



**Connecting You to  
South Dublin County Council**

**Annual Report 2007**



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Front cover image: Tim Hunt



## Message from the Mayor

I was delighted and honoured to be elected as the first Green Party Mayor of South Dublin County Council from the Lucan/Palmerstown Electoral Area.

When I took office as Mayor there were a number of issues which I identified to progress during my tenure. These issues include measures to protect the environment, encourage good planning and safeguard South Dublin's future energy security. Protecting and enhancing the quality of life of our County's Communities, ensuring greater interaction with the young people of the County and continuing to provide excellent levels of service to our customers are also key priorities for my time in office.

South Dublin County Council has made great strides in these areas thereby ensuring sustainability and the protection of our built environment for future generations. Areas of outstanding natural beauty such as our rivers, The Liffey Valley, Dublin Mountains and the Grand Canal with its wildlife habitat have and will continue to be preserved for future generations.

The rollout of the sustainable new community in Adamstown in tandem with social, infrastructural and community facilities and the progressing of plans for a further similar Strategic Development Zone on the same model in the Balgaddy/Clonburriss area is a glowing example of good planning and augers well for the future of our County.

Meeting many of the County's young people and seeing at first hand the many initiatives undertaken by them in our schools and community centres in collaboration with the Council points to a bright future for them and ultimately the Council.

My sincere gratitude to my fellow Councillors, the County Manager and all the staff of the Council for their help and support during my term of office.

### **Mise le meas, Mayor Billy Gogarty**

Mayor Billy Gogarty passed away in April 2008 after a short illness. His passing is deeply regretted by his fellow Councillors, County Manger and staff of South Dublin County Council.

Ar dhéis lámh Dé go raibh a anam dilís



# Message from the County Manager

In 2007 South Dublin County continued to grow and develop according to the objectives laid out in the South Dublin County Council's Corporate Plan 2004-2009 and the National Development Plan. This organisation is continuously expanding its ability to deliver change and to improve its service to the customer. The South Dublin County - Residents Satisfaction Survey, March 2007 outlines that residents who have contacted the Council are now more satisfied with the handling of queries compared to 2004 indicating an improvement in service quality and delivery.

This was also acknowledged by the many awards bestowed on the Council during 2007 including "Eircom Innovative Organisation of the Year 2007 for our "Connect Project" and "Irish eGovernment of the Year 2007". In addition South Dublin County Council received the highest number of nominations of any local authority and was short listed for six awards by Chambers Ireland for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2007.



Projects undertaken throughout 2007 include:

- The **ZIP** project, designed in-house, is a high quality pedestrian/cycle amenity corridor linking Tallaght Village, the Square and the Luas was substantially completed and represents a benchmark for quality and design in improvements to the public realm, providing a seamless link between old and new Tallaght.
- **The Safer Place Commitment** - From Anti Social to Pro Social  
In 2007 two major initiatives were launched - Enforcement Initiatives and Anti - Social black Spot Works
- A number of key infrastructural elements were delivered during 2007 in **Adamstown**, including a new bus service in March 2007, the new Adamstown Train Station in April 2007 and the first primary school in September 2007.
- The new **Clondalkin Pool and Leisure Centre** was opened to the public in December 2007. The new building has a wide range of facilities including gym, weights room, dance area and café. A new garden space adjoining contains an exciting playground encouraging fun and exercise for old as well as young.
- In 2007 the Council in partnership with the IDA succeeded in persuading Microsoft Inc. to locate their new European, Middle Eastern and Asia Data Centre in Grange Castle Business Park.

- Highlights of the **County Development Board** in 2007 included:
  - The establishment of South Dublin County's first Joint Policing Committee
  - Adoption of The Traveller Interagency Strategy in 2007
  - Setting up English Language and Sports Integration Camps
  - The formation of a Local Sports Partnership for South Dublin County and the Children's Services Committee and the Local Agenda 21 group as sub-groups of the County Development Board.
- The roads infrastructure continues to improve with M50 works due to be completed in 2009 and the Outer Ring Road due for completion in 2008.
- Significant progress was made on the **Traveller Housing Programme** and in developing inter-agency supports to the traveling community.
- The **Connect Projects** continues to be expanded to place South Dublin County online by enabling all its citizens to use technology in innovative ways.
- At the end of 2007 an **Audit Committee** was established with a broad remit including fostering the development of best practice in the internal audit function.

This significant progress has been achieved through ongoing change initiatives in areas of staff development, business process improvements and more integrated use of resources to ensure the provision of quality information, improved customer service and delivery.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mayor, the Elected Members, Strategic Policy Committees, Corporate Management Team and all the staff of the Council for their ongoing support and commitment to the continued development of South Dublin County.

**Joe Horan,  
County Manager**



## Elected Members and Electoral Areas

### Clondalkin

#### Robert Dowds (LAB)

**Phone:** 01 459 4583

**Mobile:** 087 652 0360

**Email:** rdowds@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 43 Castle Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

#### Trevor Gilligan (FF)

**Phone:** 01 414 9214

**Mobile:** 085 714 5005

**Email:** tgilligan@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 112 Cappaghmore Estate, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 & c/o Civic Centre, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

#### Shane O'Connor (SF)

**Phone:** 0145 75668

**Mobile:** 087 240 7922

**Email:** soconnor@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 170 Cherrywood Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

#### Thérèse Ridge (FG)

**Phone:** 01 457 3438

**Email:** tridge@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 4 St. Patrick's Ave, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

#### Gerard Cullen (PD)

Resigned 12/11/07, replaced on 10/12/07 by Alan McGaughey

**Address:** 5 Glebe Heights, Newcastle, Co Dublin

(Resigned 12/11/07, Replaced on 10/12/07 by Alan McGaughey (PD))

#### Alan McGaughey (PD)

**Mobile:** 087 919 6881

**Email:** amcgaughey@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 63 Monastery Gate Ave, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

### Lucan

#### Eamon Tuffey (LAB)

**Mobile:** 086 386 3173

**Email:** etuffey@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 22 Liffey Wood, Liffey Valley Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin

#### Derek Keating, (IND) Deputy Mayor

**Phone:** 01 628 1053

**Mobile:** 087 285 7435

**Email:** dkeating@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 66 Beech Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin

#### Billy Gogarty, (GP) (RIP)

#### Guss O'Connell (IND)

**Phone:** 01 626 8554

**Mobile:** 087 683 8254

**Address:** 47 Palmerstown Green, Palmerstown, Dublin 20



## Elected Members - Clondalkin/Lucan



Thérèse  
Ridge

Trevor  
Gilligan

Shane  
O'Connor

Robert  
Dowds

Derek  
Keating

Guss  
O'Connell

Billy  
Gogarty RIP

Eamon  
Tuffy

Absent from group: Alan McGaughey

## Tallaght Central

### Mick Murphy (SP)

**Phone:** 01 493 4696

**Email:** mmurphy@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** c/o Civic Centre, Clondalkin,  
Dublin 22

### Mark Daly (SF)

**Phone:** 01 414 9063

**Mobile:** 087 997 4541

**Email:** mdaly@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 31 Cill Cais, Old Bawn, Tallaght,  
Dublin 24

### Eamonn Maloney (LAB)

**Phone:** 01 452 5969

**Email:** emaloney@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 84 St. Maelruans Park, Tallaght,  
Dublin 24

### Joe Neville (FF)

**Phone:** 01 414 9050

**Mobile:** 087 850 6650

**Email:** jneville@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** c/o South Dublin County Council,  
County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Karen Warren (FG)

**Phone:** 01 244 1709

**Mobile:** 087 767 9304

**Email:** kwarren@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 3 Bawnville Close, Tallaght, Dublin 24

## Tallaght South

### Marie Corr (LAB)

**Mobile:** 085 735 9200

**Email:** mcorr@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 35 Sundale Park, Mountain View,  
Jobstown, Dublin 24

### Jim Daly (FF)

**Phone:** 01 458 9782

**Mobile:** 087 254 2454

**Email:** jdaly@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 59 Coolamber Drive, Rathcoole,  
Co. Dublin

### John Hannon (FF)

**Phone:** 01 414 9314/494 2045

**Mobile:** 086 257 7213

**Email:** jhannon@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 11 Knocklyon Heights, Firhouse Road,  
Dublin 16

### Caitriona Jones (LAB)

**Mobile:** 087 203 4427

**Email:** cjones@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 15 Deerpark Close, Kiltipper Way,  
Dublin 24

### Cathal King (SF)

**Phone:** 01 414 9063

**Email:** cking@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** c/o South Dublin County Council,  
County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24

## Elected Members - Tallaght



Jim  
Daly

Cathal  
King

Caitriona  
Jones

John  
Hannon

Marie  
Corr

Karen  
Warren

Joe  
Neville

Mick  
Murphy

Éamonn  
Maloney

Mark  
Daly

## **Terenure/Rathfarnham**

### **Maire Ardagh (FF)**

**Phone:** 01 456 8736/490 4182

**Email:** mardagh@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 168 Walkinstown Road, Dublin 12

### **Stanley Laing (FG)**

**Phone:** 01 490 5571

**Email:** slaing@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 86 Templeville Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W.

### **Cáit Keane (PD)**

**Phone:** 01 450 9878

**Email:** ckeane@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 26 Rushbrook Court, Templeogue, Dublin 6W.

### **Eamonn Walsh (LAB)**

**Phone:** 01 414 9073 / 01 450 4772

**Email:** ewalsh@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 133 Limekiln Green, Walkinstown, Dublin 12

### **John Lahart (FF)**

**Phone:** 01 493 9608

**Email:** jlahart@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 6 Orlagh Grange, Scholarstown, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16

### **Tony McDermott (GP)**

**Mobile:** 086 832 7450

**Email:** tmcdermott@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 31 Westfield Road, Dublin 6W.

### **Alex White (LAB)**

**Address:** 30 Fortfield Road, Terenure, Dublin 6W

**Resigned on 23/7/07**

**Replaced on 8/10/07 by Patrick Cosgrave**

### **Paddy Cosgrave (LAB)**

**Mobile:** 085 174 2709

**Email:** pcosgrave@sdblincoco.ie

**Address:** 25 Orchardstown Drive, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

## Elected Members - Terenure/Rathfarnham



Alex  
White

Máire  
Ardagh

Stanley  
Laing

Cáit  
Keane

John  
Lahart

Tony Mc  
Dermott

Eamonn  
Walsh

Paddy  
Cosgrave

## Area Committees

### Tallaght Area

#### Chairperson

Cllr Marie Corr (LAB)

Caitriona Jones (LAB)

Cáthal King (SF)

Eamonn Maloney (LAB)

Jim Daly (FF)

Joe Neville (FF)

John Hannon (FF)

Karen Warren (FG)

Mark Daly (SF)

Mick Murphy (SP)

### Terenure/Rathfarnham

#### Chairperson

Cllr Stanley Laing (FG)

Máire Ardagh (FF)

John Lahart (FF)

Tony McDermott (GP)

Eamonn Walsh (LAB)

Cáit Keane (PD)

Alex White (LAB) (Resigned 23/7/07)

replaced by

Paddy Cosgrave (LAB) 8/10/07

### Lucan/Clondalkin

#### Chairperson

Cllr Guss O Connell (IND)

Billy Gogarty (GP) RIP

Derek Keating (IND)

Eamonn Tuffy (LAB)

Trevor Gilligan (FF)

Thérèse Ridge (FG)

Gerard Cullen (PD) (resigned 12/11/07)

replaced by

Alan McGaughey (PD) 10/12/07

Shane O'Connor (SF)

Robert Dowds (LAB)

# Strategic Policy Committees

## Economic Development & Planning

### Chair: Eamonn Tuffy

Mark Daly, Jim Daly, Robert Dowds, Trevor Gilligan, Cáit Keane, Eamonn Maloney, Mick Murphy, Joe Neville, Shane O'Connor, Eamonn Walsh, Billy Gogarty (RIP)

### Community Platform

#### Mr. John Kearns

Partas,  
Bolbrook Enterprise Centre,  
Avonmore Road,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24.

**Phone:** 01 4145 700

**Fax:** 01 414 5799

**Email:** jkearns@partas.ie

### Community Forum

#### Mr. Justin Byrne,

KPMG,  
1 Stokes Place,  
St. Stephens Green,  
Dublin 2.

**Email:** justin.byrne@kpmg.ie

### Trade Union

#### Mr Jim Fay,

Irish Congress of Trade Unions,  
31-32 Parnell Square,  
Dublin 1.

## Business/Commercial

### Mr. Noel O'Connor,

Irish Home Builders Association  
Construction House, Canal Road, Dublin 6

### Ms. Deirdre Mooney,

IT-MIS Manager,  
Gallaher (Dublin) Ltd.  
Airton Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24

**Phone:** 01 404 0239

**Fax:** 01 404 0266

**Email:** deirdre.mooney@hallaherltd.com

## Housing & Social

### Chair: Marie Corr

Maire Ardagh, Jim Daly, Robert Dowds, Trevor Gilligan, John Hannon, Cáthál King, Eamonn Maloney, Tony McDermott, Therese Ridge.

### Community Platform

#### Mr Glen Keating

Tallaght Travellers CDP  
Unit 1A Killinarden Enterprise Park  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

**Email:** accommodationttcdp@eircom.net

**Phone:** 01 466 4334

## Community Forum

### Mr. Roderick Smyth,

94 Drumcairn Avenue,  
Fettercairn,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24.

**Email:** rodericksmyth@ireland.com

**Phone:** 01 462 5720

## Trade Union

### Ms. Betty Tyrrell Collard

Department of Enterprise Trade &  
Employment  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Phone:** 01 631 2354

**Email:** betty\_tyrrell@entemp.ie

## Transport

### Chair: Stanley Laing

Cáit Keane, Derek Keating, Mick Murphy, Shane O'Connor, Therese Ridge, Eamonn Tuffy, Billy Gogarty (RIP), Alex White resigned 23/07/07 and was replaced by Patrick Cosgrave 8/10/07, Gerard Cullen resigned 12/11/07 and replaced by Alan McGaughey 10/12/07

### Community Forum

**Ms. Dympna Quinn**  
67 Whitehall Road  
Terenure  
Dublin 6W

### Community Platform

**Mr David Lynch**  
Clondalkin Partnership  
Unit D  
Nangor Road Business Park  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22

### Trade Union

**Tom Carew, P.S.E.U.**  
23 Merton Drive,  
Ranelagh  
Dublin 6

### Business/Commercial

**Mr. David McConn**  
Managing Director,  
Dualway Coaches  
Rathcoole  
Co. Dublin

### Mr. Jim Farren

Transport Manager,  
Roadstone Dublin Ltd  
Fortunestown  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

### Environment

#### Chair: Tony McDermott

Marie Corr, Cáthal King, John Lahart, Stanley  
Laing, Eamonn Maloney, Guss O'Connell,  
Eamonn Walsh, Karen Warren, Mick Murphy

### Community Forum

**Connie Kiernan,**  
187 Wheatfield Road,  
Palmerstown,  
Dublin 20.

### Mr Michael McLoughlin

15 Brookvale Road  
Rathfarnham  
Dublin 16

### Community Platform

**Mr Ollie Murphy**  
Tallaght Welfare Society  
1 Main Street  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

### Business/Commercial

**Mr. Brian Buckley,**  
Greyhound Waste Management,  
2, Greenlea Park,  
Terenure,  
Dublin 6W.

### Arts, Culture, An Gaeilge, Education & Libraries SPC

#### Chair: John Hannon

Maire Ardagh, Catriona Jones, Cáit Keane,  
John Lahart, Tony McDermott, Joe Neville,  
Guss O'Connell, Shane O'Connor, Gerard  
Cullen resigned 12/11/07 and replaced by Alan  
McGaughey 10/12/07

### Community Platform

**Ms. Ann Fitzpatrick**  
Jobstown CDP  
49 Bawnlea Avenue  
Jobstown  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
**Email:** cdpjobstown@eircom.net

### Ms. Jennifer Lloyd-Hughes

Tallaght Travellers CDP  
Block 1 Unit 1A & 1B  
Killinarden Business Centre  
Killinarden, Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
**Email:** ttcdp@gofree@indigo.net

### Community Forum

**Ms. Breda Bollard**  
Whitechurch Library  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22



#### Trade Union

##### Mr Jim Fay

F.U.G.E.  
20 Glenview Drive  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

**Email:** jim.fay@ntlworld.com

**Mobile:** 086 892 0641

#### Sport, Recreation, Community & Parks SPC

##### Chair: Mark Daly

Jim Daly, Robert Dowds, Catriona Jones, Derek Keating, Billy Gogarty (RIP), Gerard Cullen resigned 12/11/07 and replaced by Alan McGaughey 10/12/07, Joe Neville, Karen Warren, Patrick Cosgrave (8/10/07 replaced) Alex White (resigned 23/7/07)

#### Community Platform

##### Mr Cecil Johnston

66 Donomore Crescent  
Killinarden  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

**Email:** cjohnston@clondalkinpartnership.ie

**Mobile:** 087 418 5266

#### Community Forum

##### Mr Ambrose Shields

296 Cushlawn Park  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24

##### Mr Sean Reid

Rathcoole Community Council,  
Community Centre,  
Main Street,  
Rathcoole  
Co. Dublin

#### Trade Union

##### Mr John Curtis

IMPACT  
10 St. Mary's Road  
Crumlin  
Dublin 12

#### Business/Commercial

##### Mr. James Coghlan,

International Sports Activity,  
Astro Park, Coolock Lane, Dublin 17.

**Email:** james.coghlan@astropark.ie

**Mobile:** 086 261 0493



# Corporate Policy Group & County Development Board

## Corporate Policy Group Members

Joe Horan

(County Manager)

Billy Gogarty (RIP)

(Mayor)

Marie Corr,

(Chair Housing and Social)

John Hannon

(Chair Arts, Culture and Gaeilge)

Eamon Tuffy

(Chair Economic Development and Planning)

Tony McDermott

(Chair Environment)

Stanley Laing

(Chair Transport)

Mark Daly

(Chair Sports and Recreation)

## County Development Board

### Local Government Sector

- Cllr. Eamon Tuffy - CDB Chair - Economic Development SPC Chair
- Cllr Eamonn Maloney, Mayor (replaced in July 07 by) Cllr Billy Gogarty, Mayor
- Cllr. John Hannon - Arts Culture, Gaeilge, Education and Libraries, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Marie Corr - Housing and Social Policy, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Mark Daly - Recreation, Communities and parks, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Stanley Laing - Transportation SPC Chair
- Cllr. Tony Mc Dermot- Environment SPC Chair
- Joe Horan - County Manager

### Local Development Sector

- Aileen O' Donoghue - Clondalkin Partnership
- Anna Lee - Tallaght, Partnership
- Loman O' Byrne - South Dublin Enterprise Board
- Cliona Frost - South Dublin County Childcare Committee
- Michael Mc Bennett - Rural Dublin Leader
- Alan Breathnach- South Dublin Enterprise Board

### State Agencies

- Tony Hannigan - FAS
- Brendan O' Sullivan - I.D.A Ireland
- Marie Griffin Donnellan - Co. Dublin V.E.C
- Jane Fitzpatrick - Dublin Tourism
- John Moloney - Department of Education and Science
- Julie Cruickshank - Health Services Executive
- Noel Mc Cabe - Enterprise Ireland
- John Manley - An Garda Siochana
- Pat Ryan - Department of Social and Family Affairs
- Lorcan O'Toole - Teagasc

### Social Partners

- John Kearns - South Dublin Community Platform
- Peter Byrne - South Dublin Chamber of Commerce
- Sheila O' Brien - South Dublin Community Forum
- Tom Carew - Irish Congress of Trade Unions

# Council Membership of Committees and Statutory Bodies

## Association of County and City Councils

Cllr. Jim Daly  
Cllr. Eamonn Walsh  
Cllr. Therese Ridge

## Dublin Regional Authority

Cllr. Stanley Laing  
Cllr. Tony McDermott  
Cllr. Cait Keane  
Cllr. Mark Daly  
Cllr. Maire Ardagh

## Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

Cllr. Jim Daly

## South Dublin County Enterprise Board

Cllr. Gus O'Connell  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy  
Cllr. Tony McDermott  
Cllr. John Hannon

## LAMA (Local Authority Members Association)

Cllr. Cait Keane

## Dublin City and County Regional Tourism Organisation Ltd

Cllr. Maire Ardagh

## Tallaght Community Arts Centre

Cllr. Marie Corr  
Cllr. Mark Daly  
Cllr. Joe Neville  
Cllr. Karen Warren

## Clondalkin Partnership

Cllr. Shane O'Connor  
Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Trevor Gilligan

## Proposed Clondalkin Voluntary Housing Association

Cllr. Robert Dowds

## Lucan 2000 Community Group

Vacancy  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell

## Tallaght Partnership

Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Joe Neville  
Vacancy

## Southside Partnership

Cllr. Cait Keane

## Dublin Employment Pact

Cllr. Eamon Tuffy

## Board of Rural Dublin Leader

Cllr. Jim Daly

## Meath Foundation at Tallaght Hospital

Cllr. Alex White (resigned 23/07/07)

## Dublin Transportation Advisory Committee

Cllr. John Lahart  
Cllr. Alex White (resigned 23/07/07) replaced by Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave 8/10/07

## Civic Theatre

Cllr. Eamonn Walsh  
Cllr. John Hannon

## KWCD Partnership

Cllr. Tony McDermott

## Tourism Task Force

Cllr. Caitriona Jones  
Cllr. Mark Daly  
Cllr. Maire Ardagh  
Cllr. Therese Ridge (resigned 16/05/07) replaced by Cllr. Guss O'Connell 11/06/07

### **Liffey Valley Management Advisory Committee**

Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Trevor Gilligan  
Cllr. Shane O'Connor  
Cllr. Therese Ridge  
Cllr. Gerard Cullen (resigned 12/11/07)  
Cllr. Derek Keating  
Cllr. Billy Gogarty (RIP)  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy.

### **Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee**

Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell  
Cllr. John Lahart  
Cllr. Stanley Laing (Chair)  
Cllr. Shane O'Connor  
Cllr. Robert Dowds (resigned 28/11/07)

### **Tallaght Integrated Area Plan Implementation & Monitoring Committee**

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney

### **Clondalkin Integrated Area Plan Implementation & Monitoring Committee**

Cllr. Robert Dowds

### **Dublin 12 Drugs Task Force**

Cllr. Eamonn Walsh

### **Regional Drugs Task Force**

Cllr. Marie Corr

### **Dublin County Vocational Education Committee**

Cllr. Caitriona Jones  
Cllr. Therese Ridge  
Cllr. John Lahart  
Cllr. Tony McDermott  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy

### **Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly**

Cllr. Maire Ardagh  
Cllr. Cait Keane  
Cllr. Stanley Laing

### **Dublin Bus Forum**

Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Tony McDermott  
Cllr. Marie Corr  
Cllr. John Hannon

### **Dublin Mid-Leinster Regional Health Forum**

Cllr. Alex White (resigned 23/07/07) replaced by Cllr. Cathal King 11/06/07  
Cllr. Therese Ridge  
Cllr. Billy Gogarty (RIP)  
Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Derek Keating  
Cllr. Joe Neville  
Cllr. Jim Daly

### **County Development Board**

Cllr. Eamonn Tuffy (Chair)  
Cllr. Maire Corr  
Cllr. Stanley Laing  
Cllr. Tony McDermott  
Cllr. John Hannon  
Cllr. Mark Daly  
Cllr. Eamonn Maloney, Mayor (July 06 to June 07)  
Cllr. Billy Gogarty (RIP), Mayor (July 07 to December 07)



# Events 2007

## January

- Presentation of certificates to the Junior Achievers - St. Aidans Community School Brookfield
- Art Exhibition by Brian Duignan
- Official opening of Tallaght Leisure Centre
- Childrens Book Festival Poster Competition 2007
- Children's Book Festival in Scoil Aine in Clondalkin
- Award for best garden - Springfield Tallaght

## February

- Opportunities Day for People with Disabilities
- Launch of sound installation by artist Linda O'Keeffe

## March

- National Tree Week
- Library Ireland Week
- Launch of Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Official opening of Country Market
- Launch of Slogo Booklet
- Comhairle na bPáisti
- Sodturning at the site of the Material Recovery Facility Ballymount

## April

- Press Conference re M50
- Opening of the Adamstown Rail Station
- Launch of The South Dublin County Ethiopian Partnership Project
- Ecowalk - Wildlife in the Park - Corkagh Park



## May

- Art Exhibition by Jin Yong
- Tallaght Youth Service Community Spirit Awards
- Launch of Walk in Glenaulin Park, Palmerstown
- Art Exhibition by Nina Maguire
- Launch of the Digital Book Service in County Library
- Green Flag ceremony at Talbot Senior National School, Bawnogue, Clondalkin
- Ethiopia National Day
- Jobstown Childrens Art Exhibition

## June

- Green Flag Ceremony at St. Dominics
- Official opening of Mayfield Park New Homes
- Tallaght & Proud Week Cultural Week
- Green Flag Ceremony at Divine Word, Rathfarnham
- Launch of the first virtual Slí Na Sláinte route
- Spóirt Teic Awards
- Fused Arts Festival
- Green Flag Ceremony at Glenasmole School
- Opening of Visitors Centre in Tymon Park
- Community Awards Presentation
- Annual Meeting - Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor

## July

- Noise Concert
- Launch of Gum Litter Campaign

## August

- Launch of the 2007-2010 Childcare Initiative Strategic Plan



## September

- Art Exhibition - Artist Ann Gilleece
- Tallaght Person of the Year
- Launch of new South Dublin County Tourism Brochure
- Beautiful South Dublin County Awards

## October

- National Customer Service Week
- Launch of Children's book Festival
- Civic reception to confer the Freedom of the County on South Dublin born Members of the Irish Soccer Team
- Green Flag Ceremony at Holy Rosary School, Ballycragh
- Launch of Customer Care Centre Clondalkin
- UN National Day for the eradication of Poverty
- Launch of the "Get Seen" Road Safety Campaign
- Halloween Festival

## November

- Reader's Day
- Recognition event for the Special Olympic Athletes from South Dublin County, who represented Ireland in the 2007 Special Olympics
- Patrice Casey Art Exhibition
- Social Inclusion Week
- Children's Book Festival Prize Giving.
- Green Flag Ceremony at Colaiste Bride, Clondalkin

## December

- Lighting of Christmas Trees
- Planting of Tree of Life in Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght



# Conferences 2007

**Conference:** Training seminar for Councillors

**Venue:** Lonlea Strand Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

**Theme:** The Local Government Planning Service

**Conference:** Centre for Early Childhood and Education

**Venue:** Dublin Castle

**Theme:** Vision in to Practice

**Conference:** Association of Municipal Authorities

**Venue:** Brandon Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry

**Theme:** Spring Seminar

**Conference:** All island Infrastructure Investment Conference

**Venue:** Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down

**Theme:** Infrastructure: Connecting People Business and Public Services

**Conference:** Planning Seminar for Councillors

**Venue:** Earl of Desmond Hotel, Tralee

**Theme:** Planning Seminar

**Conference:** Confederation of European Councillors

**Venue:** Park Inn Hotel, Dundalk

**Theme:** The Role of Councillors in Building Peace and Reconciliation

**Conference:** Association of County and City Councils

**Venue:** Park Hotel, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

**Theme:** Recycling, Transport, the Seanead and Sports

**Conference:** Sherkin Island Marine Environmental Conference

**Venue:** Carraigaline Court Hotel, Carraigaline, Co. Cork

**Theme:** Enforcement of Environmental Regulations

**Conference:** Carlow Tourism Conference

**Venue:** Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow

**Theme:** Through the Waters of Time

**Conference:** Department of Governance

**Venue:** UCC Cork, Cork

**Theme:** Communicating the Political Campaign

**Conference:** LAMA Conference

**Venue:** Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry

**Theme:** Meeting the Change - Providing the Solution

**Conference:** Kerry Environmental Conference

**Venue:** Golf Hotel, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry

**Theme:** Environmental Issues

**Conference:** Seminar for Councillors

**Venue:** Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

**Theme:** Local Government and Housing Services

**Conference:** Water framework Directive Implementation

**Venue:** Carlton Hotel, Dublin

**Theme:** Measures Costs, Institutions and Communications

**Conference:** The role of Regional and Local Government in North -South Economy

**Venue:** Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

**Theme:** Building the Platform for Peace and Prosperity



**Conference: Training Seminar for Councillors**

**Venue:** Bellingham Castle, Castle Bellingham, Co. Louth  
**Theme:** Effective Communication for Councillors

**Conference: Non Profit Summer School**

**Venue:** Trinity College, Dublin  
**Theme:** Conflict and Consensus, Assumptions and Roles in the Irish Non Profit Sector

**Conference: Byrne and Perry Summer School**

**Venue:** Christian Brothers School, Wexford Street, Gorey, Co Wexford  
**Theme:** 1916 - 1923 War, Civil War, Fallout

**Conference: The Local Government Planning Service**

**Venue:** Baltimore Harbour Hotel, Baltimore, Co. Cork  
**Theme:** Planning Seminar.

**Conference: Douglas Hyde Summer School**

**Venue:** St. Nathy's College, Ballaghderreen, Co. Roscommon  
**Theme:** The Arts.

**Conference: John Hewitt Summer School**

**Venue:** Armagh Market Place, Armagh  
**Theme:** The Wide Hearth - Ready to Talk

**Conference: Parnell Summer School**

**Venue:** Avondale House, Co. Wicklow  
**Theme:** Continuity and Change in Irish Culture, Society and Politics

**Conference: Merriman Summer School**

**Venue:** Spa Hotel Lisdoonvarna, Co Clare  
**Theme:** Changed Utterly? Ireland 1967 - 2007

**Conference: General Humbert Summer School**

**Venue:** Newman Institute, Ballina, Co. Mayo  
**Theme:** Various Topics

**Conference: Training Seminars for Councillors**

**Venue:** Dooley's Hotel, Birr, Co. Offaly  
**Theme:** Local Government and the Arts

**Conference: 21st Parks World Congress**

**Venue:** RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4  
**Theme:** Parks a Celebration of Diversity

**Conference: AMAI Conference**

**Venue:** Brandon House Hotel, New Ross, Co. Wexford  
**Theme:** 94th Annual Conference

**Conference: Training Seminar for Councillors**

**Venue:** Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly  
**Theme:** Rural Development

**Conference: River Basin Advisory Conference**

**Venue:** County Hall, Cork  
**Theme:** Water Matters

**Conference: Getting a Grip**

**Venue:** Hotel Europe, Killarney, Co. Kerry  
**Theme:** Winning or Loosing the Battle against substance and alcohol abuse

**Conference: Irish Housing**

**Venue:** Crowe Plaza, Santry, Co Dublin  
**Theme:** Do we know what we are doing

**Conference: Planning Seminar for Councillors**

**Venue:** Earl of Desmond Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry  
**Theme:** Issues regarding Planning

**Conference: The Blascaoid Commeration**

**Venue:** Dun Caoin, Co. Kerry  
**Theme:** The Vikings - The Scandinavian Influence on Ireland

**Conference:** Association of Irish Regions 10th Conference

**Venue:** The Malton Hotel, Killarney Co. Kerry

**Theme:** The Challenge of Climate Change

**Conference:** Dublin Regional Authority & Dublin Employment Pact

**Venue:** Royal College of Physicians, Dublin

**Theme:** Dublin a Creative City Region

**Conference:** Health and Safety in Local Government

**Venue:** The Carraig Hotel, Main Street Carraig on Suir, Co. Tipperary

**Theme:** Health and Safety Issues in Local Government

**Conference:** The Cefin Conference

**Venue:** West County Hotel, Ennis Co. Clare

**Theme:** Tracking the Tiger - A Decade of Change

**Conference:** National Association of Councillors

**Venue:** Ramada Hotel, Belfast

**Theme:** Power to the People - Working with Local Communities

**Conference:** Housing Practitioners Conference

**Venue:** Hotel Kilkenny, Kilkenny

**Theme:** A Quality Housing Service

**Conference:** Effective Communication for Councillors

**Venue:** Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

**Theme:** Communications

**Conference:** Confederation of European Councillors

**Venue:** Killyhevlín Hotel, Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh

**Theme:** Tackling Poverty and Social Need in Ireland North and South

**Conference:** Neil T. Blaney Winter School

**Venue:** Donegal County Museum

**Theme:** Irelands Future in Europe

**Conference:** Nuclear Free Local Authorities

**Venue:** City Hall and Central Hotel Dublin

**Theme:** Annual General Meeting

## Foreign Conferences

**Conference:** National Association of Councillors

**Venue:** York

**Theme:** Delivering Safer Communities

**Conference:** European Social Services Conference

**Venue:** Martim Pro Arte Hotel, Berlin

**Theme:** European Social Services Issues

**Conference:** A journey of Remembering

**Venue:** Flanders, Belgium

**Theme:** Path Finding Conference

**Conference:** IFHP World Conference

**Venue:** Copenhagen

**Theme:** Future of Cities: Impacts, Indicators and Implementations

**Conference:** ACI Conference

**Venue:** Buenos Aires

**Theme:** World Annual Meeting

### Total Costs

Home Conferences	€43,807.03
Conferences Abroad	€11,947.13

## Excellence in Local Government Awards 2007

- Local Authority of the Year by Chambers of Commerce of Ireland 2007
- Irish eGovernment Award 2007 - Local and overall winner
- Innovative Organisation of the Year Award 2007
- Lama - Best Eco Friendly Building - Eco House at Deerpark
- Excellence in Local Government - Sports Flexibility Programme

### Shortlisted for the following:

- Outstanding Customer Service for Libraries e-Books Service
- Environmental Initiative for Green Building, Vesey Park, Lucan
- Partnership with Business for Grange Affordable Housing Initiative
- Technology for Connect Projects
- Overall Award - Local Authority of the Year



# Community Services

The Department has in the main responsibility for the County Development Board, the RAPID Programme, the Social Inclusion Unit, Community Development Teams and the Sports and Arts Offices.

The Department also continues to administer its traditional role of promoting and assisting ongoing development of community activity at a local level throughout the County as well as being responsible for the day to day running of a number of community facilities in the County.

## South Dublin County Development Board

2007 has been a particularly productive year for the County Development Board. The board met five times. It saw the progressing of the second, three year implementation plan (2007 - 2009) of the County's Integrated Strategy for the Economic, Social and Cultural development of South Dublin County 2002 - 2012". The actions included in the strategy South Dublin County - A Place for People and the Implementation Plan are broken down and divided among the 11 sub-structures of the County Development Board. These groups meet on a regular basis.

In an attempt to keep member Agency/Groups and members of the public informed of the work of the CDB, the website <http://cdb.southdublin.ie> was continuously updated and a Newsletter promoting examples of good inter agency projects in the County was distributed to all households.

The CDB Executive together with the working groups organised and produced many events and publications such as:

- **The County Education Network** organised English Language and Sports Integration Camps in both Tallaght and Clondalkin for the month of August to support the language and literacy needs of children from ethnic minorities attending schools in the county.
- **More to See, More to Do!** - A guide to the county's recreational and tourist attractions was produced in collaboration between the Culture and Identity Working Group and South Dublin Tourism. This guide aims to promote a strong and positive image for South Dublin County.
- **South Dublin County Cohesion Steering Group Report** - The CDB Executive in conjunction with the Social Inclusion Measures/Rapid County Monitoring Group oversaw the Cohesion process for local Partnership and Leader Groups in the County. This process is ongoing and the new structures are expected to be up and running in 2008.

In addition 2007 saw the formation of a **Local Sports Partnership** for South Dublin County and the **Children's Services Committee** as sub-groups of the County Development Board.

South Dublin County's first **Joint Policing Committee** was also established in 2007 in accordance with the Garda Síochána Act 2005. The purpose of this Committee is to provide a forum where the local authority and the senior Garda officers responsible for the policing of that area, with the participation of Oireachtas members and community interests, can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the area. Administrative support to the J.P.C. and sub-committees is supplied by the CDB Executive.  
[http://cdb.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=227](http://cdb.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=227)

## County Development Board summary main activities (additional to above) in 2007

- **South Dublin County Inter Agency Traveller Strategy** - progression of actions

- **Social Inclusion Measures/Rapid Monitoring Group** – endorsement of work plans of community development projects in the county.

## Comhairle Na nÓg

Comhairle na nÓg was established in 2002 under the National Children’s Strategy and provides a forum for organisations including local and national government to consult with young people. 2006 saw the successful hosting and participation in Young Voices Seminar 2006 in November 2006. Comhairle na nÓg is a formal gathering of young people under the age of eighteen who meet at County level to discuss the issues that affect their daily lives. The first aim of the Comhairle na nÓg structure is to give children and young people a voice on issues affecting them at a community level and to provide them with a platform from which to feed into the development of local and national policies. The second aim is to elect delegates to attend and represent the South Dublin County Comhairle na nÓg at the national children’s parliament - Dáil na nÓg.

The Department has established an active working agreement with the South Dublin County Comhairle na nÓg who during 2007 developed a position paper on Youth Cafes and made a presentation to the Sports Recreation Community and Parks SPC and County Development Board on this concept and the issues arising from TEENSPACE - National Recreational Strategy launched in October 2007.

South Dublin County Council has also agreed to host the 2008 Leinster Region Young Social Innovators Speak Out Forum in 2008. This is a social awareness and citizenship programme which will deal with many social issues facing our teenagers of today.

2007 saw an active year for SDCC Comhairle featuring a logo competition launch, “Feast or Famine” poverty awareness campaign and “Making Connections”.

Comhairle na nÓg members were invited to participate in a workshop entitled ‘Poverty and Exclusion: Harsh Realities, But Realities Nonetheless’ on Thursday, 26th July 2007.

## Community Development

2007 saw a major investment in pro-social behaviour Projects, Programmes and Initiatives in the Community Services area. The Community Infrastructure Programme accelerated with the completion of Clondalkin Sports & Leisure Centre and Brookfield Youth and Community Centre. This is in addition to continued progress in numerous other projects such as the County Arts Centre due for completion mid 2008, Ballyroan Community Centre, Ballycragh Community Centre, Neilstown Boxing Club and Community Centre refurbishment, Rowlagh Community Centre, St. Cuthbert’s Community Centre, Whitechurch Community Centre and Templeogue House. The review of the Water Leisure Strategy recommended the provision of a Swimming Pool for the Lucan area and this is progressing to the Part 8 process.

The above are in addition to the many CommunityCentres/ Neighbourhood Centres etc in the County providing invaluable services to local communities.

Ongoing work in this area in 2007 included:

- Management Assistance Grants which were paid to a number of Community Centres.

- The Council entering into an agreement with the F.A.I. to co-fund the engagement of three 'Football in the Community' Development Officers over 2007.
- Also continuing apace are the Community Employment Schemes and the Sport Teic Programme, with the initiation also in 2007 of the Junior Sport Flexibility Programme which achieved a major award at the 2007 Chambers of Commerce of Ireland presentation, the Sports Bursary with the Institute of Technology Tallaght and provision has been made in the 2008 budget for the continued Educational Bursary for students of schools in Clondalkin and Tallaght.
- Family Days continued to be held during the year while Deputations meetings were held monthly.

The Community Team developed a Community Information pack in 2007 that includes:

- Draft Constitutions, Information and tips on calling public meetings and AGMs, Roles of Officers within Committees, Funding and Funders and a simple to use Accounts Books. This pack is being distributed to all relevant Centres and Groups through information days.
- The Community Awards continue to go from strength to strength and 2007 witnessed our most successful to date. Other community development areas include Community Linkage Funding, South Dublin Community Forum and Platform activities, Young Peoples Facilities and Services Funding Projects, National & Local Drugs Strategy activities, the Local Sports Partnership.
- The Halloween Bonfires Pilot Projects continued in 2007.

The Community Teams also advise and assist on the various grants available under the Council's Community Grants Scheme which was reviewed following extensive consultation during 2007 and adopted by Council.

The Department also supports two Community Employment Scheme Area Framework Groups.

Sport Teic Training Programme graduated 28 young people in May 2007 and 27 trainees have now enrolled for 2007/2008.

The Department supports the Area Committees of the Council and two Strategic Policy Committees viz. Sports, Recreation, Community and Parks and Arts, Culture, An Gaeilge, Education and Libraries.

### **RAPID (Revitalizing Areas by Planning, Investment and Development)**

RAPID (Revitalizing Areas by Planning, Investment and Development). The RAPID Programme aims to target the most concentrated areas of social disadvantage in urban areas across the Country.

The local structure established to implement the RAPID Programme is the Area Implementation Team (AIT). The local AITs supported by RAPID Coordinators were responsible for the development of Local Area Plans that were submitted to Government.

**RAPID Areas in 2007 benefited from a range of funding lines** including community based CCTV, Dormant Account Additionality Funds and playgrounds.

Six years after its inception, the **RAPID Programme in South County Dublin was evaluated** by Fitzpatrick Associates (June 2007) on behalf

of South Dublin County Council.

[http://communityservices.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_view&gid=41](http://communityservices.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_view&gid=41). The evaluation came to the following conclusions:

- “Overall, the RAPID programme in South Dublin has proved to be a successful mechanism for tackling disadvantage in the designated areas in Tallaght and North Clondalkin.”
- “The level of commitment from the RAPID Coordinators and representatives from the communities and statutory agencies in working together via the RAPID structures has ensured that it has been able to add significant value over its lifetime.”
- “...the main benefit...of RAPID...has been the establishment of a process by which representatives from local communities can sit down around the table with representatives from statutory agencies and identify issues and agree common ways forward in order to address them.
- “A significant number of capital infrastructure projects have also been stimulated as a result of the establishment of the programme, particularly since the advent of the national RAPID leverage funds, with most supported by match funding provided by SDCC.”
- “...the good work undertaken in relation to anti-social behaviour, with SDCC and the Gardaí taking on a very proactive role ... However it is acknowledged that crime and safety is still a concern...”
- “A key priority must also be the facilitation of revenue funding for projects, as the lack of such support has been identified as one of the critical barriers to sustainability of the important interventions that have been stimulated by the programme and that are still required in

order to address the needs of the target groups most at risk of social exclusion.”

- “It is important that the existing RAPID structures remain in place, and also that steps are made to ensure that the SIM group links closely with both the AITs to ensure that commitments can be made by the statutory agencies to progressing the projects identified.”

#### **The report “Taking the First Steps to a Healthier Fettercairn”**

funded by the RAPID Community Support Budget was launched and published in September 2007 to considerable public interest both locally and nationally.

**An Evaluation of the Equal IT for Women Project** was carried out by Rose Comiskey in July 2007.

The **RAPID pages on the Community Services website** are regularly updated to inform community groups and individuals of the work of the Local RAPID AIT’s and progress on current programmes.  
[http://communityservices.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=24&Itemid=53](http://communityservices.southdublin.ie/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=24&Itemid=53)

A weekly **RAPID Community News ebulletin** is sent out to community groups in the RAPID areas and is posted on the website. North Clondalkin RAPID AIT published **“Fairshare- RAPID News for North Clondalkin”** in autumn 2007.

Three projects from South Dublin County RAPID areas were included in the Pobal publication **“RAPID in Action; Leverage Fund Case Studies”** published in the winter of 2007. They were Kiltalown Park Playground in West Tallaght, playground consultation with Children and Young People

in North Clondalkin and Stakeholder Consultation for Traffic Safety Scheme also in North Clondalkin.

A comprehensive **suicide prevention service**, in conjunction with Pieta House, Lucan, has been put in place in both North Clondalkin and West Tallaght.

**Acorn family support service**, in conjunction with Barnardos, is proving very effective in three of the communities of West Tallaght where the project workers are active.

**Estate improvement and anti social behaviour prevention works** worth €700,000 has largely been concluded across the county's RAPID areas in partnership with Parks, Environment, Housing and Roads departments.

## Social Inclusion Unit

South Dublin County Council is working to eliminate disadvantage and improve the quality of life for all residents in the county particularly for disadvantaged communities, people with disabilities and other relevant target groups. The Unit aims to advance its objectives through collaborative working with the statutory and voluntary agencies, community groups and the South Dublin County Development Board. The Social Inclusion Unit carries out its social inclusion objectives closely in conjunction with the Arts, Community and Sports Teams. These include:

- To actively promote Poverty Proofing of all services provided by South Dublin County Council and the targeting of Council resources towards identified groups in society that experience social exclusion;
- To promote an awareness of the social inclusion perspective, through training programme, presentations and the provision of information;
- To gather and maintain relevant data on Poverty & Social Exclusion in the South Dublin County area;
- To raise awareness and enhance understanding of some of the issues around poverty and inequality in our society amongst the schools in South Dublin;
- Support the local authority to deliver the best possible inclusive service to all our customers in South Dublin County;
- Identifying new and innovative opportunities for tackling social exclusion having regard to the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion;
- To promote awareness of Traveller Culture in South Dublin County;
- To address discrimination in accordance with the guidelines set out by Equality Legislation and the Equality Authority;
- The unit promotes social inclusion in all areas of the Council's operations by:
  - Promoting an awareness of social inclusion and bring influence to bear in this regard across all levels of the Councils policies, activities and services;
  - Co-operating with relevant agencies and key stakeholders in relation to social inclusion and work to reduce poverty and inequality in South Dublin County;



Key achievements of the Unit this year include:

- Opportunities Day for people with Disabilities
- Poverty Awareness Training and Living and Working in a Diverse Training in Ireland for staff
- Poetry Competition for staff during European Week against Racism
- UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and Destitution
- Post Card Competition for Young Children
- Tea Dance for the Older People in the County
- A Day in the Life of a Traveller Photographic Competition
- Staging of Michael Collins play “It’s a cultural thing...or is it? A Traveller in progress
- Language Skills Dbase

During 2007 the Unit also continued to co-ordinate/support the Council’s Cross Departmental Working Group on Social Inclusion, the Social Inclusion Measures Sub-Group of CDB and the South Dublin County Social Inclusion Network.

Website: <http://socialinclusion.southdublin.ie>

## Sport and Recreation

The Council has a Sports and Recreation Office, whose primary role is to promote sport and recreation amongst all age groups and especially

in areas of social disadvantage. The office worked in partnership with many agencies, schools, national governing bodies of sport, and community groups to develop and deliver a comprehensive range of activities and opportunities.

Some initiatives undertaken in 2007 were:

- Further expansion of the after schools programme in association with the FAI to promote soccer in primary schools in socially disadvantaged areas.
- Promotion of and planning of Slí Na Sláinte routes with the Health Service Executive and the Irish Heart Foundation
- Continuation of the Sports Bursary Scheme with I.T. Tallaght.
- Joint Venture with FAI in establishing the FAI Football in the Community Development Officers – engagement of three such Officers in 2006 – Lucan, Clondalkin and Tallaght, we are in the process of recruiting a fourth development officer to target the Terenure/Rathfarnham Area.
- Following on from the successful partnership with the FAI investigations have been made into entering into similar partnership with other national governing bodies such as the IRFU.
- Schools competitions in Football, Basketball and Badminton.
- South Dublin County Council were also awarded by the Irish Sports Council a Local Sport Partnership to come into operation as of the 1st of January 2007. South Dublin County Sports Partnership’s Committee was formed in early 2007 with the coordinator taking up employment in November 2007. The key aims of the Local Sports Partnership are to increase participation in sport, and to ensure that

local resources are used to best effect. Some of the outcomes sought are:

1. Club development
2. Volunteer training
3. Enhanced planning of sport at local level
4. Local directories of sports bodies & facilities
5. School, club, community & national governing body (NGB) links
6. Increased levels of local participation, especially amongst specific target groups such as older people, girls & women, people with disabilities, unemployed people, and those who live in identified socially disadvantaged communities
7. Assist in development of County Sports/ Recreation Strategy.

## Play Policy

The Council adopted its first ever Play Policy for the County in July 2006 (2006 – 2009) which was developed by a cross departmental working group working closely with the Sports Recreation Community and Parks Strategic Policy Committee.

The Council subsequently in 2006 adopted a 5 Year Programme for the provision of Playground Facilities in the County.

In June volunteers received training on National Play Day aims and objectives, tasks/jobs, games, health and safety, etc. The volunteers displayed commitment, passion, enthusiasm, motivation, and friendliness. The Play activities took place alongside Family Day activities such as:

- Magic shows,
- Jugglers, Rappers,

- Traditional Music,
- Mime, Face Painting,
- Train rides,
- Trapeze,
- Go-karts,
- Team Games.

## Arts in South Dublin County

The Council employs a full-time Arts Officer and supports the development of the arts within the County through its commitment to a range of activities and initiatives.

The Arts Office works closely with the Council's Arts & Culture Strategic Policy Committee. South Dublin County Council's Arts Programme during 2007 features many projects and activities which have been supported over a number of years, and others which have emerged as the result of strategic research and development, in particular the Music Education Programme which will be in place during 2008.

South Dublin County's adopted **Arts Development Strategy 2006-2010** launched by the Council in 2007 identifies Youth Arts as an area for focused development in the County. A Youth Arts Co-ordinator will be appointed in 2008 with the support of the Arts Council.

Research and development enabled the production of a **Youth Arts Policy** and a challenging five year programme. Initial interventions in 2007 from this programme include a **Theatre Residency** in conjunction with the Civic Theatre and the development of **NOISE South Dublin County**, an interactive web based project for young people.

Construction of the County Arts Centre project is progressing and is due for completion mid 2008. The centre will contain artists' studios, music rehearsal rooms, a dance rehearsal space, a gallery and workshop room amongst its facilities.



In Context Public Art Programme - **% for Art Scheme** - which has been presented to the Arts & Culture SPC and Area Committees is progressing. 2007 saw the completion and installation of **Love All**, a sculptural work commissioned for Templeogue village.

### Grant Assistance

The Council is empowered to pay grants to groups and organisations involved in all the art forms in accordance with the Arts Act 2003. **60** arts grants were allocated in **2007**, including revenue support to Tallaght Community Arts Centre and to Alternative Entertainments.

### Artist Bursary Scheme

Each year South Dublin County Arts Office runs an annual bursary award scheme. Five bursaries are available to artists across all art forms. Applications are encouraged from artists engaging with unusual or challenging forms and concepts in their practice, and artists exploring different ways to address complexity and/or engage with 'an audience'. The successful applicant's proposal should endeavour to be developmental in the context of the artist's work/medium as well as the artist's personal development. A sixth bursary enables an artist from the county to develop a career in the area of youth arts by completing the Certificate course in Youth Arts at NUI Maynooth.

### Events

In 2007, **FUSED South Dublin County Arts Festival** presented a series of four festival weekend programmes across the county including a childrens programme in Lucan. Events included workshops, exhibitions and performances of music, visual arts, literature and film. As part of this festival Visual artist Mary Kelly created a photographic installation on hoarding at the site of the new arts centre adjacent to County Hall.



Fused 07 provides a context for the enjoyment of the arts, and reflects the diverse range of interests of people in South Dublin County.

The Council Arts Office also held their second **Noise Concert Series** in 2007 the final of which was held on the 28th October 2007 with 6 young Bands participating in the final. The third **Autumn Classical Concert Series** under the continued artistic direction of Finghin Collins took place in 2007.

### Arts development in RAPID Areas

Arts Development Programmes in North Clondalkin engaged with children and leaders in the Get Ahead Clubs in a visual arts programme and with young people in a music and dance initiative. In West Tallaght, a film production programme was introduced in partnership with local school and youth groups. The purpose of these programmes is to develop creative capacity in local areas by providing opportunities for participation, with the support of partner organizations and to enable access to resources to support programme development.

### NOISE South Dublin County

Noise South Dublin is a virtual cultural space where young artists and young people in general will be given the opportunity to explore their creativity. The Objectives of NOISE are to:

- Harness the creative energy of young people (under 25) in South Dublin County.
- Develop a distinct local body of work featuring work from young artists, writers, musicians, designers etc.
- Feature work of cultural interest to young people under 25 years.
- Act as a resource for Youth Arts in the county.

### Civic Theatre

The Civic Theatre had a further very successful year in 2007. Over 100 productions at the Civic Theatre were featured that covered all art forms from Drama, Contemporary Dance, Ballet, Children's Theatre and Musicals.

The year saw over 50,000 patrons attend the theatre. Almost 80% of those come from the South County Dublin catchment area. The theatre in partnership with the Arts Office introduced Tenderfoot, a programme of playwriting and stagecraft for young people in South Dublin County. Over 40 young people participated in the programme in 2007.

2008 will see a new Restaurant launched which will be an added feature for the enjoyment of the many patrons of the Theatre.



# Parks

South Dublin County Council is committed to the protection and sensitive, sustainable development of its physical and natural amenities, to promote access and to maximise their recreational value while protecting the county's environmental assets. The parks, open spaces and landscaped roadside margins in South Dublin County are an invaluable resource for active and passive recreational facilities, providing aesthetic enhancement and environmental improvement, thus contributing significantly to the quality of life for citizens and visitors alike. In this regard the Council's strategy, to provide for recreational, amenity and environmental pursuits and values, continued through the maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and the provision of new ones.

## Sports and Recreational Facilities

The following is a list of major recreational facilities available to the community:

- 5 Regional Parks and 50 neighbourhood Parks
- Over 4,000 acres of parks and open spaces for active and passive recreation
- 150 playing pitches for Gaelic Football, Hurling, Soccer, Rugby etc. serving almost 850 teams. Some 14,000 players use these pitches on a weekly basis during the playing season
- 18 Tennis courts provided at 5 locations - some 1,000 children use these Courts through the Dublin Parks Tennis League each summer
- 2 All weather athletic tracks under local club management



- All weather hockey pitch at Lucan
- 11 all weather pitches at Astropark, Bancroft Park in conjunction with private sector
- Ireland's only purpose built baseball facility in Corkagh Park.
- All-weather/multi use facilities in Jobstown, Tallaght and Collinstown, Clondalkin.

- The National Basketball Arena in Tymon Park continues to enjoy a high profile and hosts many major sporting and cultural events.
- Grange Castle Golf Course:  
The Council's municipal 'pay and play' facility which opened in 1998, continued to be well used with approximately 40,000 rounds of golf being played over the year. Grange Castle Golf Club was affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland in 2002, and now has a vibrant club membership of 750.
- Camac Valley Tourist Caravan & Camping Park:  
In 2007, some 20,000 visitors from over 40 countries stayed in the city's only municipal facility for caravan and camping holidays.
- Corkagh Park Fishery:  
The fishery continues to attract many anglers/enthusiasts and has provided an additional recreational outlet. In addition to the fishery itself, the facility includes a tackle shop, fishing rod hire, coffee shop, public toilets and an outdoor timber deck and seating area. The facility will be run as a commercial enterprise that will in time develop into an educational and recreational resource.
- Upgrading of the rose garden and its entrance including the installation of a cast iron pergola
- Improved accessibility by the installation of new signage at the entrances and at the playground and K Barriers to allow greater accessibility.
- iWalk and video download for those who wish to visit the park and be informed of the various aspects of the park.

#### Aylesbury Park

- Boundary treatment works completed at Church Grove side of Park
- Path improvements works and the installation of K Barriers to increase accessibility to the park.

#### Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght

- Improved accessibility by the installation of new park sign at main entrance, upgrading of footpaths and bridges.
- The installation of seating and litter bins for users of Sean Walsh Park Phase II.

#### Killinarden Park, Tallaght

- Improvement of pitches and boundary walls.
- Boundary improvement works at Donomore Park by the installation of new stone wall and railing.

#### Rathcoole Park

- Painting of railings along Fitzmaurice Road.

## Parks Improvement Schemes

During 2007, a significant number of improvement schemes were undertaken in parks and open spaces throughout the County. These were financed by development levies, sports capital, RAPID programmes, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government grants and the revenue budget for specific Parks Works Improvement Schemes. These works included the following:

#### Corkagh Park, Clondalkin

- Surfacing and extension of pathways, tree planting.

### **Kiltalown Park, Tallaght**

- Tree planting funded by RAPID funds.
- New Children's Playground and Youth Shelter.

### **Butler McGee Park**

- Construction of two new football pitches.
- Drainage of 1 No. Soccer Pitch

### **Tymon Park, Tallaght**

- Fountains were installed and new public toilet facilities provided at the lake area at Willington
- Entrance from Tymon North Road was upgraded with new planting, replacement of boundary railings and hard landscape treatment
- First phase of upgrading of car park at Limekiln Road entrance including new layout, drainage and surfacing
- Visitor Centre was officially opened on June 28th, 2007 with an exhibition of wildlife photographs.
- New park signs installed at Tymon North and Willington entrances

### **Bancroft Park, Tallaght**

- Upgrading of boundary comprising new wall and railing at entrance from Bancroft Crescent

### **Dodder Valley Park**

- Anti-cycle gates installed at entrances in the Oldbawn area
- A new boundary wall and railing incorporating a formal vehicular and pedestrian entrance to the newly developed parklands at Firhouse was provided as part of the Firhouse Road Improvement Scheme.

### **Greenhills Park**

- Entrance upgrade completed

### **Improvement Works Open Spaces**

- Pedestrian pathway improvements carried out at open spaces in Cremorne, Brookvale Downs, Cypress Downs, Boden Park, Hillside Park, Tamarisk View, Tymon Park and Wilderwood Grove.

### **Griffeen Valley Park, Lucan**

- The Skate Park was enhanced by the addition of an organised Graffiti event organised with the skateboarders.
- 4.2 Km of new footpaths and cycleways were completed
- Improvement works to the Haydens Lane car park commenced.
- Facilitated construction of new all weather hockey pitch for Weston Hockey Club which was officially opened in July.

### **Ballyowen Park**

- New headquarters building and changing rooms opened by South Dublin Football League
- Drainage work carried out on one pitch

### **Glenaulin Park**

- A Slí Na Sláinte route was officially launched in May 2007 connecting South County Dublin and Dublin City in a joint project.

### **Palmerstown Village Park**

- Landscape upgrading of the entrance to the village

### Liffey Valley, Waterstown Park

- Works commenced on the construction of a new car park in conjunction with Stewarts Hospital
- Construction of a new boundary wall between Riversdale Estate & Waterstown Park in conjunction with local residents
- An Ecology Study and Report was prepared for the park and which identified 18 different habitats

### Willsbrook Park

- New toilet facilities installed for camogie club



### St. Cuthbert's Park,

- The construction of 400m of new boundary treatment along the Melrose estate side of the park which incorporates some open space in Melrose estate into St Cuthberts Park to help prevent anti-social activities in the area.

### Deansrath

- The construction of two 5 a side All Weather Pitches in Deansrath Community College adjacent to St. Cuthbert's Park commenced.

### Composting Workshop

Composting workshop held during Ecoweek in conjunction with Environmental Services Department. Gardening Workshops in North Clondalkin continue to be held with the Womens Groups in these areas and led by staff from the Parks Department.

### Arboricultural Programme 2007

- 9,411 Trees and Shrubs planted
- 158,650 Bulbs & Corms
- 46,240 Spring Bedding
- 62,270 Summer Bedding

### Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws

Parks Department administer the operation of the South Dublin County Council Bye-Laws prohibiting the consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Public Places as introduced in August 2001. During the year over 300 offences under the Bye Laws were detected by the Gardaí, which were pursued by the Council by the issuing of a Fixed Payment Notice, demanding payment of €63.50. Where payment is not forthcoming the Council may initiate a prosecution through the Courts and a number of successful prosecutions were processed during 2007, resulting in a combined overall income of over €20,000.



# Libraries

South Dublin County Council provides a public library service which addresses the needs of local communities particularly in the areas of lifelong learning, information, literature and culture.

Libraries offer universal access in a welcoming and supportive environment and use developing technologies to extend access to global information beyond library walls.

Library Statistics 2007	
Number of Libraries	7
Number of Mobile Libraries	4
Number of Visitors (actual + virtual)	981,720
Number of items borrowed	950,244*
Number of registered borrowers	79,883
Number of Internet Sessions	66,526
Schools Library Service	99
Hours of service per week	313 per week
Book fund expenditure per capita	€3.80

\*County Library closed August - December

## Services

South Dublin County Libraries have branches at Ballyroan, Castletymon, Clondalkin, Lucan and Tallaght as well as part-time facilities at Whitechurch and Stewart's Hospital. There are four mobile libraries that provide a service to the rest of the county.

The libraries provided the following range of core services in 2007:

- Adult and Children's lending service
- Adult and Children's Reference Service
- Young Adult Collections
- Welcome brochure in 10 languages
- Music CDs, books on cassette and CD
- Downloadable e-books
- DVD Library
- CDROM and Playstation Games
- Wi Fi available at all branches
- Art Print lending Service
- Large Print Collections
- Internet and ICT Access
- DVD/Video Viewing Facilities
- Exhibitions
- Seminars, Lectures and Workshops
- Language Classes
- Books in range of world languages
- Children's Book festival
- World Book Day
- National and International newspapers
- On-line world newspapers
- Writer's Groups
- Book Clubs
- County Council Information
- Local Studies Collections
- Photocopying Services
- Arts Activities
- Book Promotions
- User Education tours
- Class visits
- Application forms; Social welfare, Passport etc
- Parent and Toddler Groups
- Magazines and Periodicals



## Increased Accessibility

- The extension of the County Library was commenced in 2007 and will be ready to open in the spring of 2008.
- Improved access at Castletymon Library includes modified public counters, disabled toilet upgrade, handrails and automatic doors.
- A Home Library Service is now operating from branch libraries at Ballyroan, Clondalkin, Lucan, County Library and Mobile Libraries
- An increased range of library materials to include audio books, preloaded audio books, e books, large print books, cd's, dvd's and cd roms, Adult Basic Education materials and software programmes for children with learning difficulties.
- Provision of reading schemes and series for children with learning difficulties
- The introduction of Transit Wheelchairs at all service points
- Disability Awareness training for staff.

## Improved Technology

- The development of e audio and e book delivery systems
- The replacement of public access hardware and software across library branches
- Wi Fi Internet now available across all service points
- The Library website redesigned and expanded. [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie)

- The implementation of Open Galaxy system to enhance customer service
- The upgrading of ICT facilities in Whitechurch Library
- Continuing to increase access to technology for people with disabilities

## Expanded Readers Services

- Promotion of World Book Day across all service points
- The Initiation of the Family Learning Project. Family Learning is a critical element in life long learning and encompasses inter-generational learning, parental involvement in children's education and parenting skills. It is hoped that this project will provide a series of deliverables in relation to children, people of working age and older people.
- Reader's Day 2007 was held in the Plaza Hotel in November
- The Libraries staged over 2000 events including language classes, computer classes, book clubs, arts and crafts and children's events. This all contributes to lifelong learning.





## Children's Services

- **Early Intervention**

In March this year the Libraries Department launched a scheme entitled "Books for Tots". Every pre-school child who registered to join the library was given their first book to keep. Books were selected that were suitable for pre-school children.

- **Community Links**

The Libraries have set up links with the Clover Project in Clondalkin. The projects aims are to improve the school readiness of children starting primary school, to involve parents in their child's learning from an early age and to stimulate reading in the home. The libraries supplied the project with books.

- **Homework Clubs**

In March the libraries linked up with a School completion programme in the Whitechurch area. Children from Scoil Mhuire participate in a homework club and a school aftercare service. Opening hours at Whitechurch Library have been increased to accommodate this scheme.

- **Children's Book Festival** staged in October

## Strategic Policy Committees 2007

### 1. Sports, Recreation, Community and Parks

Meetings Held: 4 - 1st March - 14th May - 12th September - 14th November

#### Achievements 2007:

- Launch of FAI Community Development Officers Programme 2007 in conjunction with FAI - Official Launch 1st March 2007

- Local Sports Partnership launched
- Revision of SDCC Community Grants Scheme
- "Teenspace" - National Recreation Strategy Presentation by Comhairle Na N-Óg
- Report on Diversity in Parks - SDCC as presented to World IFPRA Conference
- Presentation by Roger Garland on Rights of Way Walkers
- Presentation to Special Olympics and Special Olympiads from South Dublin County 14th November

### 2. Arts, Culture, An Gaeilge, Education and Libraries

Meetings Held: 4 - 19th February - 21st May - 20th September - 3rd December

#### Achievements 2007:

- SDCC Farmers Market Launched March 2007.
- Construction started on County Arts Centre 19th February 2007 - due for completion May 2008
- Library 5 Year Development Draft Plan 2007-2011 presented - Consultation process
- Irish Language Scheme of SDCC launched

# Economic Development

The Economic Development Department, through its various activities, plays a leading role in the economic development of the County. The Economic Development role of the Department is fulfilled by provision of sites for major investment and by support of local enterprise, and through the Property Management function, lands are acquired and disposed of to facilitate construction of Roads and Sanitary services, Housing and Community services.

The Department also works with other Council Departments, State Agencies, Area Partnerships and the County Development Board to promote the potential of South Dublin in line with the County Strategy, for tourism, arts and culture, sports and leisure and urban and village initiatives. The Council's role in controlling dereliction is also carried out by the Economic Development Department.

## Economic Development - Grange Castle Business Park

The Council supports commercial and business development both indirectly by providing essential infrastructure and services, and directly by the provision of serviced and zoned lands.

Over the last number of years, South Dublin County has experienced continuing commercial and industrial development by the private sector. The Council, in association with IDA Ireland, continued the promotion of the Council owned Business Park at Grange Castle, Clondalkin ([www.grangecastle.ie](http://www.grangecastle.ie)) to ensure that South Dublin is marketed as the premier strategic location for international investment.

Ireland in general and South Dublin County Council in particular are facing increasing competition worldwide, mainly from Eastern Europe and Asia, in seeking to attract to Ireland and Grange Castle Business Park major foreign direct investment, (FDI). With ever increasing costs

of services and labour the Council is now relying on the strategic location and the quality of services of Grange Castle Business Park in both an Irish and Global context. In addition, high quality international investors/clients require that the Business Park is developed to the highest standard possible.

Both the Wyeth and Takeda facilities in the Park have been completed and are now in production. Work commenced in November 2006 by LAWS of the construction of their new facility which includes a corporate HQ and work is due to be completed in 2008.



In 2007 the Council in partnership with the IDA succeeded in persuading Microsoft Inc. to locate their new European, Middle Eastern and Asia Data Centre in Grange Castle Business Park. This is the first time that Microsoft will build a Data Centre outside the US and the selection of Grange Castle Business Park as the location elevates the profile of the Business Park in terms of the attractiveness of South Dublin County as the place to conduct business. Work commenced, in 2007 and the facility should be completed, in 2009.

It is essential that the Council continue to keep pace with international developments and provide an overall environment of high quality development and landscaping with all the associated facilities and infrastructures within the park.

Construction of the road south from Takeda to the Nangor Road, incorporating a third entrance to the Business Park and the bus terminus is nearing completion. Procurement of CCTV system for the Business Park commenced, in 2007 and will be installed, in 2008.

## **Economic Development – Local Enterprise**

The Development Department is actively involved in the promotion of local enterprise. To date Local Enterprise Centres have been constructed and are now operational at Neilstown (1996), Brookfield (1998) Killinarden Enterprise Park (2002) and Bawnogue Enterprise and Community Centre (2003). In each of these four Enterprise Centres, the development of the enterprise facilities was led by the Council and co-ordinated by a group comprising representatives of South Dublin County Council, the Clondalkin and Tallaght Partnerships, Enterprise Ireland, South Dublin County Enterprise Board and local community development representatives.

The Council is represented on the Bawnogue Enterprise & Community Centre Board of Directors and also on the Committee which monitors the ongoing operation of the Killinarden & Brookfield Enterprise Centres.

The Economic Development Department continued to liaise with the business community in South Dublin and the South Dublin Chamber of Commerce, with local development groups, individuals and companies,

in the promotion of South Dublin and to encourage and support economic development throughout the County. Following the completion of an Economic Audit of South Dublin County in 2005, an Economic Strategy is now to be produced. This project is being lead by the County Development Board and partners include the South Dublin Chamber, South Dublin County Enterprise Board and South Dublin County Council. In 2007, a brief for the project was prepared and a tender for consultants was advertised and responses received. Appointment of consultant will be made in early 2008 to prepare and publish the strategy.

## **South Dublin County Tourism Company**

South Dublin County Tourism Ltd. which was set up by South Dublin County Council has been in operation since January 2005 and is managed by a Tourism Executive and Board of Directors. The Board of Directors represents the Elected Members and officials of South Dublin County Council, the hoteliers, golf clubs, tourism organisations, shopping centres and cultural organisations of South Dublin County, South Dublin Chamber and South Dublin County Enterprise Board.

In 2007 South Dublin County Council through direct assistance, grants and support contributed in excess of €140,000.00 to the promotion of Tourism within the County.

South Dublin County Tourism Ltd. embarked on a number of projects in 2007 to promote South Dublin County as a business and leisure location both locally and internationally. The major projects undertaken by the Tourism Company in 2007 were:

- An expanded Halloween Festival ‘Hallowfest’

- An updated Golf and Accommodation Brochure
- An E-Campaign – on-line marketing project
- The production and circulation of a new brochure promoting tourism in the County called ‘More to See, More to Do’

And the Tourism Company also attended trade and consumer shows on behalf of the industry

### Key Projects Co-ordination Group

The Council’s Key Projects Co-ordination Group which encompasses the various disciplines within the organisation to fast track strategic projects within South Dublin County continued its work in 2007. The projects targeted for fast tracking include:

- Clondalkin Local Area Framework Plan
- Nangor Lands Local Area Plan
- Balgaddy/Clonburriss Local Area Plan/SDZ
- Adamstown SDZ
- Grange Castle Golf Course Lands – Hotel, Leisure and Residential
- Kildare Route Project / Citywest Luas Line
- Tallaght Town Centre (Expansion and Framework Plan)
- Green Routes – 2 Pilot routes – Dodder Route and Liffey to Canal Route

- Inchicore to 12th Lock – 110 kv ESB Line/Pedestrian and Cycle Route
- Economic Strategy
- Transportation Infrastructure  
Planning, coordination of design, and delivery is continuing on these projects to ensure their early completion and other projects are being identified for consideration by the group each year. Obviously, the availability of capital resources to deliver these and other projects must be identified.

### South Dublin County Enterprise Board

The Council is represented on the South Dublin County Enterprise Board by four Councillors and a representative of the County Manager. The County Enterprise Board was established in 1993 and its objectives are to develop and support local entrepreneurship and enterprise, and to promote and stimulate the creation of additional employment within the County through the growth of local micro-enterprise. See [www.sdenterprise.com](http://www.sdenterprise.com)

### Land Acquisition

The Council acquires land and property by Agreement, by Compulsory Purchase Order, and by Deed of Dedication for the provision of motorways and roads, housing, open spaces, community facilities, industrial development, parks and environmental services.

The following Compulsory Purchase Orders were confirmed in 2007:

- South Dublin County Council Compulsory Purchase (Ninth Lock Road - Nangor Road) Order 2006 - confirmed on 13th June 2007.

- South Dublin County Council Compulsory Purchase (Knocklyon Road) Order 2006 - confirmed on 8th June 2007.
- South Dublin County Council Compulsory Purchase (Rathcoole Distributor Road – Phase 1) Order 2007- confirmed on 5th September, 2007.

The Council throughout 2007 was also involved in preparing Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the Greenhills Road-Calmount Road Reconfiguration) Order 2007 and the acquisition by agreement of lands to facilitate the Outer Ring Road Phase 111 and the Embankment Road from Cookstown Roundabout to the Outer Ring Road Phase 111. This acquisition also facilitates the proposed construction of the Luas line to Saggart.

The Council also continues to negotiate and process compensation claims on lands the subject of previous Compulsory Purchase Orders and lands acquired by agreement in previous years.

## Land Disposal and Asset Management

The Council disposes of lands which are required for community facilities, educational facilities, or for housing or commercial development. Disposals range from large housing sites to small areas of land to be incorporated into adjoining properties to eliminate incidences of anti-social behaviour or required by developers to consolidate their ownership. The Development Department is usually approached at the preliminary proposal stage and it then liaises with the other Council Departments to ensure that the Council's interests are protected prior to and following the disposals.

Co-ordination takes place with the Planning Department regarding the zoning and development control aspects of each proposal, with Environmental Services Department regarding the presence of services

which may constrain a proposal, with Roads Department regarding the traffic and parking implications, with Housing Department regarding Estate Management, Part V and other issues and with Community and Parks Department regarding the impacts on their activities of any request for land.

The valuation of Council lands and negotiations of terms and conditions for disposal is carried out on the Council's behalf by the Chief Valuer's Office of Dublin City Council. In 2007 twenty two no. recommendations were submitted for the approval of the Council pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, relating to the disposal of a total of various parcels of land.

The Council also approved the disposal of 9 fee simple interests in respect of 9 no residential properties.

The Council continued to finalise the legal aspects of disposals approved in previous years including the completion of leases in respect of sites contained in the Integrated Area Plans where development on site was brought to an advanced stage.

## Property Management

Property Management entails the management of the Council's property portfolio. Monitoring of properties for sale and identifying other opportunities for key acquisitions continued in 2007. Lands acquired by the Council and not required for immediate use are let for grazing and tillage purposes. The management also involves the granting and renewal of leases, wayleaves and rights of way over Council lands. Temporary Convenience Lettings of properties are also granted until such time as the property is required for the Council's statutory purposes.



The referencing of lands in the Council's administrative area in relation to a range of property management and development projects is carried out by this Department. The Referencers carry out works on behalf of several Departments including Planning (planning applications, enforcement action, development plans), Roads (road schemes, C.P.O.'s) Finance (rates arrears, public liability claims) and Environmental Services (land acquisition and wayleaves).

## Allotments

The following four sites have been developed by South Dublin County Council as part of a larger County wide Allotment Scheme to be rolled out by the Council over the coming years. The Allotment Scheme involves the allocation of a plot for eleven months to individuals wishing to enjoy the pleasure of growing and nurturing vegetables and fruit for personal family use and consumption. Plots are allocated in accordance with a scheme of letting priorities with priority give to residents of South Dublin County.

Location	No of Plots	Size	Cost
Tymon Park, Tallaght	13	100 Sq Mtrs	€40.00
			€25.00 OAP
Friarstown	36	120 Sq Mtrs	€48.00
			€30.00 OAP
Friarstown	12	250 Sq Mtrs	€100.00
			€62.50 OAP
Mill Lane, Palmerstown	78	120 Sq Mtrs	€48.00
			€30.00 OAP
Corkagh Park, Clondalkin	26	100 Sq Mtrs	€40.00
			€25.00 OAP

The plots are generally the size of an average back garden with a small number of larger plots at Friarstown. The plots are allocated in accordance with an Allotment Scheme which was adopted by the Elected Members of South Dublin County Council in 2005.

At present there is a waiting list for all four sites which highlights the demand for this type of recreational facility. The Council is considering the extension of the Allotment Scheme to facilitate those on the waiting list. The Friarstown Extension allotments will be completed this year, consisting of 128 plots. Any future allocation of plots will be made on the basis of priority to residents of South Dublin County.

The new allotments have been improved by the provision of water, storage and composting facilities on site. Parking areas have been created and toilet facilities provided for the convenience of the plot holders.

## Derelict Sites

Since the enactment of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, the Council has had considerable success in counteracting land dereliction and the Council is committed to maintaining this impetus in the interests of enhancing the County through the elimination of dereliction. During 2007, 64 inspections and re-inspections were carried out on alleged derelict sites. These inspections resulted in 20 letters being issued to owners of properties, outlining steps to be taken to tidy up sites. Notices under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, were served in 17 cases where the properties were considered derelict within the meaning on the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. As a result of these actions 28 properties/sites were rendered non derelict in 2007. Although the Council has the power to acquire properties (which remain in a persistent derelict state) under the Derelict Sites Act no properties were acquired in 2007. In other cases, the problems were resolved following discussions on site between the Council's Engineer and the owners.

# Environmental Services

## Water Services

### Maintenance

South Dublin County Council is not a water producer. Some 70ML/day of treated water is purchased from Dublin City Council and a small amount from Fingal County Council from water treatment facilities at Ballymore Eustace and Leixlip respectively.

Water is distributed through the 1,400 kilometre watermain network to over 84,000 households and over 5,000 commercial customers countywide. The quality of water is reported upon annually by the EPA. The most recent report, entitled the 'The Quality and Provision of Drinking Water: A Report for the Years 2006-2007', ranks the water quality as 99.2% overall compliance, which is well above the national average as reported by the EPA.

During 2007, the Council replaced and refurbished over 3.3 kilometres of watermain as part of the network improvement programme. Staff based at Deansrath Depot also provided a key support to developers through the implementation of the Water Maintenance Section water specification for new and replacement work and the Water Bye-Laws.

### Water Network Management

The Council continues to participate in the Dublin Region Water Conservation Project (DRWCP) which commenced in 1998. The current phase of this project is at maintenance and rehabilitation stages and day to day active leakage management is undertaken by a small dedicated team. Leakage levels in South Dublin County were uniquely at an all time low of 17% at the end of 2007 and the Council is well on course to reaching the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government set target of 16% loss of unaccounted for water by 2016.

The rehabilitation phase of the DRWCP commenced in 2007 with the implementation of the Dublin Region Watermain Rehabilitation Project which has the primary objective of conserving water across the entire Region. The Non-Domestic Metering Project is almost complete. This project will ensure that all commercial customers are metered and charged for their water usage in a fair manner in compliance with the EU and Government Water Pricing Policy.

### New Water Project

Tender documents for the Boherboy Water Supply Scheme were approved by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in late 2006. The necessary wayleave arrangements are at an advanced stage and it is planned to commence construction in Spring 2008 with completion envisaged by the early 2010. The Scheme will enhance and extend the water supply network in the West and South of the County.

## Drainage

### Drainage Maintenance

In 2007 the Council laid approximately 0.82 kilometres of a new foul sewer in Airton Road, Tallaght. In addition, works at various pumping stations were also completed. Operational activities during the year also included clearing and flushing of sewers and chokes, provision of connections to facilitate new development, stream and screen cleaning and pumping station maintenance.

### Water Pollution Control

The Water Pollution Control Team is responsible for the monitoring, reviewing and issuing of trade effluent licences to businesses. In 2007, a total of 132 licences were in force under the Local Government (Water

Pollution) Acts 1977 & 1990, the EPA Act 1992, and the Waste Management Act 1996.

The EU Water Framework Directive requires that 'good water' status be achieved and maintained in all water bodies – rivers, streams and lakes by the year 2015. The Council's commitment is being realised through participation in the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) Project.

## Waste Management

### Waste Management Plan

During 2007, the Council continued the implementation of the Waste Management Plan for the Dublin Region 2005-2010. The plan is the foundation for the sustainable management of solid waste in the Region.

The Plan which can be viewed on [www.dublinwaste.ie](http://www.dublinwaste.ie) is based on the priorities of waste minimisation, on maximising recycling and minimising landfill by recovery through thermal treatment.

### Waste Management Operations

The Council continued to provide an integrated waste management service in 2007.

- A weekly collection of domestic refuse was provided for 85,000 householders throughout the County, each producing an average of 1.2 tonnes of waste and recycling material.
- Waste continued to be baled at the Council's Baling Station at Ballymount and disposed of in the Council's engineered landfill at Arthurstown.

- Planning permission granted extending the use of the landfill at Arthurstown to 2010.
- New Bye Laws for the Presentation and Storage of Domestic and Commercial Waste.
- Facilities available at Ballymount Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre for householders to dispose of household waste, electrical waste, recyclable waste and household green waste. Green waste disposal facility also at the Green Waste facility at Esker Lane, Lucan.
- The Green Bin service was extended to a fortnightly collection countywide and enhanced to include the collection of plastic bottles.
- A total of 13,815 tonnes of recyclable material was collected in South Dublin County through the Green Bin and Bring Bank service.
- The Council provided 58 Bring Bank facilities around the County in 2007.

### Environmental Waste Charge

The Pay-Per-Use system which was introduced in 2004 has resulted in a continuing reduction in the percentage of residual waste being presented for disposal at landfill.

### Cleansing and Litter Control Service

The Council's Road Sweeping Programme continued in 2007 with main roads and housing estates being swept on a regular basis.

The Council's seven Litter Wardens enforced the litter legislation and also provided advice and assistance to Residents Associations in organising clean-ups etc. including assistance during National Spring Clean.

The Council continued to employ a graffiti crew to deal with the menace of graffiti throughout the County. Over 200 sites were treated in 2007.

A total of 1,141 Litter Fines were issued during 2007 and 42 Direct Prosecutions were initiated.

### Environmental Awareness

The Environmental Awareness Team organised South Dublin County Council Eco Week which took place from the 16th to 21st April 2007 - a week long schedule of activities targeting the theme of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Over 1,806 people attended 46 events which included fair trade exhibition, eco-walks, composting workshops, waste workshops, energy watchers workshops and story telling.

The Beautiful South Dublin County competition was again a big success in 2007, achieving its objectives of:

- Encouraging an appreciation of our Environment and
- Developing Community Spirit.

There were over one hundred entries from residents associations, streets and the commercial sector. The overall winner was Lucan Tidy Towns.

The third Beautiful South Dublin County Schools Competition was held in 2007. The competition highlighted the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and environmental improvement.

### An Taisce Green Flag Awards

In 2007, 34 schools in South Dublin County were flying the Green Flag environmental standard in An Taisce Green Schools programme.



### Rapid Environmental Projects

Global Action Plan has appointed a project coordinator to work on an environmental awareness programme in the 5 Rapid areas in the County through Eco Action teams, which identifies practical ways of dealing with day to day issues under the following headings - Waste, Water, Energy, Transport, Shopping, Food and Nature.

### Gum Litter Taskforce

South Dublin County Council was selected as one of the local authorities for the Gum Litter campaign 2007. The campaign aims to promote a behaviour change among gum droppers through a local campaign to help create a cleaner, more attractive local area.

## General

### Fire Services

During 2007, Dublin City Council continued to provide the fire service and the emergency ambulance service in the County. The primary fire station for the County is located at Belgard Road, Tallaght with back up from Dolphin's Barn, Blanchardstown and Nutgrove Avenue stations as required.

### Veterinary Service

The Council's Veterinary Officers are involved in the supervision, control and licensing of private abattoirs, meat cutting and processing plants. During 2007 the Council continued the service contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. Regular inspections were also carried out at the Council's Horse Pound and Dog Pound.

### Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Officer service for the County provides services to a range of Departments in matters such as housing, planning, air and noise complaints.

### Control of Dogs

The Council employs two full time Dog Wardens who monitor dog control under the Control of Dogs Act. The Wardens patrol the County and issue fines for offences such as keeping a dog without a licence or not keeping a dog under effectual control. They also impound stray dogs and dogs which are surrendered by their owners. In 2007, 7,772 dog licences were issued and 476 'on the spot' fines were issued. The Council's dog pound is located at Dunboyne.

### Control of Horses

The Council's horse pound is located in Urlingford. Wandering horses are rounded up by the Council's Parks Department staff and transferred to the pound. The Department also processes applications for horse licences.

The Environment Strategic Policy Committee met on three occasions in 2007 and among the issues considered were;

- End of Life Vehicles Regulations - Progress Report
- Report on the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study Strategy (considered at a joint meeting with Fingal County Council)
- Report of Bring Banks
- Draft new Waste Bye-Laws
- Report on Sustainability
- Report on Litter Management Plan

## Headlines 2007

- Integrated Waste Management Service provided to over 85,000 households.
- Enhancement of the Green Bin Service throughout the County, to a fortnightly collection and the inclusion of plastic bottles in the collection.
- New Bye-Laws for the Presentation of Domestic and Commercial Waste.
- Increase in the number of Bring Banks to 58.
- Improved Environmental Services Department Website containing lots of additional information for our customers.
- 47,321 Environmental Services queries were dealt with through the electronic Customer Contact system.
- In excess of 10,000 tonnes of waste was collected from scheduled road sweeping and associated duties throughout the County.
- Continued high commitment from Residents Associations, Businesses, Youth Groups, Hotels, Pubs and Business Parks in the Beautiful South Dublin Competition.
- Complaints investigated and notices served on offenders in relation to Public Health Nuisances.
- Environmental Awareness staff visited 65 schools throughout the County.
- 139 Licences under the Water Pollution Acts and the EPA Act in force.
- 557 abandoned and end of life cars were removed for disposal.
- 1,141 Litter Fines and 42 Direct Prosecutions issued.
- A total of 7,732 complaints concerning environmental pollution were received and investigated.
- Assistance provided by the Litter Wardens to community clean-ups.
- A total of 7,772 dog licences and 476 on-the-spot dog control fines were issued.
- Junk collections were provided to 24,511 households.
- Approximately 9 million plastic bottles were recycled in 2007, an increase of 2.75 million on 2006.
- 255 composters delivered to householders and schools.

# Housing

## Construction Programme

The position at the end of 2007 of the Council's Multi-Annual Housing Construction Programme 2004 – 2008, for which the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government allocated 1,920 house starts, is:

Stage of Development	No of Units
Completions (including Part V and excluding house purchases)	239
On Site (excluding Part V and house purchases)	524
Contracts Signed	0
Tenders Advertised	167
Cost Plan/Tender Production	12
Part 8 Approved by Council	117
Part 8 on Display	17
Design/Concept	297
<b>Total</b>	<b>1373</b>

## Affordable Housing – The Property Path

In 2007, 195 properties acquired under Part V were sold to eligible Affordable Housing applicants and 121 homes were acquired by the Affordable Homes Partnership under its initiative. Currently there are over 3,000 eligible applications for affordable homes with South Dublin County Council.

## Affordable Housing Initiative

The Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI), introduced under the Sustaining Progress Social Partnership Agreement, aims to accelerate the delivery of affordable housing through the release of State and Local Authority owned lands.

The Launch of the Grange Development was held on the 22nd March 2007, comprising 34.4 hectares, to outline the proposal for a **high quality mixed use urban sustainable development to include 1,600 homes. A public consultation process has taken place and expressions of interest were invited. The qualified bids are being evaluated.**

## Part V

The Council's Housing Strategy, which was prepared in accordance with Part V of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), was reviewed during 2004 for the period 2004 - 2010 as an integral part of the review of the County Development Plan and was adopted by the Council on 10th November 2004.

During 2007, the Housing Department continued to negotiate with developers in relation to the 15% requirement on site for social/affordable housing in new residential developments.

## Rental Accommodation Scheme

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) continued to be implemented during 2007 with 342 families in RAS homes at the 31st December 2007.

## Dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour

The Anti-Social team responded to 947 complaints in 2007 and the following actions were taken:

House calls made	1123
Interviews conducted	535
Warnings given	91
Eviction Notices served	16
Clinics held	221

(Attended by a Community Garda and Allocations Support Officer)

## Estate Management

The Estate Management service is designed to develop relationships with communities and to assist in their further development. 4 new Estate Management Associations were set up in 2007.

The Killinarden Community Council was the over all winner in the population category (5000+) in the all island **“Pride of Place Awards”**.

**“Beautiful South Dublin Awards 2007”**: We had three winners in this competition under the Residential category - Dunawley Estate - Clondalkin, Castle Combined Residents Association and Brookview Parade - Tallaght.

35 pre-tenancy Information sessions were run throughout 2007.

## Housing Projects

Programmes designed to achieve common quality standards in the Council's housing stock are progressing. This will be achieved through a number of measures such as refurbishment works, electrical upgrades and the installation of mains smoke alarms.

In addition, the Council is continuing to improve the thermal efficiency of the home through its window renewal programme, cavity wall and attic insulation programme, and replacement of obsolete heating systems.

## Traveller Interagency Strategy

The County Development Board adopted The Traveller Interagency Strategy in 2007 with the following aims:

1. Improve outcomes for Travellers in South Dublin in areas including accommodation, health, education and employment and to generally enhance the quality of life of the Traveller
2. Develop a coordinated interagency approach to the delivery of services and supports for Travellers
3. Identify and address gaps in the current provision of public services to Travellers
4. Ensure effective meaningful consultation and dialogue between statutory bodies and Travellers
5. Identify and meet the needs of local Travellers on an area specific basis



6. Agree specific responsibility for the implementation of each action under the plan and assign this to the appropriate agency or agencies

7. Coordinate and monitor the delivery of actions.

### Homeless Services

Implementation of the Action Plan on Homelessness 2007-2010:

- 23 permanent housing units
- 5 were housed by Voluntary Housing Associations
- 13 additional applicants awarded overall priority and awaiting allocation of housing units
- 27 transitional accommodation units managed by Sophia and Sonas Housing Associations providing 94 beds
- A Women's Refuge, managed by Saoirse Housing Association, became fully operational in Tallaght
- The provision of 24 housing units in Tallaght, developed with Focus Ireland, was completed in 2007
- The Council expanded its outreach and tenancy sustainment services in 2007 as part of its overall response to homelessness.

### Allocations Section

The new Scheme of Letting Priorities approved by the Minister of Housing and Urban Renewal on 21/12/2006 was introduced following



notification to all applicants on the Housing List. The Scheme is now based on Time on List rather than points.

### Key Indicators

- 355 families housed in Newly Built/Acquired dwellings.
- 155 families housed through Casual Vacancies.
- 37 Transfer requests granted.
- Total Voluntary Housing stock in the County is 782 units.
- 553 Voluntary Housing units under construction/being planned, including emergency homeless accommodation.
- 2,368 Applicants approved for the Affordable Housing list in 2007.
- 195 units of affordable accommodation allocated and occupied in 2007.
- 32 affordable units allocated subject to the completion of contracts in 2007.
- 93 dwellings were sold under the Tenant Purchase Scheme in 2007.
- 0 applications received under the Shared Ownership Scheme.
- Council's rented housing stock now 8,407.
- Over 19,486 maintenance requests received with 97% completed within target time-frames.
- Housing Maintenance budget for 2007 was €8.8M.
- Laneway Closure Programme closed 4 laneways in 2007.
- Refurbishment Programme of 100 units in Cushlawn and 50 units in Shancastle estate commenced in 2007.
- Window upgrade programme commenced December 2006. 453 Homes were completed in 2007.
- Cavity wall and attic insulation programme ongoing. 685 walls and 279 attics completed in 2007.
- Mains smoke alarm programme continuing. 2,385 alarms fitted in 2007.
- 186 homes completed under the Electrical Upgrade Programme.
- Safety check and inspection of 213 tenant installed gas fired central heating systems completed in 2006.
- Programme commenced to replace all obsolete tenant installed central heating systems – 355 systems replaced in 2007.
- Rent collected for 2007 was €20,458,022 and the average weekly rent was €45.56.
- 2,138 live loans on our portfolio with collection of €8.6m.
- 24 Local Authority dwellings were adapted under the Disabled Persons Grant Scheme at a cost of €245,321.36.
- 150 Disabled Persons Grants approved in 2007 at a cost of €1,526,460.17.

- 181 Essential Repair Grants approved at a cost of €917,160.00.
- 44 traveller families were accommodated in permanent accommodation in 2007.

### Housing and Social Development SPC

During 2007, the Housing and Social Development SPC considered the following issues:

- Anti-Social Behaviour – Study Trip Report
- Review of Tenancy Agreements
- Joint Meeting with Economic Development (incl. Planning & Development) SPC
- 15% requirements for Social & Affordable Housing under Part V
- Comparison of Purchase Price under Tenant Purchase Scheme & Affordable Housing Schemes
- Legislation to Strengthen the role of the Private Rented Tenancies Board
- Update on Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)
- Workshop on Part V Provisions
- Report on Anti-Social Behaviour
- Draft Strategy Part V

- Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme
- Report from Anti Social Sub-Committee
- Report on Inter Agency Traveller Strategy



# Planning

The Planning Department plays a pivotal role in the physical, economic and social development of South County Dublin. Together with its traditional roles of Development Plan preparation, Development Management and Planning Enforcement, the Department is now pro actively involved in the physical development of the County, implementing the Adamstown SDZ Planning Scheme, resolving issues of Urban Design and Conservation, the realisation of the objectives of Integrated Area Plans, the development of Local Area Plans and major project development and management.

## Development Plan

The Development Plan provides the strategic framework and policy context within which the local authority's planning decisions are made. The South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2004-2010 is now being implemented and a number of Local Area Plans/Masterplans/Studies are in the course of preparation to facilitate achievement of objectives. Two Variations, Nos 3 and 4, were made to the Development Plan in 2007:

- **Variation no. 3** of the Plan proposed a change to the zoning of lands located at the junction of the Cheeverstown Road and Fortunestown Way from 'F' - 'To provide for Open Space and Recreational Amenity' to 'A' - 'To protect and/or improve residential amenity' and was made in February 2007.
- **Variation no. 4** "to construct a grade-separated junction at Newlands Cross and that this Council favours an underpass on the N7 at Newlands Cross on the grounds that it may have less environmental impact than an overpass" was approved by the Council at the November 2007 meeting.



**Adamstown** is a designated 'Strategic Development Zone' or 'SDZ'. As 'Development Agency', South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that Adamstown is a sustainable urban community with a strong sense of identity that is attractive, safe and secure in a traditional town and village format and that development occurs at a pace whereby it is supported by all necessary facilities and infrastructure. The roll out of Adamstown is ongoing, based on the approved Planning Scheme or Master plan prepared by South Dublin County Council. At the end of 2007, approximately 23.5% of potential housing is permitted, with more than 10% complete or under construction. The railway station, link road, park & ride, two schools and a playground are completed with regular bus and train services to Dublin City Centre. Adamstown will provide up to 10,000 new homes

along with a range of shopping, employment, leisure, civic and cultural facilities.

The **Balgaddy-Clonburris** area is one of the most significant areas zoned for development within South Dublin County Council. With the Grand Canal, the Kildare railway and a number of major roads bisecting the site and the proposed orbital Metro system due to arrive at a later stage, the area offers unparalleled opportunities for the development of a highly sustainable new community that capitalizes on the excellent public transport links. Approximately two-thirds of the Balgaddy-Clonburris area was designated as a Strategic Development Zone by the Government in July 2006. A Draft Planning Scheme for this part of the area and a Draft Local Area Plan for the remainder of the area were prepared and will be determined by the Council by the end of 2007. The Planning Scheme will be assessed by An Bord Pleanála and a Project Implementation team established in 2008. Provision has been made for expenditure in the sum of €280,000 on this project in 2008.

### **Integrated Area Plans (IAPs)/Urban Renewal Scheme 1999 – 2007**

In 1999 the Council, in partnership with a number of local development groups, produced Integrated Area Plans (IAP's) for both Tallaght and Clondalkin. Both plans were produced in the context of addressing the physical, economic, social and environmental regeneration of the town centres and in the adjoining disadvantaged residential areas.

South Dublin County Council's Integrated Area Plans in Tallaght and Clondalkin have to date accomplished the following:

- Over €0.7 billion worth of development projects are either under construction or completed in the designated areas,

- The IAP's have provided the mechanism to deliver the agreed vision of the town centre areas i.e. new streets, people intensive uses, new public realm and a strong residential presence in the town centres,
- The Urban Renewal Scheme will generate over €15million that will be expended in the disadvantaged neighbourhoods on Community Infrastructure and Community Projects,
- The process has engendered strong links between site developers and the Local Employment Service Network.

The Urban Renewal Scheme will continue until mid 2008.

### **Tallaght Town Centre Masterplan**

The Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan was adopted by the members of the Council at the meeting of 9th October 2006.

The Plan will guide the future development of Tallaght Town Centre as it expands northwards into the Cookstown area. It provides for the development of new streets and civic spaces and a range of people intensive uses appropriate to a town centre, (including retail, commercial, residential, recreational, community and cultural activities) based on high quality urban design.

The Tallaght Town Centre Area is a large geographical area characterized by a number of distinctive quarters. Due to the range of distinctive local characteristics between areas in the town centre area, the LAP Masterplan divides the area up into 15 areas or precincts. A series of local framework plans have been developed based on the local characteristics of each precinct.

The Council has produced and distributed 13,000 copies of “Your Tallaght “ a booklet outlining what is happening in the Town Centre at present and detailing the new amenities and facilities that the new developments are bringing to the Town Centre.

### **Lucan Village Design Statement**

South Dublin County Council has produced and distributed 3,000 copies of the Lucan Village Design Statement. The Village Design Statement has resulted from a joint initiative by South Dublin County Council and the Heritage Council, together with the local community of Lucan. This publication is a heritage led initiative setting out the cultural and natural heritage of Lucan, with a view to assisting in future planning and development within the village. The purpose of the document is to describe the unique qualities and characteristics of Lucan Village and the surrounding countryside from the local community’s perspective and to provide design guidance for future development.

### **Conservation**

South Dublin County Council’s Record of Protected Structures contains 542 Protected Structures, 105 of which are public authority owned.

The Conservation Grants Scheme is funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and administered by the Council’s Conservation Section.

The Grants Scheme assists the owners/occupiers of Protected Structures to undertake necessary works to secure their conservation.

Thirteen Conservation Grants totalling €204,183 were issued by this Council in the year 2007, to assist owners/occupiers in its administrative area to undertake such works.

### **Planning Applications**

In 2007 the Council received 1,785 valid planning applications. This represented a decrease of 7% on 2006. There were 2,209 decisions made in relation to planning applications during 2007, with 1,394 grants of permission, 369 refusals and the remaining 446 applications either being withdrawn, declared withdrawn or resulting in requests for further information or clarification of further information.

There were 228 invalid applications received in 2007 and a further 87 applications deemed invalid due to the Site Notice not being in accordance with regulatory requirements. 403 applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2007.



## Enforcement

A total of 524 new enforcement files were opened in 2007. The number of warning letters issued in 2007 totalled 451 and the number of enforcement notices issued totalled 354. District Court proceedings were initiated in forty two cases and Circuit Court proceedings were initiated in three cases.

Ten Convictions were obtained in the District Court, twenty cases were resolved following the issuing of District Court proceedings.

Seventy five cases were resolved without the necessity to apply to the Courts.

## Development Contributions

The Development Contribution Scheme, as required under Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, was adopted by the Council on 8th December 2003.

An amount of €33,632,389 was received during 2007 in respect of permissions granted from 1st January 2004, the date of the implementation of the Scheme.

A further amount of €5,374,321 was received during 2007 in respect of permissions granted prior to the 1st January 2004.



# Roads Traffic and Transportation

Throughout the year 2007 the Roads Traffic and Transportation Department continued with the work of design and construction of new roads. Extensive work in the maintenance area was carried out on existing roads, footpaths, bridges, public lighting and within Industrial Estates. Roads Forward Planning dealt with the impact of development on the existing infrastructure and the future infrastructure requirements. In the area of Traffic Management many new initiatives were undertaken in maximising the potential of technology, in conjunction with the delivery of the Dublin Transportation Office strategy 'A Programme for Change'. The Department continued to play an important role in Road Safety, through the provision of the School Warden service, the support for National campaigns and the commencement of the introduction of safety measures at schools.



## Roads at Design Stage 2007

### National Roads

The National Roads Authority provided the funding for the following schemes at design stage in 2007:

- **Newland Cross interchange up grade** - Feasibility and route selection completed by South Dublin County Council. A section 85 agreement is now in place with Kildare County Council. Kildare will take over full responsibility for the completion of this project. EIS and CPO published and submitted to An Bord Pleanala in December 2007. Oral hearing to be held in early 2008.
- **N81 Tallaght By Pass Extension** - A section 85 agreement is now in place with Kildare County Council who will now take over the development of the project. The scheme involves the continuation of the dual carriageway from Cheeverstown to the County boundary, continuing through County Kildare and County Wicklow to Hollywood Cross, a bypass of Brittas and Blessington. Feasibility and Route Selection reports will be advanced in 2008.

### Non-National Roads

Funded through a combination of Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government grant funding and the Councils own resources.

- **Nangor Road Upgrade** - Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed August 2006. Detailed design and tender process in progress. Pre-qualification of contractors is underway.
- **City West to Belgard Road** - Detailed design of the scheme as well as the pre-qualification of contractors is well advanced.



- **Knocklyon Road Realignment** - CPO approved 2007 and detailed design progressed.

## Roads Under Construction 2007

### National Roads

Construction on the following, funded by the National Roads Authority.

- **N7 to Kildare County boundary** - Works completed 2006. Final settlements with land owners for land acquired are being finalised.
- **M50 upgrade to three lanes from N4 to Ballymount incorporating the upgrade of 3 junctions** - Works well advanced on this project with target completion date of 2008.
- **M50 to Leixlip (N4) upgrade to 3 lanes and provision of improved Newcastle junction** - Works commenced in September 2007 with a target completion date of 2009.

Construction progressed on the following schemes, which were funded through a combination of Department of the Environment & Local Government grant funding and the Councils own resources.

### Non-National Roads

- **Outer Ring Road** -  
Phase 2 Adamstown Roundabout to the Old Lucan Road completed 2007  
Phase 3 N7 to N81 - Works proceeding with a completion date in 2008.
- **Green Route Final Phase** - Construction commenced in 2006 and will be completed in 2008.

- **Firhouse Road** - Construction commenced in 2007 and will be completed in 2008.

## Road Maintenance 2007

### National Roads

The **National Roads Authority** provided finance for the maintenance of National Primary and National Secondary Roads as follows:

- €647,094 for National Primaries, N4, N7
- €574,000 for Public Lighting Contribution
- €165,300 for National Secondary Roads, N81, N82

### Non National Roads

The Council received an allocation of €4,747,000 from the **Department of the Environment and Local Government** for road maintenance works. Under the Restoration Improvement Programme, the following roads were repaired during 2007:

- Rathfarnham Road
- Embankment Road
- Whitehall Road
- Peamount Road Part 2
- Slade Road
- Aylmer Road
- Old Nangor Road
- New Nangor Road

Works were also carried out under the Discretionary Maintenance, Restoration Maintenance and Discretionary Improvement schemes.

During the year the following works were carried out:

Category	Number of Schemes
Restoration Maintenance	25
Discretionary Improvement	22
New Footpaths	16
Discretionary Maintenance	7

#### Abnormal Load Permits 2007

- 605 permits issued

#### Lowering of Footpaths 2007

- 69 applications

#### Road Works Control 2007

- ROADMAP online application system
- 4,004 licences issued.

### Public Lighting

The Public Lighting Section deals with the maintenance, upgrading and improvement of its existing network of 29,500 columns. In 2007, a total of 300 columns were replaced.

### Traffic Management

The Traffic & Transportation Section deals with a wide range of traffic management and control measures. With the significant increase in traffic flows, the section's work has adapted and expanded to manage transport in the county for the benefit of all road users.

The objectives of the section include:

- Providing priority for public transport and other selected vehicles
- Enhancing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Managing parking and
- Managing demand and congestion.

The achievement of these objectives is made possible through the implementation of the Dublin Transportation Offices (DTO) Strategy within the county.

In 2007, funding of € 17.04 million was received from the Dublin Transportation Office. This grant was supplemented by a contribution for many projects from the Council's own funds.



## Traffic Management Systems

- CCTV monitoring of junctions - 57 Locations
- DUSC – Dial up Strategic Control - 4 Locations
- MOVA – (Microprocessor Optimised Vehicle Actuated) – 7 locations N4, Newlands cross and Outer Ring Road
- ANPR Pilot Project – 20 Locations Completed and Operational
- Automatic Traffic Counters 50
- ATC's on Automatic Download 30
- Link to Dublin City Council SCATS cameras operational
- Green routes Cycle and Pedestrian Route
- Liffey to locks
- Grand Canal Scheme Part 8 has been approved by Council. Construction to begin 2008.
- Griffeen Valley Parks Department are progressing project
- Dodder Valley Green Route Parks Department are preparing design.

## Countywide Pay and Display Parking

Pay and Display Parking is operational in Lucan Village, Rathfarnham, Rathcoole, Palmerstown and Clondalkin. The expansion of the scheme to include Saggart, Tallaght and Templeogue will continue in 2008.

## Road Safety

### Low Cost Safety Measures

- 6 schemes implemented under Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Grant Funding.
- 1 scheme implemented under NRA Grant Funding.

## School Safety

School Warden services were provided at 102 locations throughout the County providing safe crossing facilities for children on routes to and from schools.

- Over 44 groups were assisted with road safety projects.
- Cycle training delivered to over 700 primary school children.
- Young pre-driver education programme delivered to transition year students and youth groups at 13 venues.
- A 'Get Seen' road safety awareness campaign aimed at encouraging older pedestrians to make sure they are safer when out and about on the roads was launched in October. Over 3,000 high visibility products were distributed through Active Retirement Associations and Senior Citizen Clubs.

Following an initial examination of the 130 schools in the County Area, the three Area Committees selected and approved two schools or group of schools in their areas as pilot schemes. (see details below)

### Lucan/Clondalkin Area

- Scoil Mhuire, St. Josephs,
- St Marys & St Andrews (Lucan cluster),
- Scoil Bride, Scoil Ide,
- Scoil Aine,
- Scoil Mhuire & St Josephs (Clondalkin cluster).

### Terenure/Rathfarnham Area

- Scoil an Spiorad Naomh (Ballyboden),
- Bishop Galvin & Bishop Shanahan National Schools (Templeogue).

### Tallaght Area

Holy Rosary National School & Firhouse Community College (Firhouse/Ballycragh) Cnoc Mhuire Senior & Junior and Scoil Chaitlin Maude (Knockroe).

The cluster of schools in Lucan was selected to be progressed first and work began in late 2006 with a Special Speed Limit Bye Law being implemented in March 2007. The works in the Lucan area have been completed and a pilot scheme of works have been undertaken at both locations in the Tallaght area and some initial works have been undertaken at Bishop Galvin School in the Templeogue area. Works have not started as yet at the Clondalkin cluster. A review of the works will be undertaken in early 2008 with a view to deciding on how to proceed.

### Cycling Routes

- Green routes Cycle and Pedestrian Route Liffey to locks
- Grand Canal Scheme Part 8 has been approved by Council. Construction to begin 2008.
- Griffeen Valley Parks Department are progressing project
- Dodder Valley Green Route Parks Department are preparing design

### Bus based Park and Ride

- EIS prepared for N4. Oral hearing held in July 2007.
- Preliminary EIS documents prepared for N7

### Forward Planning/Building Control/Traffic Calming

This section is responsible for the assessment of Planning Applications from a Roads perspective and the preparation of technical reports.

Listed below are some relevant statistics from the section:

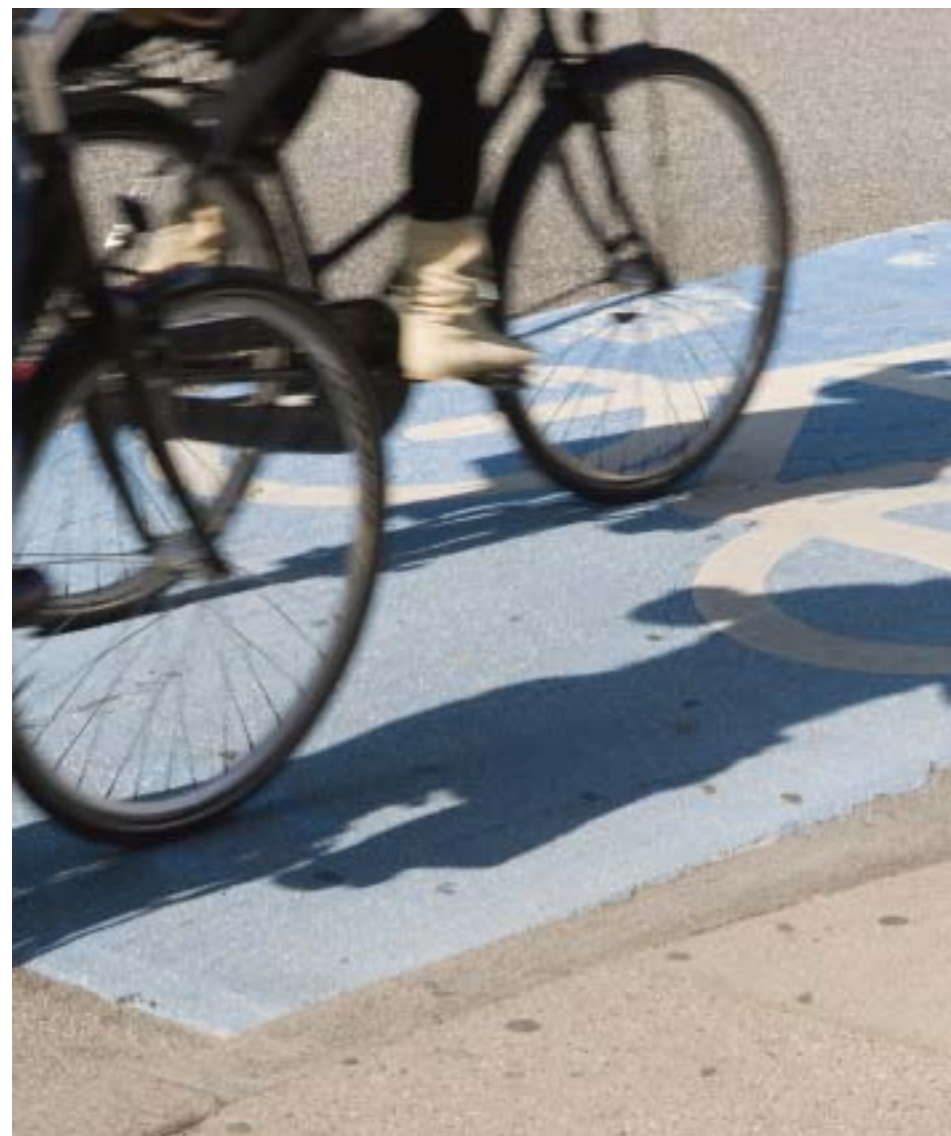
- **Estates taken in charge - 11**
- **Sites monitored - 234** which is 18.5% of all valid commencement notices
- **Disabled Person Grant applications - 101**
- **Planning application reports processed - 1,019**

### Traffic Calming

- 34 Schemes Completed to date under the Programmes
- 2 Schemes under construction
  - Ballyowen Lane, Lucan
  - Elmbrook Avenue/Esker Lane, Lucan

### Traffic Calming Programme 2008

- Part 8 commenced
  - Palmerstown
  - Seskin View Ave/Drive and New Bawn Park, Tallaght
- Schemes Being Designed/to be designed
  - Knocklyon
  - Lucan Heights, Lucan
  - Aylesbury/Cushlawn, Tallaght
  - Moyville, Pearse Bros/Palmer Park, Whitechurch Estate, Glenmore Park & Grangebrook -
  - Dangan, Shelton, Muckcross, Hillsbrook & Fernhill
  - Kilcronan, Kilmahuddrick, Grangeview, Deansrath & Melrose - Clondalkin



## Architectural Services

2007 was a very busy year once again for the Architectural Services Department.

Following on from last years success with the Tallaght Pool and Leisure Centre, which was designed in-house, the same team successfully designed and delivered the new Clondalkin Pool and Leisure Centre, at a cost of €12.7 million. This was funded by a grant of €3.8 million from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism, with the balance coming from S.D.C.C. funds. The new building has a wide range of facilities including gym, weights room, dance area and café. A new garden space adjoining contains an exciting playground encouraging fun and exercise for old as well as young. The Centre was officially opened in December and has already proved an enormous success with the public.

The ZIP project, a high quality pedestrian/ cycle amenity corridor linking Tallaght Village, the Square and the Luas was substantially completed and represents a benchmark for quality and design in improvements to the public realm, providing a seamless link between old and new Tallaght. The cost of the project is approximately €4 million, including funding from the European Union through the Urban and Village Renewal scheme.

Work commenced this year on the construction of the County Arts Centre immediately adjacent to the County Hall and alongside the new County Library. The Centre will provide art galleries, performance space, dance, music and digital studios, art workshops for adults and children as well as a sculptor's yard and a radio station broadcasting suite. Dedicated art studios for 6 artists will be included as well as a permanent home for two existing community art groups. The project will cost approximately €9 million and is expected to be completed by July 2008. Like the Clondalkin Pool and Leisure Centre, it has been designed in-house, and promises to be a fantastic resource for the community.

The extension and reformatting of the County Library began this year and has been substantially completed. The granite-clad library extension faces onto the new Library Square of the Tallaght Cross development. An internal book-lined street links to the Civic Theatre and will be open to the public in April 2008. Nearby in another new building adjoining the Luas stop is "The Big Picture". An interactive media centre, this three-storey structure containing the latest digital technology will showcase upcoming projects in Tallaght and throughout the County, and will highlight digital content developed in various community centres as part of the Community Connect Project.



The success of the Traveller Accommodation Programme continues with 14 units occupied during 2007 and the commencement of another 45 units on site which will be completed in 2008.

The small works programme comprising special needs, overcrowding and improvements in lieu of Local Authority Housing has 45 extensions in hand with 2 completions in 2007 and a further 15 to be completed in 2008.

The Refurbishment and Upgrading of existing council housing stock is another important element of the Department's portfolio. Contracts for the refurbishment of 100 houses in Cushlawn and 100 houses between Greenfort and Shancastle Estates began in 2007 and are due for completion in 2008. The window replacement pilot programme continues with replacements carried out in 453 dwellings during the year. 685 dwellings had insulation upgrading works carried out. Under our Mechanical and Electrical wing; electrical rewiring was carried out in 186 dwellings and mains smoke alarms fitted in 2385 dwellings. Boiler servicing of 4,500 gas fired central heating systems was carried out during the year and the inspection, safety checking and boiler servicing of tenant installed gas fired central heating systems continued with 213 systems checked in 2007 and 355 replacement systems installed. The Housing Programme was also on target with 500 dwellings on site under construction and a further 332 houses completed and added to stock. Cooperation with the Planning Department was maintained with design input on the Liffey Valley Local Area Plan and the Clonburris SDZ.



# Corporate Services

Corporate Services Department continues to embrace the Councils organizational change programme” in areas of staff development, business process improvements and better use of resources to ensure the provision of quality information, improved customer service and delivery on work programmes. We interact and provide support to all Council Departments and are responsible for Mayor and Members support, Communications, Customer Care, Internal Audit, Civic Buildings, Staff Facilities, Procurement, Register of Electors, Higher Education Grants, Events Management, Twinning and Freedom of Information.

## Mayors Office

Councillor Billy Gogarty (RIP) was elected Mayor at the Annual Meeting of the Council held in June 2007 and was presented with the Chain of Office by outgoing Mayor Councillor Eamon Maloney for a one year term of office. Councillor Derek Keating was elected Deputy Mayor at the same meeting.

## Civic Events

Many events were organized in 2007 through the auspices of the Mayors Office reflecting our interaction with our customers, improvements in our built environment, advancement in technological services and our close connection with communities throughout the County. Highlights included festivals such as Tallaght and Proud, Fused - South Dublin County Council Arts and Library Services Summer Festival and Hallowfest.

## Communications

Corporate Services continue to examine all aspects of communications, both internally and externally, with a view to the successful promotion of South Dublin County in an local, national and international context. This is achieved through quality information on our Internet, Intranet, Pressnet and Membersnet sites together with detailed policies/strategies/protocols relating to internal and external communications.

## Twining

### London Borough of Brent, England

Our twinning arrangement with Brent Borough continues to flourish with annual exchange visits taking place on a number of initiatives on both sides of the Irish Sea. The next exchange is due to take place in early 2008 with a delegation from Brent Borough visiting South Dublin. The expected agenda for the visit will include Environmental, Planning and Cultural initiatives.

### Kreis Segeberg, Germany

Our next exchange visit to Kreis Segeberg is scheduled to take place in July 2008. An agenda for the visit has yet to be finalized.

### Ecole Valentin, France with Rathcoole Village

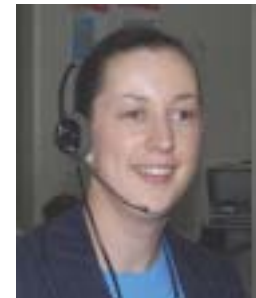
Ongoing exchange visits between Rathcoole Village and Ecole Valentin are continuing and have a high participation level amongst residents of all ages from both communities.

### Ethiopian Partnership Project

The South Dublin County Ethiopian Partnership Project is a working partnership with the towns of Butajira and Werabe (150 – 180kms south of the capital Addis Ababa) based on assisting capacity building of the



municipalities and the inhabitants and facilitating public works projects to bring about improved public services. In mid-2007, Irish Aid approved the Council's application for €0.32m funding per annum over a three-year period. This funding is supplemented by a contribution from SDCC (€50,000 in 2007) and voluntary deductions from staff and councillors of more than €18,000 per annum. Works commenced in late 2007 on a variety of project elements in both towns including improvements in water supply, sanitation, waste management, paving, school refurbishment. The Council is also contributing towards a slum regeneration project in Addis Ababa which is being undertaken by the Integrated Holistic Approach - Urban development Project.



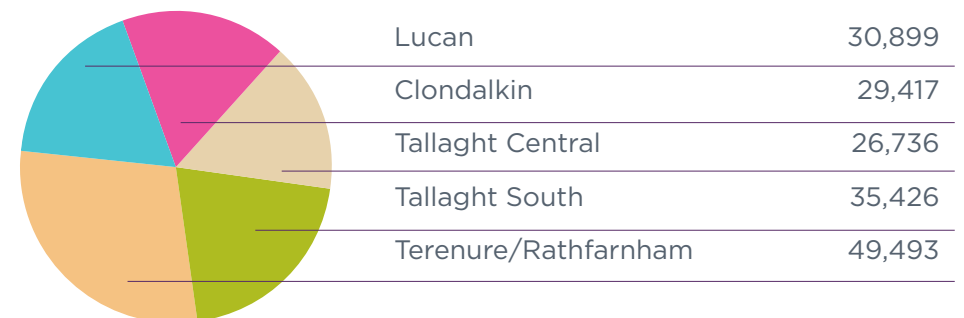
### Customer Care

In 2007 South Dublin County Council placed renewed emphasis on Customer Service levels, presented results of Customer Satisfaction survey to Council, carried out its first mystery shopping programme, and to celebrate this 'Year of the Customer' opened a new Customer Contact Centre in Clondalkin.

Both centers' operate as one and maintain over 90% service levels at front counter. Using systems to measure performance, the team is also involved in the roll out of performance systems across the organisation, providing tools to all managers to continue to enhance the Councils services.

### Register of Electors

Corporate Services Department compiles the Register of Electors on an annual basis. The total no. of electors registered on the 2007/2008 Register of Electors was 171,971 and the breakdown of this figure across the five local electoral areas is as follows.



## Higher Education Grants

Higher Education Grants are awarded, to students who are residents of South Dublin, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Higher Education Grants) Acts, 1968 – 1992 and the relevant annual scheme as adopted by the Council. Under the Higher Education Grants Scheme for the 2007/2008 academic year approximately 900 students were awarded grant assistance in respect of Maintenance and/or Fees. A total amount of €3.7 million was paid out in Higher Education Grants during the 2007 calendar year.

## Freedom of Information

39 Requests were processed and answered in 2007.

## Internal Audit

The key objectives of Internal Audit are to promote best practice in the management and control of the Council's activities. Internal Audit endeavours to achieve this by evaluating the effectiveness of the Council's control framework within its control environment and by promoting continuous improvement.

At the end of 2007 an Audit Committee was established with a broad remit including fostering the development of best practice in the internal audit function.

The introduction of the Audit Committee will further support and strengthen the governance of the Organisation.

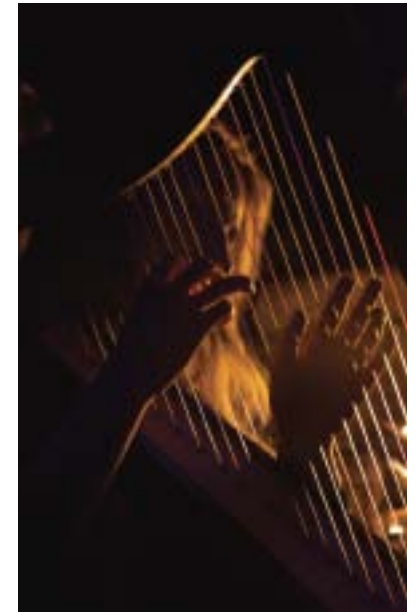
## Irish Office

During 2007 South Dublin County Council promoted the Irish Language in South Dublin County in many ways.

During 2006, The Language Scheme of South Dublin County Council under Section 11 of the Official Language Act 2003 was prepared, and accepted on 20 December 2006. The implementation of this scheme began in earnest during 2007.

The commitments which were undertaken to be completed within the 3 year implementation period of the Language period are as follows:

- By the end of 2007 all application forms and accompanying information produced by SDCC will be available in Irish and English
- All new publications, information leaflets and posters will contain a short introduction and summary in Irish
- All Major Policy Documents will be available in Irish
- Press releases relating to Irish will be produced bilingually
- The Council Website will be developed in Irish



- An Irish Page containing information in relation to Irish and SDCC will be developed
- A generic email address, Gaeilge@sdblincoco.ie will be developed.
- All Irish Associations/Schools in County will be encouraged to engage with the Connect Website.
- All new Software and interactive systems will be language compliant
- All Irish language forms will be made available for online submission, when service is available, or download
- Members of staff identified on staff listing who are capable and willing to deal with the public through Irish, and provide relevant support and training
- Ensure that all staff and councillors are given encouragement and opportunity to improve their Irish language skills through training and developments courses with a view to improving access to service provision through the Language Scheme
- Include Language Awareness as part of both induction and Customer Care training
- Training and guidelines in relation to this scheme will be developed and circulated to all staff
- Development and training, so that our staff will have basic understanding of the Irish Language
- High profile events shall incorporate an element of bilingualism in proceedings
- SDCC is committed to educational visits to schools having an element of Irish
- Our standard disclaimer on email will be bilingual
- A simple Irish lesson will be posted weekly on intranet

Most of the above begun during 2007, most of which are constantly developed and expanded.

The launch of Seachtain na Gaeilge and the Language Scheme 2007. South Dublin County Council officially launched their Irish Scheme with a Gala night featuring music from Liam Ó Maonlaí of The Hothouse Flowers, Rónán Ó Snodaigh of KILA, Liz and Yvonne Keane, PJ Herson, Mattie Joe Sheámuis, dancing with Seosamh Ó Neachtain, Micheál Seoighe, Meadhb Ní Chuláin, Rincdance and Aistreoirí Chrónáin.

The night was co-launched by Deputy Mayor Alex White and Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Éamonn Ó Cuív.

The Irish Language Scheme of South Dublin County Council was launched during another very successful Seachtain na Gaeilge in 2007, which ran from 3-17th of March, during which almost 80 events were held with South Dublin County to celebrate the Irish language and culture, all of which were attended and enjoyed by citizens of South Dublin County, and received great support from the general public. Irish classes for the staff and councillors of SDCC continued to promote and support the Irish Language and its use within the Council.

The website [www.athcliaththeas.ie](http://www.athcliaththeas.ie) has been created and is continually being developed during 2007. The internal website of South Dublin County Council also has an Irish page, with relevant information to the staff of SDCC.

All Irish speaking staff available to deal with the public through Irish have been identified on the staff index, A Staff procedure has been drawn up and is being developed to ensure that clients of SDCC can be dealt with through Irish.

In December 2007, the Irish Language Commissioners Office, responsible for ensuring that the Language scheme is being implemented reviewed the progress of SDCC, and they were pleased overall with progress being made towards our commitments.

## Reform of Procurement Policy

The Council recognises the importance of promoting procurement modernisation within the organisation and work towards the development of a more modern, effective and efficient procurement policy for South Dublin County Council continued during the year.

Following a request from the Department of Finance and the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government to all public bodies, South Dublin County Council commenced work on the development of a statutory Corporate Procurement Plan as part of a wider programme of public procurement reform. The Plan is expected to be finalized in mid 2008.

The development of the plan is being embraced within the organisation and will, when adopted, embed a new culture in procurement and provide a number of benefits including:

- Improved planning of procurement activity
- Improved corporate governance
- Ensure adherence to EU, national and local procurement procedures
- Better management of the Council's resources ( both human and financial) thereby providing improved value for money and quality of service

An analysis of e- procurement options with a view to bringing about certain efficiencies was also undertaken and it is expected that further advances will be made in this area in 2008.

## Sustainable Energy Strategy

In accordance with the wishes of the elected members the council initiated a project to measure the Council's carbon footprint and commenced the process of developing a Sustainable Energy Strategy for the organization.

An Interdepartmental Working Group was established to develop the Strategy which will cover inter alia:

- Influence on energy consumption in the County
- Energy usage in the organisation
- Awareness & Education

A number of working papers were developed during the year and the strategy will be published in mid 2008.

# Human Resources

The achievement of ongoing modernisation and change in ensuring the delivery of a value for money service continues to be driven by the Towards 2016 Social Partnership Agreement, through our own organisational Partnership Committee and our organisational change programme led by the Change Management Unit now established in the Human Resources Department.

The successful conclusion of negotiations through partnership on the Cleansing Review means that an enhanced cleansing service will be delivered to the public. The core objectives of this review were to achieve flexibility, greater responsiveness and work practice improvements internally and externally it will deliver:

- An increase in number of litter bins supplied
- A visible cleansing service
- Reduction in litter levels county wide
- Graffiti removal
- Quicker response times
- Regular Estate Cleaning

Under the **Partnership High Level Group** a number of working groups are examining areas where modernisation can be achieved through consensus with staff. Currently work is ongoing through the GPS Working Group and the Working Group drawing up a Policy on the use of Contractors and the Group examining the introduction of electronic Time & Attendance for depot based staff. The High Level Group has also been responsible for delivery of reports on Organisational

Communication, the Career Path of General Operatives, Environmental Sustainability and Physical Accommodation.

The Human Resources Department manages a wide range of functions in relation to human resource management for our existing staff and with regard to the ongoing staffing needs of the organisation. The department is continually engaged in the recruitment and selection process for a wide range of grades and roles within the organisation ranging from general service grades, clerical/administrative grades to professional/technical grades.

Retention of staff, workforce planning, staff welfare, employee relations, training and development and management of benefit and entitlement schemes are also key activities of the department.

The implementation of an **integrated Human Resource system** has commenced, its delivery will facilitate the roll-out of the HR Strategy and will result in an employee self service facility. A comprehensive training system as well as online recruitment forms part of the system. All together it will result in a highly efficient and streamlined HR service.

The **Change Management Unit** are continuing to drive the modernisation agenda and to support the embedding of **PMDS** across the organisation. The Change Management Unit support and co ordinate the introduction of the necessary business and organisational changes required to realise our vision, and are assisted by local change agents at departmental level. Business Process Improvements incorporating best use of ICT have resulted in cost savings, improved efficiencies and enhanced service provision. The ongoing roll out of an electronic document system will ensure we convert from paper to electronic imaging thereby assisting information sharing and easier retrieval of data. Staff are central to this change process and their flexibility and co-operation must be acknowledged. The PMDS review

has just been completed and the ongoing 6 monthly reviews will provide a framework to support and facilitate change. As PMDS becomes embedded into the organisation it will become a management tool for delivering change. The monitoring of the Team Development Plans through newly introduced online PMDS system will in time facilitate tracking and reporting on the delivery of corporate objectives, while the Personal Development Plans will provide improved job clarity and identify Training and Development needs which will form the basis of a comprehensive Training Programme.

Investment in **Staff Training** has been maintained at a high level with 4.85 % of the payroll budget expended on training in line with National requirements. The streamlining of training requests through staff PDP's completed under the Performance Management and Development System informs the training programme and corporate training requirements are also addressed and delivered on to ensure ongoing upskilling of staff. As an organisation we are working towards achieving accreditation for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for our engineering/technical staff. This has involved introducing mentoring for staff, a CPD policy has been put in place and a knowledge management system is being developed. The assessment process to achieve accreditation is scheduled for Summer 2008.

The **Time & Attendance Unit** continues to monitor absenteeism and intervene to minimise absenteeism levels. The indicators in this area for 2007 are Certified Sick Leave 3.58% and Uncertified Sick Leave 0.81 %. The services of two Doctors are retained for staff referral and our Staff Support service consisting of two qualified staff welfare officers provide invaluable support to staff.

A **Superannuation Unit** has been established within the Human Resources Department. The objective of the unit is to provide an enhanced level of service on pension and retirement related matters.

There is also a requirement for the future that staff be issued with defined benefit statements. The unit has been established and will be resourced to meet that requirement.

The **Recruitment Unit** has processed over 1,900 applications in 2007 resulting in 317 job offers. Internal promotional opportunities as well as new posts are recruited for.

### Recruitment Unit

2007 was an exceptionally busy year for the recruitment unit. The Traveller Training & Work Programmes Initiative has continued to flourish. The Council, in recognising the marginalisation of the traveller community and having regard to the need to build a relationship of trust and credibility, undertook the initiative to provide a relevant skilled training programme supplemented with work experience and the prospect of full-time employment at the end of the programme. In addition to our existing compliment of staff from the travelling community, 9 students worked with us for the summer and 5 have been employed under a new initiative which is addressing the problem of graffiti throughout the County.



Recruitment Performance Indicators 2007	
Staff Turnover	6.46%
Number of new staff	177
Interview Competitions advertised	88
SDCC promotional appointments	140
Number of applications received	1917
Number attended for interview	995
Work Experience Placements	67
Summer Student Placements	113

## Training and Development Unit

The Council's Training & Development Unit continued during 2007 to organise training for all staff within the Council. In this regard, I.T., Health & Safety, Specialist and Development courses were held for staff throughout the year.

The delivery of agreed PDP training continued throughout 2007. The benefits of this tailored training will be evaluated on an ongoing basis. A Supervisory Management training program was rolled out to all grade 5/6 and analogous grades and a program of attendance management courses were also delivered.

The Training Unit also arranged Irish Language courses for staff in association with Maynooth University at both beginner and diploma levels. The Return to Learning courses continued during 2007 and classes in basic I.T. skills were delivered to General Services Staff.

Training & Development Performance Indicators 2007	
% of Payroll spent on training	4.85%
Numbers of Scheme of Assistance	113
Numbers attending in-house training	1,328
Numbers attending external training	150

## Employee Relations Unit

The Employee Relations Unit continue to maintain communication with the relevant trade unions on a regular basis on issues of concern and through the unit the Council is committed to utilising the industrial relations mechanisms available including the Rights Commissioner, the Labour Relations Commission and the Labour Court where necessary.

An extensive Vaccination Programme was again run throughout 2007 for staff on a voluntary basis, 34 staff members availed of vaccinations and 326 staff members availed of the anti-flu vaccination.

## Administration and Policy Unit

At the end of 2007, the number of staff in SDCC was 1,593. In conjunction with the HR Partnership Group, the Administration and Policy Unit continue to identify and develop policies.

In 2007 the following policies were in draft stage or developed:

- Employment of People with Disabilities
- Equal Opportunity Policy

- Maternity Leave & Breastfeeding Policy
- Dignity in the Workplace Policy
- Intercultural Policy (Draft)
- Mobility Policy (Draft)
- Retirement & Long Service Policy (Draft)
- Bullying at Work Policy (Draft)

The Staff Welfare service continues to provide discrete, confidential professional support to staff. Its offices are based in the Library building at County Hall.

<b>Administration and Policy Unit Statistics 2007</b>	
<b>Total Staff Worksharing &amp; Part-time</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>No. of staff who availed of the following Family Friendly Initiatives in 2007:</b>	
Worksharing	54
Term Time	25
Parental Leave	64
Career Breaks	50

### Attendance Management Unit

Since its establishment in 2004 the unit continue to be a central unit for the monitoring and processing of various types of leave, benefits and entitlements for the organisation. The unit provides guidelines on the application of timekeeping and attendance procedures for

employees to assist in the communication of a consistent understanding of the Attendance Management Policy.

In 2006, the unit arranged training for staff in implementing an attendance Management Policy.

<b>Attendance Management Unit Statistics 2007</b>	
Level of certified sick leave	3.58%
Level of uncertified sick leave	0.81%

### Pension Unit

During 2007 The Pension Unit was established within the Human Resources Department. The Unit's role is to use best practice in administering the provisions of the Local Government (Superannuation) (Consolidation) Scheme 1998, creating a greater awareness of pension issues by all employees by providing current and accessible information in a user friendly way.

#### Number of pensioners paid during 2007 - 417 (Total 6.368M)





A new integrated HR/ Payroll computer system with a pensions module designed specifically for public sector pension schemes has been commissioned to enable the Council to issue benefit statements annually to all its employees.

### Change Management Unit

The Change Management Unit (CMU) drives the realisation of the Modernisation Agenda by supporting, directing, coordinating and monitoring the successful introduction of BPI, PMDS and other necessary business and organisational change initiatives. The Unit continually examines administration processes and services from both an internal viewpoint, in terms of efficiencies, costs and outputs, and from an external viewpoint, in terms of accessibility and quality of service provision. Business Process Improvements incorporating best use of ICT has resulted in efficiencies such as the ability to redeploy staff or reassign staff to other activities, improved collection of fees, savings in materials, and improved quality service.

A newly designed online PMDS system assisted in the coordination of the recently completed review of PMDS. The CMU, through this new system, will monitor TDPs ensuring they contribute to the realisation of the Modernisation and Change Agenda. This new system will, in time, facilitate tracking and reporting on the delivery of Corporate objectives.

The ongoing rollout of an electronic document management system will ensure we convert from paper to electronic imaging thereby assisting information sharing and easier retrieval of data.



## Law Department

The Law Department continued to provide a full range of legal services to all Departments of the Council varying from routine matters of conveyancing and litigation to the most specialised areas of Local Government Law.

During 2007 the Department saw the benefits of the new Key House Management System improving efficiency, quality and responsiveness to Departmental need. There were approximately 2,700 files opened on Keyhouse with major increases in the numbers of instructions received for purchase of private houses and the acquisition & provision of Social and Affordable housing. Compulsory Purchase Orders and acquisition of lands for both major and minor roads developments also show increased activity over previous years.

2007 also saw a large increase in the area of Litigation with increased activities in the area of enforcement pursuant to legislation governing Rates, Waste Management, Anti Social Behaviour, Arrears of Rent, Liquor, Control of Dogs and Litter Pollution.

A number of High Court Judicial Proceedings were initiated in 2007 & these are in progress at present.



# Information Technology

The I.T. Department is fully integrated into the Council's management system, not only by being represented on the Management Team, but also being an active participant in the Cluster Group of the Management Team charged with strengthening the organisation of the Council. The Department is divided into teams as follows:- Development and Design, Strategic Implementation and Training, Spatial Infrastructure Services, Infrastructural Services and Special Projects.

SQL Server has been adopted as the relational database of choice and where possible has been introduced into Council Systems. However, Open Source software such as Linux and Apache were used during the year for development work.

The Help Desk dealt with a total of 11,755 service calls during the year. The following are the other key achievements in the year –

## 1. Network

- Two hundred and fifty three PCs purchased and installed.
- One hundred and three Laptops purchased and set up.
- Novell Netware decommissioned and replaced by windows servers
- New version of Commvault Backup software installed
- Intrusion Prevention System installed
- New Juniper firewall installed
- Email upgraded to Exchange 2003
- Wifi continued to be rolled out to public buildings
- Helpdesk software upgraded
- Antivirus software upgraded to Symantec Endpoint
- Implemented new Remote PC Access Software
- Major Upgrades to Power Supply, Air Conditioning and UPS in Computer Room



## 2. Web Development

- Affordable Housing Initiative website
- Clonburriss SDZ website
- Libraries, Parks, Planning, Roads, Corporate Services, Social Inclusion websites developed and implemented.
- Customer Care Contact System was further developed
- Various on-line surveys, internal and external, were developed and conducted.
- Infrastructural Projects monitoring system implemented
- Online PMDS system developed

## 3. Systems

- Tender was accepted and development work begun on an integrated Waste Management System
- Further enhancements were carried out on elected members' system Membersreps
- Work commenced on the development of a corporate database of addresses based on the Geodirectory information supplied by An Post
- Housing maintenance and allocations systems were upgraded and integrated
- New Higher Education Grants System implemented

- Major rollout of document management system I-docs continued
- IT staff continued to give support, maintain and enhance the existing systems i.e.
  - Payroll, Agresso Financial System
  - Rates
  - Housing Rents Accounting
  - Housing Rents Assessment
  - Libraries
  - Electoral Register & Planning Care
  - e-Mail
  - i-Docs

## 4. GIS

- Oasis datasets revised and updated and new datasets added
- OSi Basemapping updated on Oasis and Localview and for all network users
- ArcGIS software upgraded to version 9.2
- 6,500 business addresses examined and re-categorised and 800 urls captured for them

## Connect ([www.southdublin.ie/connect](http://www.southdublin.ie/connect))

Connect is developing local internet content and promoting new innovative uses of technology across citizen, business, educational and community services. We envision a future where everyone in South Dublin County uses the internet as an everyday tool to improve their quality of life and where opportunities are developed for life-long learning, leisure, personal and social development and to support engagement in civic life.

**Connect Me** provides location based service information – a ‘Find My Nearest’ facility. We have developed full listings of the 6,000 businesses and services that exist in the County, and all 84,000 residential addresses so that a citizen can search for any service online from where they live, and the information is mapped online. This facility is particularly useful to anyone who is a new resident in an area and new developing communities.

A second element to Connect Me is the ‘Report A Fault’ facility for the services provided by South Dublin County Council. To do this any citizen can go to the Connect Website and locate the fault they wish to report on the map, provide further details and then submitting the report online which is then responded to through South Dublin County Council’s Customer Care Centre.

Connect Me in 2007:

- Comprehensive database of all businesses and community organizations (6,000) and residential dwellings in the County represented on the Geographic Information System (GIS) to enable ‘Find My Nearest’ information searches

- This data is updated with all changes on a 3 monthly basis from An Post’s Geo Directory.
- The ‘Report A Fault’ Facility of public services information has been linked into South Dublin County Council’s Customer Care System to ensure timely response
- A review to improve on existing information, design and usability of Connect Me is in the process of being undertaken.

**Connect Web** is supporting local Community Groups and Schools to develop and maintain their own Community Websites. Over 120 websites are now live with a constant stream of about 60 – 70 websites in development at any one time. This is a free, easy to use service where the groups are trained to develop the site content themselves and the sites are hosted by Connect. Because they receive the training the groups are then able to update their sites whenever they wish and are no longer dependent on any outside expertise or at any expense. In this way the Community Sector are developing new online methods of collective engagement, with a regular Newsletter circulating news and good practice examples across all groups.

Connect Web in 2007:

- Web Training delivered and ongoing individual support provided to over 120 Community Groups to resource groups to create and maintain their own high quality websites.
- St. Peter Apostle National School, Clondalkin, won the **2007 Best Connect Website Award**, with a Prize Fund of €2,000, at the South Dublin Community Awards in June.

- An ongoing programme of Website Training is being delivered across the county at times convenient to the participants (morning / afternoon / evening)
- The Training Programme has been designed to be more user friendly through regular review and feedback

**Connect School in St Aidan's Community School, Brookfield, Tallaght, is developing student centred technology through an innovative learning culture in order to improve school attendance, participation in class and educational outcomes for the students.**

**By enabling self-directed learning through the creation by Teachers of interactive educational content the initiative is working to improve the student's attendance, their engagement in the classroom and their overall educational outcomes. The IT Infrastructure includes individual laptops for students and teachers, a Wireless Network operating throughout the school and a Virtual Learning Environment. An ongoing Training and Support Programme using technology and developing and using interactive educational content in the classroom has been developed with the Teachers using a Peer Learning Approach. The unique aspect about this initiative is not about teaching ICT but about using Interactive Technology to aid learning in all subjects across the Second Level curriculum.**

Connect School in 2007:

- Laptops were rolled out to all 1st Year Students and Ace (access to college education) students between February and April.
- The Peer Learning Programme continues, enabling teachers to teach each other in the necessary ICT skills required to integrate the use of technology in the classroom and develop interactive curriculum content.
- A Roll-Out Logistics Team was set up to coordinate the distribution and collection of Laptops on a daily basis.
- The Virtual Learning Environment continued to grow with more and more curriculum content being developed and uploaded for delivery in the Classroom.
- The Schools Broadband connection was increased substantially
- A number of In-Service Training Days were held to up skill the Teaching Staff.
- The Project Steering Group met three times in 2007 to co-ordinate the inter-agency approach in the delivery of the project.
- The Olympic School in Estonia visited St Aidan's School.



**Connect Centre** is the creation of public internet access zones in Libraries and Community Centres throughout South Dublin County. This will be carried out by providing WiFi access in all public buildings and promoting the use of technology for all citizens throughout the County. Training was provided for community groups to enable the wider of use of services such as the internet.

Connect Centre in 2007:

- The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government have agreed to part fund the planned extension of Jobstown Community Centre to include the creation of a digital learning centre and youth drop-in centre.
- The IT and Community Services Departments are working together to identify priority Community Centres across the county for technology upgrades into Connect Centres

## Promotional Activities

### Connect School Launch April 2007

- Press Release sent out to local and national media outlets
- Radio Coverage on the day on 2FM, Today FM, Q102
- Jonathan Clynych, reporter from RTE interviewed 1st Year Students, ACE Students, Frank Moran & Lorna Maxwell. All interviews appeared on RTE News on 17th April 2007
- DVD made of the Connect School launch
- Promotional DVD produced of St Aidan's school

### Awards 2007

- Winner 'Innovative Organisation of the Year' for South Dublin County Council in the Eircom Innovation in Technology Awards 2007
- Overall Winner in the Irish eGovernment Awards 2007 and in the Local eGovernment Category
- A Finalist at the European E-Government Awards, Lisbon Sept 2007
- We also achieved the European eGovernment Good Practice Label
- Finalist at the Chambers Irelands Excellence in Local Government Awards 2007

### Other PR activities

- Exhibition stand at the Tallaght Learners Fair in IT Tallaght in January 2007
- Hosted a Transnational visit in conjunction with An Cosan in County Hall in April 2007
- Presentation on SDCC and Connect made to delegates from Norway in April 2007
- Hosted a group of delegates from Norway in August 2007
- Attended E-Government Awards in Lisbon in September 2007
- Exhibition Stand at the Property Registrations Authority Conference in September 2007

- Exhibition Stand at the Diversity Seminar in Tower Hotel Tallaght in November 2007
- Articles in local & national media including;
  - Connect News 2 online newsletters completed in May and July 2007,
  - Silicon Republic Com June 2007,
  - House Call Magazine June 2007, Knowledge Ireland - Technology Sector July 2007,
  - South Dublin Community Forum July 2007,
  - Local Authority Journal August 2007,
  - South Dublin Community Forum September 2007.
- Ads taken out in Inside Government July 2007 & Digital Ireland May 2007



# Finance

## Operational Plan 2007

The Finance Department has responsibility for the short and long term financing of the Council's operations. This includes the monitoring and control of income and expenditure, arranging for borrowing and leasing requirements and the investment of funds.

## Services Provided

- Financial Control & Treasury Management
- Preparation of Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statement
- Preparation of Three Year Capital Programme
- Payroll and Pension Administration
- Commercial Rates Collection
- Collection of Non-Domestic Water Charges
- Payment of Accounts
- Insurance and Claims Administration
- Payments Receipting Office

## European Communities

### (Late Payment in Commercial transactions) Regulations 2002

EU Regulations governing late payment of commercial transactions were enforced with effect from 7 August 2002. These regulations partially replace, the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997, and provide that interest, if greater than €5, be paid where an invoice remains unpaid for more than 30 days. The total amount of interest paid in 2007 was €42,258.44

## Finance Department Operational Plan 2007

The Finance Department Operational Plan deals with the functions of the department under three broad headings:

- Financial Management & Accounting
- Expenditure Management
- Income, Debtors and Cash

### Financial Management & Accounting

The Department's aim under Financial Management & Accounting is "the development and implementation of financial management and accounting systems and practices to support the best management of Council resources". In this context the Finance Department Operational Plan outlined actions to be taken in 2007 to advance these objectives as follows:

- To continue the development of the Agresso Financial Management Information System.

- The early production of the 2006 Annual Financial Statement in the revised format as specified by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and in accordance with *Local Authority Accounting in Ireland, Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations*.
- Timely disclosure to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government of financial and other data, as requested, to maximise the opportunities for South Dublin County Council during the allocation of the Local Government Fund & other state funds.
- To prepare the Annual Budget 2008 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002.

### Annual Financial Statements

The Annual Financial Statement 2006 was prepared and presented in a Web enabled format to the Members prior to submission to the Department of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government for audit.

The audit of the 2006 Annual Financial Statement commenced in late 2007.

### Costing of Services

Team was put in place to implement costing of services project in line with the Department of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government requirements. Work was advanced in gathering necessary data to enable conversion of 2008 Budget to new format once adopted by Council Members. The DOEHLG deadline for submission of converted Budget is end of February 2008.

### Annual Budget

The Annual Budget for 2008 was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001, and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002, and was adopted by the Council on 9th January 2008.

### Agresso

The most recent modules implemented include Web Enabled Agresso, the Fixed Asset Register, Invoice Manager, Rates Income, Prompt Payments & Tax module. Other projects during 2007 include the extension of a Low Value Purchase Card scheme in tandem with the Agresso Purchase to Pay module, the continued development and testing of Business to Business features in Agresso, the implementation of new national Cash Office Receipting software, localisation and testing of Agresso Housing Rents and the development of web enabled Management Reporting.

### Agresso Fixed Assets Register

The Fixed Asset Register includes details of constructed, gifted and purchased assets and is maintained in the Finance Department.

### Expenditure Management

The main focus of Expenditure Management is to account for expenditure and ensure that effective financial controls are in place for Insurance and Claims Management, Payroll and Accounts Payable.

### Insurances

The Insurance Section manages public and employer liability claims and Motor, Property, Plant and Machinery insurance policies.

### Payroll

The Payroll Section is responsible for the payment of salaries, wages,

temporary salaries and pensions to approximately 2,100 staff and pensioners. Travel expenses and overtime claims are also processed by this Section. During 2007 the development and improvement of electronic data transfer systems continued. The promotion of the Paypath facility has resulted in 100% of salaried and 94% of non-salaried staff accepting payment via Paypath. The electronic timesheet return system is currently being tested and it is proposed to have this system operational by the end of 2008.

### Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable are responsible for making payments to the Council's trade creditors and ensuring accurate records of these transactions are retained for audit. They process between 800 - 1,000 invoices per week. This section is also responsible for implementing and accounting for relevant tax regulations such as Professional Services With-holding Tax, VAT, Relevant Contracts Tax, Tax Clearance Certificates and for ensuring C2 details are accurate.

### Income, Debtors & Cash.

Income related objectives for Finance include the effective management and maximisation of income, in particular the billing and debtor management of Commercial Rates and Non-Domestic Water Charges.

### Rates

The nationwide project to revalue all property in Ireland continued in 2007. The first phase, constituting the revaluation of all commercial and industrial properties in the South Dublin County Council local authority area, was completed in December 2007. The updated rateable valuations will become effective in South Dublin from 1st January 2008. The basis by which rateable valuations are assessed

has fundamentally changed. The County Valuation, effective from 01/01/08 is €711,745,086.

The Council continued to extend the County Valuation base by making maximum use of available information such as Commencement Notices, Water Connection Payments and Fire Certificates, and to improve collection procedures generally. The total rate collection for 2007 was €112,646,778. The percentage of rates collected from the total warrant for 2007 was 94.23% and represented a 0.23 % increase on the collection for 2006.

The Local Government (Business Improvement District) Act 2006 was enacted in 2007 for the first time. Entry year property levies were applied to all newly erected or constructed properties, pending the assessment of commercial rates. The total levie collected in 2007 amounted to €1,120,737.

### Water Charges

Actions were specified under this heading to enable the collection of Non-Domestic Water Charges through all effective means including disconnection of supply.

The amount collected in 2007 was €7,108,432.

The Water Metering Project which involves replacing existing meters with AMR meters which will facilitate automatic readings, is being carried out by contractors on behalf of all of the Dublin Local Authorities. The installation of new meters commenced in South Dublin County Council's area in early 2007 and installation will continue into 2008.

# Finance Statistics

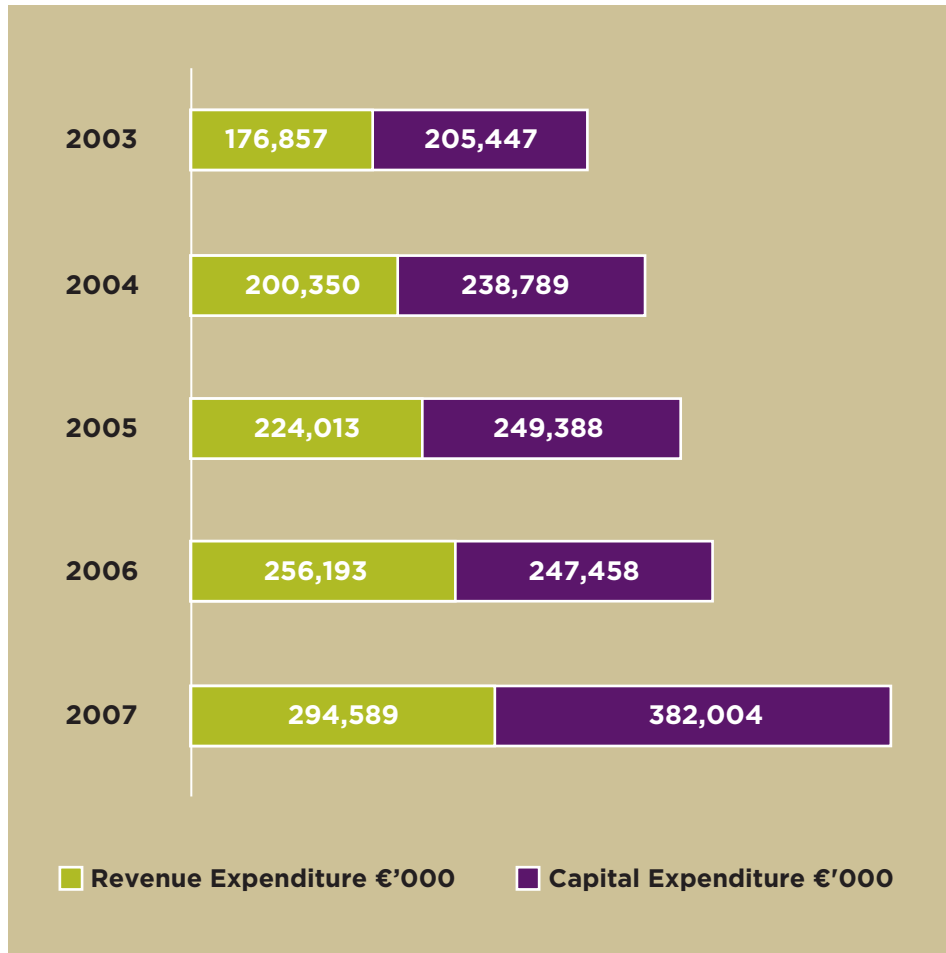
## South Dublin County Council Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2007 (Draft)

	2007 €'000	2006 €'000
Fixed Assets & Work in Progress	3,645,829	3,488,716
Long Term Debtors	191,781	184,630
Net Current Assets	106,677	110,930
Long Term Creditors	(221,542)	(203,735)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>3,722,745</b>	<b>3,580,541</b>
<b>Financed by:</b>		
Work in Progress & Capitalisation Account	3,593,913	3,462,801
Revenue Reserve - Specific	16,628	16,628
Revenue Reserve - General	16,007	16,067
Other Balances	96,197	85,045
	<b>3,722,745</b>	<b>3,580,541</b>

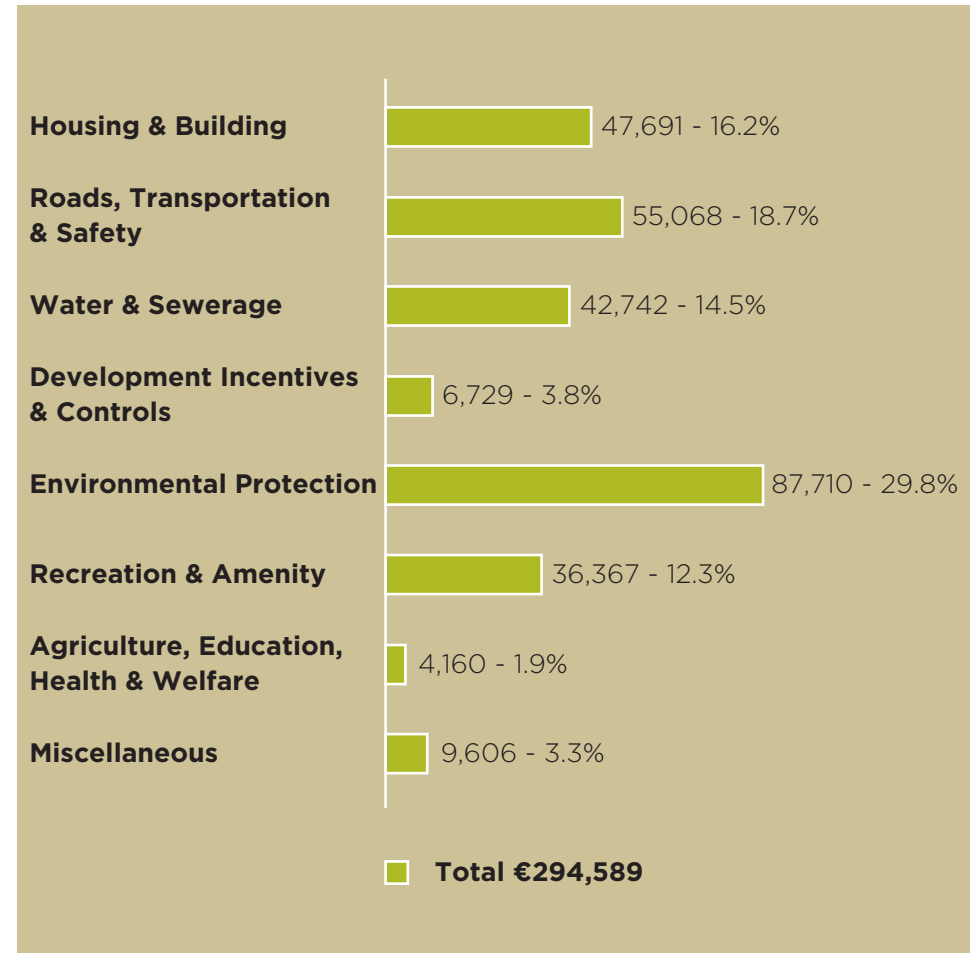
## Income & Expenditure Account Statement for Year Ending 31 December 2007 (DRAFT)

	Gross Expenditure 2007 €'000	Income 2007 €'000	Net Cost 2007 €'000
Housing & Building	43,811	39,819	(3,992)
Roads Transportation & Safety	51,527	18,794	(32,733)
Water & Sewerage	38,999	12,864	(26,135)
Development Incentives & Controls	10,671	3,899	(6,772)
Environmental Protection	79,951	49,543	(30,408)
Recreation & Amenity	35,635	5,709	(29,926)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	4,458	3,835	(623)
Miscellaneous	7,525	6,241	(1,284)
<b>Total Expenditure/Income</b>	<b>272,577</b>	<b>140,704</b>	
<b>Net cost of programmes to be funded from Rates &amp; Local Government Fund</b>			<b>(131,873)</b>
Rates Income			113,937
Local Government Fund - Grant Income			26,195
<b>Net Transfers to/from Reserves</b>			<b>(8,319)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>			<b>(60)</b>
<b>General Reserve @ 1st January 2007</b>			<b>16,067</b>
<b>General Reserve @ 31st December 2007</b>			<b>16,007</b>

### Total Expenditure, Revenue & Capital (€'000)



### Revenue Expenditure 2007 Programme Groups (€'000)



NOTE: these figures are inclusive of transfers to/from reserves

# National Services Indicators

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>A &amp; C.1 Arts Grant</b>		
• Number of arts grants paid	57	60
• total value of arts grants paid per 1,000 population	1898	1640
<b>CP.1 Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og Scheme</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>C.1 Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through</b>		
• certified leave	3.38	3.58
• uncertified leave	0.79	0.81
<b>C.2 Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs</b>	<b>4.42</b>	<b>4.85</b>
<b>E.1 Percentage of river channel which is</b>		
(a) Unpolluted		
(b) Slightly polluted		
(c) Moderately polluted		
(d) Seriously polluted		
<b>E.2 Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>99.34</b>
• public schemes		
• private schemes (where appropriate)		
<b>E.3 Average time, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in</b>		
• full time stations		
• part time stations (retained fire service)		

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>E.4 Percentage of attendances at scenes where</b>		
• first attendance is at scene within 10 minutes		
• first attendance is at scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes		
• first attendance is at scene after 20 minutes		
<b>E.5 Fire prevention - total number of fire safety certificate applications</b>		
• received	388	403
• processed	354	352
<b>E.6 Percentage of households provided with segregated waste collection</b>		
	<b>97</b>	<b>98.48</b>
<b>E.7 Household waste collected which is sent for recycling</b>		
• tonnage	15120	16212
• percentage of household waste collected	20.3	20.4
<b>E.8 Household waste collected which is sent to landfill</b>		
• tonnage	59438	63133
• percentage of household waste collected	79.7	79.6
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities GLASS</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	43	47
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
• Total Number of Facilities	44	48
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.92	0.97
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	87.86	97



	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities CANS</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	23	26
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
• Total Number of Facilities	24	27
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.5	0.55
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	1.11	0.93
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities TEXTILES</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	8	16
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
• Total Number of Facilities	9	17
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.19	0.34
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	5	7.27
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities BATTERIES</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	30	63
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
• Total Number of Facilities	31	64
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.65	1.3
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	1.42	1.18

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities OILS</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	0	0
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1	1
• Total Number of Facilities	1	1
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.02	0.02
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	0.75	0.65
<b>E.9 Recycling facilities OTHERS</b>		
• Number of Bring Sites	9	10
• Number of Civic Amenity Sites	2	2
• Total Number of Facilities	11	12
• Total Number of locations per 5,000 population	0.23	0.24
• Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5,000 population	157.84	96.01
<b>E.10 Litter - Number of Litter Wardens</b>		
• Total number of full-time litter wardens	6	7
• Total number of part-time litter wardens	0	0
• Total number of litter wardens (both full and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.1	0.14
• Number of on-the spot fines	680	1141
• Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	89	198
• Number of prosecutions secured	38	18

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>E.10 Litter - Number of Litter Wardens Percentage of areas within the local authority that are</b>		
• unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	1	7
• slightly polluted with litter	33	54
• moderately polluted with litter	43	30
• significantly polluted with litter	19	6
• grossly polluted with litter	4	4
<b>E.11 Environmental Complaints and Enforcement</b>		
• total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution air pollution)	7811	8872
• number of complaints investigated	7811	8872
• number of enforcement procedures taken	87	117
<b>E.12 Percentage of Schools participating in environmental campaigns</b>		
• primary schools	64.9	71
• secondary schools	54.8	68
<b>H.1 Housing Vacancies</b>		
• Total number of dwellings in local authority stock	8034	8276
• Overall % of dwellings that are let	99.13	99
• Overall % of dwellings that are empty	0.87	1
• % of empty dwellings subject to major refurbishment schemes	1.4	0
• % of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	70	60
• % of empty dwellings available for letting	30	40

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>H.2 Average time taken to relet dwellings available for letting (in weeks)</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>1.43</b>
<b>H.3 Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received</b>	<b>97.45</b>	<b>96.41</b>
<b>H.4 Average time taken to inform applicants of local authority's decision on applications for</b>		
• the shared ownership housing scheme (in days)	11.48	0
• housing loans scheme (in days)	14.9	30.1
• local authority housing (in days)	29	37
<b>H.5 Traveller Accommodation</b>		
• Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets sent in the local traveller accommodation programme	106.8	120
<b>L.1 Public opening hours</b>		
• average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	48.55	48.6
• average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	18.73	18.7
<b>L.2 Number of registered library members as a percentage of the local population</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32.35</b>
<b>L.3 Total number of items issued (county/city wide) per head of population for</b>		
(a) books	33.39	3.03
(b) other items	0.73	0.82

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>L.4 Percentage of libraries that offer Internet access to the public</b>	100	100
<b>L.5 Total number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population</b>	268.7	269.4
<b>M.1 Number of motor tax transactions which</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are dealt with over the counter</li> <li>• are dealt with by post</li> <li>• are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)</li> </ul>		
<b>M.1 Percentage of motor tax transactions which</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are dealt with over the counter</li> <li>• are dealt with by post</li> <li>• are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)</li> </ul>		
<b>M.2 Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application</b>		
(a) on the same day		
(b) on the third day or less		
(c) on the fifth day or less		
(d) over 5 days		
<b>M.2 % of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application</b>		
(a) on the same day		
(b) on the third day or less		
(c) on the fifth day or less		
(d) over 5 days		

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>M.3 Public opening hours</b>		
• average number of opening hours per week		
<b>P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making INDIVIDUAL HOUSES</b>		
• No. of applications decided	388	332
• No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	298	241
• No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	89	91
• No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0	0
• Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	77	80
• % of grants	51.03	52.71
• % of refusals	48.97	47.29
• % of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	60.78	81.82
• % of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	39.22	18.18
<b>P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT</b>		
• No. of applications decided	97	101
• No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	45	57
• No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	52	44
• No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0	0
• Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	79	78
• % of grants	65.98	52.48
• % of refusals	34.02	47.52
• % of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	91.3	75
• % of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	8.7	25

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA</b>		
• No. of applications decided	1316	1323
• No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	1117	1097
• No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	199	266
• No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0	0
<b>P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA</b>		
• Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	77	80
• % of grants	89.21	87.6
• % of refusals	10.79	12.4
• % of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	78.16	30.77
• % of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	21.84	69.23
<b>P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: REQUIRING EIA</b>		
• No. of applications decided	3	7
• No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	2	5
• No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	1	2
• No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicants, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0	0
• Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	81	107
• % of grants	100	100
• % of refusals	0	0
• % of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	50	0
• % of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	50	0

	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>P.2 Planning Enforcement</b>		
• total number of cases subject to complaints that are investigated	473	524
• total number of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed	131	188
• total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	57	137
• number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	549	451
• number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	205	354
• number of prosecutions	34	45
<b>P.3 Public opening hours</b>		
• average number of opening hours per week	43	43.6
<b>P.4 Consultations</b>		
• number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	373	174
• average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	9.8	11.83
<b>P.5 Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>18.5</b>
<b>Rec.1 Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population</b>		
• directly provided by the local authority	0.04	0.05
• facilitated by the local authority		
<b>Rec.2 Number of visitors to local authority facilitated swimming facilities per 1,000 population</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>833.37</b>
<b>Rev.1 House Rent</b>		
(a) amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	83	80.75



	01/01/06 - 31/12/2006 (Annual)	01/01/07 - 31/12/2007 (Annual)
<b>Rev. 1 House Rent (b) Percentage of arrears</b>		
(i) 4-6 weeks old	12.64	1.85
(ii) 6-12 weeks old	12.4	5.8
(iii) more than 12 weeks old	47.07	92.35
<b>Rev. 2 Housing Loans</b>		
(a) amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	91.05	93.75
<b>Rev. 2 Housing Loans (b) Percentage of arrears</b>		
(i) 1 month old	48.94	16.94
(ii) 2-3 months old	11.63	16.61
(iii) more than 3 months old	39.43	66.45
<b>Rev.3 Commercial Rates</b>		
• Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due	94.02	94.01
<b>Rev. 4 Refuse Charges</b>		
• Percentage of households paying refuse charges at year end	100	100
<b>Rev. 5 Non-Domestic Water Charges</b>		
• Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	64	49.66
<b>R.1</b>		
• Local and regional roads surface dressed per annum (square meters)		
• Percentage of local and regional roads surface dressed per annum		







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