

SDCC

Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas

South Dublin
County Council

Chief Executive's Report

How we're
creating greater
opportunity for
all

April 2026



Tallaght St. Patricks day parade



About the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report is presented to elected members at each SDCC monthly meeting. It forms a key part of our governance and oversight framework, supporting members in their role by providing timely updates on the work of the Council.

In line with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014), the report outlines the performance of executive functions, the implementation of Council policy, and the delivery of services across the organisation.

This report should be read alongside updates provided to Area Committee Meetings and the quarterly Capital Progress Report, which together offer a comprehensive view of Council activity and progress.

Each edition includes:

- Updates on how we are delivering on our Corporate Plan goals
- Highlights of major initiatives and events
- A visual snapshot of recent community and Council activities

The report also provides an opportunity to shine a light on areas of our work that may not always be in the spotlight but are vital to the day-to-day life of the county.

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Climate Leadership



Join us for Dublin Climate Action Week (#DCAW26)

This year's Dublin Climate Action Week runs from 11 to 17 May featuring a series of events that focus on various climate topics and highlights ongoing projects and goals as well as the joint efforts of four Dublin local authorities in tackling climate change. This initiative sees SDCC, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, CARO (the Dublin metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office), and Codema (Dublin's energy agency) combining to host a range of activities and events that encourage public participation in climate action.

The week aligns with both National Bike Week and National Biodiversity Week, combining themes of climate action, active travel, and nature to emphasise the link between sustainable transportation, climate solutions, and Dublin's wildlife. Workshops, hands-on activities, and demonstrations will offer participants practical ways to help create a more climate sustainable future.

Senior staff from the Dublin local authorities were delighted to launch Dublin Climate

Action Week 2026 at a recent photocall where the benefits of aligning with other events focusing on cycling and biodiversity were highlighted. This provides the opportunity for impactful events with the aim of encouraging everyone to take meaningful steps toward a climate-resilient future, with all invited to join in and make the most of this significant week.

Participating in Dublin Climate Action Week helps build stronger relationships among local groups, businesses, and organisations and details of local events can be found at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie with the full programme opening for bookings later this month.

Pictured at the Dublin Climate Action Week launch were (left to right):
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports (FCC)
Patricia Reidy, Executive Manager of Climate Action (DCC)
Teresa Walsh, Director of Climate Action (SDCC)
James Phelan, Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change (DLR)

South Dublin Bike Week

South Dublin Bike Week will take place as part of National Bike Week, running from 9 to 17 May. This initiative is dedicated to encouraging people of all ages and abilities— whether they are new, occasional, and seasoned cyclists— to incorporate cycling into their daily lives. A range of activities are scheduled during the week, including community cycles, school events, fun bike festivals, and safety workshops, all designed to make cycling accessible, enjoyable, and safe for everyone.

Local events being delivered by SDCC will include social cycles, family-friendly rides, and themed activities in locations such as the Dodder Greenway and the Griffeen Valley Park and Canal Loop Greenway.

Particular activities of note include an

accessibility event inviting people to “Try a Trishaw”, family fun days, “Cycle Right” training for primary school children, BMX sessions at pump tracks, and National Bike to Work Day. There will also be a pop-up cycle clinic and lunchtime talk at County Hall, while Collinstown Cycle Hub will host community sessions, and schools will be invited to take part in a poster competition celebrating Bike Week.

Bike Week coincides with Dublin Climate Action Week in a programme alignment that reinforces the message that cycling not only supports personal health and wellbeing but also benefits the wider environment. By showcasing active travel and cycling as a simple, everyday climate solution.

The full calendar of Bike Week events will be available later this month on www.sdcc.ie.



Climate Leadership

Launch of National Spring Clean Month

The National Spring Clean campaign stands as Ireland's largest and most well-known anti-litter initiative, supported by SDCC in collaboration with An Taisce and the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, this enduring campaign urges all sectors of society to engage and take responsibility for litter by organising clean-ups in their communities throughout April. Over time, the campaign has expanded considerably, and in 2025, more than 5,250 groups registered to participate in local clean-up activities. Volunteers in Spring Clean 2025 managed to collect an estimated 2,700 tonnes of litter.

Mayor of South Dublin County, Cllr. Pamela Kearns launched this year's campaign at an event on 1 April at Lucan Village Park which was attended by representatives from Tidy Towns groups, residents' associations, and community groups as well as local students.

Additionally, as part of this year's programme Recycle IT - Community Electrical Recycling offered a waste electrical and electronic equipment collection on the morning of April 1st, available to residents who registered with Recycle IT.

In 2025, more than 75 community groups participated in National Spring Clean activities demonstrating the successful

community impact of the campaign while also encouraging people of all ages to get together with family, neighbours, classmates or colleagues to participate in the month-long anti-litter effort which will make our shared spaces cleaner throughout April. Participating raises awareness about litter and waste issues locally while also nurturing personal responsibility for reducing waste and recycling.

Volunteers can register at www.nationalspringclean.org and will receive free clean-up kits, which include bags, gloves, and vests which SDCC will arrange collection of after clean-ups.



**REGISTER NOW FOR
#SPRINGCLEAN26**

You can register at
www.nationalspringclean.org

**NATIONAL
SPRING
CLEAN**
An Taisce



Quality Housing



€7.6 million allocation for private housing grants

SDCC has received an allocation of almost €7.6 million from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to fund private housing grants. This significant investment will support older people, people with disabilities and households in need of essential repairs or adaptations to live safely, more comfortably and with better accessibility in their own homes.

Three types of grants are available under this programme:

- The Housing Adaptation Grant for Disabled People provides support of up to €40,000 for people with physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual disabilities who need adaptations to improve the accessibility of their home.
- The Mobility Aids Grant supports older people and people with disabilities who experience mobility challenges within

their home, offering up to €8,000 towards essential works.

- The Housing Aid for Older People Grant provides up to €10,700 for people aged sixty-six and over who need repairs to remain living independently.

Eligible works under these schemes include ramps, grab rails, accessible showers, downstairs toilets, stair lifts, through-floor lifts and fixed track hoists. They also cover wheelchair-accessible spaces, home extensions where required, roof repairs, rewiring, window and door replacements, and certain heating repairs and installations.

Our Housing Grants team recently hosted an information session in our Housing Customer Care Centre, offering practical guidance on the full range of

private housing grants and supports available. These grants, along with the wider supports available, play an important role in helping residents live independently, safely and with confidence in their own homes.

Local co-ordinators from the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme were also in attendance at the information session to share information on the supports available to residents aged 65 and over. The programme, which is delivered by the Age Friendly Ireland local authority shared service, helps older people remain living independently

at home by offering practical advice, assessments and support to navigate housing-related needs. We look forward to supporting applicants throughout the year.

Full eligibility criteria, application forms and contact details for the Housing Grants team are available at www.sdcc.ie/en/services/housing/housing-grants while residents aged 65 and over can also access free supports through the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme with full details available at agefriendlyireland.ie.



Quality Housing



Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme

We continue to progress our objective of improving the energy performance of our housing stock. To date, 401 homes have received comprehensive energy-efficiency upgrades through the national Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP).

A funding allocation of €5 million has been received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to support further retrofit works this year with a target of 125 homes to receive upgrades.

The range of upgrades provided under the programme includes installation of heat pumps, wall and attic insulation and new, energy efficient windows and doors. Works are generally targeted at properties built before 2009, where energy

performance is typically lower.

Once works are completed, each home is expected to achieve a BER rating of B2 or better, supporting lower household energy bills and reduced carbon emissions.

Upgrades will be delivered across several estates identified from our recent stock condition surveys. Nine homes in the Lucan area located at Airlie Heights and Saint Finian's. Tallaght South will see 67 homes upgraded at Cushlawn and Donomore, while the Palmerstown-Fonthill area accounts for the largest number, with 84 homes located across Neilstown, St Mark's, St Ronan's and Shancastle.

€9.3m Affordable Housing Fund approval for Kishoge Gardens, Clonburris

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has notified the council of its decision to issue approval in principle for significant grant support under the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) for Kishoge Gardens, a significant mixed tenure development on council-owned lands.

The scheme will deliver 284 homes, including 93 affordable purchase homes which will now be supported with funding of €100,000 per home, a level of funding which reflects the ambition, density and quality of development.

The Kishoge Gardens development is within Clonburris SDZ and is being delivered under a public works contract, with Cunningham Contracts appointed

following a competitive procurement process. It represents a major investment by SDCC in affordable housing delivery through strategic use of public land, supporting the ongoing programme to increase housing supply across all tenures.

In line with the AFH requirements and conditions, the homes being made available for purchase within the development will be advertised with minimum sales prices at least 15% below current open market value.

The first homes in the development are expected to be launched for sale in 2027 and full details, including home types and pricing will be published at that time sdcc.ie and the affordablehomes.ie portal.





Quality Housing

Increased Limits for Local Authority Home Loans

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) has announced a number of important updates to both the Local Authority Home Loan and the Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan which were effective from 1 April 2026.

These state-backed mortgage schemes, available directly from local authorities, support first-time buyers, fresh start applicants, and those seeking to purchase or refurbish vacant or derelict homes. The key changes are:

Higher Property Value Limits

- The maximum market value of a property under the Local Authority Home Loan has increased from €360,000 to €415,000 in the Greater Dublin Area.
- The maximum purchase price, borrowing amount, and endofworks value for properties eligible for the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant under the Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan scheme has also increased to €415,000.

Updated Income Limits

- The income limit for single applicants has risen from €70,000 to €80,000 per year.
- The income limit for joint applicants remains at €85,000.

The Local Authority Home Loan supports first-time buyers and fresh start applicants who cannot secure sufficient mortgage funding commercially. It can be used for new homes, second-hand homes, or selfbuilds, covering up to 90% of the property's market value. The Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan assists with buying and renovating derelict or nonhabitable properties that qualify for the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant.

SDCC have been allocated €11.21m by DHLGH for new lending approvals under these schemes in 2026 and further information on both schemes are available on sdcc.ie and www.localauthorityhomeloan.ie.

Four properties in Tallaght brought to market through URDF

We are delighted to announce that four long-term vacant properties in St. Maelruan's Park, Tallaght are being brought to the market for sale as part of our continued work to tackle vacancy and dereliction in the county.

This initiative is supported by grant funding through Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) which enables councils to acquire long-term vacant or derelict properties and return them to productive use. The properties acquired through URDF are sold at market value, and sale proceeds are reinvested into the fund, helping to create a sustainable, rolling programme of future acquisitions.

Two of the properties have been released for sale initially and are available to

first-time buyers or purchasers who meet the criteria of the "fresh start" principle.

Details of the current listings can be viewed at the links here:

- www.myhome.ie/residential/brochure/24-b-st-maelruans-park-tallaght-dublin-24/4987195
- www.myhome.ie/residential/brochure/24-c-st-maelruans-park-tallaght-dublin-24/4987197

Subject to scheme terms and conditions, eligible buyers may also apply for the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant which supports the refurbishment of homes vacant for at least two years. For more information including application forms, guidelines, and FAQs please visit <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/housing/vacant-homes/>.



Quality Housing



New homeowners receive keys as Kilcarbery Grange progresses

With construction of 88 new homes progressing—70 for affordable purchase and 18 for social housing—the fifth phase of the council’s landmark Kilcarbery Grange development is steadily moving towards completion.

This phase is being delivered under a supplemental agreement to the original development agreement, which was approved by our elected members. The initial four phase development has already delivered 1,034 homes, including 310 social homes, 126 cost rental homes and 50 homes discounted for affordable purchase as well as 548 private homes.

Affordable homes in phase 5 were initially launched for sale in July 2025 for first-time buyers and applicants under the “fresh start” principle and immediately prompted strong demand with 633 applications received. With

applications being assessed and processed in line with our Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements, to date, 43 of the 70 affordable homes have reached sale agreed. A particular landmark was achieved last month, when we saw the first purchasers in this phase moving into their new homes.

On 10 March, to mark the moment, our Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns joined the developers to present a small gift to the new residents who described their experience of the affordable purchase process as “seamless from start to finish” and expressed their delight at receiving the keys to their new home.

Kilcarbery Grange which has created a vibrant new community in high-quality, mixed-tenure homes, helping to address local housing need.



A Thriving Economy

Local Enterprise Week showcases innovation and ambition

Our Local Enterprise Office delivered its most successful Local Enterprise Week to date, with a vibrant mix of in-person and online events that drew strong engagement. Throughout the week, over 600 people took part in business events, while a further 450 students engaged in school entrepreneurship talks and the Student Enterprise Final. Together, these events highlighted South Dublin's growing and varied appetite for enterprise.

The week opened with Momentum: Moving Your Business Forward, an event in collaboration with South Dublin County Partnership (SDCP). This focused on supporting people moving from unemployment into self-employment and highlighted the real-world experiences of individuals who had made that transition. Among those featured was Amy Dodd of AMD Media, who previously took part in SDCP's Enterprise Programme. The discussion centred on confidence, resilience and the practical supports available to anyone taking their first steps into entrepreneurship.

Another standout sessions of the week was Built Here, Scaled Anywhere, which became the largest event of the programme. Hosted in Work IQ, Tallaght, and delivered in collaboration with Startup Network Europe, the session showcased success stories emerging from the Work IQ community, including

Fortivum founder Robert Tobin. It also provided an opportunity for emerging tech businesses to explore the Work IQ facility and hear directly from founders about growth, decision-making and what it takes to scale a business beyond the local market.

Creative entrepreneurs were also well represented at a collaborative event in Rua Red with the SCENE Creative Network and the Intercultural Artists Network. A panel of creative professionals discussed the challenges and opportunities facing the sector, helping to build connections, identify emerging needs and signpost supports available to creative practitioners in South Dublin.

Throughout the week, LEO South Dublin also delivered practical supports for businesses at all stages of their development. Free mentor clinics took place in Work IQ with mentors Hidai Degani, Dr. Alp Turkmen and Una Ryan offering one-to-one advice. Early-stage founders took part in Start Your Own Business workshops and introductions to the full suite of LEO supports. Online events also drew strong participation, including Essential Financial Insights for Start Ups, SMEs and Scaling Businesses with financial expert Paul Merriman, and a national development summit delivered with Google and Enterprise

Europe Network to help SMEs understand how artificial intelligence can support sustainable growth.

The keynote event of the week was the Local Enterprise Awards, which recognised and celebrated outstanding local businesses marking the exceptional quality of entrepreneurship emerging locally. This year the awards saw Áine Kennedy of The Smooth Company selected to represent South Dublin at the upcoming National Enterprise Awards finals in June.

Reflecting on the success of the programme, Peter Connolly, Head of Enterprise at LEO South Dublin, said that the level of engagement this year showed the ambition, diversity and resilience of

the county's enterprise community. He also emphasised that entrepreneurship in South Dublin is thriving among early-stage founders, scaling companies and the next generation of student entrepreneurs, and reaffirmed LEO South Dublin's commitment to ensuring every entrepreneur—regardless of background or starting point—has a clear pathway to grow, innovate and succeed.

With record attendance and strong engagement across all sectors, these events provided meaningful support to hundreds of people, while reinforcing the role of LEO in empowering the entrepreneurial community in South Dublin.



A Thriving Economy

South Dublin students announced for National Finals

We are pleased to announce the teenage entrepreneurs who will represent the county at the national finals of the Student Enterprise Programme in Mullingar on 7 May. This year's programme saw 1,795 students from 22 schools taking part. The county finals were held on 6 March in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght, where students showcased their products, creativity and business ideas to a panel of judges.

The students advancing to the national finals will represent the county across the three competition categories. In the Junior Category, Mini Keys from Lucan Community College will go forward while in the Intermediate Category, Dubai Chocolate, also from Lucan Community College, will compete. The Senior Category will see Adhesia from Adamstown Community College represent the county on the national stage. These students will now join hundreds of young entrepreneurs from across Ireland, bringing their innovation and hard work to the national competition.

A number of other awards were presented on the day to recognise excellence in key areas of enterprise development. Pick Point from St. Colmcille's Secondary School received the Sales and Marketing award, while Water Buddy from St. Colmcille's Secondary School received the Social Media award. The Innovation

award was presented to Dyslexic Lens from St. Joseph's School, Lucan, and the Best Display award was given to Compact Crown from Old Bawn Community School in Tallaght. The Sustainability award went to Peco Electronics from Rockbrook Park in Rathfarnham. The Endeavour award was presented to Rehurled from Coláiste Éanna, Rathfarnham, and the One to Watch award went to Nutri Track from Coláiste Bríde, Clondalkin.

In addition, two special recognition awards were also presented with. Gaelcholáiste an Phiarsaigh received the Most Enterprising School of the Year award, reflecting the school's strong culture of innovation and participation, while the Enterprising Teacher of the Year was awarded to Marian Freeman from Lucan Community College in recognition of her commitment to supporting and inspiring young entrepreneurs.

For many students, the Student Enterprise Programme represents their first experience of running a business and helps build confidence and resilience that will support them in their future careers.

Further information on the programme is available at www.studententerprise.ie.

Being a Woman in Business

LEO South Dublin hosted a special event for International Women's Day on 11 March, in collaboration with Dublin Network and Partas at the Priory Market. The session brought together women at different stages of their business journeys—from early-stage start-ups to well-established enterprises—showing that there is no single path to success.

Hosted by Carol O'Kelly, CEO and founder of Redstorm Communications, and a leading expert in personal branding and communications, the session focused on open and honest conversations about what it truly takes to build and sustain a business, including the personal resilience, creativity and community support that so often sit behind success.

Speakers shared a wide range of experiences and perspectives. Sarah Naylor, award-winning social entrepreneur and founder of Beauty Business in a Box® and the Sarah Naylor Academy, spoke about scaling a business with purpose. Amy Keating outlined her work in shaping and developing the Priory Market and leading its marketing since its launch. Aanchal, founder of Delhi2Dublin, described how her passion for homemade Indian cuisine led to a growing street-food brand and Krystyna Wittbrodt, founder of K Factory shared insights from her award-winning sustainable apparel business. The event also featured Feebee Foran, owner of Forager, who spoke

about building a multi-award-winning natural skincare brand, while Lucy Madden, founder of The Beauty Empire, discussed the growth of her professional nail brand, training programmes and consumer products.

The event was formally opened by Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns and attended by 42 women from the local business community. Throughout the morning, the speakers emphasised the importance of confidence, trusting your own path and recognising strength during challenging times. They encouraged attendees to seek support, seize opportunities and stay connected with others in the enterprise community. Their stories reinforced a shared message: progress in business is rarely linear, and every step forward—large or small—contributes to long-term growth.



Carol O'Kelly

A Better Place



Dublin Walking and Cycling Index

The Walking and Cycling Index, the largest assessment of walking, wheeling and cycling in Ireland and the UK, was published earlier this month. The Index is delivered by the Walk Wheel Cycle Trust, in partnership with 22 regional and local authorities. Each participating area reports on progress towards making walking, wheeling and cycling safe, attractive and accessible everyday travel options.

This is the fourth edition of the report for the Dublin Metropolitan Area and is produced in partnership with the National Transport Authority.

The findings are based on local data from 2025 and an independent, demographically representative survey of 1,107 residents aged 16 and over, including 215 residents in South Dublin.

The household-based survey was carried out between April and June by Ipsos B&A

and is representative of all residents, not only those who walk, wheel or cycle. The Index confirms that active travel continues to grow in popularity, enjoys strong public support and delivers clear environmental, health and economic benefits. 88% of residents report walking regularly, while 12% cycle.

Support for investment in high-quality, off-road walking, wheeling and cycling routes remains strong, with 85% of South Dublin respondents in favour of further investment.

The Dublin Metropolitan Area recorded up to 510,000 non-leisure return walking, wheeling and cycling trips each day in 2025 by people who could otherwise have travelled by car. Cycling levels have also continued to rise, with 12% of adults cycling at least five days a week, up from 8% in 2023.

Older residents continue to play an active role in the region's shift to sustainable travel. 62% of residents, aged 66 and over, walk or wheel at least five days a week, while 12% cycle at least once a week. Overall, one quarter of adults cycle at least weekly, while seven in ten adults walk five days a week.

The Index also highlights a notable increase in cycling trips to work, growing from 23.2 million in 2023 to 30 million in 2025. This represents a rise from 27% to 33% of all cycling trips, reinforcing the role of active travel in supporting a more efficient, low-carbon transport network.

Public attitudes remain strongly supportive with 71% of residents across

the Dublin Metropolitan Area saying they welcome the delivery of cycle tracks physically separated from traffic and pedestrians, even where this requires road space reallocation. Almost half of respondents want to walk more, and one third hope to cycle more in the future.

The wider benefits for the region are significant. Walking, wheeling and cycling can help prevent 4,346 long-term health conditions each year, saving the HSE an estimated €55.7 million annually. These modes also generate €2.19 billion in economic benefit for individuals and take up to 510,000 cars off the road every day, saving 97,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions in 2025 alone. The full report is available [HERE](#)

Dublin Waste to Energy Facility

The Dublin Waste to Energy (DWtE) facility is an essential element of the Dublin region's waste management infrastructure, converting non-recyclable waste into electricity and reducing the need for landfill.

The facility first commenced operations in 2017 and has a current annual waste treatment capacity of 600,000 tonnes. Supporting ongoing reduction in landfill dependence, planning permission and an EPA licence have been granted to increase the annual capacity of the facility to 690,000 tonnes. Dublin City Council, acting as the lead authority for the public private partnership, reviewed the

proposed upgrade works to the facility and associated refinancing, including the appointment of a new operator, Kanadevia Inova. Following consideration of the proposals, all four Dublin local authorities have now agreed that the project should proceed given the critical need to expand national waste-treatment capacity. Following the agreement, upgrade works are due to commence imminently, necessitating a temporary reduction in capacity until works are completed.

An associated gainshare payment due to SDCC from the revised agreement, will be used to fund local climate action initiatives.

A Better Place



Planning permission granted for Adamstown Civic Building

Planning permission has been granted for the Adamstown Civic Building, marking a major step in the delivery of new community and social infrastructure within the Adamstown Strategic Development Zone (SDZ). The building will accommodate two floors of dedicated library services, supported by another floor of library-led community space designed to host a wide range of cultural, educational and public activities. Two additional floors will provide a modern enterprise centre, ensuring the SDZ phasing requirements for a 1,000m² library and the provision of 1,500m² of enterprise space are fully met.

This five-storey development will bring a new public library and enterprise centre together in a single, integrated building

designed to maximise shared use. A standout feature of the project is its flexible, multi-use layout, particularly the 600m² community space on the third floor. This space will enhance core library functions while enabling diverse programming that supports learning, creativity and participation.

The design places a strong emphasis on collaboration, continuous learning and active community engagement. As the first development of its kind in the SDZ, the civic building sets a new benchmark for civic design locally, bringing culture, enterprise and community together in a well-integrated and progressive environment.

Road maintenance crews begin pilot reporting

Staff in our Transport department deliver an annual roadworks programme to repair and improve local roads and footpaths in each area of the county.

The current programme has funding of €10.35 million and will deliver over 150 schemes throughout this year. While this represents a substantial programme of planned works, it does not capture the essential daily response work carried out by our direct labour crews in the Road Maintenance section. Their efforts support the overall safety, functionality and reliability of our road network, often resolving issues long before they become larger problems.

To give elected members a clearer picture of this work, Road Maintenance has introduced a pilot initiative this year that will provide bi-monthly reports. These updates offer insight into the scale and variety of tasks undertaken by crews and give visibility to the operational work

that takes place alongside the roadworks programme.

The first report, covering January and February, was issued in early March. In that two-month period, crews completed a substantial volume of activity, including 99 drain maintenance jobs, 46 flood-relief responses, 74 pothole repairs and 24 road-repair works. Additional work included bollard repairs, sign maintenance, footpath and kerb repairs, road-traffic-accident clean-ups, tree-related tasks and traffic-management support.

These reports highlight the critical day-to-day role of our crews in maintaining road safety and ensuring a reliable public realm. Their work complements the wider roadworks programme and demonstrates the value of our responsive, proactive and skilled workforce.



A Better Place



New section of the Grand Canal Greenway opens

March marked an important milestone for the Grand Canal Greenway with the official opening of the 12th Lock to Hazelhatch section. Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns and the Minister for Transport, Dáiríge Ó'Briain were joined by Lorcan Ó'Connair, CEO of Transport Infrastructure Ireland, John McDonagh, Waterways Ireland CEO and Colm Ward, SDCC Chief Executive to mark the opening of an amenity that was delivered in partnership by the respective organisations. The project represents a major enhancement of the historic canal corridor

and provides a high-quality, safe and accessible route for walking and cycling. The new greenway section extends from the 12th Lock in Lucan to Hazelhatch Bridge and connects directly with the Sallins to Hazelhatch Greenway that was completed in 2024. The upgraded path offers a peaceful, accessible space for people of all ages to enjoy cycling, walking, running or simply spending time in nature along one of South Dublin's most attractive waterways. People can now to walk or cycle from Dublin to County Offaly along a continuous and scenic greenway route.

This new section strengthens local connections between neighbourhoods, enhances amenity value and forms part of our wider programme to expand sustainable and active travel options locally. It also supports future growth in the area, including development at the 12th Lock and the emerging community at Clonburris, ensuring new residents will benefit from direct access to a high-quality greenway from the outset.

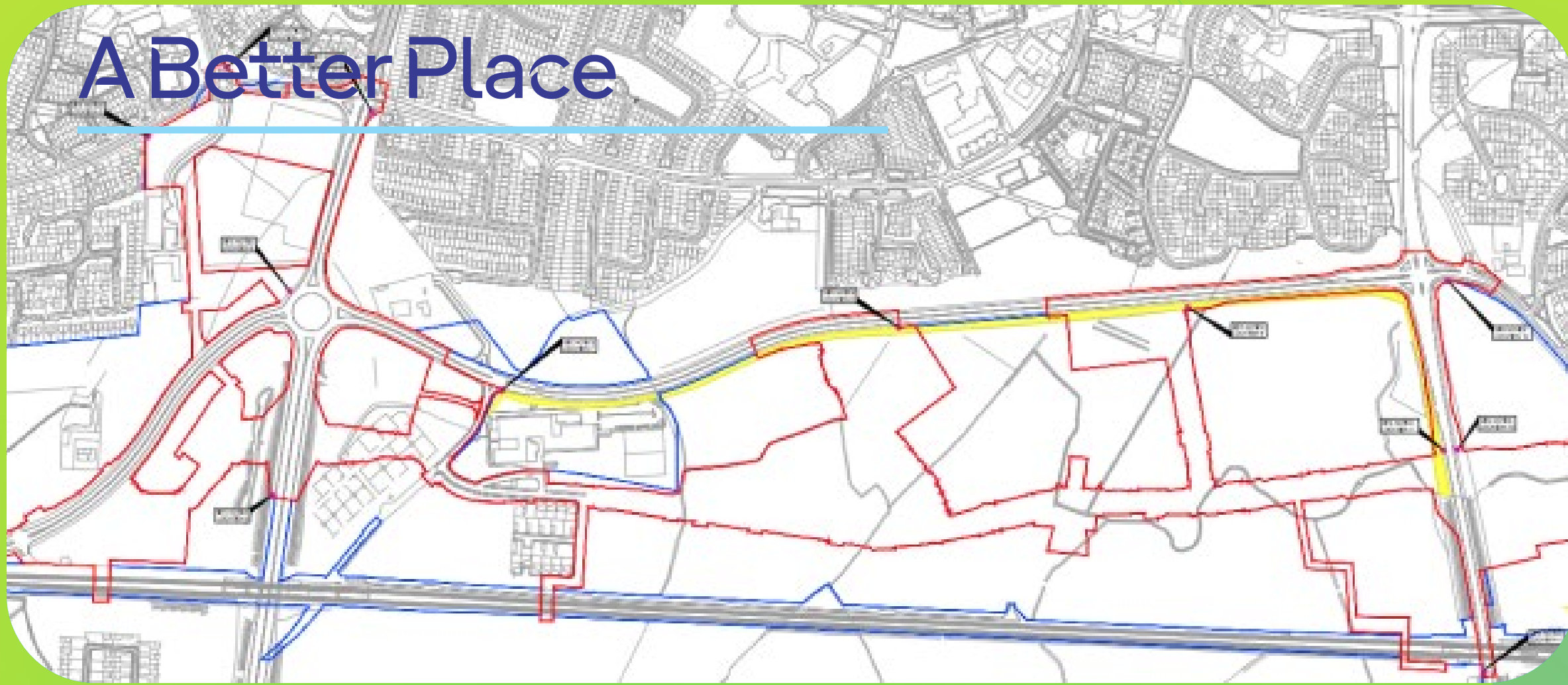
Speaking at the opening event, Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns highlighted the long-term value of the project, noting its importance in promoting healthier and, low-carbon travel choices along with its contribution to improving the everyday experience of people living along the canal corridor. She emphasised that the greenway reflects our ongoing work to creating walkable,

connected communities through our active travel programme. Supported by grant aid from Transport Infrastructure Ireland and delivered with the valued partnership of Waterways Ireland, this extension adds a standout feature to South Dublin's growing network of sustainable travel routes.

The opening event reflected the strong collaboration between SDCC, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Waterways Ireland, demonstrating the value of coordinated investment in sustainable infrastructure. With an investment of €2.5 million, the new greenway section will serve as an important amenity and active travel link for years to come, supporting local communities, increasing active travel use and contributing to the continued growth of tourism in South Dublin.



A Better Place



Compulsory Purchase Order: Clonburriss South Link Street

A Compulsory Purchase Order has been initiated for lands required to complete the Clonburriss South Link Street. The Order was made on 19 March, with the statutory objection period running until 30 April. The Order has been submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála for confirmation, and after the objection period closes, it will progress through the statutory confirmation process before a decision is issued.

The CPO seeks to acquire approximately 0.9876 hectares of land, comprising 0.8645 hectares for permanent acquisition and 0.1231 hectares for temporary use. These lands are essential for delivering the final section of the South Link Street within Clonburriss Strategic Development Zone.

The rationale for the CPO is outlined in the statutory documentation, including the Order and deposited map, which are available for inspection on www.sdcc.ie and at County Hall. As detailed in the

accompanying justification report, the section of land included in the CPO, and the associated street works, are required to complete the South Link Street and fully unlock lands within the SDZ south of the railway line for housing delivery.

The South Link Street is a fixed element of the approved planning scheme for Clonburriss and represents a key piece of strategic infrastructure. It supports sustainable transport, enhances permeability and underpins the phased delivery of new homes. Without the acquisition of the remaining lands, the permitted street cannot be fully completed which would delay housing delivery and significantly weaken the integrated transport network that is central to the SDZ. Therefore, the CPO is considered critical for delivery of the South Link Street as planned to ensure that the wider SDZ can continue to progress in a coordinated and sustainable way.

Cruagh Road and Ballinascorney Road reopened

Storm Chandra, which occurred on 26 and 27 January, brought significant rainfall to the east of the country, following a prolonged period of persistent wet weather throughout the month. As a result of ground saturation and erosion caused by surface water runoff, major failures affected road embankments on both Cruagh Road and Ballinascorney Road.

Given the immediate risk to public safety, both roads were closed on an emergency basis and diversion routes were put in place. The Road Maintenance team mobilised its appointed bridge and structures contractor, Truir Construction Ltd., who attended both sites within 24 hours of the failures. The contractor was subsequently appointed to design and construct upgraded retaining structures to secure the affected sections of road, with works commencing within one week.

During construction, adjoining embankments were assessed to ensure

the overall stability of each route. On Ballinascorney Road, one additional localised area of concern was identified. On Cruagh Road, however, further instability was observed, requiring an expanded scope of works. While the initial failure extended approximately 30 metres, the final scheme on Cruagh Road involved the construction of over 100 metres of retaining structures across five separate locations.

Ballinascorney Road was reopened to traffic on 24 March, with Cruagh Road reopening on 2 April. The full programme of emergency and permanent works was completed within a tenweek period. The Chief Executive acknowledges the prompt and effective response of Truir Construction Ltd and the Roads Maintenance staff in delivering these complex works. While the road closures caused unavoidable disruption to local communities, every effort was made to complete the works safely and reopen the roads as quickly as possible.



Connected Communities



Tallaght St Patrick's Day Festival brings community together

This year's Tallaght St Patrick's Day Festival proved to be a tremendous success, as thousands of people gathered in Tallaght Village to enjoy an energetic celebration of community, culture and national pride.

The festival delivered a lively programme of family-friendly entertainment from start to finish. Festivities began at 11.30 am, with music, face painting and on-street performances creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere throughout the village as visitors of all ages enjoyed the festive energy as Tallaght came to life

for the day.

A major highlight was the annual five-kilometre road race, delivered in partnership with Tallaght Athletics Club which brought more than 800 enthusiastic participants cheered on by the crowds lining the route.

A new addition to the day's festivities saw Shamrock Rovers Football Club hosting a family-friendly fun zone in the grounds of the TUD campus. This offered plenty of room for families to relax and enjoy the festival, with a designated screen

allowing attendees to watch the parade in comfort.

The parade itself began at 2pm and featured over 30 community groups, showcasing an impressive display of creativity, colour and local pride. Schools, sports clubs and community organisations proudly represented their areas with imaginative floats, costumes and performances that delighted the large crowds.

One of the most memorable moments of the day was the warm reception for this year's parade grand marshal Charlie O'Connor, whose appearance was met with genuine affection and applause along the parade route.

The festival proved to be a noteworthy and inclusive occasion that brought the Tallaght community together in a fitting celebration of St Patrick's Day.



Connected Communities



Junior Safety Forum explores e-waste at TU Dublin

Members of the Junior Safety Forum visited the TUD Tallaght campus last month to learn about the environmental impact of electronic waste, with a particular focus on disposable vapes. The visit was arranged through Healthy South Dublin and the Local Community Development Committee, building on the students' Escape the Vape project. The connection with TU Dublin was facilitated by Helena Fitzgerald, Head of Societal Engagement at TUD, and a member of the South Dublin Local Community Development Committee.

The students began their visit with a brainstorming session exploring the environmental consequences of vape waste, including the volume of material discarded, the complexity of the devices and the growing challenge of recycling them safely. They then toured several facilities across the campus, including the Materials Intelligence Lab, the Design Studio and the Mechanical Workshop. During the tour, they observed the dismantling of disposable vapes and learned firsthand about

the difficulties involved in separating components such as batteries, plastics and metals for reuse or recycling.

The visit concluded with a co-design workshop where students developed creative concepts for repurposing materials recovered from vapes. Working with TUD product design students and lecturers, they produced early-stage ideas and prototype models that considered how components could be reused in new and imaginative ways. These concepts will now be progressed further by TUD students, using vapes collected by our Climate Action Directorate.

At the end of the workshop, the Junior Safety Forum members were presented with certificates recognising their contribution to a TU D Living Lab. Lecturers and product design students will visit participating schools later in the year to share refined concepts and prototype products, continuing the learning journey and strengthening the partnership between SDCC and TUD.

Random acts of kindness initiative bring smiles all round in Quarryvale

30 young people from the Hangout Hub in Quarryvale Youth and Community Centre stepped out into driving rain and strong winds in February to take part in a heart-warming “random acts of kindness” initiative. Despite the weather, their energy and enthusiasm brought joy, connection and unexpected smiles to residents across the community.

Armed with roses and small tokens of appreciation, the group spent more than an hour walking through local streets, greeting people, offering small gifts and sparking conversations. What began as a cold and gloomy afternoon quickly changed as residents paused to chat, returning the surprise gestures with warmth, gratitude and good humour. The poor weather only highlighted the group's determination and compassion, showing how willing they were to brighten someone's day and how meaningful even the smallest gestures can be.

Earlier in the week, 27 young people visited the centre's bingo group to distribute roses. The simple act filled the room with laughter and appreciation, immediately lifting the atmosphere and creating a friendly, welcoming space for everyone taking part.

These activities form part of the wider youth development work taking place at the Hangout Hub. The programme, supported by SDCC, aims to engage

and empower young people by building resilience, confidence and a sense of belonging. The recent kindness campaign is a strong example of how effective this approach can be when young people are supported and encouraged to take the lead.

Throughout both activities, the young people demonstrated empathy, generosity and positivity. Their efforts created a real impact across the community and showed that kindness—whether through a small gift, a conversation or a moment of connection—can make a meaningful difference to those around us. Their leadership also highlighted the powerful role young people can play in shaping inclusive, caring communities.

To learn more about the Hangout Hub or to support future activities, contact Quarryvale Youth and Community Centre.



Cultural Richness

BRONNTANAS



SDCC takes part in Fís

Staff and elected members from SDCC joined colleagues from the other Dublin local authorities at this year's Fís event, a flagship public showcase of what bilingual public services can look like in practice. Held in the Convention Centre Dublin during Seachtain na Gaeilge, the event brought together public bodies, Irish language organisations and education partners to share learning, highlight progress and encourage greater everyday use of Irish in civic life. The programme featured exhibitions, interactive zones, panel discussions and talks, and welcomed more than 5,000 attendees, including second-level and university students, public sector staff and members of the public.

SDCC contributed to the Todhchaí (Future) Zone, where the four Dublin local authorities jointly presented 14 demonstrations of everyday council

services. These demonstrations showed how people can be supported confidently through Irish as well as English, and how bilingual communication can be built naturally into routine interactions. Our team supported public-facing demonstrations across parks and recreation, community development and customer service, offering friendly, informal opportunities for attendees to try out simple Irish in real-world scenarios such as asking for information, receiving service guidance or making a basic request.

Beyond the exhibition zones, the event hosted a wide range of discussions and presentations. Live panels explored practical ways to strengthen bilingual service delivery, while short "rapid-fire" engagement sessions with councillors invited attendees to ask questions and share ideas. Gaeilge365 presented recent

projects and practical supports available to organisations, while contributions from An Chomhairle Chraiceáilte highlighted creative ways to increase visibility and use of Irish in public settings.

Together, the demonstrations, conversations and presentations offered a clear picture of how a bilingual Dublin can look and feel. They also reinforced that Irish has a place in everyday public service interactions and that simple, supportive

changes can make it easier for people to use the language with confidence.

SDCC's participation in Fís reflects our ongoing support for inclusion and, cultural richness as well work to ensure that our services remain welcoming and accessible to all. The event also strengthened collaboration across the four Dublin local authorities, showing how shared learning and coordinated action can support a more bilingual and connected public service.

New Artist Bursaries

While our Artist bursary programme offers a range of funding to support local artists across all artforms; two new equality, diversity and inclusion bursaries provide the opportunity to support artists from under-represented backgrounds.

The EDI Project Bursary, valued at €15,000, supports artists working in socially engaged practice to develop intercultural arts projects that reflect the diversity of local communities and strengthen inclusion through creativity. Separately, the EDI Artist Practice Bursary offers €5,000 to support practice development, research, professional development or the creation of new work.

These new bursaries complement additional recently advertised funding opportunities for local artists including the Annette Halpin Memorial Award and the SDCC Individual Artist Bursary Award. Funded by SDCC in partnership with the Halpin family, the Annette Halpin Memorial

Award supports young musicians between the ages of 12 and 25. This award honours the legacy of Tallaght singer-songwriter and community activist Annette Halpin. Successful applicants can receive up to €1,000 to support music lessons, instruments, masterclasses, equipment, rehearsal or recording costs while award recipients also receive a recording session at CONTACT Studio with SDCC Arts Office graduate sound engineer Bryan Jardim Fleming. The SDCC Individual Artist Bursary Award offers bursaries of up to €5,000 for practising artists aged 18 and over who live in South Dublin County. The award supports artistic development at all career stages and aims to strengthen the local arts sector while building cultural capacity. Eligible artforms included architecture, circus, dance, experimental film, literature, music, opera, street arts, theatre, traditional arts and visual art.

Applications for these bursaries must be submitted online [HERE](#) by 17 April.

People First

Artificial intelligence at SDCC: people first, safe by design

Artificial intelligence is no longer a future concept and is already beginning to shape how public services operate. Recognising this, SDCC is preparing for this shift with care, responsibility and a strong focus on people. AI has the potential to streamline routine tasks, support better decision-making and improve how we deliver services across the organisation.

However, while the technology is advancing quickly, our priorities remain the same: safeguarding the data entrusted to us and maintaining the trust of the people we serve.

To guide this transition safely, our Digital Services team has begun a dedicated project to manage the introduction of generative AI tools in line with the EU Artificial Intelligence Act. This work is focused on creating a secure and well-governed framework that allows staff to explore the benefits of AI without compromising our high standards of data protection, operational integrity or public accountability. The aim is to ensure that when AI is used, it supports—not replaces—the professional expertise that underpins our services.

A central principle in this approach is human oversight. AI can help by drafting reports, summarising long documents or improving the clarity of written materials, but it remains a support tool only. Staff will always retain full responsibility for

the accuracy, clarity, appropriateness and legality of any content generated with AI assistance. Whether preparing a public notice, an internal briefing or a piece of service information, the final sign-off must always come from a human being. We cannot delegate professional judgement to automated systems, nor can AI understand nuance, context or public impact in the way people can. Keeping people firmly in charge ensures that our decisions continue to be grounded in public service values.

Supporting staff to use AI confidently and responsibly is also a requirement of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act. Article 4 of the Act states that organisations must ensure employees have the appropriate level of understanding, training and awareness to use AI correctly and safely. This involves tailoring support to different roles, considering the impact of AI on individuals and communities, and ensuring that everyone understands both the opportunities and the limitations.

To meet this requirement, and to build confidence across the organisation, we will deliver a structured AI literacy programme for staff from April to June this year. All staff will have access to up to three hours of clear, practical training that explains what AI is, how it is used in public services and what the EU AI Act means for our day-to-day work.

We will also bring in an experienced AI consultant to offer easy-to-understand sessions on good AI governance, managing risk and real-world examples of AI being used safely. This training will help staff at all levels understand how to interact with AI tools, how to review and validate AI-generated content and how to protect the organisation from potential risks.

SDCC's approach places people, trust

and accountability at the centre of this technological shift. By building a robust governance framework, ensuring strong human oversight and supporting staff with the knowledge they need, we are preparing the organisation to use AI safely and responsibly. As the technology evolves, our focus will continue to ensure that our priorities are protecting the public, improving services and making sure that innovation always serves our communities.

Leadership Talk with Elaine Leech

To mark International Women's Day 2026, staff were invited to join a leadership talk with specific female focus.

Elaine Leech, our Director of Housing joined colleague Fionnuala Keane, Administrative Officer from the (Community Department), to talk about her career journey and reflect on both the challenges and opportunities for women in leadership, as well as her hopes for SDCC into the future.

The event was hugely popular, and the many staff in attendance enjoyed getting to know Elaine better, as well as hearing about her progression from starting as a Clerical Officer right through to her current position as Director of Housing.

Elaine shared insights from her journey and offered thoughtful advice for colleagues as she spoke about the changes she has seen in SDCC regarding gender equality throughout her career.



County Matters

Supporting a Growing County – 2025 Annual Report

Each year, local authorities are required to adopt an annual report on the performance of their functions during the preceding year. Under section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001, this report is adopted by the council and shared with elected members and other stakeholders.

Our Annual Report for 2025 sets out how we delivered services and progressed our Corporate Plan commitments during the year. It reflects the breadth of work delivered by teams across housing, climate action, community, infrastructure, enterprise, libraries, arts and organisational development, supported by strong partnership working and community engagement.

Goal one: Climate leadership

Progress continued on delivering climate action and building resilience. Confirmed figures showed a 44.2% improvement in energy efficiency and a 43.5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since the 2018 baseline, while 87% of the 129 actions in the Climate Action Plan were progressed.

Decarbonising our operations advanced through preparations for new energy performance contracts for six of our highest energy-use buildings and the award of a contract for solar PV on libraries and community centres, with detailed design completed and electricity supply applications in progress for an initial 11 buildings.

Low-carbon heat delivery also continued through phase one of the South Dublin District Heating network, including the Work IQ building and cost rental apartments at Innovation Square, supported by €4.9 million in funding. Infrastructure was also future-proofed through district heating pipes installed during construction of the Airton Road extension.

Active travel expanded, with 68 kilometres of the Cycle South Dublin network delivered or under construction and further route delivery and safe school improvements progressed. Flood protection and preparedness also advanced through ongoing flood alleviation works, the establishment of a new Natural Water section and continued implementation of climate and environmental awareness activity, including 661 events and community climate action funding supporting 28 local projects with over €1.1 million in total support.

Goal two: Quality housing

Delivering high-quality social and affordable homes remained a core focus. During 2025, 816 new social homes were delivered through a range of delivery streams, and 156 new affordable purchase homes were advertised across schemes including Canal Bank, Kilcarbery and Swiftbanks.

Major delivery programmes continued

to progress. In Clonburris, homes were completed at the Canal Extension and construction commenced at Kishoge Gardens, alongside further planning and procurement steps to support large-scale delivery. In Kilcarbery, the initial joint venture concluded with a programme delivering 1,034 homes, including social, cost-rental and affordable homes, with further delivery scheduled to complete in 2026.

Quality and safety in existing homes also remained central, with stock condition surveys undertaken across 1,967 social homes and upgrade programmes progressing through energy retrofit claims, windows and doors upgrades and a range of safety works. Day-to-day operations delivery remained substantial, with 18,375 maintenance requests received and 13,437 repairs completed.

Preventing and responding to homelessness continued through allocations, supports to exit homelessness and targeted service responses, while vacancy was addressed through the Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant, with applications received, approvals progressed and payments made to support homes back into use.

Goal three: A thriving economy

Enterprise supports delivered through the Local Enterprise Office remained strong. Grant support totalling €897,789.59 was awarded across 32 businesses, directly creating 50 new full-time positions and



Innovation Apartments

supporting the potential for up to 284 jobs over a three-year period. A training programme of 115 courses was attended by 1,777 participants, alongside extensive mentoring activity with 806 mentoring assignments delivered.

Targeted programmes supported competitiveness and sustainability, including Green for Business, energy efficiency grants, LEAN participation and Digital for Business supports, while the

pathway for scaling continued with ten clients transferring from LEO to Enterprise Ireland. Work IQ Innovation Centre completed its first full year in operation, becoming home to 34 businesses and supporting the development of 126 jobs.

Strong operational performance supported the county's economic base. A 95 per cent commercial rates collection rate yielded an additional €9.2 million, bringing total rates income to over €155 million, while arrears reduced to approximately €11.1 million, the lowest level since 2008. Investment planning also continued through adoption of the 2026 revenue budget and preparation of a new three-year capital programme.

Goal four: A better place

Investment in parks, facilities and the public realm continued to enhance everyday life. A new Parks and Open Space Strategy was adopted and upgrades progressed across parks and sports facilities, including major works at Quarryvale Park and additional pitch upgrades delivered or under way

at multiple locations. New recreational facilities were also delivered, including new playspaces, teen spaces, multi-use games areas, outdoor learning and fitness facilities, and new hubs and cafés in key parks.

Green infrastructure delivery continued through tree maintenance and planting, with 14,605 trees surveyed, 10,536 pruned and 3,572 new trees planted, alongside meadowland maintenance and mini woodland delivery. Environmental protection also remained a core function, with 12,125 inspections delivered under the annual RMCEI plan and water monitoring targets achieved.

Strategic land and infrastructure delivery advanced across key growth areas. Milestones included 5,000 homes completed in Adamstown SDZ with further homes under construction, progress on Central Boulevard Park design, and continued delivery momentum in Clonburris SDZ, with the South Link Street reaching substantial completion and planning and

design progressing for new strategic parks and community infrastructure.

Goal five: Connected communities

Community development, inclusion and safety initiatives continued to expand. The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme supported disadvantaged individuals and local community groups, while the Public Participation Network (PPN) was successfully re-established and membership growth progressed through new registrations.

Community safety structures were strengthened through establishment of the new Local Community Safety Partnership and ongoing local safety forums.

Age-friendly and youth participation work continued through Older Persons Council activity, dementia cafés and Comhairle na nÓg, including an annual youth conference attended by 110 young people. Community grants totalling €470,060 were paid to 285 groups, supporting local activity and services.

Digital inclusion also progressed through a digital-first approach to plans and reports, expanded public information screens, online consultations and improved online payments, alongside libraries' expanded technology supports to help people get online and access services.

Goal six: Cultural richness

Libraries, arts and cultural services continued to thrive. Over 60,000 active library members engaged in more than 1.3 million library-related transactions during 973,236 visits, supported by expanded opening hours and the introduction of My

Open Library at Lucan, providing extended access seven days a week. Major capital progress included construction starting on Citywest Library and preparatory work for new libraries in Adamstown and Kishoge.

Arts and creative participation was supported through a wide programme of events and funding. The Arts Office delivered events attended by 18,500 people, NOISE Music hosted workshops across 30 locations, and Music Generation South Dublin supported music education participation for children and young people. Irish language promotion also progressed, including Gaeilge365 collaboration and Irish language events delivered through libraries and partners.

Goal seven: People first

Work continued to strengthen SDCC as a people-centred organisation delivering high-quality services. Recruitment and workforce development remained a focus, with 136 new recruits starting and extensive recruitment activity delivered through campaigns and interviews. Partnerships with third-level institutions supported internships and placements, alongside the launch of a new civil engineering apprenticeship, with two apprentices commencing.

Work also progressed on organisational development, governance and accessibility, including the continued roll-out of new branding, staff learning and development supports, wellbeing initiatives and ongoing delivery of council meetings, committee work and oversight structures. Together, this strengthened the organisation's capacity to deliver for communities.



Quarryvale Park

County Matters

Road Surfacing Trial to Reduce Carbon

We recently conducted a road surfacing pilot aimed at lowering carbon emissions. As the construction industry is a significant source of carbon output, the sector is actively seeking methods to mitigate its environmental impact by revising specifications, operations, and requirements

Currently, the best practice in road construction for reducing carbon involves using Reclaimed Asphalt Products (RAP) within construction layers. RAP is essentially the old road surface that is planed out prior to the new surface going down. As a sector this is widely used in all layers except the surface layer and up to 70% of the asphalt content can be RAP.

For SDCC Road Maintenance, our activities tend to consist of removing the top 40mm of the road and replacing it with a new 40mm layer, this layer

is known as the surface course. Unfortunately, there is no standard for the inclusion of RAP in this layer so we could not avail of the carbon reduction practices currently common in the industry.

To address this, SDCC Road Maintenance collaborated with industry stakeholders to identify feasible carbon reduction measures. Discussions with Roadstone led to two potential pilot initiatives:

- Use of up to 20% RAP in the surface course
- Use of bio-binders (lignin) as opposed to traditional bitumen in the mix. Bitumen is a petroleum based product while lignin is a natural and renewable resource.

To ensure a comprehensive industry perspective, we consulted with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and

the Department of Transport. These conversations were essential in evaluating the proposal's potential national benefits and establishing its relevance beyond the local context. TII recognised the wider significance of the pilot and agreed to carry out the post-construction survey and monitoring, thereby supporting national interests. Their involvement was instrumental, given their responsibility for setting national standards and providing technical expertise.

In addition, SDCC consulted with our insurers Irish Public Bodies to confirm that the scheme would align with the council's policy framework moving forward. The trial was conducted on the northbound carriageway of the R136 Outer Ring Road, extending from Roadstone Quarry to the N7 junction—a high-volume, 60 km/h route suitable for comprehensive mix testing. Approximately 700 meters of roadway were resurfaced, employing a range of pilot mixes:

- 10% RAP
- 20% RAP
- 10% RAP + 10% lignin
- 20% RAP + 10% lignin
- Control section (traditional mix)

The resurfacing works were carried out over two nights in mid November 2025.

Initial results showed all mixes performing to a similar standard and all complying with current specifications. This

monitoring will continue to ensure the road continues to meet the expected standard.

From a carbon reduction point of view the results were highly encouraging as shown in the below table.

% of RAP & lignin used	(kg CO2e /ton)	Saving of kg CO2e
Control	87.1	n/a
10% RAP	79.8	8.4%
20% RAP	73.6	15.5%
10% RAP + 10% lignin	65.4	24.9%

Overall this pilot reduced our carbon emissions by 19.1 % for this project but our most progressive mix showed a 32.1% reduction over a traditional mix which is extremely promising. SDCC will continue to evaluate the pilot over the next 24 months.

Discussions with Roadstone indicate that the use of RAP and lignin remains highly specialised and that producing such mixes would require a large-scale project. As a result, the application of RAP and lignin in surface courses for smaller resurfacing schemes may be limited until broader industry adoption occurs. Nevertheless, we are committed to leading advancements in this area.



Finance Report

Billing & Collection Report @ 27 Mar 2026

Billing	Arrears 31 Dec 2025	Budget 2026	Billed	Receipts/Credits	Arrears	% of Billed income
Commercial Rates	€11,192,587	€157,614,100	€159,806,823	€67,806,979	€103,192,431	42%
Housing Rents	€7,752,563	€42,547,400	€10,870,321	€10,974,205	€7,698,267	101%
Housing RAS Rents	€1,227,055	€2,315,500	€572,869	€574,497	€1,225,427	100%
Cash Receipts	Arrears 31 Dec 2025	Budget 2026	Billed	Receipts/Credits	Arrears	% of Budget income
Planning Fees	n/a	€1,110,000	n/a	€118,444	€0	11%
Fire Certificates	n/a	€450,000	n/a	€126,464	€0	28%
Parking Fees	n/a	€803,000	n/a	€149,589	€0	19%
Water Services/Uisce Eireann	€91,652	€1,759,400	€1,015,548	€306,990	€800,210	17%
	€20,313,445	€206,599,400	€172,265,561	€80,057,167	€112,916,335	

Debt Analysis - Social Housing Rent Accounts			
Category	Number	Amount	%
No arrears	6,493	2,907,255	60%
0-6 weeks	1912	394,444	19%
7-12 weeks	453	316,320	5%
13-18 weeks	323	392,138	3%
19-24 weeks	220	380,467	2%
25-52 weeks	564	1,721,442	5%
1 - 2 years	475	2,586,983	4%
> 2 years	479	4,813,728	4%
Total	10,919	€7,698,267	100%

Debt Analysis - Commercial Rates Accounts		
Category	Amount	%
2026	92,716,576	91%
2025	3,553,310	3%
2024	2,012,361	2%
2023	1,325,461	1%
2022	1,045,730	1%
2021	519,669	0%
2020	66,811	0%
Pre 2019	1,952,513	2%
Total	€ 103,192,431.00	100%

St. Patrick's Day Parades - Clondalkin



St. Patrick's Day Parades - Four Districts



St. Patrick's Day Parades - Lucan



St. Patrick's Day Parades - Palmerstown



St. Patrick's Day Parades - Tallaght



Opening of the 12th lock greenway



Tree planting at woodstown park



Launch of eco week



Hopeful theatre





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Facebook
X
Instagram
YouTube

Website
www.sdcc.ie

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