

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



Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Thursday 30th April 2026 at 3pm

IT Conference Room.

In attendance:

Cllr Alan Edge (Chair), Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr Adam Smyth, Cllr Jess Spear, Cllr William Carey, Elaine Leech (Director of HD), Fiona Hendley (A/SEO HD), Niamh Carton (AO HD), Steven Masterson (SSO HD), Brian O'Riordan (TLO HD), Sean Logue (Senior Social Worker HD), Ellen Meyler (A/SO HD), Patrick Nevin (TTCDP), Mary Cassidy (TTCDP), Emily Smartt (CTDG), Jean O'Brian (CTDG) Colette Spears (TTCDP), Lynsey Kavanagh (Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre), Martin Collins (Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre)

H-I (2) Pavee Point Ethnic Identifier Presentation

L. Kavanagh and M. Collins from Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre delivered the presentation.

- 12,707 Traveller families nationally, 461 Traveller families in SDCC (1844 Travellers)
- Data needed for better policy and legislation, measure racism and discrimination
- Assist in target policies and services
- SDCC's current approach of data collection is through Social Housing Assessments and the Annual count. Social Housing Assessments introduced Traveller identifier in 2022

- Challenges-undercount due to lack of self-identification, mistrust and fear of disclosure, lack of awareness and understanding, concerns of privacy, legality and racism, seen as non-essential/extra work for data collectors
- Overcoming challenges-clearly explain why data is being collected, how and where it is stored, when to ask, self-identification only
- Introduction of ethnicity question increased identification
- Recommendations- the use of a universal ethnicity question, ensure that voluntary self-identification is followed

M. Collins highlighted that it was not illegal or discriminatory to collect data and the importance of self-identifying.

E. Leech noted the importance of data for planning and welcomed training for frontline staff.

Cllr Duff, Cllr Smyth and Cllr Spears noted the difficulties in the identifier question and would be in favour of a universal question and training.

M. Cassidy and E. Smartt raised the difficulties in data collection and the need for training.

L. Kavanagh asked if SDCC could consider piloting a form with universal identifiers. E. Leech explained that the social housing application form is a national standard form.

Cllr. Edge agreed with using universal identifier but noted the issues around data collection. He highlighted that while the committee can endorse the use of a universal question, the Council does not have the authority to change the form.

Cllr Carey raised concerns with the use of a universal question noting that the Traveller identifier figure is used by the Council for planning, but the other data is not and can be obtained from the Census.

H- I (1) Minutes of the last meeting

- The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed with two amendments J. O'Brian to be added to the attendance list and Colette TTCDP to be changed

H- I (3) 2025-2029 TAP Update

F. Hendley presented the TAP update

- Allocations, Offers and Re-let/Refurb works stats presented
- Construction/Re-development
 - Oldcastle Park
 - continued engagement with residents
 - preplanning surveys, site screenings and assessments underway
 - Draft masterplan presented to the March Clondalkin Area Committee meeting.
 - Part 8 consultation to commence by end of H2 2026
 - Kishogue Park
 - new temporary halting site now operational, decommissioning of old site ongoing
 - Lock Road Development
 - Part 8 Planning Application for the was advertised on 29th January.
 - 9 submissions were received for consideration, and a report will be presented to the members at the May Council meeting
- New Construction
 - Adderig Glade-Handover of six four-bedroom homes to take place in Q2 2026
 - Graydon Rise- Six homes advertised on Traveller Specific Choice Based Letting. Twenty-three EOI received -4 offers made, 1 homeless accommodation allocation, 1 medical priority allocation

P. Nevin asked whether offers were being made to specific family groups. E. Leech confirmed that offers to traditional extended family groupings are made alongside Choice Based Letting.

C. Spears asked if there were any emergency sites, E. Leech advised that Whitestown Way was now the only site and that the number of permanent sites had not decreased.

The report was noted.

H-I (4) IHREC Equality Action Plan

Niamh Carton gave updates for IHREC report

The council are committed to implementing and delivering on actions of the Equality Action Plan pursuant to Section 32 (1) of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Act in relation to Traveller Accommodation.

- Progress on actions to date
 - 152 applicants on SDCC housing list identify as Irish Traveller. Further training on the use the Irish Traveller Identifier to be scheduled
 - Seven Preferential Caravan Loan Scheme 2026 applications approved
 - Traveller Housing Liaison Officer appointed on 23rd June 2025
 - GIS mapping enhancements to be discussed with the Council's system analyst.
 - Traveller Tails and Trials (Beady Pockets Project) Progress meeting took place on 14th April and was attended by Traveller Groups, Libraries Staff and Officers from TAU. Tenant Liaison Officer to contact National Museum to discuss once transcriptions of records completed
 - Staff members from Traveller Accommodation Unit available to meet daily with housing queries
 - Housing Customer Care Centre is open daily
 - Staff member from our Traveller Accommodation Unit is a member of a cross departmental Equality and Human Rights working group.
 - Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty Training and NALA Plain English training attended by staff members

P. Nevin queried if there was a Caravan Rental Scheme, E. Leech advised that this was being discussed at a national level.

H-I (5)

Site and Waste Management

- Ongoing illegal dumping and waste burning on sites, ongoing issues at Oldcastle Park impacting Clondalkin area
- Meeting held on 13th January 2026 with Senior Executive Engineer, Waste Enforcement and Licensing, it was agreed to carry out feasibility study to present to the CCTV Oversight Committee for CCTV installation in a non-invasive area
- Cleansing schedule in place for Q1; costs continue to have significant impact on TAU operational budgets
- Cleaning operations at Hazel Hill recently completed
- Weekly skip and bin services continue, additional stand-alone skip provided on 25th Marh to support community clean up date
- Electrical and electronic waste collect carried out in February. TAU working to identify next Group Housing Schemes to extend initiative to.
- Traveler Liaison Officer working with residents of Cherryfield Way and Belgard Park Halting Sites on community led improvements. Paint and equipment secured for residents
- Graffiti clean-up completed on boundary wall at Cherryfield Way Halting Site

E. Leech raised the serious concerns for staff, contractors and residents near the Oldcastle Park site and advised that day to day services were withdrawn for safety reasons but not emergency services. The need for a meeting to engage with residents was stressed. N. Carton and E. Smartt agreed to arrange meeting in Clondalkin Offices.

C. Spears queried the progress on CCTV, E. Leech advised that it was in progress and needed specific permission through our Climate Change Directorate.

P. Nevin raised concerns of withdrawal of services and noted that the electricity ticket purchasing system was also withdrawn. E. Leech advised

that cards could be purchased at the Clondalkin cash office (open daily from 9.30am to 4:00pm) and agreed to have a caretaker at the site on the 1st of May to allow residents to purchase cards for the Bank Holiday weekend.

H-I (6) A.O.B

- 2026 Caravan Loan Scheme
 - initial allocation of €240,000 increased by €80,000. Eighteen applications received during advertising period. Seven applicants received offers of loans ranging from €50,000 to €45,000.
- Fire Safety
 - Programme of routine inspections and servicing of fire safety equipment continues across halting sites and Group Housing Schemes
 - Extinguishers, fire blankets, detectors, and fire hydrants serviced and replaced where necessary
- Dormant Accounts
 - B. O’Riordan advised of the Dormant Accounts Fund- play space in Oldcastle Drive, the design will reflect the traditions of the Traveller Community
- Housing Customer Centre
 - Walkin in service continues, open from 09.30 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 16:00.
 - TAU available to be called down when required
- Beady Pockets Project/ Traveller Tails & Trials
 - Meeting held on Tuesday 14th April, attended by Traveller Groups, Libraries Staffa dn Officers from TAU
- LTACC schedule for 2026
 - Thursday February 26th
 - Thursday April 30th
 - Thursday June 25th
 - Thursday September 17th
 - Thursday November 26th

Proposed Traveller Accommodation and all associated works and undeveloped lands located in Grange

E. Leech delivered the presentation

- Proposed Development
 - 1 four-bedroom single storey house with two car parking spaces
 - 3 halting bays- a day unit, mobile unit, two car parking spaces
 - Homework club
 - Play area and hard standing
 - Enterprise area and landscaping
- National housing plan aims to increase and improve Traveller accommodation, proposed Development is in line with County Development Plan objectives, TAP is dedicated to relocating emergency/temporary facilities for Traveller households.
- 2.37 hectares, two sites-existing temporary halting site known as 'Rock Road' proposed for decommissioning and northeast undeveloped lands to be known as 'Lock Road'
- Public Consultation- briefings took place at Local Area Committee and Local Traveller Consultative Committee, ongoing engagement with local Traveller families, 6 week formal Public Consultation- 9 submissions received mostly relating to entrance location
- Next steps- detailed design and tender process, expenditure provided for in 3-year Capital Programme, funding to be sought from DHLGH under national Traveller Accommodation Capital Funding Programme

P. Nevin asked about energy efficiency of day units, N. Carton advised that all will be in line with required standards

C. Spears queried if there would be stables, E. Leech advised that recreational space for residents was provided for in the design.

Masterplan Proposal Proposed Mixed Tenure Housing Development at Oldcastle Park, Clondalkin

E. Leech delivered the presentation

- Approximately 120 social, affordable purchase, and Traveller Specific Homes

- Next steps – complete required site investigations, traffic management proposals, design modifications, commence Part 8 Consultation by end of H1 2026, Chief Executive Report to full Council Q3 2026.

Cllr. Carey queried if there would be a more detailed plan, E. Leech advised that there was a briefing scheduled for elected members on the 6th May for both Oldcastle Park and Lock Road.