

# Annual Report 2025



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# Mayor's Foreword



Pamela Kearns | Mayor

It has been my great privilege to serve as the First Citizen of South Dublin. The past year has been both busy and rewarding, and above all, it has been a profound honour to engage with so many dedicated and inspiring individuals across the county who contribute to making South Dublin an inclusive, vibrant and welcoming place for all.

Over the course of my term to date, I have had the opportunity to officially launch several building projects that reflect South Dublin County Council's strong commitment to providing homes for our residents. I was also delighted to attend several outstanding performances at the Civic Theatre, including productions by members of our newer communities. In particular, the Hopeful Theatre Group, an exceptional troupe of amateur actors, offered a deeply moving portrayal of the lived experience of refugees settling in a new country. Their performances will remain with me for a long time.

I thoroughly enjoyed welcoming several local schools to the Council Chamber for "Ask Me Anything" question-and-answer sessions, which proved to be both insightful and educational for all involved. It was also a pleasure to attend an event in Áras Chrónáin in Clondalkin to honour former President Michael D. Higgins, and subsequently to have the honour of meeting our current President in Dublin Castle.

I was delighted to participate in our tree-planting initiative in partnership with Stepping Stone Forests. I am continually inspired by the exceptional volunteers throughout our county, and I am proud to say that I planted many trees across South Dublin. I look forward to seeing them flourish in our parks in the years to come.

One particularly joyful occasion was the opening of the magical Fairy Trail in Tymon Park alongside local schoolchildren. It was wonderful to see their faces light up at the sight of the beautifully crafted wooden sculptures. I also had the pleasure of attending numerous sporting events both at Tallaght Stadium and across the county, and I look forward to supporting many more in the future.

I attended a wide range of community events hosted in our excellent library network and had the honour of presenting the annual sports bursary awards to several highly talented local athletes. The importance of these awards cannot be overstated, and they remain a very positive and impactful Council initiative.

On a personal note, I was honoured to officially open the new Intergenerational Centre in Tymon Park. This facility has long been needed by the Templeogue community, and I am pleased to see it is already proving to be a great success.

I also had the privilege of reopening areas of Tymon Park that had previously been closed due to the Flood Alleviation Scheme. This occasion held particular significance for me, having witnessed first-hand the devastation caused by flooding in 2011. It was deeply reassuring to know that this vital scheme will prevent such an event from occurring again.

I was delighted and honoured to accept the Local Authority of the Year award in November on behalf of our outstanding executive, staff, and councillors. The effort and dedication involved in achieving this award cannot be overstated. Since my election to the Council in 2009, I have consistently witnessed the immense, often unseen, work carried out by Council staff on behalf of our county, and I was thrilled to see that work formally recognised during my term.

That work will undoubtedly continue, and I look forward, with optimism and enthusiasm, to the delivery of forthcoming projects and plans relating to housing, parks, community astro turf facilities, play spaces, and much more.

In closing, I wish to sincerely thank the management and staff of South Dublin County Council for their continued support throughout my term to date. I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with them to ensure that South Dublin remains the best possible place to live, work, play and do business.

Cllr. Pamela Kearns  
Mayor South Dublin County

# Chief Executive's Foreword



Colm Ward | Chief Executive

## Purpose, Vision and Mission

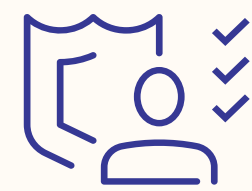


### Our Purpose

Greater opportunity for all

Our purpose is why we exist. 'Greater opportunity for all' is our commitment — to individuals, communities, and to the future. It's not just a goal but the foundation for everything we do.

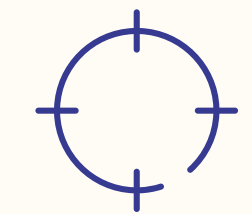
We work to remove barriers, empower people, and create real, sustainable paths forward. Every day, we act to realise greater opportunity for all — because when opportunity grows, everyone benefits.



### Our Vision

To be a place that meets the needs and ambitions of everyone in South Dublin.

Our vision is a statement of intent. It is our ambition for the future of our organisation and our county: to be a place that meets the needs and ambitions of everyone in South Dublin.



### Our Mission

Our mission sets out how we will realise our vision. It is action-oriented, practical, and achievable.

By actively listening to our diverse communities, embracing technology and thinking innovatively we will create a resilient county that meets the needs of today and prepares us for the future.

We will harness the talents of our skilled workforce to deliver inclusive and sustainable solutions.

Colm Ward  
Chief Executive



Grand Canal Greenway 12th Lock to Hazelhatch

# Governance Statement



Public Sector Equality

## Purpose

The purpose of this governance statement is to provide relevant information on the governance structures and governance arrangements within South Dublin County Council including on council, committees, senior management and related areas. It demonstrates our commitment to effective governance, recognises key legislative and good governance requirements and affirms the council's compliance with the Local Government Code of Governance obligations.

## Good Governance

Fundamentally, good governance in the local government sector and wider public sector is about delivering priorities, achieving objectives, behaving with integrity and acting in the public interest, in ways that are consistent with legal, regulatory and government policy obligations. Governance refers to the framework of rules, relationships, systems and processes by which the local authority is directed, controlled and held to account and whereby authority within an organisation is exercised and maintained. It encompasses authority, accountability, stewardship and leadership, direction and control.

## Good Governance Principles

CORE PRINCIPLE 1 - Good governance means focusing on the purpose of the authority, on outcomes that deliver sustainable economic, community and wider societal benefits and on implementing a vision for the local authority.

CORE PRINCIPLE 2 - Good governance means promoting and demonstrating public service values through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour.

CORE PRINCIPLE 3 - Good governance means elected members and officials working together to achieve a common purpose within a framework of clearly defined functions and roles.

CORE PRINCIPLE 4 - Good governance means developing the organisational capacity and the leadership capability and competencies of elected members and officials to operate effectively and fulfil the purpose of the organisation.

CORE PRINCIPLE 5 - Good governance means taking well-informed and transparent decisions and managing risks and performance.

CORE PRINCIPLE 6 - Good governance means engaging openly and comprehensively with local people, citizens and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

CORE PRINCIPLE 7 - Good governance means actively contributing to the furtherance and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by delivering on the priorities and actions within the Climate Action Plan and the provisions of the Climate Act.

## Our Commitment to Good Governance

As the Mayor and Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, and on behalf of the elected members, management and staff we confirm that:

- 1.** We have adopted the governance principles as the fundamental bedrock and philosophy on how we operate as a governing body and as an executive.
- 2.** The Local Government Code of Governance has been adopted and the extent to which the council is in compliance with the code has been reviewed and assessed.
- 3.** The Statement of Internal Financial Control is submitted by the Chief Executive to the elected members and to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the SIFC and provides an assurance on an annual basis to the elected members. Mechanisms are available to the Audit Committee to notify the elected members of any issues that arise outside of the normal annual reporting.
- 4.** Compliance with legal and regulatory obligations are acknowledged and adhered to.
- 5.** There is clarity of roles and responsibilities based on the reserved and executive functions and based on committee terms of reference.
- 6.** Codes of Conduct and ethics declarations for members and employees are in place.
- 7.** Procedures are in place for the making of protected disclosures in accordance with section 21(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 and confirmation that the annual report required under section 22(1) of the Act has been published.
- 8.** The council and committees review their own performance on a periodic basis.
- 9.** We have instituted appropriate governance oversight arrangements in respect of subsidiary, associated and related companies.
- 10.** As part of our commitment to effective oversight and accountability, we have developed and continue to enhance our overall assurance framework utilising external and internal assurance sources to ensure good performance as part of our governance culture.

Cllr. Pamela Kearns | Mayor South Dublin County

Colm Ward | Chief Executive

# About the Council



Innovation Awards 2025

South Dublin County Council delivers over 800 individual public services. As we endeavour to become an ever more people-first organisation, designing services that involve all stakeholders becomes a priority. The council also has a significant body of work under the National Planning Framework and Project Ireland 2040 across housing, transportation, community and economic development.

Through consultation and active listening to residents, communities and customers, we will put their needs and experience at the centre of our service delivery. This way we hope to build trust and confidence in local government and make South Dublin a truly great place to live, visit and do business.

We strive to be a citizen-first, proactive organisation that serves all of our communities both now and for the future.

## South Dublin – A Profile

Located at the foothills of the Dublin Mountains, South Dublin covers an area of approximately 223 square kilometres. It is bordered by Dublin City and Fingal to the north, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown and County Wicklow to the south, and County Kildare to the west.

Established on 1 January 1994, SDCC operates across this diverse and growing area, which is defined by the River Liffey to the north and the Dublin Mountains to the south.

## Democracy

Our 40 elected members represent seven local electoral areas. They were elected in June 2024 and serve until the next local elections 2029. The Mayor, as the first citizen of the county, is a sitting elected member (councillor). Both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected at the annual meeting by the elected members.

South Dublin County Council had a 50:50 split of elected representatives on the council in 2025 with 20 female and 20 male representatives. Along with the Corporate Policy Group, six Strategic Policy Committees develop and recommend policy to the Council. Committees are made up of elected members and representatives of the business, farming, environment, community and trade union sectors.

## Population

According to the 2022 Census we have a population of 301,075 people living in 106,074 homes. This represents an 8% increase from the previous census in 2016. This increase is equal to the national figure.

## Demographics

The average age of people living in South Dublin is 36.6, compared to 38.8 nationally. The county has a younger population and a lower number of older people compared to the national average (13% vs. 15%). 14% of residents identify as having a nationality other than Irish, higher than the national average of 13.4%, and 5.9% have a Traveller community background.

South Dublin also has affluent and disadvantaged neighbourhoods that sit side-by-side. 7.3% of the population in South Dublin live in affluent areas, compared to 76.8% living in marginally below average areas, 13.1% in disadvantaged areas, and 2.74% in very disadvantaged areas.

## Employment

58% of all adults living in South Dublin are in work, 20% are students and 15% are retired. The overall unemployment rate was 8.7% for the county in 2022, which is in line with the national average. Male participation in the labour force is higher than females across every age group. The category where the highest number of people work is commerce and trade (28.4%, 38,964 persons) and professional services (24.7%, 33,900 persons).

## Education

The share of the population achieving a degree/post graduate diploma/PhD was markedly higher in 2022 at 26.7% compared to 19.7% in 2011. This is just below the national average of 27.6%.

## Households

Between 2016 and 2022, 7,687 new homes were added in South Dublin, bringing the total housing units to 106,074 homes. This is a growth rate of 7.81% which is higher than the national average of 5.41%. Home ownership in the county is on a par with the national average with 66% of households in the county owning their own home (2022 Census), with a further 16% renting. This compares with 66% of households owning their home nationally and 28% renting. The vacancy rate is significantly lower than the national average with almost 1 in 10 (9%) properties vacant because owners are in a nursing home/hospital.

A greater proportion of family units in South Dublin are one parent families with children accounting for 17.3% of all households, compared to 14.6% nationally.

## Irish language

33.8% of the population speak Irish, lower than the national average of 37.7%.



School Safe Zone

# Our Principal Services

We deliver a range of services, including facilities, programmes, grants and events including:

- Climate action and biodiversity, environmental services, major emergency management, waste and enforcement, active travel programme, public realm management and maintenance, natural water and flood management.
- Housing including social housing programme, housing allocations, maintenance and refurbishment, social services, estate management
- Economic development, enterprise support, promotion of the county for investment asset management, county promotion and tourism development
- Placemaking including forward planning, development management, building control, transport planning, management and road safety, heritage and architectural conservation
- Community development, community safety, age-friendly, integration and social inclusion initiatives, sports programmes, health and well-being initiatives
- Arts and cultural development, leisure and recreation, library services, festivals and events, Irish language promotion
- Electoral register, local elections, support for council structures and civic engagement, customer services, corporate governance, financial management, HR, IT, legal and architectural services

These services and supports underpin everyday life and help the county move confidently into the future.



Ballyroan Library Christmas Market

# Council Meetings

There were 95 meetings of the full Council, Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee, Corporate Policy Group and Area Committees comprising:

11 Council Meetings

1 Annual Meeting

3 Special Meetings of the County Council

1 Annual Budget Meeting

6 Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee Meetings (including 1 Special Budget Meeting)

11 Corporate Policy Group meetings

18 meetings across the six Strategic Policy Committees

4 Audit Committee Meetings

10 Rathfarnham/Tempelogue/Firhouse-Bohernabreena area committee meetings

10 Clondalkin, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart/Brittas area committee meetings

10 Lucan/Palmerstown/North Clondalkin area committee meetings

10 Tallaght area committee meetings



Work IQ Innovation Centre for Technology and Enterprise Growth

# Strategic Policy Committees

The Corporate Policy Group has a statutory role in proposing how work is allocated and coordinated across the strategic policy committees. Below are the approved work programmes for the six SPCs:



Butler McGee Park Football Pitches

## Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC

**Chair:** Cllr. Vicki Casserly  
**Director:** Jason Frehill (January – August)  
 Lorna Maxwell (September– December)

- Implementation of the Library Development Plan
- Adamstown and Dublin West Libraries - Future plans and project updates
- My Open Library development and branch network roll-out
- Role of Creative Ireland, Crinniú na nÓg, Music Generation etc in the development of arts and culture in the County
- Public Art Steering Committee Reports and Updates
- Development and promotion of Parthalán Place
- Support the role and development of Rua Red and the Civic
- Tallaght Heritage Centre - Future plans and project updates
- Implementation of the County Heritage Plan or any successive (succeeding) Plan
- National Plan for Irish Language Public Services 2024-2030 (ongoing item for discussion and updates)
- Implementation of ReFrame Arts Development Strategy 2022 – 2026
- Events, Festivals and Venues
- Joint meetings/workshops with other SPCs in crosscutting themes, including:
  1. Tourism Strategy and Evening Time Economy (EETD SPC)
  2. Statutory Planning Authority role

## Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

**Chair:** Cllr. Vicki Casserly  
**Director:** Jason Frehill

- Implementation of the Local Enterprise Office Development Plan
- Grange Castle – Future development, masterplan, marketing and contribution to Economic Development of the County
- Work IQ - Operational updates
- Local Enterprise Office Feasibility and Priming Grant studies
- South Dublin Food Hub development and project updates
- Tallaght Evening Time Economy Strategy and associated review of the Business Support Fund to support the plan's implementation
- Business Support Fund updates
- 12th Lock Masterplan - Future plans and project updates
- Implementation of South Dublin County Council's Tourism Strategy 2024 – 2029, including tourism projects at the Dublin Mountains, Rathfarnham Castle Courtyard, and Lucan House etc.
- The development and expanded use of Tallaght Stadium
- Local Economic and Community Plan updates
- Preparation of County Economic Strategy
- Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan updates
- Joint meetings/workshops with other SPCs on crosscutting policies

## Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

**Chair:** Cllr. Brian Lawlor (January – June)  
 Cllr. David McManus (July– December)

**Director:** Teresa Walsh

- Waste Enforcement programme of works (EPA andand WERLA priorities)
- Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2025 -2029
- Circular Economy and Environmental Awareness Activities
- Community Climate Action Fund (CCAF)
- Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes Updates
- Sports Pitch Strategy Implementation updates
- Sports pavillions programme
- Dublin Local Authority EV Charging Strategy
- Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 Updates
- District Heating
- National Waste Management Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2024 - 2030
- Dublin Environmental Noise Action Plan 2024 – 2028
- Water Action Plan
- Review of Tree Management Policy 2021-2026
- Review of Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 and Pollinator Plan 2026-2029
- Decarbonisation of buildings - DeliveREE programme
- Revised Draft of Casual Trading Byelaws
- Anaerobic Digestion Feasibility Study
- Nature of Play – SDCC Play Policy



Launch of Big Belly Bins

# Strategic Policy Committees

**Housing SPC**

**Chair:** Cllr. Mick Duff  
**Director:** Elaine Leech

- Implementation of Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026
- Affordable Housing and Cost Rental Schemes
- Age Friendly Housing
- Allocations and Housing Need (including review of the Allocation Scheme)
- Implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-29
- Energy-Retrofit, Planned Maintenance and Voids Programmes
- Anti-Social/Community Safety Strategy 2025-2029
- Tenant Participation/Engagement Strategy 2025-2029
- Implementation of the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027
- Vacant Homes Schemes
- Housing Communications, Data and Systems



Regeneration of West Tallaght Parks

**Land Use Transportation and Planning SPC**

**Chair:** Cllr. Teresa Costello (January – February)  
 Cllr. Yvonne Collins (March – December)

**Director:** Eoin Burke

- Clondalkin Local Area Plan
- Commencement of new 10-year County Development Plan 2028-2028 (including Economic and Employment Lands Analysis)
- One dig (Road Maintenance) Policy
- HGV Mobility Policy
- Speed Limit Review – urban speed limit implementation and guidance
- Active Travel – including Cycle South Dublin update and review
- Active Travel – Quiet Streets
- Active Travel – Safe School Zones
- Phased Implementation of the new Planning and Development Act 2024
- Development Contribution Scheme
- Building Control and Market Surveillance Policy updates
- Taking in Charge Policy
- Electric Vehicle Charging Guidelines (in conjunction with EWCC SPC)
- Rural Housing Policy update
- Planning Enforcement Guidelines

**Social, Community, Equality and Integration SPC**

**Chair:** Cllr. Emma Murphy  
**Director:** Elaine Leech (January – May)  
 Lorna Maxwell (June – December)

- Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030
- Implementation of Active South Dublin, Local Sports Plan
- Community and Leisure Facilities - Capital Programme, Strategy and Governance
- Community and Sports Grants (including new Sports Bursary)
- Community Development, Social Inclusion and Health and Wellbeing Initiatives
- Comhairle na nÓg Work Programme 2025
- Integration Strategy 2025-2029
- Autism Village Friendly Pilot 2025
- South Dublin Age Friendly Strategy 2025-29



Spookdalkin 2025

# Committee Membership

## Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC

### Council Members

Louise Dunne (Sinn Féin) (Chair)  
 Darragh Adelaide (People Before Profit)  
 Sarah Barnes (Fine Gael)  
 Dean Donnelly (Independent)  
 Glen Moore (Irish Freedom Party)  
 Eoin Ó Broin (Social Democrats)

### Sectoral Members

Emma Kennedy – Business Commercial  
 Noel Gavin - Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Yemi Ojo - Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Elaine Vince O'Hara - ETB

## Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

### Council Members

Brian Lawlor (Fine Gael) (Chair)  
 Linda de Courcy (Independent Ireland)  
 Trevor Gilligan (Fianna Fail)  
 Roisin Mannion (Sinn Féin)  
 Lynn McCrave (Fine Gael)  
 Dermot Richardson (Independent)  
 Francis Timmons (Independent)

### Sectoral Members

Peter Lantry – Business Commercial  
 Benedict Chukwurah - Public Participation Network (PPN)

## Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

### Council Members

Vicki Casserly (Fine Gael) (Chair)  
 Shane Moynihan (Fianna Fail)  
 Justin Sinnott (Social Democrats)  
 Ronan McMahon (Independent)  
 Shirley O'Hara (Fine Gael)  
 Pamela Kearns (Labour)  
 Paddy Holohan (Independent)  
 Liona O'Toole (Independent)

### Sectoral Members

Simon Van Lonkhuyzen - Business Commercial (overseas)  
 Harry Simpson – Business Commercial (indigenous)  
 Betty Tyrrell-Collard – Trade Union  
 Lisa Rowntree – Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Prashant Shukla – Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Dr Miriam O'Donoghue – TUD Tallaght

## Housing SPC

### Council Members

Mick Duff (Independent) (Chair)  
 Caroline Brady (Fine Gael)  
 William Carey (Sinn Féin)  
 Adam Smyth (Fianna Fail)  
 Madeline Johansson (People Before Profit)  
 Joanna Tuffy (Labour)  
 Britto Pereppadan (Fine Gael)

### Sectoral Members

Betty Tyrrell-Collard – Trade Union  
 Motuba Misoro – Public Participation Network (Social Inclusion) (PPN)  
 Krystyna Zalewska - Public Participation Network (Community) (PPN)  
 Isabelle Gallagher – Development Construction

## Land Use, Transportation and Planning SPC

### Council Members

Yvonne Collins (Fianna Fail) (Chair)  
 Brian Lawlor (Fine Gael)  
 Paddy Cosgrave (Labour)  
 Niamh Fennell (Sinn Féin)  
 Helen Farrell (Independent)  
 Jess Spear (People Before Profit)

### Sectoral Members

Fergus Sharp – Business Commercial  
 Sean O'Neill – Development Construction  
 Eoin Ahern – Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Declan Hanley - Public Participation Network (PPN)

## Social, Community, Equality and Integration SPC

### Council Members

Emma Murphy (Fianna Fáil) (Chair)  
 Niamh Whelan (Sinn Féin)  
 Kay Keane (People Before Profit)  
 Alan Edge (Independent)  
 Baby Pereppadan (Fine Gael)  
 Alan Hayes (Independent)

### Sectoral Members

Emily Smartt - Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Daire Hennessy - Public Participation Network (PPN)  
 Noel Gavin – Business Commercial

# Committee Membership

Local Community Development Committee	
<b>Local Authority Members</b>	
Edel Clancy - SDCC	
Lorna Maxwell (June-Dec) - SDCC	
Elaine Leech (Jan- May) - SDCC	
Thomas Rooney - Local Enterprise Office	
Cllr. Yvonne Collins (Fianna Fáil)	
Cllr Sarah Barnes (Fine Gael)	
Cllr. Alan Hayes (Independent)	
<b>State Agencies</b>	
Margaret McQuillan - Health Service Executive	
Eugene Donnelly - Department of Social Protection	
Valerie Hogg (Vice Chair) - Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board	
<b>Private – Non-Statutory Interests Local and Community Development</b>	
Simon Monds - South Dublin County Partnership	
<b>Civic Society/Local Community Interests</b>	
Tricia Nolan, Chair - South Dublin County Volunteer Centre	
Andy Leeson - Foroige	
Dr. Noel McCarthy - Community Representative	
Helena Fitzgerald - Community Representative	
<b>Community and Voluntary Pillar</b>	
John Conroy - Public Participation Network- Community Pillar	
Sean Farrell - Public Participation Network- Community Pillar	
<b>Community and Voluntary Pillar</b>	
Sharon Harty - Public Participation Network- Social Inclusion Pillar	
Noreen Byrne - Public Participation Network- Social Inclusion Pillar	



Annual General Meeting 2025

# Audit Committee

Martin Nolan, (Chair) Head of Compliance, Bright Software Group
Ann Horan, Chairperson of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland
George Kennington, Partner Audit, Crowe Ireland
Eilis Quinlan, Quinlan and Co Chartered Accountants
Cllr. Caroline Brady (Fine Gael)
Cllr. Joanna Tuffy (Labour)
Cllr Niamh Fennell (Sinn Fein)



Innovation Square Apartments



Womens Caucus meeting

# Equality and Human Rights Framework Duty Implementation



Climate Action Story Map

Below is an overview of the implementation of the Equality and Human Rights Framework

- Published an updated Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Framework in line with revised Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission guidance.
- Continued implementation of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty under Section 42 of the IHREC Act 2014, embedding equality and human rights across all functions, policies and services.
- Oversight provided by a cross-departmental Equality and Human Rights Working Group, coordinating the annual Action Plan, EHRIA processes and reporting.

## Policies and Equality Impact Assessments

- Delivered the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Action Plan for 2025.
- Completed Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessments on the following:
  - Dress Code
  - Staff Mobility and Transfer Policy
  - Succession Planning Framework
  - Worksharing Scheme
  - Tenant Participation Strategy

## Accessibility and Inclusion Initiatives

- Hosted Accessibility Week (3–10 December), including:
  - Launch of partnership with As I Am towards Autism-Friendly Service Provider accreditation
  - Introduction of bilingual communication board in North Clondalkin Library
  - Appointment of a new Access Officer
  - Promotion of pathway accessibility reporting
  - Showcasing Changing Places facilities and inclusive outdoor gym equipment
- Formally launched the updated Framework on International Human Rights Day.
- Progressed Autism-Friendly accreditation pilot for County Hall, including a sensory audit, sensory map and visual guide.
- Marked Irish Sign Language Awareness Day, supporting staff understanding of Deaf culture and access to interpreting services.
- Participated in Make Way Day, raising awareness of footpath accessibility through public campaigning.

## Investment in Accessibility and Universal Design

- Allocated €100,000 to an Equality and Access Work Plan, including countywide accessibility audits.
- Committed €400,000 to footpath accessibility works and €1.9 million to village and public realm enhancements using universal design principles.
- Delivered housing supports, including grants for disabled tenants and funding for adaptations, mobility aids and essential repairs.



Celebrating Marriage Equality

## Accessible Communications and Wellbeing

- Embedded accessibility at the core of the new Council brand, including an award-winning accessible font and clearer tone of voice.
- Delivered Plain English training to staff to support accessible public communications.
- Promoted staff wellbeing through targeted health, cancer awareness and autism awareness initiatives.

## Equality, Diversity and Participation

- Published the 2025 Gender Pay Gap Report, showing a negative gender pay gap.
- Supported the Women’s Caucus, including meetings and an “Empowering Women” event in partnership with the Local Enterprise Office.
- Continued the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Artist Bursary, supporting community theatre with International Protection applicants and the development of Hopeful Theatre.
- Libraries and Community Inclusion
- Marked International Women’s Day across South Dublin Libraries with talks, workshops and cultural events.
- Expanded the Neurodiverse South programme, including sensory supports, talks, podcasts and a specialist toy collection.
- Integration and Community Support
- Delivered services through the Local Authority Integration Team, supporting refugees, International Protection applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.
- Administered the Community Recognition Fund, supporting 17 projects across South Dublin.
- Hosted Refugee Week events, World Refugee Day initiatives and a Council-wide Job Fair.

## Active South Dublin

- Delivered inclusive physical activity programmes for children in IPAS centres and children with disabilities.
- Supported swimming lessons in DEIS schools and provided free community and youth-focused activity programmes throughout the year.

# Progress under the Official Languages Act and Irish Language Legislation

## Irish Language Complaints

One complaint from Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga was concluded, while four remain under consideration. A signage review process has been confirmed to the Office of the Language Commissioner and is ongoing.

## Irish Language Advertising

Section 10.1A of the Official Languages Act requires public bodies to do the following:

- (a) at least 20 per cent of any advertising placed by the body in any year shall be in the Irish language, and
- (b) at least five per cent of any money expended by the body on advertising in any year shall be used to place advertising in the Irish language through Irish language media.

In line with requirements set by Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga, we report annually on compliance with the Official Languages Act in relation to advertising. This year's performance is set out below:

27.33% achieved in placement of Irish Language ads (this placement is measured on a media category average, measuring Irish Language visibility across the various media channels that we have advertised in).

7.14% achieved in money expended on advertising in the Irish Language Media (that is to say, media that has more than 50% Irish Language content).

Educational and compliance guidance relating to advertising requirements was distributed to staff, incorporating updated information provided by Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga on Irish-language media outlets.



Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025

# Council Awards and Achievements

## Chamers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards

We were delighted to be named Local Authority of the Year in November.

We also won the following categories:

- Sustainable Environment and Biodiversity: Balancing Green and Growth: Delivering Sustainable Development and Protecting Biodiversity—showcasing our commitment to protecting nature while supporting sustainable development.
- Communications and Marketing: International Protection: Fact and Fiction—demonstrating our leadership in clear, accessible communication that empowers and informs our diverse communities.

We were also shortlisted for the following projects:

- Age Friendly Initiative: Ballyroan: A Dementia-Inclusive, Age Friendly Community
- Diversity and Inclusion: Reaching for Gender Equality in Local Government
- Health and Wellbeing: South Dublin County Council Junior Safety Forum
- Heritage and Built Environment: Ely Arch: Heritage Conservation Through Public Realm Design
- Local Authority Innovation: Clonburris Delivery Model – Strategic Innovation for Sustainable Growth
- Promoting Economic Development: Work IQ, Innovation Centre for Technology and Enterprise Growth
- Supporting Sustainable Communities: Connecting Communities Through the Regeneration of West Tallaght Parks

## Eight South Dublin parks receive Green Flag Award

The Green Flag Award is an international quality benchmark that recognises and rewards the provision of high-quality parks and green spaces. This includes existing Green Flag parks;

- Rathfarnham Castle
- Sean Walsh
- Tymon,
- Waterstown
- Corkagh Park

We won new Green Flags awards for the three West Tallaght parks;

- Jobstown
- Whitestown
- Killinarden Park.

We were also highly commended in the pollinator award for Tymon Park and Waterstown Park.

## LAMA All-Ireland Community and Council Awards

We won two categories at the 2025 ceremony:

- Local Authority Energy Decarbonisation Award- Heatworks District
- Heating Scheme
- National Impact Award- Clonburris: A Transformative Vision and a Model for Sustainable Urban Development

Eight of our projects were shortlisted in the following categories for the 2026 awards:

- Council of The Year
- Best Enterprise and Start-Up Hub: Work IQ
- Best Community Scale Enhancements: Grand Canal Greenway
- Best Transformative Capital Projects: Corkagh Park Regeneration
- Reimagining Public Places Award: Parthalán Place
- Best Sustainable Infrastructure and Climate Action: Innovation Apartments
- Community Wellbeing Initiative: Regeneration of West Tallaght Parks
- Best CSR Project in a Community: Tesco Ireland Community Fund



WorkIQ



Local Authority of the Year

## Irish Planning Institute Planning Awards

- Work IQ Innovation Centre won the Commercial Project award.
- We were also shortlisted for awards in Urban Regeneration, Research and Innovation, and Planning Authority of the Year categories.

## Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland Awards

- We were delighted to win an RIAI award in the Workplace and Fit Out category for Work IQ.
- We were also commended in the Universal Design category for Brady's Court.

## IDI (Institute of Designers in Ireland) Awards

Image Now received recognition at the IDI Awards for its work on SDCC branding.

- The SDCC Brand Launch won the Creative Practice and Collaboration Use of Copywriting in Design award
- The SDCC Sans and SDCC Display fonts won the Creative Practice and Collaboration – Typography and Lettering award

## CPD Accredited Employer

- We have again achieved the maximum three-year certification as an Engineers Ireland CPD (Continuing Professional Development) Accredited Employer.

# Delivery of the Service Plan

The following seven goals represent our ambition to improve life in our communities, strengthen our economy, and support our environment through delivery of our Corporate Plan. Each goal has a number of associate strategies that form our broad action plan for the next five years. Below are the achievements under these seven goals in 2025.

## Goal 1: Climate Leadership

### Make South Dublin a low carbon and climate resilient county

Leading a just transition towards net zero

- Our Climate Action Plan 2024-29 sets out mitigation, adaptation and other climate action measures to create a low carbon and climate resilient county. Work continued towards the four key targets of our plan throughout the year.
- Most recently confirmed figures show 44.2% energy efficiency improvement and a 43.5% reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions (electricity and direct) since the 2018 baseline.
- 87% of the 129 actions in the Climate Action Plan have been progressed.
- Key milestones were reached in reducing the carbon footprint of council-owned buildings including progressing towards new energy performance contracts for six of our highest energy-use buildings and awarding a contract for installation of solar PV systems on libraries and community centres with detailed design completed and electricity supply applications in progress for an initial 11 buildings.
- South Dublin District Heating (t/a Heatworks) continued to deliver low carbon heat to current customers under phase one of our district heating network which includes the Work IQ building and cost rental apartments at Innovation Square. This phase is now complete and was supported by funding of €4.9m from the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE). District heating network pipes were installed during construction of the Airton Road extension to facilitate future district heating connections.
- Procurement has been completed for installation of 200kw solar PV array for Arthurstown Landfill with the electricity generated to be used to power ongoing aftercare treatment at the facility.
- Solar compactor bins have been installed in Rathfarnham and Tallaght, with further installations planned for Clondalkin and Lucan to provide an initial 102 solar compactor bins. With inbuilt smart technology and increased storage capacity, these bins will support more efficient collection services resulting in a lower carbon footprint for this aspect of our operations.

- Following protracted procurement and approval processes, final approval was expected from Zero Emission Vehicles Ireland (ZEVI) to progress 50 public electric vehicle charging sites across the four Dublin local authority areas with a regional contractor appointed for the works.
- A new fleet management system was introduced to improve vehicle maintenance and safety while also providing key data on the climate impacts of our fleet which will inform our fleet transition and replacement plans.
- Fleet transition continued with 66% of appropriate vehicles now using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), which is a sustainable, renewable diesel fuel produced from waste vegetable oils and fats. We also completed procurement for a range of electric vans and electric zero turn mowers.
- We participated in the National Transport Authority workplace Leap Card pilot to encourage staff who normally drive to work to use public transport instead and undertook preliminary market consultation for development of a sustainable staff travel hub.
- A tender was published for the supply of a range of ebikes and associated services for bike libraries.
- Our sustainable canteen committee implemented removal of single-use sauce sachets from the canteen at County Hall (eliminating use of approximately 32,500 sachets per annum).
- Project reTree, in collaboration with Balsam Hill, was introduced to facilitate acceptance of artificial trees for recycling free of charge over the festive period.
- Extensive stakeholder engagement was undertaken for the Clondalkin Decarbonising Zone Implementation Plan. We also worked with Trinity College Dublin and Munster Technological University to deliver free sustainability training for businesses in the decarbonising zone.
- Climate innovation funding of €360,000 supported a range of projects and initiatives.
- Drinking water fountains prevented potential use of 104,676 plastic bottles.
- A total of 68 kilometres, representing 48% of the planned overall Cycle South Dublin network, has been delivered or is under construction: Active travel schemes completed in the following areas: Dodder Greenway, Butterfield Avenue, Oldbridge Road, Firhouse Road, and Spawell Link Road (completing the Dodder Greenway in our administrative area from Oldbawn to Ely Arch), phase two of the D24 Neighborhood Network in



Community Cycle at Dodder Valley Park

# Delivery of the Service Plan



Dodder Greenway

CaptioBallycullen Avenue and Drive and along Killininy Road, and phase one of the Castletymon Road scheme from Castletymon Library to Greenhills Road.

- Works were underway at Templeville Road, Wainsfort Roundabout, and Glendown Road (linking to the Dodder Greenway and previous cycle tracks on the Templeville Road and Limekiln), and the Grand Canal to Lucan Greenway phase one, providing a three kilometre greenway connection from the Grand Canal to the N4 at Old Esker Lane.
- 27 schools have benefited from safe school zones, safe routes to school or other active travel improvements to date with work completed at Griffeen Valley Educate Together National School, St Ronan's National School, Tallaght Community National School, St. Anne's Primary School and St. Kilian's Junior School, with schemes for 15 further schools currently in development.
- Consultants have audited our office workplaces, how they are used, hybrid working patterns, and energy-efficiency needs to inform proposed upgrade and modernisation works.

## Protect property and infrastructure from flooding

- Delivery of flood alleviation schemes continued with a new flow control structure and completion of an impoundment area in Tymon Park under the Poddle scheme. The impoundment area provides the main flood defence benefit of the scheme by enabling up to 65,000m<sup>3</sup> of water to be stored in the lake during a rainfall event increasing capacity in the downstream river channel. Over 55% of flood defences have been installed on the Whitechurch scheme while hydraulic modelling and analysis recommenced on the Camac scheme.
- Regular review and updating of our major emergency management plan took place to ensure preparedness to deal effectively with existing and new risks and threats.
- A new Natural Water section was established to manage operation and maintenance of storm water networks along with flood risk management and water quality.
- A planned surface water network improvement programme commenced with an initial project identified in a surface water study for Newcastle, Rathcoole, and Saggart.

## Actively engage and inform all communities on climate action in a way that is accessible to all

- 661 climate and environmental awareness events were delivered including 57 events as part of the Dublin Climate Action Week in May.
- The first phase of the Community Climate Action Programme supported 28 projects with total funding of over €1.1 million for local community climate action projects. Phase two of the programme was launched in October.
- Our Lunch and Learn series for staff and the public was delivered throughout the year. 428 people attended 11 events, which included Energy Calculator with University College Dublin, Sustainable Development Goals Week: Climate Action Workshop, Climate Café, Energy Information Clinic.
- We delivered a "Reduce Your Use" campaign to encourage our staff to improve energy efficiency while at work.
- A series of information leaflets were developed for householders as part of an energy awareness toolkit for the residential sector.
- We launched an interactive StoryMap and newly designed climate action website showcasing climate actions, projects, and work with communities. Public maps and story-style displays were updated and displayed online and in public information screens so residents can see how we are responding to issues such as flooding and environmental change while also supporting better data for planning climate action projects.

## Protect and enhance our green infrastructure and biodiversity

- We continued delivery of green infrastructure-supporting policies within the County Development Plan and the Biodiversity Plan. Related actions include the delivery of Sustainable Urban Drainage Solutions (SuDs), management of Integrated Constructed Wetlands (ICWs) and trees, meadowlands, and mini woodlands programmes.
- A new 2,000m<sup>2</sup> ICW was completed on the River Poddle in Tymon Park (ICWs are shallow, multi-celled wetlands that mimic the biological functions of naturally occurring wetlands to improve water quality and enhance biodiversity.)
- Invertebrate studies were carried out at four ICWs (in Griffeen Valley Park, Tymon Park, and two in Dodder Valley Park) producing a robust, contemporary species and habitat baseline to enable monitoring of

# Delivery of the Service Plan



Clonburris Strategic Development Zone

trends in populations, assemblages, and rare or protected species. These studies, which will support future measures to enable further habitat enhancement, identified good insect species richness with 68 species observed associated with the tall reeds, sedges (plant), and herb rich borders of the ICW cells surveyed. Two rare moth wetland species, the Grass-Miner Moth and the Bulrush Wainscot Moth, were observed during the survey, both associated with the wetland plants and with no previous recordings in the county.

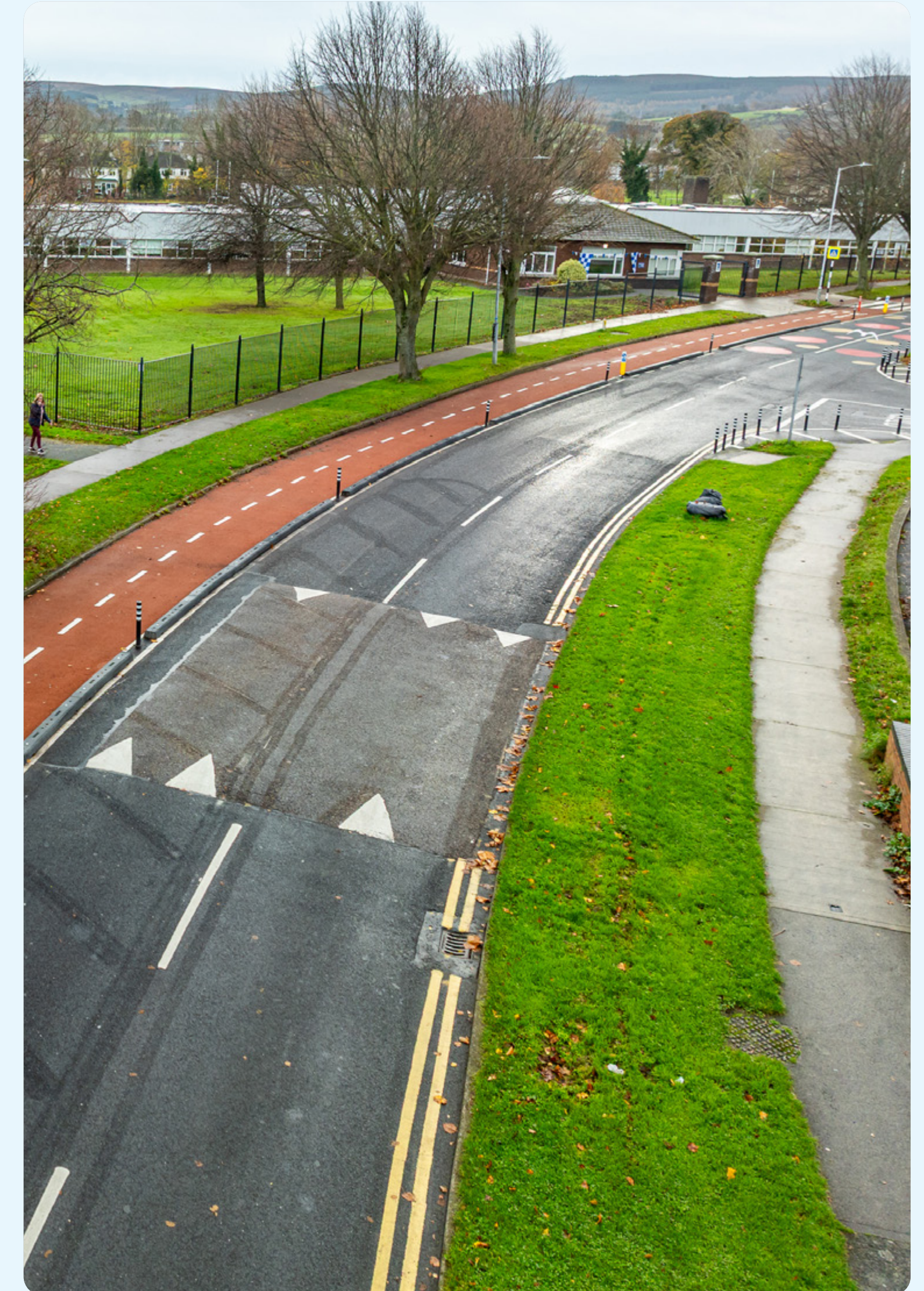
- 210 hectares of biodiverse meadowland were maintained.

## Promote sustainable and accessible transport initiatives and encourage a shift towards their use

- We worked with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to progress design and construction of the Liffey Valley to City Centre bus corridor and the Tallaght /Clondalkin to City Centre Bus Connects corridor.
- We continued to liaise with Irish Rail on the plans for DART+ Southwest and advocated for commencement of contractor procurement for the project.
- Engagement began with NTA and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) on a transport strategy for the west of the county with informal consultation on procurement options which will be followed by formal consultation on the draft scope and approach to the strategy.
- Three new bus stops were delivered and design progressed for a further 20 stops under the NTA supported bus stop enhancement programme.
- Worked closely with TII to progress a feasibility report for a permeability

route in Rathcoole and the Brittas N81 safety scheme.

- Design work was completed for a new junction at the Old Nangor Road for the Kilcarbery development.
- Development progressed on an app to communicate availability of accessible parking spaces.
- A trial of lower carbon road construction on the outer ring road was carried out in conjunction with Roadstone.
- 14 traffic calming projects were implemented, including speed ramps and improvements to junctions.
- 22 new or upgraded pedestrian crossings were delivered.
- 1,876 public lighting units were upgraded to energy-efficient LEDs to reduce energy consumption. LED lights now comprise 79.6% of the public lighting system.
- A full survey of all traffic light assets was completed to improve identification of maintenance issues and to provide data to support future infrastructure upgrades.
- 1,049 traffic lights were repaired, and 11 junctions and 26 pedestrian crossings were upgraded to LED.
- Cycle track maintenance was delivered on four routes.
- 3,649 applications for road opening licenses were received with 3,326 granted, representing a 15% increase on 2024.
- Work continued to integrate EV charging infrastructure in new residential developments.
- A sustainable transport strategy for Clondalkin was undertaken as part of the Clondalkin Local Planning Framework.



Active Travel Upgrades

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 2: Quality Housing

Providing quality social and affordable homes for everyone who needs them

Deliver a range of high quality social and affordable housing for people of all housing needs – taking account of the needs specific to the diversity of people and with a special focus on people experiencing homelessness

- Progress under our Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) continued with delivery of 816 new social homes through our direct build programme, Part V, Approved Housing Bodies and turnkey opportunities, and a further 156 new affordable purchase homes were advertised in Canal Bank, Kilcarbery, and Swiftbanks.
- In Clonburris, 116 social and affordable homes were completed in the Canal Extension. Construction of 284 homes within Kishoge Gardens commenced. A Part 10 planning application for 1,252 homes was submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála in July. A separate competitive dialogue procurement for a design and delivery partner for approximately 640 homes at Kishoge Urban Centre was advertised.
- The initial joint venture development in Kilcarbery Grange concluded, with the fourth phase substantially complete. This ambitious programme has delivered a total of 1,034 new homes under the original development agreement, including 310 social homes, 126 cost-rental homes, and 50



Swiftbanks Affordable Purchase Scheme

affordable homes. The subsequent fifth phase continues to progress on programme, with all 88 additional social and affordable homes expected to be completed in 2026.

- A development agreement was finalised with joint venture partners for delivery of 635 new homes at the mixed-tenure Killinarden Foothills development. Site enabling works, archaeological assessments, and provision of temporary alternative access to Sacred Heart Football Club were completed.
- The draft masterplan for lands at Rathcoole was presented to elected members in December, proposing development of approximately 120 homes with 50% social housing including standard, age friendly, and Traveller-specific homes and 50% affordable purchase homes. Work is progressing to submit a Part 10 planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in 2026.
- Works continued on Part 8 / Section 179A-approved housing developments, with new homes and allocations completed at Homeville and progressing at St. Aongus Green, Sarsfield Park, Alpine Heights, Deansrath/Melrose, Pearse Brothers Park, and Rossfield. A proposed development of 25 new social homes in Stocking Lane received Part 8 approval and progressed to a detailed design stage.
- A site at White Pines East in Stocking Avenue was acquired through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and Housing Agency supported national land acquisition fund, for local authorities. This site has capacity for approximately 240 social and affordable homes which we plan to deliver together with community facilities for the wider area.
- We appointed a property, asset, and estate management service provider for our cost rental housing development at Innovation Square following a tender process. 2,560 eligible applications were received for tenancies in the 133 new homes.
- Under our Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-29, a new group housing scheme in Newcastle comprising six homes was delivered through a Part V agreement. 15 families relocated to a new temporary mobile home residential site in Kishoge whilst their new homes are under construction in Kishoge Gardens.
- 118 Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant applications were received, with 112 approved in principle and 59 grants were paid to applicants to bring vacant homes back into use.



Innovation Square Cost Rental Housing Development

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Upgrade our council housing stock, including traveller accommodation, to ensure it is safe, secure, energy efficient and well-maintained

- We continued to manage and maintain our social housing stock of 10,554 and 540 leased properties and supported 4,638 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and 661 Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) tenancies.
- We allocated 187 re-let properties at an average turnaround time of 22.19 weeks.
- Stock condition surveys were undertaken on 1,967 social homes.
- Claims were submitted to DHLGH for upgrade works at 98 homes under the energy efficiency retrofit programme, with a further 217 homes upgraded under our windows and doors programme.
- Fire detection replacement and improvement works were completed within 468 homes, fire blankets issued for installation in 113 homes, and new window restrictors were fitted in 208 homes under our safety works programme. We have completed 147 properties under our external painting programme.
- 18,375 housing maintenance requests were received with 13,437 repairs completed.
- A fire safety equipment audit was completed on traveller accommodation sites.

## Promote sustainable communities by implementing resilient land use planning and sustainable development

- Significant progress on the preparation of a proposed variation for the National Planning Framework (NPF) Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines (2025) included presentation of a Chief Executive's report to Council and completion of a non-statutory public consultation process.
- Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan 2000 was extended to align with the timeline of the County Development Plan 2022-2028.
- The draft Clondalkin Local Planning Framework was subject to considerable local engagement and consultation and proposed as a variation to the County Development Plan.
- A proposed non-material amendment to the Clonburris Planning Scheme 2019 was prepared and submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
- Data from our housing supply monitor showed that 7,932 residential units were completed since the County Development Plan came into effect, meeting core strategy targets. 2,524 units were completed with a 2.17:1 ratio of apartments/duplexes to houses.

- 1,055 planning applications were received, including 14 proposed large-scale residential developments while 688 planning compliances were submitted.
- 85% of planning applications were submitted online through our e-planning system.
- 83 pre-planning consultations took place.
- 82% of planning decisions were confirmed by An Coimisiún Pleanála.
- 399 planning enforcement cases were opened and 343 closed (86% closure rate).
- Five areas were formally taken in charge with a further 70 applications progressed for taking in charge/ bond management.
- 30% of new buildings were subject to building control inspections.
- 253 applications for fire safety certificates were received with 180 granted including 92 determined within two months while five applications were refused.

## Promote inclusive communities through estate management policies that engage the full diversity of communities and enable respectful interactions

- Our re-opened housing customer centre facilitated 1,845 appointments with a further 882 visitors presenting at the counter.
- 15,606 housing applicants and tenants are now registered on our online integrated housing system which now includes management of affordable housing applications and private housing grant applications.
- New anti-social behaviour and tenant participation strategies were adopted.
- 259 pre-tenancy meetings were held with 657 follow-up tenancy checks carried out.
- 218 tenancy warnings were issued for anti-social behaviour and/or tenancy breaches; 17 abandonment notices served, and 14 tenancies were terminated.
- The Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee met five times and examined the Traveller Accommodation Programme, the annual estimate of accommodation for Traveller households, fire safety, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission recommendations, and various other site and waste management issues.
- The Disability Housing Advisory Committee met four times to review the medical approval waiting list, housing allocations for households with medical approval, and progress on works under the disabled persons' grants scheme.

- Our estate management team carried out targeted actions in Balgaddy and MacUilliam estates including tenancy audits, communal area inspections, fortnightly clinics, a seasonal events programme and sports day, clean up days/litter picking events, and delivered school talks to primary level students in conjunction with the Junior Safety Committee. The Balgaddy higher-level interagency working group met on four occasions during the year.



Upgrading Housing Stock

# Delivery of the Service Plan

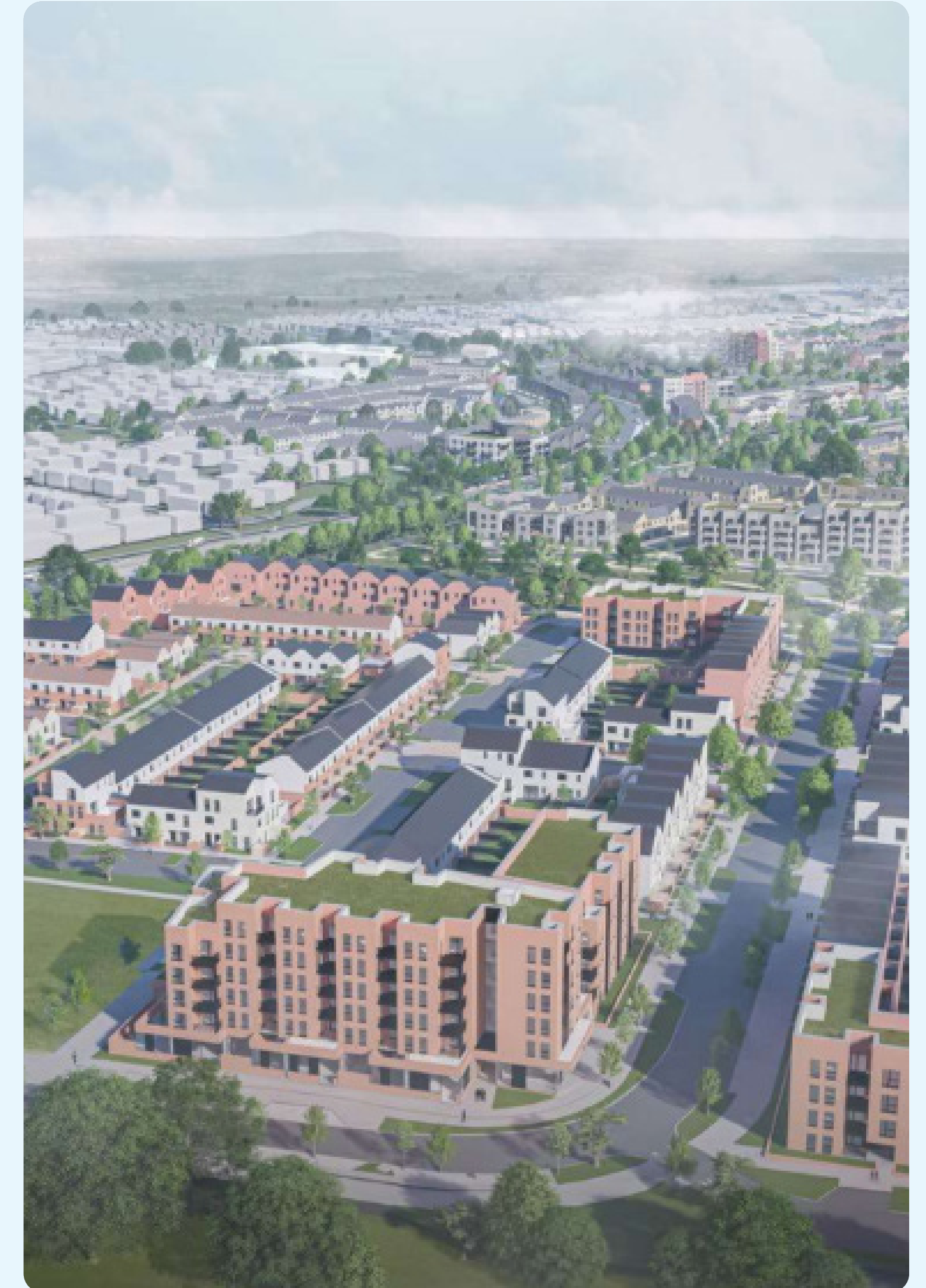


Clonburris SDZ – Southern Link Street

## Target housing, accommodation and homelessness services and initiatives towards the diversity of groups experiencing inequality ensuring a design and delivery that meets their specific needs.

- 1,423 housing allocations were completed including 206 allocations to homeless households following 338,581 expressions of interest received through our choice based letting system.
- 19 new tenancies were allocated through the mortgage-to-rent scheme.
- 3,488 new applications for social housing support were received.
- 191 rightsizing applications were received from social housing tenants and private homeowners.
- We supported 518 households to either exit homelessness or to prevent them from becoming homeless.
- 1,044 household presentations were made to our homeless services.
- The Dublin Region Homeless Action Plan 2025-27 was approved by elected members.
- A new family hub was opened in Tallaght in conjunction with the DRHE providing temporary accommodation for local households experiencing homelessness.
- 80 properties were purchased under our acquisitions programme, primarily to support tenant in-situ allocations; payment claims totaling €21.2m submitted to DHLGH for recoupment in respect of these purchases. A further 41 properties were either at conveyancing with our legal department; sale agreed, or in negotiation by year end.

- 4,754 private rented properties were inspected.
- 40 new RAS units were sourced.
- 440 private housing grants were approved consisting of 332 housing adaptation grants, 61 housing aid for older people grants, and 47 mobility aids grants.
- 180 housing adaptation works to social housing stock were completed to support people with a disability.
- 70 applications were received for the local authority home loan scheme with €2.75 million provisionally approved to borrowers.
- 72 applications were processed under the incremental tenant purchase scheme with 11 sales completed.
- €400,000 funding was received for the preferential national caravan loan scheme. 31 applications were received, with nine loans approved and eight caravans/mobile homes delivered.
- 5,716 rent assessments were completed.
- 194 referrals were recorded for professional housing-related social work services, together with an additional 343 interventions for housing applicants and tenants, facilitated through the duty social work service.
- We have upgraded our housing online system and survey and mapping tools our staff use, so it is easier to record, view and use important housing information which will help us to deliver our services faster and more efficiently.



Kishoge Gardens Housing Development

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 3: A Thriving Economy

### Making South Dublin the best possible place to do business

Proactively develop capabilities and create a dynamic business environment to support and grow business

- €897,789.59 grant support was awarded by our Local Enterprise Office across 32 businesses, directly creating 50 new full-time positions and supporting the potential for up to 284 jobs over a three-year period.
- LEO training programme comprising 115 courses, including management development and Start Your Own Business courses were attended by a total of 1,777 participants, including 168 participants completing the start your own business courses.
- Under LEO's targeted training programmes, 15 clients successfully completed the export-focused leadership and strategy development programme.
- 21 projects were approved for consultancy support under the national Green for Business programme, and nine energy efficiency grants were approved, supporting enterprises to adopt greener, more sustainable practices that improve efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and strengthen long-term competitiveness.
- An information event was held at Work IQ in June for small and medium enterprises, showcasing the Green for Business and Energy Efficiency



Lucan House

grant programmes. Expert consultants provided advice, and a SEAI registered energy auditor spoke about additional sustainable government supports available to help businesses enhance sustainability practices, reduce environmental impact, and boost financial performance.

- 20 companies were approved for the LEAN programme to help drive efficiencies and cut running costs.
- 40 companies participated in the Digital for Business Programme to gain a digital edge in running their businesses more effectively and efficiently, while 12 Grow Digital grants were approved, underscoring the importance of digital adoption in enhancing productivity, innovation, and competitiveness.
- The Market Explorer grant helped five businesses seek new markets through market research and assisted in creating further export and growth possibilities.
- 806 mentoring assignments were made across all business sectors, including finance, social media, marketing, and business management.
- 22 projects were approved for financial support through our Business Support Fund to the value of €148,528.51.
- Six of South Dublin's best up and coming craft and design businesses participated in the Showcase Ireland Creative Expo 2025, one of Ireland's largest international trade shows.
- 10 clients transferred from LEO to Enterprise Ireland.
- The LEO programme of events including Fresh SCENE providing the opportunity for those involved in the creative sector to meet, network, and help shape their future careers in the creative industry by hearing inspiring stories from special guests across the creative sector, including award-winning filmmakers, actors, and a contemporary Irish jewellery brand.
- Local Enterprise Week took place in March, where we hosted 14 events covering topics such as leading and scaling your business, student enterprise, exporting, AI, and insights into the organisation's economic and enterprise vision. The week included the South Dublin Local Enterprise Awards, where Aisling Tuck of Naked Bakes won the overall award and went on to represent South Dublin at the National Enterprise Awards.
- The LEO South Dublin Student Enterprise Programme county final was held at the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght, with 1,053 students from 22 schools taking part in the annual programme.
- 300 students participated in the primary school Bí Gnóthach programme in June, highlighting the importance of fostering an early enterprise mindset, creativity, and entrepreneurial skills among young people.



Enterprise Awards

- The South Dublin Leaders Network met every two months and featured guest speakers, peer learning, and networking opportunities. This network builds on the success of the Strategic Leadership for Growth programme and supports the ongoing development and growth of these leaders and their businesses.
- LEO supported Network of Enterprising Women in South Dublin (NEWS) grew to over 400 members and a programme of events was delivered supporting women in business, including the council's Women's Caucus event, bringing together women from diverse backgrounds to connect, share ideas, and inspire one another.
- A "Local Legends: Celebrating Women in Business" event took place at the Synergy Centre, Technological University Dublin (TUD) Tallaght Campus, in collaboration with Network Ireland Dublin, featuring panel discussions, live demonstrations, and a mini marketplace.
- LEO South Dublin led development of the Dublin regional Get Exporting programme for food and drink companies which commenced in December. This programme provides expert training and mentoring across business development, funding options, market strategy, and personalised export plans, supporting companies in expanding sales and growth both nationally and internationally.
- Work IQ Innovation Centre had its first full year in operation, supporting the development of 126 jobs, as it became home to 34 businesses.

# Delivery of the Service Plan



Rathfarnham Castle Stables and Courtyard Project

## Drive inward investment, foreign direct and indigenous, creating an economic landscape for enterprise, innovation and the smart economy

- We continued management and promotion of Grange Castle International Business Park in collaboration with IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, and private sector partners. 5,328 jobs were sustained at Grange Castle with capacity for further growth as development phases progress.
- The Grange Castle access road extension was completed, removing a key infrastructural constraint and supporting future inward investment.
- The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) was formally adopted, and implementation commenced, with reporting arrangements established.
- A County Economic Strategy was prepared outlining ambitious plans to grow the South Dublin economy to a €28.27bn value economy.
- The Tallaght Evening Town Economy Plan was finalised, providing a structured framework to support evening-time activity, culture, and economic vitality in Tallaght Town Centre. Early actions progressed included the establishment of our events team, examining the hosting of concerts in Tallaght Stadium, exploring the development of a new cultural hub and alignment of the Business Support Fund.
- The Shopfront Grant Scheme continued to support town-centre enhancement with 10 applications received and six projects completed during the year.

## Realise South Dublin's potential through the development of visitor attractions and its tourism brand, enhancing visitor experiences and building tourism partnerships

- 38 of 55 actions of the South Dublin County Tourism Strategy 2024–2029 were actively progressed including development of the Lucan House Masterplan, Part 8 approval for the Rathfarnham Castle Stables and Courtyard Project (supported by €7m in THRIVE funding), and ongoing work on the Dublin Mountains Hellfire project.
- The Grand Canal Greenway linking the 12th Lock to Hazelhatch was completed.
- Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre saw the appointment of a new cafe operator and recorded a total footfall of 69,535 visitors during the year, supported by a programme of seasonal events including Spookdalkin and Christmas programming.
- 17 tourism festivals and events were supported including TradFest which extended to South Dublin for the first time.

## Bolster the local economy through operational excellence – enhancing public procurement transparency, ensuring rapid payment cycles, and leveraging digital technologies for seamless transactions

- 95% collection of commercial rates was achieved, yielding an additional €9.2 million to bring total rates income to over €155 million, the highest level ever achieved by SDCC.
- Commercial rates arrears were reduced by almost €2.5 million to approximately €11.1 million, the lowest level since 2008.
- Over €38.2 million was collected in differential rents, representing an increase of €3.4 million (more than 10%) on the previous year. Collection for housing loans continued to improve, with arrears reduced to €491k.
- Monitoring and management of corporate debtors continued to ensure balances remained at acceptable levels.
- Progress was made with Tailte Éireann (formerly the Valuation Office) with 114 valuations processed, supporting expansion of our rate base.
- 2,849 grants were processed to assist small and medium enterprises, with a total value exceeding €2.8 million.
- A revenue budget for 2026 with proposed expenditure of €422,581,000 (representing an increase of nearly 8% on the previous year) was adopted.
- A new three-year capital programme was prepared with planned expenditure of €1,693,394,000.
- Our liquidity was efficiently managed to maintain a strong cash flow position.

- There was a 6% increase in the number of payments to our suppliers, with payments exceeding €520 million.
- The 2024 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) was completed by 31 March, followed by the audited accounts and audit report being presented to the elected members and the Audit Committee.
- An upgrade of our financial management system commenced, and we are the lead authority in two national projects to support the successful rollout of the system nationwide.
- Ongoing review and management of the risk register ensured effective control and mitigation measures.
- Ongoing engagement continued with our insurers to ensure adequate coverage and to manage risks appropriately, resulting in only marginal increases in premiums.
- 136 contracts valued at over €25,000 were awarded.
- Implementation of our Procurement Plan continued with quarterly steering group meetings, ongoing maintenance of the contracts database and procurement pipeline, compliance checks, and the provision of procurement and green public procurement training, advice, and guidance to staff.



Disc Golf at Corkagh Park

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 4: A Better Place

### Delivering the infrastructure and facilities required to serve our growing population

Manage the county's parks and open spaces to deliver economic, environmental, and social benefits that cater to the full diversity of our communities

- A new Parks and Open Space Strategy was adopted to support the management of the county's parks and open spaces to deliver economic, environmental, and social benefits for the county.
- 336 events were held in our parks supporting social and cultural heritage. Many additional council-led initiatives were delivered in tandem with community groups, including the popular mini woodlands programme which delivered an additional six planting locations with the planting of 9,850 bareroot whip (young trees).
- Delivery of the public realm capital programme continued with new development and/or upgrades of parks, recreational, and sporting facilities: A major upgrade was delivered at Quarryvale Park with pitch upgrades completed to existing sports pitches, playspaces, and multi-use games areas.



Butler McGee Park Football Pitch Upgrade

- Upgrades to existing sports pitches completed and underway included; Killinarden (one large GAA pitch and two smaller pitches), St Cuthberts Park (one football pitch), Griffeen Valley Park (GAA pitch upgrade), Glenaulin Park (GAA pitch upgrade), Tymon Park (two football pitch upgrades), Quarryvale Park (one football pitch upgrade) and Butler McGee Park (two football pitch upgrades).
- Work also commenced on planned upgrades of two athletics tracks at Bancroft Park and Griffeen Valley Park, with the assessment/ feasibility stage completed for each.
- A part 8 proposal for development of a bowling green for Sean Walsh Park was published for public consultation.
- The pavilion programme to provide ancillary facilities at sports pitches, saw the tender for the construction and supply of pavilions completed, with projects at Corkagh and Griffeen Valley Park at design stage.
- 12 new recreational facilities were delivered in existing parks and open spaces including the completion a cafe and hub in Corkagh Park, the new centre in Tymon Park Centre, with a multi-functional meeting space and cafe, a new 3G pitch at Knockmitten, two new playspaces at Saggart Community Centre and Quarryvale Park, two new teenspaces at Carrigmore Park and Quarryvale Park, a new calisthenics area at Quarryvale Park, two new MUGAs at MacUilliam and Knockmitten, an outdoor classroom at Rathfarnham Park and an outdoor gym at Greentrees Park.
- Under our tree maintenance programme 14,605 trees were surveyed, 9,204 trees were pruned, 1,332 trees were felled with 861 stumps removed, and 3,572 new trees planted.
- 63 projects completed under our public realm improvement works programme.
- We provided 170,640 linear metres of walking and cycling routes in parks/ open spaces.
- We continued to support the Green Schools programme with 12 schools awarded additional green flags.
- 14 tidy towns' groups were supported through three rounds of grant funding, and the PURE (Protecting Uplands and Rural Environments) project was also supported. Tidy towns groups, residents' associations, and other volunteers organised regular local clean-ups with an estimated 5,532 clean-ups occurring, while Halloween saw 400 bags of bulbs and 221 Civic Amenity passes issued.

- The environmental education programme included 661 climate/ environmental awareness sessions and delivered a range of schools' programmes such as Eco Week Composting for Schools, Relove Fashion, and competitions. The Social Credits Scheme helped deliver 33 new clean-ups, 36 new minor landscaping projects, and 22 new paint enhancement projects.
- The burial grounds programme provided an additional 202 new spaces (70 plots in Bohernabreena Cemetery, 132 plots in Newcastle Cemetery) and 100 niches at the new columbarium wall in Esker Cemetery.
- 443 allotments were managed with 29 new allotments built at Graydon Park in Newcastle together with all associated infrastructure (car parking, access road, electric gates, power, water).



Park Cafe in Corkagh Park

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Manage our regulatory responsibilities to safeguard our environment

- Under our street cleaning programme, 11,162 kilometres of roads were cleaned, and 6,236 tonnes of waste were collected. The scope of the road sweeping programme was extended to include cleaning of back lanes and sweeping of segregated cycle tracks.
- 146,727 customers utilised Ballymount Civic Amenity site with 28,682 tonnes of waste recovered.
- 12,125 inspections were carried out under our annual Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) Plan, exceeding our target number of 10,723 actions.



Dublin Mountains Hellfire Project

- Water sampling and routine monitoring sampling were completed, achieving 100% of our target.
- 41 farm inspections were carried out in catchments with waterbodies that are at risk or have declined in status between the second and third Water Action Plan cycles.
- Target inspections were achieved under the national inspection plan for septic tanks.
- The Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project was completed, providing misconnection screening for over 10,000 properties through manhole assessments and identifying 412 misconnected houses and 700 misconnected appliances. 99.5% access rate to houses for assessment was achieved and 95% of domestic misconnections identified have been repaired to date.
- Over 2,200 reports of litter and illegal dumping were investigated with 83 on the spot litter fines issued; 88 litter investigations referred for legal action with five court hearings.
- 81 inspections were carried out on waste permitted sites.
- 559 tonnes of waste were collected from street bins along with 3,154 tonnes of waste from illegal dumping.
- A mattress amnesty was delivered with eight collection events which diverted 1,225 mattresses from the waste stream to be recycled.
- 3,529 pollution cases were subject to a complaint, with 3,151 pollution cases closed.
- 186 derelict site investigations were carried out with three new compulsory acquisitions of properties on the Derelict Sites Register commenced.
- Under control of horses and control of dog's legislation, 19 horses were seized, and 351 dogs were placed in dog shelters while 134 certificates of exemption were issued in relation to XL Bully dogs.
- Implementation of the Noise Action Plan for the Dublin Agglomeration was ongoing including identification of priority areas and expansion of noise monitoring to 11 fixed site monitors.
- There were no breaches of the air quality standards at the two fixed site monitoring stations and 2025 saw an improvement in PM10 (inhalable air pollution particles with a diameter of 10 micrometers or smaller) levels with a fall of 8% on 2024 results.
- We continued to assist Uisce Éireann under the established master cooperation and support service agreements.

## Optimise the use of our assets through active land management to support sustainable development

- A milestone of 5,000 homes completed was reached in Adamstown SDZ and 1,300 more are under construction. Detailed design work was completed for Central Boulevard Park, which is supported by URDF funding. Preliminary design and preplanning completed for Adamstown Civic Building to incorporate library, community and enterprise uses. Adamstown planning scheme mid-term review completed and phasing advanced to phase seven.
- In Clonburris SDZ, over 1,000 homes are now complete with approximately 1,500 more under construction. The Southern Link Street reached substantial completion, and planning permission was granted for the Northern Link Street. Planning was also granted and detailed design commenced for three new strategic parks at Griffeen Valley Park Extension, Na Cluainte South, and Canal Park while preliminary design work also commenced for proposed community buildings and bridges within the SDZ.
- District centre enhancement schemes were completed at Bawnogue and Rosemount, and projects at Lucan village were also significantly progressed.
- Design work commenced on the proposed Tallaght village enhancement scheme while stakeholder consultation was carried out on enhancements at Neilstown district centre.
- Alongside regular League of Ireland Premier Division fixtures for Shamrock Rovers, Tallaght Stadium also hosted international fixtures for both the Irish Women's National Team and U21 Men's teams as well as European fixtures for both Shamrock Rovers and Shelbourne. In addition, the Leinster Rugby Schools Cup Final was held there, and the Leinster Rugby Senior Men's team played Cardiff Blues during the summer in a pre-season friendly match. We also welcomed new tenants as Tallaght Martial Arts took up residence in the new undercroft space within the North Stand, following approval by the elected members for a long-term lease.
- Progress continued on development of an integrated property register, supporting strategic asset management and informing future housing, employment, and community uses.
- A procurement process was undertaken for an outdoor advertising strategy with a contract partner appointed to roll-out of a communications network.

# Delivery of the Service Plan

- A review of heavy goods vehicle weight restrictions commenced.
- A digital portal was developed for TO applications (for installation of services into public roadways) to support our ‘One Dig’ policy.
- Work progressed for a proposed variation to introduce a Strategic Urban Regeneration Framework to the County Development Plan for City Edge.
- The Residential Zoned Land Tax final map for 2026 was drafted, went for public consultation, and was prepared for publication.
- Work continued on implementing local biodiversity measures with support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service’s Local Biodiversity Action Fund which assists local authorities to carry out projects targeting the objectives of Ireland’s fourth National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030.
- We continued the implementation of our current Heritage Plan while preparing to develop a new plan.
- Seven conservation enhancement projects were completed with funding support from DHLGH, including six under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and one through the Historic Structures Fund
- We continued to engage with the Department of Education and Youth on their plans for school delivery.
- A new development contribution scheme was adopted
- We implemented winter service plans to keep the road network safe through gritting, salt bins, and other measures.
- Work was initiated for a county urban wayfinding signage manual.
- We led 14 local road safety campaigns as well as supporting nine additional national campaigns.
- Works were completed on the Airton Road extension in Cookstown which incorporated infrastructure to support future extensions of our district heating network.
- Five bridges were repaired at a cost of approximately €310,000.
- We delivered our full planned roadworks programme for the year comprising 149 improvements to local roads and footpaths.
- 610 items were facilitated at traffic correspondence and management meetings.
- 6,178 public lights were repaired.
- We participated in the Open House Dublin Festival of Architecture during October, with guided tours taking place at many venues across Dublin including Tymon Park Intergenerational Centre, Innovation Square Apartments, and Priory Market.



Tymon Intergenerational Centre

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 5: Connected Communities

Supporting our communities to be integrated, inclusive, and safe

Foster empowered, inclusive, mutually respectful, resilient and safe communities, in collaboration with our partners and citizens

- The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) met six times.
- The LCDC managed the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP), delivered by South Dublin County Partnership, and monitored implementation of the Local Economic and Community Plan.
- Key performances against targets under SICAP were as follows: Developed capacity of 87 local community groups (target 90 = 97% achieved)
- Supported 1,559 disadvantaged individuals (target 1,483 = 105% achieved) in improving the quality of their lives through mental health and well-being supports, lifelong learning, and labour-market supports.
- The Public Participation Network (PPN) was successfully reestablished with recruitment of a new coordinator and filling of seats on the secretariat. A review of PPN membership was undertaken, and reregistration is ongoing with 66 new groups registered representing a 21% increase in membership.



Quarryvale Park Major Upgrade

- The new Local Community Safety Partnership was established and held an induction meeting with 23 members appointed.
- 24 transport forum meetings (12 each in Clondalkin and Tallaght) and 26 local safety forum meetings (for West Tallaght, North Clondalkin, and Newcastle/Rathcoole/Clondalkin) were held, facilitating essential ongoing engagement between service providers, elected representatives and the local communities on transport and general safety issues.
- A new chairperson and vice-chairperson were appointed at the annual general meeting for the South Dublin Older Persons Council and an updated “Over 55s” booklet was launched.
- A two-day convention of Older People’s Councils took place in Tallaght, hosted in partnership with Age Friendly Ireland, the national shared service.
- Building on the success of initiatives to support development of a dementia friendly community in Ballyroan, another dementia café was established in Tallaght with plans progressing for another in Clondalkin in 2026.
- Work commenced on the preparation of the new age friendly strategy with extensive consultation undertaken including a stakeholder workshop.
- Comhairle na nÓg was supported to continue their work programme where mental health is still a number one priority and Comhairle members attended a national showcase in Dublin Castle and presented to both the LCDC, and the Social, Community, Equality and Integration SPC. Their annual youth conference took place in Tallaght with 110 young people (representing 59% of schools in the count) attending (up 43% on 2024).
- Community development initiatives included the revived St. Patrick’s Day festival and parade in Tallaght, a summer cinema programme, youth cafés in Quarryvale and Brookfield, the TUD Education Bursary Awards and the Junior Safety Forum.
- 285 community grants totalling €470,060 were paid.

### Build strong, informed and inclusive civic engagement with participation across all communities and groups experiencing inequality.

- Work on reforming the register across the four Dublin local authorities and with DHLGH continued in preparation for migration to a national system in 2026.
- By the end of the year, 211,659 people were registered to vote in the county.



Adamstown Strategic Development Zone

- Electoral register updates were completed in advance of the presidential election in October.
- Voter awareness campaigns were delivered, targeting areas with the lowest turn-out in local elections.
- The Women’s Caucus met on five occasions and held the very successful Empowering Women event with inspirational panelists across sports, business, political, and community life. Current membership of the caucus comprises 19 of our 40 councillors.
- Work continued under Healthy Ireland and Sláintecare with 87 initiatives held and attended by 2,767 participants on energy poverty, community safety, and health inequalities.
- We continued to support the ‘Grow it Yourself Schools Programme’ and the health and wellbeing programme held across the community centre network, as well as hosting health fairs throughout the county and delivering a health literacy programme.
- Sláintecare funding supported a new changing places facility in St. Aengus Community Centre and a new MUGA at Citywise.

# Delivery of the Service Plan

Implementation of our Active South Dublin sports and physical activity plan continued with a range of initiatives including:

- Local sports awards.
- Schools' programmes on athletics, swimming, rowing, and martial arts
- Our active parks programme (six parks) including the colour dash in Corkagh Park.
- Disability support programmes including learn to cycle, learn to climb, adaptive fit, and working with Fettercairn Youth Horse project to deliver sensory programmes.
- New sports facilities with two additional "BoxUp" units in Airlie and Corkagh parks, disc golf in Corkagh Park, an omni gym in Greentrees Park, and the launch of Ireland's first fully inclusive cycling disability centre at Collinstown.
- A club strategic needs analysis scheme which helped 17 clubs to develop strategic plans.
- Sports development grants totaling €150,000 were allocated to 92 organisations.
- Our Emerging Talent Bursary supported 16 individual athletes with €65,000 at a high-profile event in County Hall.



Fairy Trail, Tymon Park

## Promote the use of digital channels of communication, and address digital inequalities

- A digital first format was introduced for all our plans and reports.
- A new website front-face was rolled out aligned to our new brand.
- 1,888 consultations were conducted through our online consultation portal.
- Communications campaigns promoted housing online services, online council meetings, the e-planning portal, the mygov.ie payment portal and various public consultations.
- We have 166,437 social media followers and over 1.1 million people engaged with our social media channels.
- sdcc.ie had 1,611,1565 page views.
- A new online payments system provided our customers with greater flexibility and over 22,800 payments were made through it.
- Public access to information was expanded during the year with more public screens installed in council buildings to share timely updates.
- Our Library network technology options expanded, making it easier for people to get online, learn new skills, and access digital services. Public maps and open information were refreshed and expanded, helping residents, community groups, and businesses explore local facts with ease.
- Our digital services teams contributed to early "smart" projects designed to bring new ideas and improvements.

## Invest in community infrastructure, prioritising groups experiencing inequality, with a focus on place-making, reducing inequalities, fostering organisation, enabling voice and advocacy, and enhancing safety, health, and wellbeing outcomes for all and upholding the principles of universal design

- A new community centre was completed and opened in Balgaddy.
- Upgrade works at Quarryvale community centre were completed.
- Phase one of Lucan Leisure Campus was opened in July followed by the completion of the refurbishment works at the existing leisure centre, which saw Esker Boxing Club open their new facility.
- Part 8 approval was granted for an extension to Ballyroan Community and Youth Centre.
- A pilot regional board of management was introduced for community centres in Balgaddy, Neilstown, and Rowlagh, which will be reviewed for potential roll-out across our community centre network.

- 759,037 individuals visited community centres and 117,985 people participated in sports activities across all age groups and abilities.
- 17 community centres now facilitate online booking with 81,674 hours booked generating income of €921,258.58 from 33,676 bookings.
- A new all-weather pitch opened at Belgard community centre.



Tymon Park Intergenerational Centre

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 6: Cultural Richness

### Creating a vibrant culture for all to enjoy

Drive the council's arts, cultural, and library services as key enablers of economic growth, innovation, recognition, visibility, diversity, and community development

- Over 60,000 active library members engaged in more than 1.3 million library related transactions during 973,236 visits from members of the public.
- 8,542 library events were held which attracted 150,621 attendees.
- SDCC Libraries offered 429 opening hours per week across our branch network of seven libraries, up from 372 in 2022.
- Our first My Open Library at Lucan Library provides extended library access 365 days per year, adding an additional 43 opening hours per week. Since its introduction, 518 members have registered for My Open Library access, and 6,519 visits have taken place during My Open Library hours.
- 69,160 people visited public mobile library stops including 31,153 visits to the schools' service provided by our mobile libraries.
- Construction started on Citywest Library and preliminary work progressed for new libraries in Adamstown and Kishoge, along with the addition of library facilities at Rathcoole Courthouse.
- A Part 8 planning application for access improvement and refurbishment works at Clondalkin Library was approved by elected members.
- The Little Library Cabinet at Tallaght University Hospital was launched. This is a self-service library kiosk that enables users to borrow, return, and browse a curated selection of books at their convenience, which now has 90 regular users.
- Attendances at the Red Line Book Festival increased by over 10% and highlights included Helen Fielding at Rathfarnham Castle and the family fun day, which animated Parthalán Place.
- Extensive programming centred around promoting digital learning and STEAM amongst all ages continued, most notably with the Maker in Residence initiative and the continued roll-out of the Library Labs programme as 5,661 people attended 483 STEAM events in libraries.
- Promotion of local heritage continued through regular library events programmes, including Seachtain na Gaeilge in March, National Heritage Week in August, and with projects including Mapping Spaces and the Tallaght oral history collection. 2,659 people attended 147 heritage events in libraries.

- The Arts Office presented 39 events in the South Dublin Live programme, attended by 18,500 people. Events ranged from harp recitals and youth music festivals to cross-cultural showcases and family drum parties, across venues in Tallaght, Lucan, Rathfarnham, Palmerstown, Whitechurch, and Adamstown and featuring 280 performers and 156 production staff.
- 383,367 visits were made to arts centres.
- NOISE Music held 194 DJing, music production, and performance workshops in 30 locations, including schools, libraries, and youth centres with 470 participants. This programme also facilitated performances at The Night Belongs to Us events, the Subsounds Youth Music Festival, Cruinniú na nÓg, Culture Night, and paid performances for NOISE Music Collective DJs at discos and seasonal events in community centres and schools countywide.
- 1,623 children and young people participated in music education in primary schools, community hubs, libraries early starters parent and baby, secondary school songwriting, and Subsounds Youth Music Collective programmes through Music Generation South Dublin.
- The Seedlings Children's and Early Years Arts programme delivered six projects with over 700 participants: The Mad Mag Creative Writing programme for 7-12 year olds, Mother Tongues Language Explorers for 3-6 year olds, SPLAT! with Doulab Circus which delivered creative activity to the Abberley Homeless Hub, Lactation Room at Rua Red which explored intersections of art, motherhood, and society, and Blue Sky Thinking, an artist residency at Starbright Creche in Jobstown.
- Hopeful Theatre, Clondalkin, supported by the council, undertook three new performances in collaboration with the Abbey Theatre and The Civic.
- Total arts grants, bursaries, and annual contributions of €1,283,379 were paid to 70 arts groups, organisations, and artists to deliver services and to support artists living and working in the county.
- Contact Studio provided sound engineering and technical support for a range of programmes including Sightless Cinema, Subsounds, The Night Belongs to Us and SDCC Libraries podcasts. The studio is also training participants in sound and production skills for live events.
- The IN CONTEXT 5 public art programme commissioned five projects with 15 artists scheduled to deliver four socially engaged arts projects with communities in Tallaght, Templeogue/Rathfarnham, North Clondalkin, Knocklyon, Old Bawn, and Killinarden in 2026.
- Through the Creative Ireland South Dublin Programme, we delivered



Tradfest - Cuas at Áras Chrónáin

- Cruinniú na nÓg, the National Day of Children's Creativity, and the Ruaille Buaille Lucan Children's Music Festival which had over 6,000 participants.
- Cultural activities were supported through improvements made to public-facing information platforms with updates to websites, maps, and digital screens making local events and community stories easier to discover, encouraging wider participation in cultural and community life through clear and accessible information.

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Promote and support the use of the Irish language as a living language

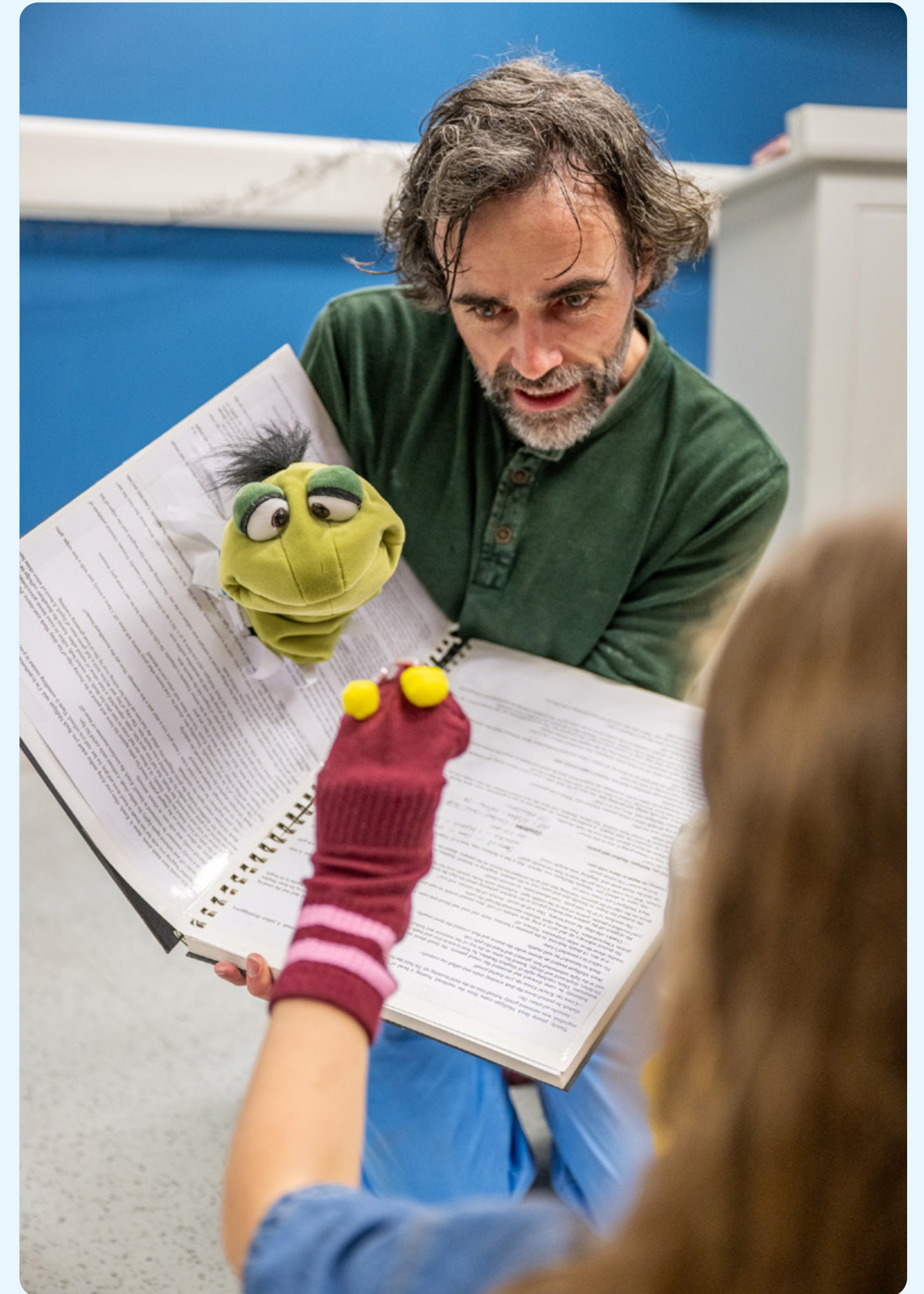
- 4,100 people engaged with Irish language initiatives. SDCC Libraries promoted the language through a range of initiatives including Irish-language events, bilingual programming, dedicated collections, and partnerships that encouraged everyday use of Gaeilge across library services, including participation in the Seachtain na Gaeilge and Bronntanas festivals. In total, 1,859 people attended 130 Irish language events in libraries.
- Gaeilge365 also progressed as a collaborative initiative across the four Dublin local authorities and funding of over €4.5m for the initiative over a four-year period from 2025 to 2028. Féile na bhFéidearthachtaí (Festival of Possibilities) showcased innovative ideas for language use in public services and attracted over 1,200 attendees. Council staff participated in the An Chomhairle Chraiceáilte leadership and creativity programme, which trains local authority employees to develop innovative, language-based public services. One such initiative to come from it led by our staff was the Bronntanas Festival, a multi-agency Irish language family arts festival across Dublin.
- Compliance with the new Irish language advertising requirements saw 27.33% of all advertising in the Irish language, and 7.14% of all advertising spend on Irish language media across the reporting year.



Mini Woodland - Ballycragh Park

## Enhance diversity, inclusion and equity for migrants across all aspects of Irish society through increased focus on social inclusion measures, improved access to public services and targeted action to address racism and xenophobia

- Coordinated integration supports were provided for International Protection Applicants, those with status, programme refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.
- 129 clinics were held throughout South Dublin to help connect people with the existing services that are most suitable for their needs.
- The Community Integration Forum met on six occasions to support community-level integration and cohesion across the relevant public bodies, NGO's, community, and voluntary organisations. Regular meetings were held with the Community Engagement Team in the Department of Justice and wider engagement supported by local councillors, the Community Infrastructure Fund, and local community groups following the announcement of the state purchase of Citywest hotel to accommodate people seeking international protection. Work commenced on the preparation of a new integration strategy.
- The final round of Community Recognition Funding was completed. In total, 17 projects were awarded funding totaling €2,246,022.86 with eight projects fully delivered to date.
- A range of initiatives to support positive community interactions across diversity within groups are delivered on an ongoing basis, including the dementia cafés, Africa Day, Refugee Week, Empowering Communities programme, disability events, Junior Safety Forum, schools sports programmes, sports inclusion programme, health and wellbeing community centre programme, Halloween events, Pride of Place entries, youth cafés and summer camps.
- Accessibility is engrained in our new brand strategy and roll-out includes ensuring subtitles on all videos produced, alt text on all web images, and the roll out of the new brand across our digital service channels being compliant with web content accessibility guidelines.
- Communications campaigns included Accessibility Week, Cyber Security Week, Climate Action Week, all with events and workshops focused on exclusion and inequality. Updates were made to sdcc.ie, consultation portal, and other services to comply with new branding and to ensure font, colour, and images comply with national adult literacy agency guidance.



Bronntanas at Tallaght Library

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Goal 7: People First

### - A people-centred organisation

Operate as a seamless and integrated organisation, with a unified purpose, harmonised efforts and common ambition dedicated to providing exemplary services and outcomes for all customers and service users

- 136 new recruits started while 101 existing staff were promoted into permanent posts and a further 10 were successfully promoted on a temporary basis through open competition. We held interviews for 75 recruitment campaigns over 142 days (representing almost 60% of available working days). By year end, 2,811 application forms were processed, and some 818 candidates interviewed.
- Strong relationships continue to develop with third-level institutions such as UCD and TUD Tallaght Campus, facilitating 14 paid internship placements while our partnership with AHEAD to deliver the WAM programme continues for graduates with disabilities. A further 14 work experience placements for transition year and third-level students were facilitated.
- We launched a new civil engineering apprenticeship, the first of its kind in the local authority sector in collaboration with Atlantic Technological University (ATU), and two apprentices commenced with us.
- We welcomed 54 third-level students to assist with service delivery over the summer months across eight different operational areas.
- Rolling recruitment was extended to Library Assistant and General Operative posts with five rolling recruitment campaigns run during the year.
- We attended careers fairs at TUD Tallaght Campus and Bolton Street, as well as Intreo Jobs Fairs in Clondalkin and Liffey Valley.
- We became a 'Returner Friendly Employer' with Back to Work Connect to access a diverse talent pool of experienced candidates eager to re-enter the workforce and all vacancies are now advertised with Back to Work Connect.
- Our employee induction programme for new employees was reviewed and updated.
- Health and safety procedures continued to be prioritised with quarterly safety consultative meetings and 390 site inspections across all work areas. Our senior management team received bi-monthly reports from our Health and Safety Officer on the incidents reported and provided full oversight of the safety management system.

- As part of our secondary schools' outreach programme to promote the council as an employer of choice, we continued to engage extensively with schools. We made 12 visits to schools for careers events and to speak with senior cycle students about the variety of career opportunities and benefits of working with us. Employees from various workstreams participated in careers speed-dating events at two local schools and we also participated in community mentoring with 5th Year students at St Mark's Community School, Tallaght.
- New branding and messaging and employee value proposition (EVP) were developed to promote benefits and value of SDCC as an employer and implementation of identified actions in this regard, commenced.
- A new human resources e-newsletter "Hello from HR" was introduced with four issues published keeping all staff up to date on all things HR.
- New succession planning and staff mobility policies were introduced.
- We publicly launched our new brand in May following considerable consultation, development, and design work. The new brand reflects a strong commitment to serving our communities, emphasising customer focus, and future opportunities. It captures the essence of a growing and changing county, aligned to our updated purpose and values.
- Work continued throughout the year on sustainable roll-out of the new identity and associated transformation strategy, including an organisational restructure to support enhanced focus on our purpose and quality service delivery.

### **Work to eliminate all forms of discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and protect human rights for service-users, policy beneficiaries, elected members and employees, in the implementation of all our functions**

- Recruitment policies were reviewed to ensure human rights and equality best practice were properly reflected.
- Our Gender Pay Gap Report showed on average females working with us are paid 10.00% higher than males.
- A staff survey was completed in accordance with Part 5 of the Disability Act with results showing that 8% of employees declared a disability.
- A sensory map and visual guide for County Hall was developed and is available on our website.
- Work started to seek to achieve autism-friendly accreditation.
- A successful Accessibility Week was held with several events and videos developed, and a strong public communications campaign.

- Our Human Rights and Equality working group met twice and updated our Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty Framework which was launched in December. 25 staff were upskilled in equality and human rights.
- We published a tender to appoint consultants to deliver accessibility audits to evaluate and improve the accessibility of local towns and villages, and managed public facilities such as community centres, as well as tourist sites and the public realm.
- A budget was approved to establish and support a Disability Advisory Board.



N81 Sculpture

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Develop and support a talented and diverse workforce within an inclusive and accessible work environment to improve innovation, productivity and performance

- Our new Strategic Workforce Development Plan was approved by DHLGH. Aligned to our Corporate Plan, this provides for proactive management of our current and future workforce up to 2029 to meet future strategic challenges and to maintain a well-structured workforce of an appropriate size with capacity to meet changing needs efficiently. 118 new posts were approved under the plan and are at various stages of sanction/recruitment processes.
- A new Learning and Development Strategy 2025-2029 was introduced to support workforce development.
- 244 staff training and development supports were delivered including training courses, mentoring, coaching, conferences and a scheme of assistance to fund courses in educational institutions.
- Implementation of our Innovation Strategy continued with events for annual innovation week and staff innovation awards.
- Performance management training and training needs analysis reviews were conducted with outdoor staff and line managers across all depots. Managers were also supported in managing sick leave and absenteeism through HR data analytics, advisory support, and other measures.
- A new staff well-being strategy was launched, setting out our vision and aims for employee wellbeing up until 2027.
- A well-being champions programme was introduced to support the strategy comprising 14 employees.
- Events continued under the staff wellbeing action plan including Workplace Well-Being Day, Breast Cancer Awareness month, staff smoking cessation programmes, a safety and well-being seminar, employee health checks, and the flu vaccination programme.
- Our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides a 24/7/365 service involving confidential counselling and support for staff and councillors who may be experiencing difficulties, with the programme also extended to immediate family members.
- Effective industrial relations structures were supported by ongoing engagement between management and trade unions in accordance with the objectives of Public Services Agreements through monthly meetings, quarterly workforce planning meetings, and engagement via the state industrial relations mechanisms when necessary.

- Our Information and Consultation Forum created a structured process for effective communication and consultation between management and employee representatives. The forum met seven times with a variety of excellent presentations on the innovative and future-focused work and projects undertaken by SDCC such as strategic workforce planning, workplace spatial strategy, and the 12th Lock studios.

## Deliver high standards in corporate governance through an efficient, effective, transparent and accountable organisation

- 16 statutory council meetings were held including 11 monthly council meetings, the annual meeting, the annual budget meeting, and three special council meetings.
- 1,305 headed items were presented, 917 questions were responded to, and 711 motions were considered at plenary council meetings.
- Our four Area Committees held 10 meetings each.
- The Corporate Policy Group met on 11 occasions while our six Strategic Policy Committees held four meetings each.
- Two meetings were held with local Oireachtas members.
- 12 deputations of residents' associations and community groups were hosted to discuss key local issues.
- The Audit Committee met on five occasions providing independent oversight, reviewing financial reporting, internal controls, risk management, and value for money to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Work was done to ensure compliance with the new Code of Governance for Local Government and is subject to the scrutiny of the National Audit and Oversight Commission. Our service delivery and development objectives are set out in the Corporate Plan 2025 – 2029, annual service delivery plans, annual budget, and the rolling three-year capital programme. Reports on the delivery of the objectives are given monthly in the chief executive's report to Council and annually in the Annual Report and the Annual Financial Statement.
- An organisation-wide online safety campaign included a range of talks, workshops, and easy-to-follow learning sessions.
- Staff champions promoted good habits and encouraged safer behaviour.
- Privacy and data protection responsibilities were carefully followed in line with national and European data protection legislation and requirements.

- New systems were checked for privacy risks, supported staff training, and managed requests about personal information.
- Digital training for staff continued to be a priority, with many employees completing learning programmes to enhance digital service delivery and support.



SDCC Staff

# Delivery of the Service Plan

## Transform public services by delivering user-centric, inclusive services and digital solutions, accounting for and addressing digital exclusion and inequality

- Communications campaigns promoted housing online services, online council meetings, the e-planning portal, the mygov.ie payment portal and various public consultations.
- Offline alternatives and staff-assisted support are offered for essential services like the Housing Online (IHS) system.
- Library branches provide extensive public-access PC networks and high-speed WiFi and provide specialised assistive devices, such as text-scanning pens that read words aloud for those with literacy or visual impairments.
- Events included UNVEILED AI Series, an experimental talk series using Text-to-Video AI to reimagine Irish Mythology. This programme aimed to demystify generative AI for the general public and show its creative applications.
- Library Labs STEAM programme expanded to include basic AI training and coding workshops across several branches.
- As part of our rebrand, we launched a custom-designed accessible typeface (SDCC Sans) to improve readability across our digital platforms.
- We updated server infrastructure, improved network security measures, and made operational enhancements to ensure better operation of essential IT systems. In addition, we fully rolled out Windows 11, deployed 500 replacement laptops and automated setup processes, improving consistency and reliability of IT equipment
- Communication quality was strengthened with updates to our phone infrastructure, updated hunt-line routing, and refreshed remote support and virtual network tools that ensured compatibility with newer operating systems and calling workflows.
- We enhanced our emergency preparedness by routinely testing data restoration for key operating systems (e.g. SharePoint, OneDrive, and Exchange); migrating backups to Veeam, and evaluating Azure Site Recovery, and regularly planned for disaster recovery and business continuity.



Brand Strategy Launch

# Appendices

## Appendix 1.1 – Statement of Internal Financial Control (SIFC)

### Introduction

I, Colm Ward, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council am responsible for the annual financial statement (AFS), prepared by the Director of Finance, in accordance with the accounting code of practice issued by the Minister under section 107 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

I certify that the financial statements of South Dublin County Council for the year ended 31 December 2025 are in agreement with the books of account and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of the Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The AFS is subject to external audit, by an auditor of the Local Government Audit Service, whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts and state whether the annual financial statement presents fairly the financial position of the local authority and of its income and expenditure for the period in question, and whether the transactions of the audited body conform with the statutory or other authorisation under which they purport to have been carried out.

The AFS reports on the day-to-day activity of South Dublin County Council in the form of the Statement of Comprehensive Income & Expenditure, summarised by Division. The Statement of Financial Position outlines the South Dublin County Council overall financial position as of 31 December 2025.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income represents expenditure and income on the day-to-day running of South Dublin County Council.

The key sources of income for South Dublin County Council are as follows:

Income Source	Current Year	Previous Year
Goods & Service	€69,771,309	€63,090,822
Grants & Subsidies	€151,088,091	€134,819,148
Other Contributions (as appropriate)	€2,687,746	€3,408,450
Rates	€155,152,360	€148,824,757
Local Property Tax	€11,704,751	€11,509,642

Income increased by over €28.7m, with grants received increasing by €16.2m, mainly attributable to increased activity under the Payment & Availability and Leasing schemes for housing provision while income from Activity on our Income and Expenditure account for 2025 was as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
Income	€390,404,258	€361,652,819
Expenditure	€333,897,171	€313,476,236
Transfer to Capital	€56,483,085	€48,143,346
Exceptional Item	€0	€0
Surplus (Deficit) for	€24,002	€33,237
Prior Year Adjustment	€0	€0
Opening Revenue Reserve	€12,370,832	€12,337,595
Closing Revenue Reserve	€12,394,834	€12,370,832

Overall expenditure, including transfers to capital increased by €28.7m, primarily relating to increased expenditure of over €26m on housing along with sustained expenditure for road and footpath improvement, community and sports facilities, and parks and public realm enhancements reflecting our core purpose of creating greater opportunity for all in South Dublin by enhancing services and infrastructure.

The Council's closing revenue reserve at €12,394,834 increased by the €24,002 surplus for the year. The continued surpluses over the last number of years demonstrates our commitment to maintaining a strong financial position.

The Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) represents the total financial activity of the Council for the year together with comparative year figures as appropriate.

The statement includes assets and liabilities as follows:

- assets both recently constructed/purchased and historical assets.
- work in progress and preliminary schemes- mainly roads and housing
- long term debtors – housing loans
- current assets- including stock, debtors, cash at bank.
- current and long-term liabilities- mortgage and non-mortgage loan borrowings
- various reserves/balances

The net assets of South Dublin County Council at the end of 2025 totalled €4,595,802,591 as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
Fixed Assets	€3,783,700,115	€3,631,422,426
Work in Progress	€301,866,961	€272,267,506
Long Term Debtors	€434,652,212	€345,557,877
Current Assets	€653,638,832	€639,069,211
Current Liabilities	€81,106,179	€88,185,772
Net Current Assets / Liabilities)	€572,532,653	€550,883,439
Creditors (Amounts Greater than 1 year)	€499,949,350	€408,921,007
Net Assets / (Liabilities)	€4,592,802,591	€4,391,210,241

A Statement of Funds Flow was introduced as part of AFS 2011. While the guidance of International Accounting Standard 7 Statement of Cash Flows has been followed, the business of local authorities is substantially different to most private sector organisations and therefore some minor changes to the format have been agreed to ensure the data displayed is meaningful and useful within the local government sector.



Annual General Meeting 2025

# Appendices

## System of Internal Financial Controls

As Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by South Dublin County Council. This responsibility is exercised in the context of the resources available to South Dublin County Council. Also, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

## Financial control environment

As Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, I confirm that a financial control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- There is an Audit Committee which, as part of its work programme, regularly reviews the internal financial control system.
- Procedures for all key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

## Administrative Controls and Management Reporting

As Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, I confirm that a framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular, that:

- Procedures for key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets of the local authority.
- There are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines in operation.

## Procurement Compliance

South Dublin County Council ensures that there is an appropriate and ongoing focus on good practice in tendering and purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant procurement guidelines.

## Internal audit and Audit Committee

As Chief Executive, I can confirm that South Dublin County Council has an internal audit function with appropriately trained personnel, which operates in accordance with a written charter. Its work is informed by analysis of the financial risks to which South Dublin County Council is exposed, and its annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. I am satisfied that there are procedures in place to ensure that the reports of the internal audit function are followed up.

I can confirm that South Dublin County Council has an effective Audit Committee which carries out an annual effectiveness review of their activities. I can also confirm that an Audit Committee is in place in accordance with the requirements of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

The statutory functions of audit committees as set out in section 59 and 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are as follows:

- i. to review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it.
- ii. to foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function.
- iii. to review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings.
- iv. to assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions; and
- v. to review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks.

I recognise that the audit committee plays a crucial role in the governance framework of local authorities, particularly in the context of increased public sector accountability. They have an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of the systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of the local authority.

I acknowledge the Audit Committee's role in the risk management process and in the continuing review of the control environment and governance procedures in South Dublin County Council.

## Risk and control framework.

South Dublin County Council has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the greatest extent possible, mitigate those risks. A corporate risk register is in place which identifies the key risks and evaluates and grades them according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Management Team on a regular basis. There is also a risk register in place for each service division, and these are also reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level. The risk registers which detail the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for the operation of controls are assigned to specific staff.

As Chief Executive, I confirm that key risks and related controls have been identified, and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies.

The Statement of Internal Financial Control will be included in the draft Annual Report submitted to Council members by 30 April each year and thereafter included in the published Annual Report prepared and adopted by the Council by 30 June each year.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive

Date: 6 April 2026

# Appendix 1.2 – Financial Statements

## Statement Of Comprehensive Income (Income and Expenditure Account Statement) For Year Ending 31st December 2025

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure.

It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division.

Note 16 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Division	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
		2025 €	2025 €	2025 €	2024 €
Housing & Building		149,731,659	150,784,579	(1,052,920)	(1,240,891)
Roads Transportation & Safety		37,300,641	7,959,456	29,341,184	27,114,320
Water Services		11,526,134	10,604,551	921,582	4,304,743
Development Management		30,055,943	15,901,092	14,154,850	13,516,025
Environmental Services		43,299,022	4,470,623	38,828,399	35,254,443
Recreation & Amenity		53,084,035	6,181,902	46,902,133	44,194,857
Agriculture, Food and the Marine		1,382,362	354,121	1,028,241	990,699
Miscellaneous Services		7,517,376	27,290,822	(19,773,446)	(11,976,381)
Total Expenditure/Income	15	333,897,171	223,547,147		
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax				110,350,024	112,157,816
Rates				155,152,360	148,824,757
Local Property Tax				11,704,751	11,509,642
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	16			56,507,087	48,176,583
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	14			(56,483,085)	(48,143,346)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				24,002	33,237
General Reserve @ 1st January 2025				12,370,832	12,337,595

## Statement Of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) At 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025 €	2024 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	1		
Operational		2,515,962,180	2,374,981,272
Infrastructural		1,151,451,778	1,140,499,441
Community		27,079,319	27,554,621
Non-Operational		89,206,838	88,387,091
		3,783,700,115	3,631,422,426
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	2	301,866,961	277,267,506
Long Term Debtors	3	434,652,212	345,557,877
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	4	-	-
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	99,434,443	142,674,583
Bank Investments		554,170,728	493,170,612
Cash at Bank		-	3,190,354
Cash in Transit		33,661	33,661
		653,638,832	639,069,211
<b>Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)</b>			
Bank Overdraft		969,433	-
Creditors & Accruals	6	80,136,746	88,185,772
Finance Leases		-	-
		81,106,179	88,185,772
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		572,532,653	550,883,439
<b>Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</b>			
Loans Payable	7	128,328,145	139,949,491
Finance Leases		-	-
Refundable Deposits	8	39,479,948	37,257,843
Other		332,141,258	231,713,673
		499,949,350	408,921,007
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>4,592,802,591</b>	<b>4,391,210,241</b>
<b>Represented by</b>			
Capitalisation Account	9	3,783,700,115	3,631,422,426
Income WIP	2	268,598,458	223,191,262
General Revenue Reserve		12,394,834	12,370,832
Other Specific Reserves		-	-
Other Balances	10	528,109,834	524,225,721
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>4,592,802,591</b>	<b>4,391,210,241</b>

# Appendix 1.2 – Financial Statements

## Statement Of Funds Flow (Funds Flow Statement) As At 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025 €	2024 €
<b>Revenue Activities</b>			
Net inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	17		35,215,117
<b>Capital Activities</b>			
Returns on Investment & Servicing of Finance			
Increase/(Decrease) in Fixed Asset Capitalisation Funding		152,277,689	
Increase/(Decrease) in WIP/Preliminary Funding		45,407,196	
Increase/(Decrease) in Reserves Balances	18	14,915,751	
Net inflow/(outflow) from Returns on Investment and Servicing of Finance			212,600,637
<b>Capital Expenditure &amp; Financial Investment</b>			
Increase/(Decrease) in Fixed Assets		(152,277,689)	
Increase/(Decrease) in WIP/Preliminary Funding		(29,599,455)	
Increase/(Decrease) in Other Capital Balances	19	(11,912,911)	
Net inflow/(outflow) from Capital Expenditure and Financial Investment			(193,790,055)
<b>Financing</b>			
(Increase)/Decrease in Loan Financing	20	(288,097)	
Increase/(Decrease) in Reserve Financing	21	880,623	
Net inflow/(outflow) from Financing Activities			592,526
<b>Third Party Holdings</b>			
Increase/(Decrease) in Refundable Deposits			2,222,105
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	22		56,840,329



Park Cafe in Corkagh Park

# Appendix 2.1 – Elected Members

Clondalkin	
Councillor Trevor Gilligan	Fianna Fáil
Councillor Shirley O’Hara	Fine Gael
Councillor Darragh Adelaide	People Before Profit
Councillor Francis Timmons	Independent
Councillor William Joseph Carey	Sinn Féin
Councillor Linda de Courcy	Independent Ireland
Councillor Eoin Ó Broin	Social Democrats

Rathfarnham – Templeogue	
Councillor Justin Sinnott	Social Democrats
Councillor Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Councillor Lynn McCrave	Fine Gael
Councillor Pamela Kearns	Labour
Councillor Ronan McMahon	Independent
Councillor David McManus	Fine Gael
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave	Labour

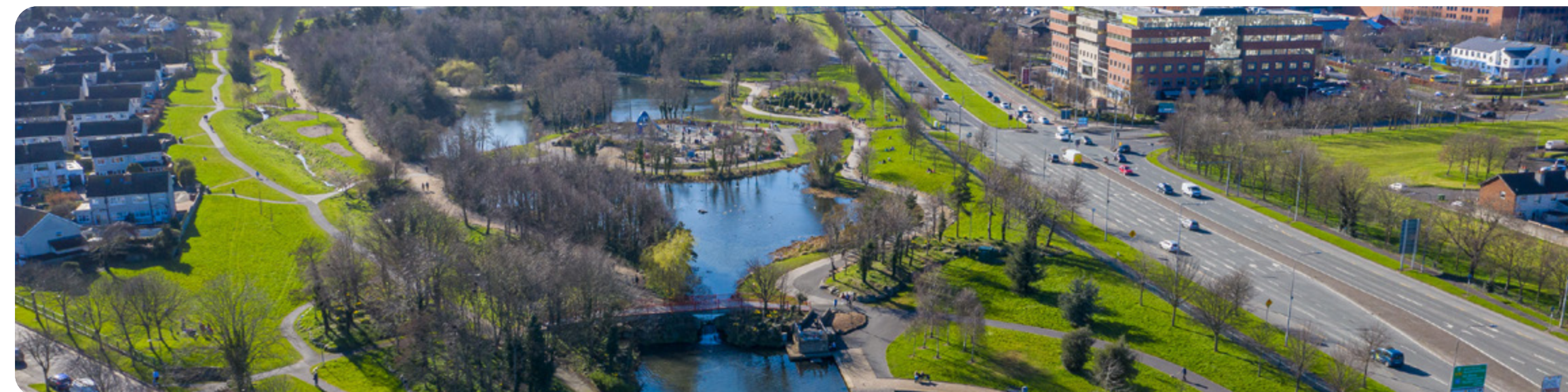
Lucan	
Councillor Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Councillor Helen Farrell	Independent
Councillor Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael
Councillor Liona O’Toole	Independent
Councillor Joanna Tuffy	Labour

Palmerstown – Fonthill	
Councillor Glen Moore	Independent
Councillor Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil (resigned September 2025)
Councillor Madeleine Johansson	People Before Profit
Councillor Alan Hayes	Independent
Councillor Niamh Fennell	Sinn Féin

Firhouse – Bohernabreena	
Councillor Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael
Councillor Róisín Mannion	Sinn Féin
Councillor Brian Lawlor	Fine Gael
Councillor Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Councillor Alan Edge	Independent

Tallaght Central	
Councillor Britto Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Councillor Niamh Whelan	Sinn Féin
Councillor Jess Spear	People Before Profit
Councillor Mick Duff	Independent
Councillor Dean Donnelly	Independent
Councillor Adam Smyth	Fianna Fail (co-opted March 2025)
Councillor Teresa Costello	Fianna Fail (resigned February 2025)

Tallaght South	
Councillor Patrick Pearse Holohan	Independent
Councillor Kay Keane	People Before Profit
Councillor Dermot Richardson	Independent
Councillor Louise Dunne	Sinn Féin
Councillor Baby Pereppadan	Fine Gael



Sean Walsh Park Aerial

# Appendix 2.2 – Payments made to Councillors

## Representational Payment Totals

Representational Payments	€1,188,685.42
Monthly Payments	€183,519.96
Local Representation Payment	€105,644.74
Strategic Policy Committee Chairperson's Allowance Total	€35,692.90
Mayor's Allowance	€30,127.38
Deputy Mayor's Allowance	€6,025.48
Training	€19,935.30
Conferences	€3,455.64
Security Allowance	€2787.87
<b>Total of Expenses paid to members in respect of attendance at meetings of the County Council and its Committees</b>	<b>€1,575,874.69</b>



Female Council Members

# Appendix 2.3 – Training and Conferences

## Training and Conferences attended by Councillors

Name	Location	Date
AILG Annual Training	Limerick	2 and 3 April
AILG Module 1	Dundalk	20 and 21 February
AILG Module 2	Galway	21 and 22 March
AILG Module 3	Sligo	22 May
AILG Module 4	Cork	19 June
AILG Module 5	Arklow	9 October
AILG Module 6	Wexford	15 November
LAMA Spring Training	Kilkenny	30 and 31 January
LAMA Autumn Training	Wexford	16 and 17 October
AIR regions	Athlone	5 and 6 February
MacGill Summer school	Donegal	16 - 19 July
AILG Autumn Training	Mayo	17 and 18 September
Daniel O’Connell Summer School	Kerry	29 and 30 August
Annual Planning Conference	Galway	9 – 11 April
Buildings Action Coalition	Wexford	17 and 19 June



Quarryvale Park Playspace

## Appendix 2.4 – Mayoral Expenses

Description	Date	Cost
Mayor's reception for Kyla Doyle and Adam Olaniyan (boxers)	13.01.2025	€540.80
Meeting (3 outside people)	27.01.2025	€19.00
Meeting (5 outside people)	13.02.2025	€45.10
Meeting (1 outside people)	25.02.2025	€27.60
Meeting (9 outside people)	14.03.2025	€76.30
Meeting (8 outside people)	16.04.2025	€68.50
Meeting with 3 Students re Voter.ie	17.04.2025	€26.90
Meeting (6 outside people)	06.05.2025	€56.50
Visit by Indian Ambassador	08.05.2025	€54.30
Meeting (4 outside people)	23.05.2025	€44.50
Meeting (7 outside people)	17.06.2025	€37.60
Mayor's reception for Ballyboden Gaelic for mothers and others reception	06.10.2025	€361.35
Womens Shed Templeogue	15.10.2025	€41.80
Members of Autism Templeogue	24.11.2025	€31.90
<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>€1,432.15</b>



Fairy Trail Launch

## Appendix 2.5 – Acceptance of Gifts by the Council

There were no gifts accepted by the Council in 2025.



Colour Dash 2025

# Appendix 2.6 – Membership of Internal and External Committees 2025

## Corporate Policy Group

SPC	Councillor	Party
Mayor	Mayor Pamela Kearns	Labour
Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC	Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael
Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC	David McManus	Fine Gael
Housing SPC	Mick Duff	Independent
Social, Community and Equality SPC	Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Land Use, Planning and Transportation SPC	Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Arts, Culture, Heritage, Gaeilge and Libraries SPC	Louise Dunne	Sinn Féin

## Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

Councillor	Party
David McManus (Chair)	Fine Gael
Francis Timmons	Independent
Linda de Courcy	Independent Ireland
Roisin Mannion	Sinn Féin
Trevor Gilligan	Fianna Fáil
Dermot Richardson	Independent
Lynn McCrave	Fine Gael
Member Name	Representative Body
Peter Lantry	Business Commercial
	Agricultural and Farming
Benedict Chukwurah	PPN

## Arts, Culture, Heritage, Gaeilge and Libraries SPC

Councillor	Party
Louise Dunne (Chair)	Sinn Féin
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael
Daragh Adelaide	People Before Profit
Dean Donnelly	Independent
Glen Moore	Irish Freedom Party
Eoin Ó Broin	Social Democrats
Member Name	Representative Body
Emma Kennedy	Business Commercial
Elaine Vince O'Hara	ETB
Noel Gavin	PPN
Yemi Ojo	PPN

## Audit Committee

Councillor	Party
Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Niamh Fennell	Sinn Féin
Joanna Tuffy	Labour

## Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

Councillor	Party
Vicki Casserly (Chair)	Fine Gael
Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil
Justin Sinnott	Social Democrats
Ronan McMahan	Independent
Shirley O'Hara	Fine Gael
Pamela Kearns	Labour
Paddy Holohan	Labour
Liona O'Toole	Independent
Member Name	Representative Body
Simon Van Lonkhuyzen	Business Commercial (overseas)
Harry Simpson	Business Commercial (indigenous)
Betty Tyrrell-Collard	Trade Union
Lisa Rowntree	PPN
Prashant Shukla	PPN
Dr Miriam O'Donoghue	TUD Tallaght

# Appendix 2.6 – Membership of Internal and External Committees 2025

## Housing SPC

Councillor	Party
Mick Duff (Chair)	Independent
Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Madeleine Johansson	Independent Ireland
Joanna Tuffy	Labour
Adam Smyth	Fianna Fáil
William Carey	Sinn Féin
Britto Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Member Name	Representative Body
Betty Tyrrell-Collard	Trade Union
Motuba Misor	PPN (Social Inclusion Pillar)
Krystyna Zalewska	PPN (Community Pillar)
Isabelle Gallagher	Development Construction

## Clondalkin / Newcastle / Rathcoole / Saggart / Brittas ACM

Councillor	Party
Francis Timmons (Chair)	Independent
William Carey	Sinn Féin
Darragh Adelaide	People Before Profit
Eoin Ó Broin	Social Democrats
Shirley O'Hara	Fine Gael
Linda de Courcy	Independent Ireland
Trevor Gilligan	Fianna Fáil

## Social, Community and Equality and Integration SPC

Councillor	Party
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Niamh Whelan	Sinn Féin
Kay Keane	People Before Profit
Alan Edge	Independent
Baby Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Alan Hayes	Independent
Member Name	Representative Body
Noel Gavin	Business Commercial
	Trade Union
Daire Hennessy	PPN
Emily Smartt	PPN

## Land Use, Planning and Transportation SPC

Councillor	Party
Yvonne Collins (Chair)	Fianna Fáil
Brian Lawlor	Fine Gael
Paddy Cosgrave	Labour
Helen Farrell	Independent
Niamh Fennell	Sinn Féin
Jess Spear	People Before Profit
Member Name	Representative Body
Fergus Sharp	Business Commercial
Sean O'Neill	Development Construction
	PPN
	PPN



Yoga at Dodder Valley Park 2025

# Appendix 2.6 – Membership of Internal and External Committees 2025

## Lucan / Palmerstown / North Clondalkin ACM

Councillor	Party
Caroline Brady (Chair)	Fine Gael
Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael
Helen Farrell	Independent
Liona O'Toole	Independent
Joanna Tuffy	Labour
Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil
Alan Hayes	Independent
Niamh Fennell	Sinn Féin
Glen Moore	Independent
Madeline Johansson	Independent

## Association of Irish Local Government

Councillor	Party
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Shirley O'Hara	Fine Gael
Brian Lawlor	Fine Gael

## Civic Theatre Committee

Councillor	Party
Britto Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Adam Smyth	Fianna Fáil

## Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena ACM

Councillor	Party
Alan Edge (Chair)	Independent
Ronan McMahon	Independent
Paddy Cosgrave	Labour
Justin Sinnott	Social Democrats
Lynn McCrave	Fine Gael
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
David McManus	Fine Gael
Pamela Kearns	Labour
Brian Lawlor	Fine Gael
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael
Roisín Mannion	Sinn Féin

## Clondalkin Local Drugs and Alcohol Task Force

Councillor	Party
Madeleine Johansson	Independent
William Carey	Sinn Féin
Eoin Ó Broin	Social Democrats

## Dublin 12 Local Drugs Task Force

Councillor	Party
Pamela Kearns	Labour

## Tallaght ACM

Councillor	Party
Louise Dunne (Chair)	Sinn Féin
Adam Smyth	Fianna Fáil
Britto Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Paddy Holohan	Independent
Niamh Whelan	Sinn Féin
Jess Spear	People Before Profit
Dean Donnelly	Independent
Baby Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Dermot Richardson	Independent
Mick Duff	Independent
Kay Keane	People Before Profit

## Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board

Councillor	Party
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Pamela Kearns	Labour
Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael
Mick Duff	Independent

# Appendix 2.6 – Membership of Internal and External Committees 2025

## Dublin Bus/Luas Community Forum

Councillor	Party
Mick Duff	Independent
Adam Smyth	Fianna Fáil
Kay Keane	People Before Profit
Róisín Mannion	Sinn Féin

## Eastern and Midlands Regional Assembly

Councillor	Party
Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil
Joanna Tuffy	Labour
David McManus	Fine Gael

## Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd

Councillor	Party
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil

## Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Councillor	Party
Adam Symth	Fianna Fáil
Mick Duff	Independent
Jess Spears	People Before Profit
William Carey	Sinn Féin
Alan Edge	Independent
Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael

## Local Authority Members Association

Councillor	Party
Brian Lawlor	Fine Gael

## HSE Dublin and Midlands Health Forum

Councillor	Party
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael
Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil
Liona O'Toole	Independent
Baby Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Joanna Tuffy	Labour
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Niamh Whelan	Sinn Féin
Jess Spear	People Before Profit

## South Dublin Local Community Development Committee

Councillor	Party
Alan Hayes	Independent
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael

## South Dublin County Partnership

Councillor	Party
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Mick Duff	Independent



Junior Safety Forum Workshop

# Appendix 2.6 – Membership of Internal and External Committees 2025

## Southwestern Regional Drugs Task Force

Councillor	Party
Mick Duff	Independent

## Tallaght Community Arts Centre

Councillor	Party
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil
Adam Symth	Fianna Fáil

## Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force

Councillor	Party
Alan Edge	Independent
Mick Duff	Independent
Baby Pereppadan	Fine Gael
Niamh Whelan	Sinn Féin

## Inter Local Authority Committee on Fire/Ambulance Services and Emergency Management

Councillor	Party
Lynn McCrave	Fine Gael
Adam Symth	Fianna Fáil
Louise Dunne	Sinn Féin
Paddy Cosgrave	Labour

## Infrastructure Naming Committee

Councillor	Party
Mayor - Chair	
Alan Hayes	Independent
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael

## Commemorations Committee

Councillor	Party
Sarah Barnes	Fine Gael
William Carey	Sinn Féin
Yvonne Collins	Fianna Fáil

## Liffey Valley Management Advisory Committee

Councillor	Party
Helen Farrell	Independent
Liona O'Toole	Independent
Alan Hayes	Independent
Glen Moore	Independent
Madeline Johansson	Independent
Vicki Casserly	Fine Gael
Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Joanna Tuffy	Labour
Jacqueline Sheehy	Fianna Fáil
Niamh Fennell	Sinn Féin

## Local Community Safety Partnership Committee

Councillor	Party
Caroline Brady	Fine Gael
Madeline Johansson	Independent
Mick Duff	Independent
Pamela Kearns	Labour
Louise Dunne	Sinn Féin
Eoin Ó Broin	Social Democrats
Emma Murphy	Fianna Fáil



Youth Art Project

# Appendix 4 - Senior Management Team

Chief Executive Colm Ward

Director of Climate Change Teresa Walsh

Director of Community Lorna Maxwell

Director of Economic Development Jason Frehill

Director of Housing Elaine Leech

Director of Planning and Transport Eoin Burke

Director of Finance Ronan Fitzgerald

Director of Digital Services Tommy Kavanagh

County Architect Cian Harte

Law Agent Sean O'Shea



Dublin 24 Neighbourhood Scheme



Active Cities Colour Run People

# Corporate Plan Indicators



Keys Handover 2025

## Goal 1: Climate Leadership

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Climate	Number of Climate Action Events	661
Climate	Number of properties protected by flood protection schemes	0*
Climate	Number of business energy efficiency grant approvals	9
Finance	Number of contracts awarded that use Green Public Procurement criteria	131
Climate	Number of retrofit works to improve the energy efficiency of council-owned buildings	0
Climate	% of fleet and machinery decarbonised	72%
Climate	Number of initiatives targeted on groups experiencing inequality to enable a just transition	11
Climate	% of climate actions being progressed from the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029	88%
Climate	% Local authority energy savings	46%**
Climate	Number of environmental inspections	12,125

(\*Property protection figures can be provided when the schemes are complete)

(\*\*2025 figures are preliminary operational estimates, based on best available current data. Confirmed figures are expected from the SEAI evaluation of the M&R data in Q3/Q4 2026.)

## Goal 2: Quality Housing

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Housing	Number of homes we will provide across all tenures	1,044
Housing	% Completion of planned housing maintenance programme	100
Housing	% of housing stock upgraded under the energy efficiency retrofit programme	4%
Housing	Number of vacant homes / derelict sites	60 / 23
Planning & Transport	Number of planning applications for private homes approved	2,803
Housing	Number of private homes commenced development	1,221
Housing	Number of building control inspections	625
Housing	Number of targeted initiatives to ensure homeless services are designed and provided to meet the specific needs of the diversity of homeless people across the identified groups for the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty	154

# Corporate Plan Indicators

## Goal 3: A Thriving Economy

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Economic Development	Number of LEO (Local Enterprise Office) Business support initiatives and expenditure	22/€133,374
Economic Development	Number of LEO jobs supports	50
Economic Development	Number of Grange Castle jobs sustained	5,328
Economic Development	Number of festivals / tourism events	17
Finance	Number of ratepayers	6,964
Economic Development	Number of qualifying businesses receiving state aid and supports	67
Finance	Number of prompt payments	83,151
Finance	Number of overdue payments	422
Economic Development	Number of LEO initiatives targeting members of groups experiencing inequality, as entrepreneurs and as employees	4

## Goal 4: A Better Place

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Economic Development	Number of disposals of Council land for economic development	0
Economic Development	Number of events in Tallaght Stadium	51
Planning & Transport	% delivery of Strategic Infrastructure Projects*	57%
Planning & Transport	% delivery of Public Lighting LED Programme	83%
Climate	% delivery of Cycle South Dublin plan	48%
Climate	Number of active recreation facilities in parks and open spaces	396

(\*Strategic Infrastructure projects from the Capital Programme 2025-2027 for Clonburris, Tallaght Town Centre and Adamstown)

## Goal 5: Connected Communities

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Community	Capital expenditure of the delivery of new community facilities	€4,107,304
Community	Number of Community Safety Initiatives	50
Community	Number of people on the electoral register	211,659
Community	Women's Caucus membership and reach	19
Community	Participatory budgeting initiative metrics developed and report on	0*
Community	Number of initiatives of support positive community interactions across diversity within communities	372
Community	Age Friendly Initiatives	9

(\*Participatory budgeting initiative discontinued following decision of the council members)



Cricket at Tallaght Stadium

# Corporate Plan Indicators

## Goal 6: Cultural Richness

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Community	Number of visitors to arts centres	383,367
Community	Number of active library members	60,669
Community	Volume of library space in metres squared	6,660
Community	Number of people engaging in Irish language initiatives	4,100



Tallaght University Hospital

## Goal 7: People First

Directorate	Corporate Plan Indicators	Final 2025
Community	Annual Public Engagement (survey / workshops) on perceptions and quality service delivery	1
Community	Level of public engagement in consultations	1,968
Community	Level of online engagement with website	1,250,869
Community	Level of online engagement with social media	1,611,565
Digital Services	Accessibility of all council owned websites	94%
Community	Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals	0
Finance	Number of online transactions with customers / suppliers	31,164
Digital Services	Number of applicable services for digitalisation	0
Digital Services	% of applicable services digitised	0
Digital Services	% consumption of digital services provided	0
Human Resources	Total number of whole-time equivalent employees	1,285
Human Resources	Number of whole-time equivalent employees per capita	1,285
Human Resources	% employee retention / turnover	11
Human Resources	Learning and development investment per employee	521
Human Resources	Number of apprenticeships	2
Human Resources	% gender pay gap	-10%
Finance	Report on the implementation of the Procurement Plan published	90%
Digital Services	Number of FOI requested received / responded to	237 / 223
Digital Services	Number of data access requests received / responded to	37 / 28
Economic Development/Community	% of employees with additional competence enabled in equality and human rights	25
Community	Number of initiatives targeting digital exclusion and inequality	237



Dodder Greenway

# SDCC

# Annual Report 2025

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Halla an Contae, Tamhlacht,  
Baile Átha Cliath 24, D24 A3XC.

South Dublin County Council,  
County Hall, Tallaght,  
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