

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



**South Dublin County Council Meeting  
13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Chief Executive's Report  
Proposed Revision of the Litter Management Plan**

The Litter Management Plan is prepared as prescribed in **Section 10** of the Litter Pollution Act 1997.

**Section 11** sets out the requirements of a litter management plan for a local authority.

**Section 12** sets out the procedure for making, amending or replacing a litter management plan.

**Section 13** provides that the making, review, amendment or replacement of a litter management plan shall be a reserved function of the local authority.

Pursuant to the requirements of the relevant legislation, South Dublin County Council gave notice that a review of the Litter Management Plan made under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 would be undertaken:

The Draft Revision of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 was available for inspection online on the Council's Public Consultation Portal website

(<http://consult.sdublincoco.ie>) during the period from **6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Printed versions were available for inspection at County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 and Clondalkin Civic Centre, Ninth Lock Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 during office hours from **6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 could be made in writing up to **4pm on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026** and could be submitted online at <http://consult.sdublincoco.ie> or by post.

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this Chief Executive's Report is to present the outcome of the public consultation process, to consider and respond to submissions made during the consultation period and to make recommendations in relation to the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan where appropriate.

### **1.2 Structure of the Report**

This report provides the following:

- An introduction including details on the purpose of the report and an outline of the public consultation process that was carried out
- Description of proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan
- List of submissions received during the consultation period
- A summary of the issues raised in the submissions made during the consultation period and the Chief Executive's responses and recommendations
- Recommendation as to whether the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report or should not be proceeded with.

## **1.3 Outline of the Public Consultation Programme**

### **1.3.1 Non – Statutory Consultation**

Elected members were advised of the upcoming review of the Litter Management Plan, prior to the commencement of the period of public consultation.

SDCC advertised the revised Litter Management Plan and encouraged submissions through the following:

- Radio advertisements through FM104 and Q102 on the following dates – 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> February
- Notices published in The Echo on the following dates – 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February
- Regular promotion through SDCC social media channels throughout the period of public consultation.

### **1.3.2 Statutory Consultation**

The proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan and related documents were placed on public display for the statutory period from **6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

The review of the Litter Management Plan was an agenda item at the February meeting of the Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change Strategic Policy Committee which took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. The review of the Litter Management Plan was also an agenda item at a meeting of the Circular Economy subcommittee of the SPC on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March. The draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 was recommended to full Council by members at the Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC at the meeting of the SPC on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> of March.

Documentation related to the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan were made available for inspection online on the Council's Public Consultation Portal website (<http://consult.sdublincoco.ie>) during the period from **6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Printed copies were available for inspection at County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 and Civic Centre,

Clondalkin, Dublin 22 during office hours from **6th February 2026 to 6th March 2026**.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 could be made in writing up to **4pm on 6th March 2026** and could be submitted online at <http://consult.sdublincoco.ie> or by post.

Submissions were requested to be by one medium only. All submissions were to include a name and a contact address. It should be noted that the Freedom of Information Act, 1997-2006 (as amended) applies to all records held by South Dublin County Council. South Dublin County Council's Personal Data Privacy Statements can be viewed at [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie) and all personal data will be retained in line with statutory requirements.

- A total of 8 submissions were received.

## **2 Proposed Revision of the Litter Management Plan**

### **2.1 Overview Description of the Proposed Revision of the Litter Management Plan**

As part of the review of the Litter Management Plan, SDCC sought feedback in the following areas, via the public consultation process:

- Litter Management
- Litter Bins
- Litter Fines
- Litter Wardens
- Sources of Litter – General
- Household Waste
- Cigarette Litter
- Waste Management
- Illegal Signage
- Illegal Waste Collectors
- Dog Fouling
- Graffiti
- Environment

- Recycling Facilities
- Go Green Initiatives
- CCTV
- Chewing Gum
- Communication and Awareness
- Public Awareness
- Public Realm
- Enforcement and Regulation
- Packaging
- Takeaway / Fast-Food Litter
- Business Responsibilities
- Litter Prevention
- Education
- Illegal Dumping
- Cleansing Schedules
- Abandoned Vehicles

## **2.2 Plans and Details**

Details related to litter management within the SDCC administrative area, and the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 are available at the following links:

[Litter Management Plan - SDCC](#)

[Draft Litter Management Plan 2026 - 2029 | South Dublin County Council's Online Consultation Portal](#)

## **3 Public Consultation Process**

### **3.1 List of Submissions**

8 submissions were received during the specified period of the public consultation in respect of the proposed revision of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029:

- **SD-C405-LMP26-1** Vincent via Consultation Portal

- **SD-C405-LMP26-2** Derren Ó Brádaigh via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-3** Adamstown Tidy Towns via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-4** Suzanne Downes via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-5** Proinsias Mac Fhlannchadha via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-6** Declan Hanley via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-7** Stephen Daly via Consultation Portal
- **SD-C405-LMP26-8** Councillor Eoin Ó Broin via Consultation Portal

Table 1: Breakdown of topics raised within submissions

<b>Topic Number</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Number of Observations</b>
1	Litter Management	6
2	Litter Bins	4
3	Sources of Litter	3
4	Household Waste	3
5	Litter Wardens	2
6	Public Realm	2
7	Enforcement	2
8	Graffiti	2
9	CCTV	1
10	Waste Management	1
11	Litter Prevention	1
12	Illegal Dumping	1
13	Cleansing Schedules	1
14	Additional Comments	6

### **3.2 Summary and categorisation of topics raised and Chief Executive's responses**

This section presents an analysis of the 8 submissions and includes a summary of each of the 35 items raised under 14 different topics. Each item is addressed with responses and recommendations of the Chief Executive.

The responses of the Chief Executive have been framed taking account of the statutory obligations of the local authority, relevant government and

ministerial guidelines and the proper planning and sustainable development of the county.

## **Topic 1. Litter Management**

- 1.1 Early starts for cleansing crews
- 1.2 Compliance in multi-unit buildings
- 1.3 Quantitative targets in Litter Management Plan
- 1.4 Litter generated from fast-food outlets
- 1.5 Acknowledgement of staff involved in Litter Management
- 1.6 Relationship between illegal dumping and bin charges. Establishment of subcommittee to review household waste collection service

## **Chief Executive's Response**

### **1.1**

The Councils cleansing staff commence duty in accordance with agreed working arrangements. Daily deployment is structured to prioritise high-footfall areas, including village centres and locations adjacent to schools.

Where a specific operational requirement arises, earlier deployment may be facilitated subject to management approval and workforce arrangements. Routine start times are governed by agreed schedules, health and safety considerations and overall resource planning.

### **1.2**

An increasing number of residents in the County now live in apartments, duplexes and houses that are part of multi-unit developments with common areas, or shared spaces and services. In most cases, the shared facilities for the benefit of the residents are controlled and operated by an owners' management company (OMC) on behalf of its members, who may be owner-occupiers or landlords. OMCs are established to manage and maintain common areas in multi-unit developments and are the legal owners of the common areas on behalf of the owners of the homes.

The Council currently pays management fees to sixty-four OMCs in respect of seven hundred and eighty-five social homes. Our housing officers and maintenance teams are active in these estates and where our staff observe or receive complaints regarding the management of common areas in a mixed tenure development, contact is made with the relevant OMC or their property management agent to discuss the issues. The most common

complaints from tenants relate to the cleaning of communal areas and delays in maintenance and repairs. Similarly, the OMC can contact the Housing Department regarding issues relating to our tenant(s) for non-compliance with 'house rules' including anti-social behaviour, noise pollution and waste management.

The new Programme for Government outlines plans for improving the management of these developments by moving responsibility for the Multi-Unit Development Acts to the Department of Housing to streamline support for OMCs and improve oversight. It also proposes the establishment of a unit in the Housing Agency to regulate OMCs to ensure effective governance.

The WERLA (Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities) issued guidance to some 1,700 Property Management Agencies (PMA's) and Owners' Management Companies (OMC's) in 2025 highlighting their obligations under Waste Management. SDCC have developed a dedicated inspection form for multi-unit developments and continue to carry out inspections based on this.

SDCC maintains a register of those availing of an authorised waste collection service which includes the 3 waste streams in accordance with Section 34 (c) of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended.

### **1.3**

SDCC will report annually to Area Committees on the progress of the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

This report will include statistics of enforcement actions under the Litter Pollution Acts when reporting on the progress of the Litter Management Plan.

This information is regularly provided to elected Members in response to council questions and motions. The total number of litter fines issued 2023-2025 was 1,001 and the total number of notices issued was 179. This covered the period of the previous Litter Management Plan.

### **1.4**

As part of the Litter Management Plan, SDCC is committed to improving collaboration and communication with fast-food outlets in the county to address litter pollution.

SDCC Environmental Awareness officer will continue to collaborate with local businesses and support regular clean-up events by providing them with supports and resources such as litter pickers, bags and promotional materials. The Litter Warden and Waste Enforcement Section will provide additional information to businesses to assist in litter prevention and with meeting regulatory requirements.

### **1.5**

The acknowledgement of the work undertaken by staff involved in preparing the document and delivering day to day litter management operations is noted.

### **1.6**

SDCC as all Local Authorities do not have a role in the provision of a domestic waste collection service. The Local Authority has an enforcement role only, with regard to compliance with waste permits. The national position on waste collection services is that they are provided by private operators who compete within the market, the Local Authority exited the market in 2011 because it could not compete with private operators in these circumstances.

In accordance with the Waste Management Act 1996 and associated legislation, Waste Enforcement Officers complete inspections to ensure compliance by all persons generating, transporting and treating waste. The Waste Enforcement Officers investigate all complaints received in relation to domestic waste being stored in front/backyards and appropriate enforcement actions are taken.

As Local Authorities do not have any role in the provision of domestic waste collection services, we would not be in a position to establish a subcommittee or undertake research in this area. Our remit is limited solely to enforcing compliance with waste permit requirements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** SDCC will include a commitment in the Litter Management Plan to improve collaboration and communication with fast-food outlets in the county to address litter pollution.

SDCC will include enforcement statistics when reporting annually on the Litter Management Plan.

## **Topic 2. Litter Bins**

2.1 New underground bins, used by Liverpool Council

2.2 Full survey of public bins to be undertaken

2.3 Not enough bins in SDCC administrative area

2.4 Use of bin tagging, similar to DCC

### **Chief Executive's Response**

#### **2.1**

The underground bin system referenced operates as a communal waste solution in certain high-density urban streets and serves a different function to standard public litter bins.

In South Dublin County, Public Realm bins are provided for small, on-the-go litter. Household waste should be disposed of through each property's domestic collection service.

Having regard to local infrastructure, servicing arrangements and operational requirements, the underground system referenced would not be considered suitable in this context.

#### **2.2**

SDCC has carried out many litter-bin surveys across the county and this work is continuing. New and recently taken-in-charge areas, including Adamstown and West Lucan, will be included as part of this ongoing review.

SDCC have installed litter bins in Adamstown in areas that are taken in charge. A significant proportion of Adamstown has not been taken in charge and is still under the maintenance of the landowner/developer. Litter bins have been provided in these areas by the landowner/developer where they are considered appropriate.

#### **2.3**

The Council currently provides over 800 public litter bins across South Dublin County. This includes 110 new solar-powered compacting bins that have been installed in high-footfall and high-profile locations. These units

have approximately five times the capacity of standard bins and are monitored to optimise collection routes and servicing.

If a bin is full and has not been collected, this can be reported through the Council's customer care system, which allows issues to be logged and assigned for follow-up.

Public litter bins are not generally installed within residential estates, as these areas are served by the domestic waste collection system. Dog waste may be placed in any public litter bin or disposed of through the household black bin once bagged correctly.

## **2.4**

SDCC has begun rolling out smart solar bins that automatically report when they need attention. There are currently 110 in place in high profile urban areas, with a further 40 planned for 2026–2027. For standard litter bins, the Council will continue to review options to improve reporting and maintenance, including how technology may be used to enhance these systems. QR codes will be considered as part of the review.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

### **Topic 3. Sources of Litter.**

3.1 Nitrous oxide and vapes

3.2 Nitrous oxide

3.3 Free school lunches

3.4 Household waste being dumped / Community Bin

#### **Chief Executive's Response:**

### **3.1**

As Ireland moves toward a national system for safe disposal of nitrous oxide canisters, SDCC urge the public to **NOT** discard of them in household or public litter bins. Nitrous oxide canisters are hazardous waste, and the public are requested to bring them to a specialist hazardous-waste

collection point. The canisters are pressurised and incorrect disposal can result in severe safety issues due to unplanned crushing in waste collection trucks and recycling facilities.

Public litter bins are not designed for the disposal of large metal canisters, and they should not be placed in these units. Where a canister is found by a resident in a garden or on private property, it may be disposed of at Ballymount Civic Amenity.

The SDCC 'Disposable Vapes Pilot Project' with the Junior Safety Forum students and Technological University Dublin commenced in March 2026 to further develop the students Escape the Vape initiative and explore the repurposing of Disposable Vapes collected during litter cleanups. A short awareness film will be distributed at the end of the pilot capturing the student's involvement, the deconstruction of the waste vapes materials and the design process involved in repurposing the disposable vapes. The project highlights how powerful young people's voices can be when their ideas are recognised and supported by partners such as Healthy Ireland, SDCC's Environmental Department and TU Dublin.

### **3.2**

As Ireland moves toward a national system for safe disposal of nitrous oxide canisters, SDCC urge the public to **NOT** discard of them in household or public litter bins. Nitrous oxide canisters are hazardous waste, and the public are requested to bring them to a specialist hazardous-waste collection point. The canisters are pressurised and incorrect disposal can result in severe safety issues due to unplanned crushing in waste collection trucks and recycling facilities.

Public litter bins are not designed for the disposal of large metal canisters, and they should not be placed in these units. Where a canister is found by a resident in a garden or on private property, it may be disposed of at Ballymount Civic Amenity.

### **3.3**

SDCC regular engages with schools in the county through its Environmental Awareness team. SDCC actively supports litter pick initiatives that drive

behavioural change include the primary school “Picker Pals” Programme and those litter picks organised through SDCCs Junior Safety Forum. SDCCs participation in the National Spring Clean Month will be launched on 1st April 2026 in Lucan Village, in collaboration with An Taisce, and invites have been extended to all primary and secondary schools in the locality.

SDCC will continue to work with schools and to explore the impact of free school lunches on litter pollution.

### **3.4**

As the collection of household waste is managed by private operators, SDCC would not have a role in providing community bins. The provision of large community bins would be a matter for residents to negotiate with waste collection companies.

**RECOMMENDATION:** SDCC will explore the impact of free school lunches on litter pollution through the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 4. Household Waste**

4.1 Adamstown primary pilot zone for ‘Smart Compactor Bins’

4.2 Public-bin trucks to be re-instated

4.3 Lack of enforcement / database of residential / civic and commercial units not engaging with authorised providers

### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

#### **4.1**

SDCC have installed litter bins in Adamstown in areas that are taken in charge. A significant proportion of Adamstown has not been taken in charge and is still under the maintenance of the landowner/developer. Litter bins have been provided in these areas by the landowner/developer where they were considered appropriate.

The first phase of the provision of solar compactor bins has been completed with installations of over 110 units across Tallaght,

Rathfarnham, Clondalkin and Lucan. Phase 2 which will be carried out in 2026 will target high-footfall areas such as town/village/district centres and busy park entrances. The locations for Phase 3 which will be implemented in 2027 will be determined based on the operational demands of the existing bin provision within the county. The request to include Adamstown has been noted and will be examined in the context of Phase 3.

## **4.2**

Household waste collection services are provided by authorised private waste operators operating within a regulated market framework. These services are not delivered directly by the Council.

The situation nationally is that waste collection services are provided by private operators who compete within the market, the Council exited the market in 2011 because it could not compete with private operators in these circumstances.

The Council has an enforcement role only, with regard to compliance with waste permits.

## **4.3**

SDCC maintains a register of those availing of an authorised waste collection service which includes the 3 waste streams in accordance with Section 34 (c) of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended.

There is no legal basis for compiling a register of individuals utilising civic amenity sites and holding this personal data. Byelaws allow for residents to utilise civic amenities to legally dispose of their waste, but they must be able to provide receipts of same should they be requested to do so by an authorised person.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 5. Litter Wardens**

### **5.1 Increased awareness of Litter Warden service**

## 5.2 More Litter Wardens needed and more enforcement

### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

#### **5.1**

SDCC currently employs six Litter Wardens and is committed to a visible litter warden presence achieved through the active promotion of the service.

#### **5.2**

SDCC currently employs six Litter Wardens who are responsible for enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and Section 71 of the Waste Management Acts 1996, relating to abandoned vehicles. Litter enforcement is a broad-scope function encompassing investigation, evidence gathering, follow-up action and prosecution support. Enforcement actions are carried out when the necessary evidence is available.

**RECOMMENDATION:** SDCC commits to more effective promotion of services and resources related to the prevention and control of litter within the county.

### **Topic 6. Public Realm**

6.1 Modern equipment and machinery

6.2 Public Realm and Planning

### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

#### **6.1**

The Councils cleansing staff are provided with appropriate PPE and equipment to carry out their duties safely and effectively. This includes manual litter pickers for targeted work, as well as mechanical road sweepers.

In village centres and urban areas, Green Machine sweepers are used to address litter build-up. For heavier waste and illegal dumping, JCBs and grab trucks are deployed where required to remove bulk material safely and efficiently.

## **6.2**

SDCC have installed litter bins in Adamstown in areas that are taken in charge. A significant proportion of Adamstown has not been taken in charge and is still under the maintenance of the landowner/developer. Litter bins have been provided in these areas by the landowner/developer where consider appropriate. Installation of litter bins in park, open spaces and civic plazas is provided through conditioned landscape plans as required under relevant planning permissions.

Public litter bins are intended for small, on-the-go waste and the provision of bins in high density development will be considered and provided where appropriate having regard to meeting the needs of the environment in which they are placed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 7. Enforcement**

7.1 Illegal Dumping, Bawnogue

7.2 Provision of infrastructure Adamstown

### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

#### **7.1**

Enforcement and Licensing sections will review reports of illegal dumping in the areas mentioned. The Litter Management Plan makes a commitment to the responsible use of CCTV schemes, in line with the Circular Economy, Codes of Practice, to prevent littering/illegal dumping in targeted locations.

The further introduction of CCTV will be implemented on a phased basis, subject to recommendation of the CCTV oversight board and approval by the Chief Executive. Areas with the highest recorded levels of littering and illegal dumping will be prioritised initially, if less intrusive measures are

demonstrably unsuccessful. SDCC will pursue enforcement actions against any identifiable person who unlawfully deposits waste in our county.

## **7.2**

SDCC have installed litter bins in Adamstown in areas that are taken in charge. A significant proportion of Adamstown has not been taken in charge and is still under the maintenance of the landowner/developer. Litter bins have been provided in these areas by the landowner/developer where consider appropriate. Installation of litter bins in park, open spaces and civic plazas in provided through conditioned landscape plans as required under relevant planning permissions.

Public litter bins are intended for small, on-the-go waste and the provision of bins in high density development will be considered and provided where appropriate having regard to meeting the needs of the environment in which they are placed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 8. Graffiti**

### **8.1 and 8.2**

Graffiti can be reported to SDCC through an online form at the following location:

[SDCC Forms - Graffiti Report](#)

The Council recognises that certain locations experience recurring graffiti and these areas are monitored as part of ongoing maintenance. Reports of graffiti are logged and addressed. Offensive or discriminatory graffiti is treated as a priority and removed as quickly as possible.

The suggestion of community creative murals at identified locations is noted. Any such proposal would require site-specific assessment, including consideration of planning requirements under the Planning and Development Acts, property ownership, visual impact, and future maintenance arrangements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 9. CCTV**

### 9.1 Lack of CCTV enabling dumping

#### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

Enforcement and licensing sections will review reports of illegal dumping in the areas mentioned. In adherence to the LGMA's codes of practice for the use of CCTV for the prevention, detection and prosecution of litter and waste offences, the use of CCTV should be considered as a last resort, other measures should be deployed in the first instance. These measures will continue to be deployed in conjunction with other relevant sections of SDCC and reviewed to determine their effectiveness.

Should these measures not address the issue, then a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) and a Business Case for CCTV may be prepared.

The Litter Management Plan makes a commitment to the responsible use of CCTV schemes, in line with the Circular Economy, Codes of Practice, to prevent littering/illegal dumping in targeted locations.

The further introduction of CCTV will be implemented on a phased basis, subject to the recommendation of the CCTV oversight board and approval of the Chief Executive. Areas with the highest recorded levels of littering and illegal dumping will be prioritised initially, if less intrusive measures are demonstrably unsuccessful. SDCC will pursue enforcement actions against any identifiable person who unlawfully deposits waste in our county.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Litter Management Plan 2026-2029 includes a commitment to the responsible use of CCTV schemes, in line with the Circular Economy, Codes of Practice, to prevent littering/illegal dumping in targeted locations.

The further introduction of CCTV will be implemented on a phased basis, subject to the recommendation of the CCTV oversight board and the approval of the Chief Executive.

## **Topic 10. Waste Management**

### 10.1 Additional recycling centres

#### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

The provision of civic amenity site, such as Ballymount, are subject to EPA licence. Due to the variety and volume of waste collected at the site, the EPA licence conditions impose specific conditions that limit the possibility for the provision of similar facilities at multiple locations throughout the county. Within the county boundaries a second privately operated civic amenity facility is available for the public to utilise, also situated in Ballymount.

There are currently 62 recycling/ bring centres in the county. These provide the public access for the recycling of bottles, metal cans, and clothes. The objective of the bring banks is to provide facilities within 1km of residential properties within the county.

SDCC is committed to continuing to identify opportunities to expand the current offering of recycling facilities for the public throughout the county.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 11. Litter Prevention**

### 11.1 Request for specific actions in Bawnogue

#### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

SDCC Litter Wardens patrol the county educating people on litter and issuing fines where appropriate. Litter Wardens investigate all reports received through the Environmental Complaints System operated by SDCC. Where evidence is uncovered, Litter Wardens initiate enforcement action as appropriate under the Litter Pollution Acts.

When multiple reports are received for issues at the same location, Litter Wardens increase patrols in attempt to deter repeat illegal dumping.

Cleaning work in residential areas such as Bawnogue is carried out as required during the week in accordance with normal rostered working hours. There is no proposal to extend this to include weekend cleansing.

Enforcement and licensing sections will review reports of illegal dumping in the areas mentioned. In adherence to the LGMA's codes of practice for the use of CCTV for the prevention, detection and prosecution of litter and waste offences, the use of CCTV should be considered as a last resort, other measures should be deployed in the first instance. These measures will continue to be deployed in conjunction with our colleagues in the Public Realm section and reviewed to determine their effectiveness. Should these measures not address the issue, then a business case for CCTV may be prepared in the future.

SDCC regularly reports to elected members, through council questions and motions regarding enforcement actions taken with regards to litter and waste.

SDCC Litter Enforcement can be contacted at 01-4149220.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

## **Topic 12. Illegal Dumping**

### 12.1 Illegal dumping in Bawnogue

#### **Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

SDCC acknowledges the issue raised regarding repeated illegal dumping in Bawnogue and can confirm that there is a business case in currently being progressed to temporarily install CCTV in Bawnogue. This scheme will operate in line with the Circular Economy Codes of Practice.

While reporting fatigue is acknowledged, each report of illegal dumping that is received helps to build evidence, which supports SDCC to implement actions, such as the installation of CCTV.

Each report received is assigned to a Litter Warden for investigation and is fully trackable through the Environmental Complaints System operated by SDCC.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

**Topic 13. Cleansing Schedules**

13.1 Cleansing work schedules / morning starts

**Chief Executives Response and Recommendation:**

**13.1**

The Councils cleansing staff commence duty in accordance with agreed working arrangements. Daily deployment is structured to prioritise high-footfall areas, including village centres and locations adjacent to schools.

Where a specific operational requirement arises, earlier deployment may be facilitated subject to management approval and workforce arrangements. Routine start times are governed by agreed schedules, health and safety considerations and overall resource planning.

**RECOMMENDATION:** No amendments required to draft Litter Management Plan 2026-2029.

**Topic 14 Additional comments raised during Public Consultation:**

**14.1 Bonfires, work schedules and staff resources**

**14.2 Parked cars and impact on road sweeping**

**14.3 Reference to gully cleaning in Litter Management Plan**

**14.4 Green Machine not explicitly mentioned in Litter Management Plan**

**14.5 Power Washing on footpaths in villages**

**14.6 Promotion of litter management services and collaboration with volunteer groups**

**14.1**

The Council undertakes extensive work in the lead-up to Halloween, including additional operations and on-call responses to deal with bonfire

materials. The works undertaken are completed in conjunction with local Gardaí. Staffing levels and working arrangements for Halloween are reviewed each year and managed in line with operational requirements and advice provided by local Gardaí, whilst ensuring the safety of council staff.

## **14.2**

The council acknowledge the effectiveness of street sweeping is diminished due to the occurrence of parked cars. Whilst the council agrees with the sentiment of engaging with residents to request cars not to be parked in areas at specific time and date to allow for effective street sweeping, it does not propose to do this through leaflet drops.

Currently street sweeping schedules are available to be reviewed on [SDCC - Oxigen Environmental](#). SDCC is actively working with the street sweeping contractor, and other service contractors, to examine the possibility of expanding the use of digital technology to notify residents of pending services and actions required to help deliver a more effective service.

## **14.3**

Road channels and gullies are cleaned by Oxigen Environmental Ltd on behalf of SDCC under the provision of the road sweeping and associated services contract. The primary focus on this contract is litter management and therefore this contract is managed by the Public Realm section.

## **14.4**

The Green Machine units are considered part of the Council's overall street-sweeping fleet. They operate in the same way as our mechanical sweepers, but on a smaller scale, and are included within those references in the Litter Management Plan. SDCC will continue to examine new technologies to improve street cleansing efficiencies to cater for the changes to the built environments.

## **14.5**

Footpath cleaning, including the use of power washing, forms part of the council's wider street-cleansing programme. Power washing is carried out where there is a specific need and is subject to the type of pavement material used. Some of the council's mini-sweepers recently adopted as part of operations are fitted with power-washing equipment and can be used for locations that require additional treatments.

## 14.6

SDCC currently employs six Litter Wardens and is committed to a visible litter warden presence achieved through active promotion of the service.

Litter Wardens regularly engage with and support the work of the Environmental Awareness section. The Litter Management Plan places a significant emphasis on prevention of litter and greater alignment between all relevant sections of the council including litter and waste enforcement, public realm operations and environmental awareness.

SDCC acknowledges the invaluable role that Tidy Towns and other voluntary groups play in keeping our county tidy throughout the year.

The SDCC Environmental Awareness Section frequently engages with community and Tidy Towns Groups and in 2025, funded more than €62,500, through the social credit scheme, and €82,000 to Tidy Towns Groups.

The Environmental Awareness section provide community clean up materials to volunteers, including anti-litter signage, litter pickers, gloves, refuse sacks, biodegradable leaf bags and gardening tools. Access to Biodiversity experts is also provided to community groups and schools via the Environmental Awareness team. In 2025, over 5,500 waste material collections were arranged by SDCC in support of the work completed by volunteers.

The Environmental Awareness Team regularly engage with Tidy Towns groups to ensure continued support in their area. Recommendations highlighted in Adjudicator reports are addressed in these engagements and such actions have been acknowledged by a Tidy Towns adjudicator in 2025. SDCC is committed to building on the achievements of the Tidy Towns groups to date, and as such has arranged a Tidy Towns event to recognise their outstanding voluntary commitment. Based on feedback received from the Tidy Towns groups, the event will focus on the Sustainability theme, and a Tidy Towns adjudicator is scheduled to engage with the groups on the day.

SDCC Litter Wardens are available for further engagement with local volunteer groups on request.

**RECOMMENDATION:** SDCC commits to the more effective promotion of services and resources related to the prevention and control of litter within the county.

#### **4.0 Assessment as to whether the proposed review of the Litter Management Plan is consistent with SDCC policies**

##### **SDCC Corporate Plan 2025-2029**

The proposed revision of the SDCC Litter Management Plan supports the following Corporate Plan Goals:

##### **A Better Place**

Deliver the infrastructure and facilities required to serve our growing population.

##### **Connected Communities and Citizens**

Support our communities to be integrated, inclusive and safe.

The proposed revision of the SDCC Litter Management Plan supports the following Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030 goal:

**Goal 1** – for the County of South Dublin to become a better place in which to live and work.

#### **5.0 Chief Executive's Recommendation**

Having considered the submissions made, a Draft Litter Management Plan was prepared and presented to the Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC on 30<sup>th</sup> March. The revised plan will cover the period 2026-2029 and action plans will be implemented each year.

Following the recommendation of the members of the Environment Public Realm and Climate Change SPC, the Litter Management Plan 2026-2029, drafted in accordance with the Litter Pollution Act 1997 as amended, is now before the members for approval.