

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL



MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

Monday, July 13, 2026

HEADED ITEM NO. 1 (e)

CONFIRMATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF MINUTES - FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Annual Meeting held on Friday 26 June 2026

PRESENT

Barnes, S.	Loftus, D.
Brady, C.	Mannion, R.
Carey, W.	McCrave, L.
Casserly, V.	McDonald, T.
Collins, Y.	McMahon, R.
Cosgrave, P.	McManus, D.
de Courcy, L.	Moore, G.
Donnelly, D.	Murphy, E.
Duff, M.	Ó Broin, E.
Dunne, L.	O'Hara, S.
Edge, A.	O'Toole, L.
Farrell, H.	Pereppadan, Baby
Gilligan, T.	Pereppadan, Britto
Hayes, A.	Richardson, D.
Holohan, P.	Smyth, A.
Johansson, M.	Spear, J.
Keane, K.	Timmons, F.
Kearns, P.	Tuffy, J.
Kenny, G.	Whelan, N.
Lawlor, B.	

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Chief Executive	C. Ward
Directors	T. Walsh, E. Leech, R. FitzGerald, T. Kavanagh, E. Clancy
County Architect	C. Harte
Acting Senior Executive Officer	B. Shannon
Senior Staff Officer	K. McLoughlin, G. Lee
Staff Officer	P. Mens
Assistant Staff Officer	R. Murray, K. Gainsford

The Mayor, Councillor P. Kearns, presided.

Apologies were received from Councillor J. Sinnott and Directors of Service E. Burke and J. Frehill

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Councils website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014, the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018, Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) and the Defamation Act 2009. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the legislation.

Therefore, by entering the Council Chamber and using the seats around the meeting tables, public gallery etc. you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting.

The Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns, welcomed everyone and informed the Members of the etiquette for Hybrid Meetings:

Members attending remotely must check that they can access the “Chat Function” before commencing the meeting.

Members can indicate they wish to speak on an item through the chat function – using “Speak please.”

Members must be able to be seen, specifically for roll call, when speaking and voting.

Mics to be on mute until invited to speak through the Chair.

Members attending in person can indicate they wish to speak by signalling to the Chair.

Members must be able to be seen, specifically for roll call, when speaking and voting.

TRIBUTES TO OUTGOING MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns, addressed the members and staff, thanking them for their support throughout her time as Mayor.

Councillors E. Murphy, A. Edge, D. McManus, L. Dunne, W. Carey, J. Tuffy, T. Gilligan, E. Ó Brion, and V. Casserly paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns.

The Members also thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. Gilligan, for his hard work throughout the year.

The Chief Executive, Mr. C. Ward, thanked the Mayor for her service and commended her hard work over the year, he also thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. Gilligan, for his service.

The Chief Executive, Mr. C. Ward presented the Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns, with photographic record of her year as Mayor.

The outgoing Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns once again thanked the Members, Management, and staff for all their help throughout the year.

H1/0626 ELECTION OF MAYOR/AN MÉARA

In accordance with the provisions of **Section 36 of the Local Government Act 2001** a local authority shall elect a Mayor from amongst its members at every annual meeting.

The method of the election of Mayor by members of South Dublin County Council shall be in accordance with the provisions of **Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001**.

The outgoing Mayor, Councillor Pamela Kearns, called for nominations for the position of Mayor.

Nominations:

Councillor F. Timmons was proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole and seconded by Councillor E. Murphy.

Councillor L. Dunne was proposed by Councillor W. Carey and seconded by Councillor J. Spear.

A **Roll Call** vote was taken the results of which are as follows:

FOR Councillor F. Timmons: 24 (TWENTY-FOUR)

Councillors S. Barnes, C. Brady, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, P. Cosgrave, M. Duff, A. Edge, H. Farrell, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, T. McDonald, D. McManus, E. Murphy, E. Ó Broin, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, Baby. Pereppadan, Britto Pereppadan, A. Smyth, F. Timmons and J. Tuffy.

FOR Councillor L. Dunne: 9 (NINE)

Councillors W. Carey, L. Dunne, M. Johansson, K. Keane, G. Kenny, D. Loftus, R. Mannion, J. Spear and N. Whelan.

ABSTAIN: 6 (SIX)

Councillors L. De Courcy, D. Donnelly, P. Holohan, R. McMahon, G. Moore and D. Richardson.

As a result of the Roll Call vote **Councillor F. Timmons** was elected Mayor for 2026/2027.

The outgoing Mayor Councillor P. Kearns presented the new Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, with the Chain of Office, and the Mayor then took the chair.

The new Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, addressed the Members:

Councillors, chief executive, directors and council staff! Guests, those watching online, is mise Proinsias Timmons, Méara Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas. I am inspired by President Connolly who has asked that we try use the cúpla focal as Gaeilge anois agus arís!

A chairde, firstly thanks to every councillor who voted to elect me as an Méara - go raibh maith agaibh! I follow on from some great and hardworking Mayors in the last few years.

I want to thank every person that has helped elect me for three terms. I want to thank all the volunteers that help me with our weekly foodbank and the committees that help me with the annual Clondalkin St. Patricks Day parade, the Clondalkin Festival and Creative Clondalkin.

Also, the groups I'm involved with like Clondalkin Tidy Towns and also Saggart and Newcastle Tidy Towns and the ReNewcastle Group.

Today I also reflect that this year marks 30 years since Christine Buckley's groundbreaking *Dear Daughter* when over a million people tuned in to listen to Christine share her traumatic story of her abuse in Goldenbridge. It was the first television programme to expose the horrific abuse endured by hundreds of children in the industrial schools. It brought national attention to the widespread abuse in these institutions. It paved the way for others including me to speak to media and share our truth. Very few people ever have as much impact, but Christine was one person who did.

Each Survivor has survived so much, and we all have our own unique story, everyone has coped in different ways with their hurt, their pain and their trauma. Stolen lives, illegally adopted, trafficked children, boarded out are among the legacy of the institutions with lifetimes of trauma. From workhouses to county institutions to mother and baby institutions to Magdalene laundries to industrial schools; institutions were in every corner of Ireland. We remember today the 796 buried in a septic tank in Tuam and the 900 unaccounted for in Bessborough. My sister's life mattered. She died at 3 months we have no grave for her. My mother's life mattered. Her life affected by her losses.

Today we pause to reflect for survivors, and I ask that we never forget the mothers who desperately wanted their children and the children who desperately wanted their mothers.

I look forward this year to hosting a celebration of survivors event in this chamber, a survivors display with libraries and progressing a reflection space for survivors in our county.

Today I also reflect on the legacy of Veronica Guerin who 30 years ago today was cowardly and brutally murdered. She paid the ultimate price for telling us the truth. The cowardly attack was an attack on democracy and her legacy lives on in CAB. I want to remember all the Journalists murdered around the world while trying to get the news to us. Earlier we held our annual memorial near where she was shot. And later tonight I'll attend the convention centre to celebrate her legacy. Today we pause to recall Veronica, journalist, Man United fan and mother. We also remember the 18 Journalists that have died this year around the world.

Today I reflect on my journey that has brought me here, I want to remember my great-great Grandfather who was sent to the workhouse in Limerick for robbing potatoes, where the conditions were so bad he set fire to the workhouse and after a stint in Limerick prison he went on to have several kids one of his daughters gave birth to my grandmother, my gran married my grandad who fought in the war of independence, every day I'm inspired by his Cert that hangs proudly on my kitchen wall.

Despite not having much, they had kindness and decency, their generation were the bedrock of our society, we should always carry on that legacy of kindness and that deep sense of decency that makes us uniquely Irish.

My life has been enriched by those who come here, many escaping war, famine and poverty. Many help with groups like tidy towns, Friends of the Camac and community events. Some grow food in our Clondalkin Global Garden for those in need.

We should know what division does, as we have had so much in Ireland especially in the north. We know so many who left Ireland and were met with signs saying no dogs no blacks no Irish - we are better than that.

My solidarity is with the People of Palestine who have lost so much from a genocide and war, also with Ukraine - also Iran where up to 45m face hunger in a war that breaks international law, we have as a society begun to normalise war, we should never normalise war I commit to a march for peace during my time as Mayor. I also want to state my desire to visit Palestine and if possible, I would like to visit as Mayor.

We have no say in most world issues but one way we can make a change is through Fairtrade making one change at a time. During my time as Mayor, I'll promote Fairtrade with a view to a Fairtrade County.

As a republican I would like to see a united Ireland, but the conversations need to start on what that united Ireland would look like it must be an Ireland for all, the Good Friday Agreement clearly sets down a roadmap for this. We all need to play our part in having these discussions and in our actions and deeds.

I have had the amazing privilege of working 36 years in social care, I've seen people overcome huge obstacles and challenges and despite this have shown so much determination often having to

navigate an unkind and not always accessible and inclusive world. I have also had the privilege of being with many at the end of life. I want to give a huge shout out to all in Peamount Healthcare and WALK, as I worked in both. Also, my friends in Scoil Mochua, I want to dedicate my year as mayor to People with a Disability. This includes those living with mental health issues; I want to do a few things to bring this issue to the fore:

- Firstly, to build on what SDCC already do I commit to working with all councillors to looking and working on how we can accommodate, progress and make more opportunities for our citizens with a disability.
- I want to work this year to encourage and promote Autism Friendly towns with the aim of having an Autism friendly county
- I also want to look and take opportunities to look at how we can increase work experience and opportunities for people with a disability
- in July I look forward to opening a conference called Living life through friends in Rua Red
- I want to invite disability groups into this chamber so we can listen to their lived experiences
- I also want to visit disability services during the year
- I want to commit to a Mayor's charter for inclusion that I'll ask Groups and Clubs etc around the county to sign up to

Words matter and as elected councillors we should all promote mental health in our deeds and online.

Tomorrow I will be proud to march in Pride; Pride is a great celebration of LGBTQ+ but is also about the struggle for Equality. This year I'll stand with other members of my community including the Trans community who are under relentless attack. I reflect on the 10-year-old me that was frightened, sad and confused child. I didn't know what I was going through, I spent many years navigating a cruel world pre decriminalisation. I want to remember today all those I knew who died of Aids. I want to reflect on how far we have come forward but we must continue to stand up for human rights that are under attack in Ireland and across the world.

A chairde, we must look after the hedgerows, the rivers, plant more trees and look after and protect our history and heritage. I want to say a huge thanks to Tidy Towns groups, residents' groups, community centres, family centres and others who make SDCC the best place to work, visit and live, I look forward to meeting them over the year. I

want to do Mayor awards as previous Mayors did. I also want to work with SDCC to aim to address the storage needs of many of our community groups.

My years working in homeless services and my belief we should never normalise homelessness makes me want to do more and we must work together to do what we can to seek out housing opportunities for all.

Finally, many years ago a sad young man was out in town and in walks Darren - of all the gin joints! I'm glad he did, 28 years later he's still with me he taught me what love means, he's seen me at my worst and my best. My number 1 fan and supporter. I couldn't get half of what we do without him. Despite many ups and downs, he's stayed with me.

If you wanted a mayor who's not damaged and hurt you picked the wrong person but if you wanted someone who'll work day and night to make this county the best place to visit, work and above all to live in you picked the right person.

This is the honour of my life, Thank you! I commit that I will work with every councillor and council staff to build SDCC as an inclusive, welcoming and diverse county.

A chairde, can we do it? Cinnte is féidir linn! go raibh maith agaibh!
END

Councillors E. Murphy, A. Edge, L. Dunne, P. Kearns, W. Carey, D. McManus, E. Ó Broin, G. Kenny, V. Casserly, and T. Gilligan paid tribute to the incoming Mayor.

H2/0626

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR/LEAS MHÉARA

In accordance with the provisions of **Section 36 of the Local Government Act 2001** a local authority shall elect a Deputy-Mayor from amongst its members at every annual meeting.

The method of the election of the Deputy-Mayor by members of South Dublin County Council shall be in accordance with the provisions of **Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001**.

The Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Councillor S. Barnes was proposed by Councillor S. O'Hara and seconded by Councillor P. Cosgrave.

Councillor G. Kenny was proposed by Councillor K. Keane and seconded by Councillor W. Carey.

A **Roll Call** vote was taken, the results of which are as follows:

FOR Councillor S. Barnes: 24 (TWENTY-FOUR)

Councillors S. Barnes, C. Brady, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, P. Cosgrave, M. Duff, A. Edge, H. Farrell, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, T. McDonald, R. McMahon, D. McManus, E. Murphy, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, Baby Pereppadan, Britto Pereppadan, A. Smyth, F. Timmons and J. Tuffy.

FOR Councillor G. Kenny: 10 (TEN)

Councillors W. Carey, L. Dunne, M. Johansson, K. Keane, G. Kenny, D. Loftus, R. Mannion, E. Ó Broin, J. Spear and N. Whelan.

ABSTAIN 5: (FIVE)

Councillors L. De Courcy, D. Donnelly, P. Holohan, D. McManus and D. Richardson.

As a result of the **ROLL CALL** vote **Councillor S. Barnes** was elected Deputy Mayor for 2026/2027.

The outgoing Deputy Mayor Councillor T. Gilligan then presented the new Deputy Mayor Councillor S. Barnes with the Chain of Office.

The new Deputy Mayor Councillor S. Barnes addressed the members.

Councillor E. Murphy, P. Kearns, L. O'Toole, L. Dunne and E Ó Broin paid tribute to the incoming Deputy Mayor.

Chief Executive, Mr. C. Ward congratulated the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and wished them well in the year ahead.

H3a/0626 ELECTION OF AREA CHAIRPERSONS -CLONDALKIN AREA, NEWCASTLE, RATHCOOLE, SAGGART AND BRITTAS COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, called for nominations for Election of Chair of the Clondalkin, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Brittas Area Committee.

Councillor S. O'Hara was proposed by Councillor A. Edge and was seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

As there were no further nominations **Councillor S. O'Hara** was unanimously elected Chair of the Clondalkin, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart and Brittas Area Committee.

H3b/0626 ELECTION OF AREA CHAIRPERSONS - LUCAN, PALMERSTOWN, NORTH CLONDALKIN AREA COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, called for nominations for Election of Chair of the Lucan, Palmerstown, North Clondalkin Area Committee.

Councillor J. Tuffy was proposed by Councillor A. Edge and was seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

As there were no further nominations **Councillor J. Tuffy** was unanimously elected Chair of the Lucan, Palmerstown, North Clondalkin Area Committee.

H3c/0626 ELECTION OF AREA CHAIRPERSONS - RATHFARNHAM, TEMPLEOGUE, FIRHOUSE BOHERNABREENA AREA COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, called for nominations for Election of Chair of the Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse Bohernabreena Area Committee.

Councillor E. Murphy was proposed by Councillor A. Edge and was seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

As there were no further nominations **Councillor E. Murphy** was unanimously elected Chair of the Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse Bohernabreena Area Committee

H3d/0626 ELECTION OF AREA CHAIRPERSONS - TALLAGHT AREA COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Councillor F. Timmons, called for nominations for Election of Chair of the Tallaght Area Committee.

Councillor A. Smyth was proposed by Councillor A. Edge and was seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

Councillor P. Holohan was proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly and was seconded by Councillor G. Moore.

A **Roll Call** vote was taken the results of which are as follows:

FOR Councillor A. Smyth: 23 (TWENTY-THREE)

Councillors S. Barnes, C. Brady, V. Casserly, Y. Collins, P. Cosgrave, M. Duff, A. Edge, H. Farrell, T. Gilligan, A. Hayes, P. Kearns, B. Lawlor, L. McCrave, T. McDonald, D. McManus, E. Murphy, S. O'Hara, L. O'Toole, Baby Pereppadan, Britto Pereppadan, A. Smyth, F. Timmons and J. Tuffy.

FOR Councillor P. Holohan: 6 (SIX)

Councillors L. De Courcy, D. Donnelly, P. Holohan, G. Moore, E. Ó Broin and D. Richardson.

ABSTAIN: 8 (EIGHT)

Councillors W. Carey, L. Dunne, K. Keane, G. Kenny, R. Mannion, R. McMahon, J. Spear and N. Whelan.

As a result of the **ROLL CALL** vote **Councillor A. Smyth** was elected Chair of the Tallaght Area Committee.

Meeting ended at 16.59