



Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council

# Connecting You to South Dublin County Council

## Annual Report 2009





# Contents

<b>Section 1</b>		<b>Section 2</b>		<b>Section 3</b>		<b>Appendices</b>	
Message from the Mayor	8	Community Services	33	Corporate Services	87	Appendix 1 - Finance Statistics	109
Message from the County Manager	9	Parks	40	Human Resources Department	97	Appendix 2 - Local Election Expenditure 2009	112
Elected Members & Electoral Areas	11	Libraries	45	Law Department	101	Appendix 3 - National Service Indicators for South Dublin County Council 2009	113
Area Committees	13	Development Department	50	Information Technology Department	102		
Strategic Policy Committees	14	Environmental Services	56	Finance	104		
Corporate Policy Group & County Development Board	17	Housing Department	65				
Council Membership of Committees and Statutory Bodies	18	Planning Department	71				
Events 2009	21	Roads Department	75				
Conferences 2009	26	Architectural Services	81				
Awards 2009	29						







## Section 1

Message from the Mayor	8
Message from the County Manager	9
Elected Members & Electoral Areas	11
Area Committees	13
Strategic Policy Committees	14
Corporate Policy Group & County Development Board	17
Council Membership of Committees and Statutory Bodies	18
Events 2009	21
Conferences 2009	26
Awards 2009	29



## Message from the Mayor



It is my pleasure to report that 2009 has been a successful year for South Dublin County Council. Despite the tough economic times, the Council has continued to invest in the infrastructure and pro-social initiatives needed to ensure that the appropriate services, facilities, business and employment opportunities are provided to meet the needs of our Citizens. I have been privileged to attend presentations and receive many awards on behalf of the Council during my term in office including the Chambers Ireland Local Authority of Year Award 2009, the Grand Prix at the LAMA Awards for RUA RED Arts Centre and the O2 Ability Awards.

When I was first elected as Mayor of South Dublin County Council there were a number of key issues which I identified as priorities for my term of office. In times when people are uncertain about the future, it is important that the civic spirit and active participation already present in South Dublin County continues to develop and grow. As Mayor and First Citizen of the County, I wanted to ensure that all Citizens are able to access Council services and facilities. The Mayor's Initiative for 2009 was entitled 'Empowering Communities through Collaborate Ownership'. This initiative aimed to increase the participation and develop the capacity of individuals to be leaders within their own communities.

The calendar of events for 2009 was very full and varied and there have been many highlights including:

- Green Flag Schools Programme
- The visit of Real Madrid to Tallaght Stadium
- Baldonnell
- T- Factor Talent Show
- Innovation Dublin Week
- Christmas Tree of Hope Ceremony

I have had a fascinating year and have been honoured to meet so many interesting and inspirational people who volunteer their time and expertise. These individuals make a real and positive difference to their communities.

Finally I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the Citizens, Councillors, County Manager and Council Officials who diligently work together to ensure that South Dublin County is a great place to live, work and visit.

### **Cllr. Mick Duff**

Mayor of South Dublin County Council



## Message from the County Manager



In 2009, South Dublin County Council, made a commitment to:

- Maintain frontline and direct service provision as far as possible
- Reduce the cost of management on a progressive basis
- Continue to foster interagency initiatives
- Continue the business process reviews in all parts of the organisation
- Identify areas of waste and take a strategic approach to reduce wasteful expenditure.

2009 was a year of achievement which saw the targeting of resources towards areas of need. The impact of economic change on people of working age who found themselves unemployed, highlighted the need to work collaboratively with other agencies in the County. This resulted in the establishment of the Innovation Enterprise Zone.

The Innovation Enterprise Zone consists of a fully equipped office space and a virtual business campus developed to encourage

networking between like-minded professionals with a view to creating new business opportunities. South Dublin County Council is taking the lead role on behalf of the Dublin Regional Authority to tackle the complexities involved in endeavouring to mitigate the worst aspects of the unemployment situation and foster new opportunities.

South Dublin County Council was recognised by the business community for our achievements and we were proud to be named Local Authority of the Year 2009 at Chambers Ireland's 6th Annual Excellence in Local Government Awards. In addition to the overall award, South Dublin County Council won joint first in the Sports & Recreation category for Tallaght Stadium and the Allotments project and the Customer Care category for the Self Service Digital Area in the County Library, Tallaght.

10 projects from the County were short-listed for the Chambers Ireland Awards 2009 in the following categories:

### Arts & Culture

- RUA RED Arts Centre
- Noise Project

### County Development Board

- Integrated Economic Strategy

### Environmental Services

- Social Credits – Reverse Vending
- Accessible Recycling Sean Walsh Park

### Customer Care

- Self Service Digital Area - Libraries
- Accessible South Dublin County

### Social and Community

- Sensory Gardens

### Sports and Recreation

- Allotments



2009 was also the European Year of Creativity & Innovation – Innovation Dublin was launched in October 2009 as a Dublin Regional event to promote and highlight Innovation & Creativity in the region. Over fifty events took place in South Dublin County with key organisations and businesses in the County taking part. This event will continue on an annual basis.

South Dublin County Council is committed to developing innovative and creative partnerships with communities and organisations in the County in 2010 to maximise resources, improve service delivery across all sectors and make South Dublin County a good place to work, live and visit.

I wish to acknowledge the contribution of the Mayor, Elected Members, Strategic Policy Committees, the Management and Staff of the Council in the ongoing development of South Dublin County and look forward to continuing progress in the future.

**Joe Horan**  
County Manager

## Elected Members and Electoral Areas

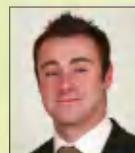
### Clondalkin Cluain Dolcáin



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### Rathfarnham Ráth Fearnáin



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**Tallaght South  
Tamhlacht Theas**



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# Area Committees

## Lucan/Clondalkin

### Chairperson

Cllr Robert Dowds

### Members

Cllr Derek Keating  
Cllr Eamonn Tuffy  
Cllr Trevor Gilligan  
Cllr Therese Ridge  
Cllr Tony Delaney  
Cllr Caitriona Jones  
Cllr Gus O'Connell  
Cllr Gino Kenny  
Cllr Matthew McDonagh  
Cllr William Lavelle

## Tallaght

### Chairperson

Cllr. Sean Crowe

### Members

Cllr Cathal King  
Cllr Eamonn Maloney  
Cllr Colm Brophy  
Cllr Mick Duff  
Cllr John Hannon  
Cllr Pamela Kearns  
Cllr Dermot Looney  
Cllr Eamonn Walsh  
Cllr Marie Corr  
Cllr Brian Lawlor

## Rathfarnham

### Chairperson

Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave (LAB)

### Members

Cllr John Lahart  
Cllr Emma Coburn  
Cllr Cáit Keane



## Strategic Policy Committees

### Economic Development & Planning

**Chairperson: Cllr. Eamonn Tuffy**

Cllr Colm Brophy, Cllr Emma Coburn, Cllr Marie Corr, Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr Trevor Gilligan, Cllr Pamela Kearns, Cllr William Lavelle, Cllr Gus O'Connell, Cllr Cathal King

### Development/Construction

**Neil Durkin**

1-3 Sandford Road,  
Ranelagh,  
Dublin 6

### Business/Commercial

**Garrett Robinson**

SIAC Construction,  
Monastery Road,  
Clondalkin, Dublin 22

### Trade Union

**Jim Fay**

20 Glenview Drive,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Environment/Construction

**Sean Giblin**

2 Finnstown Fairways,  
Lucan, Co. Dublin

### Farming & Agriculture

**Donie Anderson**

Castlekelly,  
Glenasmole,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Community/Voluntary

**John Kearns,**

Bolbrook Enterprise Centre,  
Avonmore Road,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

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

**Chairperson: Cllr. Marie Corr**

Cllr Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Tony Delaney, Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr John Hannon, Cllr Caitríona Jones, Cllr Cáit Keane, Cllr. Éamonn Walsh, Cllr Guss O'Connell

### Community/Voluntary

**Ann Fitzpatrick**

49 Bawnlea Avenue,  
Jobstown,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Community/Voluntary

**Breda Bollard**

Bohilla,  
Whitechurch Road,  
Rathfarnham,  
Dublin 14

### Trade Union

**Jim Fay**

20 Glenview Drive  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Culture

**John Conroy**

2 Tamarisk Drive,  
Kilnamanagh,  
Dublin 24

### Housing & Social Strategic Policy Committee

**Chairperson: Cllr. Eamonn Moloney**

Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr Mick Duff, Cllr Trevor Gilligan, Cllr Pamela Kearns, Cllr Gino Kenny, Cllr Cathal King, Cllr Brian Lawlor, Cllr Dermot Looney, Cllr Matthew McDonagh

### **Environment/Conservation**

#### **Ben Healy**

Glenbrook Park,  
Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

### **Community/Voluntary**

#### **Tommy Gilson**

17 Bawnlea Avenue,  
Jobstown,  
Dublin 24

### **Farming & Agriculture**

#### **John Murphy**

Highdown Hill, Newcastle,  
Co. Dublin

### **Trade Union**

#### **Betty Tyrell Collard**

Room 417A,  
Department of Enterprise,  
Trade & Employment,  
23 Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

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

#### **Chairperson: Cllr. Cathal King**

Cllr Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Tony Delaney, Cllr  
Mick Duff, Cllr Derek Keating, Cllr Gino Kenny,  
Cllr Brian Lawlor, Cllr Dermot Looney, Cllr  
Matthew McDonagh, Cllr Therese Ridge

### **Community/Voluntary**

#### **Carmel McCartney**

6 Muckross Green,  
Perrystown,  
Dublin 12

### **Community/Voluntary**

#### **Sean Reid**

Community Centre,  
Main Street,  
Rathcoole, Co. Dublin

### **Disadvantage/Social Inclusion**

#### **Cecil Johnson**

Killinarden Community Council

### **Business/Commercial**

#### **James Coughlan**

Astropark,  
Greenhills Road,  
Dublin 24

### **Transport Strategic Policy Committee**

#### **Chairperson: Cllr. Derek Keating**

Cllr Colm Brophy, Cllr Emma Coburn, Cllr  
Paddy Cosgrave, Cllr Caitríona Jones, Cllr Cáit  
Keane, Cllr John Lahart, Cllr William Lavelle,  
Cllr Therese Ridge, Cllr Eamon Tuffy

### **Business/Commercial**

#### **Matt Moran**

IBEC,  
Confederation House,  
Dublin 2

### **Community/Voluntary**

#### **Tom Newton**

7 Meadow View Grove,  
Hillcrest,  
Lucan, Co. Dublin



### **Environment/Conservation**

#### **Kevin Farrell**

6 Tullyhall Crescent,  
Lucan, Co. Dublin

### **Trade Union**

#### **Betty Tyrell Collard**

Room 417A,  
Dept. of Enterprise, Trade & Employment,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

### **Environment Strategic Policy Committee**

#### **Chairperson: Cllr. John Hannon**

Cllr Sean Crowe, Cllr Robert Dowds, Cllr John  
Lahart, Cllr William Lavelle, Cllr Éamonn  
Maloney, Cllr Guss O' Connell, Cllr Eamon Tuffy,  
Cllr Éamonn Walsh

### **Farming & Agriculture**

#### **Pat Lee**

St. Anne's,  
Bohernabreena,  
Co. Dublin

### **Business/Commercial**

#### **Sherri Brennan**

Skips Trans,  
Unit 518B Greenogue Business Park,  
Rathcoole,  
Co. Dublin

### **Environmental/Conservation**

#### **Connie Kiernan**

187 Wheatfield Road,  
Palmerston, Dublin 20

### **Environmental/Conservation**

#### **Una Ruddock**

6 Tullyhall Crescent,  
Lucan, Co. Dublin

### **Community/Voluntary**

#### **Mary Clare Wallace**

Killinarden Business Park,  
Killinarden,  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

# Corporate Policy Group & County Development Board

## Corporate Policy Group

Joe Horan  
(County Manager)

Cllr. Mick Duff  
(Mayor)

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney  
(Chair Housing and Social)

Cllr. Marie Corr  
(Chair Arts, Culture and Gaeilge)

Cllr. Eamonn Tuffey  
(Chair Economic Development and Planning)

Cllr. John Hannon  
(Chair Environment)

Cllr. Derek Keating  
(Chair Transport)

Cllr. Cathal King  
(Chair Sports and Recreation)

## County Development Board

### Local Government Sector

- Cllr. Eamon Tuffey - CDB Chair - Economic Development SPC Chair
- Mayor Mick Duff
- Cllr. John Hannon - Environment, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Eamon Maloney - Housing and Social Policy, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Cathal King - Sport, Recreation, Communities and Parks, SPC Chair
- Cllr. Derek Keating - Transportation SPC Chair
- Cllr. Marie Corr - Arts, Culture, Education Libraries and Gaeilge
- Joe Horan - County Manager

### Local Development Sector

- Aileen O' Donoghue - CPLN Partnership
- Anna Lee - Dodder Valley, Partnership
- Loman O'Byrne - South Dublin Enterprise Board
- Ruth Shortall - South Dublin County Childcare Committee
- Michael Mc Bennett - Rural Dublin Leader
- Alan Breathnach - South Dublin Enterprise Board

### State Agencies

- Frank Donnelly - FAS
- Ruth Croke - I.D.A Ireland
- Marie Griffin Donnellan - Co. Dublin V.E.C
- Corinne Lincoln - Dublin Tourism
- John Moloney - Department of Education and Science
- Julie Cruickshank - Health Services Executive
- Vacancy - Enterprise Ireland
- John Manley - An Garda Siochana
- Pat Ryan - Department of Social and Family Affairs
- Lorcan O'Toole - Teagasc

### Social Partners

- Barney Joyce - South Dublin Community Platform
- Peter Byrne - South Dublin Chamber of Commerce
- Christy Mc Donnell - South Dublin Community Forum



## Memberships of Local and Statutory Bodies

### Association of City and County Councils

Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Colm Brophy

### Audit Committee

Cllr. John Lahart  
Cllr. Gus O'Connell  
Cllr. Derek Keating

### Civic Theatre Committee

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney  
Cllr. Therese Ridge

### Clondalkin Drugs Task Force

Cllr. Matthew Mc Donagh  
Cllr. Gino Kenny

### CPLN (formally Clondalkin Partnership)

Cllr. Matthew Mc Donagh  
Cllr. Gus O'Connell  
Cllr. William Lavelle

### Dodder Valley Partnership (Formally Tallaght Partnership)

Cllr. Pamela Kearns  
Cllr. Colm Brophy  
Cllr. Eamonn T. Walsh  
Cllr. Mick Duff

### Dublin Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum

Cllr. Mick Duff  
Cllr. Eamonn T. Walsh  
Cllr. Emma Coburn  
Cllr. Tony Delaney  
Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell

### Dublin 12 Drugs Task Force

Cllr. Pamela Kearns

### Dublin Bus Forum

Cllr. Mick Duff  
Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Cathal King  
Cllr. Brian Lawlor

### Dublin Regional Authority

Cllr. Pamela Kearns  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell  
Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Brian Lawlor  
Cllr. Eamonn T. Walsh

### Dublin Regional Tourism Authority

Cllr. Colm Brophy

### Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance

Cllr. Colm Brophy

### Liffey Valley Advisory Committee

Cllr. Trevor Gilligan  
Cllr. Gino Kenny  
Cllr. Matthew Mc Donagh  
Cllr. William Lavelle  
Cllr. Derek Keating  
Cllr. Cairíona Jones  
Cllr. Therese Ridge  
Cllr. Tony Delaney  
Cllr. Guss O'Connell  
Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy

**South Dublin County Council Heritage Forum**

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy  
Cllr. Tony Delaney

**Local Authorities Members Association**

Cllr. Cait Keane

**Meath Foundation at Tallaght Hospital**

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney

**North Clondalkin Rapid Implementation Team**

Cllr. Gino Kenny

**Regional Drugs Task Force**

Cllr. Mick Duff

**South Dublin County Council Heritage Forum**

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney  
Cllr. Eamon Tuffy  
Cllr. Tony Delaney

**SDCC Joint Policing Committee**

Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave  
Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Gino Kenny  
Cllr. Matthew Mc Donagh  
Cllr. William Lavelle  
Cllr. Brian Lawlor  
Cllr. Guss O' Connell  
Cllr. Cáit Keane  
Cllr. Emma Coburn  
Cllr. John Lahart  
Cllr. Eamonn T. Walsh  
Cllr. John Hannon  
Cllr. Pamela Kearns

**Southern and Eastern Regional Authority**

Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Pamela Kearns  
Cllr. Brian Lawlor

**South Dublin County Enterprise Board**

Cllr. Paddy Cosgrave  
Cllr. Pamela Kearns  
Cllr. Trevor Gilligan  
Cllr. Tony Delaney

**South Dublin County Tourism Board**

Cllr. Sean Crowe  
Cllr. Robert Dowds  
Cllr. Eamonn T. Walsh  
Cllr. Colm Brophy

**Tallaght Community Arts Centre**

Cllr. Mick Duff  
Cllr. John Hannon

**Tallaght Drugs Task Force**

Cllr. Eamonn Maloney  
Cllr. Marie Corr  
Cllr. Brian Lawlor  
Cllr. Colm Brophy

**Tallaght West RAPID Area Implementation Team**

Cllr. Marie Corr

**Vocational Educational Committee**

Cllr. Guss O' Connell  
Cllr. Caitríona Jones  
Cllr. Dermot Looney  
Cllr. Therese Ridge  
Cllr. William Lavelle





## Events 2009

### January

- Honorary Freedom of the County is conferred on Ken Egan
- Official Opening of Dublin Region Materials Recovery Facility in Ballymount
- Launch of Dublin Mountains Partnership Website
- LAMA Awards
- Mayor presents certificates at the Strengthening Families Programme Graduation
- Official launch of the South Dublin County Sports Partnership
- Annual Gala Swim in Tallaght Community School Sports Complex, Balrothery, Tallaght

### February

- Launch of An Integrated Economic Development Strategy for South Dublin County
- Comhairle na bPáistí - A Children's Seminar Creating A Better Ireland for Young People
- Young Social Innovators South Dublin Speak Out Event
- The Annual Adult Learner's Fair
- Official opening of RuaRed South Dublin County's Arts Centre



- Eircom FAI International Soccer Awards
- Engineering Week of Wonder
- The signing of the Contract to extend the Luas Line to Saggart
- Civic Reception for Ballyboden St. Enda's GAA Club
- Art Exhibition in Lucan Library (Yuliya Awobayo)
- Sli na Slainte Walk - Tymon Park
- Seachtain na Gaeilge - Irish Week

### March

- Launch of National Tree Week
- Launch of Children's Services 1st Annual Report
- Students Enterprise Awards

- Launch of Comhairle na nÓg 2009 - Creating a Better Ireland for Young People
- Annual International Food Fair
- Art Exhibition in Lucan Library (Daniela Majtel)
- Twinning Meeting - Rathcoole
- Mayor attends Q&A by Students in Templeogue
- Green Flag - St. Thomas's Jobstown
- Presentation of prizes for the UN's International Intercultural and Anti- Racism week Soccer Tournament - Clondalkin Leisure Centre
- Green Flag - Holy Rosary NS Ballycragh
- Art Exhibition by Lucan Community College and Life Centre Art Groups

- Presentation of Awards – St. Basil's Traveller Training Centre
- Presentation of prizes to winners of Environmental Schools Competition
- Launch of Eco-Week
- Opening of Art Workshop & Café – Kiltalown House

## April

- Green Flag – St. Kevin's Girls NS Kilnamanagh
- Opening of New Library Jobstown Community College
- Launch of Exhibition on Ethiopia
- Launch of Clondalkin Intercultural Centre Film Club
- Tallaght Stadium – Ireland V Poland
- Photo-shoot with St. Michael's Class St. Aidan's Community School
- Brookfield Area Clean up
- Arts & Culture Week at The Big Picture
- Presentation for the World Irish Dancing Competition - Regency Hotel
- Art Exhibition Lucan by local artist Pdraig O'Connor
- Celebration of Cultural Diversity in the Year of Creativity and Innovation

- Green Flag – St. Josephs BNS Clondalkin
- Comhairle na nÓg 2009 – First meeting of the new Comhairle

## May

- Green Flag – Loreto High School Grange Road Rathfarnham
- Green Flag – Kings Hospital School, Palmerston
- Young Social Innovators – RDS Speak Out Theatre
- 2nd Level Schools Award Ceremony
- TSB Foróige Youth Citizenship Awards
- Ruaille Buaille Arts Festival – Lucan Library
- Jobstown Youth Art Projects Exhibition
- Green Flag – Bishop Shanahan JNS
- Green Flag – St. Paul's Senior School
- Beltane Arts Festival
- Arts Exhibition Crippling Rua Red
- Launch of South Dublin County Council's Disability Act Implementation Plan 2008-2010.
- Green Flag – St. Dominic's
- Mayor presents certificates to participants on the Incredible Years Parenting Programme
- Official Opening of the Farmers Market Tallaght.
- World Africa Day Celebrations

- Photo-Shoot with Community Bursary Award Winners
- Official opening of Sean Walsh Park playground
- Official opening of Tallaght Stadium
- Official opening of Waterstown Park – Palmerston
- ICA Art Exhibition – Ballyroan Library

## June

- Launch of Fused Festival 'Ruaille Buaille'
- Arts & Poetry Exhibition – Gael Scoil, Knocklyon
- Celebration of Italian National Day – Lucan House
- Glenasmole Community Association Exhibition Dancing Between Worlds



- Launch of GAA Round Towers Exhibition
- Launch of 'South Dublin Rambles' by Frank Tracy County Library
- Celebration of the 111th Philippine Independence, at Kilnamanagh Community Centre
- National Day of Ethiopia – Rathfarnham
- Launch of Gum Litter Taskforce
- Green Flag Ceremony – Sacred Heart NS Clondalkin
- SDCC to Grange Castle Cycle Race
- Green Flag – Scoil Cnoc Mhuire SNS Killinarden
- Development through Soccer Skills Final - Tallaght Stadium
- Launch of artistic installation 'Public Arena' by Bik van der Pol-Tallaght Stadium
- Family Fun Day – Allenton, Tallaght
- Annual Meeting and Election of New Mayor South Dublin County Council

## July

- Annual Spóirt Teic Awards
- St. Dominic's Community Response Awards
- Official opening of the Lucan ByPass
- Presentation to outgoing Chairperson of Comhairle na nÓg – Barry Sexton



- Presentation to Tallaght Festival Band
- Family Day Cultural Quarter, Chamber Square, Tallaght, Dublin 24
- Shamrock Rovers V Real Madrid Tallaght Stadium
- Presentation of End of Year Ballet Certificates at the Civic Theatre Tallaght
- 3rd Annual Allotments Association open day at Friarstown Allotment Site, Tallaght
- Photographic Exhibition by Youthreach

## August

- 25th Anniversary celebration for Rehab Recycle in Ballymount

## September

- Clondalkin Camera Club Annual Exhibition and Awards
- Green Flag – Edmondstown NS
- The People of the Year Awards 2009
- Official opening of Wellness Centre, Tallaght Community School



- European Mobility Week
- Launch of a Parent Information Pack and Childcare Special Needs Directory
- Official opening of the DoubleTAKE Artist Studio in Rua Red Arts Centre
- Launch of Active Citizenship Week in SDCC
- Photo-Shoot for European Mobility Week & Free Car Day
- Green Flag - Divine Word NS Marley Grange Rathfarnham
- Officially opening of Microsoft's Data Centre Grangecastle Business Park
- FAI Summer Schools Soccer Skills Programme
- Tallaght Person of the Year
- Lucan Community Festival
- The opening of 3 new golf holes in Slade Valley Golf Course
- Green Flag - Scoil Carmel Firhouse
- Launch of Community Centre Networks Council Chamber
- T-Factor Talent Show - Civic Theatre

## October

- Official opening of the new Dominic's Community Centre
- Official launch of Link2BActive - Westpark Fitness Centre

- Launch of Children's Book Festival
- Exhibition of the Irish Air Corps Aviation Heritage History in Rua Red
- Dimensions 4 Art Exhibition Lucan
- Public Information Talk on NAMA
- Launch of the Innovation Digital Treasure Hunt
- Green Flag - St. Colmcille's SNS Knocklyon
- Launch of SDCC New Waste Charge System
- Comhairle na nÓg 2009 - South Dublin Dragons
- Launch of Connect Me Big Picture
- Launch of Innovation Dublin - ITT
- Children's Road Safety Art Competition
- Simply Brilliant Ideas presentations by Innovators in County Library
- Address to 6th Year Students in Tallaght on role of Mayor



- Tallaght Hope & Remembrance Services - Fettercairn
- Official launch of Connecting to the Past Mapping SDCC in Time
- African Nations Cup - Soccer Blitz
- Halloween Family Fun Run & Cycle race in aid of Tallaght Hospital
- Presentation of the Access Scholarships Awards 2009
- Chamber of Ireland Awards - Burlington Hotel
- Annual Leo Swan Memorial Lecture County Library
- Irish Red Cross Record Breaking Quiz National Basketball Arena
- 'Big Scream' event - Halloween



## November

- I Love South Dublin Annual Photographic Competition County Library
- Official Media Launch of the Square Regeneration Project
- ITT Annual Conferring of Academic Awards
- Launch of Social Inclusion Week
- Launch of Aidan Cruise's book - The Dublin and Blessington Steam Tram: a Pictorial and Social History
- Launch of Audio Books in County Library Tallaght
- Presentation of Prizes to Primary Schools Art Competition
- Tea Dance at the Red Cow Inn
- Official Lighting of the Christmas Tree in the Square Tallaght
- Annual Readers Day
- Annual Mass for the deceased members of Dublin Fire Brigade
- Art Exhibition FIGURING IT OUT - young curators project - Rua Red.
- Tallaght Camera Club Exhibition County Library
- Dublin Fire Brigade Passing Out Parade
- Presentation of NUI Irish Certificates to Staff Members
- Rugby International Photo shoot in Tallaght Stadium

- INKA Club Awards
- Launch of new Irish Studies series Re-imagining Ireland in Tallaght IT
- Presentation of certificates at Stewarts Hospital
- Opening of library at St. Colmcille's School
- Launch of Thomas Davis Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Policy Prevention

## December

- Presentation of the Sports, Arts, & Culture Scholarships 2009/2010
- Lorien/Rivendell Incredible Years Advanced Parenting Programme
- Official Lighting of the (Christmas) Tree of Hope - County Library
- Launch of County Contours Art Exhibition in Rua Red
- Official Lighting of the Christmas Tree in Clondalkin
- Tallaght Community Schools Choral Event
- Tallaght Welfare Society Open Day
- 25th year celebration of the Tallaght Travellers Youth Service
- Childhood Development Initiative Launch
- Volunteering in South Dublin County



- Amateur Sports Star Awards - ECHO/SDGSP
- Award of the Presidential Medal of Freedom bestowed on Mary Robinson by President Barack Obama - City Hall, Dame Street

## Conferences 2009

**Conference: Planning Conference**

**Venue:** Hotel Westport, Westport,  
Co. Mayo.

**Topic:** Planning Issues.

**Conference: Effective Communications for Councillors**

**Venue:** Days Hotel, Waterford.

**Topic:** Media and Communications.

**Conference: Local Government Planning Service**

**Venue:** Granville Hotel, Waterford.

**Topic:** Planning and Local Government.

**Conference: Antrim Tourism Conference**

**Venue:** Dunadry Hotel, Antrim.

**Topic:** Tourism.

**Conference: Effective Communications for Councillors**

**Venue:** Clonlea Hotel, Dungarvan.

**Topic:** Media and Communications.

**Conference: Merriman Summer School**

**Venue:** Meyrick Hotel, Galway.

**Topic:** Rachainn go Gaillimh - le filí agus le fonnadóirí.

**Conference: AMAI Annual Conference**

**Venue:** Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny,  
Co. Donegal.

**Topic:** Annual Conference.

**Conference: Reform of Government North and South**

**Venue:** Bellingham Castle,  
Castlebellingham, Co. Louth.

**Topic:** Reforms in Local Government  
North and South.

**Conference: Freedom of Information Conference**

**Venue:** Patrick Punch Hotel.

**Topic:** Freedom of Information Issues.

**Conference: International Local Government Convention**

**Venue:** INEC Killarney.

**Topic:** International Issues.

**Conference: Rattoo Heritage Environmental Conference**

**Venue:** Rattoo Heritage Environmental  
Conference.

**Topic:** Environmental Recognition.

**Conference: Climate Change Conference**

**Venue:** Raheen Hotel, Clonmel.

**Topic:** Climate change, alternative  
energies & the nuclear  
experience.

**Conference: Building Energy Regulations Seminar for Councillors**

**Venue:** Gleno Abbey Hotel, Bushypark,  
Galway.

**Topic:** Building Energy Regulations.

**Conference: Planning and Development Control Seminar for Councillors**

**Venue:** Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark,  
Galway.

**Topic:** Planning and Development.

**Conference: Kerry Literary Conference**

**Venue:** Listowel Arms Hotel.

**Topic:** The Economic and Social  
Benefits of preserving our  
Cultural Heritage.

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

**Venue:** Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny.

**Topic:** Various Council Issues.



**Conference:** LAMA Spring Conference  
**Venue:** Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.  
**Topic:** 29th Annual Conference. Sustainable Energy

**Conference:** 3rd Sector Forum  
**Venue:** Kingsely Hotel Cork.  
**Topic:** Ireland at a Crossroads.

**Conference:** Supporting Family Carers  
**Venue:** Bellingham Castle, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth.  
**Topic:** Family Carers.

**Conference:** Planning Law and Practice  
**Venue:** Mannin Bay Hotel, Galway.  
**Topic:** Planning Laws.

**Conference:** From Canvas to the Council Chamber  
**Venue:** West Cork Hotel Skibbereen, Co. Cork.  
**Topic:** Introduction to Local Government issues.

**Conference:** Effective Communications for Councillors  
**Venue:** Connemara Coast Hotel, Galway.  
**Topic:** Effective Communications.

**Conference:** Renewable Energy Conference Galway  
**Venue:** Carlton Atlantic Coast Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo.  
**Topic:** Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation.

**Conference:** Merriman Summer School  
**Venue:** Glor, Ennis, Co. Clare.  
**Topic:** Are we there yet? Facing the future anew

**Conference:** Planning and EU Law  
**Venue:** Day's Hotel, Waterford.  
**Topic:** Planning and EU Laws.

**Conference:** AMAI Conference  
**Venue:** Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry.  
**Topic:** Local Government Issue.

**Conference:** From Canvas to Council Chamber (2)  
**Venue:** Clifden Station House Hotel, Clifden, Co. Galway.  
**Topic:** Introduction to Local Government issues.

**Conference:** Are Local Authorities Good for your Health  
**Venue:** Charlsland Golf Club, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.  
**Topic:** Local Authorities.

**Conference:** Local Government Conference  
**Venue:** Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick.  
**Topic:** Local Government.

**Conference:** Environmental Goods Conference  
**Venue:** Killarney Plaza Hotel. Killarney, Co. Kerry  
**Topic:** Environment issues.

**Conference:** 3rd Sector Forum  
**Venue:** Glemo Abbey Hotel. Galway  
**Topic:** Challenged Local Authorities.

**Conference: Voluntary Housing and Sheltered Housing for the Elderly**

**Venue:** Manor West Hotel & Spa, Tralee  
Co. Kerry.

**Topic:** Housing for Elderly.

**Conference: LAMA Winter Conference**

**Venue:** Carlton Castletroy Hotel, Dublin  
Road, Limerick.

**Topic:** Service Provision in Local  
Government. A New Reality

**Conference: Induction Course for Councillors**

**Venue:** Rochestown Park Hotel.

**Topic:** Training for Newly Elected  
Councillors.

**Conference: Ethics in Local Government**

**Venue:** Sligo Park Hotel.

**Topic:** Ethics in Local Government.

**Conference: Budget 2010**

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

**Topic:** Budgets.

**Conference: Clare Tourism Conference**

**Venue:** Falls Hotel Ennistymon.

**Topic:** Promoting Partnership in Tourism  
21 Years in Progress.

**Conference: Budget 2010**

**Venue:** Carlton Mill Race Hotel.

**Topic:** Budgets.

**Conference: Representatives in Local Government**

**Venue:** Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Galway.

**Topic:** Representatives Entitlements.

**Conference: Alternative Energy Conference**

**Venue:** Kings Valley Hotel, Galway.

**Topic:** Improving your Carbon Footprint

**Conference: Equality and Diversity Conference**

**Venue:** Manor West Hotel, Tralee,  
Co. Kerry.

**Topic:** Equality and Diversity in Local  
Government.

## Awards & Achievements 2009

### January

#### Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Awards

- Clonburris Strategic Development Zone was declared winner in the Best Environmentally Friendly Initiative Category. The Local Area Plan is based on sustainable development principles and has provided for the following services in tandem with the development
- Clondalkin Sports and Leisure Centre was declared winner in the Best Recreational Facility Category



### February

#### e-Government Awards

- South Dublin County Council won Ireland's Local Government eGovernment Award as well as the Overall Award at the eGovernment awards in February for the Digital book service which is provided by the Library Service

#### Adamstown wins major UK award for Sustainable Communities

- At a ceremony in London in February, the Adamstown Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) received a Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Planning Award for Sustainable Communities

### August

#### Royal Institute of Architects Awards

- Tallaght Zip & Village Plaza wins the 2009 RIAI award for public space
- The Tallaght Zip is a high-quality dedicated pedestrian and cycle corridor linking the Luas stop to the Institute of Technology and the old village. The scheme was designed by Sean Harrington Architects in conjunction with South Dublin County Council Architects Department.

## October

### Chambers Ireland Awards

- South Dublin County Council was named as Local Authority of the Year 2009 at Chambers Ireland's 6th Annual Excellence in Local Government Awards in October
- There were 10 projects from South Dublin County Council short-listed for the Chambers Ireland Awards 2009 in the following categories:

#### *Arts & Culture*

RUARED Arts Centre  
 Noise Project

#### *County Development Board Environmental Services*

Integrated Economic Strategy  
 Social Credits – Reverse Vending  
 Accessible Recycling Sean Walsh Park

#### *Customer Care*

Self Service Digital Area - Libraries  
 Accessible South Dublin County

#### *Social and Community*

Sensory Gardens

#### *Sports and Recreation*

Allotments  
 Tallaght Stadium

- In addition to the overall award South Dublin County Council won joint first in the Sports & Recreation category for Tallaght Stadium and Allotments and the Customer Care category for the Self Service Digital Area, County Library.







## Section 2

Community Services	33
Parks	40
Libraries	45
Development Department	50
Environmental Services	56
Housing Department	65
Planning Department	71
Roads Department	75
Architectural Services	81



# Community Services Department

Community Services Department is responsible for the following: County Development Board, RAPID Programme, Social Inclusion Unit, Community Development Teams, Sports, Arts Offices and Tallaght Stadium. The Department continues to promote ongoing community development at local level throughout the County and is responsible for the day to day running of a number of community facilities in the County. The main achievements of the Department during 2009 are set out below under each Unit heading.

## South Dublin County Development Board

The Implementation Plan was reviewed and a new plan published covering the period 2009-2012. The County Development Board met five times in 2009.

The business of the Board dealt with:

- The implementation of an Integrated Economic Development Strategy
- Employment and the current economic situation
- Active Citizenship Week including a celebration with the 17 GAA clubs in the County
- Interagency Traveller / Children's Services Committee Initiatives
- Promotion of services for older people in the County
- The Social Inclusion Measures/Monitoring of RAPID Programmes
- The coordination of relevant service providers with regard to disability in the County

## South Dublin County Joint Policing Committee

South Dublin County's Joint Policing Committee is a forum where the Local Authority and the senior Garda officers, Oireachtas members and community interests meet, consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting (the) policing. The Committee met 4 times in 2009 and the following items were discussed:

- Estate Management and Pro-Social Initiatives
- FAI - Midnight leagues and football as a tool for the prevention of anti-social behaviour
- Crime Rates/Statistics in South Dublin County Council
- CCTV Schemes
- Graffiti and Litter

## Interagency Traveller Strategy

South Dublin County Traveller Interagency Group met on five occasions in 2009. The Strategy is divided into nine actions and each of these nine actions is progressed by a lead agency. The CDB Executive organized an interagency debate around the subject of employment and the Travelling community. Interagency meetings for frontline staff were held quarterly.

## Government Commitment to RAPID Programme

In May 2009 Minister Eamon Ó Cúiv reiterated cabinet commitment to the continuation of the RAPID Programme. In October 2009 the government published the Renewed Programme for Government and said:

*“We will continue to develop the RAPID Programme giving local communities in the most disadvantaged urban areas a real voice for change for the better in their own communities.”*

### Dormant Accounts Funding

In 2009 a range of programme and capital actions under the RAPID theme headings received support from the Dormant Accounts Fund. A total of €250,000 was invested in North Clondalkin, and a total of €395,000 in West Tallaght.

### Playgrounds Scheme

In 2009 several new play facilities were developed in West Tallaght including a MUGA in Kiltalown Park and a mixed play area in Glenshane. A new surrounding wall was installed at the Jobstown all-weather facility and several refurbishments were carried out on existing playgrounds.

### Themes

#### Community Safety and Anti Social Behaviour

- Work began on the establishment of Pilot Local Policing Fora in West Tallaght and North Clondalkin

- Progress was made on linking Community CCTV schemes with the Garda stations with Garda monitoring to commence in 2010

### Health

- A number of actions around Mental Health took place through Community Action on Suicide in Clondalkin and Suicide Action West Tallaght. Both have been successful in securing support from Headstrong to address mental health of young people. Pieta House continues to provide local counselling services in both areas.
- The RAPID Health Strategy Group in West Tallaght secured funding from the Combat Poverty Agency to carry out community consultation on the introduction of Primary Care Teams in the area. 5 consultation sessions were carried out.

### Family Support

- A range of services for families in need of support were introduced in 2009, including The Six Steps Together Parenting Programme funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund and SDCC, and the Strengthening Families Programme funded by the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

### Employment and Training

- 4 new training courses were developed by local groups and received approval from FÁS in 2009. These courses are specifically designed to meet local needs and improve the employment prospects of young people living in the RAPID areas.



### **Education**

- Traffic calming works were carried out outside local schools
- Improvement works to school grounds and gardens, and parents rooms were carried out

### **RAPID Report**

A report and DVD with details of the investment made by the RAPID Programme in West Tallaght and North Clondalkin between 2001 and 2009 was produced.

## **Community Development Team**

### **Work in 2009 included the following:**

- Management Assistance Grants were paid to 17 Community Centres
- 7 Community Employment Schemes, 1 Job Initiative Scheme, together with the Spóirt Teic and Sports Flexibility Programmes were sponsored.
- 10 Deputation meetings were serviced during 2009.
- Children in 25 Primary Schools were provided with sandwiches, fruit, yogurt drink and milk through the School Meals Scheme during 2009.
- 101 grant applications under the Community Grants Scheme were processed
- A Family Day took place on 19th July in Chamber Square, Tallaght. A Lucan Community Festival was held in September.
- The Community Development Team continued to provide support to Management Committees of numerous Centres, community development projects, community childcare and after school groups, safety forums and other community groups.

- The Community Development Team continued to work closely with Residents' Associations and Environment Groups.
- Connect training was provided in all of the Community Centres and a member of the Community Development Team was assigned to maintaining their websites.
- The Community Development Team continued to support new communities, particularly in the areas of Balgaddy and Adamstown.
- Funding was provided to support the Access to Third Level Scholarship Programme in conjunction with Institute of Technology Tallaght.
- Other community development areas included Community Linkage funding to projects, South Dublin Community Forum and Platform activities, Young Peoples' Facilities and Services Funding to projects and National & Local Drugs Strategy activities

## **Arts Office**

South Dublin County Council is committed to building for the future by supporting the development of creative people and communities through the Arts. Programmes include film, dance, music and theatre, where young people are a specific focus. The Arts Office supports local arts organisations and venues including Alternative Entertainments, Civic Theatre, Tallaght Community Arts, RUA RED South Dublin Arts Centre and many smaller arts organisations and artists through its Arts Grants and Bursaries. The Arts Office actively initiates and develops partnerships, with the aim of developing long term sustainable programmes. This is carried out under SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2006-2010.



### **RUA RED South Dublin Arts Centre**

The opening of RUA RED South Dublin Arts Centre in 2009 marked a substantial achievement: Supporting a diversity of programming providers; encouraging all art forms; providing spaces for productions, exhibitions and process-based activities and workspaces for arts organisations and artists; and providing opportunities for communities to participate in arts activities.

In the first 8 months of the centre opening it achieved 11,092 attendances, 1412 participated in events and related activities and 650 school children attended a workshop. [www.ruared.ie](http://www.ruared.ie)

### **Civic Theatre**

The Civic Theatre celebrated its 10th anniversary with specially commissioned performances. It produced the award winning Little Gem. The play was winner of the Carol Tambor Best of Edinburgh Award 2009, a prize which sent the show to New York for a run off-Broadway.

### **Public Art**

In Context 3, South Dublin County Council's Per Cent for Art programme, which is driven by artistic ambition and active engagement with situation, community and place, is nearing completion. 2009 saw the presentation of the Public Arena, a project that centered on the location of the Tallaght Stadium in the context of sporting and local community. The project produced the Ball installation and associated film and publications made in conjunction with young people from Tallaght Community School.

### **Assistance**

15 Arts Grants were approved under Section 6 of the Arts Act 2003. 7 Arts Contributions were approved. 7 Bursary Awards were awarded under the Artist Bursary Scheme. In addition, Youth Arts Awards funding was piloted to support youth arts programmes in the County.

### **Youth Arts Activities**

South Dublin County Council has initiated a Tallaght Youth Arts Forum in partnership with Tallaght Community Arts for young people in Tallaght ages 13 - 25. The group is aimed at promoting the voice and participation of young people in arts policy development and activities.

The Forum held an open house day for young people in partnership with RUA RED.

### **NOISE South Dublin County**

The NOISE South Dublin website is an interactive website that promotes creativity amongst young people between the ages of 13 to 25 in the County. It supports young people's engagement with the arts both on- and off-line. The site was nominated for Excellence in Local Government Awards 2009.

Rethinking Local Government Support for Youth Arts: The case of NOISE South Dublin on- and off-line was delivered at London at a Seminar Social Theory, Politics and the Arts: Innovation, creativity and change in a globalised world in October, by Dr. Victoria Durrer, Youth arts Coordinator. [www.noisesouthdublin.com](http://www.noisesouthdublin.com)



### **Tallaght Young Filmmakers**

Tallaght Young Filmmakers, an after-school filmmakers group initiated by South Dublin County Council, with the support of the Library Services, won film awards at NOISE Flicks Youth Film Festival and Co-Motion Youth Film Festival. Two short films that were made in conjunction with Sweden TV productions were broadcast by RTE 2.

### **Contact Studio**

Contact Studio is a mobile recording facility created in 2008/2009 to record music, speech, or any cultural or art form that would benefit from sound recording. The studio works with the county's music education programme, It engages with youth and community services around the county (including the Noise project), and collaborates with local artists, who are eager to record their work. Young musicians are introduced to various aspects of the recording and music industry.

### **Social Inclusion**

The Social Inclusion Unit continued to coordinate and support the Council's Social Inclusion Measures Sub-Group of CDB, Intercultural Working Group and the South Dublin County Social Inclusion Network. List of Achievements for Social Inclusion Unit 2009:

- Cultural Diversity Seminar
- Golf Programme for Young Children in Hazelgrove and Grange Castle Golf Course
- Multi Cultural Family Day
- Social Inclusion Week 2009 – Spotlight on Creativity and Innovation
- Horticultural Therapy in Sean Walsh Park Tallaght for Disabled People
- 2nd Level Schools Social Inclusion Project
- Internship Scheme: an opportunity for members of the new



community to gain work experience in an office environment

- Towers Sewing Club for Asylum Seekers
- The T Factor Talent Show
- European Week against Racism – an opportunity for everybody to convey their message against racism
- IT Classes for the Active Retired, New Communities and Disabled People
- Tea Dance for Older People
- Age Wise Workshops
- Community Café Style Discussion for Traveller Focus Week
- Poverty Awareness and Interculturalism and Diversity Training
- Social Inclusion through Gaelic Games
- Creativity and Innovation Competition for Young Children
- Photographic Competition for the Active Retired to Celebrate Bealtaine
- Link on Social Inclusion Website for New Communities
- Living Library



## Comhairle na nÓg

2009 was a busy year for South Dublin Comhairle na nÓg. The AGM took place in April, attended by representatives from 25 out of 33 schools in South Dublin County. The Comhairle was elected at this

event. South Dublin Comhairle organised Comhairle na bPáistí in March, representatives from 30 Primary Schools attended the event and young people consulted with South Dublin County Council on their local communities. Delegates from Comhairle na nÓg were elected to represent their local area at the annual Dáil na nÓg (National Youth Parliament) which is organised by the National Youth Council of Ireland and funded by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. The themes for Dáil na nÓg were Physical and Mental Health. South Dublin Comhairle organised ‘Dragons Den’ during Innovation Week 2009. This event encouraged young people in the County to pitch Innovative ideas to South Dublin County Council.

## Sport And Recreation Office

### Some of the initiatives undertaken in 2009 were:

- The Football in the Community Development officers rolled out a number of programmes promoting soccer in primary schools, youth groups, youth at risk, people with disabilities and within socially disadvantaged areas
- Promotion and planning of Slí na Sláinte routes in association with the Health Service Executive and the Irish Heart Foundation
- Continuation of the Sports Bursary Scheme with I.T. Tallaght
- Joint Venture with I.R.F.U. establishing the Rugby in the Community. Development Officer to promote and develop Rugby throughout the County
- Schools competitions & programmes in Football, Basketball, Badminton and Golf
- Promotion of sport across all areas of South Dublin County Council,



particularly in Departments/Sections such as Parks, Social Inclusion and Roads

- Publication of an in-depth audit of all sports, community and arts facilities in the County as directed by the Department of Environment and Local Government
- Assisted in development of County Sports/ Recreation Strategy
- Review of the play policy
- Ongoing support to South Dublin County Sports Partnership – promotion and planning of the work programme.
- 28 trainees graduated from the Spoir Teic Programme and 19 from the Sports Flexibility Programme.
- 32 new trainees enrolled on the 2009/2010 Sports Flexibility Programme and 32 new trainees on the Spoir Teic Programme.

### **South Dublin County Sports Partnership**

2009 saw the official launch of the South Dublin County Sports Partnership (SDCSP) in January by John Treacy, Chief Executive of the Irish Sports Council in the presence of the County Manager, school and sports club representatives. Also present were local athletes such as Olympic silver medalist Kenny Egan, paralympian Patrice Dockery who carried the flag for Ireland at the opening of the Paralympic Games and Brian Gregan, one of Ireland's top athletic prospects for the London 2012 Olympics.

SDCSP expanded on the Irish Sports Council programmes such as the Buntús programme, the Code of Ethics/ Child Protection training and Women in Sport promotion which included grant assistance to Tallaght

and Clondalkin Traveller Development Groups to help female Travellers participate in activities such as aqua-aerobics and dance. 47 schools joined the Buntús programme with over 850 teachers trained in games leadership and access to over 13,000 pupils.

The process for the development of a Strategic Plan 2010-2016 commenced.

SDCSP sponsored an Amateur Sports Awards Scheme, in partnership with the Echo Newspaper and the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel. The scheme honoured the Coach of the Year - Cecil Johnston of Tallaght Athletic Club and Volunteer of the Year - Shauna Curran of Clondalkin Community Games respectively.

The SDCSP developed a programme in partnership with local sports facilities to offer reduced prices to the unemployed. Link 2 B Active was officially launched in October by Mayor Mick Duff.

SDCSP also provided over €23,000 in grant assistance to 28 clubs and organizations to help pay for necessary equipment, coach training and everyday running costs.



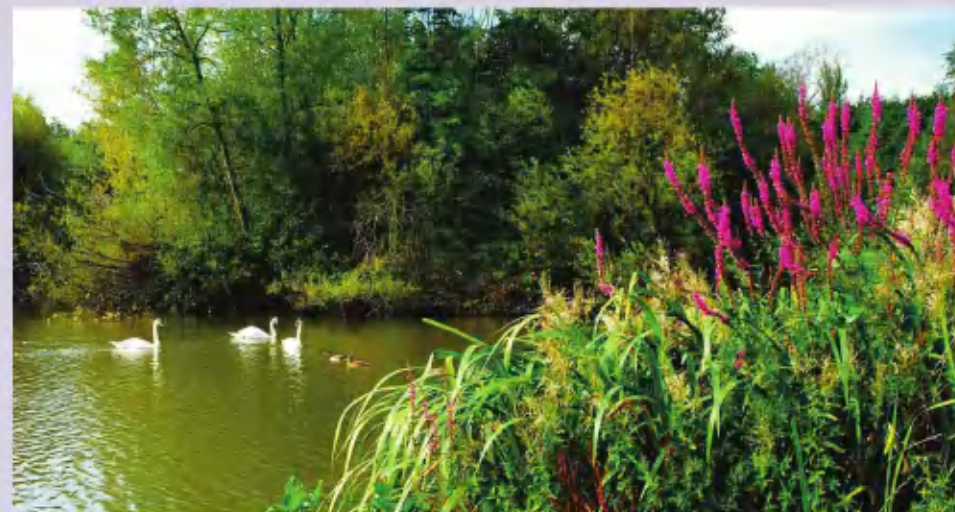
## Parks

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



### Sports and Recreational Facilities

- 5 Regional Parks and 50 Neighbourhood Parks
- Over 1,650 hectares of parks and open spaces for active and passive recreation
- 160 Playing Pitches for Gaelic Football, Hurling, Soccer, Rugby etc. serving almost 820 teams. Some 16,000 players use these pitches on a weekly basis
- 18 Tennis Courts provided at 5 locations - some 1,000 children use these Courts through the Dublin Parks Tennis League each summer
- 2 All Weather Athletic Tracks under local club Management
- 11 All Weather Pitches at Astropark, Bancroft Park in conjunction with private sector together with 4 all weather pitches at Clondalkin Sport and Leisure Centre



- All Weather Hockey Pitch at Lucan
- All weather/multi use facilities in Jobstown Tallaght, Collinstown Clondalkin and in Deansrath Community College, Bawnogue
- 13 Playgrounds and 4 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)
- Ireland's only purpose built baseball facility in Corkagh Park
- Skate Park at Lucan Sports and Leisure Centre
- The National Basketball Arena in Tymon Park continues to enjoy a high profile and hosts many major sporting and cultural events

#### **Grange Castle Golf Course**

The Council's municipal 'pay and play' facility which opened in 1998, continued to be well used with approximately 40,000 rounds of golf being played over the year. Grange Castle has a vibrant club membership of 750. In May 2009 the Pearse Purcell Shield was hosted at the golf course over a two day period with 18 clubs participating from the Leinster Region.

#### **Camac Valley Tourist Caravan & Camping Park**

In 2009, some 15,800 visitors from over 12 different countries stayed in South Dublin County's municipal facility for caravan and camping holidays. This is the only municipal facility of its kind in Ireland.

#### **Corkagh Park Fishery**

The fishery provides an interesting recreational/visitor attraction and it continues to attract anglers, fishing enthusiasts and the general public. In addition to the fishing lakes, the facility includes a tackle shop, fishing rod hire, coffee shop, public toilets and an outdoor timber



deck and seating area. The fishery is under new management who are actively promoting and marketing the recreational potential of this amenity.

#### **Parks Improvement Schemes**

During 2009, a number of improvement schemes were undertaken in parks and open spaces throughout the County. The schemes were advanced with financial provision in the Council's Budget, supported by funding from development levies and grant aid provided



through the Sports Capital, RAPID and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government grant programmes. These works included the following:

### *Corkagh District*

#### **Corkagh Park, Clondalkin**

- Development of Corkagh Pet Farm which includes a range of birdlife, farm animals and pets on display to the public.
- Resurfacing of St John's Road car park entrance.

#### **Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght**

- Installation of a polytunnel & vegetable garden to facilitate horticultural therapy programme operated by Menni Services (St John of Gods).
- Development and official opening of the new children's playground including tone-zone.
- Resurfacing of main footpath through the park, linking Old Bawn Community School and the new children's playground.

#### **Killinarden Park, Tallaght**

- Continued improvement of pitches and boundary walls.

#### **Cushlawn/ Deerpark Interface**

- The area between the two estates was landscaped, stone walls and boundary railings were provided and the area was placed under regular maintenance.

### **McUilliam**

- Works commenced on the installation of a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).

### *Tymon District*

#### **Rathfarnham Castle Park**

- Development of the ornamental garden continued with the construction of stone walls, paving, completion of the pond and the planting of trees.
- Construction of new pedestrian bridge at the end of the lake.



#### **Tymon Park**

- Completion of upgrade of Limekiln entrance to park

#### **Dodder Valley Park**

- The under grounding of the overhead ESB cables in Dodder Valley and the new car park was completed.



### **Greenhills Park**

Completion of Bowling Green adjacent to the Greenhills Community Centre.

- Improvement works to the playing pitches.
- Construction of new paths.

### **Friarstown Allotments**

- Ongoing maintenance and provision of services to the 132 (no) allotments at Friarstown

### **Orwell Park Open Space**

- Construction of a new pedestrian footpath and the planting of ornamental trees

### **Glendoher Park**

- Installation of a Reading Chair in association with Glendoher Park Residents Association

### ***Esker District***

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

- Improvement works to the Hayden's Lane car park completed.
- Works commenced on the construction of a pedestrian and cycle route linking

the Grand Canal with Adamstown and the Griffeen Valley Park.

### **Lucan Demesne**

- A new riverside path was provided to enhance access and public enjoyment

### **Waterstown Park**

- The continuing development of this park included the provision of 2km of a marked and dedicated cycle track, installation of a CCTV system and the opening of a new entrance and car park in May in association with Stewarts Hospital.

### **Lucan Weir Promenade**

Phase 1 of works on the upgrade of this park was completed.

- A new river bank edge incorporating stepped seating.
- A new promenade along the river linking Lucan Bridge with the Main Street entrance
- An upgraded path leading from Main Street to enable universal access for all visitors.
- Improved facilities for canoeists.



- A new viewing platform opposite the weir.
- An upgraded slipway to enable the fisheries board to access the river to improve salmon spawning grounds in the area.

### General

- Roundabouts were upgraded and landscaped at Willsbrook Road and St Loman's Road and new landscaping on the Adamstown Road outside Arthur Griffith Court.

### Workshops

- A composting workshop held during Eco Week
- Gardening Workshops in North Clondalkin led by staff from the Parks Department.

### Seasonal Works Programmes 2009

Seasonal works were carried out under the following programmes:

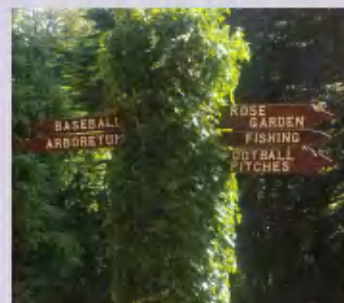
- Arboricultural Programme.
- Grass Cutting Programme.
- Litter & bonfire control Programme.
- Seasonal Bedding Displays.
- Civic Christmas Trees Programme.
- Christmas Tree recycling Programme.

### Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws

Parks Department administers the operation of the South Dublin County Council Bye-Laws prohibiting the consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Public Places as introduced in August 2001. In 2009, 175 offences were prosecuted under the Bye Laws following detection by the Gardaí.

### National Disability Strategy

- Provision of anti slip surfaces and hand rails to footpaths in Waterstown Park.
- Provision of marked, accessible car parking spaces at Griffeen Valley Park, Liffey Valley Park, Corkagh Park & Tymon Park
- Increased visual accessibility of park furniture in Tymon Park.
- Upgrading of existing paths in Sean Walsh Park including re-alignment.
- iWalks being finalised for Tymon Park, Sean Walsh Park and Grange Castle Golf Course.
- Design and procurement of accessible signage for major parks.



## Libraries

Contemporary libraries offer citizens civic spaces to read, relax, research, surf and learn at every stage of their lives. South Dublin Libraries, placed as they are at the heart of local communities, offer an inviting and dynamic service for all. By recognising the critical role of books and reading and by also embracing emerging technologies, the library service has extended its reach far beyond the physical walls of our buildings. An award winning website now provides 24/7 access to collections and resources across the County and beyond.

2009 was the busiest year in the history of the library services throughout South Dublin. Demand for every element of service across all age profiles and branches was phenomenal. During the year the number of visitors to libraries rose by 23%, number of ICT sessions increased by 42% and the number of items borrowed rose by 16% compared with 2008 figures.

### Measuring Performance 2009

Number of Libraries	7
Number of Mobile Libraries	4
Number of visitors	1,441,981
Number of items borrowed	1,246,007
New items added to stock	70,000
Number of events/Exhibitions	3,644
Number of ICT sessions	226,757
Hours of service per week	361
Book fund expenditure per capita	€3.52

### Award winning customer service

During 2009 South Dublin Libraries were recipients of several major national and international awards for customer services including the overall Ireland eGovernment Award 2009 and Local Authority eGovernment Award 2009. During the year the department also won a Chamber's Ireland Award for the customer self service facilities at the County Library. In November the Digital Book service was a finalist in the European eGovernment Awards in Malmo, Sweden.



### Harnessing web based technologies for service development

[www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie)

In July a new version of the library website was published offering additional services including Web 2.0 functionality. During the year there were 1,871,000 page hits on the site. From the new website, for the first time in an Irish public library environment, online registration is now offered enabling customers to







register remotely and begin using online services immediately. The digital book service, available from the Download Zone, was also enhanced during 2009 to include downloadable books for iPod users. Usage of the digital book collection continues to grow exponentially as more devices for reading and listening to this new medium become available. The online catalogue was also upgraded to provide customers with book reviews and additional information on titles in stock.



### **Making homework child's play**

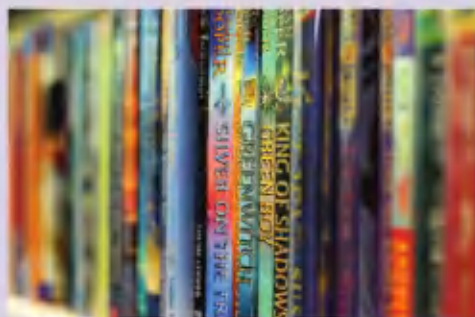
During 2009 library staff designed a range of web based services for children and young readers, aimed at providing online homework help and easy research facilities using the new library website. The site offers children a range of information on their local area, online reference services for primary and post primary students and an online catalogue for young readers. 'All Join In' - a programme designed to encourage young people to join their local library was designed around this new website with staff from the Children's Services team visiting all primary schools across South Dublin demonstrating these new facilities and services.

### **Enriching the Reading Experience**

With over 750,000 books in stock and with 35 bookclubs facilitated across the County, the book remains central to service design and delivery for South Dublin Libraries. Over one thousand book based events were organised during 2009 for both adults and children. At the centre of these events is Reader's Day which was held on the 14th November in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght. Over three hundred people attended the event which featured authors such as Paul Durcan, Diarmaid Ferriter and Paul Howard. Podcasts of the day's presentations are available to listen to from the library website.

Reflecting the service's commitment to new technologies for improved information sharing, Book Club Blogs were developed for the first time. These blogs allow easy and entertaining analysis of new books and book club activities across the County. One of these blogs was short listed for the People's Choice Awards at the recent Irish eGovernment Awards.





### Preserving the County's Memory - Local Studies Services for the 21st Century

The Local Studies collection held by South Dublin Libraries contains a wealth of rare and valuable material which records the County's history from earliest times. During 2009 several important new services were delivered based on the digitisation of this material for easier access to wider audiences both locally and nationally. Launched on the 15th October the online mapping service Connecting to the Past, available from [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie), offers a virtual time machine allowing citizens of the County trace the development of any area within South Dublin back to 1740 through a series of maps and aerial photographs. This service, developed jointly between the Libraries Department and the Spatial Data Team is the first of its kind in Ireland and is already extensively used across a wide profile of users.

New local studies books including The Dublin Blessington Steam Tram: a Pictorial and Social History and Pre-Norman Grave Slabs and Cross-Inscribed Stones in the Dublin Region, were also produced by the Local Studies team during 2009.

### Innovation Dublin 2009

The Library Service across the County played a significant role in the delivery of the Council's programme for Innovation Dublin October 14th-20th 2009.

During the week several milestone events took place including the live streaming for the first time in Irish public libraries via the South Dublin Innovates website, of visits by poet and author Paula Meehan and Oisín McGann to local libraries. The Living Library concept was also presented for the first time in Ireland on the 15th October in the County Library, Tallaght, attracting huge media interest and was an extremely successful event.



## FÁS eLearning @ the library

Online surveys of customers using public computing facilities across libraries in 2008/09 indicated growing levels of usage amongst the 18 to 35 year age bracket - many of whom were using the online facilities to search for work and or business and company information. This together with increased demand for ICT training across all levels prompted South Dublin Libraries to begin an initiative with Fas entitled eLearning @ the Library. Designed initially for beginners, this offers access to the Fas virtual learning college which provides access to a range of ICT training courses including Project Management, Web Design and Multi Media, ECDL and Basic Literacy. This project is running across three libraries in the County and during the first six months to the end of December 2009 one hundred and ninety people have registered for training.



## Development Department

The Development Department works with State Agencies, Area Partnerships, other Council Departments and the County Development Board to promote the potential of South Dublin in line with the County Strategy for tourism, arts and culture, sports and leisure and urban and village initiatives.

The role of the Development Department is fulfilled through the provision of sites for major investment and by support of local enterprise, and through the Property Management function, lands are acquired and disposed of to facilitate construction of Roads and Sanitary services, Housing and Community services. The Council's role in controlling dereliction is also carried out by the Department.

### Grange Castle Business Park

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

Over the last number of years, South Dublin County has experienced continuing commercial and industrial development by the private sector. The park is considered one of the four parks nationally that is suitable for large scale Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). However, this stage is becoming more crowded with competitors from Eastern Europe and Asia competing on a global basis with lower labour and service costs. To counteract the competition Grange Castle Business Park is marketed based on its strategic location and the quality of





service that the Council and the Facilities Management Company can offer a client company.

Wyeth, Takeda and Arysza AG (Cuisine de France) facilities in the Park have been completed and are now in production. Pfizer acquired Wyeth in October 2009 and Wyeth is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Pfizer. The new 28,100 sq m facility was formally opened in September 2009, the first such facility outside of the United States. Microsoft plan to go ahead with Phase 2 of the project, which will entail an extension to the Data Centre. The total area of the development (Phase 1 & 2) will be approximately 48,000 sq. meters.

These major clients have delivered high quality sustainable investment and employment in South Dublin County.

The installation and commissioning of the CCTV has been completed and is fully operational. All major services are now in place through the entire Business Park.

Grange Castle Facilities Management Ltd (a Management Company under the auspices of South Dublin County Council) continued its role in 2009 of overall responsibility for the management and maintenance of the entire Park including security and landscaping.

### **South Dublin County Tourism Company**

South Dublin Tourism is the marketing, promotional and development company for tourism in South Dublin County. South Dublin County, now established as one of Ireland's premier business, sport and leisure

destinations with its state of the art conference, hospitality and entertainment facilities. South Dublin County is home to the International Event and Convention Centre (IECC) at Citywest, a fully flexible and adaptable 172,000 sq foot venue, spanning 3 levels and capacity to accommodate over 4,000 delegates. With onsite accommodation of 1,169 rooms and working closely with the 10 premier hotels within a 7 mile radius, South Dublin County has bedroom capacity of 2,900 beds per night.

Overlooked by the Dublin Mountains and positioned right in the heart of South Dublin County, Tallaght Stadium has quickly become a household name in Irish sport. The multipurpose boutique 7,000 seat facility saw €94 million record signing Cristiano Ronaldo make his debut for Real Madrid in July 2009. Tallaght Stadium recently hosted the 2009 FAI Cup Final and an Irish rugby international. Tallaght Stadium will not only host international sports fixtures but with the facility capable of holding 20,000 spectators we expect to see world famous music stars take to the stage. Tallaght Stadium is serviced with superior hotels and easy access to public transport.

During 2009 South Dublin County Tourism implemented and took part in a number of key initiatives in order to promote the County:

- International Events and Conference Centre (IECC) now open at Citywest Hotel. South Dublin County Tourism will be onsite for every major conference and event promoting all members.



- Halloween 2009 received nationwide PR coverage and had an attendance of 10,000 people for the week long event. [www.hallowfest.ie](http://www.hallowfest.ie) received 17,500 unique visitors in the two weeks prior to the event.
- Advertisements placed in Dublin Tourism, Dublin Convention Bureau, South Dublin Chamber, local, regional and national publications.

- Business won by South Dublin County Tourism and Partners to date:
  - An Comhdaill na Muinteoirí le Rinci Gaelacha 2010
  - An Comisiún le Rinci Gaelacha 2011 & 2012
- Booking Engine - a booking engine is now available on the website which represents all the hotels. The booking engine will also be carried on the Tallaght Stadium website and local shopping centres, business parks and business organisations websites.
- The introduction of Affiliate and Associate Memberships has resulted in a growing membership base.

For more information visit [www.southdublintourism.ie](http://www.southdublintourism.ie)

### **New Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route**

The 8.5km Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route along the southern towpath of the Grand Canal from Inchicore to the 12th Lock which commenced construction in December 2008 is progressing well. This route incorporates two 110kv power circuits which will reinforce ESB Network's existing 110kv network in West Dublin and accommodate existing and future 110kv substations.

The Green Route project was initiated and funded by South Dublin County, Dublin City Council, ESB Networks and Waterways Ireland. The scheme is being developed in a partnership manner by the four state sponsored bodies. The project reflects an innovative and co-operative approach by all parties to address what are pressing requirements for the rapidly developing area of West Dublin. The project will deliver in a green, sustainable and cost effective manner the following components:

- Power
- Pedestrian and Cycle route
- Impaired Mobility Access
- Public lighting
- CCTV
- Information and signage
- Leisure - fishing, jetties, seating
- Protection and enhancement of wildlife including bats and otters
- Litter bins
- Protection and enhancement of flora



The construction of this Green Pedestrian and Cycle Route along the Grand Canal will provide a high quality facility for use by residents, schools, businesses, impaired mobility users and for leisure purposes.

### **Land Acquisition**

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

While there were no Compulsory Purchase Orders made in 2009, throughout the year the Council continued to negotiate and process compensation claims on lands acquired under earlier Compulsory Purchase Orders and by agreement, in previous years

While most claims are successfully agreed between the Council's Valuer and the Claimant's Valuer, the increase in the number of claims submitted in recent years has resulted in an increase in the number of cases referred to Arbitration in 2008/2009. Skilful preparation of reports etc. by Council staff for appearance before the Arbitrator and valuable experience of the technical and administrative staff involved has resulted in some cases however been resolved before the cases are actually heard.

### **Land Disposal and Asset Management**

The Council disposes of lands which are required for community facilities, educational facilities, or for housing or commercial

development. Disposals range from large housing sites to small areas of land to be incorporated into adjoining properties to eliminate incidences of anti-social behaviour or required by land owners to consolidate their ownership.

The current economic conditions have impacted on the disposal of land in the last year. Firstly interest in sites has diminished and secondly land values have fallen across the country and South Dublin has also been affected. Therefore with every application received to purchase land the department must evaluate the proposal on economic grounds along with the other traditional criteria for disposal. The Chief Valuer's office will then make a recommendation to the Council on the appropriate value of the land and advise whether or not the Council should consider the disposal.

### **Property Management**

Property Management entails the management of the Council's property portfolio. Monitoring of properties for sale and identifying other opportunities for key acquisitions continued in 2009. Lands acquired by the Council and not required for immediate use are sometimes let for grazing and tillage purposes. The management also involves the granting and renewal of leases/licenses for Council lands. Temporary Convenience Lettings of properties are also granted until such time as the property is required for the Council's statutory purposes.

The referencing of lands in the Council's administrative area in relation to a range of property management and development projects is



carried out by this Department. The Referencers carry out works on behalf of several Departments including Planning (planning applications, enforcement action, development plans), Roads (road schemes, C.P.O.'s) Finance (rates arrears, public liability claims) and Environmental Services (land acquisition and wayleaves).

#### Allotments

The following sites have been developed by South Dublin County Council as part of a larger Countywide Allotment Scheme to be rolled out by the Council over the coming years. The Allotment Scheme involves the allocation of a plot for eleven months to individuals wishing to enjoy the pleasure of growing and nurturing vegetables and fruit for personal family use and consumption.

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

<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of plots</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Tymon Park, Tallaght	13	100sqm	€40 €25 OAP
Friarstown	20	100sqm	€40 €25 OAP
Friarstown	100	120sqm	€48 €30 OAP
Friarstown	12	250sqm	€100 €62.50 OAP
Mill Lane, Palmerston	73	120sqm	€48 €30 OAP
Corkagh Park, Clondalkin	27	100sqm	€40 €25 OAP

At present there is a waiting list of 450 for all four sites which highlights the demand for this type of recreational facility. It is hoped to extend the current programme in the current year. However, this can only be done in the context of available resources and budgetary implications.

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





### **Derelict Sites**

Since the enactment of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, the Council has had considerable success in counteracting land dereliction and the Council is committed to maintaining this impetus in the interests of enhancing the County through the elimination of dereliction. During 2009, 75 inspections and re-inspections were carried out on alleged derelict sites. Section 11 Notices under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990, were served in 12 cases where the properties were considered derelict within the meaning of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. Failure to comply with a Section 11 Notice may the site being entered onto the derelict sites register.

## Environmental Services

### Water Services

The Council operates as part of the Greater Dublin Regional Water and Drainage Steering Groups. This approach enables a consolidation of resources reducing costs and ensuring a high quality of service provision to the people of South Dublin. However, water is a limited resource and there is a major study underway to identify new water sources for Dublin. This work will be a priority in the coming years and reports have already been made to the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

### Water Maintenance and Operations

South Dublin County Council purchases approximately 70ML/day of treated water from Dublin City Council's water treatment plant at Ballymore Eustace and approximately 2ML/day from Fingal County Council's water treatment plant at Leixlip. This water is distributed throughout the county via some 1,500km of watermains and our 3 main storage reservoirs at Belgard, Peamount and Saggart. The water is distributed to over 89,000 households and over 5,400 metered commercial customers. South Dublin has one public water supply from a borehole in Brittas which supplies approximately 120m<sup>3</sup> per day.

Civil Engineering works continued throughout 2009 on the Boherboy Water Supply Project and this project is due for completion in late 2010. This project involves the construction of a new 24ML reservoir at Saggart, a new 17.5ML reservoir at Kiltalown, 45km of new watermains, and linkages and controls to incorporate all new works into the existing water network.

The quality of water is monitored and analysed regularly and complies with all the requirements of the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No. 2) Regulations 2007. 4,151 tests were carried out on the water in 2009 and 99.4% of samples were in compliance, which is above the national average as reported by the EPA. There were no significant non-compliances or water quality issues in 2009.

During 2009 the Water Section repaired 167 burst mains, and carried out maintenance or replacement of 79 fire hydrants, 108 sluice valves and 526 services. The metering project has replaced nearly all meters with automatic meter reading equipment and installed pressure reducing valves in the county.

The Water Section provides a key support to developers, other Council Departments and outside agencies, through the implementation of the Council's Specification for the Laying of Water Mains and Drinking Water Supply (latest edition November 2009), the Council's Water Bye-laws for the Management of Water Services and Conservation of Drinking Water 2004, and the Water Services Act 2007.

The Mechanical Section working in conjunction with the Water Maintenance Section has continued to implement energy efficiency measures in the Water pumping station network. This has consisted of replacing pumps with intelligent variable speed drives, thereby adjusting the pump speed to the water demand required at any given time. This has reduced electricity bills, maintenance costs and increases the pump's life.





### **Water Network Management**

The Council continues to participate in the Dublin Region Water Conservation Project (DRWCP). This is at the maintenance and rehabilitation stages.

The watermains infrastructure is recorded on a Regional GIS system. Over 1,500 km of South Dublin County Council's watermains are digitally recorded and over 29km of new mains were mapped within the County in 2009.

Logica Telemetry is used to manage water distribution, remotely monitoring the flows and pressures at 120 locations across the county and facilitating weekly programming of leakage surveying works. Unaccounted for Water (UFW) losses in South Dublin County averaged 21.8% in 2009. During 2009 this section identified 226 repairs and 42 enabling works.

The implementation of pressure control measures will assist the Council to achieve the 2016 UFW targets of 16%. Strategic pressure control valves were commissioned in mid-2009 resulting in a saving of 1,700m<sup>2</sup>/day. 33-new local pressure control valves were commissioned under the Water Conservation Programme in order to reduce mains pressure locally and thereby reduce leakage. The installation of 26 District/Industrial meters was completed in 2009. These measures will optimise the management of scarce water resources.

The Dublin Region Watermain Rehabilitation Project phase of the DRWCP commenced in 2007 and its primary objective is conserving

water across the Greater Dublin Region. Approval to proceed is expected early 2010.

The Non-Domestic Metering Project is complete. This project will ensure that all commercial customers are metered and charged for their water usage in a fair manner in compliance with the EU and Government Water Pricing Policy.

### **Drainage**

#### **Drainage Maintenance and Operations**

Drainage Maintenance and Operations Section maintains and improves the foul sewer and surface water infrastructure across the County.

In 2009 this work consisted mainly of:

- Constructing new foul and surface water pipelines, to cater for increased drainage capacity and flood management i.e. Whitehall Road Flood Alleviation Works, Whitechurch School culvert replacement
- River and stream flood management works such as screen maintenance
- Unblocking and freeing up of public sewers
- Remedial work on sewerage infrastructure
- Taking over the maintenance and operation of new pumping stations i.e. Tobermaclugg & Kishogue
- Maintenance of network of pumping stations
- Emergency call outs



- Taking over the drainage maintenance of new estates that have been taken in charge by the Council
- Providing advice on the Dublin Regional Drainage Code of Practice for Drainage Works.

### **Water Pollution Control**

The draft River Basin Management Plan was presented for public consultation closing in June 2009. The final plan was prepared and adopted by South Dublin County Council in November.

S.I. 272 of 2009, dealing with surface water quality objectives was enacted. These limits directly relate to water quality status e.g. high or good, as aimed for in the ERBD Plan.

New regulations SI No. 101 of 2009 EC (Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters) Regulations 2009 were enacted and as a consequence the previous 2006 and 2007 Regulations were revoked.

A consultation paper was issued in 2009 on Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations. These draft regulations when enacted will lead to the groundwater equivalent of S.I. 272 of 2009 noted above.

The EPA issued a Code of Practice for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems for Serving Single Houses. This will be noted in the next County development plan as the document of reference for appropriate wastewater treatment not on the public sewer system.

The Water Pollution Control Team is responsible for the monitoring, reviewing and issuing of trade effluent licenses to businesses. In 2009, a total of 130 licenses were in force under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 & 1990, the EPA Act 1992, and the Waste Management Act 1996.

### **Water and Drainage Design/Projects**

The Boherboy Water Supply Scheme is well advanced. The Civil Contractor commenced pipe laying in summer 2008 and the works are expected to be completed in late 2010. The scheme will enhance and extend the water supply network in the west and south of the County.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government approved the following schemes to advance through planning under the Water Services Investment Programme 2010 – 2012:

- South Dublin Sewer Scheme 9B
- Dodder Valley Sewerage Scheme
- Saggart/Rathcoole/Newcastle Sewerage Scheme
- Water Conservation Stage 3 Works

### **Management of the Council Fleet**

The Council maintains a fleet of vehicles and machinery in order to provide its broad range of services. This fleet is maintained by the Council's Mechanical Section who are also responsible for the development and upkeep of the Water and Drainage Pumping Stations. The fleet comprised approximately 380 vehicles in 2009.

## Waste Management

South Dublin is part of the Dublin Regional Waste Management Plan in conjunction with the three other Dublin Local Authorities. The current plan runs to the end of 2010 and sets out the full range of infrastructure required to deliver integrated waste services in the region. It also provides for the range of services including recycling, awareness, enforcement, cleansing.

### Waste Management Plan

During 2009, the Council continued the implementation of the Waste Management Plan for the Dublin Region 2005-2010. The Plan, which can be viewed on [www.dublinwaste.ie](http://www.dublinwaste.ie), is based on the priorities of waste minimisation, maximising recycling and minimising landfill by recovery through thermal treatment.

### Waste Management Operations

The Council continued to provide an integrated waste management service in 2009.

- A weekly collection of domestic refuse was provided for over 76,000 households and commercial customers throughout the County. Households in the county produce an average of 1.2 tonnes of waste and recycling material.
- Waste continued to be baled at the Council's Baling Station at Ballymount and disposed of in the Council's engineered landfill at Arthurstown.
- Bye Laws for the Storage, Presentation and Collection of Household Waste continued to be implemented.

- Facilities available at Ballymount Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre and the Green waste disposal facility at Esker Lane, Lucan continued to operate in 2009.
- The Green Bin collection service continued to operate a fortnightly service with all clean plastics being included leading to a considerable reduction in residual waste.
- A total of 34,320 tonnes of recyclable material was collected in South Dublin County through Green Bins, Bring Banks and other services.
- The Council provided 61 Bring Bank facilities around the County.
- A Tender process for the supply of brown bins for organic waste commenced in 2009.

### Environmental Waste Charge

South Dublin operates a system of Pay-Per-Use resulting in a continuing reduction in the percentage of residual waste being presented for disposal at landfill as customers remain in control of their own waste charges.

A new waste payment system was introduced in 2009 which provides for greater flexibility of payment and account management methods.



### **Cleansing and Litter Control Service**

The Council's Road Sweeping Programme continued in 2009 with main roads and housing estates being swept on a regular basis.

The Council's six Litter Wardens enforced the litter legislation and also provided advice and assistance to Residents Associations in organising clean-ups etc. including assistance during National Spring Clean Week. A total of 931 Litter Fines were issued during 2009 and 34 Direct Prosecutions initiated.

The Council removed a total of 6,518 tonnes of waste in 2009 and 7,347 incidents of litter and illegal dumping were responded to by the Cleansing Section which provides an emergency response when required.

The Council continued to employ a graffiti crew to deal with the menace of graffiti throughout the County. Over 300 sites were treated in 2009.

### **Waste Enforcement**

In line with Waste Management (Certification of Historic Unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activities) Regulations 2008 six landfills in South Dublin County Council's area were identified and registered in EPA web based GIS register before the 30th June 2009.

South Dublin County Council also participated in the pilot project that was announced under the Ministerial Directive WPRR06/09: Pilot Project to Support the Waste Management (Certification of Historic

Unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008 (No. 524 of 2008).

### **Environmental Awareness**

#### ***Climate Change Strategy***

The Environment Strategic Policy Committee (SPC), in accordance with the National Climate Change Strategy prepared a climate change strategy for South Dublin County. The Climate Change strategy for South Dublin County was adopted by Council in May 2009.



### **Eco-Week**

Week took place from the 30th March to 4th April 2009 - a week long schedule of events focused on the role of individuals in reducing the impact of climate change. There were over 100 events which included storytelling, seminars, workshops, plays, exhibitions and free screenings of environmental films.

### Environmental Schools Competition

The 2009 Environmental schools Competition theme was Schools against Litter, there were 5 categories with projects ranging from multimedia, photography, artwork and school gardens. Over 260 entries were received.

### An Taisce Green Flag Awards

In the past school year (September 2008 to June 2009) thirty schools in South Dublin County were awarded green flags by An Taisce as follows:

- 2 Travel Flags
- 6 Water Flags
- 8 Energy Flags
- 14 Litter and Waste Flags



### Schools Water Conservation Pack

A water conservation pack was developed in Irish for schools in the County. The pack is suitable for Primary and Secondary Schools and includes information and activity sheets that educate students on water supply and conservation. The pack outlines how by making a few small changes, schools can significantly reduce their water usage.

### Gum Litter Taskforce

South Dublin County Council took part in the Gum Litter campaign in 2009. The campaign aims to promote a behaviour change among gum droppers through a local campaign to help create a cleaner, more attractive local area.

### National Spring Clean

The National Spring Clean is Ireland's largest Anti-Litter Initiative and was launched, by the Mayor of South Dublin County, on Tuesday 24th March. The clean up involved more than 700 Tallaght residents, the largest ever National Spring Clean! The clean up of St. Aengus Parish and Bancroft, was carried out in conjunction with the Community Policing Unit at Tallaght Garda Station and An Taisce. April is National Spring Clean month.

### Battery Recycling Awareness Campaign

Environmental awareness and Waste Enforcement promoted a battery recycling awareness campaign in support of the Waste Management (Batteries and Accumulators) Regulations 2008. The aim was to promote awareness around the regulation on waste batteries and waste rechargeable batteries (i.e. accumulators) and to divert waste batteries and accumulators from landfill.



### **Bonfire Awareness**

An awareness campaign in conjunction with Parks Department was developed urging the public not to dispose of unwanted items on a bonfire, outlining the fines that will be enforced and the risk that bonfires pose to children, animals and the environment. The posters were printed in Irish and English. In addition Halloween Mask & Decoration Workshops were held.

### **Christmas Waste Awareness**

During Christmas 2009 the Council ran a recycled Christmas Decoration Competition. The main message of the competition was to encourage people to reduce and prevent waste this Christmas and of course to recycle using their green bin and the bottle banks.

### **Mobility week**

European Mobility week took place 16th – 22nd September. During this period the Environmental Awareness Section provided a series of workshops Practical Guide to Climate Change and Carbon Footprints.

The workshop covered four main areas

- What is a carbon footprint
- How to calculate your carbon footprint
- Reporting your carbon footprint
- How to reduce your carbon footprint

### **Innovation Week**

Environmental awareness organised two events for Innovation week 2009. These events showcased the Big Belly solar compacting bin and the Reverse Vending machine.

### **Earth Hour**

Earth Hour 2009 took place on Saturday 28th March from 8.30pm - 9.30pm. Earth hour is a global call to action to every individual, every business and every community to turn off lights and appliances and use less energy. As part of Earth Hour South Dublin County Council switched off all non-essential lights and appliances in offices and libraries from 8.30pm-9.30pm on Saturday 28th March.

## **General Environmental Services**

### **Fire Services**

The Fire Service is provided as a shared service across the four Dublin Authorities and is run by Dublin City Council and includes the emergency ambulance service in the County. The primary fire station for the County is located at Belgard Road, Tallaght with back up from Dolphin's Barn, Blanchardstown and Nutgrove Avenue stations as required.

### **Emergency Planning**

The Council as a Principal response Agency operates the Emergency Plan for the County. A new framework published in 2006 led to a more comprehensive Plan for the County being produced in late 2008. A number of exercises have been conducted and will continue to be developed to ensure the Council is in a position to respond as a lead authority in conjunction with the other PRAs. The new Major Emergency Co-ordination Centre for the county is currently being put in place. The plan is constantly revised to ensure that it is up-to-date at all times.

### **Veterinary Service**

The Veterinary Service, through Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, is responsible for the supervision and approval of slaughterhouses, meat cutting and meat processing plants. The funding allocation from the FSAI to the council for 2009 was €301,077. The Council runs this service on behalf of the Dublin Counties.

In addition, veterinary officers carry out regular inspections of the Council's Dog Pound and Horse Pound, as well as assessing stabling prior to issuing of horse licences.

### **Environmental Health**

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

### **Control of Dogs**

The Council employs two full time Dog Wardens who monitor dog control under the Control of Dogs Act. The Wardens patrol the County and issue fines for offences such as keeping a dog without a licence or not keeping a dog under effectual control. They also impound stray dogs and dogs which are surrendered by their owners. In 2009, 10,296 dog licences were issued and 791 on the spot fines were issued. The Council's dog pound is located at Dunboyne, Co. Meath. The on-line dog licensing system is now fully operational with approximately 13% of dog licenses being purchased on-line.

### **Control of Horses**

The Council's horse pound is located in Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny. Wandering horses are rounded up by the Council's Parks Department staff and transferred to the pound. 142 animals were impounded during 2009. The Department also processes applications for horse licences of which there were 6 licenses issued.

### **Council Policy**

The Environment Strategic Policy Committee met on two occasions in 2009 and among the issues considered was;

Agreed and approved the Litter Management Plan for approval to the Council.

Climate Change Strategy prepared and recommended to the Council.

Presentations were received on:

- Air Quality Management Plan
- Eastern River Basin Development Project
- Illegal Dumping
- Environmental Management System
- Glass Collection & Recycling

# Housing Department

## Housing Construction Programme

The Multi-Annual Housing Construction Programme delivered the following in 2009:

- Completions (including Part V, Voluntary and House purchases):
- 390 On Site (including Part V); 62 Cost Plan approved by DOE; 34

Key indicators

- 390 families houses in newly built/acquired dwellings
- Total Voluntary Housing Stock in the County at the end of 2009 is 933 units
- 223 Voluntary Homes being planned or under construction
- 18 applicants housed in Specially Adapted Accommodation

## Affordable Housing – The Property Path

The sales of 371 Affordable Homes were completed to eligible Affordable Housing applicants. This comprised of 85 homes sold by the Council, with 195 sold through the Direct Sales Process and an additional 91 homes sourced through the Affordable Homes Partnership. All of these sales were facilitated through the Property Path office. In addition 104 unsold Affordable Homes were leased on a 5 year basis under the Social Leasing Initiative introduced by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. 12 Tenant Purchasers completed the purchase of their homes through the Tenant Purchase Sales Scheme. The foregoing was achieved through a very difficult economic period in the overall housing market. The Property

Path office continued to utilise modern information technology methods to communicate with our customers. The text messaging and email service together with the property path web site continued to provide information to applicants. There are 2022 approved affordable housing applicants on our Affordable Housing List as at January 2010.

## Part V

In 2009 the Housing Department maintained negotiations with developers to reach agreement for compliance with Part V of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Council's current Housing Strategy for the provision of the 15% requirement for social/affordable housing in new residential developments using all available options and in cognisance of the changing housing market conditions during this period. Agreements were finalised in respect of 6 developments within the county.

## Rental Accommodation Scheme

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) continued to be implemented with a total of 847 families transferred to RAS homes at the 31st December 2009.



## Standards in Private Rented Accommodation

The inspection of private rented accommodation under the Housing (Standards in Private Rented Houses) Regulations 1993 continued. The inspection programme is managed by the RAS Unit and inspections are carried out by the Environmental Health Officers who also enforce the standards. A total of 831 properties were inspected.

## Dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour

The Anti Social team responded to 1,295 complaints and the following activities were carried out:

Housecalls made	2,367 (1,759 made in 2008)
Interviews conducted	487
Warnings given	125
Eviction notice served	10
Clinics held (Attended by Community Garda & Allocations Support Officers)	212

Work continued on the elimination of anti-social blackspots. The type of works undertaken included:

- Re-enforcement of walls
- Installation of railings
- Elimination of laneways
- Additional lighting within estates
- Stub wall construction

- Installation of anti-vandal mechanisms
- Re-instatement of areas
- Removal of areas prone to dumping
- Landscape design and development
- Ground cover redevelopment
- Footpath extension
- Enhancement of entrance areas (improve access)
- Improvements through Painting programmes
- Boundary treatments and fencing Improvements

## Estate Management

The Estate Management service is designed to develop relationships with communities and to assist in their further development. There are approximately 60 Resident Associations / Groups in Local Authority Estates throughout the County with whom the Estate Officers are in regular contact.

## New Communities

The new housing estates at Balgaddy, Lucan and MacUilliam, Tallaght were given special assistance in the setting up of their Resident Associations.

## Pre-tenancy training

6 Pre-tenancy courses were held for tenants of new housing developments.

## Liaison Committees

The liaison committees comprise of Community representatives, the Gardai, Mediation Service and various representatives of the Council. The purpose of these committees is to ensure an integrated response to local service delivery. The Liaison Committee Initiative was established in 2007 with MacUilliam and Daletree and has now been extended to include the emerging community of Balgaddy.

## Housing Projects

Work was completed on Phase II of the Council's Housing Refurbishment Programme. Under this programme, substantial improvement works were carried out to 189 houses in the Cushlawn Estate in Tallaght and in the Greenfort & Shancastle Estates in Clondalkin.

- 243 housing units were completed ready for allocation, 27 of these were upgraded under the Energy Programme
- 129 kitchens were replaced under the kitchen programme.
- 8 Senior Citizens units in Brookview Terrace were upgraded.
- The Communal Areas in 5 apartment blocks in Árd Mór were upgraded and entrance doors replaced.

## Traveller Accommodation Unit

- A new initiative of the mobile library visiting Traveller Specific Developments commenced in 2009 and has proved to be a great success.
- The T-Factor, a talent show for Travellers was held in the Civic Theatre on the 29th September 2009 and a Café Style discussion was held December 9th where members of the settled community and the travelling community discussed Traveller Culture.
- 42 Traveller families were accommodated by South Dublin County Council

## Homeless Services

Implementation of the Action Plan on Homelessness 2007-2010:

- 23 homeless applicants were housed, with a further 10 housed in voluntary housing.
- 27 transitional accommodation units (providing 94 beds) managed by Sophia and Sonas in the Tallaght and Clondalkin areas.
- A Women's Refuge in Tallaght which is managed by Saoirse Housing Association continued to operate in 2009.
- 24 permanent housing units in Tallaght, primarily for homeless applicants with support from Focus Ireland continued to operate in 2009.
- An 'after care' temporary accommodation facility for young adults released from care upon reaching 18 years of age was opened in Clondalkin in 2009 and is managed by Focus Ireland.
- The Council continued its outreach and tenancy sustainment services as part of its overall response to homelessness.

## Allocations Section

The revised scheme of Letting Priorities approved by the Minister of Housing and Urban Renewal on 21/12/2006 is based on Time on List rather than points. It continued to operate during 2009.

### Key Indicators

- 247 families housed in Newly Built/Acquired dwellings.
- 168 families housed through Casual Vacancies.
- 112 Transfer requests granted.
- Total Voluntary Housing stock in the County at the end of 2009 is 933.
- 223 Voluntary Homes being planned or under construction, including emergency homeless accommodation.
- 21,047 maintenance requests received with 92.08% completed within target time-frames.
- Housing Maintenance budget for 2009 was €8,100,000
- Rent collected for 2009 was €21,530,000 and the average weekly rent was €47.50.
- 1,523 live loans on our portfolio with collection of €6.75m.
- 111 Local Authority dwellings were adapted under the Disabled Persons Grants Scheme in 2009 and expenditure for above was €882.953
- 53 Private Disabled Persons Grants were paid out at a total cost of €579,488.42
- 105 Housing Aid for Older People Grant at a total cost of €538,227.84

- 226 Housing Adaptation Grants for people with a disability were paid out at a total cost of €2,830,078.31
- 24 Mobility Aid Grants paid out and total expenditure was €79,792.00
- 18 applicants housed in Specially Adapted Accommodation in 2009





## Housing and Social Development SPC

During 2009, a number of reports and issues were discussed and considered:

- Review of the Council's Anti Social Behaviour Policy document entitled A Safe and Peaceful Place to live
- Review of the Council's Tenancy Agreement together with the Scheme of Letting Priorities.
- Report on Affordable Homes
- Update on Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)









# Planning Department

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

The IEZ initiative was developed further in 2009 with the appointment of a Coordinator, contacts with and identification of participants and the establishment of a steering committee

## Development Plan

The Development Plan provides the strategic framework and policy context within which the Local Authority's planning decisions are made. Following a review of the County Development Plan 2004-2010, and a pre-draft public consultation, a draft Development Plan 2010-2016 was approved by the elected members and placed on public display in late September to early December 2009. The next stage in the 2-year statutory review process will involve consideration by the elected members of the Manager's Report on the submissions received. Any material amendments to the draft plan will then be placed on public display in mid-2010. It is envisaged that a new County Development Plan 2010-2016 will be in operation in the late Autumn 2010.

## Adamstown SDZ South Dublin

Adamstown was designated as a 'Strategic Development Zone' in 2001. As 'Development Agency', South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that Adamstown is a sustainable urban community and that development occurs at a pace whereby it is supported by all necessary facilities and infrastructure. The roll out of Adamstown is ongoing, based on an approved Planning Scheme. At the end of 2009, approximately one-third of potential housing is permitted, with over 1100 new homes occupied. Key infrastructure delivered in 2009 includes a Secondary School, a convenience store and a major upgrade of drainage at Tobermaclugg Stream. A new railway station, link road, QBC, park & ride, two primary schools, a crèche and a neighbourhood park were previously completed. South Dublin County Council with the support of the National Transport Authority launched Smarter Travel Adamstown, a sustainable travel programme and completed the Adamstown Street Design Guide in 2009. The Planning Department has continued to support stakeholder cooperation and community development, through Adamstown Community Partnership. Adamstown also received a major Town Planning Award from the Royal Town Planning Institute in 2009. The award was presented in the Sustainable Communities category.

## Clonburris LAP and SDZ South Dublin

The Clonburris area is one of the most significant areas zoned for development within South Dublin County. Two-thirds of the area was designated a 'Strategic Development Zone' or 'SDZ' in 2006. As

Development Agency, South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that Clonburris develops as a sustainable urban community. The roll out of Clonburris will be based on the Planning Scheme approved by An Bord Pleanála in November 2008 and an approved Local Area Plan adopted by the Council in April 2008. During 2009, the Project Implementation team has been engaged in follow-up work required further to the An Bord Pleanála decision and in relation to the first proposal for development on the Local Area Plan lands. In 2009, South Dublin County Council assessed the first planning since adoption of the Local Area Plan and produced a detailed development framework for the District Centre area of Clonburris SDZ.

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

The tax incentive Integrated Area Plans (IAP's) for both Tallaght and Clondalkin have come to an end and final reports have been issued for both areas for the period of operation 1999-2008. The schemes generated direct private investment in excess €800 million between the two areas and have generated an additional €15million that is being expended in the disadvantaged neighbourhoods on Community Infrastructure and Community Projects. Both Plans have significantly contributed towards addressing the physical, economic, social and environmental regeneration of the town centres and in the adjoining disadvantaged residential areas. While around 2,500 apartments were constructed in the Tallaght Town Centre area, the occupancy rate is approximately 60%.

### **Local Plans**

#### **Naas Road Development Framework**

The draft Naas Road Development Framework was presented to the Elected Members, 6th July 2009. There followed a period of public consultation from July to September 2009. Two issues required further assessment and consultation: traffic constraints west of the Red Cow Interchange and the impact of three Seveso Establishments. The draft Development Framework provided the basis for a number of additions to the Draft County Development Plan 2010-2016, including; introduction of a new mixed use zoning, an SLO relating to the provision of a new Luas stop, junction upgrades and numerous long term road proposals.

### **Forward Planning Projects**

The Environmental Report of the Draft County Development Plan was produced as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process. This was the first formal assessment of the environmental impacts of the policies and objectives contained in the Draft Plan since the introduction of the SEA process into national legislation in 2004. The SEA process has both statutory and public consultation built into the process. The overall intention is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to provide for the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of Plans with a view to promoting sustainable development.



## **Sustainable Energy Projects**

Ireland is required under the provisions of the National Climate Change Strategy to become 33% more energy efficient by 2020. SDCC accepts its responsibilities in this regard and recognises that the local authority planning system is in a unique position to influence the achievement of energy efficiency.

## **Energy Map**

The SEAI supported Energy Map system which provides a programme of mentoring for improving energy efficiency across the organisation has been established with the County Architect appointed as Energy Champion. The Planning Department is represented on the Energy Map team and has a central role in identifying and progressing projects. Tallaght Pilot Energy Study: Review of Space Heating Options  
In order to inform the energy policy elements of the County Development Plan, the Planning Department carried out a pilot energy study in the Tallaght area. The purpose of this study was to attain information on the existing costs of energy provision (space heating) in the Town Centre area and to compare these costs to the costs of other long term options for energy provision. This information will allow the Council to include real policy statements in the County Development Plan. They also provide a basis for the development of a sustainable energy zone within the Town Centre allowing interested stakeholders to work together on energy projects which benefit the entire area. This includes the examination of the possibility of developing a District Heating System within the Town Centre

## **Conservation**

South Dublin County Council's Record of Protected Structures contains 542 Protected Structures, 105 of which are public authority owned. The Conservation Grants Scheme is funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and administered by the Council's Conservation Section. The Grants Scheme assists the owners/occupiers of Protected Structures to undertake necessary works to secure their conservation. Eight Conservation Grants totalling €102,253.61 were issued by this Council in the year 2009, to assist owners/occupiers in its administrative area to undertake such works.

## **Planning Applications**

In 2009, the Council received 909 valid planning applications. This represented a decrease of 36% on 2008. There were 859 decisions made in relation to planning applications during 2009, 715 grants of permission, 144 refusals and the remaining 50 applications were either withdrawn or resulted in requests for further information. There were 91 invalid applications received in 2009 and a further 13 applications deemed invalid due to the Site Notice not being in accordance with the regulatory requirements.

112 applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2009.

## Enforcement

A total of 367 new enforcement files were opened in 2009. The number of warning letters issued in 2009 totalled 341 and the number of enforcement notices issued totalled 90. District Court proceedings were initiated in 32 cases and Circuit Court proceedings were initiated in 1 case. 10 Convictions were obtained in the District Court, 2 Circuit Court Orders were obtained, 22 cases were resolved following the issuing of District Court proceedings. 173 cases were resolved without the necessity to apply to the Courts

## Development Contributions

A review of South Dublin County Council's Development Contributions Scheme took place in 2009 and on 14th December 2009 a new contributions scheme, operative from January 1st 2010 to 31st December 2017 was adopted by the elected members.

The total development contributions received in 2009 were €8million. The Council also adopted the Supplementary Development Contributions Scheme for the Metro West line in March 2009. The area to which the scheme relates is within a distance of approximately 1km on either side of the route of the proposed Metro West line in the South Dublin County Council administrative area.

The rates of charge for the purpose of development contributions are;

- Residential Development €3,000 per unit
- Commercial Development €50 per m2
- Retail Development €65 per m2

## Intellectual Enterprise Zones (IEZ)

In 2009 active participation in the Initiative began following contacts made through the Dept of Social Welfare. A steering committee has been established to guide the initiative consisting of SDCC, Dept. of Social and Family Affairs, SDCEB, FAS, Partas, IT Tallaght, Dodder Valley Partnership, ACE (Clondalkin) and CPLN. In 2010 the IEZ project will be developed on a regional basis.



# Roads Department



The Roads Department is responsible for Roads Maintenance, Traffic Management, Design and Construction of National, Regional and Local roads.

The benefits from the substantial investment in roads within the county area over the previous 5 years came to fruition with the completion of the heavy construction stage on a number of key roads projects, delivering an improved integrated road network that reduced significantly journey times throughout the County and provided greater road safety for all users.

On the National Routes the opening of the following roads took place;

1. Free flow junctions at the Red Cow and the N4 \ M50 interchanges
2. Ballymount Interchange improvements
3. Upgrade of the Tallaght N81 \ M50 interchange
4. The completion of the additional lanes on the M50
5. Grade separated junction between the N4 and the Newcastle Road

6. The completion of the additional lanes in both directions on the N4

The implementation of barrier free tolling by the NRA on the Westlink Toll Bridge also helped to improve traffic flows within the County.

## As part of the Non-National Road Programme

1. The Embankment Road Extension (Belgard to Outer Ring Road) was begun and drainage and service works alterations as well as junction improvements in tandem with the Luas line extension to City West were undertaken.
2. Design work on Phase 1 of the Rathcoole Bye Pass was completed.
3. Design work and the Part 8 were completed on the Whitechurch Traffic Calming Project and the Stocking Lane Cycle Path.



## The Maintenance Section

1. A grant of €3,640,000 was received from the Department of Transport to assist in the maintenance of Regional and Local roads as part of the Road works programme.
2. The footpath programme continued with a total of €250,000 spent on replacing bays and removing trip hazards.
3. The Winter Gritting Schedule had to contend with the some of the worst weather conditions in over forty years resulting in continuous below zero temperatures and protracted heavy falls of snow placing a considerable demand on the staff directly involved and the organisation overall.
4. Staff attended the following training courses: Signing, Lining & Guarding, Health & Safety at Roadworks, Location of underground Services and Designers of Temporary Traffic Management Plans as part of the Health & Safety programme.
5. The Maintenance Section worked in conjunction with the Parks Department to cut the grass margins and medians on the N4 at Palmerston, the N81, the N7 and the Belgard Road. The Roads Department provided the traffic management with the Parks Department undertaking the grass cutting.

## The Roads Traffic Section

The traffic information website showing up- to- the minute traffic images for on-street CCTV cameras as well as journey time information from 37 routes across the road network went live in August. This system provides both real-time and profile journey times on National Primary and Secondary Routes to the public. An estimated average speed on each of the routes is also available.

In conjunction with the Dublin Transportation Office, the MOVA system of signal control was installed at 9 additional junctions to increase the junction's capacity and reduce bus journey times.

A trial traffic signal linkage system was also installed on the Greenhill's Road to reduce journey times and has yielded peak time savings of up to 10 minutes. It is hoped to further expand this system in the coming years.

In addition over 900 repairs/adjustments were carried out on the traffic signal network.

## Pay and Display Parking

- A full review of parking in the County was undertaken with a number of areas being identified where controlled parking could be considered. The public consultation process on the proposed new Bye Laws was initiated in the later part of 2009.

## Traffic Calming

- The Elmbrook Avenue / Esker scheme under construction.
- Part 8 public consultation phase completed in respect of Aylesbury / Cushlawn proposed traffic calming scheme.
- Public consultation phase commenced in respect of Dangan / Shelton / Muckross / Hillsbrook / Fernhill scheme.

35 schemes have been completed since 2004 under the traffic calming programme.

1. Moved the SMS (Short Message Service) in September 2009 to the Council's own interactive short code of 51678.
2. The traffic information website went live in August showing up to the minute traffic images.
3. Up- to-date travel time information continues to be provided and the sharing of data with the AA and the National Roads Authority.
4. Traffic light linkage installed to improve journey times on a trial basis.
5. Draft Parking Bye Laws prepared for the County Area.
6. Participated in National Bike and European Mobility Weeks.
7. Cycle to work scheme introduced for the purchase of bicycles.

The School Warden Service was provided in over 100 locations throughout the County.

## National Roads Design / Construction Programme 2009

- M50 Improvement:
  - N4 Interchange complete
  - Red Cow Interchange complete
- N4 (M50 to Leixlip)
  - Additional lanes and bus lanes opened to traffic as well as the underpass at the Newcastle Road Junction on the N4.

### Road Design/Construction

#### *Non-National Roads Construction Programme 2009*

- Belgard to Outer Ring Road
  - Diversion of services and the improvement of the junctions in conjunction with the Luas line extension have been completed.
  - It is planned that the road surface will be constructed in 2010 subject to the provision of finance from the Department of Transport and the National Transport Authority.

#### *Non-National Roads Design Programme complete 2009*

- Whitechurch Traffic Calming Knocklyon Road
  - Detailed design and Part 8 completed.
- Stocking Lane Cycle Path
  - Detailed Design and part 8 completed
- Rathcoole Relief Road (Phase 1)
  - Detail Design finalised.



## Road Maintenance

### National Roads

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

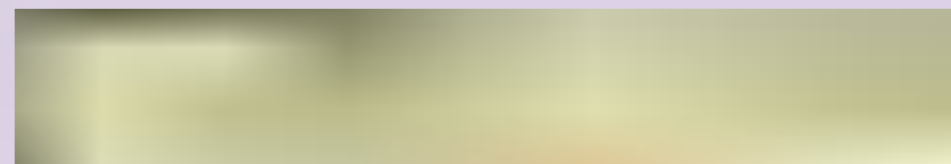
- National primary maintenance €369,050 (N7 & N4)
- National secondary Maintenance €111,237 (N81 & N82)
- Public Lighting €359,200

### Non-National Roads

An allocation of €3,640,000 for road maintenance work was provided by the Department of Transport. The following roads were included under the restoration improvement programme:

- Ballymount Rd(Old)
- Saint James's Road
- Whitehall Road
- Broomhill Rd
- Mt Seskin Rd
- Grange Road
- Killakee Rd
- Newcastle Main Street
- Rathcoole Main Street
- Old Nangor Road
- Alpine Estate

The following are details of other works undertaken as part of the Road Works Programme.



In total an area of 162,000 Sq Meters of road was repaired or resurfaced.





### Footpath Refurbishment Programme

3,000sq m of footpaths was replaced and another 4,600m of trip hazards were removed.

### Winter Maintenance

The demands made on the Roads Winter Gritting Crews were almost doubled due to the weather conditions in the period January to March and the exceptional weather experienced at the end of 2009 which continued into the early part of 2010. Additional difficulties were also experienced due to the shortage of salt and grit in the Country but the Council managed its stocks to ensure that the main commuter routes remained open. Plans are now well advanced to provide additional storage facilities in the County for salt which will give greater flexibility should a similar weather pattern hit the Country in future years.

Other notable statistics for the Roads Maintenance area are:

- 601 abnormal load permits were issued.
- 3,147 online Roadmap applications were made.
- 430 companies are registered and use Roadmap.



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 • Community Services for All  
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 • Water and Flood Management

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## Architectural Services

Despite the economic downturn, 2009 was a busy year for the Architectural Services Department. Work was completed mid-year on The Barn, a refurbished and extended community facility at St. Marks, Tallaght. The project, as well as providing a headquarters for the Childhood Development Initiative includes a sunny central space and flexible adjoining rooms for a range of youth activities. The project also provided enhanced facilities for the urban farm on the site and contained a number of innovative sustainable technologies including bio-mass boiler, and rainwater-harvesting.

At Avonbeg, the new Community Facility- Dominic's Community Centre was completed in April, and the refurbishment of the last apartment block and 3 new infill units targeted for completion in the second quarter of 2010. This once neglected scheme is now a coherent terrace of apartments and houses facing a public green and the mountains beyond. Dominic's Community Centre is a well designed building in a park setting with a sunny courtyard and a Green- sedum roof. It is successfully catering for a variety of activities including; child-care, after schools club, youth clubs, computer-training, adult education, meeting rooms for a number of residents/parish/parent groups, facilities for political clinics and Garda Information.

Tenders were received for the new headquarters of the Neilstown Boxing Club. This project includes a rooflit boxing-hall, gymnasium and changing facilities as well as a new meeting space for the Neilstown Community Centre, reformatting and improvement of the existing layout. The Boxing Club is onsite and will be completed by summer 2010.

In sporting terms the largest achievement of the year was Tallaght Stadium. The project was completed in its first phase in March 2009 with 3,000 seats. The addition of a second stand brought the total capacity to over 6,000 seats. The Stadium also includes conference and function-room facilities. The scheme was overseen by the original consultant design team under Muir Associates, but project-managed by the Council's Architect's team to successful completion. It played host to Real Madrid on a lovely summer evening in July 2009.









Smaller but still important projects included; the completion of the colourful Crèche in the Council Headquarters, alterations to the Payments Office in Tallaght and the Customer Care Centre in Clondalkin to facilitate Public Accessibility and a significant improvement in Public Realm with new paving, lights and trees in the vicinity of the Exchange Building and Tallaght Hospital.

The refurbishment and upgrading of existing Council Housing Stock continues to be an important element of the department's portfolio. The aim is to improve tenants' quality of life while reducing the carbon footprint of the County. The large refurbishment contracts of 95 houses in Cushlawn and 96 houses in Greenfort and Shancastle were successfully completed. Studies are underway for the next phases of refurbishment now approved for funding by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government funding allowed the energy-upgrading of 28 voided dwellings while under relet-repair. 6,000 Council dwellings had their boilers serviced under the supervision and management of the Council's Mechanical & Electrical section. The successful

Smoke Alarm Installation/Upgrade Programme came to an end with 5000 installations since 2006. The gas fired central heating programme also ended in the first quarter with 90 upgrades to tenant-installed systems, and overall 2800 installations since 2004. The electrical rewiring programme of 2004-2009 ended in the first quarter with an overall total of 552 re-wirings of older housing stock.

The Architect's Department joined the Planning Department in a new carbon-footprint initiative in 2009. This will range from an energy strategy for the Council as a whole through to a detailed energy action-plan for Tallaght town centre. The Architect's Department will manage an overall Council commitment to energy and carbon-reduction in partnership with Sustainable Energy Ireland. An early result in this process was the successful tendering of the Council's energy requirement of both natural gas and electricity. This tender process (undertaken in collaboration with Fingal County Council) will reduce costs and result in less carbon emissions for South Dublin County Council. The Council has continued to carry out its own BER evaluations and has now completed up to 1,000 surveys.



The development of 10 Residential caravan bays, at Stocking Hill, was successfully completed in February under the 2009-2013 Traveller Accommodation Programme. The proposal for the redevelopment of the site in Turnpike with 3 new group houses progressed in the 3rd quarter of the year with funding approval from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Work also began in the office on the provision of individual dwellings; at Lynch's Park and Cherryfield as part of the new Traveller Programme.

The Small Works Programme continued with the completion of 8 Special needs extensions under the Disabled Persons Grant Scheme and 1 extension in lieu of local authority housing during the year. A further 10 extensions are in hand, at varying stages of the process.

The project management and procurement of the Housing construction Programme provided 390 families with new houses including units procured by direct contract and under Part V arrangements in private developments. This figure includes 108 families who were housed by Voluntary Agencies and 18 families in Specially Adapted Accommodation procured through the Construction Programme.

These patterns will alter in the coming years. Indications from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government are that directly-procured social housing will be significantly reduced with social housing needs being met primarily by RAS and leasing schemes. Smaller infill schemes will be directed into areas of anti-social behaviour and special-need families.

The Architectural Services Department manages the monitoring of Dangerous Structures in the County. Over 72 reports and evaluations were carried out including serious fires and structural collapses.

In addition to construction, design and urban-design, Architects Department offers advice to other Council Departments on a wide variety of technical issues.

With Continuing Professional Development now a legal requirement for Architects under the Registration Section of the Building Control Act 2007, training was acquired from SEI, UCD, RIAI, on BER Assessment (including Public Buildings), New Contracts, Sustainable Energy, and nine accredited CPD lunch-time sessions over the year. The staff of the Department remains committed and flexible and looks forward to new challenges in the future.





## Section 3 - Organisational Matters

Corporate Services	87
Human Resources Department	97
Law Department	101
Information Technology Department	102
Finance	104

## Corporate Services

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

### Local Elections 2009

The Minister the Environment, Heritage and Local Government announced on 5th February 2009 that the 2009 Local Elections would be held on Friday 5th June 2009 within the hours of poll from 7.00 am to 10.00 pm.

A total of 63 candidates contested the 26 seats for the 5 Electoral Areas, which were determined by the Minister for the Environment Heritage and Local Government in the County of South Dublin Local Election Areas Order 2009.

The count was held in the Basketball Arena, Balrothery, Tallaght. Results were made available on the Council's website and Twitter as they became available. Members were elected to the Electoral Areas in the following order:

### Clondalkin

Robert Dowds (Labour Party)  
Tony Delaney (Fine Gael)  
Matthew McDonagh (Sinn Féin)  
Thérèse Ridge (Fine Gael)  
Gino Kenny (People before Profit Alliance)  
Trevor Gilligan (Fianna Fáil)

### Lucan

Derek Keating (Fine Gael)  
Gus O'Connell (Non Party)  
Eamon Tuffy (Labour Party)  
William Lavelle (Fine Gael)  
Caitriona Jones (Labour Party)

### Rathfarnham

Cait Keane (Fine Gael)  
John Lahart (Fianna Fáil)  
Paddy Cosgrave (Labour Party)  
Emma Coburn (Fine Gael)

New Local Elections Spending Limit were introduced in 2009 and the aggregate election expenditure incurred by successful and unsuccessful candidates, as well as designated persons amounted to €345,629.

### Tallaght Central

Mick Duff (Labour Party)  
Colm Brophy (Fine Gael)  
Pamela Kearns (Labour Party)  
Dermot Looney (Labour Party)  
Seán Crowe (Sinn Féin)  
Éamonn Walsh (Fianna Fáil)

### Tallaght South

Cathal King (Sinn Féin)  
Eamon Maloney (Labour Party)  
Marie Corr (Labour Party)  
Brian Lawlor (Fine Gael)  
John Hannon (Fianna Fáil)

## Register of Electors/Local Electoral Areas

Corporate Services Department compiles the Register of Electors on an annual basis. The total number of electors registered on the 2009 /2010 Register of Electors, which was used for the Local Elections held on 5th June, was 179,957 and the breakdown of this figure across the five local electoral areas was as follows:

### Local Electoral Areas

Clondalkin:	36,859
Lucan:	30,945
Tallaght-Central:	44,783
Tallaght-South:	35,234
Rathfarnham:	32,136

There were 2 Supplements to the Voting Register prepared during 2009 to facilitate taking the poll at:

- Local and European Elections in June
- Lisbon Treaty Referendum 2 in October 2009

The supplement is printed to include those who are entitled to be on the Register but who may have been omitted from the current Register due to the following reasons - i.e. people who turn 18 on or before polling day, those who have moved residence from one Dáil or Local Authority area to another.

## Higher Education Grants

Higher Education Grants are awarded, to students who are residents of South Dublin, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Higher Education Grants) Acts, 1968 - 1992 and the relevant annual scheme as adopted by the Council. Under the Higher Education Grants Scheme for the 2009/2010 academic year approximately 1200 students were awarded grant assistance in respect of Maintenance and/or Fees. A total amount of € 4.6 million was paid out in Higher Education Grants during the 2009 calendar year.

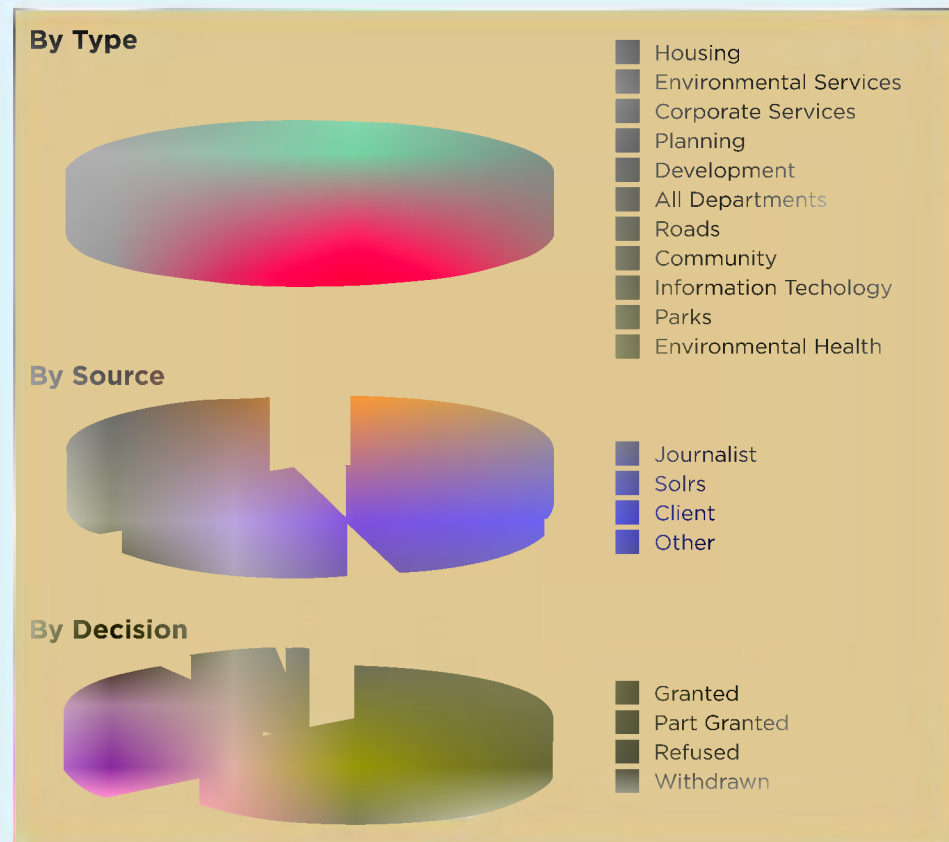
In 2009 South Dublin County Council entered into a pilot scheme involving the four Dublin Local Authorities to make payments of maintenance grants directly to students by way of Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT). This project was undertaken with the full backing of Colleges and Students Unions. Issues considered and agreed in advance of initiating the pilot included:

- File Format for exchange of information between the Council and institutions,
- Timeframe for verification of students' attendance and
- Schedule of payment dates and Impact for students of EFT payment proposals.



## Freedom of Information

The Council received 59 requests for access to information under the Freedom of Information Acts during 2009.



## Reform of Procurement Policy

Modernisation and reform of procurement policy continued during 2009.

In line with objectives outlined in the Corporate Procurement Plan a Procurement Policy Group comprising of senior staff from the major purchasing departments was established with the following terms of reference:

- Oversee achievement of Value For Money Best Practice procurement involving:
  - Setting and achieving of targets & Key Performance Indicators
  - Reporting to Management and communicating with staff
- Oversee Development of Procurement Policies and Procedures
- Oversee Procurement Training Strategy
- Oversee Development of Procurement Web & Intranet resource
- Provide advocacy for best practice procurement to staff
- Identify efficiencies achieved

## Mayors Office

Councillor Mick Duff was elected Mayor at the Annual Meeting of the Council held in June 2009 and was presented with the Chain of Office by outgoing Mayor Councillor Marie Corr for a one year term of office. Councillor Paddy Cosgrave was elected Deputy Mayor.



### Civic Events

Over 270 events were organised through the auspices of the Mayor's Office reflecting the Council's interaction with communities throughout the County. Highlights included the official opening of Tallaght Stadium, Halloween and the Christmas 'Tree of Hope' Ceremony.

### Communications Unit & Customer Care

Corporate Services continues to examine all aspects of communications, both internally and externally, with a view to the successful promotion of South Dublin County in a local, national and international context. This is achieved through quality information on the Council's website, Intranet and Membersnet sites, together with detailed policies and protocols relating to internal and external communications.

The Communications Unit aims to develop good relationships with the national and local media and in 2009 over 420 media queries were processed and 211 Press Releases issued, The Unit is responsible for Corporate Publications such as South Dublin County Today - a newsletter for all residents of the County, The South Circular Staff Newsletter and Annual Reports.

### Consultation and Preparation of Corporate Plan 2010-2014

In accordance with section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001, the drafting of the Corporate Plan for the life span of the new Council commenced. During Autumn/Winter 2009, key stakeholders were consulted on the main priorities for South Dublin County Council for the period 2010-2014. This included the following:

- Corporate Policy Group
- Elected Representatives
- Staff Partnership Committee
- Staff Conferences
- Information sessions with Staff of South Dublin County Council
- South Dublin County Development Board
- South Dublin County Social Inclusion Measures Group
- Representatives of South Dublin County Community Forum and Platform.
- Comhairle na nÓg
- Public Information sessions were held through the County's Library Network in Tallaght, Clondalkin, Lucan and Ballyroan
- Online Feedback Form was available on our website, members net and circulated to our partner agencies, 259 responses from the public and other interested parties were completed through the on line feedback form

## Customer Care



Customer Care Centres at Tallaght and Clondalkin continue to provide a frontline service in relation to all Council services. A highly qualified team provides informed and professional advice and work to the principles and response times set out in our Customer Care Charter.

Customer relationship management systems, developed in house, record customer enquiry information and allow fast access to back end data. Referral where necessary through these systems ensures data capture and monitoring for quality and speed of reply.

During 2009 emphasis has been on offering more choice to our customers, to access services, make payments, or request information using online services.

[www.southdublin.ie](http://www.southdublin.ie) provides a wealth of information, on the wide range of services provided, and is accessible 24/7.

The Customer Care Section manages telephone communications and has enabled the roll out of call centre technology throughout the organisation. This allows response targets for all Departments to be set and monitored.

Ongoing Customer surveys by the staff of the centre, both online and at front of house, provide information on service improvement requirements and also relevant feedback to the Councils training programmes.



## Irish Office

2009 was another eventful year in the Irish Office of South Dublin County Council. Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas, a county wide celebration of the Irish language and culture took place in March. During Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas - 125 events

catered for approx. 7500 people from South Dublin County. There were high profile events with performances from Kila, John Spillane, Rónán Ó Snodaigh and Zak Powers, open top historical bus tours, art classes and work shops, storytelling and music classes. Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas was organised as a County wide event with something for everybody, young or old, with little or fluent Irish!

There were 36 commitments in the Irish Language Scheme 2006-2009. All these commitments have been achieved. These initiatives included an all Irish website, [www.athcliaththeas.ie](http://www.athcliaththeas.ie), an email address for direct



contact through Irish, Gaeilge@sdblincoco.ie ,availability of staff to deal with queries from customers through Irish with training and support. All place names are available in both Irish and English on a Manager's order and a book of placenames in Irish and English have been published and are available online. All signage is in the process of being corrected, as agreed in the Irish Language Scheme. All forms are available in Irish from [www.athcliaththeas.ie](http://www.athcliaththeas.ie) and are being constantly updated.

### **Internal Audit & Efficiency Unit**

During 2009, the Internal Audit was expanded to incorporate an efficiency role into its area of responsibilities. This was in response to the changing needs of the organisation as a result of the impact of the current economic situation in relation to staffing and financial resources.

The unit has been developed into the 'Internal Audit & Efficiency Unit' and additional staff have been re-assigned to the unit to support its new role and to achieve its objectives.

During 2009 the Unit performed audits as well as undertaking specific efficiency type reviews. The audits / efficiency reviews were objectively examined, evaluated and reported on in the context of the adequacy of the control frameworks in place and their performances in relation to the economic, effectiveness and efficiency levels of the operations.

The unit provides an independent and objective appraisal function providing assurance to management on the internal control systems and on the efficiency of operations. Recommendations made were accepted by management and the implementation of these further strengthens controls and improves efficiencies going forward.

Internal Audit & Efficiency Unit is a key element of the Corporate Governance framework within the organisation.

### **Health and Safety**

South Dublin County Council is committed to ensuring that all its services and operations are carried out and delivered, as far as possible, safely and without any risk to staff and members of the public. The Council has two professional Health and Safety Officers who deliver advice, train staff and carry out inspections and risk assessments. All the Council's workplaces have separate Safety Statements which are reviewed regularly to take into account any changes to work practices, legislation and personnel. A comprehensive programme of safety training is in place to ensure staff are qualified and competent to work safely. This programme includes the FAS and FETEC national requirements of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme.

## Disability Liaison / Access Office

During 2009 the Disability Liaison / Access Office continued to:

1. Monitor and support the implementation of the Council's Disability Act Implementation Plan
2. Co-ordinate expenditure of the Councils 2009 National Disability Strategy funding allocation of €482,187 received from DoEHLG
3. Carry out Access Officer, Liaison Officer and Inquiry Officer functions as defined in the Disability Act 2005

Key achievements of 2009 include:

- Improved access across the County's Parks network and 4 main burial grounds
- County Hall Payments Office made accessible;
- Installation of Braille and tactile way finding signage in 15 community facilities;
- Redevelopment of <http://accessible.southdublin.ie>;
- Further access improvements to County Hall Tallaght and Civic Offices Clondalkin i.e. upgraded accessible toilet provision in Clondalkin and installation of visual fire alerts in accessible toilets in County Hall.
- Development and release of the innovative Jobot's Access All Areas. This game enables people to gain an understanding of what providing appropriate accessibility for disabled people actually entails.



- Launch of downloadable access guides (in multiple formats), outlining the extensive improvements in the accessibility of public buildings and services across the County which the Council has achieved over the past 5 years.
- Establishment of County Disability Advisory / Consultative Panel (in partnership with the SDCDB).

## Ethiopian Partnership Project

Work commenced in late 2007 on this innovative collaboration between two towns in Werabe and Butajira, a slum regeneration project in Addis Ababa and South Dublin County Council, funded by Irish Aid, SDCC and through wage and salary deductions from staff and Councillors. The project elements cover a very wide range of areas mirroring those of Local Authority responsibility in Ethiopia. These include:

- Management Training for Municipality Politicians & Staff
- Technical Training delivered by Council Staff
- Water supply networks and standpipes
- Public & School Sanitation blocks
- Waste management
- Street Paving
- Surface Water Drainage
- Urban Planning
- Upgrading and Provision of New School Buildings & Equipment
- Provision of Health Facilities & Training
- Gender Equality Programmes
- Child Support Programmes

- Youth Recreational Facilities
- Computer Provision & ICT Training
- Library Development

A very important element of the project is the financial assistance which we provide to The Integrated Holistic Approach – Urban Development Project which is a slum clearance and community development project based in Addis Ababa. This organisation has been given significant aid (€65,000 to the end of 2009) funded by wage and salary deductions from staff and Councillors towards the construction of a condominium block housing 36 slum-dwelling families.

In 2009 Tallaght Hospital joined with the Council in the development of the project and have commenced development of its own partnership with Butajira Hospital focusing on capacity building and training.

website at <http://ethiopianproject.southdublin.ie/> outlines the project in more detail.

## CONNECT

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

## Connect Web

Connect Web supports local Community & Voluntary Groups to develop and maintain their own Community Websites. Over 140 websites are now live with a constant stream of about 60 – 70 websites in development at any one time. This is a free, easy to use service where the groups are trained to develop their content. In addition, the sites are hosted by Connect, as groups receive training they are then able to update their sites. In this way the Community Sector are developing new online methods of collective engagement.





#### Connect Web in 2009:

- The digital training facilities in County Library are utilized for training purposes.
- Training is provided by Connect Staff at times convenient to the participants
- Web Training delivered and ongoing individual support provided to over 150 Community Groups.
- 28 Community Centres have developed websites through the Connect Web Programme.
- 30 new websites were launched
- 29 introductory web training sessions were held with 60 groups in attendance, 18 follow on sessions were held with 41 groups in attendance.
- At the end of 2009 the Connect website received over 245,000 hits

#### **Connect School**

St Aidan's Community School, Brookfield, Tallaght in partnership with South Dublin County Council is developing student centered technology through an innovative learning culture. By enabling self-directed learning through the creation by teachers of interactive educational content, the initiative is working to improve the student's attendance, engagement in the classroom and overall educational outcomes. The IT Infrastructure includes individual laptops for all students and teachers, a Wireless Network throughout the school and a Virtual Learning Environment.

The Connect School Project is now in its penultimate year and work is underway to streamline the project and enable St Aidan's to manage its

hardware and infrastructure as efficiently as possible. St Aidan's now enjoys much faster broadband because of its inclusion in the 100Mb for Schools Programme.

A number of teachers at St Aidan's Community School are taking part in ePict Training. ePict is European Pedagogical ICT Training for Teachers and St Aidan's is the first secondary school in Ireland using this training.

Work on the Connect School Evaluation is nearing completion and will be published in 2010; this will prove an invaluable resource to other schools wishing to embark on the journey which has seen St Aidan's Community School develop into one of the most proficient ICT Schools in the state.

#### **Connect Me**

Connect Me is a web based facility that stores, retrieves and displays information about your local area.

Connect ME displays data on many aspects of the Council's operations using an Ordnance Survey mapping base overlaid with aerial photography and linked to An Post's Geo-directory of addresses. It allows users to perform searches on the basis of specific addresses, functions and timescales. Information is presented in text or map form via standard tabs such as Location Details, Find Nearest, In the Area and On the Map.

Connect ME enables improved accessibility to online Council services. The application itself allows users to perform searches on specific

properties or locations and retrieve information about local administrative boundaries; users can also submit fault reports directly to the Council.

During 2009 an updated copy of the aerial photography of the County was commissioned and loaded onto Connect Me. Negotiations continued with An Post regarding categorising all business addresses in the County.

### Connect Centre

2009 Community Centre was established as a forum for all 32 Community Centres located in South Dublin County. The Connect Community Centre Network Website will be launched in 2010. The aim is to provide Community Centres with a medium to advertise their events locally and Countywide. The centre will also allow through a Member's Area, a place where Centre Management can contact one another, advertise training and support one another in the running of their Centres.

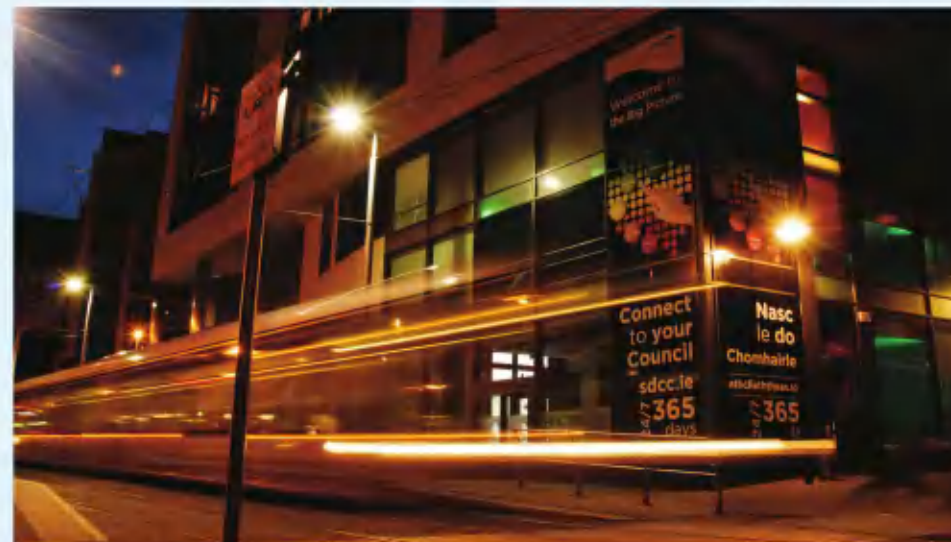
### The Big Picture

The Big Picture sits in the new cultural centre in the Town Centre, Tallaght. Library Square links The Big Picture, The County Library and Red Arts Centre forming a centre of knowledge and discovery in South Dublin. The first of its kind, The Big Picture aims to create a new medium of communication through the visual, creative and learning process. The exhibition currently provides information on aspects of

life in South Dublin County now and into the future. The Centre is a means of disseminating information to the public and promoting SDCC's various online initiatives.

The Big Picture in 2009:

- A number of launches, presentations and events took place at the Big Picture including Innovation Dublin Week, Eco Week
- Innovation Dublin Week provided an opportunity to see and participate in some of the pioneering activities in South Dublin County. The aim of the week was to promote, encourage and stimulate innovation and creativity in business, education, medical, research and the public sector.



## Human Resources Department

The introduction of a recruitment embargo from early 2009 along with some other cost saving operational restrictions posed a challenge for Human Resources and the wider organisation. As staff numbers declined, the challenge of maximising efficiencies across the organisation and of fully utilising staff resources to maximum advantage was addressed. The refocusing of roles to achieve a streamlined internal operation is ongoing with progress achieved in frontline service provision for the public realm.

The Human Resources Department manages all the human resource functions and throughout 2009 creatively addressed ongoing staffing needs of the organisation in the face of the current recruitment embargo.

Our focus on retention of staff, workforce planning, staff welfare, employee relations, training and development and management of benefit and entitlement schemes remained key activities of the department. The department was heavily involved in working with our Finance Department in seeking cost savings and payroll reductions through offering flexible working arrangements to staff as well as streamlining work practices.

The delivery of an Integrated Human Resource system is well underway, among its features are:

- Empowering employees through the employee self service facility
- Workflow Management through the automation of business processes leading to better process control and improved efficiencies.

- Managing employee resources through capturing all relevant employee details in a live working environment
- Training management
- Health and Safety records
- Integration with payroll and pensions

An added significant benefit of the system is a comprehensive and integrated management reporting and analysis option. All together it will result in a highly efficient and streamlined HR service.

Idocs is now used as a document management system in all departments and interfaces with local systems. It is fully utilised in HR.

PMDS continued to become embedded into the organisation in 2009. Its potential as a management tool for delivering change was further developed. The monitoring of the Team Development Plans through newly introduced online PMDS system facilitated tracking and reporting on the delivery of corporate objectives, while the Personal Development Plans continued to provide improved job clarity and identify Training and Development needs which formed the basis of our Training Programme.

Investment in Staff Training was been maintained at a high level with expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs at 3.75% In 2009 training requests through staff PDP's completed under the Performance Management and Development System informed the training programme. Corporate and mandatory training requirements were also addressed and delivered on to

ensure ongoing up-skilling of staff and compliance with Health and Safety requirements.

The retention of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) accreditation was achieved. This continues to offer benefit for our engineering/technical staff and for the Human Resources Department. Retaining the accreditation will involve ongoing mentoring for staff, implementation of the CPD policy and centralised knowledge management through the Learning Circle. In addition seminars and information sharing sessions are arranged on a monthly basis. Ongoing rigorous annual audits will take place to ensure retention of the standard.

The Time & Attendance Unit continued to monitor absenteeism and intervene to minimise absenteeism levels.

### Human Resource Service Indicators

% of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave:	3.19%
% of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave:	0.71%
No of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave:	11063
No of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave:	2525.68

The figures for 2009 show a reduction on the 2008 statistics indicating that the proactive and early intervention approach to the management of the absences is an effective outcome. The services of two Doctors are retained for staff referral and the Staff Support service consisting of two qualified staff welfare officers provide invaluable support to staff.

The Pensions Unit which was established within the Human Resources Department in 2007 is continuing to operate very effectively. The unit provides an enhanced level of service on pension and retirement related matters. There is also a requirement for the future that staff be issued with defined benefit statements. The unit will be in a position to meet that requirement. The Pensions Module of the core HR system became operation in 2009.

The Employee Relations Unit continue to maintain communication with the relevant trade unions on a regular basis on issues of concern and through the unit the Council is committed to utilising the industrial relations mechanisms available including the Rights Commissioner, the Labour Relations Commission and the Labour Court where necessary. An extensive Vaccination Programme was again run throughout 2009 for staff on a voluntary basis. Work practice changes including the cessation of rostered overtime were negotiated through the unit resulted in greater efficiencies and reduced costs.

At the end of 2009, the number of staff in SDCC was 1,537. The decline in numbers related in part to a number of staff availing of an incentivised early retirement scheme and the ongoing impact of the recruitment embargo. An option to staff to avail of part-time working



options was continued. This followed on the requirement to reduce the cost of payroll by 3%. A significant number of staff availed of the option and the administration unit continues to progress applications under this voluntary scheme.

The Staff Welfare service continues to provide discrete, confidential professional support to staff. Staff welfare prepared and delivered a stress management training programme to staff which was very well received.

Partnership continued to function and pursue an agenda of change through co-operation and partnership with staff from all departments and all levels in the organisation working together to achieve outcomes on a number of targeted fronts.

There are many changes facing the organisation and probably none more pressing than the changing needs of our customers especially when considered in line with uncertain financial constraints. Partnership continues to support employee involvement in this changing environment through various structures which are now embedded in South Dublin County Council work practices.

The Handling Significant Change process instigated by the Partnership Committee in 2006, has seen increased dialogue between Senior Union Officials, Senior Management and the Partnership Committee. This process enables each grouping to collectively discuss issues of mutual concern.

Projects progressed through Partnership in 2009 include:

- Easter and Summer Camps for employees' children
- Retired Staff Association
- Irish Language Promotion
- Health Checks in The Well, Beacon Clinic
- Staff Newsletter







## Law Department

The provision of legal services to the Council was again very broad ranging and challenging. In addition to cases already being handled by the Department a total of 1780 new cases were opened in the Keyhouse Case Management System. Despite the reduction in the number of staff engaged in the Department we have continued to improve the quality of our service and our response time through the effective use of the systems and processes implemented over the last few years. Customer care has been the main focus.

The Law Department has been proactive in the pursuit of prosecutions for Litter, Control of Dogs, Liquor Bye-Laws and Anti-Social Behaviour, Rent Arrears and collection of Rates. Judicial Reviews also saw an increase especially in the area of challenges to the Housing Acts.

While there has been a slow down in Conveyancing generally in the Legal Profession, the Law Department continued to experience an increase in transfer of Voluntary housing to Voluntary organisations and in legal matters pertaining to the provision of grants, funded by the Minister for Arts, Sports & Tourism to local sporting clubs, registration of the Council's title to lands to facilitate major road construction and improvement schemes which had been undertaken over the previous years throughout the County and continuation in the registration of the Council's Title to open spaces which will facilitate public utilities and contribute towards pro social behaviour.



## Information Technology Department

Information systems and technology is pivotal to the organisation change agenda in South Dublin County Council. It is an enabler of efficient service delivery and as such, much is demanded of it. Presently the Information technology department has its focus and aim on gaining greater efficiencies from fewer resources.

The Information Technology Department is constantly investigating new technology platforms (hardware, software and system software) which can provide better, more reliable tools for staff and citizens of South Dublin County.

Transformational changes such as 'Web 2.0' and 'Cloud Computing' are challenging traditional ways in which computing services are delivered to end users. Research and analysis has been conducted in terms of the benefits of virtualisation and consolidation (as a private 'Cloud'). A number of cloud services have been piloted which has made possible a more flexible way to operate. The convergence of these trends is forcing a radical change in the way technology is deployed.

The efficiencies gained through research and development by the Information Technology Department in the past year is reducing the cost associated with managing and operating IT across the entire organisation. The newly created capacity is driving innovation. The ability to adapt quickly to change and improve service quality using information technology will offer incremental benefits to South Dublin County Council over the next number of years. The rapid pace of social, political and technological change means that public sector organisations will need to be more citizen-focused driven by smarter

use of technology. South Dublin County Council will continue to implement flexible technology solutions to quickly adapt to and support the challenges facing the organisation for better service delivery.

2009 Highlights:

- During 2009, South Dublin County Council's link to Government Networks was upgraded to 1Gbps resulting in a significant internal network performance increase, as well as paving the way, during 2010, for the bandwidth upgrade of links to 24 SDCC remotes to include libraries, area offices and depots. Improved systems performance as well as major cost savings will be achieved.
- Following extensive research and background work, a tender for SAN (Storage Area Network) & Server Consolidation issued during 2009, which incorporates specifications for the delivery of an Off-site Disaster Recovery facility, providing failover and resilience for critical corporate systems. In extending our use of virtualisation technology, during 2010, SDCC will reduce the physical server footprint by approximately 65%. The solution, when fully delivered, will reduce the total cost of technology ownership, reduce current power usage, and improve and ease the manageability of the server infrastructure.
- The Personal Computer/Laptop Refresh Scheme for staff involved the rollout, on a phased basis, of 253 personal computers and 103 laptops.
- To improve data security, a disk encryption and device control software rollout for all desktops and laptops commenced during 2009, and is ongoing.



- On-line payments and facilities were extended and enhanced, including the introduction of the pre-pay Waste Collection System for householders in the South Dublin County area.
- New websites that launched during 2009 include:
  - South Dublin Libraries - [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie)
  - South Dublin Innovation Week - [www.southdublininnovates.ie](http://www.southdublininnovates.ie)
  - South Dublin Intellectual Enterprise Zone - [www.iez.ie](http://www.iez.ie)
  - South Dublin Traffic Information - <http://traffic.southdublin.ie>
  - Rapid - <http://rapid.southdublin.ie>
  - Historical Maps - [http://gis.sdublincoco.ie/historical\\_mapping/](http://gis.sdublincoco.ie/historical_mapping/)
- Development Plan 2010 - 2016: An on-line facility was launched, now available through the corporate website, for logging submissions through a text / mapping interface where locations can be marked by the user.
- Purchase of 2009 high resolution ortho-photography and LiDAR data which is now uploaded to Connect Me, an on-line facility for the public that stores, retrieves and displays information about the local area.
- Systems development and systems integration ensures that systems deployed in the organisation are able to deliver the over-arching functionality required. In today's connected world, the role of system integration is becoming increasingly important. Systems are designed to connect together, both within the system under construction and to systems that are already deployed.

Web-enabling systems as well as integrating GIS capabilities have afforded us the opportunity to deliver more services across the web at targeted groups. Within the organisation, integration with core systems such as the Corporate Financial System, Electronic Document Management system and Customer Care System has become the norm.

In support of the Change Modernisation Agenda, various processes have been identified as areas requiring improvement and streamlining. In conjunction with the Efficiency Unit, significant progress was made during 2009 including the replacement of the Fleet Management System and the implementation of a Software Development Framework. Enhancements to many existing systems including the Customer Care System, Waste Management System and Planning Administration System were delivered during 2009.



## Finance

The Finance Department is responsible for financial reporting, budget management, cashflow management, financial management systems and the design, implementation and operation of a framework of internal financial controls to reduce the risk of error and fraud. Important daily tasks include monitoring income, debtor management, expenditure control, arranging borrowing and leasing and investing surplus funds.

Services include:

- Financial Control & Treasury Management
- Preparation of Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statement
- Payroll Administration
- Commercial Rates Billing & Collection
- Non-Domestic Water Charges Billing & Collection
- Payment of Accounts
- Insurance and Claims Administration
- Cash Receipting Office

### European Communities

(Late Payment in Commercial transactions) Regulations 2002  
EU Regulations governing late payment of commercial transactions were enforced with effect from 7 August 2002. These Regulations partially replace the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997, and provide that interest, if greater than €5, be paid where an invoice remains unpaid for more than 30 days. The total amount of interest paid in 2009 was €11,672.35.

### Finance Department Operational Plan

The Finance Department Operational Plan separates the functions of the Department into three broad categories:

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

### Financial Management & Accounting

The role of the Financial Management & Accounting team is to develop and implement financial management and accounting systems and practices that support business transactions that are accurate, timely, economical and secure. In this context, the Finance Department Operational Plan includes the following objectives:

- To continue the development of the Agresso Financial Management Information System
- The early production of the 2009 Annual Financial Statement in the format as specified by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and in accordance with Local Authority Accounting in Ireland, Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations
- To liaise with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and provide additional financial and non-financial data as required
- To maximise the opportunities for South Dublin County Council during the allocation of the Local Government Fund and other state funds

- To monitor, control and report the council's activities in the context of EU financial restrictions and the General Government balance (GGB).
- To prepare the Annual Budget 2010 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002
- To manage cashflow, maximise income and anticipate and report regarding funding requirements for day-to-day expenditure on the Revenue and Capital Accounts

### **Annual Financial Statements**

The Annual Financial Statement 2008 was prepared and presented in a Web enabled format to the Members at the July 2009 council meeting and subsequently submitted to the Department of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government for audit. The audit of the 2008 Annual Financial Statement was concluded and reported to the members in April 2010.

### **Annual Budget**

The Annual Budget for 2010 was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001, and the Local Government (Financial Procedures and Audit) Regulations 2002, and was adopted by the Council on the 21st December 2009.

### **Agresso**

The most recent modules implemented include the web version of Agresso, the Fixed Asset Register, Invoice Manager, Rates & Miscellaneous Debtors, Prompt Payment, Tax Module & Cash Office Receipting. Projects completed during 2009 included the implementation of Business to Business features in Agresso which enables the electronic receipt and registration of invoices from utility suppliers, the implementation of water and housing rents Billing Modules, the expansion of the use of a system known as IntelliAgent alerts and the development of web supported Management Reports in Agresso.

### **Agresso Fixed Assets Register**

The Fixed Asset Register includes details of constructed, purchased and gifted fixed assets and is maintained by the Finance Department in conjunction with the parent or user department.

### **Expenditure Management**

The main objective for Expenditure Management is to oversee expenditure and ensure that adequate financial records are retained and effective financial controls are in place. This objective applies equally to both pay and non-pay expenditure.



## Insurance

The Insurance team investigates and where appropriate processes Public and Employer Liability claims. The team also liaises with other Departments to ensure adequate insurance cover is in place to protect the Council from accidents and incidents involving corporate vehicles, property and or plant & machinery.

## Payroll

The Payroll team is responsible for the processing and payment of salaries, wages, temporary salaries and pensions to approximately 2,000 staff and pensioners. The recoupment of travel related expenses are also processed by this team. Approximately 99.8% of staff were paid electronically by the end of 2009. The electronic timesheet return system has been introduced in 2 Departments and it is planned to extend this to the main works departments and depots by the end of 2010.

## Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable process payments on behalf of the Council and maintain financial records for audit. During 2009 approximately 800 invoices were processed and paid each week. This team is also responsible for implementing and accounting for relevant tax regulations such as Professional Services With-holding Tax, VAT, Reverse Charge VAT, Relevant Contracts Tax, Tax Clearance Certificates

and for ensuring C2 details are accurate. Business to Business tools within the Agresso Financial Management System were implemented during 2009 to support the receipt and registration of e-invoices.

## Income, Debtors & Cash

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

## Commercial Rates

The net effective valuation for the County was €719,741,136 at 1st January 2009. The Council continued to identify new commercial properties for valuation, by reviewing information such as planning commencement notices, water connection payments and fire certificates. The total rate collection for 2009 was €110,634,633. The percentage of rates collected from the total warrant for 2009 was 86% which represented a reduction of 6.45% in income collected compared to 2008. This reflected a national slowdown and was consistent with the economic out-turn for 2009. Entry year property levies totaling €1,231,568 were applied to all newly erected and/or constructed properties, pending the assessment of commercial rates. The total levies collected in 2009 amounted to €1,269,979 which represented 66% of the total to be collected.

## Non Domestic Water Charges

The Non Domestic Water Metering Project which involved the replacement of existing meters with the installation of meters which could be read electronically (AMR), in all non-domestic premises, commenced in early 2007, was completed in 2009. The Agresso Water Charges billing and debtor management system was implemented in December 2009. The total value of water bills issued during 2009 was €9,815,271 and this related to water consumption between July 2008 and September 2009. Cash collected from this income source was €6,800,000 in 2009.

## Treasury Management

Actions to maximise and efficiently manage cashflow include daily analysis and review of cash balances and cash transactions, cash forecasting and the provision of reports and financial data to support decision making.

## Cash Receipting Office

Cash Offices are located in County Hall, Tallaght and in the Clondalkin Civic Offices and provide cash receipting facilities for the Council. Payment methods include cash, cheque, debit /credit card and direct debit, a web based payment facility is also provided for the purchase of specific products such as bin tags and dog licences.

## Non Principal Private Residence Charge

The Local Government (Charges) Act 2009 was commenced with effect from July 2009. This Act introduced an annual charge of €200 per qualifying non-private principal property. In accordance with the legislation individuals must self-declare this liability and significant penalties accrue if the property owner fails to register and pay. € 2.1M was collected in 2009 by the NPPR Board (a shared services facility set up by local government to centrally process and collect the charge) on behalf of the Council. For further details regarding exemptions and penalties for non payment are available at [www.nppr.ie](http://www.nppr.ie)



## Appendices

Appendix 1 - Finance Statistics	109
Appendix 2 - Local Election Expenditure 2009	112
Appendix 3 - National Service Indicators for South Dublin County Council 2009	113



# Appendix 1 - Finance Statistics

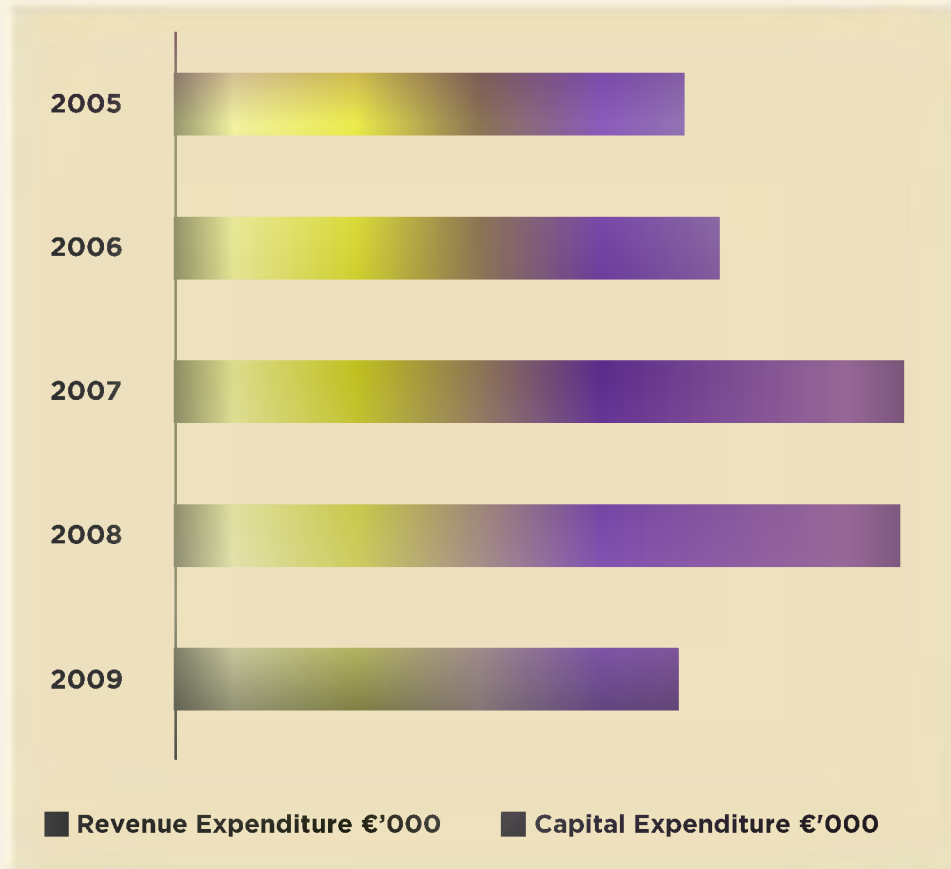
## Income & Expenditure Account Statement for Year Ending 31 December 2009 (DRAFT)

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Cost
	2009	2009	2009
	€'000	€'000	€'000
Housing & Building	45,606	45,338	(268)
Roads Transportation & Safety	28,633	6,745	(21,888)
Water & Sewerage	34,842	6,972	(27,870)
Development Incentives & Controls	14,516	3,237	(11,279)
Environmental Protection	62,899	28,434	(34,465)
Recreation & Amenity	34,146	6,350	(27,796)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	6,902	5,535	(1,367)
Miscellaneous	13,630	4,821	(8,809)
<b>Total Expenditure/Income</b>	<b>241,174</b>	<b>107,432</b>	
<i>Net cost of programmes to be funded from Rates &amp; Local Government Fund</i>			(133,742)
Rates Income			121,180
Local Government Fund - Grant Income			21,567
Pension Related Deduction			3,109
<b>Net Transfers to/from Reserves</b>			<u>(12,463)</u>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for Year</b>			<u><b>(349)</b></u>
<b>General Reserve @ 1st January 2009</b>			12,419
<b>General Reserve @ 31st December 2009</b>			<u><u><b>12,070</b></u></u>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2009 (Draft)

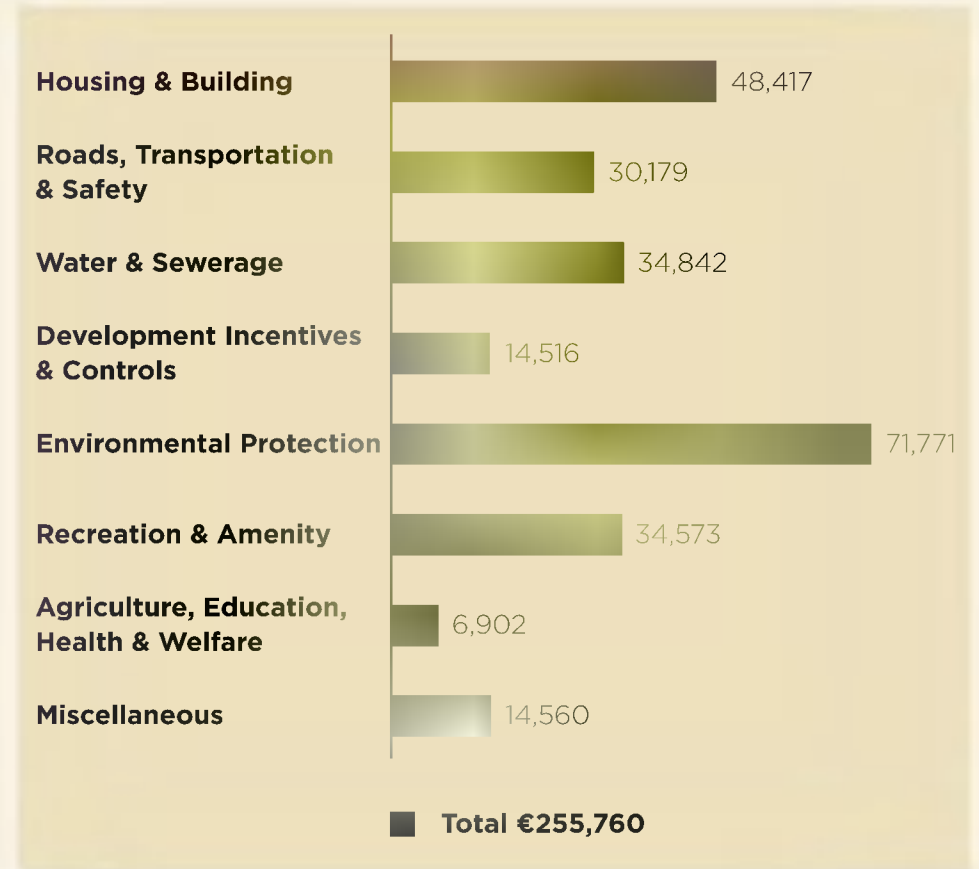
	2009 €'000	2008 €'000
Fixed Assets & Work in Progress	3,747,968	3,699,046
Long Term Debtors	214,212	207,433
Net Current Assets	78,593	105,701
Long Term Creditors	(264,886)	(275,873)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b><u>3,775,887</u></b>	<b><u>3,736,307</u></b>
 <i>Financed by:</i>		
Work in Progress & Capitalisation Account	3,696,442	3,651,493
Revenue Reserve - Specific	11,528	11,528
Revenue Reserve - General	12,070	12,419
Other Balances	55,847	60,867
	<b><u>3,775,887</u></b>	<b><u>3,736,307</u></b>

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



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

### Revenue Expenditure 2009 by Division (€'000)



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

## Appendix 2 - Local Election Expenditure 2009

Name	Surname	Spend	Name	Surname	Spend
Baby	Pereppadan	€6,333.75	John	McCann	€3,741.00
Brian	Lawlor	€5,940.36	John	Phelan	€2,666.00
Cait	Keane	€9,306.78	Karen	Warren	€9,134.65
Cathal	King	€2,995.00	Kevin	Farrell	€7,597.88
Catriona	Jones	€6,922.21	Margaret	McCarthy	€6,900.00
Colm	Brophy	€6,464.65	Marie	Corr	€4,150.00
David	Edgar	€1,446.12	Mark	Ward	€3,741.00
Derek	Keating	€10,644.90	Matthew	McDonagh	€2,003.60
Dermot	Flanagan	€11,300.97	Michael	Finnegan	€3,170.25
Dermot	Looney	€ 4,729.00	Mick	Duff	€6,610.62
Dorothy	Corrigan	€4,599.04	Mick	Murphy	€6,992.59
Eamon P	Tuffy	€7,696.55	Paddy	Cosgrave	€12,601.39
Eamonn	Maloney	€5,492.00	Pamela	Kearns	€4,956.34
Eamonn	Walsh	€12,924.49	Pat	Dunne	€5,980.00
Edno	Cooley	€12,003.90	Robert	Dowds	€8,411.79
Elizabeth	Davidson	€1,849.61	Sean	Crowe	€4,325.00
Emma	Coburn	€5,679.19	Shaheen	Ahmed	€7,540.36
Frank	O'Gorman	€1,075.52	Shane	Moynihan	€11,201.92
Gay	Kelly	€5,412.35	Shane	O'Connor	€4,465.00
Gbemi	Shogunle	€1,200.00	Sinead	Cooke	€2,810.00
Gerard P	Dolan	€488.60	Sorcha	NicCormaic	€1,480.00
Gino	Kenny	€2,600.00	Tara	De Buitlear	€6,471.32
Guss	O'Connell	€5,660.00	Therese	Ridge	€6,227.21
Jim	Daly	€12,325.00	Thyes	Kavanagh	€ 10,919.02
Jim	Doyle	€3,366.43	Tom	Dowling	€4,080.60
Jim	McHale	€1,766.84	Tony	Delaney	€6,597.98
Joe	Neville	€7,229.14	Trevor	Gilligan	€3,150.00
John	Hannon	€9,567.95	William	Lavelle	€8,965.40
John	Lahart	€9,995.32	<b>Total:</b>		<b>€343,906.59</b>



## Appendix 3 - National Service Indicators for South Dublin County Council 2009

### CP: Community Participation

#### *CPI Involvement by Schools in Youth Councils/Comhairle na nÓg*

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na nÓg scheme	34.09
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#### *CP2*

Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	1086
--	------

### C: Corporate Issues

#### *C.1 Percentage of Working days lost to Absenteeism*

Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	3.19
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Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.71
---	------

#### *C.2 Expenditure on Training and Development*

Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs	3.75
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### E: Environmental Services

#### Water

##### *E1A Water*

Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	21.45
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##### *E2A Drinking Water - Compliance with statutory Requirements*

Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	70824
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#### Waste Management

##### *E3A Percentage of Households Provided with Segregated Waste Collection*

Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	100
---	-----

##### *E3B*

Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	0
--	---

##### *E4A Household waste collected and sent for recycling*

Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	24.79
--	-------

<b>E4B</b>	Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	18619.58
<b>E4C</b>	Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centers, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	5029.06
<b>E5A Household waste collected and sent to landfill</b>	The percentage of Household waste collected which is sent to landfill	75.32
<b>E5B</b>	The tonnage of Household waste collected which is sent to landfill	56823.38
<b>E6.1 Recycling Facilities</b>	The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	61
<b>E6.2</b>	The total number of Civic Amenity Centers in the local authority area	2
<b>E6A Recycling facilities GLASS</b>	The total number of Bring Sites	49
<b>E6B</b>	The total number of Civic Amenity Centers	1
<b>E6C</b>	The total number of Facilities for recycling	50
<b>E6D</b>	The number of Locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	1.01
<b>E6E Recycling facilities CANS</b>	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	26
<b>E6F</b>	Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	1
<b>E6G</b>	Total number of Facilities for recycling	27

<b>E6H</b>	Total number of Locations per 5,000 population	0.55
<b>E6I Recycling facilities TEXTILES</b>	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	24
<b>E6J</b>	Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	1
<b>E6K</b>	Total number of Facilities for recycling	25
<b>E6L</b>	Total number of Locations per 5,000 population	0.51
<b>E6M Recycling facilities BATTERIES</b>	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	118
<b>E6N</b>	Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	1
<b>E6O</b>	Total number of Facilities for recycling	119
<b>E6P</b>	Total number of Locations for recycling per 5,000 population	2.41
<b>E6Q Recycling facilities OILS</b>	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
<b>E6R</b>	Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	1
<b>E6S</b>	Total number of Facilities for recycling	1
<b>E6T</b>	Total number of Locations for recycling per 5,000 population	0.02
<b>E6U Recycling facilities OTHERS MATERIAL</b>	Number of Bring Sites for recycling	0

<b>E6V</b>	Number of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	2
<b>E6W</b>	Total number of Facilities for recycling	2
<b>E6X</b>	Total number of Locations for recycling per 5,000 population	0.04
<b>E7A Litter Wardens Employed</b>	Total number of full-time Litter wardens	6
<b>E7B</b>	Total number of part-time Litter wardens	0
<b>E7C</b>	Total number of Litter wardens (both full and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.12
<b>E7D Enforcement of Litter Laws</b>	Number of on-the spot fines	931
<b>E7E</b>	Number of on-the-spot fines paid	490
<b>E7F</b>	Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	116
<b>E7G Litter Enforcement - Prosecutions and Notices</b>	Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	59
<b>E7H</b>	Number of notices issued (under sections 9,15,16,17, and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	167
<b>E7I</b>	Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	142
<b>E7J</b>	Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	65
<b>E7K Litter Pollution</b>	Percentage of areas that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	0



<b>E7L</b>	Percentage of areas that are slightly polluted with litter	0
<b>E7M</b>	Percentage of areas that are moderately polluted with litter	0
<b>E7N</b>	Percentage of areas that are significantly polluted with litter	0
<b>E7O</b>	Percentage of areas that are grossly polluted with litter	0
<b>E8A</b>	Environmental Complaints and Enforcement Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	5878
<b>E8B</b>	Number of complaints investigated	5930
<b>E8C</b>	Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	4887
<b>E8D</b>	Number of enforcement procedures taken	1095
<b>E9A Schools participating in environmental campaigns</b>	Primary schools	84
<b>E9B</b>	Secondary schools	81.25
<b>F: Fire and Emergency</b>		
<b>F3A Total number of fire safety certificate applications received and processed</b>	Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	112
<b>F3B</b>	Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	141

<b>F3C</b>	
Total number of applications deemed invalid	2
<b>H: Housing</b>	
<b>H1A Housing Vacancies</b>	
Total number of dwellings in local authority stock	8870.75
<b>H1B</b>	
Total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	8870.75
<b>H1C</b>	
The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	1.29
<b>H1D</b>	
The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	86.27
<b>H1E</b>	
The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	13.73
<b>H2.1 Average Time Taken to Re-let Available Dwellings</b>	
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	18.77
<b>H2.2</b>	
The Average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	2.08
<b>H.3 Housing Repairs Completed by Local Authorities</b>	
Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	92.08
<b>H4 Traveller Accommodation</b>	
Total number of Traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets sent in the local Traveller accommodation programme	90.7
<b>H5A Enforcement of Standards in Private Rented Sector</b>	
Total number of registered tenancies	13818
<b>H5B</b>	
Number of dwelling units inspected	831

<b>H5C</b>	
Number of inspections carried out	998
<b>H5D</b>	
Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. H5B as percentage of H5A)	6.01
<b>H6A Grants to Adapt Housing for the Needs of People with a Disability</b>	
Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	10.64
<b>H6B</b>	
Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt to the date of decision on the application	21.55
<b>H7A Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Course</b>	
Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses: Total number of new local authority tenants	415
<b>H7B</b>	
Percentage of new Local Authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarization courses	51.33
<b>L: Library Services</b>	
<b>L1A Library Public Opening Hours</b>	
Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	48.55
<b>L1B</b>	
Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries	18.73
<b>L1C</b>	
Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	100
<b>L1D</b>	
Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	83
<b>L1E</b>	
Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	100
<b>L2 Library Visits</b>	
Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000	4068

### **L3A Library Stock**

Annual expenditure on stock per head of population	3.53
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### **L3B**

Number of items issued per head of population for books	3.56
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### **L3C**

Number of items issued per head of population for other items	1.47
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### **L.4 Internet access through libraries**

Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	926.99
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### **M: Motor Taxation**

Motor Tax services are provided by Dublin City Council for the four Local Authorities in the Dublin Area

### **P: Planning**

#### **P1.1A Planning Applications - Decision Making INDIVIDUAL HOUSES**

Number of applications decided	141
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#### **P1.1B**

Number of those decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	90
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#### **P1.1C**

Number of those decisions which required the submission of further information	51
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#### **P1.1D**

Number of those decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
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#### **P1.1E**

Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77.34
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#### **P1.1F**

Percentage of applications granted	46.81
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#### **P1.1G**

Percentage of applications refused	53.19
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<b>P1.1H</b>	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála	63.16
<b>P1.1I</b>	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála	36.84
<b>P1.2A Planning Applications - Decision Making NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT</b>	Number of applications decided	26
<b>P1.2B</b>	Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	17
<b>P1.2D</b>	Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
<b>P1.2E</b>	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	70.89
<b>P1.2F</b>	Percentage of applications granted	61.54
<b>P1.2G</b>	Percentage of applications refused	38.46
<b>P1.2H</b>	Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála	70.83
<b>P1.2I</b>	Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála	29.17
<b>P1.3A Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA</b>	Number of applications decided	691
<b>P1.3B</b>	Number of those decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	557
<b>P1.3C</b>	Number of those decisions which required the submission of further information	134

**P1.3F Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: NOT REQUIRING EIA**

Percentage of grants 91.46

**P1.3G**

Percentage of refusals 8.54

**P1.3H**

Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála 69.23

**P1.3I**

Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála 30.77

**P1.4A Planning Applications - Decision Making Other: REQUIRING EIA**

Number of applications decided 1

**P1.4B**

Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks 1

**P1.4C**

Number of decisions which required the submission of further information 0

**P1.4D**

Number of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicants, under section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 0

**P1.4E**

Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought 0

**P1.4F**

Percentage of applications granted 100

**P1.4G**

Percentage of applications refused 0

**P1.4H**

Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála 100

**P1.4I**

Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála 0

**P1.1A Planning Applications by Category**

Number of applications decided ( individual houses)

**P1.2.A**

Number of applications decided – New Developments

**P1.3.A**

Other: Not requiring EIA: Number of applications decided

**P1.4.A**

Other: Requiring EIA: Number of applications decided

**P2.A Planning Enforcement**

Total number of cases subject to complaints that are investigated 367

**P2.B**

Total number of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed 286

**P2.C**

Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations 173

**P2.D**

Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters 341

**P2.E**

Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices 90

**P2.F**

Number of prosecutions 29

**P.3 Public opening hours**

Average number of opening hours per week 33.9

**P4.A Pre-Planning Consultations**

Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held 350

**P4.B**

Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation 15

### ***P.5 New Buildings Inspected***

Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	29.65
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#### ***P6A***

Taking Estates in Charge The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	19
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#### ***P6B***

Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	5
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#### ***P6C***

Number of dwellings in respect P6B above	926
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#### ***P6D***

Percentage of estates in P6A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	73.68
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#### ***P6E***

Number of estates in P6D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question	0
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#### ***P6F***

Number of estates in P6D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	0
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### **Recreational Services**

#### ***Rec.1 Children's playgrounds***

Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.06
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Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0
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#### ***Rec.2 Local Authority-facilitated Leisure Facilities***

Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	2106.92
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### **Rev: Revenue Collection**

#### ***Rev 1A Finance - House Rent***

Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	79.84
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#### ***Rev 1B***

Percentage of arrears on house rent that are 4-6 weeks old	1.59
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<b>Rev 1C</b>	
Percentage of arrears on house rent that are 6-12 weeks old	4.93
<b>Rev 1D</b>	
Percentage of arrears on house rent that are more than 12 weeks old	92.84
<b>Rev 2A Housing Loans</b>	
(a) amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	95.54
<b>Rev 2B</b>	
Percentage of arrears that are 1 month old	20.46
<b>Rev 2C</b>	
Percentage of arrears that are 2-3 months old	18.92
<b>Rev 2D</b>	
Percentage of arrears that are more than 3 months old	60.62
<b>Rev.3 Commercial Rates</b>	
Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from commercial rates	85.9
<b>Rev.4 Refuse Charges</b>	
Percentage of households paying refuse charges levied at year end	100
<b>Rev. 5 Non-Domestic Water Charges</b>	
Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	43.64
<b>R: Roads</b>	
<b>R1.A Roads</b>	
Number of kms of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the restoration programme per annum	0
<b>R1.B</b>	
Number of kms of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grant scheme per annum	0

\* Fire and Emergency: Dublin City Council is the Fire Authority for the four Dublin Authorities

Source: Service Indicators in Local Authorities 2009  
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