

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of South Dublin County Council October 2025 Tallaght Area Committee
Meeting held on Monday 28 October 2025

PRESENT

Cllr M. Duff	Cllr Baby Pereppadan
Cllr D. Donnelly	Cllr J. Spear
Cllr L. Dunne	Cllr N. Whelan
Cllr P. Holohan	Cllr A. Smyth
Cllr Britto Pereppadan	

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Senior Executive Officer	Michael Murtagh
Administrative Officer	Mary Connell
Senior Executive Librarian	Liz Corry
A/Senior Executive Officer	Ralph McGarry
Senior Engineers	John Hegarty, Gary Walsh
A/Senior Engineer	Damien McNulty
Senior Executive Engineer	Andrew O'Mullane
Senior Staff Officer	Mark Brown
A/Staff Officer	Ellen Meyler
Assistant Staff Officer	Bill Fowler
Assistant Parks and Landscape Officer	Hannah Johnston
A/Arts Officer	Richie O'Sullivan

Councillor L. Dunne presided.

Headed Item 1- Item ID:88383

Proposed by Housing Administration

Minutes from Tallaght Area Committee Meeting 22nd September 2025.

Minutes of Meeting 22nd September, 2025

Minutes of Tallaght Area Committee Meeting held on 22 September 2025 which had been circulated, were submitted, and APPROVED as a true record and signed.

It was proposed by Cllr L. Dunne, seconded by Cllr M. Duff, and RESOLVED:

Questions 1-14

It was proposed by Cllr L. Dunne, seconded by Cllr M. Duff, and RESOLVED:” That pursuant to Standing Order No 1, Questions 1-14 be Adopted and Approved.”

Performance and Change Management

(No Business)

Corporate Support

(No Business)

Water and Drainage

(No Business)

Public Realm

Q1/1025 Item ID:88599

Proposed by Councillor P. Holohan

"Is there an update on the plans for a community garden/sensory area in the park next to Jobstown community centre?"

REPLY:

The playground beside Jobstown Community Centre was inspected by an independent ROSPA-certified playground inspector, who found the equipment to be unfit for purpose due to extensive vandalism. Despite being secured, the site continues to attract anti-social behaviour, with individuals forcing entry and congregating there.

The Council intends to decommission the existing playground and reinstate the area as an open green space, as new and enhanced playgrounds have already been delivered in Jobstown Park, Killinarden Park, Whitestown Stream Park, and Kiltalown Park. Once

reinstated, the area will remain available for future consideration, should an appropriate project and budget be identified and agreed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Q2/1025 Item ID:88634

Proposed by Councillor D. Richardson

"Can the Manager arrange a clean-up around Kiltalown lane as the area is a dumping ground for fly tipping?"

REPLY:

Kiltalown Lane was inspected and cleaned by Public Realm staff on 25/10/25. Having recently had additional public lighting installed along with some boundary treatment to deter the repeated fly tipping incidents, our colleagues in Waste Enforcement recently installed a temporary CCTV system at 3 locations on Kiltalown Lane. The CCTV was installed in line with the LGMA's Code of Practice. During the installation, three (3) incidences of dumping were recorded and these are now the subject of enforcement actions. SDCC proposes to reintroduce temporary CCTV at further locations along Kiltalown Lane.

Q3/1025 Item ID:88627

Proposed by Councillor A. Smyth

"Can I ask the Manager to outline what estate are due on the Tree Maintenance program in the Tallaght ACM area?"

REPLY:

South Dublin County Council's Tallaght 2023–2025 Tree Maintenance Programme includes 43 estates and roads, with Ashfield and Ashgrove estates remaining outstanding. Works in these areas are scheduled for completion before the end of the year. The next programme, covering 2026–2028, will be presented at the November ACM

M1/1025 Item ID:88318

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

Seconded by Councillor P. Holohan

"To prioritise high sensory equipment in the parks, i.e. trampolines, resistance activities, visual and sensory equipment to accommodate children with high needs?"

REPORT:

South Dublin County Council welcomes the motion to enhance sensory play provision in our parks. SDCC is recognised as a leader in the design and delivery of inclusive and natural play spaces, both nationally and across the European Union. In recognition of

this work, South Dublin County Council received a Special Mention in the 2023 EU Access City Awards for its innovative approach to accessible landscapes and play areas — highlighting the Council’s success in creating environments that are inclusive, imaginative, and connected to nature.

Over the past decade, the Council has developed more than forty new and refurbished play spaces that apply the principles of Universal Design and natural play, ensuring that children of all abilities can play together in shared environments. These play spaces already incorporate a rich variety of sensory experiences, including trampolines and play features that involve climbing, spinning, rocking, and balancing, all set within natural surroundings to provide high-value sensory and physical experiences for children.

While sensory and accessible equipment plays an important role, best practice emphasises the importance of prioritising the overall play environment rather than focusing solely on equipment. The Council’s approach therefore considers the landscape form, planting, natural materials, and layout as integral to inclusive and engaging play design, with equipment forming one component within a universally accessible and stimulating setting.

The Council’s universal design approach does not prioritise one group of children, such as those with higher needs, over others. Instead, SDCC recognises that children have a broad range of needs, abilities, and ways of engaging with play, and seeks to create environments that allow everyone, regardless of ability to play together. This inclusive and integrated model is regarded as best practice across the EU and continues to shape all new play developments within the County.

The Council has also recently adopted a new Play Policy: The Nature of Play, which reaffirms its commitment to inclusive and accessible play provision. The objectives and actions set out in this policy will guide the future design and delivery of play spaces, ensuring that these commitments remain central to all ongoing and upcoming projects. The chapter on Accessibility includes information on both equipment and natural features incorporated into play spaces to improve accessibility.

Finally, the Council places a high value on feedback from children, families, and community members, and encourages residents to participate in local play consultations. This feedback is used when setting the design briefs for individual play areas ensuring that the specific needs and aspirations of each community are reflected in the final design. The Council therefore actively encourages participation in these consultations, as community input is central to delivering play spaces that are inclusive, well-used, and that meet specific local needs.

Hannah Johnson Assistant Parks and Landscape Officer presented the report on this Motion.

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

The Motion was **AGREED**.

Environment

Q4/1025 Item ID:88631

Proposed by Councillor D. Richardson

"That the Manager report on current fines for dumping in the Tallaght area?"

REPLY:

All incidents of illegal dumping reported or detected in any area are investigated by the Council's Litter Warden Service and all dumped material is searched for evidence. Where evidence is found, the appropriate enforcement action is taken under the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended.

Increasingly, it is found that no personal information relating to polluters is contained within the dumped material, with personal information having been removed or shredded.

The Environmental Complaints System operated by South Dublin County Council provides a statistical breakdown by designated litter warden areas. The total number of complaints made under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and investigated by the Litter Warden service for 2025 to date is 1,506. This figure includes 837 investigations that were specifically for litter investigations only.

Please see below table of fines issued for the period 2025 which is divided into South Dublin County Council's designated litter warden areas.

Litter Warden Area
Lucan
Clondalkin
West Tallaght
Saggart/Newcastle/East Tallaght
Templeogue/Walkinstown
Total

Q5/1025 Item ID:88596

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

"To ask the Manager for a 12-month breakdown of bookings for the pitches in Dodder Valley and if the Pavilion is used alongside each booking or not?"

REPLY:

In the period October 1st, 2024 - October 1st, 2025 the Dodder Valley facility has been booked 472 times.

Total Bookings	472
Pitch Bookings	195
Changing Rooms Bookings	277

Please note bookings of the changing rooms include bookings by Park Run and Park Tennis total of 88 bookings these bookings do not require use of the pitch.

M2/1025 Item ID:88555

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

Seconded by Councillor L. Dunne

"This chamber calls on the council to carry out an investigation and maintenance report on the standard of health and hygiene at the Kingswood athletic/football club regarding the changing rooms. There is mould in the changing rooms and there is damp coming into the facility.?"

REPORT:

An assessment of the roof has been carried out and there are a number of areas where the roof membrane has broken down which is allowing water into the building. The water ingress is manifesting primarily on the internal corridor party wall. To rectify the situation the Public Realm Section is currently obtaining quotes to have the roof repaired. Once this work has been undertaken and the walls have dried out it is proposed to paint the walls.

In tandem with the above the boiler has been inspected and we are currently awaiting a proposal from a boiler specialist regarding the upgrade or replacement of the unit.

Damien McNulty presented the Report on Motions 2 and 3 which were taken together.

There were contributions from Cllr D. Donnelly and Cllr J. Spear.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

M3/1025 Item ID:88554

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

Seconded by Councillor L. Dunne

"This area committee agrees that maintenance and regular upkeep of the dressing room facilities located at Ballymount Park in Kingswood Heights, Tallaght, is required and asks the Council to take urgent action to address, in particular, the persistent leaks in the structure and the growth of mushrooms, which indicate excessive dampness and potential health hazards?"

REPORT:

An assessment of the roof has been carried out and there are a number of areas where the roof membrane has broken down which is allowing water into the building. The water ingress is manifesting primarily on the internal corridor party wall. To rectify the situation the Public Realm Section is currently obtaining quotes to have the roof repaired. Once this work has been undertaken and the walls have dried out it is proposed to paint the walls.

In tandem with the above the boiler has been inspected and we are currently awaiting a proposal from a boiler specialist regarding the upgrade or replacement of the unit.

There were contributions from Cllr D. Donnelly and Cllr J. Spear

The Motion was **AGREED**.

Community

M4/1025 Item ID:88407

Proposed by Councillor P. Holohan

Seconded by Cllr L. Dunne

"This Tallaght area committee call on SDCC to plan for 2026 Halloween in the lines of a festival bonfire and localised entertainment highlighting and keeping the culture of the Halloween festival at the forefront?"

REPORT:

Halloween dates back over 2,000 years to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, which featured harvest festivals and otherworldly storytelling. SDCC's Samhain and Halloween events held across the County embrace a unique blend of these ancient customs with modern celebrations. These creative and fun events for all the family include the likes of costumes swaps and creepy crafts, silent discos, spooky science, and Storytime

sessions across SDCC Libraries. Samhain in South Dublin includes Halloween walking tours in Tallaght in English agus as Gaeilge, a Halloween Walkway at Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre as well as main events at Partalán Place (Tallaween 11am – 5pm, 31st October) and at Brú Chrónáin (Spookdalkin 11am – 4pm 2nd November). Community Services actively assist a number of small local community based Halloween celebrations, organised by community groups/centre across the County.

Whilst Halloween is a time of celebration regrettably it can also be a time of environmental and property damage. This has a significant impact on resources available to South Dublin County Council for the provision of facilities and amenities within the county. As with previous years, the Council is prioritising a safe Halloween in 2025, in an effort to reduce injury to individuals and damage to property and the environment.

Large bonfires present significant fire safety hazards, especially in residential and urban areas. Evolving climate and environmental conditions make open fires increasingly risky and difficult to insure. Managing crowd safety and ensuring adequate emergency access for a nighttime outdoor event presents additional logistical challenges, particularly given that Halloween is the busiest night of the year for Dublin Fire Brigade. Bonfires also conflict with sustainability goals due to emissions, debris, and potential damage to green spaces.

In response to the above, and in addition to an exciting programme of local events, SDCC operates ‘Bulbs not Bonfires’ a reward provided through the social credits scheme which provides communities with flowers in the spring instead fire damage throughout the year, whilst SDCC and WEEE Ireland is offering free electrical recycling for residents’ associations and estates in South Dublin before and during Halloween 2025.

SDCC will continue to work into 2026 to develop fun, creative, and family friendly events for the whole community, championing the spirit of Samhain. Details of the above events can be found on www.sdcc.ie, or the Council’s social media channels.

Ralph McGarry, A/Senior Executive Officer presented the report on this Motion.

There were contributions from Cllr D. Donnelly, Cllr J. Spear, Cllr M. Duff and Cllr L. Dunne and Cllr A. Smyth.

Cllr L. Dunne suggested if there is a possibility of arranging a supervised bonfire in the County and could it to be explored and to check with other local authorities if they arrange.

Ralph McGarry gave a commitment that he is happy do the research and will report back to the Area Committee but stressed that South Dublin County Council does not support bonfires in public spaces and doesn’t know if it will change the answer.

The Motion was **not AGREED**.

Housing

Q6/1025 Item ID:88632

Proposed by Councillor D. Richardson

"Can the Manager report on how many vacant social houses in Tallaght area and how long that they are vacant?"

REPLY:

Our 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. The current turnaround time from the date a property is surrendered to the date it is allocated is 23.85 weeks.

There are currently 26 vacant homes in Tallaght within our housing stock which are at various stages of the re-letting process as follows:

Electoral Area	Survey	In Progress	Ready	TOTAL
Tallaght South	2	16	7	25
Tallaght Central	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	3	16	7	26

The 7 properties ready for allocation are in the process of being tenanted through CBL and other allocation processes.

Q7/1025 Item ID:88633

Proposed by Councillor D. Richardson

"Can the Manager report on how long is talking for repairs of heating in council houses in the Tallaght area and make this a priority for the winter months when tenants have a breakdown of heating?"

REPLY:

The Council categorises all requests for repairs depending on the nature of the problem. Repairs to heating systems are classified as an urgent repair by our housing maintenance team with a completion target within 10 working days from the date of the maintenance request. Our mechanical contractors respond to all reported heating system faults as soon as possible with further priority being given to older and vulnerable tenants where needed. The majority of repairs are completed during the first visit, however, follow-up visits may be required due to availability of parts, the severity of the fault or other such unavoidable issues.

To date in 2025, a total of 2,327 work orders were completed in the Tallaght electoral area in response to problems reported with heating systems. The average number of days for completion of these works was 4.7 days.

Q8/1025 Item ID:88625

Proposed by Councillor N. Whelan

"How many current expressions of interest have been submitted for private homes in Tallaght looking to avail of the right sizing scheme through SDCC?"

REPLY:

The council's rightsizing policy provides for the allocation of age friendly homes to people aged 55 or older through the housing list, transfers (existing tenants rightsizing) or the community list (financial contribution for private homeowners rightsizing). It is intended that 50% of homes in new age friendly housing developments will be used for rightsizing, with priority for tenants transferring from local areas, and one in five rightsizing opportunities will be available to private homeowners through the community list. For inclusion on the community list, the homeowner must agree that the council will either purchase their existing home at a discount or accept a financial contribution from the net proceeds of the sale of the property depending on the homeowner's age.

60 expressions of interest were submitted by private households in the Tallaght area for SDCC's Rightsizing Scheme.

Planning

Q9/1025 Item ID:88597

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

"What measures are to be taken as a matter of urgency to ensure that the development (planning application SD23A/0237) complies with the local area plan objectives for CTF1? I refer to your answer to my question on the uncovering of the River Poddle in Tallaght - ITEM ID: 88220. In the Local Area Plan, areas CTF1 and CTF2 are targeted for exploring the uncovering of the River Poddle. However, a new development has been granted planning permission in CTF1 on the basis of the River Poddle being referred to as a "surface water pipe/sewer/drain" (planning application SD23A/0237). It indicates that the river was not considered in the plans at all, let alone its uncovering?"

REPLY:

The Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan 2020 is a strategic framework for the sustainable development of Tallaght Town Centre. One of the many objectives of the plan is to *"explore the feasibility of uplifting the River Poddle and incorporating into*

public realm, open space and green/blue infrastructure asset strategies as part of proposals for development". The objective TC15 is specific for the development of the area the plan defines as "the Centre". More specific, the objective relates to a parcel of land adjacent to the northern and eastern boundary of the Work IQ Innovation Quarter, where the source of the River Poddle is located.

As per the Local Area Plan, the delivery of the objectives will be subject to the planning and development of sites and is reviewed on a case-by-case basis and where relevant. A number of factors are generally considered when proposing to uplift a section of river and as stated in the Tallaght Local Area Plan, they must be feasible. Some key considerations may relate to flood risk and potential risks and implications of uplift, ability to connect and link to high quality public open space, scale and quality of specific section of river and its proximity to rights of way and accesses, public transport and road networks. It should be noted that all proposed development sites that form planning applications are considered in accordance with the objectives of the Local Area Plan

Transportation

Q10/1025 Item ID:88590

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff

"Would the Manager advise this Area Committee if the proposed Construction Compounds at Bancroft and Birchview have been acquired via CPO by BusConnects yet and have they indicated a timeframe for start of construction?"

REPLY:

It is noted that the Question relates to the Potential Temporary Site Compounds identified adjacent to Birchview Avenue and Bancroft Park as per the approved Preliminary Design Drawings for the Tallaght / Clondalkin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme (CBCS). The NTA have advised that, to date, neither site has been acquired by way of CPO, license agreement or otherwise and that both sites are currently being reviewed for suitability. Regarding timeframe for construction of the Tallaght / Clondalkin to City Centre CBCS, the NTA have advised that the programme for such is currently under review and the exact date for commencement of construction is yet to be confirmed.

Q11/1025 Item ID:88626

Proposed by Councillor A. Smyth

"Can I ask for a report on the locations of the current salt bins in the Tallaght Area and any location which the council expect to get new salt bins before the winter 2025?"

REPLY:

The salt bin locations are mapped and available at the following link [Winter Maintenance - SDCC](#)

The salt bins are geographically located to provide an even distribution around the county. We currently have 100 bins located in the county and there are no plans to increase this

Q12/1025 Item ID:88422

Proposed by Councillor J. Spear

"Can the Manager please let me know when the raised pedestrian crossing will be installed on Homelawn Gardens, Tallaght, outside Scoil Santain?"

REPLY:

The controlled crossing mentioned in this question is not currently on our agreed list of planned crossing upgrades for 2025. The proposal will be added to the planned 2026 controlled pedestrian crossing programme.

H10/1025 Item ID:88429

Proposed by Housing Administration

“SDCC Winter Service Plan”.

[WSP](#)

[WSP Presentation](#)

Gary Walsh, Senior Engineer gave a presentation on the Council’s Winter Service Plan 2025-2026.

There was a contribution from Cllr P. Holohan.

The Report was **NOTED**.

M5/1025 Item ID:88304

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

Seconded by Cllr P. Holohan

"This Area Committee calls on the Council to do an investigation on the potential damage done to trees in the Tallaght area since the new cycle tracks have been installed?"

REPORT:

Before starting any cycle track project under the Active Travel Cycle South Dublin programme, tree surveys are conducted for each project area. If tree removal is

unavoidable, the affected trees are identified and included in the public consultation process. Where feasible, each removed tree is replaced with at least two new trees.

Trees that are not being removed are protected throughout the construction works. If concerns arise about specific tree or trees after the cycle track is installed, the Active Travel team will arrange for an inspection by a suitably qualified professional.

Andrew O'Mullane gave the report on this Motion.

There were contributions from Cllr L. Dunne and Cllr P. Holohan

The Motion was **AGREED**.

M6/1025 Item ID:88428

Proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly

Seconded by Councillor L. Dunne

"To call on the Council about a welcome to Tallaght sign/monument to be erected on the Tallaght bypass just of the roundabout beside the quarry?"

REPORT:

The Planning and Transport Department are seeking to commission a holistic Strategy and Pilot for the installation of Urban Wayfinding and Interpretive Signage in Tallaght Town Centre and Village. It is hoped to appoint a Design Team in Q1 2026 and a Manufacture and Installation Team in Q3/Q4 2026. It is envisaged that the Strategy and Pilot will include for Gateway or 'Welcome' signage and that the location for such will be informed by a review of policy and guidance on traffic and wayfinding signs; a review of relevant case studies; and research and analysis regarding Tallaght's urban structure, movement patterns, areas of activity, heritage features and wayfinding patterns.

John Hegarty, Senior Engineer gave the report on this Motion.

There were contributions from Cllr D. Donnelly, Cllr P. Holohan, Cllr A. Smyth and Cllr L. Dunne.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

M7/1025 Item ID:88606

Proposed by Councillor M. Duff

"This Area Committee calls on the Manager to ensure that engineering works, such as those at the junction of Castletymon Road and St Aongus Road, that cause major traffic disruption and introduce new utility boxes, are notified in advance to the residents of the area, where works are being carried and to give accurate information as to the reasons why the works are being carried out?"

REPORT:

As part of the Castletymon Road Active Travel Scheme, a new electricity supply was required by ESB Networks for the pedestrian crossing located on Castletymon Road near St. Aongus Road. Since the nearest available supply point was situated across St. Aongus Road, a duct had to be installed under the road to allow ESB Networks to connect power to the shelter. This required temporary traffic management measures, any disruption caused is regretted.

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

Libraries Arts

H12/1025 Item ID:88395

Proposed by Libraries Arts

Library News & Events

Library Event Stats

Tallaght, Castletymon ad Mobile Libraries ACM report

Liz Corry, Senior Executive Librarian, presented the Library News and Events reports.

The Report was **NOTED**

H13/1025 Item ID:88401

Proposed by Libraries Arts

Applications for Arts Grants

October Tallaght ACM Arts Office Report

October Tallaght ACM Arts Office Report

Richie O’Sullivan presented the Arts Office Report for the meeting.

The Report was **NOTED**

Economic Development

(No Business)

There was no other Business and the Meeting concluded at 3.56pm.

The next meeting is on Monday 24th November, 2025.