

# South Dublin County Council Annual Report 2013

## Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2013





Mayor's Foreword	2
Introduction from the County Manager	4
Members of South Dublin County Council	6
Council Meetings 2013	11
Corporate Awards 2013	15
Corporate Services, Human Resources and Library Services	16
Information and Communication Technologies	26
Community Services	30
Housing	38
Architectural Services	43
Environmental Services	50
Development, Economic and Transport Planning	58
Roads and Water Services	66
Finance	76
Appendix One - Council Membership of Committees and Other Bodies	83
Appendix Two - Conferences attended by Councillors in 2013	92
Appendix Three - Energy Efficiency Report 2013	95

## Message from the Mayor



It has been a distinct personal honour to have served as Mayor of South Dublin County. During that time I have been given the extraordinary opportunity to meet with hundreds of groups and individuals working to improve our community. The commitment of volunteers, and of public and voluntary sector staff, has affirmed for me the thriving community spirit which underpins life in South Dublin County. I have been the youngest Mayor to date in a thriving County where energy and enthusiasm from all ages abound.

When I was elected Mayor in June 2013, I announced three policy priorities for my term – young people, older persons and the environment. I have sought to work with agencies and organisations focusing on these areas of activity. Many of the approximately 300 events I attended as Mayor have focused on these three areas but key, practical support has been provided through the Mayor's Fund Initiative.

This fund was made up of a €7,000 payout on my own part, and €3,000 from Deputy Mayor

Eamon Tuffy. The €10,000 Mayor's Fund has gone to support 50 separate community groups working in all corners of South Dublin County. Groups and projects supporting young people and sport, older persons and environmental activities all benefited from the Fund, which was administered by the staff of the Community Services Department.

Community has been at the heart of my activity as Mayor. I have worked particularly closely on events related to social inclusion. I have sought to support arts provision in South Dublin County, to promote our library services, and to celebrate the work of educators and learners at all levels. I have been delighted to attend so many sports events, including those under the banner of 'The Gathering', and to champion sport as both social policy and community activity during my term.

It has been a particular honour to have served my local community in Dublin 12 and to have helped bring more of a focus on a geographically peripheral area of the County with numerous Mayoral events and separate activities. I rith na bliana, rinne mé mo dhícheall chun an Ghaeilge a úsáid mar Mhéara. Táim thar a bheith sásta go bhfuil an Ghaeilge chomh bheo agus rathúil san Chontae.

One of the focal points of activity during my term, and that of the outgoing Alliance, has been around housing and homelessness. Early on in my term, I visited the successful emergency homeless accommodation provided in the Dublin 24 area by South

Dublin County Council which was partly funded by the foregoing of conference expenses by Councillors including myself. The Council can also take pride in the comparatively speedy turnaround of vacant housing units and some of the recent technological innovations on behalf of those seeking social housing.

However, the national housing and homelessness crisis has worsened in the past year and there have been growing numbers of families and individuals in crisis situations. We all have a part to play at local and national level to combat homelessness and to ensure adequate housing provision for all in our community.

In December, I proposed the 2014 Council Budget which was agreed by a large majority of Councillors. The 2014 Budget takes an innovative approach to sustaining smaller ratepayers in the County with a €1.2 million business support grant. It also includes both current and capital provision for the expanded Villages Initiative, work on which is ongoing in nine historic villages in the County. The multi-annual playspace programme, the start of which was provided for in this Budget, and the free 30-minute car parking were further highlights. All the while, Councillors sought to protect frontline services as we have done across all five years of this Council term, despite the financial constraints imposed nationally and internationally.

I want to thank all outgoing Councillors for their commitment to the Council and for the

work they have done, not only on the Council itself, but on its constituent committees and in the wider community. In particular, I want to pay tribute to the outgoing Deputy Mayor Eamon Tuffy, who has provided great support to me and great representation for the County, not only this year but throughout his time as a Councillor.

I also want to thank all four Area Chairpersons – Cllr. Mick Duff, Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave, Cll. Breeda Bonner and Cllr. Guss O’Connell – who stepped in for me at many local events without question. It is also worth noting the excellent work of the SPC Chairpersons – Cllr. John Lahart, Cllr. Colm Brophy, Cllr. Pamela Kearns, Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr. Marie Corr and Cllr. Cathal King – not only in their respective policy areas, but for their work on the Corporate Policy Group.

I want to commend the work of all of the staff in South Dublin County Council who display an extraordinary commitment to public service that all-too-rarely is celebrated. I thank the County Manager Danny McLoughlin and his Management Team, as well as the staff with whom I have worked directly, for their support. As this is the final year of the Council term, I also wish to thank former County Manager Joe Horan and Acting County Manager Philomena Poole for their work.



**Dermot Looney**  
Mayor

## Introduction from the County Manager



I was delighted to have been appointed County Manager of South Dublin County Council in June 2013 and I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to lead one of the country's top local authorities. Since I have taken up duty, I have been greatly heartened by the organisation's dedicated approach to public service and in particular its response to managing and leading the very significant change and reform agenda that is ongoing and underway for some time in the local government sector.

As you are well aware these reforms and efficiency programmes feed into the broader public sector reform agenda designed to place the public finances on a more sustainable path into the future. While South Dublin County Council has already achieved significant efficiency gains further challenges lie ahead. The local government sector and by extension this Council continues to roll out the most significant reform programme ever undertaken. The implementation of Putting People First, the transition to Irish Water and the ongoing agenda of efficiency measures, while organisationally demanding, are fundamental to the development of the

organisational and financial capacity necessary to progress the interrelated objectives of Economic and Community Development.

These challenges together with staff retirements and voluntary redundancies in 2013 will require some organisational restructuring to better align staff resources with emerging workloads and customer demand patterns. From early next year I will be reconfiguring the directorates to facilitate the closer alignment of complimentary service delivery areas, taking on new functions and the delivery of the reform agenda. The new directorates will be:

- Corporate Performance and Change Management
- Economic Development and the Metropolitan Interest
- Land Use, Planning and Transportation
- Environment Water and Climate Change
- Housing, Social and Community

Economic development is the core business of local government and is central to the understanding that this Council continues to play a critical role in economic recovery. A number of initiatives have been progressed this year and will continue to be developed in 2014 to enhance this role, stimulate economic development, job creation and best position this county to capitalise on economic recovery in collaboration with local business, communities and our partners across government.

The aesthetic presentation of the county in the context of inward investment and tourism

promotion is of fundamental importance. The Villages Programme is central to this Council's business support, heritage, tourism and economic development strategies. Significant work has been undertaken during the year to inform this programme including a detailed analysis of the public realm and aesthetic appearance of each of the villages. The essence of the overall project is to embark on a multi annual programme of works aimed at presenting the county's villages in their best light, making them focal points of our communities and promoting their continued economic development. Notwithstanding the constrained economic environment, the diverse population of South Dublin continues to grow and all of its citizens have legitimate expectations with regard to the range and quality of services they expect from their local authority. This Council has a proud record of working with communities to advance our collective ambition for a better quality of life. In 2013, the Council managed to maintain a consistent level of financial support for community initiatives and grant schemes which contributed greatly to the development of our local communities. I would particularly like to pay tribute to the Tidy Town's Committees throughout South Dublin who are growing in number year by year. These committees through their hard work and civic responsibility make an invaluable contribution to the development and improved aesthetic appearance of our local villages.

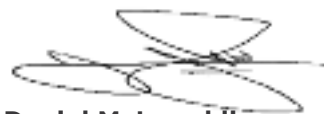
In the context of awards, South Dublin County Council won the LAMA Local Authority of the Year Award for 2013. In addition the 'Taking Steps to be a Literacy Friendly Local Authority Initiative' won the Chamber's Ireland

Excellence in Local Government Award in the category for Outstanding Customer Service. These awards are a very positive recognition of this Council's commitment to providing high quality, accessible and inclusive services.

Some of the other highlights for 2013 include:

- Official Opening of Ballyroan Library
- Red Line Book Festival
- Gathering 2013- South Dublin County
- Launch of MindMindR App (A Mental Health Directory for South Dublin)
- Villages Wifi Project
- Commencement of the Newland Cross Upgrade
- Development and delivery of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS)
- Official Opening of the Council's first Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)
- Energy related Projects in the Community- Completion of Valhalla sheltered Housing Project
- Construction of the new 'The Park' Community facility
- Tidy Towns and Pride of Place Movements

These achievements are shared by the local elected members and council staff working in partnership with our communities. I very much look forward to working with all our stakeholders in 2014 and I am confident that we will rise to the challenges ahead.



**Daniel McLoughlin**  
County Manager

# Membership of South Dublin County Council

## CLONDALKIN



**Councillor Gino Kenny**  
People before Profit Alliance  
62 Cherrywood Avenue  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
085 721 1574 or 414 9247  
gkenny@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Eoin O' Broin**  
Sinn Fein  
Clondalkin Civic Offices  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
087 279 4843 or 414 9069  
eobroin@sdblincoco.ie  
**Note Co-opted for Councillor  
Matthew Mc Donagh (SF)  
resigned 2013**



**Councillor Breda Bonner**  
The Labour Party  
Clondalkin Civic Offices  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
087 413 2627 or 401 9248  
bbonner@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Therese Ridge**  
Independent  
4 St. Patrick's Avenue  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
457 3438  
tridge@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Tony Delaney**  
Fine Gael  
Clondalkin Civic Offices  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
086 669 4471 or 414 9002  
tdelaney@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Trevor Gilligan**  
Fianna Fail  
Clondalkin Civic Offices  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22  
085 714 5005  
www.trevorgilligan.com  
tgilligan@sdblincoco.ie





## LUCAN



**Councillor Caitríona Jones**  
The Labour Party  
25 Sarsfield Park,  
Lucan,  
County Dublin.  
087 203 4427  
cjones@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Emer Higgins,**  
Fine Gael  
C/o South Dublin County Council,  
County Hall,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24  
087 921 7741 or 414 9015  
ehiggins@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Eamon Tuffy**  
The Labour Party  
80 Esker Lawns  
Lucan  
County Dublin  
086 386 3173 or 6109313  
etuffy@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Guss O'Connell**  
Independent  
47 Palmerstown Green  
Palmerston  
Dublin 20  
087 683 8254 or 626 8554  
goconnell@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor William Lavelle**  
Fine Gael  
36 St. Andrew's Drive  
Lucan  
Co. Dublin  
087 410 7885 or 414 9050  
wlavelle@sdblincoco.ie



## TALLAGHT CENTRAL



**Councillor Colm Brophy**

**Fine Gael**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
086 250 9223 or 414 9015  
cbrophy@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Dermot Looney**

**The Labour Party**

1 Temple Manor Close  
Greenhills  
Dublin 12  
085 708 9955 or 414 9073  
dlooney@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Eamonn Walsh**

**Fianna Fail**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
087 995 2211 or 414 9043  
eamonnwalsh@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Mick Duff**

**The Labour Party**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
087 886 5570 or 414 9031  
mduff@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Pamela Kearns**

**The Labour Party**

203 Orwell Park Heights  
Templeogue  
Dublin 6.W.  
087 775 6718 or 414 9077  
pkearns@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Maire Devine**

**Sinn Fein**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
087 969 4728 or 01 4149066  
mdevine@sdblincoco.ie



## TALLAGHT SOUTH



**Councillor Brian Lawlor**

**Fine Gael**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
087 644 5472 or 414 9082  
blawlor@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Cathal King**

**Sinn Fein**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
086 318 6098 or 414 9063  
cathalking@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Chris Bond**

**The Labour Party**

42 Allenton Drive  
Ballycragh  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
086 191 7159 or 414 9070  
cbond@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor John Hannon**

**Fianna Fail**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
086 257 7213  
jhannon@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Marie Corr**

**The Labour Party**

35 Sundale Park  
Mountain View  
Jobstown  
Dublin 24  
085 735 9200 or 414 9075  
mcorr@sdblincoco.ie



## RATHFARNHAM



**Councillor AnneMarie Dermody**

**Fine Gael**

11 Butterfield Avenue  
Rathfarnham  
Dublin 14  
087 367 2030  
amdermody@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor Emma Coburn**

**Fine Gael**

C/o South Dublin County Council  
County Hall  
Tallaght  
Dublin 24  
087 062 8484 or 414 9062  
ecoburn@sdblincoco.ie



**Councillor John Lahart**

**Fianna Fail**

6 Orlagh Grange  
Scholarstown Road  
Rathfarnham  
Dublin 16  
087 261 5529 or 493 9608  
jlahart@sdblincoco.ie



**Paddy Cosgrave**

**The Labour Party**

25 Orchardstown Drive  
Rathfarnham  
Dublin 14  
085 174 2709  
pcosgrave@sdblincoco.ie



# Council Meetings 2013

There were 18 full meetings of the Council comprising of:

- 12 full Council Meetings including one Budget Meeting
- 6 Organisation Procedure and Finance Committee Meetings including one Budget Meeting

The Corporate Policy Group held 11 meetings.

The 4 Area Committees for Clondalkin, Lucan, Rathfarnham and Tallaght each met 10 times in 2013.

There are 6 Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) and these meetings are held 4 times a year. These are listed below, along with outlines of the work programmes undertaken.

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



### Councillor Paddy Cosgrave Chairperson

The Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Education and Libraries SPC work programme included:

- Promotion of Schools Library Services
- Development of Heritage Walk Apps
- Seachtain na Gaeilge 2013
- Mobile Library Service Penetration
- Update on the Children's Services Committee
- Review of the National Strategy for Irish Libraries 2013 - 2017



## Economic Development (including Planning) SPC



**Councillor Pamela Kearns**  
Chairperson

The Economic Development (including Planning) SPC work programme included:

- Report on Development Contributions collection
- The Mobility and Management of Heavy Vehicles on South Dublin County Road Network (Joint Economic Development & Transportation SPC)
- Villages/Tourism opportunities and development in County
- Foreign Direct Investment in South Dublin
- Promotion of County (including Signage/Wayfinding)
- Business Marketing
- Economic Development Strategy and future support

An SPC Working Group was formed and met 5 times in 2013, its programme of work included detailed consideration of matters relating to the:

- Economic Development Strategy
- Promotion of the County
- Foreign Direct Investment

## Environment SPC



**Councillor John Lahart**  
Chairperson

The Environment SPC work programme included:

- Litter Bye-Laws
- Irish Water Transition
- Horse Bye- Laws prepared
- Noise Action Plan
- Up date on Climate Change Strategy
- Eastern Regional Waste Management Plan Process
- Agreed the Dodder CFRAM Study and made recommendation to Council for adoption in 2014



## Housing and Social Development SPC



**Councillor Marie Corr**  
Chairperson

During 2013, a number of reports and issues were discussed and considered including:

- Presentation on Regional Homeless Strategy
- Housing Needs Analysis
- Quality of Life Strategy
- Updates on Housing Policy
- Proposed revised Housing Grant Schemes
- Social Housing Energy Schemes
- Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018
- Review of Social and Affordable housing Aspects of part V of the planning and Development Act 2000
- Setting up of the SDCC Disability Forum

## Sports, Recreation and Community Affairs (Including Parks) SPC



**Councillor Cathal King**  
Chairperson

The Sports, Recreation and Community Affairs (Including Parks) SPC work programme included:

- Promoting Ability through Sport and Recreation
- Community Facility Network
- The Gathering Events 2013
- FAI- Football for All Programme
- TASC Pavilion, Tymon Park
- Local Sports Partnership
- Sports Nation Initiative



## Transportation SPC

Details on the membership of the SPCs are available in Appendix 2



### **Councillor Colm Brophy** Chairperson

The Transportation SPC work programme included:

- Policy on HGV Mobility in the County
- Public Lighting Management System
- RITS Net EU Project briefing
- Bike Week 2013 Report
- Report on Public Bike Hire Scheme
- Newland Cross Construction -Traffic Management briefing
- Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets
- M50 Travel Demand Management Study – Presentation by NRA
- Cashless Parking Payment System
- Review of Pay Parking in the County

The committee concluded the policy on HGV Mobility which was formally adopted by the Council and the input of the committee into the review of pay parking was also brought to Council.





# Corporate Awards 2013

## **Local Authority Members Awards**

Local Authority of the Year 2013

## **Chambers Ireland Awards**

Outstanding Customer Care Category -  
South Dublin 'A Literacy Friendly County'

## **European Union Access City Awards**

Special Mention for Tallaght, County Town

## **Royal Institute of Architects Awards**

Best Public Building - Ballyroan Library



# Corporate Services, Human Resources and Library Services



## Communication and Media Relations

A total of 148 press releases and news updates were issued to the media on the comprehensive range of projects and activities undertaken by South Dublin County Council on a day-to-day basis. In addition 456 Media queries were processed in 2013 and over 250 events were co-ordinated by the Mayor's office.

## Mayor's Fund 2013/2014



## Customer Care Services

Our commitment to our Citizens and Customers is to provide a quality service in a professional and sensitive manner throughout our complete range of services. The Customer Services Action Plan and Citizen's Charter available on our website at [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie) outlines in details our commitment to you, our customer and to place quality customer service at the centre of everything we do.

- Over 85,000 queries entered into the Customer Contact System in 2013
- Total number of telephone calls taken by Customer Care in 2013 - 157,390
- Total number of customers calling to a Customer Care Counter in 2013 - 40,497

## Procurement and Shared Services

An enhanced procurement unit was established in 2013 to develop expertise and improve procedures and practice in this area throughout the organisation. This, combined with participation in regional and national initiatives, will deliver continued savings and value for money across Council services.

## Higher Education Grants

South Dublin County Council administers renewal only of the Higher Education Grant Scheme on behalf of the Department of Education and Skills. All new grant applications are administered online only by Student Universal Support Ireland - SUSI. In 2013/14 academic year, we processed approximately 450 applications and paid out €2.3m in maintenance and fees for the financial year.

## Register of Electors

184,540 on the register of Electors 2013/14 published on 1st February 2013. **It is each individual's responsibility to check the register to ensure they are included on it.** The Register may be viewed at the offices of South Dublin County Council, your local Post Office, Library and Garda station or online at [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) where details of eligibility can be obtained.



## Internal Audit and Efficiency Unit

Internal Audit is a key function in the governance structure of the organisation. The role of Internal Audit is to provide assurance to Management and the Audit Committee that the risks facing the Council are properly managed. It does this by testing controls and making recommendations to strengthen the control framework where weaknesses are found. During 2013 Internal Audit carried out its work by independently reviewing operations included in its annual audit plan which was approved by the County Manager and endorsed by the Audit Committee. The plan was designed to provide maximum coverage across the organisation based on available resources. All recommendations made were accepted and agreed with Management. The Head of Internal Audit and Efficiency Unit reported quarterly to the Audit Committee.

The unit was also engaged in other activities as requested by Management in relation to efficiency reviews, consultations and acted as champion for further development of Risk Management throughout the organisation.

## Irish Language Scheme

The Council has sought to improve our services to the public through Irish in accordance with the Scheme and Official Languages Act. Work programme includes:

- Ongoing implementation of the council's second Irish Language Scheme
- Irish is now available in all the interactive Self Service Points in South Dublin Libraries
- Irish is included on [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie) Online

Language Learning, which is free of charge and available to all our members

- The home page of [www.athcliaththeas.ie](http://www.athcliaththeas.ie) has been developed to include daily notices and news articles
- Over 100 events took place throughout South Dublin County, celebrating Irish, during Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas which catered for over 6,000 people
- Irish Classes and Conversational Groups were held throughout the library network



## Human Resources

South Dublin County Council employed a total of 1212 staff (whole time equivalent 1100.79) at 31st December 2013. This total reflects a reduction of 24% on the 1605 staff employed in 2008 and a reduction of 79 on the numbers employed at the start of the year. The reduction in numbers during 2013 is mainly attributable to the number of staff who resigned under the Voluntary Redundancy Scheme. Staff across all departments participated in ongoing training and development, with 3.21% of payroll costs spent on training and development.



## Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Office

During 2013 the Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Office continued to implement the Disability Act 2005 and the Equality legislation. SDCC continued to improve and enable access for disabled people in South Dublin County through focussing largely on non capital actions. Achievements include

- South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel hosted a County seminar on 'Maintaining Accessibility'
- Twenty-one events took place across the County during National Accessibility Week, and a County Task Group was created to develop the programme of activities
- Two hundred and thirty-eight Council staff successfully passed the National Disability Authority, Disability Awareness eLearning module;
- detailed access guides for 23 sites across the County were made available through [www.accessdublin.ie](http://www.accessdublin.ie);
- Twelve cases were dealt with by the Access Officer Service; SDCC met all its commitments under the Kanchi 100 initiative, and joined the Kanchi Business Network
- the Council played an active part in bringing the multi-sensory event SENCITY to Dublin;
- Plain English proofed Council public documents including customer care web pages, action plan and citizens charter.



### Corporate Services and Human Resources 2013

Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave:	12962
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave:	1290
Total number of staff (whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2013 (as per DECLG staffing return for the end of 2012)	1100.79
Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs:	3.21



## Health and Safety

Work activities across South Dublin County Council vary considerably. Managing health and safety in a diverse organisation such as South Dublin County Council requires the full cooperation and commitment of all employees. The organisation is committed to managing and conducting its work activities in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health and welfare at work of all its employees and others who may be affected by its day to day activities.

### Safety Management System

As part of the continuous improvement process a baseline review was conducted in 2013 of the safety management system. This review will result in the safety management system being updated and further developed throughout 2014.

### Health and Safety Training

South Dublin County Council is committed to promoting a safety culture, improving and giving staff new skills, knowledge and

reinforcing the development of good safety procedures on the job. In 2013, 83 health and safety training courses were delivered with a total budget spend of €114,083 inclusive of Non National Roads Grant. Some of the range of courses included confined space entry, manual handling, personal safety at work, use of abrasive wheels, use of chainsaws, use of wood chippers and safe pass.

### Accident and Incident Details

Twenty-one work related accidents were reported to the Health and Safety Authority during 2013, these accidents resulted in 465 work days being lost.

### Safety Inspections

The Health and Safety Officer conducted 23 inspections during 2013. The senior management team conducted 10 site inspections. The Workplace Control Unit of the Health and Safety Authority contacted the Council on two occasions.



## Library Services

### Demand for library services continues to grow year on year

Demand for library services continued to grow significantly in 2013. Issues (items borrowed) were up 24.5%, Visitors were up 13%, Computer Sessions were up 10.8%, Web Hits were up 7% and WiFi Sessions were up 118% on the figures for 2012.

The new Ballyroan Library opened its doors on the 18th February 2013 and was immediately recording record numbers of issues and visits.

### Literacy, Information and Learning

Literacy support in all formats is a core service for South Dublin Libraries. Targeted literacy programmes based on traditional literacy, digital literacy and information literacy were implemented across the County in 2013. Among the supports provided in 2013 were English Language classes, basic ICT skills courses, TTRS (Touch, type, read, spell), Ready2Read and the promotion and support of book clubs for all ages in the libraries.

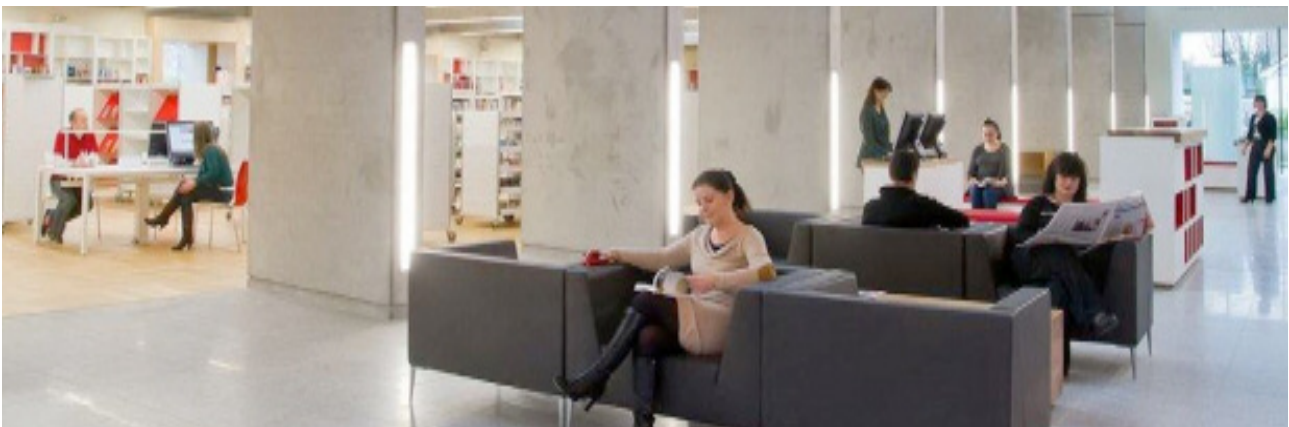
The libraries also supported Coder Dojo classes designed for children wishing to learn how to code, develop websites, apps, programs, games and more. The dojo is child-led in terms of content and volunteer mentors help attendees of many different skill levels to do things as diverse as learning the basics, brush up on their programming skills or learn how to make their own app.

The Digitise the Nation bus visited South Dublin to deliver ICT training. This training provides eight hours of training to complete beginners.

### Cultural and Creativity

#### The Red Line Book Festival

([www.redlinebookfestival.com](http://www.redlinebookfestival.com)) is South Dublin Libraries' annual celebration of books, culture and authors. In 2013 the Festival ran from 15th to 20th October. Events took place at various venues in Tallaght and across South Dublin County, including the Civic Theatre, RUA RED, Institute of Technology Tallaght and South Dublin Libraries branches. In 2013 the festival featured 46 events, attracting an audience of over 2,800 people. A host of 64 authors took



part in this year's festival, including international awards winning author Colm Tóibín and renowned writers such as Dermot Bolger, Deirdre Purcell, Peter Sheridan, Catherine Dunne, Fintan O'Toole, Mary Kenny, Harry Clifton, Arlene Hunt, Alex Barclay and Mike McCormack. The festival also featured the fourth annual TEDxTallaght, a TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) event showcasing the best of Irish and international thinkers and innovators. This year's festival included its first poetry competition which was launched in the summer and was very successful with 189 entries received from across Ireland. Running alongside the general programme there were also events for schools which showcased children's writers and illustrators. The festival got extensive media coverage and also reached over 7,000 people through South Dublin Libraries social media channels.

South Dublin Libraries opened their doors to the public on their inaugural **Culture Night** on 20th September, a night of entertainment



offered by all the main cultural organisations across Ireland. Over 250 people visited County Library, Tallaght for an exciting programme of stories, drama, music and songs highlighting literary and historical figures of the Irish past. On the same night the audience in Ballyroan Library, Rathfarnham enjoyed dramatic readings from Strumpet City with historian Catriona Crowe and actor Fergus Cronin evocating the atmosphere of Dublin in the early 1900s. Other initiatives in 2013 included a Christmas Market at Ballyroan Library and a Christmas Craft Fair in the County Library.

#### Chinese New Year 2013 in County Library



#### Business and Economic Support

South Dublin Libraries continued to support local business through many events, facilities and programmes throughout their branch network in 2013. Offering free WiFi and quiet spaces where people can come and create a





pop-up office, find a space of calm with many resources at their fingertips from international newspapers online to Vision Net, a website providing company information for Ireland and the United Kingdom. Our exhibition spaces and Christmas craft fair offered independent artists the opportunity to market their materials within their own communities. In 2013 South Dublin Libraries hosted **Business Focus**, a programme of free events aimed at the local business community. Talks, seminars and workshops combine to help businesses succeed no matter what stage they are at. Sessions covered social media, business start-up, presentation skills, finance and exporting, writing business plans, Excel for business, LinkedIn, co-operative organisation as well as providing useful networking opportunities. The fact that 35 people attended a Starting

your own Business talk in Lucan Library shows the need for this type of information.

### Services for Children and Young People

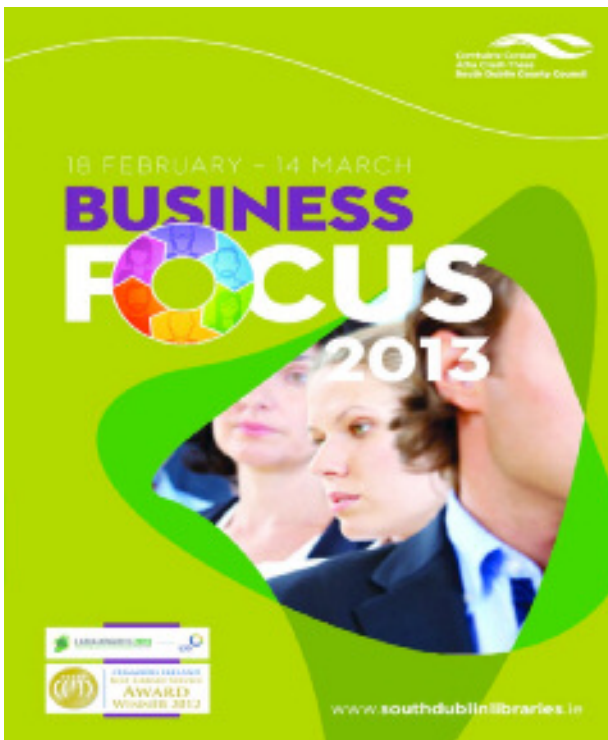
In 2013 South Dublin Libraries provided a range of services and supports for children. These services focused on two specific areas: direct support to the formal education sector, and a child centred approach to active learning outside the school gates.

Services supporting formal education include:

- advice and assistance on establishing and managing a school library,
- advice and demonstrations to teachers and children on online resources available on [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie),
- registration of individual classes and whole school registration,
- workshops and presentations on reading with children,
- class visits,
- the classroom reader collection,
- CLOVER,
- the Bedtime Reading Clubs.

In addition to the above 2013 saw the first introduction of support for the history curriculum in the form of our **Riots, Rifles and Rebels** publication. The 1913 lockout was the focus for the first insert to the folder. Additional inserts will be delivered over the Decade of Commemoration period.

South Dublin Libraries also provided relevant and innovative services to children and young adults outside the classroom through an annual programme of events presented across the library branches. In 2013 the **Children's Book Festival** brought authors from Ireland,



England and USA to primary school children across South Dublin with over 70 events. In addition, the Children's and School's Programme of the **Red Line Book Festival** was run in October and included two full houses (600 children) in the Civic Theatre for the Reading Sport and Beast Quest events. Mid-Summer Madness, a new festival for primary schools was introduced in June. South Dublin Libraries led the first collaborative **Summer Reading Challenge** with all four Dublin authorities, Kildare and Longford taking part in the Summer Reading Buzz in 2013. This was launched in the County Library in June by Minister Frances Fitzgerald. The project will continue in 2014. **Totally Teen Fest**, a week long programme of author visits and workshops was organised with the Teen Committee and ran from November 18-22nd for our post-primary students. November also saw the growth in demand for places on events organised as part of **Science Week**.



### Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Social Media

During 2013 the Libraries Department contributed to and supported the tender for a National Library Management System which should be in place in 2014. Online magazines were added to the range of services now available through the updated libraries website.



One to one E-book clinics were arranged throughout the year with members of the public in the branch libraries.

In 2013, South Dublin County Libraries continued to utilise and develop social media platforms to promote their services to the community. South Dublin Libraries embrace social media and Web 2.0 tools through Blogging, Twitter, Facebook, Google+, Pinterest, YouTube, Flickr, Storify and a range of other digital communications platforms connecting with over 12000 individuals/organisations.

### Heritage and Local Studies

In 2013 the Libraries published "Thomas Joseph Byrne, Nation Builder" continuing the tradition of publishing books on topics of local



interest. TJ Byrne was the architect for Clondalkin and Whitechurch Libraries. The Libraries Department created on-line walks around the villages of South Dublin County (Clondalkin, Lucan, Newcastle, Palmerston, Rathcoole, Rathfarnham, Saggart, Tallaght and Templeogue) with accompanying brochures mapping out the route during 2013.

<b>Library 2013</b>	
<b>Library Public Opening Hours</b>	
Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries:	45.55
Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable):	20.23
Number of full time libraries that have evening openings:	5
Number of full time libraries that have Saturday openings:	5
<b>Library Visits</b>	
Total number of visits to full-time libraries:	1168450
<b>Library Stock</b>	
Annual expenditure on stock:	710373.48
Total number of books issued:	1002212
Total number of other items issued:	431004
<b>Internet Access</b>	
Total number of internet sessions provided:	294981



# Information and Communications Technologies (ICT)



The Council's information technology platform is supporting democracy, making local government more accountable, transparent and efficient, benefiting citizens, businesses and public agencies, and increasing social equity by providing 24/7 access to information. Information technology is putting local government 'at the service' of the public.

During 2013, the Information and Communications Technology Department continued to provide critical support to the organisation, introducing systems and innovations to drive efficiency and cost reductions. In addition to the ongoing programme of solution support, systems and infrastructure development, and maintenance, many ICT related projects were delivered across all areas of the business.

## ICT Projects During 2013

### FixYourStreet

In 2012, FixYourStreet was rolled out nationally to all 34 Local Authorities so that it accepts reports for the entire country. During the course of 2013, following the completion of the national rollout, the IT Department supported many local authorities with the integration of FixYourStreet into their existing reporting channels such as CRM (Customer Relationship Management) systems. To date, there have been in excess of 19,000 reports made via FixYourStreet which are responded to by an official within 2 working days.

### Villages Wi-Fi Project

Under the Village Renewal Initiative, free

public Wi-Fi is being provided to the general public on the main thoroughfares of the County's villages as a pro-business measure, making these areas more attractive to the public to spend their time and consequently conducting more business locally. In 2013, the first two of the nine selected villages went live with the service.



### Web and Mobile Projects:

Microsites for Adamstown, Clonburris, Tallaght City, Arts, Accessibility, Joint Policing Board and Children's Services were incorporated into the corporate website. Planning webpages were rewritten and the 'Live Traffic Cameras' section was enhanced. The customer contact form was updated in line with the Literacy Policy. 'MindMindR' mobile phone app, a mental health services directory for South Dublin County went live in June 2013, with 1250 downloads to date.





### Software Development

A new system for Private Rented Tenancy Board data collection was developed and launched during 2013, enabling Housing Inspectors to survey private rented dwellings. Routine system upgrades and development was ongoing, including PMDS (Performance Management Development System), Housing Rents, Managers Orders and Customer Care.

### GIS Developments

New layers were added to the Intranet and Internet Corporate GIS Web Applications, OASIS and ArcGIS Online, including:

- new high-resolution Ortho-photography flown in June 2013;
- Local Electoral Areas (new boundaries);
- Noise Directive (24-hour and Night noise pollution);
- Road Collisions - Accident reports from the NRA from 2009-2011;
- Corporate address datasets.

A new scheduler system was developed and implemented during 2013 for the scheduling and organisation of work plans for outdoor maintenance staff.

### ICT Infrastructure Upgrades

Routine upgrades and improvements to the Council's underlying ICT infrastructure continued during 2013 with the implementation of a new intrusion prevention system, web-filtering and a full corporate backup system replacement. Firmware upgrades to LAN equipment and virtualised server infrastructure were carried out and Active Directory was upgraded. An extensive pc and laptop replacement programme was rolled out as a result of Windows XP end of support. Remote office links were upgraded, and wired and Wi-Fi network services enhanced.

### ICT Strategic Planning

A comprehensive strategic review of systems and data security was undertaken during the year resulting in the implementation of further best practice strategic planning measures and the introduction of a number of new processes and checks to deal with security threats.

Advanced planning is in place to minimise risk to critical data and a comprehensive Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Plan will be crucial to ensure that the organisation is prepared for the unexpected. During 2013 the Information and Communication Technology Department embarked on a review of IT Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity across the business units and functions. During the coming year, recommendations from this review will be implemented and a comprehensive plan for the organisation developed with input from each department.

### Shared Services

The Information and Communication Technology Department will continue to



strengthen regional ties and participate fully in shared services programmes for technological service provision.

### **Knowledge Management and Open Data**

Started in 2013, SDCC is an active participant in the Knowledge Management (KM) and Open Data national initiative whose aims include improving the Performance of Local Government by adopting a strategic approach to managing and applying knowledge in the sector. Other project goals for the sector include the provision of a structured approach for KM, the implementation of technology solutions that provide easy and timely access to relevant information and the facility to publish Open Data.

### **Library Management System (LMS)**

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government; the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), and the City and County Managers' Association (CCMA) have agreed that as part of the new national strategy for public libraries, a shared services approach to a single library management system for all local authority public libraries will be implemented. The national single LMS will include a single shared library catalogue, facilitate a single national library membership card and provide the capacity for shared acquisitions, management and integration of print and digital material. With the commencement of the requirements gathering and tender process during 2013, the system will be procured by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) acting on behalf of Irish local authorities and will be managed jointly by Dublin City Council and South Dublin County Council on behalf of a Project

Board. The selected LMS will initially be implemented in the four Dublin authorities and Kildare County Council, and subsequently in all other library authorities on a phased basis. Tenders for the proposed new system are currently being examined.

Information technology is facilitating the development and implementation of public sector modernisation and many of the current projects are underpinned by the Programme for Government and incorporated into the Local Government Efficiency Review Strategy for Shared Services.

### **Report from Tommy Kavanagh, Head of Information Systems**



# Community Service





## Working with Communities

The Council places a high priority on community development and citizen engagement/participation. The Community Services Department provides and supports an extensive range of programmes in the areas of arts, sport and recreation, social inclusion and integration, festivals and events, school meals and supports to the elderly, all of which contribute positively to the active engagement of communities in the interests of improving their quality of life and general health and wellbeing.

## Local Government Reform - 'Putting People First'

The final meeting of South Dublin County Development Board was held in 2013. It has been replaced by the Local Community Development Committee; This is one of ten front runners in the country and held its first meeting on 18th December, 2013.

## South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee

South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee met four times in 2013 and supported the work of two sub-groups: Parks and Intimidation. A work plan was developed by the Joint Policing Committee for 2013. Three local policing fora are in place in Tallaght, Clondalkin and North Clondalkin.

## South Dublin County Interagency Traveller Strategy

The Traveller Interagency Group met on five occasions in 2013. The South Dublin County Interagency Traveller Strategy is divided into specific actions. Each of these nine actions is progressed by a Lead Agency.

## Community Development

- Five Community Employment and one Job Initiative Scheme are sponsored by South Dublin County Council.
- Three Deputation Meetings were serviced in 2013.
- Children in 24 Primary Schools were provided with sandwiches, fruit and milk through the School Meals Scheme.
- Sixty-three grant applications under the Community Grants Scheme were processed.
- Thirty-two Summer Projects received Summer Projects Funding. Approximately 6,000 Children attended Summer Projects in 2013.
- Management Assistance Grants were paid to 12 Community Centres
- The Community Development Team continued to support a range of established festivals including Lucan and Clondalkin. The Team also assisted with the development of new festivals including Tallaght and Newcastle/Rathcoole/Saggart
- The Lucan Initiative was established in 2013 to examine the provision of community facilities in the greater Lucan area, with particular focus on the number and range of indoor recreational and sporting facilities available to the community. The Lucan Initiative has carried out a very detailed survey and has consulted with residents, schools and sporting bodies. The findings will inform decisions going forward

## Community Facilities Construction:

Work on a new Community Centre for Ballycullen / Ballycragh was completed in 2013. The new centre "The Park" was opened in September.



## ARTS OFFICE

South Dublin County Council Art's Office is committed to building for the future by supporting the development of creative people and communities through the Arts.

Events held by the Arts Office in 2013

- Clondalkin Youth Seminar
- NOISE Flicks FILM Festival
- NOISEMOVES dance festival
- Creative Campus exhibition
- Young audiences development initiative with Dublin Dance Festival
- The Dinner Party; not just a Dublin Coddle
- Summer exhibition project with the Catholic Youth Service (CYS) and the Ronanstown Youth Service (RYS)
- Suburban sounds programme and end of term concert
- Media makers programme and screening
- Young singer and songwriters concert
- Music Education service end of year concert
- Crossroads Cultural Diversity seminar
- Artist in the community scheme seminar
- Ruaille Buaille Lucan children's music festival
- Love Live Music Day
- Culture Day
- Visual artists Ireland seminar
- NOISE careers
- Redline Book Festival
- Connecting Youth Arts Seminar
- Young critics programme for the Leaving Certificate
- Celebration - cultural diversity through the arts
- NOISE dance camp
- UNWRAPPED

There was also continued support for RUA RED County Arts Centre and the Civic Theatre.

Tallaght Community Arts and Alternative Entertainment Groups received assistance from the Council in 2013.



## Social Inclusion

The focus of the Social Inclusion Unit continues to be on both mainstreaming best practice initiatives within the Council and progressing initiatives that deliver a modern, efficient and effective response to social exclusion in marginalised areas and engaging the community in conversation and acting on what is important to them.



Achievements and highlights for the Unit for 2013:

- Chambers Ireland Outstanding Customer Care Award for our project “Taking Steps to be a Literacy Friendly Local Authority”
- Shortlisted for Chambers Ireland Awards for Supporting Active Communities “South Dublin Traveller Culture Schools Project”
- European Week against Racism - Sports Blitz and Competition
- Bealtaine Festival 2013
- Community Gardens - Unemployed/Retired - People with Disabilities - Trocaire Global Garden Project
- IT Programme for the Active Retired
- South Dublin Traveller Culture Schools Project
- South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum
- An Inclusive County - South Dublin County Integration Strategy
- Implementation of Taking Steps to be a Literacy Friendly Local Authority
- Second Level Schools Competition
- Integration of Third Country Nationals through Local Authority Platforms
- Social Inclusion Week 2013
- Citizenship Ceremony for Migrants Communities
- The Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme was piloted in the Liffey Valley Shopping Centre. Fifteen businesses signed up in the initial phases and following consultation with their older customers these businesses were presented with an Age Friendly Charter
- South Dublin County Libraries took part in a research project to develop an Age Friendly Libraries Protocol along with Kildare County Council and Dublin City Council
- Tús Nua - The Older Person’s Council for South Dublin, continued to meet in 2013 and organised several events for older people including coffee mornings in Tallaght Library, an information fair in Tallaght Stadium and a Reminiscence Workshop in Rua Red during Social Inclusion Week. Tús Nua members were also involved in the distribution of more than 500 message in a bottle containers as part of the Lions Club initiative

### Age Friendly County

- Three meetings of the Age Friendly County Alliance took place in 2013. These meetings are chaired by the County Manager and bring together groups and agencies working with older people in the County
- Rathcoole was selected to be our pilot Age Friendly Town. A consultation process was carried out with the community and an Age Friendly town plan was completed



### Comhairle Na nÓG

Comhairli na nÓg are local youth councils, which give children and young people the



opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. It provides the youth of South Dublin County with an opportunity to identify and discuss matters which affect their daily lives, and is a place for young people to pass on their views and concerns to decision-makers in both local and national government.

- Assisted with the design of the MindMindR smart phone App which was launched in June 2013. MindMindR is a comprehensive directory of Mental Health services and resources for South Dublin County
- Cyber Safety Day in partnership with County Library.
- Eight members of South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg attended Dáil na nÓg in Croke Park in November 2013.



### Sport and Recreation Office

Sport and Recreation continue to play an important part in community and personal development with many programmes and initiatives rolled out by South Dublin County Council. The Sports and Recreation Office works in partnership with many clubs, schools, community groups, associations and national

governing bodies of sport to deliver a varied and comprehensive programme throughout the county. It also works in partnership supporting Social Inclusion Unit programmes and the South Dublin County Sports Partnership.

Examples of the programmes that have been completed this year include:

#### Family / Community Events:

- Easter Treasure Hunts in each of the regional parks
- National Play Day
- National Recreation Week
- Support National Bike Week

#### Older Adult Programmes

- Bealtaine Festival – Celebration of Older Adults in the County
- PALs- Physical Activity Leaders Training for volunteer leaders in Active Retirement / older adult groups
- “Go For Life” South Dublin Senior Games
- “Go For Life” National Senior Games – “Scidils” National Winners 2013
- Equipment Library for older adult groups

#### Schools / Sports Development Programmes

- European Week against Racism (Multi sports Blitz for Primary and Secondary schools – Mayors Cup Competition)
- Boxercise / Health secondary school programme
- “South Dublin Cup” Secondary schools rugby competition
- South Dublin primary school’s cross country series

#### Community Programmes

- Late Night League Soccer Programme



- Fettercairn Youth Horse Project – youth programme in partnership with Barnardos
- Summer Projects Programme for the month of July – Sports Activity Days
- Boxercise programmes delivered to teenagers at risk.

#### **Disability Programmes:**

- South Dublin Young Gladiators Programme
- Gladiators Summer Project (Summer Project for children with disabilities)
- Football for All – Summer Camp
- Halloween Multi Sports Camp for children with disabilities
- “National Club Festival” Football for All - Disability soccer festival
- Boxercise Programme Youth Disability programme
- Boxercise delivered to individuals attending Mental Health Support Centres

#### **Community Development Officers:**

The Sports and Recreation Office co-funds and provides support and direction to eight “in the community” Development Officers across the sporting disciplines of soccer, rugby and cricket. These Development Officers promote their respective sports across the county providing and facilitating a varied range of programmes to include training, education, integration, women in sport, and disability sport in conjunction with the Sports Office. These Officers deliver coaching and training to both, primary and secondary schools, community groups, and sports clubs right across the county. They assist to develop club structures and promote the ethos of fair play, sports inclusion among their various disciplines. Each of the Development Officers host school holiday sports camps in the relevant discipline throughout the county.

## **South Dublin County Sports Partnership (SDCSP)**

#### **Events**

Ramble Aid, [www.rambleaid.ie](http://www.rambleaid.ie) - This initiative has grown from its small beginnings in 2011 and in 2013 there were 695 participants on the three events in the local parks. All income went to three local charities to support youth mental health initiatives.

Operation Transformation (OT) – organisation of the local walk as part of the RTÉ nationwide series. In 2013 approximately 450 people participated on the OT walk in Corkagh Park.

Opportunity 2 Transform (O2T) - following on from the Operation Transformation walk, O2T offers a free 5k run to end the OT programme. In 2013, the first year of the run there were 350 participants.

In addition there are annual events such as Bike Week, the Irish Sports Council’s Corporate Challenge and SDCC Social Inclusion Week where we are involved. We run a comprehensive walk promotion programme (Fitwalk) both indoor and outdoor with schools and community centres/groups and have contributed to the development of a free Park Run 5k series in Griffeen Valley Park in Lucan each Saturday morning with on average 150 participants weekly. Another Parkrun course is scheduled to open in Tymon Park in 2014.

## **YPATH (Youth Physical Activity Towards Health)**

This programme, run in partnership with the Sports Science and Health Department of



Dublin City University (DCU), started in eight secondary schools in South Dublin County (SDC). SDCSP covers the cost of the programme (€300) for each school. The programme works with first year classes providing them with a broad and more reflective range of activities for physical education (PE) and monitors their progress. Reaction to the programme has been very favourable with teachers buying into the whole school activity ethos.

### Amateur Sports Awards

These have been running for a number of years now in partnership with the Echo newspaper and have been a great vehicle for the SDCSP and SDCC to get its work recognised by the various sports clubs in the county. Over the years guest speakers have included Mick Dowling, Stephen Kenny, John Treacy and Paul Kimmage. All Ireland winning Dublin GAA football manager Jim Gavin, from the Round Towers club in Clondalkin attended and spoke at the 2013 event.

### Orienteering

We have installed three permanent courses in two regional parks (Corkagh, Griffeen Valley) and in the Dublin Mountains (Hell Fire Club). A fourth course has been mapped out in Tymon Park and is due to be installed early in 2014. These free to use courses get a lot of usage by schools and scout groups and by other community groups during school holidays.

### Information Provision

In 2013 we held an information evening for clubs on the upcoming Garda vetting legislation (in partnership with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Local Sports Partnership) and a

Meet and Greet event in the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel for sports bodies, schools and community groups where information on youth mental health, disability awareness and energy saving measures were presented.

### Training

Each Year SDCSP provides a training calendar that includes;

- Games training for preschool leaders and primary school teachers
- Disability awareness training for club coaches
- Child protection training for club coaches and mentors
- Walk leader training

In 2013, SDCSP provided €9,400 in grants to 14 local clubs to help them in their provision of services to the local community.

### Tallaght Stadium

Tallaght Stadium had another very successful year with a wide range of events. These events included high level sports fixtures, as well as schools sports competitions and a number of community events.



## The Gathering Ireland Initiative 2013

- Major success with 35 events organised
- Approximately 17,000 overseas visitors
- Estimated €25m injection into the local economy



Community Services 2013	
Total number of local schools and youth groups:	434
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth	123
Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary	998
Children's Playgrounds	
Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local	15
Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities:	517749



# Housing





## Social Housing

South Dublin County Council provides a total of 10,955 units of housing accommodation for tenants through a combination of standard local authority housing, Traveller Accommodation, Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and various Leasing Programmes. We also work very closely with a number of Approved Housing Bodies to provide a wide range of housing solutions.

### Breakdown of Housing Units

- Local Authority Standard houses- 8873
- Traveller Accommodation- 202
- RAS Accommodation- 1,407
- Houses under Various Leasing Programmes- 474
- Number of units managed by Approved Housing Bodies- 1,262

### Housing Needs Assessment

The total number of approved housing applicants at 31st December 2013 was 7,522 on the South Dublin County Council housing list. This Council carried out its Housing Needs and Assessment in 2013.

### Choice Based Letting

The Council has continued to operate the Choice Based Letting Scheme (CBL) which allows applicants on the Housing List the option to be considered for certain vacant properties in their stated areas of preference. There were 12,614 expressions of interest made by eligible applicants in respect of 159 properties advertised under the New Choice Based Letting Scheme in 2013

## Homeless Accommodation

The Homeless Service Unit offers a presentation and advice service for homeless assessment and emergency bed placement along with homeless allocations. There were 207 applicants registered as homeless in 2013. Thirty-two homeless applicants were permanently housed through the unit in 2013. The Council's first Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) in Dublin 24 began operation in May 2013.

### Housing Construction Programme

A Sheltered housing scheme at Valhalla, Clondalkin, comprising 10 units of accommodation became operational in 2013. This scheme is funded through the Capital Assistance Scheme and will be managed by Clanmil Housing Association. The Council received funding under the Capital Assistance Scheme for the acquisition of two houses to accommodate the needs of families with a member that has specific access needs. The Council also acquired 12 units of social housing under acquisition programmes in 2013 funded by the DOECLG.



## Rental Accommodation Scheme

In 2013 a total of 237 properties were secured under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) of which 156 were in respect of new properties and 81 were renewal cases. As at 31/12/13 a total of 1895 contracts were concluded under RAS arrangements since its creation in 2004.

## Social Housing Leasing Initiative

During 2013, the Council processed expressions of interest in leasing options from private property owners for in excess of 100 properties of which 78 were made available for inspection for compliance with leasing/letting standards. In 2013 a total of 106 properties were procured under the terms of the Social Housing Leasing Initiative and the properties were allocated to persons on the social housing lists

## Housing Maintenance

- Two hundred and seventeen re-lets were completed and 33 of these had energy works carried out.
- We responded to 16,705 maintenance requests during 2013
- Twelve fire damaged houses were re-instated in 2013
- Thirteen maliciously damaged houses were re-instated in 2013
- Windows and doors were replaced in 168 houses at an average cost of €5,800 per house. A further 877 are on the list for replacement.
- Sixty houses in Kiltalown were upgraded under Better Energy Area based Warmer Homes 2013
- Thirty-two homes were upgraded in

Deansrath Estate under the SEAI Warmer Homes Scheme Pilot project

- Three hundred and twelve tenanted Council homes were completed in Tymon North, Tymonville Estate and St Aonghus under DOECLG Energy initiative

## Housing Rents

The Council currently operates a Differential Rental Scheme, where the rent is assessed at 10% of the weekly household income. The rental income for South Dublin County Council for 2013 including RAS accounts was €21,286,816.

The Council encourages any of our tenants who are experiencing difficulties in paying their rent to contact the Rents Section immediately to enable the Council to assist our tenants in putting a payment plan in place to clear any outstanding arrears. There are over 10,000 accounts monitored by the Rents Section, including RAS accounts. Statements are sent to our tenants on a quarterly basis showing their payments and any balance outstanding. In 2013, a total of 94 Notice to Quits were served on tenants for non payment of their rent.

## Traveller Accommodation

Fifteen Traveller families were accommodated in 2013. The Traveller Accommodation Unit continues to implement the Council's Traveller Accommodation Programme by providing new units and managing the Council's existing Traveller specific accommodation stock.

## Housing Grants 2013

South Dublin County Council operates three



grants which are funded jointly by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (80%) and South Dublin County Council (20%). The Council also carries out a number of accessibility works for disabled tenants on its own properties which are funded by the Internal Capital Receipt Reserve. The details of the grants activity in 2013 is listed in the Table below:

Grant Type	No of Applications	Value
HAGS	110 paid	€1,177,315.98
MAGS	67 paid	€271,686.24
HOPS	22 paid	€92,156.34
Council Dwellings	73 paid	€385,980.39

### Housing Projects

The Council's Refurbishment Programme Phase Three of 73 units in Greenfort and Shancastle Estates was substantially completed in 2013. A Thermal Upgrade on 22 dwellings in Pearse Brothers Park and Palmer Park Ballyboden was substantially completed in 2013.

### Housing Community Development Support

The Council's Estate Management Service continued its work in developing relationships with communities and assisting in the further development of those communities. There were 1376 reports received by the Council's Anti Social Service in relation to 1346 anti social incidents in 2013

### The Housing Welfare Social Work Service has:

- continued to review and develop the delivery of the housing welfare social work service in accordance with the needs of clients and current resources;
- been involved in the planning process in relation to the implementation of the Council's Safeguarding Children and Young People policy;
- provided restorative practice training to other sections;
- engaged in a wide range of inter-agency initiatives;
- facilitated inter-agency networking opportunities.

In 2013 there were 488 new referrals in addition to 177 cases that were carried over from 2012 resulting in a total of 665 cases on hand.

### Key Indicators

- One hundred and seventy-nine homes were allocated to new tenants from the Housing List in 2013
- Seventy-four Transfer requests were granted
- Of the 18,161 maintenance requests received 92% were completed within target time-frames.
- The Rent Income for 2013 was €21,286,816 and the average weekly rent was €41.55
- In 2013 there were 1,117 live loan accounts on the Council's portfolio with collection of €5.2 million
- Number of void dwellings was 41
- Rent receipts for 2013 amounted to over 100% of the Rent Debit of €21,286,816



- Loans Collection equaled 87.71%
- Twenty-nine houses were sold under the Tenant Purchase Scheme in 2013

<b>Housing 2013</b>	
The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	9089.5
The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	47
The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling:	10.71
<b>Housing Repairs</b>	
The number of repairs completed:	16705
The number of valid repair requests received:	18161
<b>Traveller Accommodation</b>	
Number of Traveller families accommodated:	15
Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodated programme:	15
<b>Housing Grants</b>	
Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application:	7
Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application:	9.81
<b>Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses</b>	
Total number of new local authority tenants:	157

Report from Billy Coman, Director of Housing,  
Social and Community Services



# Architectural Services



In 2013 the Architectural Services Department (ASD) focused on improving the quality and value of the County's villages and towns, and improvement of the Council's built assets. Architects work in close collaboration with other departments and in partnership with Communities to promote an efficient and sustainable environment through good design and high-quality place-making.

### ASD Partnership Projects

The Village Initiatives main objective are to:

- assist with developing the nine traditional villages in the county as the accessible focus of walking and amenity networks for their adjoining communities,
- increase their attractiveness and visitability,
- audit building and site usage,
- prepare a 3 year Tidy Towns Plan for each village.

Extended community consultation and partnership with local groups was undertaken and supported by the Council providing design and building advice and acting as a link in cross- agency projects. Detailed surveys of the nine villages involved were prepared by a multi-disciplinary team highlighting strengths and weaknesses, problems and opportunities to act as a foundation for action plans to be rolled out in 2014

### Connect with Energy Initiatives

The County Architect is the council's Energy Champion and 2013 saw the continuation of the Department's involvement with the following projects:

### LEAP (Leadership in Energy Action and Planning) programme

The Mayor signed South Dublin County Council up to the Covenant of Mayors in June 2012; an initiative of the European Commission that brings together Mayors from across Europe, in a shared, voluntary commitment to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by a minimum target of 20% by 2020.

As part of our commitment to The Covenant of Mayors, Architects worked closely with the Planning Department to prepare a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP). It was launched by Minister Pat Rabbitte in February 2013 and adopted by Council in May 2013.

The SEAP puts forward an energy roadmap setting out how the County can take the lead in addressing EU and national energy targets to 2020. The aim is to prioritise energy use and efficiency across all Council functions. It identifies energy efficient measures and initiatives that will reduce Council energy use, cost and associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Actions are structured under the guiding principles of "Record, Reduce and Replace".

Through the SEAP, links have been strengthened with Tallaght Hospital, The Square, Institute of Technology Tallaght (IIT) and Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) to achieve further reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The final partners meeting for the Leap Project took place in Dublin in October. SDCC hosted a national energy conference and held tours of Valhalla, Adamstown, the Aviva Stadium and the Docklands.

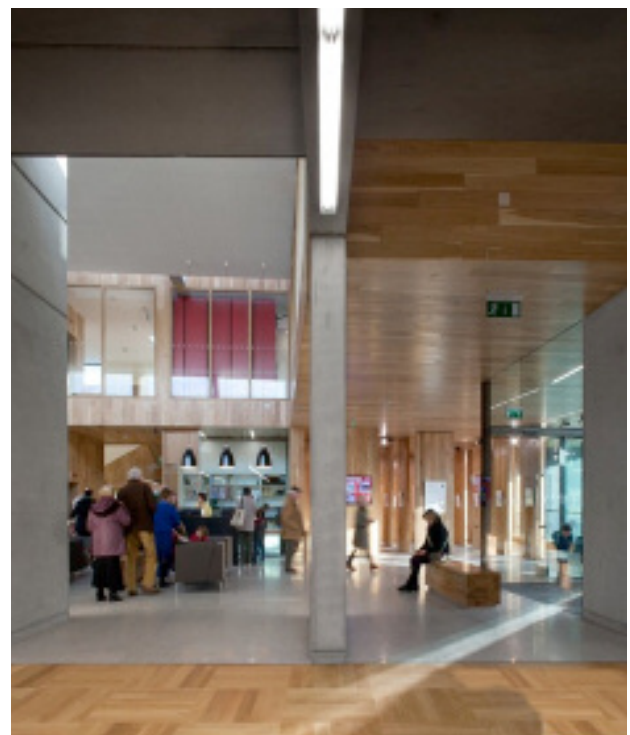


## Energy related Projects in the community- Valhalla sheltered housing Project



This exciting development provides fully accessible living accommodation for up to 23 persons - close to the amenities and public transport of Clondalkin Village. Using sustainable materials and energy efficient technologies, work started on site in 2011 and the complex was handed over to Clanmil Housing Ireland, the voluntary housing agency, in August 2013. The DECLG, in conjunction with the Irish Wheelchair Association, in initiating a strategy group to advise on best practice for the housing of disabled people has indicated that it intends to use the Valhalla development as a benchmark design example.

## Energy related Projects in the community- Ballyroan Library



The new A3 rated Ballyroan Library was opened to the public in February 2013. This is the final part of the development of the Ballyroan civic quarter, which includes the refurbished and extended Community Centre and the new Pastoral Centre, both completed in 2010. The library has a bright double height multi purpose internal street, exhibition areas, seminar room, digital training room, and large reading room with semi-private timber clad pods lining the edge of the library for study and cheerful reading nooks built into the walls in the children's section.

### Energy related Projects in the community- Refurbishment of Housing Stock

- The Refurbishment of 73 dwellings in Greenfort and Shancastle Estate began on site in May 2012 and was completed in the third quarter of 2013. This includes several energy saving measures which directly benefit tenants in relation to their energy costs and improved quality of life
- The refurbishment and energy-upgrade project for 22 apartments at Pearse Brother's Park and Palmer Park, Ballyboden commenced in October 2012 and was completed in the second quarter 2013. This provision of energy efficiency measures and the enclosure of entrances with additional private outdoor spaces for tenants has greatly enhanced the quality of life for the existing occupants of the dwellings and the impact of the housing blocks on the landscape
- The SEAI Better Energy Warmer Homes Area Based scheme for low income homes was completed in 60 SDCC houses in

Kiltalown Estate between September and November 2013. Energy upgrading works were also carried out to Kiltalown House, a Protected Structure, as part of this scheme which was 36% funded by SDCC. Kiltalown House has successfully accommodated Community based Tallaght Rehabilitation Project for many years. The new central heating system and energy upgrading works have improved the comfort levels for all user groups and staff, and have reduced the energy costs

- The SEAI Better Energy Community based scheme co-funded the refurbishment of Lucan Leisure Centre. Works included upgrading of insulation, heating system and lighting thereby reducing its energy consumption, achieving higher efficiency standards and it attained a B2 BER rating. As a result a more comfortable environment has been provided for existing members, staff and local groups who use the facility-including martial arts, basketball and soccer clubs
- Three hundred and twenty SDCC dwellings had Attic and Cavity Wall insulation works carried out in 2013 under The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government sponsored Energy Retrofitting Programme
- One hundred and sixty-eight dwellings had their windows and external doors replaced with thermally efficient units in 2013. Thirty-two voided houses had energy upgrading measures carried out in conjunction with the relet works, with ASD Clerk of Works monitoring the energy saving measures installed
- In 2013, 6,600 dwellings had their boilers serviced by the Council. This is an ongoing





maintenance regime which ensures efficiency of the central heating systems in the housing stock and is monitored by the Mechanical Inspectorate and Quantity Surveyors

- Over 1,900 electrical inspections relating to SDCC stock were carried out in 2013 by the Department's Electrical Inspectorate ensuring Safety and compliance of the ongoing maintenance and upgrading programmes both for Housing stock and civic buildings



### Other Community and residential projects with ASD design supervision input

#### 'The Park' Community facility at Ballycragh

This is a single-storey building of 350m<sup>2</sup> set around two landscaped courtyards. The site is located in a small park opposite 'The Scholars' public house. Set beside a pond and adjoining playing pitches, it enjoys a southerly aspect and a fine view of the Dublin Mountains. Works began on site in August 2012 and the building was completed in July 2013.



The facility contains a Community Hall which can be divided in two with a folding partition. The facility is supported by an office and reception area, meeting room, toilets and a small café opening onto the south facing courtyard. This centre is a hive of activity everyday with classes such as: pilates, dance, boxercise, and groups such as parent and toddler groups and youth groups. It has been welcomed as a great success in the area.

Small works extensions for with specific access needs were completed to five dwellings

during the year, another three are at Tender stage and five are at Feasibility stage. These will be progressed during 2014 subject to availability of funding.

ASD carried out 217 inspections for Housing Adaption Grants for disabled people with a Disability, Mobility Aids Housing Grants and Housing Aid for Older People Grants for 102 applicants in 2013.



## Social Housing Projects

The following Projects were designed and obtained Part 8 Approval from the Elected Members during 2013

- Redevelopment of Belgard Road - 3 family dwellings
- Suncroft - 10 family dwellings
- St. Finian's - 2 family dwellings
- St. Mark's - 11 family dwellings

Cost Plans for the above were submitted to the DECLG for Approval and work will commence on site on a number of these projects in 2014.

## Cross Departmental collaboration projects include;

- TASC Changing Rooms in Tymon Park in association with the Environment Department. A Pavilion consisting of six changing rooms, a large club room, referee/first aid and dog club facilities, started on site in October 2013. Works consist of ground works and utilities, with off-site fabrication of the building which is due to be delivered in January 2014, with completion in March 2014.
- Tallaght Transport Interchange - public realm design of a hub at LUAS terminus as part of Tallaght Movement Strategy Plan and including some consultation with The Square regarding upcoming planning applications for retail.
- Dodder Valley Bridge - consultation on design of pedestrian and cyclist bridge over the Dodder as part of the Tallaght to Ballyboden cycle route. The bridge will be constructed and completed in 2014.

- Schools Programme - consultation and design feasibility work with the Department of Education and liaising with Planning Department on the selection and acquisition of sites suitable for primary schools in the SDCC area.
- Design and construction services to Corporate Services Department for alterations and fit outs of County Hall and Clondalkin Civic Offices both for in-house staff redeployment and leasing of space to third parties.

## Statutory Duties

Architects deliver advice and support services on the following on an ongoing basis:

- Insurance and Public Liability Claims: Reports, Assessment and Expert Witness
- Requests for Disposal of Lands: Mapping, Reports, Assessment and Evaluation
- Requests from Client Departments on issues that have an architectural or technical focus
- Architects manage the monitoring of Dangerous Structures in the County, including fire and structural collapses, and carries out inspections reports and evaluations
- ASD carried out 1217 inspections for the Private Rental Tenancy Board from May to December 2013
- BER Assessors within the Architects Section carried out 271 BER Assessments and issued the same number of Certificates and Reports
- DEC (Display Energy Certificates) were also issued for all SDCC Civic and Community Buildings in the county with floor areas of over 500m<sup>2</sup>.



## Conservation Works

Architects are actively involved with Conservation and heritage of protected structures. Works in 2013 include:

- conservation works to the roofs and rainwater goods and public realm improvements at the Court of Petty Sessions, Main Street, Rathcoole,
- refurbishment works at Kilcarbery House, Nangor Road, Kilcarbery, Co. Dublin.

## Training

The Department incorporates training as part of the Continuing Professional Development Programme requiring architects and technicians to complete 40 hours each year. In-house lunchtime sessions are regularly held to update staff on technical guidance and materials specifications and 3 staff members are attending a Building Information Modeling software training programme in Dublin Institute of Technology. Other staff are currently studying with Council support to complete a degree in Quantity Surveying and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA).

Overall, the staff of the department remains committed and flexible with its involvement with local communities, villages and neighbourhoods.

**Report from Eddie Conroy, County Architect**



# Environmental Services



The Environmental Services Department is responsible for waste management planning and regulation, enforcement of environmental standards and bye-laws, emergency planning and response co-ordination, developing the Social Capital programme, maintenance of the public realm (including parks) and litter management. The work of the department consists of two main functions – strategic and operational.

Strategic functions consist of the following:

- Waste Management Planning and Infrastructure
- Environmental Enforcement and Licensing policy
- Litter Management Planning
- Public Realm Management
- Environmental, Communications and Education Planning
- Parks Planning and Infrastructure
- Financial Management and Control
- Emergency Planning
- Bye-Laws

The operational role consists of the work carried out by units enforcing legislation, maintaining the public realm and enhancing the environment.

## Waste Management Planning and Infrastructure

### Waste Management Plan

In early 2013, the County and City Managers Association (CCMA) agreed the reconfiguration of the Regions as outlined in “Putting People First” and the geographical breakdown of the new Waste Regions.



### New Waste Management Planning Regions

The Plan process in Eastern and Midlands Waste Region will be co-ordinated by Dublin City Council. The preparation of the New Waste Management Plans began with the publication of a Notice of Intention to commence preparation of the New Plan in October 2013. Until such time as the new plans have been made the existing Waste Management Plans continue in force.

- **Ballymount Waste Transfer Station** – The Council owned facility continues to contribute to the effective management of waste in the region
- **Ballymount Civic Amenity** – In 2013, total visitors numbers were 95,077 delivered, 12,729 tonnes material of which 4,564 tonnes were recyclable.
- **Arthurstown** – Final Capping of the landfill continued as part of the aftercare requirements of the license
- **Council Owned Historic Landfills** – Two Historic Council owned facilities at



Friarstown and Waterstown continue to be monitored, assessed and controlled to ensure potential environmental risks are removed

- **Recycling Facility Programme** - 4,692 tonnes of glass material was delivered to 46 Bring Bank Sites by environmentally conscious residents

## Environmental Licensing and Enforcement

Authorisations are held by 654 facilities and producers in the county. The Council also co-operates with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Dublin City Council in the supervision of 17 Waste Licensed facilities. One hundred and sixty-three Waste Collection Operators and the regulation of 29 registered unlicensed landfills that are located within the County. The main areas of activity come within the following areas:

- **Waste Management** - Thirty permitted/certified and 17 licensed facilities within the county. Four hundred and twenty-seven inspections carried out.
- **Historic Un-Licensed Landfills, Waste Disposal and Recovery Sites** - Forty-three sites within the county. Preliminary risk assessments have been completed on each site. The Council works closely with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and landowners to progress remediation/mitigation measures at these sites.
- **Water Licensing and Pollution Control** - 491 Discharge to Sewer and 9 Discharge to Water Licences were issued in 2013. 1035 monitoring inspections carried out.
- **Environmental Health** - 1024 complaints in

relation to air and noise pollution and public health nuisances were investigated 2013 resulting in 514 enforcement actions.

- **Litter Control** - Seven hundred and fifty-three litter fines (On-the-spot and Direct Prosecutions) were issued with a further 150 Notices requiring property owners to remove various forms of litter. One hundred and eighty-three prosecutions initiated.
- **Control of Animals** -10,394 dog licenses and 1165 fines were issued. Operating under the Control of Horses Act, in 2013 the Council impounded 322 animals and issued 36 horse licenses. Veterinary Inspectors also inspect all accommodation proposed under horse license applications.
- **Food Safety and Veterinary Services** - Council Veterinary Inspectors, on behalf of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown and Fingal County Councils and with the Department of Agriculture, supervised 31 Facilities and carried out 867 Food Safety/Veterinary Inspections across the Dublin Region.
- **Derelict Sites** - Fifty initial inspections and follow-up inspections have been carried out during 2012 and 25 Notices have been served.

An extensive programme of monitoring and supervision covering these facilities is delivered every year. A comparison between 2012 and 2013 is set out below

Activities	2012	2013
Permit/Registered Producers	595	654
Complaints responded to	5,542	1480
Inspections carried out	5,254	5536
On the Spot Fines issued	1165	753
Warnings/Statutory Notices	602	1353





### **Environmental Awareness and Education**

Green-Schools is an international environmental education programme, environmental management system and award scheme. In South Dublin 92% of primary schools and 89% of secondary schools are registered in the Green schools programme. In 2013 a total of 33 schools were awarded their green flag as follows: Five Litter and Waste, Five Energy, Thirteen Water, Six Travel, Two Biodiversity and Two Climate Change.

Supports for schools include an information evening for teachers to guide them on the various themes, workshops, talks and events all of which help schools achieve the Green Flag. Twice a year the Green Times for Schools newsletter is sent to all schools in the County.

### **Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Awareness Grant**

The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government grant of €35,000.00 for 2013 was used to support anti-litter and anti-graffiti awareness in the County. Projects approved included anti litter cinema campaigns 'Tackle litter', anti graffiti, anti dog fouling and the production of awareness materials.

### **Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund**

The grant is provided by way of matched funding from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and South Dublin County Council. This fund supports projects that focus on environmental awareness and actions which complement national environmental policies such as those on waste, biodiversity, water conservation and climate change. In 2013, 39 projects from



community groups, schools and reuse projects were grant aided.

### Eco-Week 2013

The ninth annual Eco-Week took place in April 2013 with over 40 workshops, talks and activities ranging from the Pollinator's projects, Up-cycling in your garden, Tallaght IT 'Goes Green Week', Eco Pop-up shops and a business focused SMILE-Resource Exchange. Eco Week began with Mayor Cathal King presenting certificates & prizes to winning students in the Anti-litter Drama and recycled Masks competition - Co Co Nuts.



### Tidy Towns

In 2013 there were eight entries from South Dublin County in the national Tidy Towns competition. A Tidy Towns public meeting was held on Thursday 7th February in the Green Isle Hotel, Clondalkin. Speakers included members of the Tallanstown Tidy Towns who

were winners of the Tidy Towns competition in 2010, Chairperson of the Clondalkin Tidy Towns and a speaker from An Taisce's Green Home's programme. As a result of this meeting a South Dublin Tidy Towns Together network was formed including members from each Tidy Towns group. The network meets on a monthly basis.



### Pride of Place

Pride of Place is an all - island competition which recognises the effort made by local community groups to enhance their communities and instill civic pride. In 2013 South Dublin had 5 entries

- Category Population - St Marks Community Garden, Clondalkin
- Category Population 4 - Brookfield Community Garden, Tallaght
- Category Population 5 - Lucan Village
- Category 6 Tourism Diaspora Initiative - The Gathering ambassadors
- Community Arts Initiative - Tallaght Young Filmmakers

St Marks Community Garden was awarded the Pride of Place runners up award in Derry on 6th November in the all island competition. The judges were very impressed by the use of





recycled materials, the involvement of the local children and the “learning by doing” approach for young and old. This is very much a community project and the judges were immediately aware of the “buy-in” and engagement of the wider community

**Social Credits**

There were 2112 applications in the Social Credits system in 2013 and 75% - 1581 - of those were community clean ups. The scheme expanded to include Green Dog walkers and Educate Credits in 2013.

**Green Dog Walkers**

The Green Dog Walkers programme was



launched by Mayor Cathal King in Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght on the 30th April with members of the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA), the Kennel Club and the Council’s Dog wardens present. Green Dog Walkers is a community based scheme where volunteers promote a non-confrontational, friendly way to change attitudes about dog fouling. Three hundred and eighteen Green Dog walkers registered in 2013

**Educate Credits**

Educate Credits are a reward for being proactive in the community and allow free access to courses on the part-time programme in Institute of Technology Tallaght. Tallaght Community Council was the first sponsor of free education by donating Educate Credits to the community. Tallaght Community Council organised Tallafest in July 2013. All the volunteers gave freely of their time and earned up to 2,000 Educate Credits. Two thousand Educate Credits equals two places on the part-time programme for two lucky people for three years up to degree level. Two part-time students started management and environmental engineering courses in September 2013 following a selection process.



## Environmental Maintenance/Maintaining the Public Realm



The Public Realm Maintenance programme is an extensive programme covering the following areas –

- **Town and Village Cleaning** – A dedicated street cleaning resource deployed at 8 town and village centres provided over 16,000 hours of street cleaning within the county.
- **Litter Picking** – A Routine Litter Picking & Estate Cleaning Programme targeted at approximately 750 housing estates and other locations provides over 7,000 litter picks and the removal of 759 tonnes of material during the year.
- **Litter Bins Programme** – Over 600 litter bins were inspected and serviced.
- **Illegal Dumping** – Routine visits to approximately 30 dumping blackspots with the removal of dumped material from the environment.
- **Street Sweeping Programme** - The contract for the sweeping of roads and associated services delivered a total of 5,230, km of road sweeping and 47,000 road gullies cleaned in 2013.
- **Tree Management** – The annual Programme for 2013 dealt with over 2,000 tree management and pruning queries.

- **Grass Cutting** – The Grass Cutting Programme, running from early March to late October, planned for approximately 7,500 cuts at 650 locations in 2013.
- **Pitch Maintenance Programme** – Maintenance of 170 playing pitches catering for the 78 sports clubs based in the county.
- **Burial Grounds Maintenance** - Maintenance services were provided at 18 Burial Grounds including grass cutting, disposal of waste, maintenance of roads, paths and maintenance of boundary walls and fences and development works. In 2013, there were 647 burials in the Council's graveyards.
- **Graffiti** – A dedicated graffiti crew dealt with 264 tasks.

## Recreational Facilities

- **Parks, Pitches and Play Grounds** – 1,700 hectares of public parkland, open spaces, river valleys including 5 Regional Parks and 50 Neighbourhood Parks and 14 children's playgrounds are provided. Sports and recreation facilities are also provided. 170 playing pitches are available to cater for the 78 sports clubs based in the county.
- **Grange Castle Golf Course** – 44,907 rounds of golf were played at Grange Castle Golf in 2013.
- **Allotments** – 259 allotments at Tymon, Corkagh, Mill Lane and Friarstown



**Other facilities include:**

- Corkagh Park Fishery
- Camac Valley Tourist Caravan and Camping Park
- Tallaght Stadium
- New Skate Park in Clondalkin



**Major Emergency Planning**

The Council continued to participate in planning and training activities organised by The Eastern Region Working Group and internally. Co-ordination, co-operation and detailed response arrangements between the various Agencies involved continues to develop.

**Fire Services**

The Fire Service is a shared service operated by Dublin City Council on an agency basis for all of the Dublin Authorities. This includes the emergency ambulance service in the County. The primary fire station for South Dublin County is located at Belgard Road, Tallaght.

**Report from John Quinlivan, A/Director of Environmental Services**

Environment 2012	
<b>Litter Prevention and Enforcement</b>	
Number of part-time litter wardens:	0
Number of on-the-spot fines issues:	753
Number of on-the spot fines paid:	296
<b>Environmental Complaints and Enforcement</b>	
Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution:	4817
Number of complaints investigated:	4517
Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary:	3355
Number of enforcement procedures taken:	1967
Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns:	92
Total number of primary schools:	100
Total number of secondary schools:	35



# Development, Economic and Transport Planning



## South Dublin County: Businesses Development and Sustainability Initiative

Central to the work of this local authority is the promotion of actions in support of economic development. These actions include:

- The ongoing rollout of the Economic Strategy for the County, particularly focusing on Foreign Direct Investment opportunities and support for the development of the County's towns and villages
- Development of a signage strategy for the towns and villages within the County. Specialised advice being procured
- Support for the sustaining business executive, (under the Sustaining and Developing Business Programme), in conjunction with South Dublin Chamber
- Ongoing support and assistance for the Innovation Enterprise Network (IEN), including the creation of work space in a central area within County Hall
- The interagency approach involving the relevant stakeholders embedded in the economic subgroup of the County Development Board
- Ongoing preparation work for the creation of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO), this will build on the existing physical presence of the County Enterprise Board (CEB) in County Hall
- The working relationships established with local agencies, business and national bodies through the "Sustaining and Developing Business Programme"
- Ongoing support for local business through the development of business specific activities in the County libraries
- A full monthly update on the eight outcomes identified in the Council's

Strategic Support towards business development and survival is provided at the Corporate Policy Group Meetings

## DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

### Land and Asset Management

Work continued on the proactive management of the Council's land bank and property assets including ongoing work on acquisitions, land management and disposals.

The most significant disposal in 2013 was of the council's legal interest in 'The Square' car park to NAMA which the council resolved to dispose of at its meeting in October 2013. This is a very significant disposal in that it will facilitate the development of a major expansion of 'The Square' shopping centre which will ensure its future viability and provide employment opportunities in both the construction and trading phases of development.

Work was continued on the completion and updating of the property register to ensure that it comprehensively captures all council property interests.

Significant inroads were made into resolving the long outstanding issue of the residential shops and other debtors.

### Grange Castle

The Council in partnership with the Industrial Development Agency (IDA Ireland), continues to market and promote Grange Castle Business Park as a strategic site to attract major Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

The highlights in 2013 were:



- The completion of the disposal of a 20 acres site at Aungierstown/Ballybane to Google Ireland Limited
- The proposed disposal of 2.94 hectares (7.26 acres) in Grange Castle Business Park to Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited
- The proposed disposal of 112.52 acres in Grange Castle Business Park to Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited
- The commencement of construction of a new central carriageway in Grange Castle Business Park to further enhance the infrastructure within the Park



### Architectural Conservation

- South Dublin County Council and the Irish Georgian Society in association with the Office of Public Works (OPW) presented the Period Building Show 2013 at Rathfarnham Castle during July 2013.
- During December 2013 the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht launched a new fund of €5 million called the Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme - for the repair and conservation of protected structures to support protected buildings across the country. The scheme is intended to generate employment in the conservation and construction industries and specialist trades. South Dublin County Council was allocated €123,000 under the scheme which was advertised in December 2013
- The Architectural Conservation Officer

participated in the Industrial Heritage Survey undertaken as part of an objective under the County Heritage Plan. The Architectural Conservation Officer also participated in the Draft Village Initiative Surveys which form part of the Village Initiative Scheme for the County



### Development Management

#### Planning Applications

- The Council received 577 valid planning applications during 2013. This represented



- an increase of 5.1% on 2012
- Five hundred and nine decisions were made in relation to planning applications during 2013, 454 decisions were for grants of permission, and 55 were refusals
  - Additional Information was requested in 107 cases
  - Ten applications were declared withdrawn during 2013
  - Four applications were withdrawn during 2013
  - There were 26 invalid applications received in 2013 and a further 15 applications were deemed to be invalid due to the Site Notice not being in accordance with the regulatory requirements
  - One hundred and nine applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2013

#### Enforcement

- Two hundred and thirty-seven new enforcement files were opened in 2013
- Warning Letters were issued in 207 cases
- Enforcement Notices were served in 77 cases.
- District Court proceedings were initiated in 18 cases
- Circuit Court proceedings were initiated in three cases during 2013
- Nine cases were resolved following the issuing of District Court proceedings
- Ninety cases were resolved without the necessity to apply to the Courts

#### Heritage

A range of objectives under the County Heritage Plan 2010-2015 were targeted and achieved during 2013. The following projects were 75% grant-aided by the Heritage Council under their County Heritage Plan Funding Support Programme:

- Traditional Building Skills Weekend Event in Rathfarnham Castle, a joint project between SDCC, OPW, and Irish Georgian Society, show-casing traditional skills in the maintenance and repair of old and historic buildings in conjunction with a day-long series of technical information seminars
- National Heritage Map Viewer, where SDCC contributed heritage data for uploading to a national web-based data viewer displaying heritage-related features throughout Ireland
- Phase Two of the County Industrial Heritage Survey, focussing on the assessment of historic mills along the Dodder River
- Building capacity in Rathcoole community to undertake a Community-led Village Design Statement for Rathcoole

Other heritage projects undertaken under the County Heritage Plan included:

- The engagement of two consultancy companies to undertake LEADER-funded feasibility studies for a Slade Heritage Trail and an Aviation Heritage Museum.
- Partnership project with School of Archaeology, UCD, and the National Monuments Service, to undertake a geophysical survey of a national monument in the townland of Baldonnel
- The survey of Council-owned Protected Structures continued with the survey of the Old Stables in Corkagh Park and the Firhouse Weir and City Watercourse.
- Production and printing of a photographic guide leaflet outlining the architectural interest of the Rathfarnham ACA
- The facilitation of Tidy Towns Groups in Rathfarnham (an archaeological condition assessment of the historic church and graveyard) and Clondalkin (Clondalkin Park Biodiversity Survey)



- Supervision of Student Placement in Corkagh Park to undertake a Habitat Mapping project for the Park
- Biodiversity Survey of the pond and environs in Rathfarnham Castle Park for amenity and ecological enhancement purposes
- Facilitation of community groups in Palmerston (graveyard survey and historical research), Saggart (updating local village heritage map display), Waterstown Park (community bat walks in June and October), Tallaght (launch of Tallaght Soundings Two for the Virginia House Creative Writing Group)
- Provision of training to Council staff re: bat awareness and recording in parks and Council properties
- The Heritage Officer also continues to input advice to planning decisions, Local Area Plans, legislative issues, customer queries, and other Council projects requiring heritage and biodiversity information
- A fully automated gate at the Hell Fire car park has been provided, allowing public access on a daily basis funded by the DMP.
- The Dublin Mountains Public Lands Access Map highlighting land accessible to the public, access points, car parks, recreation facilities and the Dublin Mountains Way and Wicklow Way in 2013 became East West Mappings most popular publication. This map is available in bookshops and outdoor shops and on the website [www.eastwestmapping.ie](http://www.eastwestmapping.ie)
- Trail and Infrastructure Maintenance
- New Mountain Bike Trail extension at Ticknock
- The Dublin Mountains Way (DMW) upgrades. A new 1.3 km walking trail using local material was built on an old forest fire break, forming part of a new mountain access loop of the DMW incorporating the Mountain Meitheal mountain access bog bridge trail
- The DMP have produced a free brochure (second run) on the Dublin Mountains Way, available from County Council offices, Tourist information offices and some outdoor retail outlets across Dublin. The brochure includes a map outlining the route and various points of interest
- Volunteering and Community Involvement continued throughout 2013. The volunteer rangers led 38 guided walks throughout the year – these are very popular and are regularly oversubscribed. The fourth Free Forest Family Fun Day was again a success
- Education Initiatives (for example ‘Watchable Wildlife’, ‘Getting Out, Getting Active’) were implemented in 2013
- Following on from their success in Lough Key Forest Park, Zipit opened their second course in the Dublin Mountains in April 2013, bringing their adrenaline-pumping, high

### **Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP)**

The DMP continued to implement the strategic objectives and actions plans set out in the Dublin Mountains Strategic Development Plan (DMSDP) for Outdoor Recreation 2007-2016. This plan continues to deliver on the policies and objectives laid out in the plans of the relevant statutory and non-statutory partners. The focus of this Plan in 2013 was to consolidate the work of the partnership and to identify and prioritise projects and services for the future.

The key targets for 2013 based on the following areas:

- Improving information and access to the Mountains generally.





wire trail to the fabulous pine forest of Tibbradden Wood. Zipit engineers have built platforms on trees ranging from one metre to 20 metres off the ground and connected them with a range of activities to allow the participant move from one tree to another



### **DMURS**

Council staff were central to the development and delivery of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). Working on behalf of the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government SDCC staff worked as part of the multidisciplinary project team that also included staff from Kildare County Council, Fingal County Council and Cork City Council.

DMURS was launched on 25th March 2013 by Mr. Leo Varadkar, T.D, Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport and by Ms. Jan O’Sullivan, T.D., Minister for Housing and Planning at the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government at an event held at the Civic Theatre in Tallaght.

DMURS replaces existing national design standards that will be used throughout all urban areas in Ireland when designing or upgrading roads and streets and will ensure

that the urban road and street design process now incorporate key planning policy considerations such as those related to place making and the development of sustainable communities.

### **Forward Planning**

In 2013 the Planning Department initiated preparation of a new Local Area Plan for the Ballycullen-Oldcourt area and an amended SDZ Planning Scheme for the Adamstown SDZ. Both processes included two rounds of public consultation, at pre-plan preparation and draft Plan stages. A Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) for the County was also prepared and approved by the Council as part of an EU Energy Project that concluded with a conference in Dublin in 2013.

### **School Planning**

During 2013 the Planning Department continued to work with the Department of Education and Skills to identify and acquire sites for schools, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in June 2012. The acquisition of identified sites continued to be progressed at Newcastle, Lucan, Citywest, Fortunestown and Killinarden. SDCC granted planning permission for a primary school in Newcastle although this was subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanála. A site was acquired and SDCC granted planning permission for a primary school in Saggart. SDCC provided the Department of Education and Skills with a site in Balgaddy in order to facilitate a new temporary primary school.

### **Local Transport Planning**

It is the policy of South Dublin County Council to ensure sustainable forms of movement and the use of the street by pedestrians and cyclists and to promote permeable pedestrian



and cyclist networks connecting to shops, community facilities, employment areas and desired places to go. As part of the Sustainable Transport Measures Programme in the County funded by the National Transport Authority and the National Cycle Network Plan the following was achieved in relation to Projects overseen by the Planning Department in 2013:

- The development of a walking and cycling route along the Dodder Valley from Dublin Bay to Bohernabreena was progressed jointly with Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Following the Technical Feasibility study completed in 2012, the Planning Department progressed to the preliminary design stage for Phase 1 of the route in South Dublin County. The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport (DTTS) National Cycle Network Funding also funded an Economic Appraisal for the Dodder Greenway route which was completed in 2013.
- The detailed design stage of the Tallaght to Ballyboden strategic cycle route was completed in 2013 and Phase 1 (pedestrian and cycle route and bridges between Old Bawn and Firhouse) commenced construction phase in 2013. A number of toucan crossings planned for the route were also completed in 2013.
- The detailed design for Phase 1 of a walking and cycling route from Grange Road to Loreto Park, Rathfarnham was completed and Phase 1 commenced construction in 2013.
- The detailed design stage for footpath improvements to Sarah Curran Avenue was completed.
- A review of permeability projects was carried out and a Best Practice Guide to local permeability projects was developed and is now complete.
- A public consultation and Part 8 process was carried out regarding works at an existing right of way at Mount Bellew / Bewley / St. Andrews, Lucan
- Tallaght Town Centre Movement Framework Plan, funded by the NTA for improving walking and cycling facilities, public transport integration and access was completed in 2013.
- Clondalkin Town Centre Movement Framework Plan. The NTA commissioned South Dublin County Council to carry out a Movement Framework Plan for the Clondalkin Town Centre Area, to examine existing movement networks throughout the central area, identify issues and create a list of options that will result in a package of physical measures on key streets and junctions within the Town Centre, to calm traffic, enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety and improve the urban setting and sense of place. This project commenced in 2013 and is due for completion in 2014.
- Trial Access Gates, the NTA commissioned the Council to examine access controls for cycle tracks / shared routes in open space areas; the report for the access control was completed and the access gates will be piloted in 2014.
- Public Bike Hire Scheme. The NTA funded a feasibility study into the provision of a public bike hire scheme for Tallaght. The draft report was progressed in 2013.
- Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area 2013. South Dublin County Council acted as a central stakeholder in the National Transport Authority's Cycle Network Plan for the Greater Dublin Area, currently at Draft stage.



<b>Planning and Development 2013</b>	
<b>Individual Houses</b>	
A. Number of applications decided:	33
Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks:	23
Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information:	10
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought:	76
Percentage of applications granted:	63.64
Percentage of applications refused:	36.36
<b>New Housing Development</b>	
A. Number of applications decided:	19
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information:	10
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought:	76.5
Percentage of applications granted:	68.42
<b>Planning Enforcement</b>	
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated:	237
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed:	66
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations:	90
Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters:	207
Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices:	77
Number of prosecutions:	18
<b>Planning Public Opening Hours</b>	
Average number of opening hours per week:	35
Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held:	250
Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation:	16
<b>New Buildings Inspected</b>	
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority:	402
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected:	53
<b>Taken Estates in Charge</b>	
Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question:	10

Report from Frank Nevin, Director of Development, Economic and Transport Planning.



# Roads and Water Services



## Traffic and Transportation

In 2013 Revenue expenditure under Division B Road Transport and safety totalled €26.79 million with income of € 6.98 million. This budget provided for all the day to day costs of public lighting, traffic lights, road maintenance, winter maintenance, the school warden service and the provision of low cost safety measures.

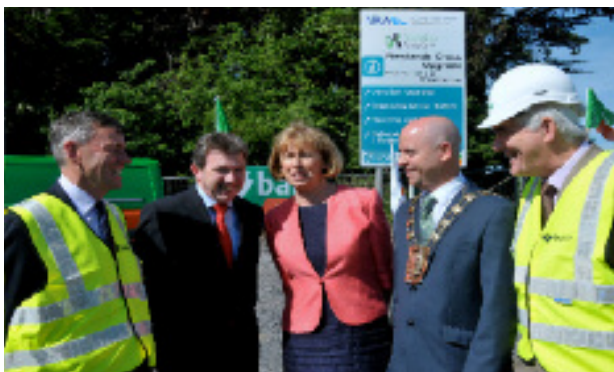
## Roads Design and Construction

### Newlands Cross

The scheme to upgrade and replace the existing N7/Newlands Cross Junction with a grade separated interchange commenced in May 2013 and consists of the following

- Provision of a grade separated junction at Newlands Cross
- Provision of new traffic signal controlled access junction at Belgard Road
- Extinguishment of existing rights of way
- Associated ancillary works

The construction scheme is part of a Public Private Partnership bundle contract negotiated by the National Roads Authority (NRA) and also includes the Rathnew Bypass in County Wicklow. Kildare County Council are



managing the contract on behalf of the NRA. The project will be complete by spring 2015.

### Adamstown Road Improvement Scheme (R120)

Proposed road improvement measures to extend south from the Railway Bridge at Adamstown for a distance of approximately 1.2 km in the Townlands of Adamstown, Ballymakailly and Grange.

**Present Position:** Part 8 has been approved and agreed to proceed with the Adamstown Road (R120) Improvement Scheme subject to the following modification:

- Re-alignment of the vehicular access to the former Univar site and northeast towpath in order to avoid the canal millrace

### Nangor Road

Construction of approximately 1.7km Road Realignment incorporating the Nangor Road (R134) and the Adamstown Road (R120) and construction of approximately 0.33km of proposed Road Improvement on the Baldonnel Road.

**Present Position:** Progression to detailed design and construction of this scheme is subject to funding becoming available.

### National Transportation Authority Schemes 2013

The National Transportation Authority (NRA) Sustainable Transport Measures Five Year Investment Framework Programme provided grant funding of €3.86 million to SDCC in 2013 for a number of projects in South Dublin, significant projects included:

#### The Old Nangor Road, Clondalkin

Work was completed on new footpath. This



involved land acquisition from the Golf Club and the provision of new public lighting and drainage works.

#### **Phase One of the Willsbrook Road (Phase One)**

Project was completed and approval was granted from NTA to proceed with design of Phase Two for completion in 2014.

#### **The N4 access and upgrade scheme**

The options report was completed and awaiting NTA approval in conjunction with additional related schemes along the N4 corridor.

#### **Clondalkin Village and Lucan Village**

Clondalkin Village Movement Framework Plan was approved and schemes were developed. Lucan Framework Plan has been revised to Lucan Access Plan and schemes will be developed following surveys.

#### **Monastery Road**

Phase One completed in 2013 and approval has been received from NTA to proceed to Phase Two.

#### **Tymon Park and National Basketball Arena**

Design work has been completed. The project is scheduled for construction in 2014.

#### **Tallaght to Templeogue Cycle Track**

Upgrade completed. Approval to complete Phase 1 design Tallaght to M50. Part 8 approved.

#### **N81 Citywest to Fortunestown**

Part 8 approved

#### **Pedestrian facilities at Avoca**

Work completed

#### **N4 Strategic Cycle Track**

NTA approval was granted to go to tender for design of the scheme.

#### **Tallaght to Liffey Valley Cycle Scheme**

NTA approval was granted to go to tender for design of the scheme.



#### **Road Maintenance**

A total of 64 roads had works undertaken as part of the 2013 programme. Nineteen Restoration Improvement Grant Schemes were also included. Total spend €4,366,000. The Footpath programme continued in 2013 with expenditure of €450,000 incurred on repairs and improvements to footpaths throughout the County. Detailed inspections were carried out in 2013 to support measures to be delivered under the Village Initiative Programme. Work on the GIS Mapping of all roads in the County was completed.

#### **Road Safety**

As part of the Council's road safety activities in 2013 school warden services were provided at 93 school crossing points throughout the County.



Cycle safety training was provided to 2,000 national school children during 2013 both as part of National Bike Week activities and an ongoing programme of support to schools in this regard. Collaboration with An Taisce, walk ability audits on schools is ongoing.

### National Bike Week 2013

National Bike Week is a week long initiative promoted by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport as part of the “Smarter Travel Initiative” to get us all up and cycling. The theme for Bike Week 2013 was **Cycling for Fun** and we incorporated events for all categories and cycling abilities; people of working age, families, school going children, single people and those interested in their local heritage. Throughout the week there was something for everyone - promotions, cycling events, family cycling in parks, a Tour De Cuisine and Tour de Romance in Lucan taking in the Grand Canal Green Route and safety training in primary schools all around the County.



### Engineer's Week 2013

Engineer's Week is a week long programme of nationwide events with the aim of celebrating the world of engineering in Ireland. The aim of the week is to create a positive awareness and spark enthusiasm about the engineering profession to people of various ages with little or no engineering background.

South Dublin County Council has hosted events and workshops for local schoolchildren since 2009, making this our fifth anniversary. In 2009 we facilitated 200 students. Each year has seen that number increase and in 2013 we hosted 1600 children from schools throughout the County.



## Additional Traffic and Transportation Programmes

- Parking Tag - the option to pay for your parking via mobile phone was launched in August 2013 in collaboration with the other Dublin Local Authorities
- A review of Pay and Display Parking in conjunction with the Transportation SPC was undertaken during 2013. A recommendation to provide 30 minutes free parking was made to the Council
- The RITS Net EU Intelligent Transport Systems project continued during 2013 with South Dublin hosting a European workshop in November 2013. Delegates had travelled from the eight partner countries for the workshop which was supported by ITS Ireland
- Low Cost Safety Measures Schemes – Ballinscorney/ Ballymace Improvement Scheme was completed. The scheme delivered improved sight lines, junction improvement, installation of crash barriers and improved signage. Lisheen Junction signage and junction improvements scheme was also delivered
- The Regional Signposting Programme which was grant funded concluded in 2013

## External Policy Development Activities

### Roadworks and Licensing Working Group

South Dublin County Council continued as project coordinator for a working group established by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTS) to address the policy aspects of any barriers that impact on the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure by agencies under its remit. The group is considering: -

- Timely and standardised processing of permit applications for telecommunications infrastructure as well as applications for street infrastructure such as street cabinets and the installation of underground telecommunications infrastructure;
- A new unified online application system for relevant licenses is under consideration for introduction in the first quarter of 2014.

This work will involve detailed discussions and co-operation with local authorities and industry. It is broken down into a number of distinct tasks. These are, along with delivery agencies as follows: -

1. Development of an on-line roadworks system as part of MapRoad (LGMA)
2. Update of the guidelines for backfilling of trenches at roadworks
3. Identification of road asset locations for possible Broadband use (NRA).

Transportation and Infrastructure 2013	
<b>Road Restoration Programme</b>	
Number of Kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum:	16.82
Number of Kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum:	0





## WATER SERVICES

The Water Services section of the Council co-operates as part of the Greater Dublin Regional Water and Drainage Steering Group. This approach enables a consolidation of resources which reduces costs and ensures high quality of service provision to the people of South Dublin.

The creation of a national water authority was agreed in the EU-IMF memorandum of understanding. The proposal to operate Irish Water was won in April 2012 by Bord Gáis.

The public utility company Irish Water was established under the Water Services Acts 2013 as an independent state-owned subsidiary of Bord Gáis. Irish Water has now taken overall responsibility for the water investment maintenance programmes of the local authorities.

From an operational perspective, local authorities will be engaged as agents of Irish Water. A Service Level Agreement between Irish Water and South Dublin County Council to cover a 12 year period was signed and came into operation on 1st January 2014.

### Water Maintenance and Operations

Seventy Megalitre (ML) of treated drinking water is used in South Dublin County per day. Approximately 68 ML each day is supplied from the water treatment plant at Ballymore Eustace and approximately 1.7 ML each day from the water treatment plant at Leixlip. An additional 120 ML each day is supplied via a South Dublin County Council ground water supply in Brittas. This water is distributed throughout the County via approximately 1,550km of water mains and our four main

storage reservoirs at Belgard, Peamount Saggart and Kiltalown. There are approximately 90,250 households and 5,500 live metered commercial customers within the South Dublin area.

The drive-by meter reading system gives an accurate reading for all commercial customers on which to base Water Charges, and is a useful tool for resolving customer queries. Two solar powered electromagnetic meters have proved satisfactory and these meters were installed at schools, complimenting their green flag policies and feedback has been positive. The Boherboy Water Supply Project was fully commissioned in June 2013.

The quality of drinking water is monitored and analysed regularly and complies with all the requirements of the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No.2) Regulations 2007. In 2013, 4,286 tests were carried out on the water and 99.9% of samples were in compliance, which is above the national average as reported by the EPA. Details of all non-compliant samples and summary of results are regularly updated on the Council's website. There were no significant non-compliances or water quality issues in 2013.

During 2013 the Water Section repaired 119 burst mains, and carried out maintenance or replacement of 75 fire hydrants, 46 sluice valves and 416 services.

There were no significant weather related crises in 2013. However there were two regional supply issues which led to extensive night time restrictions. The most serious of these in October and November 2013 was caused by water production problems at the Ballymore Eustace Treatment works and led to



all supplies being cut off between 8pm and 7am each night from 30th October until 7th November. Lessons learned from the incidents are used in revising plans, and in prioritising network improvement in work programmes.

The Water Section Inspectorate based at Deansrath Depot provides a key support to the construction industry, other Council Departments and outside agencies, through the implementation of:

- the Council's Specification for the Laying of Water Mains and Drinking Water Supply (January 2012),
- the Council's Water Bye-laws for the Management of Water Services and Conservation of Drinking Water 2004,
- the EC Drinking Water Regulations 2007,
- the Water Services Act 2007.

The Mechanical Section working in conjunction with the Water Section has continued to implement energy efficiency measures in the water pumping station network. This has consisted of replacing pumps with intelligent variable speed drives, thereby adjusting the pumps speed to the water demand required at any given time. This has reduced electricity bills, plus reduced maintenance costs, with an additional benefit of increasing the particular pumps life.

### Water Network Management

The Council participates in the Dublin Region Water Conservation Project (DRWCP) which commenced in 1998 in order to manage water resources. The current phase of this project is at maintenance and rehabilitation stages. The water mains infrastructure is recorded on a Regional GIS system.

Water distribution is managed using a Regional Telemetry System which remotely monitors flows and/or pressures every 15 minutes at 215 locations across South Dublin. This facilitates efficient weekly programming of leakage surveying works. Unaccounted for Water (UFW) losses in South Dublin County averaged 16.29% in 2013. The implementation of pressure control measures are assisting the Council to achieve the 2016 UFW targets of 16%, as set by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Twenty-seven additional Pressure Reducing Valves (PRVs) were commissioned as part of the Boherboy project bringing our total number of PRVs to 91. Day-Night Controllers are installed on 33 PRVs and Full Modulated Controllers on two PRVs. These controllers facilitate additional pressure management on a day/night or 24hr basis.

Trials of Green Energy systems were completed this year at two District Metering Area (DMA) Telemetry Outstations; one solar powered and one hydroelectric powered. The solar powered system proved satisfactory and will be rolled out to ten additional Industrial DMA locations in 2014.

### Drainage Maintenance and Operations

The Drainage Maintenance and Operations Section is responsible for maintaining and improving the South Dublin County Council Drainage System which comprises of approximately 1,500 km of foul and surface water public sewers.

In 2013 the major work in this section



consisted of constructing new foul and surface water pipelines to overcome problems that came to light after the deluge on the 24th of October 2011. The cleaning of water courses, streams and rivers to try and prevent flooding of properties in the future is an important part of this section's work.

Areas included:

- Upgrade of surface water pipe along Mill Road Saggart
- Connection of 150mm foul line on Boherboy Road
- Cleaned outlet of Owendore River at Dodder Park Road
- Completing 900mm surface drainage line on the Boherboy water supply scheme
- Installing Blip Sculpture in Camac River
- Excavating Chambers and Rebuilding Backdrops in Kilnamanagh
- Demolition of dis-used Water Reservoir at Belgard
- Laying overflow pipes between foul sewers in Bancroft Park and Glenview Park, Tallaght
- 900mm surface drainage line on the



- Boherboy water supply scheme.
- Major Upgrade of Quarryvale Pumping Station (two replacement pumps, installation of standby generator, odour control unit, plus improved security fencing and access)
- Installation of macerator at Newcastle Drainage Pump Station
- Installation of fourth pump at Lucan village pumping station
- Installation of macerator at Esker pumping station

#### Works and Services included:

- River and stream flood management works such as screen maintenance
- Three new screens installed on the Poddle River with cameras on two of them at Kimmage and Wainsfort Manors
- Unblocking and freeing up of public sewers
- Remedial work on sewerage infrastructure
- Maintenance of network of pumping stations
- Emergency call outs
- Taking over the drainage maintenance of new estates that have been "taken in charge" by the Council
- Providing advice on the Dublin Regional Drainage Code of Practice for Drainage Works.

### CFRAMS (Catchment Flood Risk and Assessment Management Studies)

#### East CFRAM

The Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) study commenced in the Eastern district in June 2011 and will run until the end of 2015 with flood maps to be issued by end of 2013. The main aims of the Eastern CFRAM Study are to:



- Assess flood risk, through the identification of flood hazard areas and the associated impacts of flooding;
- Identify viable structural and non-structural measures and options for managing the flood risks for localised high-risk areas and within the catchment as a whole;
- Prepare a strategic Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) that sets out the measures and policies that should be pursued to achieve the most cost effective and sustainable management of flood risk;
- Ensure that full and thorough public and stakeholder consultation and engagement is achieved.
- Poddle and Camac public consultation held on flood maps and options

#### **Dodder CFRAM**

Study completed, and brought to the Environment SPC. The SPC agreed to allow the plan to be brought to the Council for adoption in 2014.

#### **Water Pollution Control**

The River Basin Management Plan was prepared and adopted by South Dublin County Council in November 2009. The plan has been adopted by the other counties participating in the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD) and is in force since June 2010. South Dublin County Council is now implementing the agreed Programme of Works.

Recent Legislation of note has been the enactment of S.I. 272 of 2009 dealing with surface water quality objectives. This broadens the number of parameters that have upper [and in some cases lower] limits with regard to

water quality. These limits directly relate to water quality status, for example, high or good, as aimed for in the ERBD Plan. New regulations SI No. 101 of 2009 EC (Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters) Regulations 2009 were enacted and as a consequence the previous 2006 and 2007 Regulations were revoked.

Some changes of note are contained in the new regulations but its business as usual for the Water Pollution Control section with regard to this legislation. The EPA issued a Code of Practice for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems for Serving Single Houses (p.e. 10). This has been included in the new county development plan as the document of reference for appropriate wastewater treatment not on the public sewer system.

Since 2009 there have been several legislative enactments relating to septic tank registration, training and inspection. The most notable of these being the:

- Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012,
- Water Services Acts 2007 and 2012 Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Registration) Regulations 2012,
- Water Services Acts 2007 and 2012 (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems) Regulations 2012,
- Water Services Act 2007 (Registration and Inspections) Regulations 2012.

This legislation forms the basis for local authorities to protect surface water and groundwater from malfunctioning domestic waste water treatment systems. The legislation also provides for a National Inspection Plan on this matter, produced by the EPA, which



identifies risk rated areas within each local authority.

The Water Pollution Control Team initiated in 2012 a trade effluent licensing programme of all food service establishments in the county. At the end of the 2013 period 430 establishments had been identified and inspected and of these 319 [74%] had been issued a license with the remainder to be licensed by Irish Water into the future. The benefits of this programme will be the reduced number of blockages of the foul sewer network and fewer overflows of sewage to roads and rivers.

### Water and Drainage Design/Projects

Irish Water approved the following scheme for review of scope and construction commencement under the Irish Water Capital Investment Programme 2014 – 2016:

- Strategic Watermain Link between Saggart and Leixlip
- The Boherboy Water Supply Scheme is now commissioned

Water Services 2013	
Total volume of water supplied (m <sup>3</sup> /per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for:	69948
Volume of unaccounted for water (m <sup>3</sup> /per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for:	11415

### Report from Teresa Walsh, Director of Roads and Water Services



# Finance



**The Finance Department is responsible for the financial operations in the Council and in particular ensures that adequate arrangements are in place to finance revenue and capital activity. Responsibilities include budgeting, financial reporting, treasury and cashflow management and the implementation of a framework of internal controls to minimise financial risk and liaison with external audit.**

The range of services provided by the Finance Department includes:

- Financial control, cashflow and treasury management
- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of the Annual Financial Statement
- Preparation of Quarterly Reports
- Administration of general ledger and main financial systems
- Payroll administration
- Commercial Rates - billing and collection
- Entry Year Property Levy - billing and collection
- Non Principal Private Residence Charge - collection
- Debt Management and Collection
- Management of the purchase to pay process
- Insurance and claims administration
- Cash office operations

The operational plan for the Finance Department included the following objectives in 2013:

- The timely preparation of the 2012 Annual Financial Statement in the standard format specified by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DOECLG) and in accordance

with Local Authority Accounting in Ireland, Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations

- To facilitate the annual audit of the 2012 Annual Financial Statement
- To liaise with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DOECLG) and provide financial and non-financial information as required
- To monitor, control and report the council's activities in the context of EU/IMF financial requirements and the General Government balance (GGB)
- To prepare the Annual Budget 2014 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002
- To manage cashflow so that funding is available as required for day-to-day expenditure on the Revenue and Capital Accounts and investment opportunities are maximised
- To liaise with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DOECLG) when opportune to maximise allocations from the Local Government Fund and other state funds
- To manage, maintain and develop the Agresso Financial Management System

### Annual Financial Statement

The Annual Financial Statement 2012 was presented (in a web enabled format) to the Members at the April 2013 council meeting. It was then submitted to the Department of the Environment, Community, and Local Government (DOECLG). The 2012 audit opinion and report were considered by the members in committee in September 2013 and noted by members at the October 2013 council meeting.



## Quarterly Reports

In accordance with the EU/IMF funding conditions some additional reporting requirements were identified (reference 'Ireland Memorandum of Understanding on Specific Economic Policy Conditionality' dated 3rd December 2010. Annex One: Provision of Data) and are provided to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (DOECLG) within 60 days of the quarter end. The reports include:

- **Revenue Report** which gives details of the revenue account expenditure and income for the year to each quarter end against the year's budget.
- **Capital Report** which gives details of the capital account opening balances, expenditure and income and closing balances for the year to each quarter end.
- **Debtors Report** which gives details of transactions for each category of debtor for the year to each quarter end.
- **Loan Report** which gives a detailed forecast of interest and principal repayments on all existing and approved borrowings.

These reports were submitted to DOECLG within the specified timeframes for the four quarters of 2013.

Publication of Purchase Orders over €20,000. Under the Public Service Reform Plan, purchase orders procuring goods or services with a value in excess of €20,000 must be published online at the end of each quarter. These reports were published and are available for viewing on the Council's website as prescribed.

## Annual Budget

The Annual Budget for 2014 was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001, and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002. It was adopted by the Council on 12th December, 2013.

## Commercial Rates

Income from commercial rates was €122,440,818 for 2013. The total collected during 2013 was €103,740,904 with a further €12,869,213 qualifying for vacancy credits, leaving arrears of €34,581,886 for collection at year end. The 77% collection for this income source in 2013 was consistent with the national trend and reflected the difficult economic climate for business and business dependant incomes.

## Entry Year Property Levy (PEL)

The Entry Year Property Levy was introduced under the Local Government Act 2006. The levy applies to all new-build properties from the date when the properties are valued for rating purposes, pending the levying of commercial rates.

Twenty-one requests for valuations were issued by the Council to the Valuation Office in 2013 in respect of new builds.

## Non Principal Private Residence Charge (NPPR)

The Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 introduced a €200 annual charge which applied to Non-Principal Private Residences. The €200 charge is payable to the local authority in whose area the Non-Principal Private Residence is located. The charge is





based on self disclosure and owners are obliged to register the property and pay the charge. The legislation also provides for the imposition of late payment penalties which accumulate monthly once a charge is overdue.

The amount collected in 2013 in respect of the NPPR Charge was €3,733,780. This was made up of penalties and charges for 2013 and prior years.

The NPPR charge was effective for the years 2009 to 2013. Part 12 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 provided for the repeal of the legislation governing the Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) charge and deals with the collection of undischarged liabilities relating to the NPPR charge.

### European Communities

Late Payment in Commercial transactions Regulations 2012, (following on from Late Payment in Commercial transactions Regulations 2002):

EU Regulations governing late payment of commercial transactions were enforced with effect from 16 March 2013. These Regulations partially replace the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 and provide that interest be paid where an invoice remains unpaid for more than 30 days. Where interest becomes due a prescribed compensation payment is also payable. The total amount of interest and compensation paid in 2013 was €5,373.

Since 2011 all public bodies are required to report on their performance in relation to payment of invoices in the following categories:

- within 15 days of receipt;

- within 16 to 30 days of receipt; and
- in excess of 30 days of receipt.

These reports were submitted to DECLG within the specified timeframes for the 4 quarters of 2013 and are available for viewing on the Council's website.

### Revenue Commissioner Report on Payments

The Revenue Commissioners require an annual report under Section 891(b) of the Tax Consolidation Act 1997 to be submitted by Public Bodies, including Local Authorities. The report provides details of payments to suppliers where the annual total exceeds €1,000. Payments subject to RCT (Relevant Contracts Tax) or PAYE and some other categories are excluded. This annual return was submitted to the Revenue Commissioners within the specified timeframe in 2013.



## South Dublin County Council Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2013

	2013 €'000	2012 €'000
Fixed Assets & Work in Progress	3,705,162	3,721,901
Long Term Debtors	208,513	204,038
Net Current Assets	41,373	38,657
Long Term Creditors	(253,048)	(250,601)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>3,702,000</b>	<b>3,713,995</b>

*Financed by:*

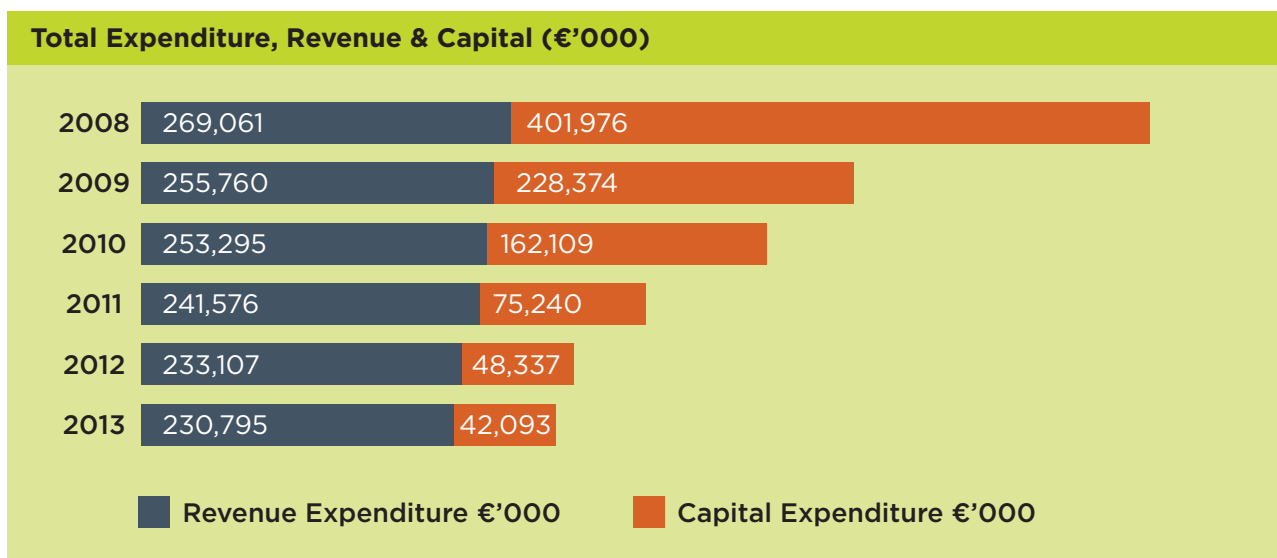
Work in Progress & Capitalisation Account	3,675,162	3,689,762
Revenue reserve - Specific	10,805	10,805
Revenue Reserve - General	10,730	12,095
Other Balance	5,303	1,333
	<b>3,702,000</b>	<b>3,713,995</b>



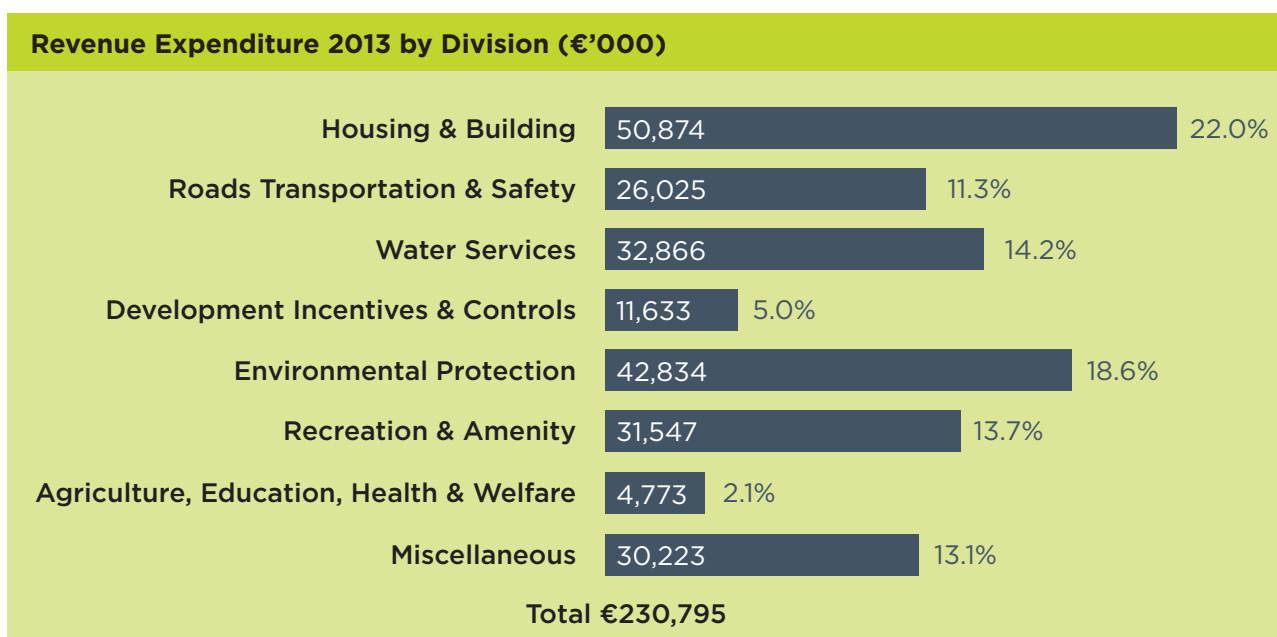
## South Dublin County Council Income & Expenditure Account Statement for year ended 31 December 2013

	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Net Cost</b>
	<b>2013 €'000</b>	<b>2013 €'000</b>	<b>2013 €'000</b>
Housing @ Building	47,779	47,138	(641)
Roads Transportation & Safety	24,675	7,265	(17,410)
Water Services	32,826	8,345	(24,481)
Development Incentive & Controls	11,351	2,265	(9,086)
Environmental Protection	34,469	9,703	(24,766)
Recreation & Amenity	30,801	4,806	(25,995)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	4,745	3,179	(1,566)
Miscellaneous	28,975	4,333	(24,624)
<b>Total Expenditure/Income</b>	<b>215,603</b>	<b>87,034</b>	
<b>Net cost of programme to be funded from Rates &amp; Local Government Fund</b>			(128,569)
Rates Income			122,441
Local Government Fund - Grant Income			16,370
Pension Related Deduction			3,193
<b>Net Transfers to/from Reserves</b>			<b>(14,801)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>			<b>(1,366)</b>
<b>General Reserve @ 1st January 2013</b>			<b>12,095</b>
<b>General Reserve @ 31st december 2013</b>			<b>10,729</b>





Note: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/from reserves



Note: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/from reserves

#### Report from Clodagh Henehan, Head of Finance



# Appendix One Council Membership of Committees and Other Bodies



## Area Committees Chairs

**Councillor Breeda Bonner**  
Chair of the Clondalkin Area  
Committee.

**Councillor Guss O'Connell**  
Chair of the Lucan Area  
Committee

**Councillor Mick Duff**  
Chair of the Tallaght Area  
Committee.

**Councillor Paddy Cosgrave**  
Chair of the Rathfarnham  
Area Committee.

## Strategic Policy Committees

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

#### Council Members

Councillor Paddy Cosgrave -  
Chairperson  
Councillor Marie Corr  
Councillor Marie Devine  
Councillor Tony Delaney  
Councillor Mick Duff  
Councillor John Hannon  
Councillor Caitriona Jones  
Councillor Anne Marie  
Dermody  
Councillor Eamonn Walsh  
Councillor Guss O' Connell

#### Sectoral Members

Dympna Quinn, Community  
and Voluntary  
67 Whitehall Road  
Terenure  
Dublin 12

Jim Fay, Trade Union  
20 Glenview Drive,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24

John Conroy, Culture  
2 Tamarisk Drive,  
Kilnamanagh,  
Dublin 24

Lyuba Moore  
The Intercultural Centre,  
CPLN  
12 Tower Road  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22



## Strategic Policy Committees (continued)

### Economic Development (including Planning) SPC

#### Council Members

Councillor Pamela Kearns -  
Chairperson  
Councillor Colm Brophy  
Councillor Emma Coburn  
Councillor Marie Corr  
Councillor Chris Bond  
Councillor Maire Devine  
Councillor Trevor Gilligan  
Councillor Caitríona Jones  
Councillor Cathal King  
Councillor William Lavelle  
Councillor Guss O'Connell  
Councillor Eamon Tuffy

#### Sectoral

Neil Durkin, Development and  
Construction

1-3 Sandford Road,  
Ranelagh,  
Dublin 6

Garrett Robinson, Business  
and Commercial

SIAC Construction,  
Monastery Road,  
Clondalkin,  
Dublin 22

Jim Fay, Trade Union  
20 Glenview Drive,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24

Sean Giblin, Environment and  
Construction

2 Finnstown,  
Fairways,  
Lucan,  
County Dublin

Donnie Anderson, Farming  
and Agriculture

Castlekelly,  
Glenasmole,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24

John Kearns, Community and  
Voluntary

Bolbrook Enterprise Centre,  
Avonmore Road,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24



## Strategic Policy Committees (continued)

### Environment SPC

#### Council Members

Councillor John Lahart -  
Chairperson  
Councillor Emma Coburn  
Councillor Breeda Bonner  
Councillor Maire Devine  
Councillor John Hannon  
Councillor William Lavelle  
Councillor Chris Bond  
Councillor Guss O'Connell  
Councillor Eamon Tuffy  
Councillor Eamonn Walsh

#### Sectoral

Pat Lee, Farming and  
Agriculture  
St. Anne's,  
Bohernabreena,  
County Dublin

Sherri Brennan, Business and  
Commercial  
Skips Trans,  
Unit 518B Greenogue  
Business Park,  
Rathcoole,  
County Dublin

Connie Kiernan,  
Environmental and  
Conservation  
187 Wheatfield Road,  
Palmerston,  
Dublin 20

Una Ruddock, Environmental  
and Conservation  
6 Tullyhall Crescent,  
Lucan,  
County Dublin

Mary Clare Wallace,  
Community and Voluntary  
Killinarden Business Park,  
Killinarden,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24





## Strategic Policy Committees (continued)

### Housing and Social Development SPC

#### Council Members

Councillor Marie Corr-  
Chairperson  
Councillor Breeda Bonner  
Councillor Mick Duff  
Councillor Trevor Gilligan  
Councillor Pamela Kearns  
Councillor Gino Kenny  
Councillor Cathal King  
Councillor Brian Lawlor  
Councillor Dermot Looney  
Councillor Matthew  
McDonagh

#### Sectoral

Ben Healy, Environmental and  
Conservation  
Glenbrook Park,  
Rathfarnham,  
Dublin 14

Tommy Gilson, Community  
and Voluntary  
17 Bawnlea Avenue,  
Jobstown,  
Dublin 24

John Murphy, Farming and  
Agriculture  
Highdown Hill,  
Newcastle,  
County Dublin

Betty Tyrell Collard, Trade  
Union  
Room 417A,  
Department of Enterprise,  
Trade and Employment  
23 Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2



## Strategic Policy Committees (continued)

### Sports, Recreation and Community Affairs (including Parks) SPC

#### Council Members

Councillor Cathal King -  
Chairperson  
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave  
Councillor Tony Delaney  
Councillor Mick Duff  
Councillor Emer Higgins  
Councillor Gino Kenny  
Councillor Brian Lawlor  
Councillor Dermot Looney  
Councillor Matthew Mc  
Donagh  
Councillor Therese Ridge

#### Sectoral

Carmel McCartney,  
Community and Voluntary  
6 Muckcross Green,  
Perrystown,  
Dublin 12

Sean Reid, Community and  
Voluntary  
Community Centre,  
Main Street,  
Rathcoole,  
County Dublin

Cecil Johnson, Disadvantage  
and Social Inclusion  
Killinarden Community  
Council,  
Killinarden Business Park,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24,

James Coughlan, Business  
and Commercial  
Astropark,  
Greenhill's Road,  
Dublin 24.



## Strategic Policy Committees (continued)

### Transportation SPC

#### Council Members

Councillor Colm Brophy -  
Chairperson  
Councillor Emma Coburn  
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave  
Councillor Caitríona Jones  
Councillor Anne- Marie  
Dermody  
Councillor John Lahart  
Councillor Emer Higgins  
Councillor William Lavelle  
Councillor Therese Ridge  
Councillor Eamon Tuffy

#### Sectoral

Matt Moran, Business and  
Commercial

IBEC  
Confederation House,  
Dublin 2

Tom Newton, Community and  
Voluntary  
7 Meadow View Grove,  
Hillcrest,  
Lucan,  
County Dublin

Kevin Farrell, Environmental  
and Conservation  
6 Tullyhall Crescent,  
Lucan,  
County Dublin

Betty Tyrell Collard, Trade  
Union  
Room 417A,  
Dept. of Enterprise, Trade and  
Employment,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

Nuala Maher, Business and  
Commercial  
47 Garville Avenue  
Rathgar,  
Dublin 6



## South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee

Name of Member	Organisation of which member
Councillor Guss O' Connell (Chair)	South Dublin County Council
Mayor Councillor Dermot Looney replaced Cathal King	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Paddy Cosgrave	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Máire Devine	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Gino Kenny	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Eoin O'Broin replaced Councillor Mattie McDonagh	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Pamela Kearns	South Dublin County Council
Councillor William Lavelle	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Brian Lawlor	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Colm Brophy	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Emma Coburn	South Dublin County Council
Councillor John Lahart	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Eamonn Walsh	South Dublin County Council
Councillor John Hannon	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Breda Bonner	South Dublin County Council
Robert Dowds T.D.	Oireachtas
Derek Keating T.D.	Oireachtas
Alex White T.D.	Oireachtas
Sean Crowe T.D.	Oireachtas
Eamon Maloney T.D.	Oireachtas
Chief Superintendent Brendan Mangan	Garda Síochaná
Chief Superintendent Declan Coburn	Garda Síochaná
County Manager – Daniel McLoughlin replaced Philomena Poole	South Dublin County Council
Billy Coman - Director of Housing and Community	South Dublin County Council
Jim Lawlor	Community Forum
Michael Noonan	Community Forum
Michelle Kearns	Community Platform



## Local Community Development Committee

Name	Organisation
Maria O'Donohoe	Community Platform Women Together Tallaght Network
Anna Lee	South Dublin County Partnership
Patricia Nolan	South Dublin Volunteer Centre
Padraig Rehill	Health Service Executive (HSE)
Paddy Lavelle	Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB)
Fiona Ward	Department of Social Protection (DSP)
Loman O'Byrne	Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
Peter Byrne	South Dublin Chamber
Justin Byrne	Community Forum
Greg Tierney	Crosscare
Mary Corcoran	Community
Councillor Pamela Kearns	South Dublin County Council
Councillor Marie Corr	South Dublin County Council
Billy Coman	South Dublin County Council



# Appendix Two

## Conferences attended by Councillors in 2013



**Clare Tourism Conference**

17th - 19th January 2013  
Falls Hotel Ennistymon County Clare

**The Criminal Consequences of Breaching Local Authority Regulations**

18th - 19th January 2013  
Manor West Hotel Killarney Road, Tralee,  
County Kerry

**Disputes Between Neighbours and the Law**

25th - 27th January 2013  
Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick

**CAMAI Seminar**

15th - 16th February 2013  
Bandon House Hotel, New Ross, County  
Wexford

**Association of County & City Councils**

7th - 8th March 2013  
Tower Hotel, County Waterford

**Local Government Supporting Volunteerism**

7th - 9th March 2013  
Manor West Hotel Killarney Road, Tralee,  
County Kerry

**Tax Entitlements Conference**

29th - 31st March 2013  
Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, County Louth

**Irish Planning Conference**

26th - 27th April 2013  
Belfast City Hall, Belfast

**Public Service Agreement**

3rd - 4th May 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

**Common Agricultural Policy after 2013**

24th - 25th May 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

**Sport Aiding Mental Health**

30th - 31st May 2013  
Jacksons Hotel, Ballybofey, County Donegal

**The Nursing Home Support Scheme**

30th May - 1st June 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

**European Legislation and Local Authorities Conference**

7th - 9th June 2013  
Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford County Louth

**Community Development, Arts and Sports**

26th - 27th July 2013  
Quality Hotel, Killarney, County Kerry

**The Gathering Sliabh Luachra Summer School**

30th July - 6th August 2013  
Bruach Na Carraige, Rockchapel, County Cork

**Building Safer Communities**

16th - 17th August 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

**Community Development**

23rd - 24th August 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

**AMAI Conference**

12th - 14th September 2013  
Inchydoney Hotel and Spa, Clonakilty, County  
Cork

**Community Mental Health and the Elected Member**

20th - 22nd September 2013  
Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny. County Donegal



#### **Tendering Process**

4th - 6th October 2013  
Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, County Louth

#### **Internet Elections**

5th - 6th October 2013  
Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

#### **LAMA Autumn Conference**

10th -12th October 2013  
Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, County Clare

#### **Future Energy Needs**

25th - 26th October 2013  
Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny

#### **Local Government Budget 2014**

1st - 2nd November 2013  
Hollyrood Hotel, Bundoran, County Donegal

#### **Local Authorities Budget**

15th - 17th November 2013  
Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal

#### **Budget 2014 for Canvassing**

22nd - 24th November 2013  
Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin22

#### **SIPO and Councillors Obligations**

30th November - 1st December 2013  
Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

#### **Local Authority Employment Practice and Law**

6th - 8th December 2013  
Clonmel Park Hotel, Clonmel, County Tipperary

#### **Housing Grants and Schemes**

13th - 14th December 2013  
Connacht Hotel, Galway

#### **Improving Road Safety**

20th - 21st December 2013  
Westport Plaza Hotel, Castlebar Street,  
Westport, County Mayo

**Total Amount Spent on Conferences in 2013  
was €15,985.19**





# Appendix Three Energy Efficiency Report 2013



## Overview of Energy Usage

South Dublin County Council is a major user of energy with a large building stock including offices, libraries, swimming pools depots and pump stations. It has a fleet of over 700 vehicles and the Council maintains over 32,000 public street lights. The Council remains committed to the national target of reducing carbon emissions by 20% by 2020 and a reduction of 30% in the Council's own energy demand. This reduction is directed and monitored by the Energy-MAP cross-disciplinary team within the Council on a monthly basis and will continue to identify and pursue energy-saving strategies and opportunities.

## Consumption Summary

Energy Type	Unit	2013
Net Electricity Imports (MPRN data)	KWh	20,148,786
Natural Gas (GPRN data)	kWh (Gross)	7,218,267
LPG (purchased by volume)	Litre	0
Kerosene	Litre	0
Gasoil	Litre	113,502
Road Diesel (DERV)	Litre	371,175
Petro	Litre	10,654
Pure Bio ethanol	Litre	31.1

## Towards 2020

South Dublin County Council is a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors. It has completed its Sustainable Energy Action Plan which will be approved by the Covenant in 2014. The Council's move towards its 2020 targets are evaluated by SEAI under the Monitoring/Report Network Programme (MRN). Details of progress are as follows -



Progress to 2020	Value	Unit
Energy Savings since baseline	19.7%	
Change in Energy Consumption since baseline	17.1%	
Energy Performance Indicator (TPER)	Value	Unit
2013 EnPI	215.509 kWh/ Population Served	
Target EnPI	179.829 kWh/ Population Served	
Better than 2012	2.5%	
Better than baseline	19.7%	
From 2020 target	16.6%	
From target 'glidepath'	8.8%	
Level 2 Energy Performance Indicators (TPER)	Value	
Electricity	169.026 kWh/ Population Served	
Better than 2012	2.6%	
Thermal	30.538 kWh/ Population Served	
Better than 2012	0.6%	
Transport	15.945 kWh/ Population Served	
Better than 2012	5.1%	

Energy Performance Indicators (TPER) Year on Year	Actual	Target
2009	268.4008	268.4008
2010	245.712	260.349
2011	219.92	252.297
2012	221.08	244.245
2013	215.509	236.193
2014		228.141
2015		220.089
2016		212.037
2017		203.985
2018		195.933
2019		187.881
2020		179.829

Energy savings between 2012 and 2013 totalled €1,255,435.00. This financial saving represents an overall carbon saving of 617,514 Kg/CO<sub>2</sub> between 2012 and 2013. South Dublin County Council is the eight best performer among Irish Councils and 40th best performer compared to all public bodies in Ireland. The Council commits to improve this standing each year.

### SUMMARY OF ENERGY RELATED PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2013

**LEAP (Leadership in Energy Action Planning)**  
Draft Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)



was launched by Minister Pat Rabbitte in February 2013.

The final SEAP document was completed and adopted by the Council in May 2013. The final partners meeting for the LEAP Project took place in Dublin in October. SDCC hosted a national conference and held tours of Valhalla, Adamstown, the Aviva and Docklands.

### SEAI Projects

- Sustainable Energy Community activities continued with SDCC participation.
- SEAI hosted a SEC Exemplar workshop in May 2013
- Hydro-energy projects are under evaluation and a tender for a study to issue 2014.
- District Heating feasibility study proposed by Job-bridge internship
- Hospital bill evaluations and register of opportunities proposed by SDCC
- Partnership Energy Management Diagnostic
- Better Energy Warmer Homes, Kiltalown House and 60 Neighbouring Houses
- Pilot in Deansrath of 40 houses, insulated and upgraded with SEAI grant-aid
- Better Energy Communities, Energy upgrade to Lucan Leisure Centre, Ballymount Depot and Jigsaw insulated and upgraded with SEAI grant-aid
- Energy Monitoring and Reporting
- MPRNs and GPRNs submission and live database finalised with SEAI

### Municipal Projects Buildings:

- Database of all SDCC sites with MPRN, GPRN, area, fabric and other details now available on a live internet link with SEAI for monthly evaluations.
- Valhalla energy housing completed and

handed over to clients

- Ballyroan Library which has an A-rated energy performance was completed and opened to public in February.
- County Library audit and EPLACE in energy use study upgrade to be implemented 2014.
- All Display Energy Certificates for Council buildings calculated and displayed
- Seven Highest Energy Users - monthly energy use figures compiled and evaluated by Energy-MAP team.

### Water Pumping:

- Water pumping station at Esker pilot energy saving project using SCADA and variable-speed drive technology scoped and due for 2014
- All large water pump facilities now controlled remotely by SCADA system All potable water booster pumps and large foul water pumps controlled via variable speed drives
- Rain gauges installed throughout the county to identify surface water misconnections

### Public Lighting

- Public Lighting Database is complete and linked to GIS - monitors consumption and billing
- Established Public Lighting project with DOECLG, Fingal & Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Councils under CODEMA. The aim of this project is to establish virtual metering.
- Continued roll out of photocells to Public Lights as part of maintenance regime - 2500 have been installed to date and this is an ongoing programme

### Fleet

- GPS for fleet and public realm crews tied in



to GIS – Comparison between 2012 and 2013 shows a 8.76% drop in fuel consumption overall

### Community and Residential

- SDCC support for SEAI Energy training to schools; six schools were successful in achieving the second green energy flag in 2013
- Overall Refurbishment Phase Three Cushlawn, Tallaght (76 dwellings) complete. Shancastle and Greenfort (73 dwellings) complete
- DOECLG Fabric upgrade Programme – 309 houses upgraded by the end of 2013.

### Institutional and Commercial

- Two Energy Interns have been at work since May 2013
- Tallaght Hospital now signed up to Energy MAP - energy bills have been collated and assessed ITT - academic programmes agreed to assess Leisure Centres.
- Links have been made with DIT Post Graduate energy modeling.
- District heating detailed study – Intern has prepared documentation to enable invitation of submissions from utility companies
- SDCC is partnering Veolia on Wind Turbine feasibility for Luas Red Cow Interchange
- Concept - zero carbon suburban transport interchange in Tallaght Town Centre
- Hydro-dynamic generator on the Dodder river for evaluation and possible inclusion in NTA permeability projects.

### Transport Projects

- Cycle and permeability projects and transport and cycle hub are progressing. The Cycle-bridge at Firhouse is now in contract and on site.

- Part 8 documentation and design for next phases, including bridges, of Dodder Cycle Route and Greenway complete.
- Dargle Wood, Adamstown, Corkagh Park, Deansrath, Melrose and Marlfield permeability projects completed in 2013.
- The public consultation process for the Tallaght to Ballyboden and Outer Ring Road projects is complete.

## Summary of Energy Performance in 2013

The Mayor signed South Dublin County Council up to the Covenant of Mayors in 2012 committing SDCC to reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions in line 2020 targets. SEAP actions have been structured under the guiding principles of ‘Record, Reduce & Replace’

In 2013 we carried out a range of planned energy efficiency actions under these principles which included:

**Record** - Eplace project measuring energy consumption in the County Library

**Reduce** - Energy Awareness programmes for council staff, local schools, residents and businesses,

- Continued roll out of our Green Community Centres and Green Depots Programmes
- Extensive refurbishment of Lucan Leisure Centre, Jigsaw and Ballymount Depot under SEAI Better Energy Communities Programme,
- Pilot study measuring base load and reducing energy consumption from lighting in County Hall,



- Continued refurbishment of our housing stock through SEAI Better Energy Warmer Homes and SDCC Refurbishment Programme,
- GPS telemonitoring on our fleet,
- Improved efficiencies in our pumping facilities,
- Public Lighting ESCO Pilot Project and continued roll out of photocells.

**Replace** - Completion of capital works featuring renewable technologies, Ballyroan Library, Ballycragh Community Centre and Valhalla sheltered housing.

In addition to these actions we have strengthened our links with Tallaght Hospital, The Square, ITT and DIT and continued our research on the feasibility of hydro generation and district heating in Tallaght Sustainable Energy Community.



Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas  
Halla an Chontae, Tamhlacht  
Baile Átha Cliath 24

South Dublin county Council  
county Hall, Tallaght  
Dublin 24

**Fón/Tel:** 01 414 9000  
**Rphoist/Email:** [info@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:info@sdublincoco.ie)  
**Idirlíon/Web:** [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)/[www.athacliathese.ie](http://www.athacliathese.ie)

Faigh agus Lean muid/Find and Follow us

