extension scheme
- Dodder Greenway section 5, Butterfield Road, Firhouse Road and Spawell Link Road
- D24 neighbourhood Network Phase 2, Ballycullen and Killinenny Road
- Castletymon Road Phase 1a, District centre to Greenhills Road
- Grand Canal to Lucan Urban Greenway - Phase 1a, Grand Canal to Esker Lane
- Grand Canal Greenway, 12th Lock to Hazelhatch

Projects currently under construction or ready to commence in 2025/early 2026:

- Templeville Phase 2 and Glendown Active Travel schemes as one project, works ongoing, to complete in summer 2026

- Castletymon Road South, to link to the Dodder Greenway
- Firhouse Road Active Travel Improvement Scheme
- Whitehall Road Active Travel Trial scheme
- Tallaght to Clondalkin Phase 1. South of Cookstown Road. This scheme is held until completion of the Uisce Éireann works on Belgard Road in 2026

Projects at design stage:

- The Canal Loop Greenway Bridge improvement works in Griffeen Park
- Wellington Lane Phase A, Orwell to Templeogue Road and Phase B Orwell to Greentrees Road

Projects at planning stage:

- Knocklyon to Ballyboden Greenway Part 8 commencing on 15th October 2025

Projects at preliminary design stage:

- Baldonnell to Grand Canal via Corkagh Park and Clondalkin feasibility and route options study.
- Esker Permeability Scheme, Stakeholder consultation and preliminary design work.
- Oldbawn Road Active travel Scheme, route design options study
- N81 Tallaght Central Strategy, route design options study

Q10/1025 Councillor E. Ó Broin

To ask the Chief Executive if AHB's are adequately staffed and adequately experienced to manage SDCC owned Social Housing apartments?

REPLY:

Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) are highly experienced in managing social housing stock. Their expertise includes acquisition, construction, refurbishment and tenancy management. AHBs operate within a regulated framework that ensures governance, financial accountability and performance standards. SDCC collaborates closely with AHBs and enters into service level agreements (SLAs) with a number of AHBs for the management and maintenance of our housing stock. Regular communication is maintained throughout the SLA term to review performance standards and facilitate proactive discussion and resolution of operational matters and estate management issues affecting either the council or the AHB.

Q11/1025 **Councillor E. Ó Broin**

To ask the Chief Executive to describe in tabular form the numbers of SDCC social housing dwellings constructed in each decade with separate columns for apartments and houses.

REPLY:

The age profile of our housing stock, categorised by decade of construction and dwelling type is detailed in the table below:

Decade	Apartment (including duplexes)	House	Total
1910-1919	0	4	4
1950-1959	18	6	24
1960-1969	14	31	45
1970-1979	43	1573	1616
1980-1989	4	4262	4266
1990-1999	43	507	550
2000-2009	1110	1657	2767
2010-2019	94	483	577
2020-2025	254	458	712
Total	1,580	8,981	10,561

Q12/1025 **Councillor J. Sinnott**

To ask the Chief Executive to advise what recourse the Council has when footpaths and other parts of the public realm are damaged by private construction work, can the costs for repairs be levied on private companies?

REPLY:

Any contractor who wants to work in the public road is required to obtain a road opening licence prior to work. Part of this application will include the contractor attaching pre-construction photos of the site.

As part of the granted licence there is generally a number of conditions attached to the licence including the re-instatement requirements. Fees are also charged as part of the licence application.

Following completion of the work, the site is inspected and if the re-instatement is correct a portion of the fees are returned. If there is any remedial works required these will be flagged to the contractor for them to action. If the contractor fails to carry out remedial work then the fees are used and the contractor can be locked out of the licencing system.

Q13/1025 Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the Chief Executive if the South Dublin County Council holds a database of residents associations and groups and whether consideration has ever been given to arranging events to bring together groups to interact, network and share ideas?

REPLY:

South Dublin County Council does not maintain a database of Residents' Associations or community groups. This function is undertaken by the South Dublin County Public Participation Network (PPN) and the public directory is available on the [PPN website here](#). The Council strongly encourages all residents' associations and community groups to register with the PPN to receive timely information on relevant initiatives, as well as opportunities to access grant schemes and other supports. In addition, the PPN regularly organises networking events to facilitate collaboration, knowledge-sharing, linkage groups, and capacity-building among its member organisations. It is through the South Dublin PPN that local community representatives for the Council's Strategic Policy Committees, the LCDC and the upcoming Community Safety Partnership, as well as other forums and committees are nominated.

Q14/1025 Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the Chief Executive in the absence of Community Safety Partnerships what mechanisms are currently in place to provide a forum for the Gardai / Local Authority and the Community to interact?

REPLY:

The establishment of the new Local Community Safety Partnership is progressing. The Council has agreed 7 nominations, and nominations are being sought from the other sectors. The nominations must be completed and submitted to the national office for community safety by 28 November, following which the Minister will formally appoint the members and the date for the inaugural meeting can then be set which means we are hopeful of the inaugural meeting happening before the end of the year. The partnership will build on the work of 4 existing forum structures across the county that all highlight the importance of interagency and community driven collaboration in developing a multi-faceted response to improve community safety.

1. The **Local Policing and Community Safety Forums** continue to operate bringing together residents, SDCC, and An Garda Síochána to address local safety concerns. These forums provide communities with a platform to be heard, build trust, and encourage collaboration, ensuring that issues such as anti-social behaviour are identified and addressed as early as possible. The following Community Safety Forums meet regularly and also hold annual public meetings:
 - West Tallaght Community Safety Forum
 - North Clondalkin Community Safety Forum
 - South West Clondalkin Community Safety Forum
 - Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Clondalkin Community Safety Forum
 - Dublin 12 Local Policing Forum
 -
- 2 The **Tallaght and Clondalkin Transport Forums** meet monthly to address anti-social behaviour on public transport with An Garda Síochána, public transport providers and SDCC actively engaging and responding as issues arise.
- 3 The **Tallaght and Clondalkin Drug and Alcohol Task Forces**, who play a key role in the identification of emerging drug and alcohol trends within the local community and are responsible for developing and implementing a local strategy. The LDATFs support a number of organisations and initiatives at a local level which provide a range of services and activities across the region.
- 4 **DRIVE (Drug Related Intimidation & Violence Engagement) Programme** is a community-based response to the harms caused by drug-related intimidation and violence. Alongside direct support, DRIVE raises awareness, strengthens community

resilience, and builds trust between residents, community services, and statutory agencies. Close collaboration exists between the partners, including An Garda Síochána, SDCC, the HSE, and local organisations.

For information, membership of the local Community Safety Partnership is capped at 30 individuals and includes the following:

- 7 County Councillors
- Senior Gardaí
- Representatives from Tusla, HSE, and SDCC executive
- Representatives from local community and voluntary bodies, local community interests, or other relevant experience or expertise. At a minimum these nominees will include:
 - 4 local resident representatives
 - 1 youth representative
 - 1 minority/new communities' representative
 - 1 social inclusion sector representative from the community & voluntary sector
 - 1 education representative
 - 1 business representative

Q15/1025 Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the Chief Executive how many small and medium enterprises in South Dublin availed of the €4,000 Power Up Grant in 2025?

REPLY:

The Power Up Grant was a €4,000 payment announced in Budget 2025 for eligible small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the hospitality, retail, and beauty sectors to help with rising costs, especially electricity. Funded by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and administered by local authorities, the grant required businesses to have received the second payment under the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) scheme in order to qualify.

South Dublin County Council began processing payments to small businesses under this scheme in December 2024 and completed payments in February 2025, a total of 1,208 small and medium sized businesses received this grant, totalling €4,832,000.

A Reclassification Appeal Process opened on the 24th July 2025 and closed on the 29th August 2025 for registrations.

The Reclassification Appeal Process allowed businesses in the retail,

hospitality and beauty sectors that misclassified their business during the initial ICOB registration period, an opportunity to amend their classification and register for those grants. South Dublin County Council have approved 125 businesses for this grant which will give a total of €500,000 in additional Power Up grants and €296,079 in additional ICOB 2 grants to businesses in the coming weeks.

Q16/1025 Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the Chief Executive if any progress has been made in relation to the provision of a Food Production Hub to support food businesses and the growth of a food cluster in South Dublin?

REPLY:

South Dublin County Council has identified a site for the proposed Food Production Hub and has recently appointed a design team with expertise in Food Production Hub design to assist with developing a draft design for the proposed facility and providing the Council with order of magnitude costs for such a development. This work is expected to be sufficiently advanced between now and year-end, which will enable the Council to review the feasibility of the proposal in detail. If satisfied with the draft design and associated construction cost plan, it is intended to bring the proposal forward for Part 8 approval, as well as preparing a detailed business case associated with the operations and governance arrangements for the management of such a facility.

If the initial feasibility work (which is currently ongoing) and review process recommends the development of the Food Production Hub, it is also intended to engage with Enterprise Ireland on this proposal and seek funding to support the development of this facility.

The Councillors and the Economic Development SPC will be kept abreast of future updates in relation to the South Dublin Food Production Hub as the project advances.

Q17/1025 Councillor A. Smyth

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the various activities held across the county for culture night, and ask are there plans for the future for SDCC to play a bigger part in Culture night?

REPLY:

Culture Night 2025 in South Dublin – Report

South Dublin County Council played a significant role in Culture Night 2025, partnering with local producers to animate venues and public spaces across the county. Eight cultural venues opened their doors in

Tallaght, Clondalkin, Lucan, Rathfarnham, and Rathcoole, including Tallaght Library, Tymon North Library, Áras Chrónáin, the Old Courthouse Rathcoole, Rathfarnham Castle, the Pearse Museum, Rua Red, and the Civic Theatre.

In addition, Lucan House grounds and Parthalán Place in Tallaght were transformed into vibrant pop-up sites for outdoor events, bringing an atmosphere of creativity, energy, and community engagement to South Dublin.

Audiences enjoyed a diverse programme of music, theatre, dance, and immersive cultural activities. With full venues, innovative performances, and inclusive programming for all ages, Culture Night reflected the breadth and diversity of South Dublin's cultural landscape.

Programme Highlights

Tallaght & Parthalán Place

The celebrations began on the afternoon of Friday, 19 September, with family-focused events at Tallaght Library. *Classical Kids*, an interactive concert, introduced children to live classical music, followed by *The Magic Show* with Murf the Magician, a lively mix of humour and illusion for families. Meanwhile, Tymon North Library hosted a performance by the Firhouse Ukulele Group. These opening events set a welcoming tone for an evening of large-scale cultural celebration.

Later that evening, Rua Red and Parthalán Place hosted **SPECTRUM**, a cross-disciplinary showcase co-produced by Rua Red, SoFFt Productions, and the South Dublin County Council Arts Office's youth music initiative, NOISE Music. Part of the national *Culture Night Late* strand, SPECTRUM offered an ambitious programme of live music, roaming performances, and immersive installations. Rua Red's Gallery 1 was transformed into a live venue featuring collectives such as BPM (Taitiu, Pixieteeth, and Polyp) and Tallaght-based Burner Records. Performances by the NOISE DJ Collective (Ellie and Keelan Flanagan) shared the stage with emerging and established artists including musicians Paolly Mabeto and Anthony McKeown, poet Sandisiwe Khupe, and the Afro Vibes dance collective.

Visuals and staging played a major role, with large-scale projections, a laser installation, and outdoor programming that included live graffiti, hip-hop, and dance by Cristian Emmanuel, Favour Odusola, and Neasa Níc Shuibhne. A neurodivergent-friendly space was also provided in Rua Red, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity.

The Civic Theatre contributed with *The Tenderwrite Readings*, a series of three short plays by emerging playwrights Aidan Kelly, Bláithín Seville, and David Rawle (ages 16–24), offering a platform for young voices in contemporary Irish theatre. Later in the evening, the Civic presented *Space Deli: The Concert*, a science-fiction romantic comedy blending live music, humour, and theatrical performance.

Lucan House

Lucan House hosted a specially curated outdoor programme by Artscope, supported by South Dublin County Council. The event drew approximately 500 attendees, with advance demand exceeding capacity. Highlights included a flash mob by The Rubik's Ensemble, a sound installation by composer Abigail Smith, and the debut performance of a new Irish music trio.

The headline act, *Nightvisiting*, led by internationally acclaimed singer and folklorist Lisa Lambe, combined traditional storytelling and song, earning enthusiastic audience acclaim. Family-friendly activities, children's events, and catering from Sleepy Panda contributed to the event's welcoming, inclusive atmosphere.

Rathcoole & Rathfarnham

The Old Courthouse in Rathcoole presented two memorable performances from renowned American singer-songwriter John Schindler, alongside appearances by Fin & Con Furey of the legendary Furey family.

Rathfarnham's heritage sites—the Pearse Museum and Rathfarnham Castle—opened for guided after-dark tours, offering visitors a unique cultural and historical experience.

For Culture Night 2026, SDCC Arts Office will again co-produce an event for the grounds of Lucan House, before moving to a different village location in 2027, animating that location and encouraging local Culture Night participation.

Performance groups and community groups in the county will be able to apply for some support in 2026 towards hosting or presenting a Culture Night performance event in the county through the South Dublin Live Open Call.

SDCC will also aim to boost the visibility of Culture Night South Dublin County investing additional time and resources to promoting events in the county.

Q18/1025 Councillor A. Smyth

To ask the Chief Executive, ahead of the presidential elections, what is being done to promote and encourage registration to vote across south county Dublin?

REPLY:

The Council's ongoing advertising campaigns promote awareness of the Register of Electors and currently coincides with the upcoming Presidential Election, this is in tandem our traditional Voter Registration drives held 2025 .

The SDCC advertising campaign includes:

- Shamrock Rovers – pitch side LED notice board advertising, both domestic and European match days, and season long match day programme advertising.
- Advertising in local shopping centres (The Square, Citywest, The Mill in Clondalkin and Kilnamanagh)
- Advertising on local radio
- Advertising on N81 billboard
- Advertising in Seachtain newspaper
- Advertising in The Echo, Southside People and Liffey Champion newspapers.

In addition bus shelter advertising in relation to the Register of Electors is scheduled.

During 2025, the franchise team carried out several voter registration drives:

- Park Community Centre
- Fettercairn Community Centre
- Adamstown Community Centre
- St. Marks Community College
- Colaiste Bhride Clondalkin
- Old Bawn Community College
- TUD Tallaght
- SDCC hosted students from Templeogue College

SDCC also uses our own social media channels to inform, educate and raise awareness of the Register of Electors, the upcoming election, how to register to vote and how to cast a vote.

Q19/1025 Councillor A. Smyth

To ask the Chief Executive, ahead of the winter season what measure are being put in place for preparing the roads and infrastructure during the winter months?

REPLY:

SDCC are currently finalising the Winter Service Plan for the coming season that outlines the measures being implemented for the coming year. The Winter Service Plan will be presented as a Headed Item at the October ACMs

Q20/1025 Councillor F. Timmons

To ask the Chief Executive to explain why is the homeless section of SDCC telling people that are homeless or at risk of homelessness that in order to get homeless supports/homeless assessments they must be on the social housing list or have an application pending - this criteria is not stated in legislation.

REPLY:

Homeless Assessments are completed in accordance with Section 10 of the Housing Act 1988. If a person is considered homeless, temporary emergency accommodation may be arranged until a more long-term accommodation solution can be put in place. The provision of sustainable, long-term accommodation from the local authority is determined by the applicant's eligibility status for the social housing waiting list.

The homeless assessment process requires the submission of necessary documentation and background information to formally establish the applicant's situation and to accurately determine eligibility for support services. This includes, but is not limited to, verification of income and proof of the current or impending homelessness.

Access to emergency accommodation is designed to meet the short-term housing needs of applicants. The Homeless Housing Assistance Payment (HHAP) scheme provides a vital pathway to securing permanent housing and exiting emergency accommodation. Homeless HAP is also utilised for homelessness prevention.

To be eligible for this scheme, applicants must be approved for inclusion on the social housing waiting list. Staff from the Homeless Unit provide dedicated support to assist applicants with the completion and submission of their housing application.

Q21/1025 Councillor F. Timmons

To ask the Chief Executive would he issue a report on what events are allowed in our parks and that the reply address how the issues of portaloos and supervision of large events are handled?

REPLY:

South Dublin County Council take great pride in providing our parks and open spaces as a setting for many different types of events which include charity, family and community, commercial/promotional, filming/photoshoots, festivals, sport, music/concerts, arts and culture, and other activities, subject to prior approval.

All events must comply with the Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws 2011 and any specific conditions set by the council as part of the approval process. These bye-laws address “regulated and controlled activities”, including vehicular access and the erection of tents or structures. They also define how parks and open spaces should be used to ensure safety and comfort for all visitors, meaning that events must not unduly interfere with general public use.

In line with the byelaw requirements, written permission is necessary for all commercial and organised activities. For larger events, organisers must submit a Safety and Event Management Plan that includes details of health and safety personnel, first aid provision, and measures to protect park users, staff and visitors.

Great care is taken to examine and assess each event application individually. The bye-laws impose certain restrictions, such as no unauthorized entry outside of opening hours and no vehicular access without prior consent. Organisers must provide a detailed site plan showing location of stages, toilets, vendor areas, access and emergency routes as well as crowd management and security arrangements. The Council or An Garda Síochána may specify minimum stewarding or security levels depending on the scale of the event.

The responsibility for stewarding and supervising events rests entirely with organisers, who must supply their own volunteers or security. Applications should outline how this will be managed and include an indicative number of expected attendees.

For larger gatherings, a traffic management plan is required, covering parking, drop-off areas, road closures, and signage. Waste and litter management must also be addressed, including how waste will be removed during and after the event.

Public Liability Insurance naming the Council as the indemnified party is mandatory, and no event will be approved without full documentation being submitted in advance.

If existing toilet facilities are inadequate, organisers must provide additional sanitary facilities. Portable toilets may be installed only with prior Council approval and must be removed on the same day unless security arrangements are in place.

The Council continues to regulate events in its parks to safeguard public safety, protect amenities, and ensure smooth management of activities. To apply for approval, event organisers should request an application form by emailing publicrealm@sdublincoco.ie. An online application system will also be available shortly and details will be circulated once it goes live.

Q21 (b) SDCC Parks and Open Space Byelaws

Q22/1025 Councillor E. Timmons

To ask the Chief Executive would he issue a report on how SDCC can address the need for play spaces in older estates for estates that want them?

REPLY:

In recent years SDCC has led the development of natural playspaces and an innovative teenspace programme, embedding play as a core part of public spaces, neighbourhoods and communities. This investment has expanded the county's network of play provision to in excess of 50 playgrounds and new teenspaces, ensuring children and young people have access to quality, inclusive play.

Drawing on community feedback, international best practice and experience, the Council has recently approved a new Play Policy: The Nature of Play 2025-2030. The policy affirms a child's right to play, highlights best practice and sets out a five-year plan for play and outdoor recreation. Recognising play as key to growth and wellbeing these facilities also support SDCCs aim of creating inclusive, safe communities. In relation to the provision of new playspaces, teenspaces and upgrade of existing playspaces: the next step is a mapping exercise to identify residential areas with a deficit in play or teenage space provision. Following the mapping exercise, the committee members in each area will be engaged with directly to discuss the proposals in detail. This process will be underway over the coming months and is intended to result in the development of a

playspace / teenspace amenity delivery programme, subject to approval of a supporting budget.

Q23/1025 Councillor E. Timmons

To ask the Chief Executive would he consider raising the Council grant available to residents groups who undertake vital work on their estates and area and also outline grants available?

REPLY:

The **Environmental Improvements Grant** is for a maximum amount of €500 and is aimed at assisting community groups (such as local resident groups and local environmental groups) who are actively seeking to improve the local environment in the communities where they live. These activities may include:

- Tree & shrub planting programmes, which must be agreed with Parks/Roads department prior to works.
- Purchase of name stones for estates, which must be agreed with Parks/Roads department prior to works.
- Purchase of equipment which is essential to complete the works.
- Other local environmental improvements which are approved by the Community Services Department.

Full details of all available community grants is [available here](#). To gain a full understanding of all the funding streams and opportunities currently available, Residents' Associations are encouraged to contact their local Community Officer. The Community Officer will be happy to provide guidance and support throughout the application process and to help groups maximise the benefit of the grant programmes in place. The Community Grants are reviewed annually by the team but increasing the amount of the grant has not been identified as an issue.

The **Social Credits Scheme** is also relevant here as it supports and rewards community groups and individuals who take ownership of their environment and improve their local area by carrying out pro-environmental actions such as community clean-ups, maintenance of community gardens, graffiti removal, weeding of footpaths etc. The benefits of community participation in the Social Credit's Scheme include:

- Practical assistance to community groups / Resident's Associations
- Materials to support / assist applicants with their pro-environmental project
- Advice from Council staff and information on existing Council services and facilities

- Increased local pride and community ownership of local areas
- Empowerment of groups to create cleaner, greener, and safer communities
- Groups interested in the Social Credit's Scheme apply in advance of any works being undertaken listing the work they intend to do and the reward they would like / expect to receive, within the confines of South Dublin County Council's services and facilities. Further details of this scheme are [available here](#)

Q24/1025 Councillor F. Timmons

To ask the Chief Executive would he consider how SDCC can address the storage requirements for groups that undertake clean ups and community events in their area so they can continue this vital community work?

REPLY:

SDCC recognises the important contribution made by local community groups who carry out clean-ups and organise community events. While SDCC does not currently provide dedicated storage facilities for groups, we are open to exploring practical solutions on a case-by-case basis, such as the use of existing community centres or partnership with local organisations.

Groups are encouraged to engage with the Community Development team initially to discuss their specific needs, and the relevant Directorate will give consideration to how best these can be supported within available resources and suitable locations.

H6/1025 DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE MADE PUBLIC ROADS

*It was **NOTED** that there was **NO** Business under this Heading*

H7/1025 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES/SITES - FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. J. Frehill, Director of Economic Development and was **CONSIDERED**.

HI 7 (a) (i) Report - 57 Oakwood Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin, 22.

HI 7 (a) (ii) Map - 57 Oakwood Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin, 22.

Disposal of fee simple in 57 Oakwood Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin, 22

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **RESOLVED:**

“That the disposal of fee simple in 57 Oakwood Grove, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

H8/1025 **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT - FOR NOTING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr C. Ward, Chief Executive and was **CONSIDERED**.

HI 8 (a) Chief Executive's Report - October 2025

HI 8 (b) Statistics Report

HI 8 (c) Finance Report

The report was **NOTED**.

H9/1025 **CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE - FOR NOTING**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr C. Ward, Chief Executive and was **CONSIDERED**.

HI 9 Capital Programme Update October 2025

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, K. Keane, J. Spear, J. Tuffy, D. McManus, W. Carey, D. Adelaide, L. McCrave, L. O'Toole. Queries were raised in relation to parking in housing developments, Community Centres, the Tenant In Situ and Retrofit schemes, Rathfarnham Castle, Lucan Pool.

Mr. Colm Ward, Chief Executive, replied to the members queries.

The report was **NOTED**.

H10/1025 **VACANCY ON THE ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AILG) - FOR APPROVAL**

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. L. Maxwel, Director of Community and was **CONSIDERED**.

A vacancy exists on the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) following the resignation of Councillor D. McManus. It is a matter for the Council to nominate a replacement to fill the vacancy.

This is now before the Council for consideration.

It was proposed by Councillor D. McManus and Seconded by Y. Collins and **AGREED** that Councillor B. Lawlor be nominated to the Association of Irish Local Government.

H11/1025 PART 8 – STOCKING LANE (HOUSING DELIVERY) – FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. E. Leech, Director of Housing and Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Architect and was **CONSIDERED**.

HI 11 (a) Part 8 CE Report

HI 11 (b) Part 8- Presentation

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors Y. Collins, D. McManus, D. Cosgrave, J. Spear, L. De Courcy. Queries were raised in relation to parking spaces and solar panels.

Ms. E. Leech, Director of Housing and Mr. P. Harrington, Senior Executive Architect responded to the members queries.

The **Part 8 – Stocking Lane (Housing Delivery)** was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns seconded by Councillor A. Edge and **AGREED**.

H12/1025 OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENT 2026 – FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. R FitzGerald, Director of Finance and was **CONSIDERED**.

In accordance with **Sections 106 (7) and 106 (3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2001** borrowing is a reserved function which requires the approval of the local authority and the appropriate Minister.

The Council currently has an approved overdraft facility of €25M in order to provide for temporary cash flow timing differences. The overdraft facility has been utilized twice during 2025. It is considered prudent to renew the overdraft accommodation of €25M for the period 01/01/2026 to 31/12/2026. Costs associated with the overdraft are limited to interest charges if the facility is used as the bank does not charge for the overdraft facility.

Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage the securing of an overdraft accommodation (to a maximum limit of) €25m for the period 01/01/2026 to 31/12/2026.

The report was **NOTED** and it was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns and seconded by Councillor Y. Collins and **RESOLVED:**

“That the Overdraft Accommodation Requirement 2026 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

H13/1025 TAKING IN CHARGE OF TEMPLE WOODS, TALLAGHT - FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. E. Burke, Director of Planning and Transport and was **CONSIDERED.**

HI 13 (a) Temple Woods TIC Report

HI 13 (b) Temple Woods TIC Map

HI 13 (c) Temple Woods Roads Schedule

It was proposed by P. Kearns seconded by Councillor A. Smyth and **AGREED** to

"Take in Charge the roads detailed in the roads schedule and the infrastructure detailed in the Taking in Charge map within the **Temple Woods, Estate, Greenhills Road, Dublin 24** in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and in accordance with the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended."

H14/1025 TAKING IN CHARGE OF ST FINIANS ROAD, NEWCASTLE - FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. E. Burke Director of Planning and Transport and was **CONSIDERED.**

HI 14 (a) St. Finian's Road TIC Report

HI 14 (b) St. Finian's Road TIC Map

HI 14 (c) St. Finian's Roads Schedule

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns seconded by Councillor F. Timmons and **AGREED** to

"Take in Charge the roads detailed in the roads schedule and the infrastructure detailed in the Taking in Charge map on the **St. Finian's Road, Newcastle** in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and in accordance with the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended."

H15/1025 DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2026 – FOR APPROVAL

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. E. Burke, Director of Planning and Transport and was **CONSIDERED**.

[HI 15 \(a\) CE Report Presentation](#)

[HI 15 \(b\) CE Report on DCS Public Consultation](#)

[HI 15 \(c\) Development Contribution Scheme 2026](#)

An Amendment to HI 15 Development Contribution Scheme 2026 was proposed by Councillor M. Johansson and seconded by Councillor J. Spear as follows:

That the Total Contribution Payable be increased by 20% to €151.74 (Residential Development) and €143.42 (Industrial/Commercial Development) and that each item in the table on page 6 be amended accordingly."

This would take into account the increased cost inflation in the period since 2020 in the provision of amenities by the council.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors P. Holohan, M. Johansson, J. Spear, N. Whelan, L. O'Toole, F. Timmons, B. Lawlor, and P. Kearns

Mr. E. Burke, Director for Planning and Transport responded to the members.

A **Roll Call Vote** was called on the Amendment was called for in the names of Councillors J. Spear, M. Johansson and D. Adelaide the results of which are as follows:

FOR: 6 (SIX)

Councillors D. Adelaide, D. Donnelly, P. Holohan, M. Johansson, K. Keane and J. Spear .

AGAINST: 27 (TWENTY SEVEN)

Councillors S. Barnes, C. Brady, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, P. Cosgrave, L. De Courcy, M. Duff, L. Dunne, A. Edge, H. Farrell, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, R. Mannion, L. McCrave, G. Moore, E. Murphy, E. Ó Broin, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, Baby Pereppadan, Britto Pereppadan, D. Richardson, A. Smyth, F. Timmons and J. Tuffy.

ABSTAIN: 2 (TWO)

Councillors W. Carey and N. Whelan

As a result of the **Roll Call Vote** the Amendment was **NOT AGREED**.

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns seconded by Councillor P. Cosgrave and **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the Development Contribution Scheme 2026-2028.

H16/1025 NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK (NPF) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT – FOR NOTING

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Mr. E. Burke, Director of Planning and Transport and was **CONSIDERED**.

HI 16 (a) NPF Housing Growth - Report to Elected Members
HI 116 (b) NPF Housing Growth Requirements

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors J. Tuffy, Y. Collins, P. Cosgrave, P. Holohan, E. O'Broin, M. Johansson, J. Spear, L. O'Toole, B. Lawlor, L. Dunne, D. Adelaide, W. Carey, M. Duff, H. Farrell and F. Timmons. The Members requested a separate briefing on the Headed Item.

Mr. C. Ward, Chief Executive, responded to the Members advising that a briefing could be scheduled. The Members **AGREED**.

H17/1025 COMMUNITY & SPORTS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS - FOR NOTING

The following report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was presented by Ms. L. Maxwell, Director of Community and was **CONSIDERED**.

The online rolling application process provides community and voluntary groups who are responding to locally identified needs within their communities with the opportunity to apply for assistance from the Council under the following categories:

- Community Development Grants
- Community Events Funding
- Sport Development Grants

Applications are assessed by the Community Development Team under the following criteria:

- Impact on local community and local community involvement.
- Proven track record of project delivery and non-duplication of activities in the local area.
- Sustainable and value for money projects with clear/accurate costings.
- Existing funds available to the group/alternative funding sources.

Following the assessment process and having regard to the available budget **16** grants totalling **€25,787.71** were approved for **14** local groups summarised as follows:

Category	No:	Amount
Community Development Grants	7	€4,720.36
Community Events Funding	6	€10,067.35
Sport Development Grants	3	€11,000.00
Total	16	€25,787.71

The final list of approved grants together with their respective approved grant amounts is as follows:

Name of Group	Funding Category Applied For	Sub-Category of Grant	Amount
Cherrywood Residents Association	Community Development Grant	Environmental Improvement	€500.00

Cherrywood Residents Association	Community Development Grant	Running Costs	€971.87
Corkagh Park Allotments	Community Development Grant	Start Up Costs	€492.49
Friends of the Camac	Community Development Grant	Minor Equipment	€336.00
Retired Active Men's Social (RAMs)	Community Development Grant	Minor Equipment	€420.00
Tallaght Community Council	Community Development Grant	Running Costs	€1,000.00
Third Age Foundation CLG (Fáilte Isteach Saggart)	Community Development Grant	Running Costs	€1,000.00
Brittas Community Association Limited	Community Events Funding	Village / Community Festival	€3,000.00
Clondalkin Tus Nua	Community Events Funding	Family Fun Day	€1,350.00
Educate Congo Ireland	Community Events Funding	Family Fun Day	€3,800.00
Rathcoole Community Council Ltd.	Community Events Funding	Christmas Community Celebration	€717.35
Retired Active Men's Social (RAMs)	Community Events Funding	Age Friendly Bealtaine Event	€200.00
Women's Collective Ireland (WCI) – Clondalkin Women's Network	Community Events Funding	Wellness workshop	€1,000.00
Irish Wheelchair Association Lucan	Sports Development Grant	Programme Delivery	€3,000.00

Perrystown Manor Estate Community Centre	Sports Development Grant	Programme Delivery	€5,000.00
Tallaght Rockets Volleyball Club	Sports Development Grant	Equipment	€3,000.00
Total			€25,787.71

The report was **NOTED**.

C1/1025 REPLIES, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

(a) Correspondence received from Carlow County Council

(b) Correspondence Received from Minister Norma Foley

(c) Correspondence received from Roscommon County Council

The correspondence was **NOTED**

Emergency Motion:

SM1/1025 In accordance with the provisions of Section 15 (5) of Standing Orders the Mayor, Councillor P. Kearns, proposed and the Members **AGREED** to deal with an Emergency Motion in the names of Councillors F. Timmons, M. Duff, P. Holohan, P. Kearns, A. Edge, E. Ó Broin, L. Dunne, D. McManus, L. O'Toole, W. Carey, A. Hayes, V. Casserly, S. O'Hara, J. Tuffy, D. Richardson, Y. Collins, E. Murphy, M. Johansson, Britto Pereppadan, J. Spear, C. Brady, S. Barnes.

That this Council call on the Taoiseach and the Minister to intervene and meet with a group of survivors of industrial and reformatory schools who are on hunger strike outside Leinster House immediately. We commit to writing to the Taoiseach and the relevant Minister.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

M1/1025 **To refrain from including small social housing areas in their annual report**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Duff Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns and **MOVED WITHOUT DEBATE**

That this Council calls the Irish Business Against Litter League and their agent, An Taisce, to refrain from including small Social Housing areas in their Annual Report, when considering the overall Littering report on the general area and should only consider Commercial and open Public Realm areas in their report.

REPORT:

If this motion is passed, letters will be issued to Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) and An Taisce. The responses, when received, will be circulated to the Members. The Executive met with representatives from IBAL in July to discuss the survey. SDCC highlighted their concerns with the recent survey results and engaged in a productive and constructive discussion. We look forward to continued collaboration with increased communication going forward.

M2/1025 To allow local authorities the same discretion to agree to increase HAP and Homeless HAP payments

It was proposed by Councillor K. Keane seconded Councillor J. Spear.

That this Council calls on the Minister for Housing to allow local authorities the same discretion to agree to increase HAP and Homeless HAP payments for tenants to stay in their existing (pre-2022) accommodation, rather than face eviction from their rental property.

REPORT:

If this motion is passed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors K. Keane, N. Whelan, M. Johansson, P. Holohan, W. Carey, J. Spear, R. Mannion and P. Kearns.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

M3/1025 To ask that weight loss injections are considered and regulated

It was proposed by Councillor F. Timmons, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

That this Council writes to the Minister of Health and asks that weight loss injections are considered and regulated and added to the drugs payment and medical card scheme when prescribed by a doctor to

help fight obesity and help in the fight against unregulated online weight loss injection purchases.

REPORT:

If this motion is passed, a letter will be issued to the Minister for Health. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors F. Timmons, L. de Courcy, P. Holohan, Y. Collins, L. McCrave, N. Whelan, Britto Pereppadan, M. Duff, L. O'Toole, K. Keane, G. Moore, C. Brady, D. Donnelly, W. Carey and P. Kearns.

A **Roll Call Vote** in the names of Councillors P. Holohan, D. Donnelly, L. de Courcy was called on the motion the result of which is as follows:

FOR: 28 (TWENTY EIGHT)

Councillors D. Adelaide, S. Barnes, C. Brady, W. Carey, V Casserly, Y Collins, P. Cosgrave, M. Duff, H. Farrell, A. Hayes, M. Johansson, K. Keane, P. Kearns, R. Mannion, L. McCrave, D. McManus, G. Moore, E. Ó Broin, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, Baby Pereppadan, Britto Pereppadan, D Richardson, A. Symth, J. Spear, F. Timmons, J. Tuffy, and N. Whelan.

AGAINST: 3 (THREE)

Councillors L. de Courcy, D. Donnelly and P. Holohan.

ABSTAIN: 0 (ZERO)

As a result of the **Roll Call Vote** the motion was **AGREED**.

M4/1025

To increase the number of playing pitches to be delivered

It was proposed by Councillor C. Brady seconded Councillor L. O'Toole

This Council calls on the Chief Executive to increase the number of playing pitches to be delivered, to address increased population, existing demand, and the unmet demand where clubs are restricting growth due to insufficient training space, particularly in the SDZs.

REPORT:

Recognising the challenges in the provision of sports pitches; South Dublin County Council commissioned a Sport Pitch Strategy (SPS) in 2020 to provide the Council with a clear evidence base and set of recommendations for future outdoor sports facility development across the district over the coming years. An SPS is a strategic assessment that provides an analysis of supply and demand for playing pitches (grass and artificial) in the local authority. The strategy and the evidence upon which it is based is delivered using insight from specific Governing Bodies of Sport, national guidance and local stakeholder input. The strategy focused on the following sports: Soccer, GAA, Rugby Union, Hockey, Cricket and Athletics.

Meeting pitch demand requires actions on a number of fronts and the SPS defined 5 main actions for the council to deliver; the actions are set out below as follows:

Increase maintenance of existing pitches to improve match play equivalents:

Following adoption of the strategy the Council has provided additional revenue budget to support these actions. A significant annual pitch maintenance budget covers regular fortnightly maintenance and includes a sum of for engagement of specialist contractors to do minor drainage improvements as well as goal mouth repairs and replacement of goal posts. SDCC manage regular grass cutting of pitches by direct labour.

The Council's Public Realm Section has also in the past 5 to 7 years carried out major pitch upgrades including installing drainage systems on pitches in Tymon Park (4), Jobstown Park (1), Butler McGee Park (1), Clondalkin Park (1) and Ballymount Park (1). These schemes have been funded through a combination of sports capital funding as well as council own capital and revenue resources, with other funding where available.

A further 14 pitches have received sports capital funding, (including the successful grant of 10 new pitch upgrades as part of the 2024 allocation announced last year); with plans to progress these on a phased basis to decrease impacts on clubs' access to pitches. Pitch upgrades are currently underway in Griffeen Valley Park, Glenaulin Park and Jobstown Park (2) with an additional upgrade being delivered as part of St. Cuthbert's Park redevelopment. A further 2 pitches in Tymon Park are scheduled for upgrading before the end of the year. The installation of such drainage schemes will improve

waterlogging and playability issues on those pitches which require this level of intervention.

Develop a revised allocation policy; including pitch sharing and multipurpose use of facilities where appropriate:

In 2021, the Council introduced a new online Pitch Allocation and Booking system which went live for the 2021/2022 playing season. The South Dublin County Council's Annual Allocation of Pitches/Sporting Facilities – Policy and Conditions can be found at www.sdcc.ie/bookapitch. Once clubs are allocated pitches via the online system they are given access to “Pitch Manager” software which enables the club to manage and record all activity on the pitches allocated to them.

The information allows SDCC gather valuable key data to better manage and maintain pitches against a scenario of growing demand. It will also help identify any pitches that are underused and provide more availability for pitch sharing etc.

Reserve ability to change the configuration of pitches:

This ability is built into the allocation policies, and pitches are swapped out as required/if appropriate. Flexibility in configuration/layout is provided as much as possible at the planning and design stage to future proof pitches to allow for changes as required.

Provide new grass pitches to meet capacity issues:

New grass pitches have been recently delivered as set out below and new pitches are also planned as part of developments:

- Dodder Valley Mt Carmel: (1 athletics track, 1 soccer pitch: Construction completed)
- Adamstown SDZ parks: (1 cricket pitch complete at Airlie, 1 GAA-sized pitch complete at Tandy's Lane Park)
- Firhouse/Ballycullen area (1 GAA sized pitch-provided via development)
- Rathcoole park: provision of a larger GAA sized pitch in conjunction with IW works-complete.
- Newcastle LAP area (1 small sized pitch-provided via development-built and to be transferred to council in short term)
- Fortunestown area (2 pitches via development- built. and 1 No. additional pitch planned for Carrigmore Park-Part 8 passed)
- Kiltipper Park Phase 2 (1 GAA sized pitch, 2 soccer sized pitches under construction)

- Rathcoole area in conjunction with GAA (TBC.)
- Clonburris SDZ parks (5 grass soccer sized pitches planned)

Provide Artificial Grass Pitches to augment long term capacity and meet training need:

At present; there is a council approved and funded 3G Artificial Grass Pitch Programme, based on the recommendations from the SPS and is agreed and underway. 2 artificial grass pitches have been delivered (at Airlie Park and Sean Walsh Park) as part of this programme of delivery, the other 3 required locations are in the west and east of the county and the new Strategic Development Zone area at Clonburris plans to provide 1 GAA sized / multi-sport Artificial Grass Pitch and 1 soccer sized / multi-sport Artificial Grass Pitch within the SDZ area.

The SPS defined future locations of additional floodlit artificial grass pitches, as it provides evidence based upon local team usage and future team generation rates that would be the predominant users of the facility. The SPS demonstrates that there is a need to provide AGP's as a vital asset to the local community in terms of a training and match-play facility for clubs, teams and others. The delivery of the SPS is reviewed on a regular basis and implementation is reported and discussed at the relevant SPC. Artificial grass pitches can support far more matches and training sessions compared to regular grass pitches and the sports pitch strategy recommends the provision of at least 5 all weather pitches across the county to allow for an even distribution and facilitate use county-wide as set out above.

A discussion followed with contributions from Councillors C. Brady, M. Duff, J. Spear, E. Ó Broin, L. O'Toole, W. Carey, and N. Whelan queries were raised in relation to materials used and plans to increase number of pitches.

Mr C. Ward Chief Executive and Ms. T. Walsh, Director of Climate Action, responded to the members queries.

The motion was **AGREED**.

M5/1025 Accelerates the rollout of the public lighting upgrade to more energy efficient LEDs

It was proposed by Councillor Y. Collins and Seconded by Councillor A. Smyth and **MOVED WITHOUT DEBATE**

That this Council accelerates the rollout of the public lighting upgrade to more energy efficient LEDs to ensure that there is proper

public lighting throughout the Council area during the winter months, particularly given the difficulty in sourcing and replacing the older type SOX lighting, as necessary, in areas where the rollout is still pending.

REPORT:

SDCC have upgraded all SOX lanterns in the county that do not require the attendance of ESB on site.

The remaining SOX lanterns (circa 5000) require the ESB in attendance to upgrade them. Meetings are being held monthly with the ESB to try secure resources for this work and this has been somewhat successful as we are on track to exceed our output from 2024. However we are still not meeting our desired output due to ESB resource unavailability.

The frustration regarding the slow delivery of the LED programme is understandable but the ability to accelerate the rollout is not within our control.

Meeting ended at 19.04

MOTIONS NOT REACHED

M6/1025 Review the system of funding of grant allocation

Councillor W. Carey

This Council agrees that SDCC should review the system of funding of grant allocation and that start up grants and regular running costs should be financed up front for registered groups and that these Community groups should provide end of year accounting for the funding.

M7/1025 That new build Multi Family Dwellings (apartment blocks) in the Strategic Development Zones of SDCC will be fitted with wet heating systems

Councillor E. Ó Broin

This Council agrees that new build Multi Family Dwellings (apartment blocks) in the Strategic Development Zones of SDCC will be fitted with wet heating systems i.e. hot water based, to allow for their future connection to district heating networks.