



Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council



July 2020

# Chief Executive's Report

The Council's Annual Meeting held in the National Basketball Arena on Friday 26 June



# About the Chief Executive's Report

South Dublin County Council's Chief Executive's Report is presented to elected members at Council every month and details important achievements across our various departments whilst highlighting key statistics and images from events that took place that month.

The report also highlights major news pieces and puts a focus on an area of the Council that doesn't always get the attention it deserves.

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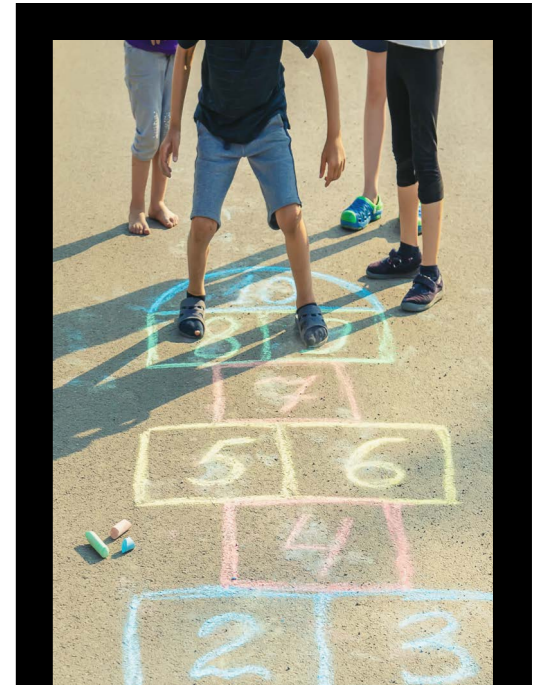


# LAND USE PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

## Naas Road Masterplan

South Dublin County Council, working in collaboration with Dublin City Council, have appointed award-winning architects Maccreeor Lavington to lead an Urban Design / Placemaking project for the Naas Road, Ballymount, Park West and Cherry Orchard areas of the City and County. Encompassing approximately seven hundred (700) hectares of brownfield regeneration lands, the project will aim to put a vision and framework in place for a vibrant mixed-use urban quarter.

Having successfully secured funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund, and in accordance with national and regional planning policy, the plan will help direct population growth into the Dublin Metropolitan Area and support the creation of a sustainable high-quality urban place.



## School Streets Project

The Council has been exploring introducing a pilot School Street for the County. A School Street is a temporary restriction on traffic outside a school during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. It has 3 key objectives: Safety by reducing traffic and improving visibility, Health by promoting more active travel and Environment through air quality and noise pollution.

## County Development Plan

The review of the 2016 - 2022 South Dublin County Development Plan and the preparation of a new County Development Plan will commence on 31 July.

The Development Plan will set out the planning and development objectives of the Council and will be critical in providing robust policy against which planning applications and other projects and plans will be assessed. The Plan will ensure that sufficient land is zoned for residential, employment and other use. It will play a key role in how the County mitigates and adapts to climate change, how we move around the county, the

quality of our placemaking and environment including our built environment and our green areas, and the delivery of key pieces of infrastructure to ensure that our growing population can enjoy a good quality of life.

The Development Plan process takes approximately 99 weeks or almost two years. The final plan will be adopted in mid-2022 and will then be in place for 6 years. The first consultation period, known as the 'pre-draft' stage, will last for eight weeks from July 31 until September 28 2020. Extensive public consultation methods are being designed to appeal to a wide audience. A dedicated Development Plan website will be available as a one-stop-shop for all aspects of information on the Development Plan.



### County Development Plan

The pre-draft stage of the new Plan is due to commence.

## Social Distancing

Temporary measures are being introduced across the County that responds to the current global pandemic. These measures will enable better social distancing in certain congested locations and will also provide enhanced opportunities for walking and cycling in light of the sizeable impacts on public transport.

In Lucan village, three specific locations have been identified in areas where there is congestion on the street and some parking spaces will be temporarily closed off to enable better social distancing in these locations.



Temporary social distancing measures are being introduced throughout the County.



# HOUSING SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## Mayor's Initiative

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, joined Vicki Casserly, the then Mayor of South Dublin County, in Lucan on 25 June to launch a new initiative – South Dublin Together - which aims to give advice and motivation to vulnerable and at risk people living in the community in relation to COVID-19.

The initiative provides information on areas such as making masks and using face coverings while providing activities to keep active at home. Letters of support from children of Divine Mercy Senior School, Lucan to people who have been cocooning are also included. The Council also collected and mapped information on services and voluntary groups across the County to help direct requests for

assistance and identify gaps in service.

South Dublin County Council will deliver 500 of the South Dublin Together care packages to people as part of the South Dublin Community Response Forum to COVID-19.

Mayor Vicki Casserly said, "I am delighted to launch the 'South Dublin Together' Mayor's Initiative today with An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar. COVID-19 is still having a major impact on our County and our country. But the way in which citizens in our County have come together as we have had to stay apart is a source of great encouragement for us all. I wanted to end my term as Mayor by giving back to those who have sacrificed so much to help us get to a place where we can look forward in hope."



### Mayor's Initiative

An Taoiseach joined us in June to launch the new initiative.

## Killinarden Housing

A tender process has now commenced to appoint a partner to deliver the innovative Killinarden housing project. The project vision is to create a sustainable, high quality neighbourhood for a new community at the edge of the city and foothills of the Dublin Mountains, with strong linkages to education, employment, recreation and nature.

The site has an estimated capacity for 500 units (subject to planning permission) with a proposed mix of 60% affordable homes, 20% social homes and 20% private homes together with a creche, a community building incorporating a sports pavilion and a high-quality park.



The site plan for a new community in Killinarden, Tallaght.

## MacUilliam Residents

As the County emerges from the long months of lockdown, the Council's estate management team have been using technology to work through video calls and meetings with the newly formed MacUilliam Residents' Association. Planning is underway for a number of initiatives in the area over the coming weeks and the Council's housing maintenance staff have also been carrying out estate improvement works recently.

Leaflets will be delivered to all homes in the area inviting residents to get involved and a local clean-up day is happening on Saturday, 25 July. The Council will be providing support for the clean-up on the day, supplying flowers and compost for planting around the estate with some refreshments for the younger helpers! This day will provide an opportunity for residents to come out and meet their neighbours, boosting community spirit and improving their local area as well.



## National Play Day

As part of National Play Day on 4 July, the Council secured and matched funding from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to provide play packs and play equipment pieces in the community. Play packs were distributed to children in direct provision, community creches, family hubs, refuge centres and disability groups as their outlets for engagement have been severely curtailed during the COVID-19.





Artist impression of the soon to be built Lucan swimming pool.

## Lucan Swimming Pool

One of the Council's key objectives is to promote health, wellbeing, recreation and activity to improve quality of life for citizens of the County and the proposed Lucan Swimming Pool will be a significant addition to the existing sport and recreation facilities provided by the Council in Lucan and across the County.

Following the official sod turning for the construction of the planned €13million Lucan swimming pool in May 2019, the Council's appointed contractors, PJ McLoughlin and Sons Limited, commenced site clearance works to prepare for the construction works to commence on the delivery of the new pool and associated gym. Works have also been completed to provide for

an ESB substation, to realign the adjacent temporary car park and to erect Council branded hoarding around the site. Actual construction works on the facility then started in August 2019 and considerable progress has been made with the substructure works due to be finished this month while the pool floor and much of the tank has been poured, tanked and insulated. Rising walls are underway for much of the ground floor and the ground floor slab will be poured shortly with basement works also almost complete.

Unfortunately, despite the progress made to date, the works programme has been severely impacted by COVID-19 related restrictions with a seven-week lockdown period as well as pre-lockdown supply chain issues and revised health

and safety arrangements to allow for social distancing on site. These factors will all result in a revised completion date some three to four months later than the originally planned February 2021 target.

Notwithstanding this, the Council's Community Department has now started assessing procurement options to secure an operator for the new facility. A formal procurement process will be commenced later this year to allow the successful tenderer to start planning the staffing, marketing and operation of the new facility.

This project is funded by a grant of €3.8 million from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport along with the Council's contribution of €9.8million

## Saggart Community Centre

The Council's Community Services team have been working on exciting plans to deliver a new multi-purpose community centre for the residents of the Saggart Village area.

The new facility, to be located on the site of the former St Mary's National School in the village, was granted Part 8 planning permission at the June 2020 Council Meeting, following the Council's purchase of the site in 2019. The plans will see the conservation and protection of the existing old school building along with the construction of an extension resulting in a 610m<sup>2</sup> community centre comprising a hall, reception area and large meeting rooms with adjoining front courtyard and a play space to the side.

Local residents will welcome the transformation of this site into what will become Saggart Village's very own 'Community Hub', with the new centre to be managed by a local management company made up of residents along with repre-

sentatives from both the Council's Community Development Team and other local support agencies. Once opened, the facility will provide the opportunity for local residents to enjoy a range of social and recreational activities in their village, while it will also offer the potential for local youth, childcare and other services.

Provisional funding of €500,000 has been received under the EU's LEADER Programme through Rural Dublin LEADER with the balance of funding being provided by the Council for this project. Work is now progressing towards construction tender stage with a view to commencing construction early in 2021.



A 3-D View of the proposed new Saggart Community Centre.



# ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

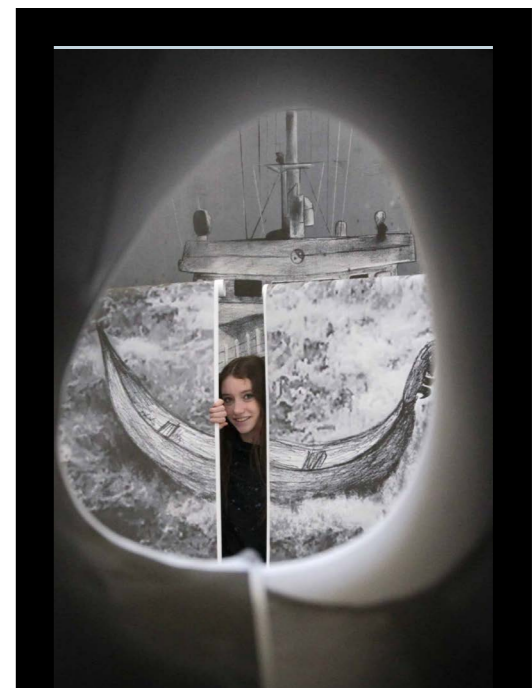


## Libraries Reopen

South Dublin Libraries announced that a Quick Browse Service would begin operating in Council libraries from Monday 29 June. From then, library patrons can enter the library to browse, return, and self-issue books and other library material.

For the well-being of users and staff, anyone visiting a library is asked to please note the following:

- Visitor numbers will be limited. A safe queuing system will operate outside the building
- Browsing time will be limited to 15 minutes.
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Study spaces remain closed.
- Limited IT and printing services will be available. Sanitisation stations at entrances must be used.
- Social distancing and respiratory etiquette must be observed.
- Newspapers and magazines will be unavailable.



## Cruinniú na nÓg

Cruinniú na nÓg, Ireland's national day of free creativity for children and young people, took place on 13 June. As part of this, the Resilient/Resilience street art project runs in Rua Red until 28 August while South Dublin Arts Office streamed their webcast Cruinniú TV South Dublin: Create, Make, Participate with many organisations and artists taking part.

## Be a Summer Star - Join the Reading Adventure with South Dublin Libraries!

The annual children's reading programme, Summer Stars, is now underway at South Dublin Libraries. The Summer Stars Programme is a great way to keep children reading during the summer months.

Joining the Summer Reading Adventure is free of charge and all children across South Dublin County are welcome to take part. Children can read the books they like and receive rewards for their reading over the summer months.

The Summer Stars Reading Adventure will run throughout the summer until the end of August.

The Summer Stars Reading Adventure is an initiative of the Right to Read national programme for reading development and literacy support, which is chaired by the Department of Rural and Community Development and led locally by the public library service.

Speaking on the launch, the then Mayor of South Dublin County, Cllr Vicki Casserly said, "I am delighted to launch Summer Stars Reading Adventure, one of my favourite library initiatives each year. Reading has the power to help you explore your imagination and take you on amazing journeys and I would encourage every child in the County to get involved in this summer's programme."



### Summer Stars Reading

The 2020 edition of the Summer Stars Reading Adventure has begun!

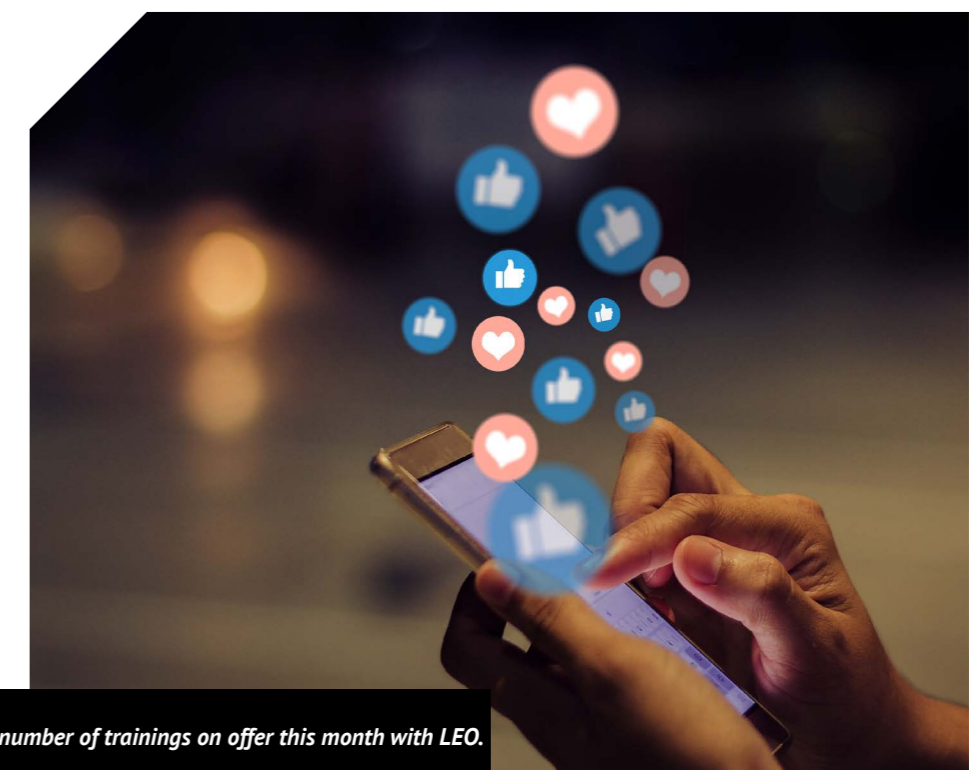
## Local Enterprise Office

The South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) continues to support local businesses by providing online training and support.

Upcoming in July, the Local Enterprise Office will be running the following courses for local entrepreneurs:

- Boosting Online Sales - 15 July
- Evolving Your Social Media Strategy and Content - 22 July
- Email Marketing - 30 July

Book online at [www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/](http://www.localenterprise.ie/SouthDublin/)



Social Media Strategy is just one of a number of trainings on offer this month with LEO.



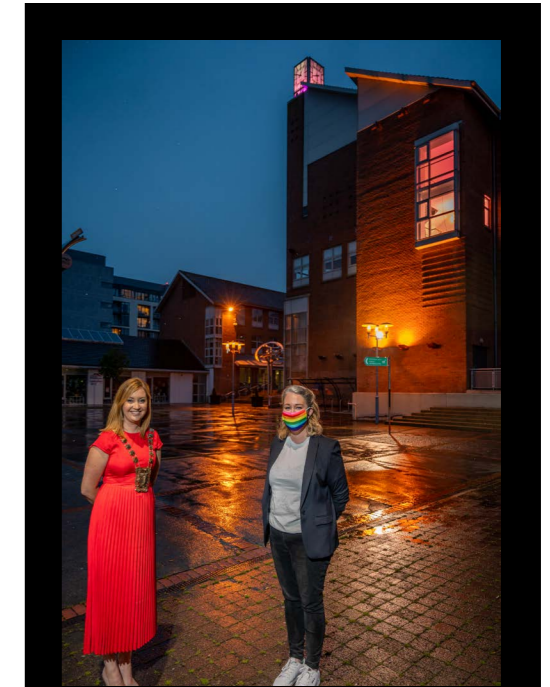


# CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE MANAGEMENT

## Public Counters Reopen

The public counters at County Hall, Tallaght, reopened from Monday, 29 June. To adhere to physical distancing guidelines during the COVID-19 emergency, the Council had closed access to the building for the public from the end of March. With the country entering the final phases of the government's Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business, the Council has taken the decision to open with limited hours while still maintaining physical distance guidelines at counters and in meetings.

From 29 June, the public has been able to call to County Hall during the hours of 10am to 12pm and again from 2pm to 4pm. Members of the public are still advised to contact the Council online through email, the FixYourStreet platform or the Customer Care form or by telephone where possible. Keep up-to-date on Council opening hours on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie).



## County Hall Lit Up for Pride

County Hall was lit up in pink for Digital Pride 2020! Digital Pride took place from Thursday, 18 June to Sunday, 28 June 2020 with South Dublin County Council showing support on social media, through lighting County Hall and by flying the rainbow flag in Tallaght and at the Clondalkin Civic Offices.

## Access Online Services

The Council understands that rapid advances in technology provides opportunities to increase access to the Council and in how the public engage with us. The Council is committed to using technology to make accessing our services and information as simple as possible. Through this focus, the public were able to access all Council services throughout the Covid 19 pandemic through our digital customer services, utilising the online web forms, or by telephone or email.

South Dublin County Council led the way in digitising area-based customer support in the local government sector in 2011 by launching the Fix Your Street as a national shared service. The [fixyourstreet.ie](http://fixyourstreet.ie) website is a mobile ready platform where the public can report non-emergency issues such as

graffiti, road defects, issues with street lighting, water leaks/drainage issues, tree and grass maintenance and litter or illegal dumping. The report can be accompanied with uploaded photos/video of the issue and specific map co-ordinates of the location are provided. A response on the issue will issue within two working days and citizens can monitor the response and interact with the Council on the issue reported through the system.

All customer services are available online through the FixYourStreet platform or on the Customer Care form [www.sdublincoco.ie/CustomerCare/ContactUs](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/CustomerCare/ContactUs) or by telephone 01-4149000, or email at [info@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:info@sdublincoco.ie).

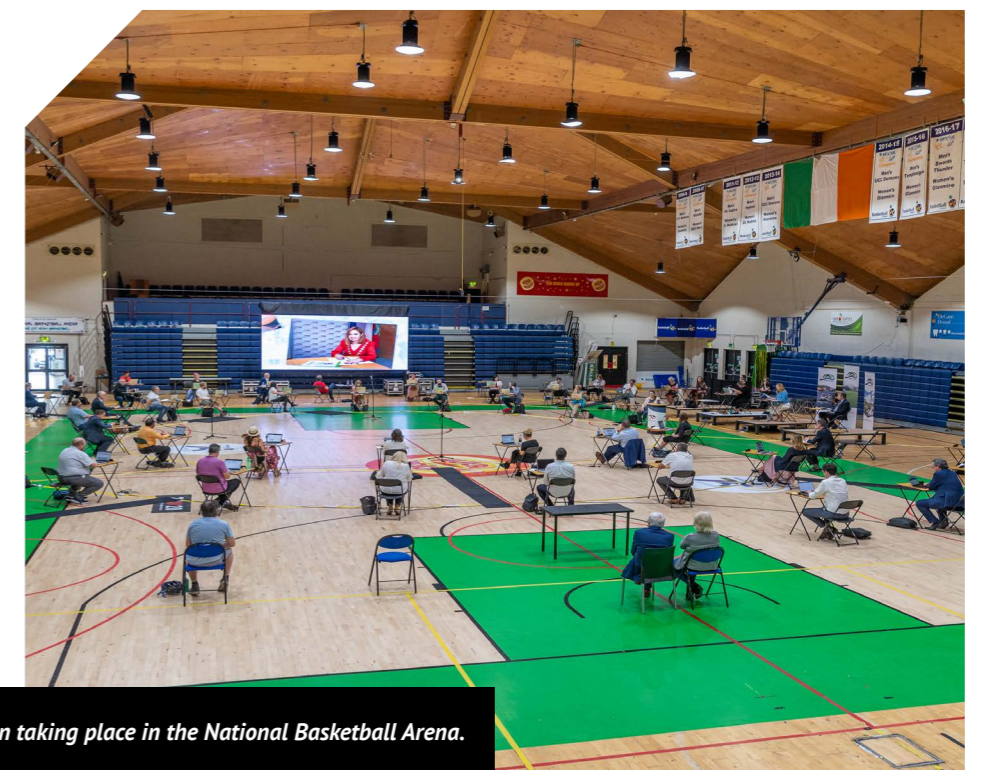
Due to COVID-19, the Council has brought in new digital measures in relation to areas such as finance and housing. For example, housing appli-

cations, usually only accepted in hard copy, allowed for scanned documents and electronic signatures to process the applications during this period. HAP applications continued to be processed and approved remotely and the turnaround time for processing applications has been reduced. The requirement for the HPL1 form to be completed by social housing applicants was removed as applicants can now request that the Council undertake an electronic process to obtain the information from the Revenue Commissioners directly. For advice or to request rent statements, tenants can use the Council's rent app or a query can be submitted to [hrent@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:hrent@sdublincoco.ie). The Council is advising customers and citizens not to physically call to Council offices for any reason, apart from attendance for a confirmed appointment for Planning or Housing related services which are currently available

## Council Meetings

As part of the Council's response to COVID-19, monthly meetings of the Council have been temporarily moved to the National Basketball Arena, Tallaght. This is to facilitate all elected members to be able to physically attend each meeting, something which was not possible in the Council Chamber in County Hall under current physical distance guidelines.

Beginning with the June meeting, the National Basketball Arena has been turned into a hub of local democracy as elected members meet, discuss and decide on important issues for the County. Physical distance is still main-



Monthly Council meetings have been taking place in the National Basketball Arena.



# ENVIRONMENT WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

## Mount Carmel Facilities

The Mount Carmel, Dodder Valley project provides recreational facilities and support for active recreation within the Dodder Valley Park. The plan was designed in consultation with ecological consultants. The first phase of the project, the Ogham Tree Nature Trail, was opened in 2019.

In October 2019, works commenced on Phase 2 of the development, comprising of a 400m grass athletics track and football pitch. The remaining elements of the project to be completed are:

- Final grading,
- Installation of drainage system,
- Top dressing of sand and fertilizer and seed sowing,
- Building of long jump area.

These works will require approximately 4-6 weeks to complete and both areas will then be securely fenced off for 12 to 18 months to allow the grass to establish. Subsequent phases, such as the proposed BMX track will proceed once the track and pitch are completed.



## Waste Trends During COVID-19

Waste management services were designated as an essential service by the government throughout the COVID-19 lockdown and arrangements were made to ensure the continuity of services. During this time, household waste rose by 21%, domestic glass tonnage by 46% and packaging by 5.4% while commercial waste was down 50% and WEEE by 6%

## Kiltipper Park - The Next Phase

Kiltipper Park is one of South Dublin County's hidden gems, a park located at the edge between city and country, nestled in the foothills of the Dublin Mountains. Kiltipper Park's potential as an ecological park will be maximised.

The first phase of works at Kiltipper Park commenced in August 2019. These works also delivered the first phase of the Dodder Greenway which facilitates sustainable travel in a parkland setting. The works consisted of the following:

- Shared route (pedestrian and cyclist) construction
- Landscape planting & rejuvenation

- Car park construction, entrance re-construction & SuDS Infrastructure
- Toucan crossings, public lighting and traffic calming

At the northern end of the park, along the Kiltipper Road, a 30-space car park was constructed to prevent road-side parking. The car park construction allowed for a sustainable drainage system to be incorporated. The landscape element of the project allowed for the reintroduction of native species of hedging throughout the park. Native Irish trees were planted along newly constructed mounds and boundary hedgerows. A Part 8 process has recently commenced for the next phase of the project, which will include a GAA pitch, soccer pitches, a children's playground and further landscape features.



### Kiltipper Park

Drone footage of Kiltipper Park Phase 1, under construction since late 2019.

## South Dublin Canvas

South Dublin Canvas is a public art project intended to bring flashes of colour and creativity to everyday objects. Traffic light control boxes make perfect canvases to showcase community art as they are always naturally located in high footfall, high traffic areas. The artwork can be enjoyed by pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists as they wait for the traffic light to turn green.

The project has been running successfully since 2018 and in 2020, 17 locations across the County were included in the call out for submissions. Like every year, a high standard of submissions was received in 2020. All artwork is due to be complete by the end of September 2020.



An artist working on their Dublin Canvas piece.



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**The Council's Annual General Meeting took place at the end of June with a new Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Area Committee Chairs elected to serve for the next twelve months.**

**A**t the Annual Meeting of South Dublin County Council held on Friday 26 June in the National Basketball Arena, Tallaght, Councillor Ed O'Brien of Fianna Fáil and representing the Lucan electoral area was elected Mayor of South Dublin County.

It is the first time in seventeen years that South Dublin County Council have elected a Fianna Fáil Mayor.

Councillor O'Brien was proposed for Mayor by Councillor Charlie O'Connor (Fianna Fáil) and was seconded by Councillor Peter Kavanagh (Green Party). Following a roll call vote, Councillor O'Brien was deemed elected to the Office of Mayor of South Dublin County.

Tributes were paid to the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Vicki Casserly (Fine Gael) and Deputy Mayor, Councillor

## Area Committee Chairs

The Council has four Area Committees that meet monthly to discuss and consider matters related to their area. Every year, Chairpersons of these four committees are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for the proceeding twelve-month period. The following councillors were elected as Chairs of the Area Committees for these areas:

- Councillor Eoin Ó Broin (Clondalkin Area)
- Councillor Alan Hayes (Lucan / Palmerstown / Fonthill Area)
- Councillor Yvonne Collins (Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse /Bohernabreena Area)
- Councillor Liam Sinclair (Tallaght Central / Tallaght South Area)

Trevor Gilligan (Fianna Fáil), who thanked their fellow Councillors, Chief Executive, Daniel McLoughlin and the management and staff of the Council for their help and support during their term in office.

The annual meeting to elect the Mayor was moved from County Hall, Tallaght to the National Basketball Arena to ensure physical distance guidelines related to COVID-19 could be maintained.

Mayor O'Brien in his acceptance speech said "I'm truly humbled to stand before you today and accept the role of Mayor of this County. I welcome the opportunity to represent you and our County for the next twelve months and to be a stand-bearer in the challenging months

which lie ahead.

Mayor O'Brien stated that "Whilst this is a great honour for me and my party, this is first and foremost an invitation to connect with the community of South Dublin County on your behalf and this is a role which I will embrace and carry out with great energy."

Councillor David McManus of Fine Gael and representing the Rathfarnham - Templeogue electoral area was elected Deputy Mayor.

Councillor McManus was proposed as Deputy Mayor by Councillor Mary Seery-Kearney (Fine Gael) and seconded by Councillor Peter Kavanagh (Green Party).



**A new Mayor and Deputy Mayor have been elected.**



# € 7.7m UPGRADE OF TALLAGHT STADIUM



**South Dublin County Council has announced a €7.7m upgrade of Tallaght Stadium that includes the building of a new North Stand.**

The €7.7m upgrade of Tallaght Stadium will see a new North Stand and development of the West Stand to a high-quality corporate area. The plans were agreed by elected members of the Council at the recent June Council meeting.

The new 2,000 seat North Stand will see the capacity of the South Dublin County Council-owned Tallaght Stadium increase to 10,000. The stand will

face on to the N81 and will be further developed to include an active area that will be home to Shamrock Rovers' official store and offices.

The Council also plans to develop the existing West Stand to incorporate a medical area, mixed media zone, match official's area and new kitchen and dining facilities. The completion of this work will see Tallaght Stadium meet UEFA Category 4 requirements

## Tallaght Stadium

Tallaght Stadium is a Municipal Stadium, wholly owned by South Dublin County Council.

In addition to Shamrock Rovers, Tallaght Stadium is the home venue for the Irish Women's Senior and Men's U21 international football teams and regularly hosts international fixtures, including the recent UEFA European U17 Championships. It has hosted American Football, international rugby and Leinster Schools rugby matches. In an average year, 100,000 people attend events live at Tallaght Stadium. The current stadium conference/meeting facilities can accommodate up to 450 attendees.

to host any European competition, including Champions League matches.

In conjunction with these plans, South Dublin County Council intends to promote Tallaght Stadium as an events venue to include music, festivals and all aspects of community events. With stadium seating and temporary on-field seating, the venue will accommodate up to 20,000 people.

The addition of the South Stand in 2019 brought seating capacity to 8,000. Classified as a UEFA Category 4 Stadium, Tallaght Stadium has hosted Champions League and Europa League fixtures. Shamrock Rovers, Dundalk, Drogheda United and St Patrick's Athletic have all played European fixtures there over the past ten years. It is the home venue for

Shamrock Rovers F.C. who have a licence arrangement with South Dublin County Council, to play a maximum of 40 soccer games during the League of Ireland season. Cristiano Ronaldo also made his Real Madrid debut at Tallaght Stadium in 2009 in a 1-0 friendly win over Rovers.

Speaking on the announcement of the €7.7m upgrade, Daniel McLoughlin, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, said,

"The ongoing investment being made in the development of Tallaght Stadium is evidence of our Council's commitment to sport, community infrastructure, the civic pride and reputation of the Tallaght area."



*A new stand is set for Tallaght Stadium.*



# DUBLIN MOUNTAINS VISITOR CENTRE



## South Dublin County Council has welcomed the decision of An Bord Pleanála to grant planning permission for the Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre.

An Bord Pleanála has granted planning permission for the Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre, the development of which was a key recommendation of the Council's Tourism Strategy when it was adopted in 2015.

The planned Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre is a joint development by South Dublin County Council, Coillte and the Dublin Mountains

Partnership to create a new 'gateway' to the Dublin Mountains located at the combined Massy's Wood /Estate and Montpelier Hill incorporating the legendary Hell Fire Club site. At an estimated cost of €15 million, the centre will be constructed from natural materials and integrated into the landscape setting with extensive panoramic views of Dublin City.

A visitor centre will comprise an

## Proposal Development

The submission of the planning application followed extensive public and stakeholder engagement by South Dublin County Council and Coillte. This process enabled the project team to take into account key local issues raised and incorporate them into the design plans, ensuring the preservation of the landscape, ecology and heritage features of the unique and natural environment of the Dublin Mountains in a manner that is socially and environmentally sustainable.

The project will also provide long term economic benefits by increasing tourism, generating additional spend on local goods and services and creating new employment opportunities in South Dublin County.

interpretative exhibition and educational facility as well as a café and shop, a rambler's lounge and toilets. There will be enhanced access to the site with increased car parking and public transport, road improvements and the construction of a new footpath to the site. The proposal will also deliver improved walks and trails for people of all ages and abilities incorporating an iconic tree-top bridge from Montpelier Hill into Massy's Wood.

The proposal provides for the enhancement of the mountain landscape around the visitor centre by replacing large areas of commercial coniferous forest on the eastern slopes of Montpelier Hill with broad-leaved woodland and predominantly trees of indigenous native species.

The approved Dublin Mountains Visitor Centre proposal was designed by a multi-disciplinary project team led by Paul Keogh Architects and included a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. The proposal was supported by Fáilte Ireland who has recognised the importance of the development in terms of national and regional tourism strategies and awarded the visitor centre €5m in provisional grant aid.

South Dublin County Council will now look to work with key stakeholders and the local community, including adjacent landowners, to bring the project to fruition. This will include the appointment of a detailed design and delivery team with a focus on meeting the requirements laid out by An Bord Pleanála in their decision.



*The historic Hell Fire Club.*





- The delivery of play settings for children that provide opportunities for play in ways that develop their imaginations and improve health and well-being.
- The delivery of the PlaySpaces near where children live.
- Creating PlaySpaces that increase the attractiveness of the local area in which they reside.
- The delivery of robust play areas that are less susceptible to vandalism.

The Five-Year PlaySpace Programme was first presented to elected members at a meeting of South Dublin County Council in February 2014. The programme was then managed by the Public Realm Section with assistance from the Community Department of South Dublin County Council. Concepts for the PlaySpaces were developed with each local community and in consultation with locally elected members. The designs were tendered for construction to playground specialists and implemented on-site in tandem with designers from the public realm section of the Council to ensure the concepts followed through in each case.

During the delivery of the PlaySpace programme, an issue that repeatedly emerged was the need to carry out a similar plan of facility provision for teenagers. They are often made to feel unwelcome in town centres, outside shops and in playgrounds and parks. They reported feeling unwelcome sitting chatting in their housing estates. To expand on this feedback, South Dublin County Council developed a youth-led TeenSpace programme. This new programme already has TeenSpaces in development on-site and will be developed over the coming years.

**South Dublin County Council has completed a Five-Year PlaySpace Programme that was based on the principles of encouraging imaginative, constructive and social play.**

# SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL'S PLAYSPACE PROGRAMME

The provision of playgrounds in the recent past concentrated on large, formally equipped and defined playgrounds with highly specialised equipment. The Council's PlaySpace programme is different; as it purely aims to provide opportunities to play. Children make their play based on what is available and adaptable in their environment. This type of play allows children to develop their imagination, challenge their abilities, deal with risk and, critically, adapt their environment.

Ireland, particularly in urban areas. Over the past twenty years, there has been a significant rise in childhood health issues. Several factors are contributing to this, but we know the physical environments in which children grow up has a significant impact on their health, their enjoyment of childhood and for social, intellectual and physical development.

Creating better play environments will bring benefits for the physical and mental health of the children growing up here and for communities.

As such, the key objectives of the PlaySpace Programme were in:

In recent years there has been a justified focus on the physical and mental health of children growing up in





# MAY STATISTICS REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



## Corporate Performance and Change Management

Number of Customer Care queries received	4,441
Number of Customer Care queries closed within deadline	4,029
Web pages opened on Council websites	272,740
Social media reach	1,689,598
Social media engagement	61,399



## Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

LEO - Number of mentoring sessions	37
Grange Castle jobs sustained	788
Library visitors	5,683 online
Library items borrowed	211,469



## Environment, Water and Climate Change

Grass cut - hectares	838
Kilometers of road swept monthly	930
Derelict site/dangerous buildings inspections	28
Litter - Fines Issued	6
Tonnes of waste collected - litter and illegal dumping	505
Tonnes of waste collected from street bins	43



## Housing, Social and Community Development

Total Housing Stock	9,684
Total housing needs assessed	6,674
Housing maintenance requests received	952
Allocations - New Tenancies	42
Number of Sports Programmes	31
Number of sports programme participants	1,070
JPC and Policing Fora held	0



## Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Planning applications received - new housing units	53
Percentage of decisions upheld by An Bord Pleanála	100%
Planning enforcements initiated	19
Number of public lights in charge	30,116
Number of traffic lights repaired within 24 hours	25

You can view all statistics under the Statistics Report in the Manager's Report headed item of the monthly Council meeting.

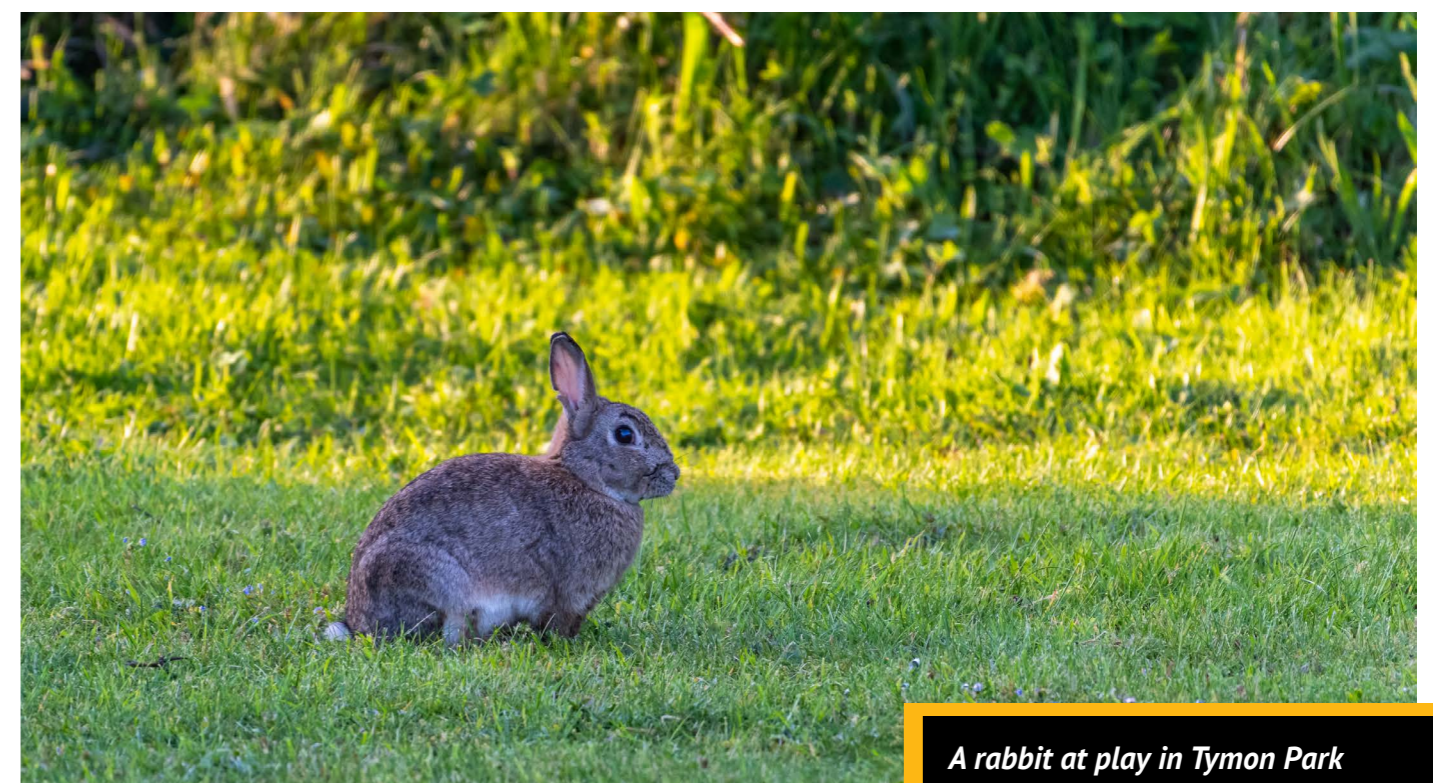


# FINANCE REPORT



**You can view the full Finance Report under the Manager's Report headed item of the monthly Council meeting agenda.**

# IMAGES OF THE MONTH





Website [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)