

South Dublin County Council
Annual Report 2014

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas
Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2014



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Mayor's Foreword



It has been an honour to serve as the Mayor of South Dublin County.

The 2014 Local and European elections brought about significant political change. With new political strength came huge responsibility.

When I took office in June of last year, I wanted to be a campaigning Mayor, campaigning for change, inclusion and equality. To make a connection with those in our society who at times feel invisible. I have sought to work with agencies, stakeholders and organisations focusing on a number of areas of activity.

I have attempted to highlight the ongoing housing and homeless crisis in the county, the need for early intervention and keeping families in their homes when they have them. A South Dublin County Council Progressive Alliance also ensured the implementation of a maximum allowable 15% cut to the Local Property Tax.

One of my first events after taking office presented an opportunity to address the Dublin Pride Parade. Rainbow flags were raised at County Hall and the first set of LGBTQI+ events were held during Social Inclusion Week. Management in South Dublin County Council also agreed for the organisation to join Diversity Champions, a programme designed by the Irish Congress and the Gay and Lesbian Equality Network. Diversity Champions is Ireland's first and only not-for profit workplace programme designed to assist Irish employers benefit from the inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees and South Dublin County Council now join PayPal, Dublin Bus, Bank of Ireland and Microsoft as the first local authority on this island to be a Diversity Champion.

Full Council motions were passed under Mayor's business, supporting marriage equality, calling for an end to discrimination for LGBTQI+ employees and supporting transgender individuals in their campaign to amend the Gender Recognition Bill. I will also spearhead a campaign titled Mayor's for Marriage Equality bringing Mayor's from all parties and none together in support of civil marriage equality.

In an attempt to make a small difference to three organisations, I was proud to follow the example set by former Mayor Dermot Looney in creating a Mayor's fund. BeLonG To, Saoirse Women's Refuge and Citywise were each presented with €1,000, amounting to a 10% cut in the salary of the Mayor and reflecting the key priority areas set out when taking office.

South Dublin has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the country. Almost 30% of under 25's are out of work. Many more are not in education or training. Every day hundreds of young people emigrate. We need to give our young people hope - we need to offer them a real chance to live and make their home here.

I intend in early 2015, with the support of Council staff, to host a Mayor's Youth Conference in RUARED, inviting seventy young people from across the county to discuss issues affecting their lives. If young people are to participate in policy making, the tools should be made available for young people to do so and the Mayor's Youth

Conference aims to provide that forum. I also plan to introduce a new 'Shadow the Mayor' placement initiative for transition students in the county. The initiative will provide young people each with a week's work experience shadowing the Mayor of South Dublin, attending events, writing speaking notes, press releases and attending meetings.

Finally, being the youngest Mayor of South Dublin County to date, I would like to thank our Chief Executive, Daniel McLoughlin and all of the Management Team, Council Staff and Elected Members who have helped, guided and supported me over the past year.

That support has been much needed and appreciated.



Fintan Warfield
Mayor

Introduction from the Chief Executive



The backdrop to the annual report for 2014 is a historic period of Local government change which takes its authority from the Local Government Reform Act of 2014. It was also a local election year and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge with great appreciation the role of the outgoing council in the ongoing development of the county. A central element of the reform programme was the policy of increased democratic representation in larger urban areas. In the case of South Dublin membership increased from twenty-six to forty members following the local elections in June.


The Reform Act greatly broadens the role of Local Government in Local economic development and in this context many initiatives were undertaken last year in recognition of this. A new Economic Directorate and associated Strategy Policy Committee were established to support this objective. The Local Enterprise Office was established taking on a more expanded role from the former county enterprise board and effectively acting as a one stop shop for all business. In keeping with the programme of national government the council developed and launched a local Jobs Strategy with a shared focus on indigenous industry, foreign direct investment, tourism, retail, the construction sector and Micro Enterprise support. To assist and inform this expanded role we conducted a comprehensive economic profiling exercise of the county in conjunction with the South Dublin Chamber. The Economic opportunity presented by Tourism expansion has been recognised with the commissioning of a county Tourism strategy to be published in early 2015.

The council recognises the importance of business to the local economy and the need to provide it with ongoing support through the budgetary process. In 2014 a SME business support fund valued at €1.2m was launched, a grants scheme for new shop fronts was made available and most importantly the council approved a village enhancement programme across nine villages valued at €7m.

This will include flagship projects such as the development of the Clondalkin Round Tower and garden visitor centre. A free village Wi-Fi programme was commenced and a more favourable car parking regime was introduced.

In the area of community development the Local Community Development Committee was established with an oversight role in community expenditure. In the interests of enhanced citizen engagement a Public Participatory Network (PPN) was established. In the context of healthy living the council held its first ever Health and Wellbeing week, agreed a programme of providing forty new community play spaces, opened a new sports pavilion in Tymon Park and agreed plans for a new library in North Clondalkin.

The new council has set its work programme for its five year term and published its new Corporate Plan 2015 - 2019. I want to compliment the council members and staff alike for their contribution in delivering on the outcomes outlined in this report



Daniel McLoughlin
Chief Executive

Membership of South Dublin County Council

Following the Local Elections in May 2014, the number of elected members in South Dublin County Council increased from 26 to 40 as detailed below:

Clondalkin



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



Councillor Eoin O' Broin
Sinn Fein
C/o South Dublin County Council
Clondalkin Civic Offices
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The Labour Party
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Councillor Francis Timmons
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Councillor Emer Higgins
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Councillor Trevor Gilligan
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Lucan



Councillor Vicki Casserly

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County Hall
Tallaght, Dublin 24
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Councillor Paul Gogarty,

Non Party

C/o South Dublin County Council
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Councillor Ruth Nolan

People Before Profit

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Councillor Guss O'Connell

Non Party

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Councillor William Lavelle

Fine Gael

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Lucan, Co. Dublin
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Councillor Danny O'Brien

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Councillor Ed O'Brien

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Councillor Liona O'Toole

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Councillor Kieran Mahon

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Councillor Mick Murphy

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Councillor Charlie O'Connor

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Tallaght South



Councillor Nicky Coules

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Councillor Cathal King

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Councillor Martina Genockey

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Councillor Brian Leech

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Councillor Dermot Richardson

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Rathfarnham



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Councillor Paula Donovan
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Councillor John Lahart
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Councillor Francis Duffy
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Templeogue-Terenure



Councillor Colm Brophy

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Councillor Dermot Looney

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Council Meetings 2014

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

In addition there were 3 special meetings of the council to discuss: Ballycullen/Old Court Area Plan, Mayor for Dublin Forum and School Sites at Killininy Road, Firhouse.

The Corporate Policy Group held 11 meetings.

The 4 Area Committees for Clondalkin, Lucan, Rathfarnham/Tempelogue-Terenure and Tallaght each met 8 times in 2014.

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)

Following the Local Elections in May 2014, there are now six SPCs, each of the new committees at their inaugural meeting adopted their work programmes for 2015. The Chairpersons are listed below:

Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC



Councillor Dermot Richardson
Chairperson

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

- Updates on the Libraries Contribution to the Decade of Commemorations
- Seachtain na Gaeilge 2015
- Review of the Red Line Festival
- Update on the Libraries and Arts programmes for the new SPC committee

Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development SPC



Councillor John Lahart
Chairperson

The Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism SPC work programme included:

- Wayfinding and signage
- The villages programme
- Business Support Grant expenditure
- Established a working group to commence drafting a tourist strategy
- County promotion

Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC



Councillor Pamela Kearns Chairperson

The Environment, Public Realm & Climate Change work programme included:

- › SPC Workplan
- › Control of Horses Bye-Laws
- › Climate Change / Adaptation Strategy
- › Regional Waste Management Plan

Social and Community SPC



Councillor Dermot Looney Chairperson

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

- › Promoting Ability through Sport and Recreation
- › A major review in conjunction with FAI

Housing SPC



Councillor Cathal King Chairperson

During 2014, a number of reports and issues were discussed and considered including:

- › Housing Allocations Scheme 2014
- › Presentation by the HFA regarding loans for housing supply
- › Proposals to establish housing subcommittees for housing supply/homelessness and anti social behaviour
- › A work programme was established for the SPCs that include housing supply, energy programmes, homelessness, new rent scheme and anti social behaviour
- › Update on Traveller Accommodation Programme
- › A report was presented on the SDCC Disability Forum
- › Report on the issue of repossessed private dwellings in Council estates

Land Use, Planning and Transportation SPC



Councillor William Lavelle Chairperson

The Transportation SPC discussed and considered the following matters in 2014

- › Dublin Metropolitan Area -Bus Rapid Transit
- › Review of Pay and Display Parking
- › Introduction of 30 Minute free parking
- › Taxi Ranks update
- › Strategic Road Network and County Development Plan
- › Cycling Forum
- › Programme of Interface with Transportation Service Providers and Regulators

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

Corporate Awards 2014

South Dublin County Council received recognition for excellence at the Irish Planning Institute Awards.

Winning the National Planning Awards 2014 for the Design Manual for Urban Roads (DMURS)





Corporate Performance and Change Management



Corporate Performance and Change Management

Local Elections 2014

The [*Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report 2013*](#) recommended a number of changes to South Dublin County Council's Local Electoral Areas effective for the Local Elections 2014. The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government signed the Local Electoral Area Order giving effect to these changes on 31st January 2014.

The Local Electoral Areas are as follows:

- Clondalkin (8 seats)
- Lucan (8 seats)
- Rathfarnham (6 seats)
- Tallaght Central (6 seats)
- Tallaght South (6 seats)
- Templeogue-Terenure (6 seats)

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, announced on the 20th March that the 2014 Local Elections will be held on Friday, 23rd May 2014 within the hours of poll between 7.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m.

A total of 71 candidates contested the 40 seats for the 6 Electoral Areas.

The Count was held in the City West Convention Centre, Saggart. Results were made available on the Council's website and social media pages.

Details of the Members who were elected to the Electoral Areas are available at <http://www.southdublin.ie/LocalElections/>

Section 19 of the Local Elections (disclosure of donations and expenditure) Act, 1999 requires local authorities to include in their annual reports the aggregate details of election expenditure for successful and unsuccessful candidates and donations received in respect of national agents, designated persons, third parties and candidates, detailed in Appendix 3.

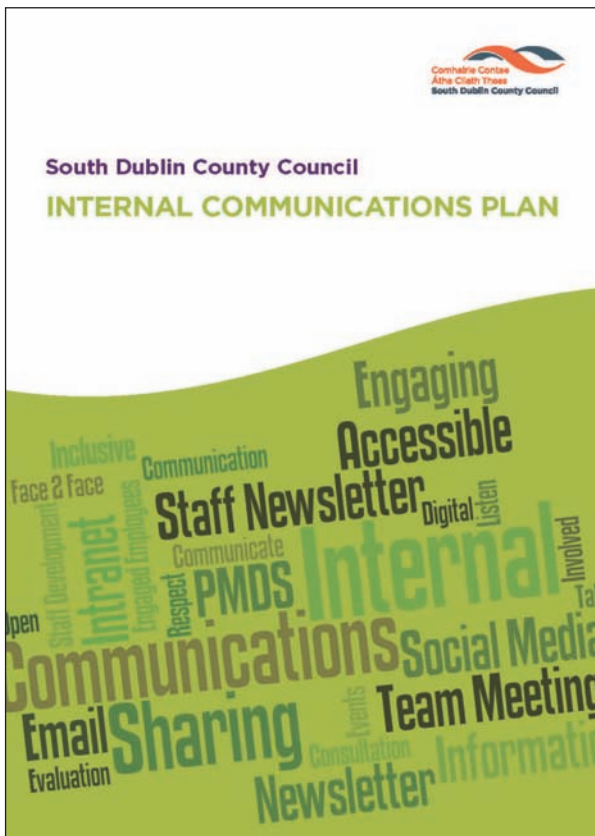
Register of Electors

184,080 on the register of Electors 2014/15 published on 1st February 2014. 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 where details of eligibility can be obtained.

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 by Student Universal Support Ireland – SUSI. In 2014/15 academic year, we processed approximately 155 applications and paid out €198,067.80 in maintenance and fees for the financial year.

Communication and Media Relations



A total of 139 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 671 Media queries were processed in 2014 and over 270 events were co-ordinated by the Mayor's office. An Internal Communications Plan and Social Media Policy for staff were launched in 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. Our Customer Services Action Plan and Citizen's Charter outlines in detail our commitment to quality customer service.

The total number of queries entered in to the Customer Contact System by Customer Care staff in 2014 – 83, 561

- Total number of telephone calls taken by Customer Care in 2014 - 159, 353
- Total number of customers calling to a Customer Care Counter in 2014 – 45, 493
- Fix Your Street Queries in 2014- 3430

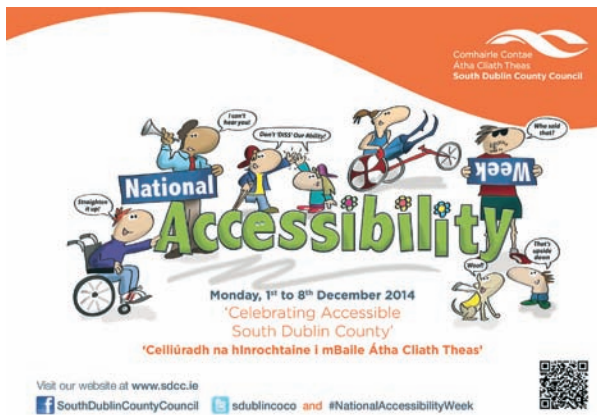
Procurement

The procurement unit delivered comprehensive training to key procurement personnel and continued to provide support and advice across the organisation in 2014. This, combined with increased emphasis on participation in regional and national initiatives delivered efficiencies, savings and value for money across Council services.

Internal Audit

New Audit Committee regulations introduced in 2014 strengthened the role of the audit committee and conferred specific responsibilities on the committee in relation to assessing the auditor's report, audited financial statement and reporting its findings to Council. The Committee plays a crucial role in the governance framework of the Council. It has an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of its systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of the local authority. The Committee's charter and work programme for 2014 / 2015 was presented to and approved by Council.

Disability Liaison, Access and Equality Office



During 2014 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. The South Dublin County Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel held eight meetings and planned one seminar on 'Accessible Information and Communication'. Fifteen cases were dealt with by the Access Officer Service.

Human Resources

South Dublin County Council employed a total of 1170 staff (whole time equivalent 1060.69) at 31st December 2014. This total reflects a reduction of 27% on the 1605 staff employed in 2008 and a reduction of 44 on the numbers employed at the start of the year. The reduction in numbers during 2014 is mainly attributable to the number of staff who retired.

Health and Safety

Work activities across South Dublin County Council vary considerably. Managing health and safety in a diverse organisation 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

Our Safety Management System requires us to manage how we work and engage in a

process of continuous improvement process. Our safety management system is continually reviewed and updated.

Health and Safety Training

In 2014, 74 health and safety training courses were delivered with a total budget spend of €126,193 inclusive of Non National Roads Grant. The range of courses included confined space entry, manual handling, personal safety at work, use of chainsaws, use of wood chippers and safe pass.

Accident and Incident Details

Twenty work related accidents were reported to the Health and Safety Authority during 2014, these accidents resulted in 644 work days being lost.

Safety Inspections

The Health and Safety Officer conducted 35 inspections during 2014. The senior management team conducted 42 site inspections. The Health and Safety Authority carried out 1 workplace inspection and issued 1 report of inspection.

Honorary Freedom of South Dublin County awarded to the Dunnes Stores Strikers against Apartheid 1984-1987.



Mayor Dermot Looney on behalf of the Members of South Dublin County Council hosted a Civic Reception on Tuesday 6th May 2014 to confer the Honorary Freedom of the County to the following individuals:

- Mary Manning
- Karen Gearon
- Cathryn O'Reilly
- Thomas (Tommy) Davis

- › Theresa Mooney
- › Brendan Barron
- › Veronica McCue
- › Sandra Griffin
- › Alma Russell
- › Michelle Gavin
- › Elizabeth Deasy

The Honorary Freedom of South Dublin County is the highest civic honour that the County Council can award to an individual. The award was to acknowledge the eleven strikers significant contribution to the anti-apartheid movement in Ireland from 1984-1987.

Corporate Performance and Change Management 2014

Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave:	10,862.1
Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave:	4.51
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave:	1084.37
Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave:	0.45
Total number of staff (whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2014:	1060.69
Number of Gateway participants who commenced work placement during 2014:	110
Number of Gateway placements allocated by the Department of Social Protection and the CCMA:	215
Percentage of Gateway participants who commenced work during 2014 of the placements allocated:	51.16

**Report from Lorna Maxwell,
Director of Corporate, Corporate Performance
and Change Management**



Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

The Council successfully completed and made significant progress on key projects that enhanced user access to technology resources and upgraded services to meet the changing needs of the organisation. The achievements have built a solid base for future progress - positioning the Council to better use of resources, strengthening service provision and collaboration. The ICT Department is constantly assessing ways to improve service efficiency and the effectiveness of its services.



ICT Projects during 2014

South Dublin Villages Free Wi-Fi Project

The free Wi-Fi service operated in conjunction with local businesses was extended to a further 7 villages in South Dublin County. This project is now complete running in 9 villages. It facilitates an average of 67,000 connections to the service each month. This number continues to rise steadily.

Elected Members ICT Requirements

The IT Department led the procurement of a fully managed service contract in respect of ICT Requirements for the Elected Members of 3 Dublin Authorities, making savings on hardware in excess of 30% and putting in place a 5 year agreement allowing for the streamlining of budget forecasting.

ICT Support and Maintenance

During 2014, 13,657 technical support issues were logged to the IT Support Helpdesk and resolved by our technical team. Routine upgrades and replacements continued, including a full desktop operating system refresh and database software upgrades for enhanced data security. Upgrades to LAN equipment and virtualised server infrastructure were carried out, as well as ongoing improvements to bandwidth for remote offices, and corporate wi-fi services enhancements.

Software Development Projects and Systems Implementation

The corporate MembersReps system was redeveloped and existing systems enhanced including Housing Rents System and Chief Executive Orders System. New systems were developed including a Facilities Management System and Contracts Management System. We also have played a key role in the shared services approach to a single Library Management System for which the tender process has recently concluded.

Compliance

The Council processed 77 replies to Freedom of Information requests made to the organisation during 2014. We also complied with AIE, Ombudsman and Data Protection requests received in the same period.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) 2014

Number of views to Council websites:	5066374
Cost of Hardware and Software divided by WTE:	3613.85

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



Housing, Social and Community Services

Community Services

Age Friendly County

South Dublin is an Age Friendly County and our Age Friendly Strategy is coordinated by an Alliance of statutory and voluntary partners. In 2014 several new projects were developed including the new Age Friendly Ambassadors Programme and OPRAH (Older People Remaining at Home). The aim of all projects is to make South Dublin a great place to grow older.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The LCDC was established in December 2013 and met regularly in 2014. This committee oversees SICAP, the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme which will be implemented by South Dublin County Partnership from April 2015. The LCDC is also involved in the development of a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the County. This plan aims to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of local and community development funding in the County.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

The South Dublin PPN was established in October 2014. The PPN is a new network for groups across the County who are involved in community, social inclusion and environmental activities. The PPN is intended to be an opportunity for the public to take a more active and formal role in the policy making and oversight activities of South Dublin County Council. It is also an information sharing network and will give registered groups the opportunity to receive regular updates about activities, events, grants and other relevant information. The PPN has 3 pillars, Community, Social Inclusion, and Environment and groups may register under one of these pillars.

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

The JPC was reconstructed following the local elections in 2014. The Committee increased its membership to include Local Drugs Task Forces, Youth representation and the newly formed PPN.

Social Inclusion

- › Shortlisted for Chambers Ireland Awards for Health and Well Being “Social Inclusion through Community Gardening”
- › European Week against Racism – Sports Blitz and Competition
- › Bealtaine Festival 2014
- › Three dedicated 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
- › Implementation of An Inclusive County (South Dublin County Integration Strategy)
- › Social Inclusion Week 2014

Health and Wellbeing Week

The inaugural Health and Wellbeing Week took place from 29th September to 5th October and was a major success.

[Health & Wellbeing Brochure 2014](#)

Sports and Recreation

Sport and Recreation continue to play an important part in community and personal development with many programmes and initiatives rolled out by the Council. The sports 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 programmes and the South Dublin County Sports Partnership.



The Sports and Recreation Office also co-funds and provides support and direction to eight community development officers across the sporting disciplines of soccer, rugby and cricket. These officers promote their respective sports, 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. Each of the development officers host school holiday sports camps in the relevant discipline throughout the county.

Some examples of the programmes that have been completed this year:

Family / Community Events:

- Easter Treasure Hunts in both Griffeen Valley Park & Corkagh Park
- Launch of the Enchanted Wood in Tymon Park

Older Adult Programmes

- 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 -“Lobbers” National Winners 2014
- 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 – over 2,000 young people participating
- Learn to swim programme

Community Programmes

- Late Night League Soccer Programme
- Gladiator programme – multi sports programme for young people with a disability
- Learn to cycle programme in partnership with Enable Ireland – young people with a physical disability learn to cycle
- Get on your Bike – cycling programme for children with a disability
- Table Cricket training workshop – our cricket programme has received a “Spirit of Cricket Award” from the International Cricket Council in recognition of the work on inclusivity

Community Development

- 5 Community Employment Schemes and 1 Job Initiative Scheme are sponsored by the Council
- 9 Deputation Meetings were serviced in 2014
- Children in 24 Primary Schools were provided sandwiches, fruit and milk through the School Meals Scheme
- 56 Grant applications under the Community Grants Scheme were processed
- Management Assistance Grants were paid to 15 Community Centres
- 32 Summer Project received summer project funding. Approximately 3,600 children attended summer projects in 2014



The Community Development Team continued to support a range of community festivals, including summer festivals in the villages of Lucan, Clondalkin, Tallaght, Rathfarnham, Palmerstown and Rathcoole. A number of local community 'Family Fun Days' were also supported and organised across the county, utilising a range of our modern multi-purpose community facilities.

Community Facilities Management

Support, advice and assistance, continues to be provided by the Community Development Team to assist in the management of the huge range of community facilities, available in all areas across the county. These facilities offer a huge range of activities and services helping to respond to social, recreational and educational needs identified within local communities in the County.



Comhairle na nÓg

South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg is a Countywide Youth Council managed by South Dublin County Council and co-facilitated by Foróige and Crosscare. 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 at both local and national government level.

The AGM took place on 22nd October - opened by Mayor Warfield and Josh Norton Chair of Comhairle and was followed by Refresh Your Life Seminar with Shane Martin and workshops by Jigsaw. Some 110 participants were in attendance representing schools, youth services and organisations. The UN Convention on the Rights of a Child DVD together with Phase 1 of the Cyber Safety Charter was launched at the AGM.

Community Services 2014

Total number of local schools and youth groups:	336
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme:	123
Number of private sector members of the LCDC at 31st December 2014:	2
Number of people that commenced employment within 6 months of receiving a Goal 3 support:	339

Housing

South Dublin County Council provides a total of 11,223 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	8,992
Traveller Accommodation	204
RAS Accommodation	1,480
Houses under Various Leasing Programmes	547

Housing Needs Assessment

The total number of approved housing applicants at 31st December 2014 was 8,564 on the Council's housing list.



Choice Based Letting

The Council has continued to operate the Choice Based Letting Scheme (CBL) which provides applicants on the Housing List with the option to be considered for certain vacant properties in their stated areas of preference. There were 9,330 expressions of interest made by eligible applicants in respect of 74 properties advertised under the New Choice Based Letting Scheme in 2014

Homeless Accommodation

The Homeless Service Unit offers daily drop-in clinics providing advice, information,

homeless assessment, referral and emergency bed placement (if required) along with homeless allocations and visiting support (in partnership with Dublin Simon). There were 234 applicants registered homeless as at 31st December 2014. 119 homeless applicants were permanently housed into social; voluntary or private rented accommodation through the Unit in 2014. The Council's first Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) in South Dublin came into operation in May 2013 and increased their capacity to 21 beds in 2014.

Housing Construction Programme

Dublin Simon Community received funding under Capital Assistance to purchase 8 units of accommodation in Rosse Court Lucan in 2014. The Council also received funding to purchase 13 units of unsold affordable housing units under acquisition programmes in 2014 funded by the DOECLG.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

In 2014 a total of 371 properties were secured under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) of which 201 were in respect of new properties and 170 were renewal cases. At the 31st December a total of 2266 contracts were concluded under RAS arrangements since its creation in 2004.

Social Housing Leasing Initiative

During 2014, the Council processed expressions of interest in leasing options from private property owners for in excess of 100 properties of which 68 were made available for inspection for compliance with leasing/letting standards. In 2014 a total of 123 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 Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP is a new social housing support introduced in accordance with the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014. HAP involves the transfer of responsibility for the provision of rental assistance to those with a long-term housing need from the Department of Social Protection (DSP) to Local Authorities. Rent Supplement will

continue to be paid for those who, generally because of loss of employment, require short-term income support in order to pay rent. HAP encourages recipients to take up full employment while still receiving housing support.

South Dublin County Council is one of seven local authorities nationally to introduce the scheme. Having commenced on the 17th November 2014, there were 8 HAP applications completed in 2014.

Housing Maintenance

- 198 re-lets were completed 14 of these had energy works carried out
- We responded to 14,944 maintenance requests
- 14 fire damaged houses were reinstated
- 1 maliciously damaged house was re-instated in 2014
- Windows and doors were replaced in 192 houses at an average cost of €5,900 per House and 35 of these were under the Energy Programme in Tymon North, Tymonville and St. Aonghus with separate funding. A further 798 are on the list for replacement
- 422 homes were upgraded under the Energy Programme in Melrose, Deansrath, Airlie Heights, St. Ronans, Glenmore and Dromcarra Estates, and a further 53 under the SEAI Project in Bawnlea Estate

Housing Rents

The Council currently operates a Differential Rental Scheme, where the rent is assessed at 10% of the weekly household income. In 2014, the rental income for South Dublin County including RAS accounts was €21,931,087. The Council encourages 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 10,300 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 2014, a total of 75 Notice to Quits were served on tenants for non payment of their rent.

Traveller Accommodation

Twenty Traveller families were accommodated in 2014. 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 2014

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 details of the grants activity in 2014 is listed in the table below:

Grant Type	No of Applications	Value
HAGS	72 paid	€628,667.43
MAGS	95 paid	€426,199.14
HOPS	16 paid	€70,711.85

Disabled Persons Grants (Council Tenants) 2014

South Dublin County Council operates a Disabled Persons Grant Scheme (DPG) for Council tenants. The grant covers small works such as level access showers, stair lifts, ramps, and room conversions to enable disabled persons to use their dwellings independently. The grant also covers extension works to Council properties. The Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government approves an allocation of funding under the Improvement Works -in-Lieu Scheme/Extensions and DPG's. The Council is required to contribute 10% of costs through its own internal capital receipts.

There were 63 payments in 2014 for DPG files totalling €202,809.09. We made a total of

44 payments to occupational therapists (at a cost of €7,440). The total expenditure for 2014 was €210,249.09.

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 1250 incidents reported to the Anti Social Service in 2014

Housing Welfare Social Work Section

The Housing Welfare Social Work Section received 257 new referrals in 2014 from various sections within the Council and from a range of external sources including the HSE, Tusla and the voluntary sector. 140 cases were carried over from 2013 and the section also managed 431 queries.

In addition to providing a social work support service to tenants and an information and advice service to individuals or professionals requiring guidance in relation to housing issues, the housing welfare social work section:

- Continued to assist in the implementation of the Council's Safeguarding Children and Young People policy through the delivery of child safeguarding information sessions to staff.

- Co-ordinated the referral and review of cases requiring external agency support from: Focus Ireland (tenancy sustainment), HAIL Outreach Service and Sonas Outreach.
- Continued to support the development of the Priorities Committee which makes decisions in relation to non-medical housing transfer requests.
- Further promoted restorative practice within the housing department through the delivery of training to managers within the housing department and through the ongoing use of restorative practice techniques within the work of the section.
- Delivered information sessions to external agencies outlining the work of the housing welfare social work service and the wider housing department.

Key Indicators

- Four hundred and five homes were allocated to new tenants from the Housing List in 2014 of which 178 were procured through RAS and Leasing Programme.
- Fifty-three Transfer requests were granted
- Of the 17,221 maintenance requests received 14,994 were completed within target timeframes.
- The Rent Income for 2014 was €21,931,087 and the average weekly rent was €41.49
- In 2014 there were 1,034 live loan accounts on the Council's portfolio with collection of €5,009,129, Loans Collection equaled 81.10%
- Number of void dwellings was 42
- 73 Disability Grants on Council Dwellings were paid at a total of €385,980.39

Housing 2014	
The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	8,999
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:	11.1
Average cost of getting un-tenanted units ready for re-letting in 2014	12,442
Number of dwellings provided in 2014:	372
Number of dwellings constructed by the Council in 2014:	12
Number of units provided under RAS in 2014:	211
Number of units provided under HAPS in 2014:	8
Number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative in 2014:	137
Overall number of social housing dwellings in the local authority at 31 December 2014:	11,034
Overall number of units provided under RAS:	1,480
Overall number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative:	547
Number of units that were re-tenanted in 2014:	200
Number of PRTB inspections carried out	2,799
Housing Repairs	
The number of repairs completed:	14,944
The number of repair requests received:	17,221

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



Architectural Services Department (ASD)

In 2014 the ASD addressed a broadening range of projects from urban improvements, a renewed concentration on housing design and on to research and innovation projects in the area of renewable energy. Architectural Services work in close collaboration with other departments and in partnership with Communities to promote an efficient and sustainable environment through good design, high-quality place-making and the maintenance and enhancement of existing built-assets.



The Village Initiatives

The Village Initiatives main objective is 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, improve building quality and level of usage and increase economic opportunities as a result. Architectural Services produced a shop front design-guide to support and focus the shop front improvement grant programme. A Pilot Signage project is being carried out for Tallaght village. A Public Area Enhancement grant-scheme by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government was implemented and brought environmental improvements to Rathfarnham, Newcastle, and Tallaght. Design advice was provided and a successful result secured on the handsome Cycle/footbridge completed over the river Dodder. Overall design strategies for the nine villages were discussed and developed at Area Committee level with the Elected Members with a firm undertaking to start implementation on site in 2015.

A tourism feasibility study was completed on the Clondalkin Round Tower Visitor Centre. A design for the refurbishment of the existing cottages at Millview and a new extension facing a Public Garden was displayed and received Part 8 Approval in September. The building will proceed to tender in mid 2015.

Energy Projects and Programmes

The County Architect as SDCC's Energy Champion saw the continuation of the Department's involvement with the following projects:

Municipal Energy related Projects

An Energy Asset Database of council buildings was produced covering the main groups of Council buildings – Libraries, Leisure Centres, Community Centres, Depots, Civic Offices, Sports and Arts buildings. Detailed energy audits have been carried out in our large consumers such as the Leisure Centres and Tallaght Stadium. From these audits a Register of Energy saving opportunities for the top consumers was developed providing a programme of improvement works which will result in energy efficiency and savings toward our 2020 targets.

These energy saving projects are fed into the SEAI Monitoring and Reporting tool to inform our improvements against the indicators.

- A Techno-Economic feasibility study of District Heating for Tallaght Town Centre, working with Stakeholders Tallaght Hospital, The Square and the Institute of Technology, Tallaght
- A Feasibility Study to investigate the potential of Hydro generated power on the watercourses in South Dublin which was tendered in 2014
- Development of a Smart Interface (FreqCon) with Eirgrid and System Services by the temporary positioning / connection of a FreqCon DS3 System Services Station converter (300kw) to the rear of County Hall. This was procured and will be installed in 2015

Energy related Projects in the community- Retrofitting of Housing Stock

Tallaght is designated as a Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) by Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI). South Dublin County Council in partnership with the Micro-Energy Generation Association (MEGA), IT Tallaght/DIT, Enterprise Ireland, Tallaght Hospital and the Square Shopping Centre have formed a loose partnership to develop a Smart Micro-Energy Cluster centring on Tallaght. The MEGA Test-Bed Project in Bohernabreena /Old Bawn forms a self-balancing energy-producing cell with prosumers, renewable locally-generated energy and was the start of the Smart Micro-grid/Cluster.

The second cell of this Cluster was commenced as part of South Dublin County Council 2014 Better Energy Community project - 54% funded by SEAI - in Bawnlea estate; with residential energy upgrading of 53 SDCC dwellings, and the linking of 27 of these homes, Tallaght Swimming Pool and two community centres with Smart-metering. Energy efficiency works were also carried out to Belgard Community Facility as part of this SEAI funded Project. The insulation works and heating upgrades have improved the comfort levels for all tenants, user groups and staff, and have reduced the energy costs.

457 SDCC dwellings had Attic and Cavity Wall insulation works carried out in 2014 under The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government sponsored Energy Retrofitting Programme.

245 Window quality inspections were carried out for Housing Department and a total of 157 Dwellings had their windows and external doors replaced with thermally efficient units in 2014 under the Windows Replacement Programme and 35 dwellings had replacements under the Housing Departments Energy Programme. 15 voided houses had energy upgrading measures carried out in conjunction with relet works, with ASD Clerk of Works monitoring the energy saving measures installed.

7,400 Dwellings had their boilers serviced by the Council in 2014 in an ongoing maintenance regime to ensure efficiency and safety of the central heating systems in Council stock under the direction of ASD mechanical inspectors.

Over 1945 electrical inspections relating to SDCC stock were carried out in 2014 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

North Clondalkin Library, Rowlagh

A number of sites in the North Clondalkin area were surveyed and assessed as a location for a new community library. A site was recommended in Rowlagh village itself. A design was developed and put on public display under Part 8 Planning Consultation. The Elected Members approved the Part 8 at a full Council Meeting. The developing proposal was costed and submitted to DECLG as a first phase of funding application. The scheme will be developed and tender documentation commenced in 2015

Dominic's Community Centre

ASD carried out a 54sq.m. extension to Dominic's Community Facility which was grant aided by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. The work was carried out within a 4 month programme.

The new extension caters for 22 additional places in a pre school session, 15 after school care places, and in the evenings a space for youth clubs, youth activities, and a youth café. This is another successful collaboration between the Community and the Council to enable the provision of opportunities for the development, encouragement, empowerment and growth of young people, in the dynamic intergenerational, multi functional Community Centre of Dominic's.

Kiltalown Boxing Club

An existing property previously leased by SDCC as a shop was refurbished and reformatted to provide a sports facility and gymnasium for the Golden Cobra Boxing Club in Kiltalown. ASD supported a successful application by the club for grant-aid from the Irish Amateur Boxing Association. The fit out and completion of the works by the club with the grant aid will be completed by Easter 2015.

Social Housing Projects

The following Projects were brought to tender during 2014:

Redevelopment of Belgard Road Traveller accommodation	3 family dwellings
Suncroft	10 family dwellings
St Finian's	2 family

Tender recommendations for the above were submitted to the DECLG for approval and work will commence on site in 2015.

The following projects were consulted and received Part 8 Approval in 2014

St Mark's Green	11 family homes
Mayfield Phase 2	18 family homes
McUilliam, Fortunestown	28 family homes

Cost plans were submitted to DECLG and approval sought to proceed to tender. It is hoped to proceed to tender in 2015.

A detailed analysis of sites owned by SDCC and suitable for residential and infill development was carried out by ASD in last quarter of 2014. 15 sites were identified and the Elected Members briefed at area committee level on design implications. It was agreed that each site would be developed as a design and brought forward to a Part 8 Consultation process during 2015. Schemes approved at that time would be costed and submitted to DECLG for approval to tender.

Small Works



Small works extensions for special needs were completed to 4 dwellings during the year; another 4 were tendered, with works due to start on site early in 2015.

ASD carried out 435 inspections for Housing Adaption Grants for people with a Disability, Mobility Aids Housing Grants and 225 Housing Aid for Older People Grants and social housing applicants in 2014.

Cross Departmental collaboration projects include:

TASC Changing Rooms in Tymon Park: A Pavilion consisting of 6 changing rooms, a large club room, referee/first aid and dog club facilities, was completed mid-2014. Works consisted of ground works and utilities, with off-site fabrication of the building to reduce construction time on site.



Schools Programme: – consultation and design feasibility work with the Department of Education and liaising with the Council’s Planning Section on the selection/acquisition of sites suitable for primary schools in the SDCC area continued throughout 2014.

Civic Buildings: Design and construction services 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. These clients included Local Enterprise Office, MABS, Jigsaw, and Legal Aid Board.

Works were carried out to the Council Chamber to facilitate the additional 14 newly elected Councillors. A new safety glass screen was fitted in the Public Gallery of the chamber. Offices in County Hall and in Clondalkin Civic offices were reconfigured to accommodate the additional newly elected members.

Statutory Duties

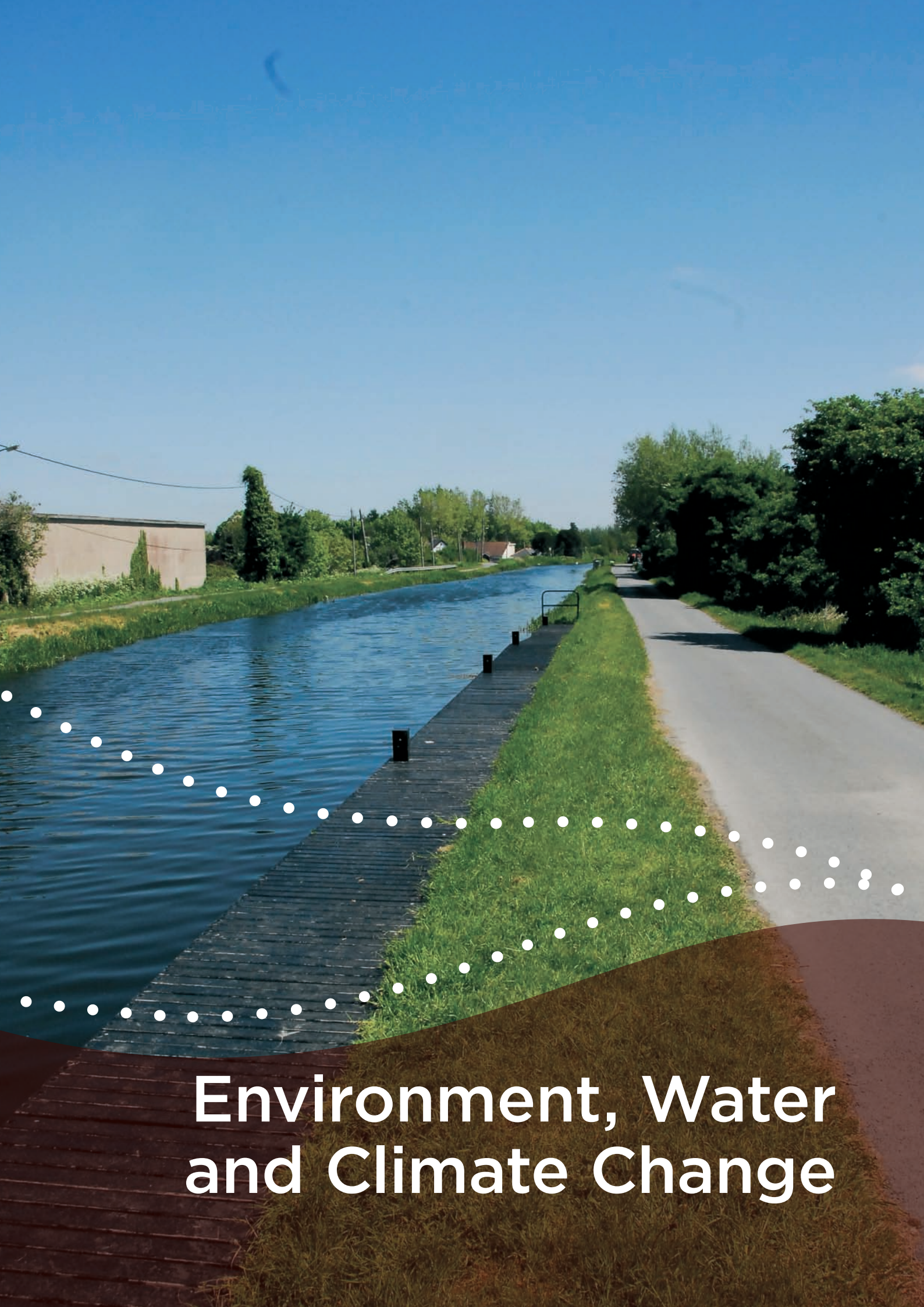
ASD deliver advice and support services on the following on an ongoing basis:-

- 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. A total of 65 inspections were carried out on Dangerous Buildings and 114 inspections on Derelict Sites were carried out by clerks-of-works in 2014
- ASD carried out 2246 inspections for the Private Rental Tenancy Board in 2014
- BER Assessors working with the ASD carried out 610 BER Assessments and issued the same number of Certificates and Reports in 2014.
- 69 DEC (Display Energy Certificates) were also issued for all SDCC Civic and Community Buildings in the county with floor areas of over 500m²

Conservation Works

ASD are actively involved with the conservation and heritage of protected structures. Works in 2014 included detailed evaluations of the environmental and heritage implications of The Clondalkin Round Tower/ Millview Cottages Part 8 application and the Part 8 proposal for works adjoining Rathfarnham Castle.

Report from Eddie Conroy, County Architect



Environment, Water and Climate Change



The Environment, Water and Climate Change Directorate is responsible for:

- Waste management planning, regulation and infrastructure;
- Environmental licensing, enforcement and litter management;
- Environmental awareness and education;
- Emergency planning and response co-ordination;
- Management and maintenance of the public realm;
- Recreational facilities and parks planning, provision and maintenance;
- Delivery of water and wastewater services on behalf of Irish Water (under a 12 year Service Level Agreement);
- Water Pollution Control and River Basin Management
- Catchment Flood Risk Assessment Management (CFRAMS)

The Department also supports the policy development role of both the Environment Public Realm and Climate Change, and the Social and Community Strategic Policy Committees.

Waste Management Planning and Infrastructure

Eastern - Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan 2015/2021

South Dublin County Council is one of 12 Local Authorities included in the new Eastern-Midlands Waste Region. The Eastern-Midlands Region launched its Draft Waste Management Plan 2015/2021 in 2014. The regional plan provides the framework for waste management for the next six years and sets out a range of policies and actions in order to meet the specified mandatory and performance targets.

A period of public consultation was initiated in November 2014. Following this stage, written submissions will be considered and the final regional waste management plan will be published in 2015.

- **Ballymount Waste Transfer Station** - The Council owned facility continues to contribute to the effective management of waste in the region
- **Ballymount Civic Amenity** - In 2014, total visitors numbers 99,179 delivered 13,283 tonnes material of which - 5,014 tonnes were recyclable
- **Arthurstown** - Final Capping of the landfill has been completed as part of the aftercare requirements of the licence
- **Council Owned Historic Landfills** - 2 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** - 4,581 tonnes of glass material was delivered to 46 Bring Bank Sites by environmentally conscious residents during 2014

Environmental Licensing and Enforcement

The Environmental Licensing and Enforcement Section is responsible for the supervision of permitted/licensed facilities/producers in the county covering Waste, Water Pollution and control, Discharge Licensing, WEEE, Paints, Packaging, Air Pollution and Organic Compounds.

The Council works with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the supervision of 17 Waste Licensed facilities that are located within the county, of 163 Waste Collection Operators and the regulation of 29 registered unlicensed landfills.

Enforcement: A total of 935 Enforcement actions were initiated in 2014 in areas of Waste, Environmental Health and Water Pollution.

Prosecutions: A total of 42 prosecutions were initiated in the areas of Waste, Water and Environmental Health in 2014. There were 15 Waste Enforcement and 4 Environmental Health convictions secured in 2014.

- **Waste Management** - 30 permitted/certified and 17 licensed facilities within the county. 511 inspections carried out.
- **Water Licensing and Pollution Control** - 491 Discharge to Sewer and 9 Discharge to Water Licences were issued in 2014. 1270 monitoring inspections carried out.
- **Environmental Health** - 1150 complaints in relation to air and noise pollution and public health nuisances were investigated 2014 resulting in 608 enforcement actions.
- **Litter Control** - 637 litter fines (On-the-spot and Direct Prosecutions) were issued with a further 244 Notices requiring property owners to remove various forms of litter. 125 prosecutions initiated.
- **Control of Animals** - 9,383 dog licences and 1052 fines were issued.

Operating under the Control of Horses Act, in 2013 the Council impounded 469 animals and issued 41 horse licences. Veterinary Inspectors also inspect all accommodation proposed under horse licence applications.

- **Food Safety and Veterinary Services** - Council Veterinary Inspectors, on behalf of the FSAI, Dublin City, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and Fingal Councils and with the Department of Agriculture, supervised 31 Facilities and carried out 867 Food Safety/Veterinary Inspections across the Dublin Region.
- **Derelict Sites** - 114 initial inspections were carried out during 2014 with 50 Notices served.

Activities	2013	2014
Permit Registered Producers	654	756
Complaints Responded to	1,480	3,381
Inspections carried out	5,536	4,394
On the Spot Fines issued	752	625
Warnings/Statutory Notices	1,353	1,179

Environmental Awareness and Education



The Environmental Awareness programmes provide an education and awareness role on all aspects of the environment to schools, households, communities and businesses. During 2014 the following programmes and initiatives were delivered:

Activity	Number
National Campaigns eg National Spring Clean Week, Green Schools, European Waste Reduction Week	7
Local/Regional Campaigns - Eco Week, Halloween, Christmas	17
Workshops covering Litter, Waste, Water, Energy, Climate Change, Biodiversity	187
School Talks	11
Green Schools Assessments	27
Green Schools Ceremonies	11
Registered Green School	124
Registered Green School with Flag	96
Competitions	2
Seminars / Public Meetings	7
Grant Schemes - Anti-Litter, Anti-Graffiti, Christmas	3
Eco Week Events	80
Awareness Projects	6
Social Credit Applications	2,532
Green Dog Walker Applications	265
Brochures / Leaflets / Information	43



Environmental Maintenance/ Maintaining the Public Realm

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

- › **Town/Village Cleaning** - A dedicated street cleaning resource deployed at 8 town/village centres provides over 16,000 hours of street cleaning within the county.

- › **Litter Picking** - A Routine Litter Picking and Estate Cleaning Programme targeted at approximately 750 housing estates and other locations provides over 7,000 litter picks.
- › **Litter Bins Programme** - Over 600 litter bins are inspected/serviced daily.
- › **Illegal Dumping** - Routine visits to approximately 30 dumping black spots 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 2014.
- › **Tree Management** - Progress was made on the completion of the 2014 Winter/Spring tree works programme. Additional works were carried out in the 2014 programme period as a result of severe storm damage after Christmas.
- › **Grass Cutting** - c.1100 hectares cut during the season.
- › **Burial Grounds Maintenance** - Maintenance services were provided at 18 Burial Grounds. In 2014, there were 663 burials in the Council's graveyards.

Recreational Facilities Provision and Maintenance



- › **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.

- › **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
- › Grange Castle Golf Course

Major Emergency Planning

The Council continued to participate in planning and training activities organised by 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. In 2014 Dublin Fire Brigade mobilised to 2,102 Fire and Rescue incidents and mobilised to 11,715 Emergency Ambulance incidents in the South Dublin County area.

Environment 2014	2014
Number of waste facility permits and certificates of registration granted in 2014	36
Litter Prevention and Enforcement	
Number of Litter Pollution Complaints:	4956
Number of Litter Pollution complaints resolved:	4326
Environmental Complaints and Enforcement	
Number of Air Pollution Complaints:	103
Number of Air Pollution complaints resolved:	99
Number of Noise Pollution Complaints:	132
Number of Noise Pollution complaints resolved:	127
Number of Water Pollution Complaints:	43
Number of Water Pollution complaints resolved:	43

Water Services

Since 1st January 2014, South Dublin County Council has been engaged as agents of Irish Water under a 12-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) to assist in the continued delivery of water services countywide.



The public utility company Irish Water has overall responsibility for water supply, waste water services and water infrastructural programmes. South Dublin County Council continues to be responsible for the surface water drainage network.

879 water and waste water inspections (routine and non-routine) were achieved at the end of Dec 2014.

Water Maintenance and Operations

The County water supply comprises four water supply zones, with river-based water being treated at Ballymore Eustace, Leixlip and Ballyboden Water Treatment Plants from where it is distributed to key infrastructural reservoirs located at Belgard, Peamount, Saggart and Kiltalown and delivered to homes and industry via 1,550 km watermains network. There is one ground water supply

in the County which produces 120m³/day locally to Brittas.

The daily water demand in the County is circa 71 Mega litres/day and supplied to over 90,250 homes and 5,500 commercial customers.

The quality of drinking water is monitored and analysed daily for compliance with the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No.2) Regulations 2007. During 2014, a total of 4,165 water samples were tested and 99.9% of samples were compliant which is in excess of the national average as reported by the EPA.

During 2014, the Water Maintenance crews repaired 130 burst water-mains, maintained or replaced 61 hydrants, 74 sluice valves and 327 services.

Water Network Management

Pressure management is an important tool in driving down Unaccounted for water (UFW) and achieving IW ASP targets. There are 91 pressure reducing valves on the countywide water network of which 33 have day-night controllers facilitating additional pressure reduction at night, and 3 have full modulated controllers which facilitate automated pressure management on a 24hr basis. An application for funding to roll out full modulated controllers and install target point pressure monitors on all 91 PRV areas was submitted and is being assessed by Irish Water.

UFW losses in the County averaged 18% in 2014.

A new Irish Water GIS (Geographical Information System) was introduced in 2014. The new IW/LA GIS will replace the current 1998 GISAmapp regime.

Following successful completion of a Green Solar Energy trial in 2013, solar power was rolled out to 10 industrial district meter locations in 2014. A Green Hydroelectric Energy system, suitable for pressure controlled sites continues to be trialled at Finnstown.

Drainage Maintenance and Operations

In 2014, this Section carried out a total of 1021 work orders on behalf of Irish Water associated with the upkeep of the foul drainage infrastructure. This included flushing and dragging of blocked sewers, clearing blocked public sewers and combined sewers, new connections to public mains for developers and pumping station maintenance including 'chokes'.

Responsibility for the surface water collection regime remains the remit of this Council. The surface water related works included the maintenance of river screens and clearing of streams to mitigate potential flood 'hotspots', general maintenance and camera surveys of the sewer network to identify blockages and assist in network improvement culminating in a total of 1011 work orders over the year.

Pollution Control and River Basin Management

The Water Pollution Team continues to enforce the trade effluent licensing programme of all food service establishments in the county.

At the end of 2014, a total of 427 such premises were identified and of these 128 (30%) are unlicensed. The Fat, Oils and Grease (FOG) programme is out-sourced.

The first cycle of River Basin Management Plans for Ireland was published in July 2010 and planning for the second cycle is underway. The River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures have been developed to help safeguard our water-bodies and meet the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

The Pollution Unit also deals with the monitoring, recording and clean up operations associated with any pollution incidents that occur both in our waterways and streetscapes.

Catchment Flood Risk and Assessment Management Studies (CFRAMS)

The CFRAMS Programme is central to the medium to long-term strategy for the reduction and management of flood risk in Ireland.

During 2014 South Dublin County Council was engaged in 2 studies as follows:

- Eastern CFRAMS. This study commenced in 2011 and is expected to run until the end of 2016
- Dodder CFRAMS. This study was adopted by the Council in 2014

The Poddle and Camac Options Reports were completed in 2014 by RPS on behalf of the Office of Public Works (OPW). South Dublin County Council is the lead authority to develop the Poddle options further.

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.
- The Ballycullen Flood Alleviation Scheme is included in the Council's capital programme for 2015. The scheme will attract one third funding from the OPW with the balance being funded by the Council.

Mechanical Section

The Council's Mechanical Section resides within the functional remit of the Environment, Water and Climate Change Department. This section is a major support to all of the operational sections within the Council as a whole, managing and maintaining the extensive fleet of vehicles and the mechanical and electrical aspects of Water and Drainage pumping stations and reservoirs.

This includes the maintenance of the high-tech control panels, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) and telemetry which are the brains behind the functionality of the automated infrastructure which is key to an efficient, sustainable service delivery to domestic and commercial units.

In 2014, pumps replacement commenced in Lucan Village and Newcastle Drainage pumping stations under Irish Water Minor Capital Works Programme. A standby generator has been approved by Irish Water for Esker Drainage Station as has the provision of a new macerator at Tobbermaclugg which are scheduled for installation in Q2-2015.

Climate Change

Climate change is one of the most significant and challenging issues currently facing humanity. The recently published Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill also deals with adaptation to climate change, in that it provides for the preparation, and approval by the government, of successive National Climate Change Adaptation Frameworks which will outline the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors as well as

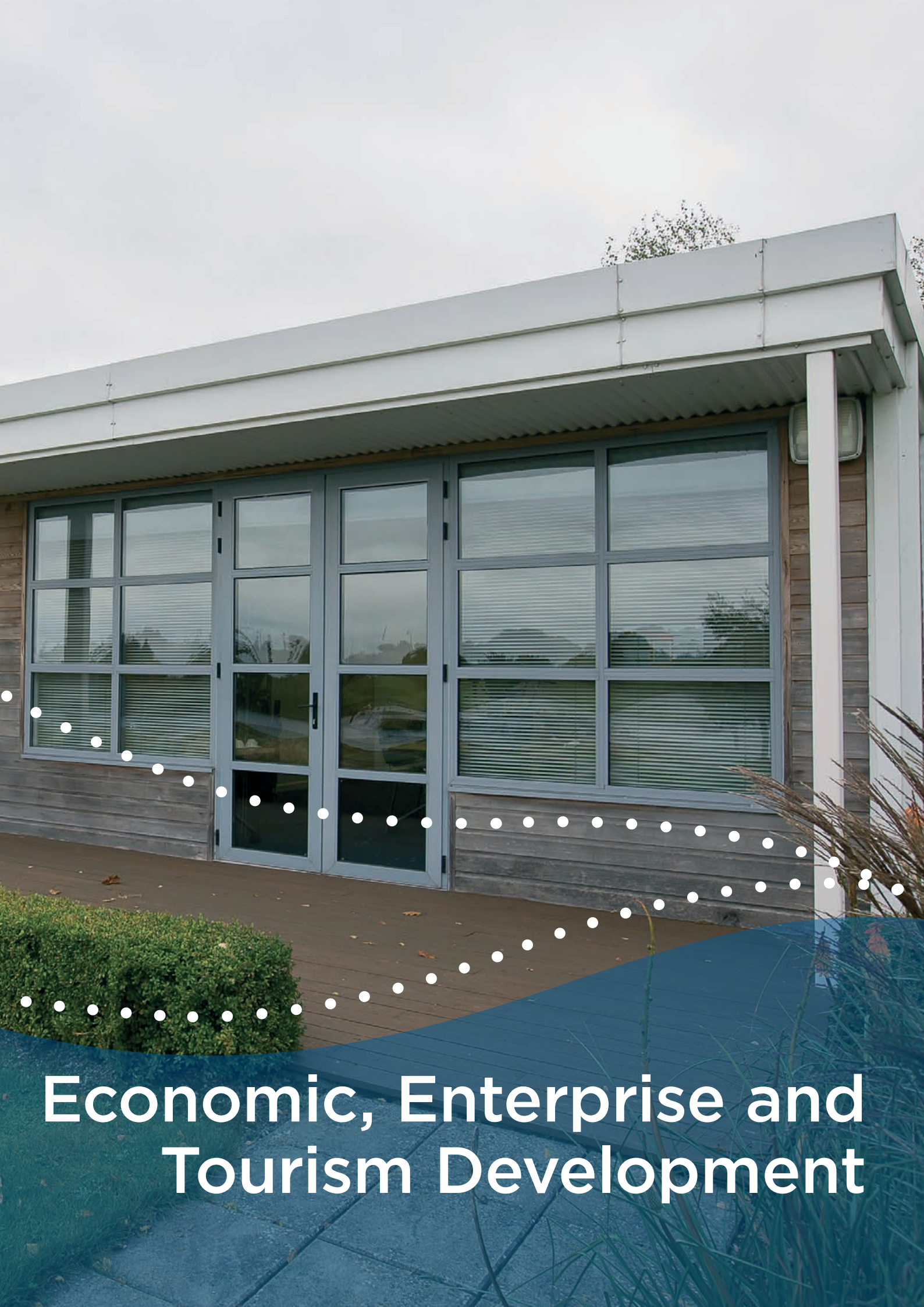
by local authorities in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State and citizens to the negative impacts of climate change.

The Council is liaising with EPA representatives to assist in the development of SDCC Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and appropriate Programme of Measures for the future.

To begin, all relevant Departments in South Dublin County Council have begun to record economic impacts which affect their specific area/service provision to aid the baseline information capture in the aftermath of significant weather events required by the EPA.

Water Services	2014
Total volume of water supplied (m ³ /per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for:	71,169
Volume of unaccounted for water (m ³ /per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for:	12,813

Report from Teresa Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change.



Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

South Dublin County: Businesses Development and Sustainability Initiative



In 2014 following a reorientation of operations, the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development Department was created. Central to the work of this department is the promotion of actions in support of economic development. These actions include:

- The ongoing rollout of the County Economic Strategy particularly focusing on Foreign Direct Investment opportunities and support for the development of the County's towns and villages.
- Ongoing promotion of Grangecastle Business International Park as a premier location for inward investment, including a review of marketing material. In 2014 new developments were commenced by Google, Grifols and Microsoft, in addition to this a site was disposed of to Interxion. Infrastructure within the Park continues to be improved with the opening of the new central carriageway.
- Supporting the work of the sub group of the Land Use, Planning and Development SPC and the establishment of the new Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development SPC.
- Continued support for the sustaining business executive, (under the Sustaining and Developing Business Programme), in conjunction with South Dublin Chamber.
- The creation of the Local Enterprise Office in County Hall, offering a range of 'first stop shop' services and supports to Business and enterprise in the County.
- The working relationships established with local agencies, business and national bodies through the "Sustaining and developing business programme".
- A full monthly update on the Council's strategic support towards 'business development and survival' is provided at the Corporate Policy Group Meetings.
- Agreed in the 2014 budget by the elected members, 1% of rates income was identified to directly support local businesses primarily based on a grant payable to businesses with a rateable value of less than €10,000.
- In order to ensure that the Business Support Grant budget is utilised to support business any surplus over and above that paid in individual grants is retained to fund a focused programme of measures to support local business. This fund is managed in co-operation with South Dublin Chamber to target industrial vacancy/ under utilisation and obsolescence and to promote innovation and enterprise. The SPC and Council have agreed that the use of these funds will be governed by a percentage breakdown of :-
 - 60% - infrastructural upgrading works to be of a capital nature
 - 30% - innovation, start-up advice and supports including incubation space
 - 10% - targeted training, to be identified by targeted surveys and delivered through LEO
- A full economic profile of South Dublin County, undertaken during 2014 in close co-operation between

South Dublin County Council and the Chamber. This profile brings clarity to the economic activity within South Dublin County. The profile included a short on-line survey outlining business type, location, activity, length of existence and training needs coupled with the three surveyors calling to all, 4500, businesses within the County.



- › The Jobs Strategy for South Dublin County was launched in April 2014 setting out targets and the measures which the Council can employ to influence job growth and retention.
- › The design of a County-wide way-finding strategy with associated map boards, for our Villages was approved in 2014 and will commence roll-out in 2015.



- › A Property Expo showcasing commercial property opportunities in the County took place at Tallaght Stadium in October 2014.
- › A Shop front Grant Scheme was introduced. This scheme is intended to improve the appearance of independently owned shops fronting public streets making the streetscape more attractive to shoppers and visitors. Funding of almost €5,000 was given to applicants and the scheme will proceed in 2015.
- › A Tourism Strategy was commissioned in late 2014 and will complete during 2015 with the intention that a road map for tourism development will guide initiatives over the next five years.
- › The Community Diaspora Project which sought to build on the legacy of the Gathering 2013 was launched - three applications for grant approvals were received and two were approved with total funding of €6,000.

Economic Development	2014
Number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Officer in 2014:	60



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 Members resolved, among other disposals, to dispose of lands to the Health Service Executive and the Minister for Education and Skills during 2014 which will facilitate the provision of additional health services and schools within the County.

The property register continued to be updated and maintained ensuring that the Council's interests are protected in this regard. An in-house database of all licences and leases was developed and is being populated to capture all legal agreements with regard to the letting of Council property.

Grange Castle

The Council in partnership with the IDA continues to market and promote Grange Castle Business Park as a strategic site to attract major Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and 2014 saw continued sustained interest from potential international clients.

The expansion of the Park continued with the completion of disposals to clients at Grange Castle for ICT and bio-pharma facilities and the commencement and ongoing construction of related developments, which are scheduled to open in 2015-2016.

Infrastructural capacity building continued in 2014 with the opening of a new central carriageway in Grange Castle Business Park and the enhancement of electrical capacity in the form of ducting works for a planned 110 Kv upgrade within Grange Castle Business Park.

A review of all marketing materials for the Business Park was commenced and will complete in 2015.

- The completion of the disposal of 2.94 hectares (7.26 acres) in Grange Castle Business Park to Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited.
- The disposal of 11 Hectares in Grange Castle Business Park to Grifols Worldwide Operations Limited.
- The proposed disposal of 5.02 acres in Grange Castle Business Park to Interxion Ireland Limited.
- The commencement of a 35,000 sq meter Data Centre in Grange Castle Business Park to Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited.

Library Services

Business and Economic Support

South Dublin Libraries supports Business, Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Business and Job Skills Development. As well as the annual Business Focus programme which took place in February 2014, South Dublin County Libraries participated in November's national Library Ireland Week campaign "Libraries: Open for Business". County Library and Ballyroan Library hosted informative free talks including ***Starting and Scaling a New Business*** and ***State Supports for New and Existing Businesses***, a practical seminar organised by the Local Enterprise Office. Lucan Library hosted a workshop on ***Social Media and Online Marketing***.

South Dublin Libraries continued to work closely with other agencies in providing business resources, networking opportunities, seminars and other programmes that can foster the development of local economic initiatives. South Dublin Libraries also continued to support job-seekers in their search for employment. Through co-operation and partnership with national and local employment agencies for 2015 the library services will provide practical workshops, talks and information referral on all matters relating to job-seeking. The library services website, www.southdublinlibraries.ie is a valuable resource in this area, with a dedicated Business and Jobs page available 24/7.

Culture, Innovation and Creativity

Having procured our local licence from TED for the fifth year running, TEDxTallaght is an independent locally organised event which brings together innovative creative speakers for a night of entertainment and inspiration on the topics of Technology, Entertainment and Design. This year's **TEDxTallaght** was called ***Theatre of Curiosity***. Ten speakers took to the stage in The Civic Theatre in Tallaght to a packed out auditorium. Topics covered included disability awareness, quantum

physics, eating behaviours, playfulness and more. One Tweet on the night stated "Well done [@SDCLibraries](https://twitter.com/SDCLibraries) on an amazing **#TEDxTallaght** last night! You brought [@TEDx](https://twitter.com/TEDx) to a new level in [@Ireland](https://twitter.com/Ireland)!"



South Dublin Libraries' **Red Line Book Festival** returned this year with a packed programme, offering a wide range of events for all ages. The Festival ran from 14th to 19th October, taking place at various venues across the county and attracting over 2,700 people. The school programme was fully booked with some 1,000 children attending during the week. This year's programme featured 42 events, including 69 speakers such as renowned writers Donal Ryan, Mary O'Donnell, Paul Lynch, Christine Dwyer Hickey, Nuala Ni Chonchuir and Catherine Dunne. Legendary violinist and poet John Sheahan (from The Dubliners) joined us while historian Myles Dungan and his team recreated the Great War with its stories, music and songs for a packed audience in the Civic Theatre.

The Festival also welcomed for the first time in South Dublin County acclaimed Chinese writer and filmmaker Xiaolu Guo, award winning Italian crime fiction author Alessandro Perissinotto and UK children's writer Tom Palmer. Over 140 people participated in the Red Line Poetry Competition with 249 entries.

Heritage and Local Studies

2014 gave South Dublin Libraries the opportunity to continue the Decade of Centenaries project.

The **Great War Road show Conference** in co-operation with the Heritage Officer took place in the County library, Tallaght in September. A capacity audience heard a great day of lectures which kicked off with Myles Dungan's overview of the Irish involvement in WWI. Ciarán Wallace from Trinity College Dublin then spoke about 'keeping the home fires burning' and what life was like for ordinary people in Ireland during the War. He was followed by John O'Keeffe who gave a very entertaining talk on psychopaths in the Great War. Lastly Turtle Bunbury and Michael Whelan spoke about more local connections with the War, the RAF training aerodrome in Tallaght and local men who went to War, including the Finlay's of Corkagh House.

"Irish Life" was a newspaper which was published in Dublin in the early 20th Century. At the outbreak of the First World War, the newspaper published a supplement called "Our Heroes". The supplement contained 1,600 photographs and biographical notes of officers in Irish regiments and of Irish officers in British regiments who fell in action, or who were mentioned for distinguished conduct from 1914 to 1918.

Our Local Studies Unit, in collaboration with the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht, digitised this valuable historical resource and made its text searchable and available free to the public for the first time in database form. The **Our Heroes** database (<http://ourheroes.southdublinlibraries.ie>) is of all-Ireland importance and has met with overwhelming approval from many historical associations, libraries and descendants of the men who are mentioned. It also contains details of the dates of death and final place of burial or commemoration, which were not included in the original work.

2014 saw the second insert to our **Riots, Rifles and Rebels** resource that seeks to

support the history curriculum coming on stream. The **Great War 1914-1918** was produced and distributed to schools in South Dublin. This series is designed to commemorate significant events in the period in Irish history from 1913 to 1923. In addition, three libraries offered workshops based on World War 1 to accompany the packs.



Services for Children and Young People

South Dublin Libraries continued to provide a range of services and supports for children.

In 2014 there were **740 class visits** from local schools to our libraries, enjoying both formal tours and informal drop in sessions.

Direct support to the education sector included 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, registration of individual classes and whole school registration as well as workshops and presentations on reading with children.

Bedtime Reading Clubs and the **Classroom Readers Collection** continued to grow and are considered a valuable and worthwhile service by the teachers and schools who use it. Over 60 teams from 36 senior schools in the county participated in the annual **Schools Quiz**.

South Dublin Libraries host a large programme of events for children and teens. This year a number of **Totally Teen Events** took place during May and November which introduced authors and illustrators to our second level students. Creative writing classes and book clubs for teens continue to operate across our branch network. A special event ***Weathering the Future***, featuring a panel of authors discussing climate change in books for teenagers took place in the Civic Theatre during the Red Line Book Festival. In June, libraries hosted 25 author visits and events as part of the mini book festival, **Mid Summer Madness**. The focus on this festival is very much around books and reading. This festival concluded with the **LiBEARY Sleepover**, an event which certainly won the 'cute' factor! Tons of little teddies had a sleepover in the libraries of South Dublin in June as we celebrated the anniversary of one of our favourite books; ***We're going on a Bear Hunt***. Images of the bears were tweeted during the evening and every child was given a photograph of their bear playing in the library after dark to take home the next day.



A key support to literacy is the well established **Summer Reading Buzz**. It features as its logo the iconic bee which

this summer was stamped on over 1000 participating membership cards. The bee has his own twitter account, [@summerbuzz](#), and is now regularly engaging with school twitter accounts from all over Ireland.

Imagine That! was the theme for **Children's Book Festival** in South Dublin Libraries. A wonderful programme of more than 40 events featuring authors, illustrators, poets and drummers delighted primary school children across the County.

Science Festival was held in November with 18 days of science filled fun and mini experiments and investigations with 26 events for over 1000 children.

Information and Communication Technologies

In 2014 the contract to supply a National Library System was awarded to Innovative Interfaces Inc. South Dublin Libraries is contributing to the first phase of the implementation of the new library management system together with Dublin City Council, Fingal, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Kildare and Wexford county councils. It is expected that the system will be introduced in libraries during 2015.

Access to the Irish Newspaper Archives has now been extended to all libraries.

Irish Newspaper Archives is the largest Digital Archive of Irish Newspapers in the world, with over 40 titles from all over the country, providing access to millions of newspaper articles spanning over 300 years of Irish history.

Excellence Awards

South Dublin Libraries and Arts' commitment to providing the best of services and programmes for the local community was once again officially recognised this year by national and international awards.

The state of the art **Ballyroan Library** won the 2014 Irish Concrete Society Award. This building is also listed amongst the most innovative libraries in the world offering 21st century services to people of all ages.

The **Children's Summer Programme** initiated by South Dublin Libraries Children's Services and run in conjunction with Dublin City County Council and other local authorities was shortlisted for this year's Excellence in

Local Government Awards as was the **Red Line Book Festival**.

Our **Local Studies Blog** was nominated for the Blog Awards Ireland 2014 which celebrates the best of Irish blogging.

The library in Clondalkin was selected for funding by the Carnegie UK Trust for its project **Library After Dark Writers' Café**.

Key Library Statistics

Issues	1,322,877
Wi-Fi Sessions	42,120
Events	4,930
Facebook followers	7,400
Twitter followers	5,050

Library 2014

Library Visits

Total number of visits to full-time libraries:	1,212,700
Cost of operating a Library Service per 1,000 population:	34,162.72

Internet Access

Total number of internet sessions provided:	243,984
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Arts Office

Our Community:

- › Visitors to the Civic Theatre 18,631
- › Visitors to Rua Red 190,000
- › 1100 children and young people access low cost music education through Music Generation South Dublin and South Dublin County Council music education programmes
- › 43 young people learned filmmaking skills through Tallaght Young Filmmakers
- › Over 500 people engaged with Dancer in Residence Ríonach Ní Neil
- › Contact Studio provided access to low cost, high quality recording facilities and lead programmes for over 40 young people in Animakers, Suburban Sounds, and the Big Picture TV in partnership with local organisations
- › 20 grants were made under the Administration of Amateur Voluntary and Community Arts Grants Scheme
- › 7 Individual Artists Bursary Awards were made in 2014 to artists to pursue a particular project or to further enhance their careers within the arts
- › 3 Annette Halpin Memorial Awards for Young Musicians were made, to support music education, development and performance Festivals and events:
 - › NOISE Flicks Youth Film Festival attended by 150 young people
 - › NOISE MOVES Youth Dance Festival attended by 384 young people
 - › Ruaille Buaille Lucan Children's Music Festival workshop participation and concert attendance by 6000 children
 - › Celebration - cultural diversity through the arts, over 130 performers took to the stage of the Civic Theatre before an audience of 290 people
 - › Over 900 people engaged with UNWRAPPED Winter Festival
 - › Supported an event in the Bealtaine Festival 60 participated
 - › Love Live Music Day 60 people participated
 - › Culture Night: cultural venues opened after hours and facilitated 900 visitors
 - › Creative Campus Exhibition 660 people engaged with the programme and exhibition
 - › Media Makers screening 40 attended
 - › Suburban Sounds Concert 150 attended
 - › Tallaght Young Filmmakers Screenings 150 attended
 - › Music Generation South Dublin Performances 400 people attended
 - › Dance Performance: Amú agus Cótaí Dearga premieres in the Civic Theatre, Tallaght. 280 people attended
 - › Seminar: Moving Conversations: Collaborative Dance in Focus 40 attended
 - › Talks: NOISE Creative Careers 45 attended 3 career talks

Report from Frank Nevin, Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development



Land Use Planning and Transportation



Roads

- Revenue expenditure under Division B- Road Transport and Safety totalled €27.09 million with income of € 6.33 million.
- The budget provided for day to day costs of maintenance of public lighting, traffic lights, road and footpath maintenance, winter maintenance, the school warden service and the provision of low cost safety measures.

Roads Construction and Design

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 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 is managing the project on behalf of the NRA.

The new flyover at Newlands Cross opened to traffic on Thursday morning, 20th November 2014 and the remainder of the works are expected to finish by April 2015. To date the flyover has resulted in an average 20 minute reduction in journey times for traffic using the N7.

Nangor Road Improvement Scheme (R134)

Proposed road improvement measures, extending approximately 1.7km westwards from the roundabout at Profile Park / Kilcarbery to a new junction with the Adamstown Road (R120), and including approximately 0.33km of road improvement works on the Baldonnell Road south to the Aylmer Road junction.

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

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 to tie in with proposed new junction with Nangor Road.

Present Position: Progression to Compulsory Purchase Order, detailed design and construction of this scheme is subject to funding becoming available.

National Transportation Authority Schemes 2014

The National Transportation Authority (NRA) Sustainable Transport Measures Five Year Investment Framework Programme provided grant funding in 2014 for projects in South Dublin as follows:

- Phase II of the Willsbrook Road Project progressed through final design and commencement of construction in 2014.
- The N4 access and upgrade scheme options report was completed and Phase I of the Palmerston Cycle Way Scheme commenced.
- Clondalkin Village and Lucan Village studies were completed and proposals are being examined to develop suitable schemes.
- Monastery Road Phase Two completed in 2014.
- Tymon Park and National Basketball Arena Access Roads was constructed and opened to Traffic on 23rd October 2014.
- Phase I design Tallaght to M50 was advanced to Tender stage.
- N81 Citywest to Fortunestown Part 8 approved. Funding is awaited
- Tallaght to Liffey Valley Cycle Scheme NTA approval granted and scheme progressed to final design stage.

Road Maintenance

- A total of 70 Roads Schemes undertaken as part of the 2014 programme.
- 13 Restoration Improvement Grant Schemes were also included.
- Total Expenditure on Schemes € 3,558,650
- Footpath programme continued throughout 2014 with expenditure of €350,000 incurred on repairs and improvements to 50 footpaths in the County.

- The planning stages of the Village Initiative Programme concluded and before year end initial works commenced
- Upgrade work on the GIS Mapping of all roads in the County was completed.
- Management and defence of Public Liability Claims continued through the year.

Road Safety

- 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 2014 both as part of National Bike Week activities and an ongoing programme of support to schools in this regard.
- Collaboration with An Taisce, walkability audits on schools was ongoing with additional measures progressed.
- Additional safety measures provided at schools throughout the County.
- Low Cost Safety Measures: An improvement scheme was completed at Knocklyon Road / Knockcullen Rise junction under the Low Cost Safety Measures Scheme.

National Bike Week 2014



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 encourage and promote cycling for all. Events were arranged to suit all; people of working age, families, school going children, and those interested in their local heritage. In keeping with previous years, safety training for children in primary schools all around the County was provided culminating in local cycles to nearby parks.

Engineer's Week 2014



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 sixth anniversary. In 2009 we facilitated 200 students. Each year has seen that number increase and in 2014 we hosted in excess of 1600 children from schools throughout the County.

Additional Traffic and Transportation Programmes / Works

- › Parking Tag - paying for your parking via mobile phone was launched in August 2013 in collaboration with the other Dublin Local Authorities. The numbers using Parking Tag continue to increase with an average of 400 parking tag transactions per week.

- › The decision of the Transportation SPC as adopted by the Council to provide 30 minutes free parking throughout the County was implemented in April 2014.
- › RITS Net EU Intelligent Transport Systems project concluded in 2014 with all programme targets met. Ongoing collaborative contact with the 8 partner countries remains an ongoing benefit.
- › Low Cost Safety Measures Schemes - Knockcullen road realignment was provided.

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;
 - › applications for street infrastructure such as street cabinets;
 - › the installation of underground telecommunications infrastructure;
 - › Standardised online application system for relevant licenses is at advanced stage of introduction.

Planning

Development Management

Planning Applications

- › The Council received 597 valid planning applications during 2014. This represented an increase of 3.5% on 2013.
- › 577 decisions were made in relation to planning applications during 2014, 521 decisions were for grants of permission, and 56 were refusals.
- › Additional Information was requested in 112 cases.
- › Four applications were declared withdrawn during 2014.
- › Two applications were withdrawn during 2014.
- › There were 6 invalid applications received in 2014 and a further 10 applications were deemed to be invalid due to the Site Notice not being in accordance with the regulatory requirements.
- › One hundred and twenty eight applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2014.

Enforcement

- › 168 new enforcement files were opened in 2014
- › Warning Letters were issued in 155 cases
- › Enforcement Notices were served in 67 cases
- › District Court proceedings were initiated in 6 cases
- › Circuit Court proceedings were initiated in one case during 2014
- › Seven cases were resolved following the issuing of District Court proceedings
- › Eighty six cases were resolved without the necessity to apply to the Courts



Heritage

Progress continued on the following projects all of which were either listed actions in the South Dublin County Heritage Plan or were identified as objectives in the South Dublin County development Plan 2010-2016.

- › **SDCC Archaeology Accessibility survey:** an accessibility survey of all visible archaeological features in the County and the Dublin Mountains was undertaken which highlighted a number of areas of significant archaeological interest for future heritage tourism projects.
- › **Hell Fire Club Investigations:** a geophysical survey, a desk-top archaeological assessment of the site at the summit of Montpelier Hill and a historical examination of the operations of the infamous 18th Century Hell Fire Club was undertaken.
- › **Dublin County GIS Archaeology Project:** a joint Dublin Heritage Officers' project was undertaken to collate and map on GIS all of the archaeological excavation licences and reports for the County of Dublin. This will be the first database and mapping tool of its kind in the country, facilitating easy access to all licenced archaeological records and reports.
- › **Firhouse Weir Conservation Assessment:** a condition assessment and detailed historical report was undertaken for the Firhouse Weir and its associated sluices as part of the preparation process for a Firhouse Weir Heritage Park.

- **County Geological Audit:** an audit of the county's geological heritage resource was undertaken resulting in the identification of 9 sites of County Geological Importance. The information will assist in the promotion of our geological heritage in heritage tourism projects.
- **Scoping Project for Additional ACA Designations:** an architectural scoping exercise was undertaken under the Heritage Plan to identify possible additional areas in the County that might warrant designation as Architectural Conservation Areas.
- **Aviation Heritage Museum Feasibility Study:** this LEADER- funded feasibility study was completed and outcomes are currently being considered in conjunction with the Air Corps and the Department of Defence.
- **Slade Heritage Trail:** this LEADER- funded feasibility study was completed and emerging route options are being progressed.
- **The Great War commemoration programme** – Seminar day in County Library and evening musical/choral event in Civic Theatre, exhibition in Corkagh Park.
- **Biodiversity Engagement Activities:** Bat Walks and Botanical Walks undertaken in Waterstown Park, Clondalkin Park, Griffeen Valley Park, Cherryfield Park; butterfly and bumblebee field survey and monitoring surveys along Dodder; annual monitoring of sites in the county with Rare Plants and habitats; training for Council staff in bat survey techniques; PowerPoint presentation to Tidy Towns Group Meeting and engagement with Tidy Towns Groups in Clondalkin, Griffeen Valley, Rathfarnham, and Firhouse re biodiversity plans and other issues; engagement with Parks Section regarding a range of biodiversity

maintenance and enhancement issues in Council Parks; Palmerstown Festival heritage events – history, culture and wildlife tours on a rafting tour on the Liffey.

Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP)

The DMP continued to implement the strategic objectives and actions plans set out in the Dublin Mountains Strategic Development Plan 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.

In 2014 the DMP continued to consolidate the work of the partnership.

The key targets for 2014 were:

- Develop further information and improve access to the Mountains generally.
- Trail and Infrastructure Maintenance.
- New Mountain Bike Trail works at Ticknock.
- The Dublin Mountains Way (DMW) and other trail upgrades.
- Volunteering and Community Involvement continued throughout 2014. The volunteer rangers led 36 guided walks throughout the year – these are very popular and are regularly oversubscribed.
- The fifth Forest Family Fun Day was again a success.
- Education Initiatives in 2014 included examining the archaeological potential of the Dublin Mountains.
- The Zipit adrenaline-pumping, high wire trail in the fabulous pine forest of Tibbradden Wood opened in mid 2013 has thrived and its popularity exceeded expectations throughout 2014.

Architectural Conservation

South Dublin County Council's Record of Protected Structures contains 544 Protected Structures, 105 of which are public authority owned.

There are 5 designated Architectural Conservation Areas within South County Dublin, Tallaght Village, Rathfarnham Village/Willbrook Area, Lucan Village, Clondalkin Village and Palmerstown Mills Complex. This designation has been very successful in the conservation; protection and enhancement of those areas, South Dublin County Council considers of great architectural quality and character.

At the end of 2013 the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht launched a new fund of €5 million - the **Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme 2014** - for the repair and conservation of Protected Structures.

- › South Dublin County Council was allocated €123,000 under this grant scheme and 17 grant applications were received and submitted to the DAHG by SDCC all were allocated funding.
- › 12 applicants received funding for conservation works to their homes/ structures

- › 2 Council owned Protected Structures namely Firhouse Weir, Tallaght and The Dodder Arch, Rathfarnham received grant funding which allowed necessary remedial repairs to be completed.

Under the Conservation Budget for Protected Structures remedial repair and safety works were carried out to Mill View Cottages, Clondalkin to ensure the structures were safeguarded from water ingress.

The Councils Architectural Conservation Officer organised a one day workshop during November 2014 on Stone Wall Repair and the use of Lime Mortars. The course was attended by Council staff working in the area of stone masonry. The course provided an understanding of traditional building skills and the use of traditional materials and repair.

As part of the review of the County Development Plan, the Architectural Conservation Officer engaged conservation consultants to carry out a review of the Record of Protected Structures to include possible additions and to assess new areas for formal designation as Architectural Conservation Area (ACA).



Planning	2014
Number of local authority planning decisions subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála:	47
Number of determinations confirming the local authorities decision:	35
Planning Enforcement	
Total number of cases closed in 2014:	172
Total number of cases that were dismissed:	0
Number of cases that were resolved through negotiations:	86
Number of cases were closed due to enforcement proceedings:	86
Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31 December 2014:	324
New Buildings Inspected	
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority:	755
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected:	87

Report from Eddie Taaffe, Director of Land Use Planning and Transportation

279
338
384
729
15
28
2
2

475	630
289	384
337	447
778	1032
701	931
431	572
267	355
1036	137
310	

172
17
21

Finance

265
310
355
358
41

Annual Financial Statement

The Annual Financial Statement 2014 was presented to the Elected Members at the April 2015 council meeting. The audit opinion and report in respect of the Annual Financial Statement 2013 were considered and noted by members at the November 2014 council meeting.

Annual Budget

The Annual Budget for 2015 was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended), and the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014, and adopted by the Council on 6th November, 2014.

Capital Programme

The 2015-2017 capital programme was considered and noted by the members at the December 2014 council meeting.

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 on the Council's website as prescribed.

Late Payment in Commercial transactions

The European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial transactions) Regulations 2012 govern late payment of commercial transactions. These Regulations provide that interest becomes payable 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 2014 was €4,667.

Public bodies are also required to report on their performance in relation to the time taken to pay invoices. The reports for 2014 are published on the Council's website.

Finance 2014

National Performance Indicator for the collection of Commercial rates	80%
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South Dublin County Council Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2014 (unaudited)

	2014	2013
	€'000	€'000
Fixed Assets and Work in Progress	3,278,114	3,705,162
Long Term Debtors	207,404	208,513
Net Current Assets	99,426	41,373
Long Term Creditors	(250,522)	(253,048)
Net Assets	3,334,422	3,702,000

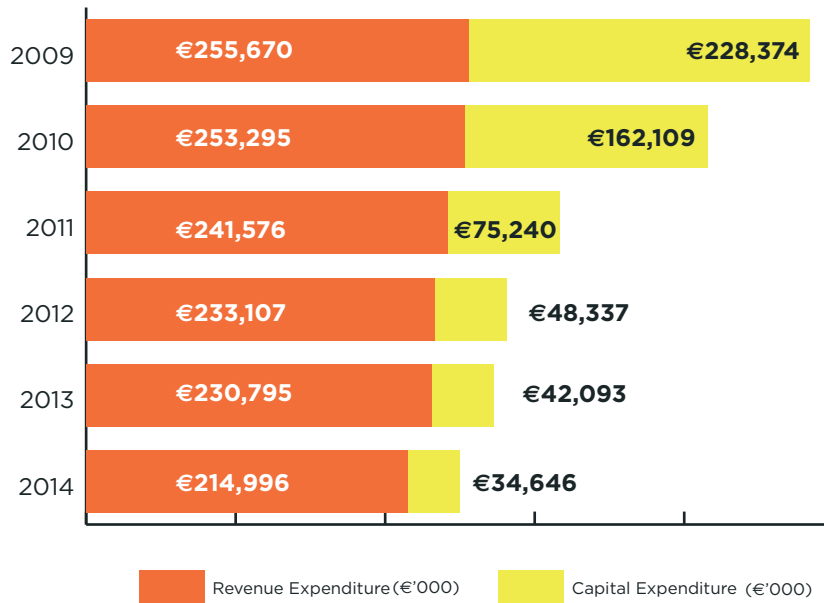
Financed by:

Work in Progress and Capitalisation Account	3,260,549	3,675,162
Revenue Reserve - Specific	10,805	10,805
Revenue Reserve - General	12,051	10,730
Other Balances	51,017	5,303
	3,334,422	3,702,000

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2014 (unaudited)

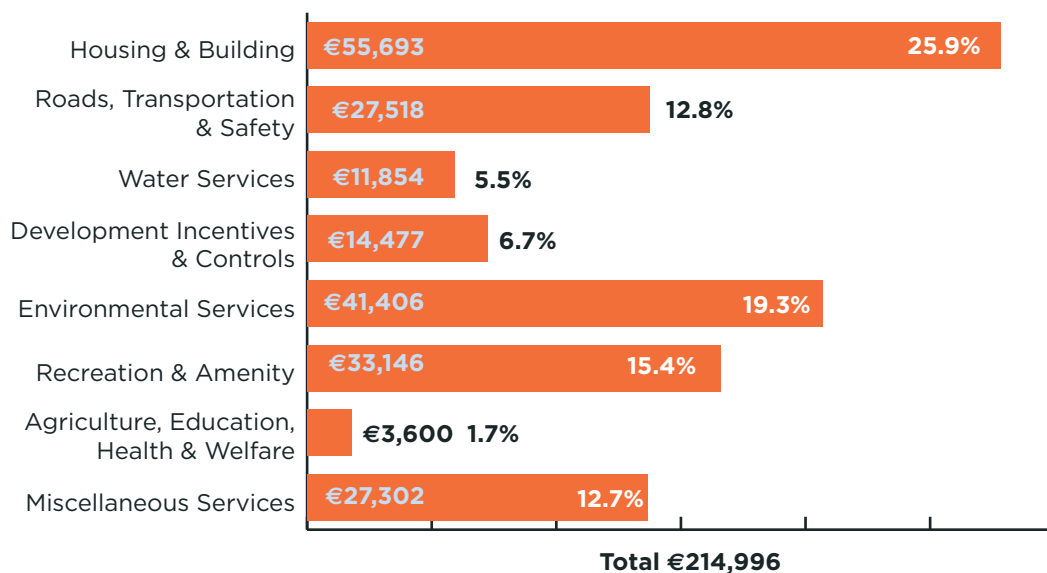
	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Cost
	2014	2014	2014
	€'000	€'000	€'000
Housing and Building	51,352	49,657	(1,695)
Roads Transportation and Safety	24,419	6,292	(18,127)
Water Services	11,116	9,837	(1,279)
Development Management	12,268	3,471	(8,797)
Environmental Services	32,065	9,104	(22,961)
Recreation and Amenity	29,952	4,708	(25,244)
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	3,571	2,144	(1,427)
Miscellaneous Services	26,046	3,653	(22,393)
Total Expenditure/Income	<u>190,789</u>	<u>88,866</u>	
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from			(101,923)
Rates, Local Government Fund & PRD			
Rates Income			122,880
Local Government Fund - Grant Income			924
Pension Related Deduction (PRD)			2,932
Net Transfers to Reserves			<u>(23,491)</u>
Surplus for Year			<u>1,322</u>
General Reserve @ 1st January 2014			<u>10,729</u>
General Reserve @ 31st December 2014			<u>12,051</u>

**Total Expenditure 2009 - 2014
Revenue & Capital (€'000)**



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

Revenue Expenditure 2014 by Division (€'000)



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

Report by Clodagh Henehan, Head of Finance

Appendix 1: Council Membership of Committees and Other Bodies

Area Committees Chairs

Councillor Eoin O Broin was unanimously elected Chair of the Clondalkin Area Committee.

Councillor Paul Gogarty was unanimously elected Chair of the Lucan Area Committee.

Councillor Mick Duff was unanimously elected Chair of the Tallaght Area Committee.

Councillor Pamela Kearns was unanimously elected Chair of the Rathfarnham/ Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee

Strategic Policy Committees

Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Education and Libraries SPC

Councillor Dermot Richardson - Chairperson
Councillor Fintan Warfield
Councillor Breedha Bonner
Councillor Brian Leech
Councillor Francis Timmons
Councillor Nicky Coules

Sectoral Members

Deirdre Mooney
Peadar Ó Caomhánaigh

Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

Councillor John Lahart - Chairperson
Councillor Guss O' Connell
Councillor Ronan Mc Mahon
Councillor Francis Duffy
Councillor Paul Foley
Councillor Anne-Marie Dermody
Councillor Emer Higgins
Councillor Brendan Ferron

Sectoral Members

Sean Reid
Garrett Robinson
Tara de Buitléar
Damien Roche

Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

Council Members

Councillor Pamela Kearns - Chairperson
Councillor Deirdre O' Donovan
Councillor Danny O'Brien
Councillor Ed O' Brien
Councillor Maire Devine
Councillor Paula Donovan

Sectoral Members

Donal Anderson
John O'Farrell
Connie Kiernan

Housing SPC

Council Members

Councillor Cathal King - Chairperson
Councillor Gino Kenny
Councillor Louise Dunne
Councillor Kieron Mahon
Councillor Mick Duff
Councillor Martina Genockey
Councillor Eoin O Broin
Councillor Trevor Gilligan

Sectoral Members

Betty Tyrrell Collard
Tricia Nolan
Brendan MacPhiarais

Social and Community SPC

Council Members

Councillor Dermot Looney - Chairperson
Councillor Jonathan Graham
Councillor Vicki Casserly
Councillor Charlie O' Connor
Councillor Sarah Holland
Councillor Kenneth Egan

Sectoral Members

Gráinne Ní Mhuirí
Layton Kelly

Land Use, Transportation and Planning SPC

Council Members

Councillor William Lavelle - Chairperson
Councillor Mick Murphy
Councillor Ruth Nolan
Councillor Paul Gogarty
Councillor Liona O' Toole
Councillor Colm Brophy

Sectoral Members

Neil Durkan
Denis Sherwin
Siobhán Butler

South Dublin County Council Commemorations Committee Members

Councillor Ruth Nolan
Councillor Liona O' Toole
Councillor Colm Brophy
Councillor Martina Genockey
Councillor Eoin O Broin
Councillor Ed O'Brien

South Dublin County Council- Audit Committee Members

George Kennington
Dermot Carter
Ann Horan
Eilis Quinlan
Councillor Dermot Richardson
Councillor John Lahart
Councillor Brendan Ferron

Local Community Development Committee

The membership changed from seventeen to nineteen during the year as per the new guidelines from the DECLG.

Membership changed to accommodate the guidelines, local elections and the new Public Participation Network representatives.

Name	Organisation
Maria O'Donohoe	South Dublin County Community Platform
Gillian McNicholls	South Dublin County Community Platform
Anna Lee	South Dublin County Partnership
Patricia Nolan	South Dublin County Partnership
Padraig Rehill	Health Service Executive
Paddy Lavelle	D.D.L. Education and Training Board
Fiona Ward	Dept. Social Protection
Peter Byrne	South Dublin Chamber
Justin Byrne	South Dublin County Community Forum
Greg Tierney	Crosscare
Mary Corcoran	Community Interest
Cllr. Pamela Kearns	South Dublin County Council
Cllr. Paula Donovan	South Dublin County Council
Billy Coman	South Dublin County Council
Loman O'Byrne	Local Enterprise Office

South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee

Name of Member	Organisation of which member	Title
Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan - Chairperson	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Mayor Councillor Fintan Warfield	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Paula Donovan	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Colm Brophy	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Cathal King	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Maire Devine	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Sarah Holland	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Ed. O'Brien	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Paul Foley	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Pamela Kearns	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Kieran Mahon	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Nicky Coules	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Liona O'Toole	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Kenneth Egan	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Councillor Paul Gogarty replaced Councillor Timmons	South Dublin County Council	Councillor
Sean Crowe T.D.	Oireachtas Member	T.D.
Eamon Maloney T.D.	Oireachtas Member	T.D.
Senator Cait Keane	Oireachtas Member	Senator
Joanna Tuffy T.D.	Oireachtas Member	T.D.
Daniel McLoughlin	South Dublin County Council	Chief Executive
Billy Coman	South Dublin County Council	Director of Housing, Social and Community
Chief Superintendent Orla McPartlin	Garda Siochana DMRS	Chief Superintendent
Chief Superintendent Declan Coburn	Garda Siochana DMRW	Chief Superintendent
Public Participation Members x 4	To be nominated in 2015	
Youth Garda Diversion Project x 1	To be nominated in 2015	
Local Drug Task Force x 2	To be nominated in 2015	

Appendix 2: Conferences attended by Councillors in 2014

Conference: Local Government Reform
Date: 10th - 12th January 2014
Venue: Bewley's Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

Conference: Financing Local Government, The Critical Issues
Date: 10th - 12th January 2014
Venue: Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

Conference: LAMA Spring Conference
Date: 31st January - 01st February 2014
Venue: Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan

Conference: Employment Opportunities in Artisan Foods
Date: 7th - 9th February 2014
Venue: Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Cork

Conference: Genealogy Conference
Date: 21st - 22nd February 2014
Venue: Scott's Limerick, Ashbourne Avenue, South Circular Road, Limerick

Conference: ACCC Conference
Date: 6th - 7th March 2013
Venue: Slieve Russell Hotel, Ballyconnell, Cavan

Conference: Charities Regulations & Legislation
Date: 7th - 9th March 2014
Venue: Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Cork

Conference: Sustainable Development and Design in Urban Areas
Date: 14th - 16th March 2014
Venue: Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Cork

Conference: Environmental and Cost Effective Solutions to Waste Water Treatment
Date: 11th - 13th April 2014
Venue: Ramada Viking Hotel, Waterford

Conference: Ennis Men's Shed Conference
Date: 26th April 2014
Venue: Treacy's West County Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare

Conference: Disability Conference
Date: 25th September 2014
Venue: Hilton Hotel, Kilmainham

Conference: LAMA Autumn Conference
Date: 17th - 18th October 2014
Venue: Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana, Co. Donegal

Conference: AILG Inaugural Annual Conference
Date: 29th - 30th October 2014
Venue: Hotel Kilmore, Cavan

Total Amount Spent on Conferences in 2014 was €5,150.91

Appendix 3: Local Election Expenditure 2014

Name	Surname	Spend
Anne-Marie	Dermody	€3,067.10
Breeda	Bonner	€2,957.90
Brendan	Ferron	€1,469.74
Brian	Leech	€1,844.05
Cathal	King	€1,633.74
Charles	O'Connor	€921.30
Colm	Brophy	€6,522.00
Danny	O'Brien	€1,810.00
Deirdre	O'Donovan	€4,370.89
Dermot	Looney	€6,863.95
Dermot	Richardson	€3,338.90
Ed	O'Brien	€8,301.50
Emer	Higgins	€4,941.07
Eoin	O'Broin	€1,400.00
Fintan	Warfield	€1,243.76
Francis	Duffy	€2,553.40
Francis	Timmons	€4,886.89
Gino	Kenny	€1,550.00
Gus	O'Connell	€4,800.80
John	Lahart	€6,549.41
Jonathan	Graham	€1,313.00
Kenneth	Egan	€1,055.00
Kieran	Mahon	€1,520.49
Liona	O'Toole	€3,648.65
Louise	Dunne	€1,633.70
Maire	Devine	€1,749.74
Martina	Genockey	€4,426.00
Mick	Duff	€4,861.18
Mick	Murphy	€1,520.49
Nickey	Coules	€1,650.15
Pamela	Kearns	€3,025.00
Paul	Foley	€8,144.00
Paul	Gogarty	€3,673.20
Paula Donovan	Donovan	€2,947.29
Ronan	Mc Mahon	€9,538.00
Ruth	Nolan	€1,406.75

Name	Surname	Spend
Sarah	Holland	€1,366.74
Trevor	Gilligan	€2,945.35
Vicki	Casserly	€1,913.76
William	Lavelle	€6,489.05
Alan	Gallagher	€4,247.10
Frank	O'Gorman	€0.00
Alan	Hayes	€2,161.33
Emma	Murphy	€3,399.27
Eddie	Eriksson	€1,520.49
Gay	Kelly	€3,875.30
John	Flanagan	€1,037.75
Chris	Bond	€1,420.00
David	Yeats	€1,005.00
Karen	Warren	€760.00
Neville	Bradley	€390.00
Eamon	Tuffy	€4,230.11
Siobhan	Butler	€4,367.81
Declan	Burke	€188.00
Aideen	Carbury	€3,474.60
Caitriona	Jones	€3,588.12
Gerard	Kennedy	€4,686.44
Ken	Kinsella	€2,711.76
Brian	Lawlor	€4,021.31
Michael	Finnegan	€1,640.00
Lorraine	Hennessy	€1,640.00
Shane	Connelly	€8,336.62
Michael E.	Farrelly	€930.00
Ciaran	Byrne	€0.00
Philomena	Foster	€1,844.05
Eamonn	Walsh	€6,493.80
Eugene	Ryan	€2,398.00
Susan	McEaney	€1,601.67
Valerie	Gaynor	€1,000.00
Caitriona	McClellan	€3,171.75
Emmet	Hegarty	€5,258.10
Total		€212,551.48

Appendix 4: Energy Efficiency Report 2014

Summary of energy related projects and activities:

Countywide feasibility study on the potential for small-scale hydro-electric power on the rivers in South Dublin County – was tendered and a consultant has been appointed.

District Heating feasibility study – final draft completed.

Special pilot project commenced to install a **Freqcon next generation DS3** energy converter at County Hall. SDCC are working with MEGA (Micro Energy Generation Association) and leading industry experts on this project.

SEAI Public Sector Partnership – Preliminary Energy Audits were completed for the two leisure centres.

Assistance with the SEAI Monitoring and Reporting tool is ongoing. SDCC actual energy use data for 2014 will be available after May 9th. 2013 data has shown 19.7% improvement on baseline year, which is 8.8% better than our target improvement.

SPECIAL– SDCC in Partnership with IPI working with SEAI, TCPA and DoECLG have prepared training material on best practice in incorporating energy studies/proposals into spatial planning systems countrywide.

South Dublin Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) working with an urban local authority to develop an exemplar / best practice LARES as guidance for other urban based authorities. Energy mapping of the entire county commenced in 2014.

LEAP (Leadership in Energy Action Planning) **Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)** – received formal endorsement from Covenant of Mayors, Brussels.

SEAI Better Energy Communities successful upgrading of 63 homes (53 SDCC houses) in Bawnlea and Belgard Community Centre – Energy upgrade included insulation, heating and ventilation upgrades and replacement windows to 8 houses. The application included the creation of a smart cluster here through the installation of smart meters in 31 of the homes and Tallaght Leisure Centre, Brookfield and Belgard Community Centres. The smart meters will connect to a smart hub which will feed live energy data to DIT and CIT for analysis.

Municipal Buildings:

County Library, EPLACE energy use and awareness campaign was implemented 2014 – resulting in 22% energy savings.

OPW Programme ‘Optimising Power at Work’ – County Hall to avail of metering and monitoring equipment to drive energy savings and improved awareness – process has commenced.

Ventilation study of County Hall was carried out.

Display Energy Certificates are on display for SDCC large public buildings.

Monthly energy use for the 7 highest energy consuming SDCC buildings was collected and a list of energy efficiency works has been identified – Register of Opportunities

Tallaght Stadium – Energy efficiency and water use analysis was completed

Community/Residential

DECLG Fabric upgrade Programme - 489 tenant houses upgraded by end 2014.

Green Community Centres project proposal - Audits and advice on bills to be rolled out for all community centres. Community Centre Network launched and community centres have been asked for energy spend. Belgard, Jobstown and Quarryvale Community Centres were audited for energy use and upgrade.

Institutional/Commercial

Links have been made with DIT Post Graduate energy modelling lab

Engineering student Challenge for Engineers Week - Test bed project with MEGA (Micro Energy Generation Association). Two colleges, DIT and IIT submitted projects with detailed reports and presentations on possible locations for Hydro turbines on the Dodder.

Concept - zero carbon suburban transport interchange in Tallaght Town Centre

Public Lighting

- Established Public Lighting project with DoECLG, Fingal & Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown under CODEMA - virtual metering is aim of this project
- LED lighting installations to continue
- Continued roll out of photocells to Public Lights as part of maintenance regime

Transport Projects

- Pedestrian and cycle route and bridges at Dodder Valley Park were completed and are open
- Part 8 documentation / design for next phases, including bridges, of Dodder Cycle Route / Greenway complete.
- N81 cycle route has completed Part 8 process.

Appendix 5: Protected Disclosures Act 2014

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 - requires South Dublin County Council to publish an Annual Report relating to Protected Disclosures received.

Pursuant to this requirement, South Dublin County Council hereby confirms that one report was received under the Protected Disclosure Act from it's commencement to the 31st December 2014.

An investigation was undertaken and the disclosure was deemed to be a Protected Disclosure within the meaning of the legislation. An investigation under the Council's Grievance and Disciplinary Policy was initiated and is being progressed.

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

South Dublin county Council
county Hall, Tallaght
Dublin 24

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Faigh agus Lean muid/Find and Follow us