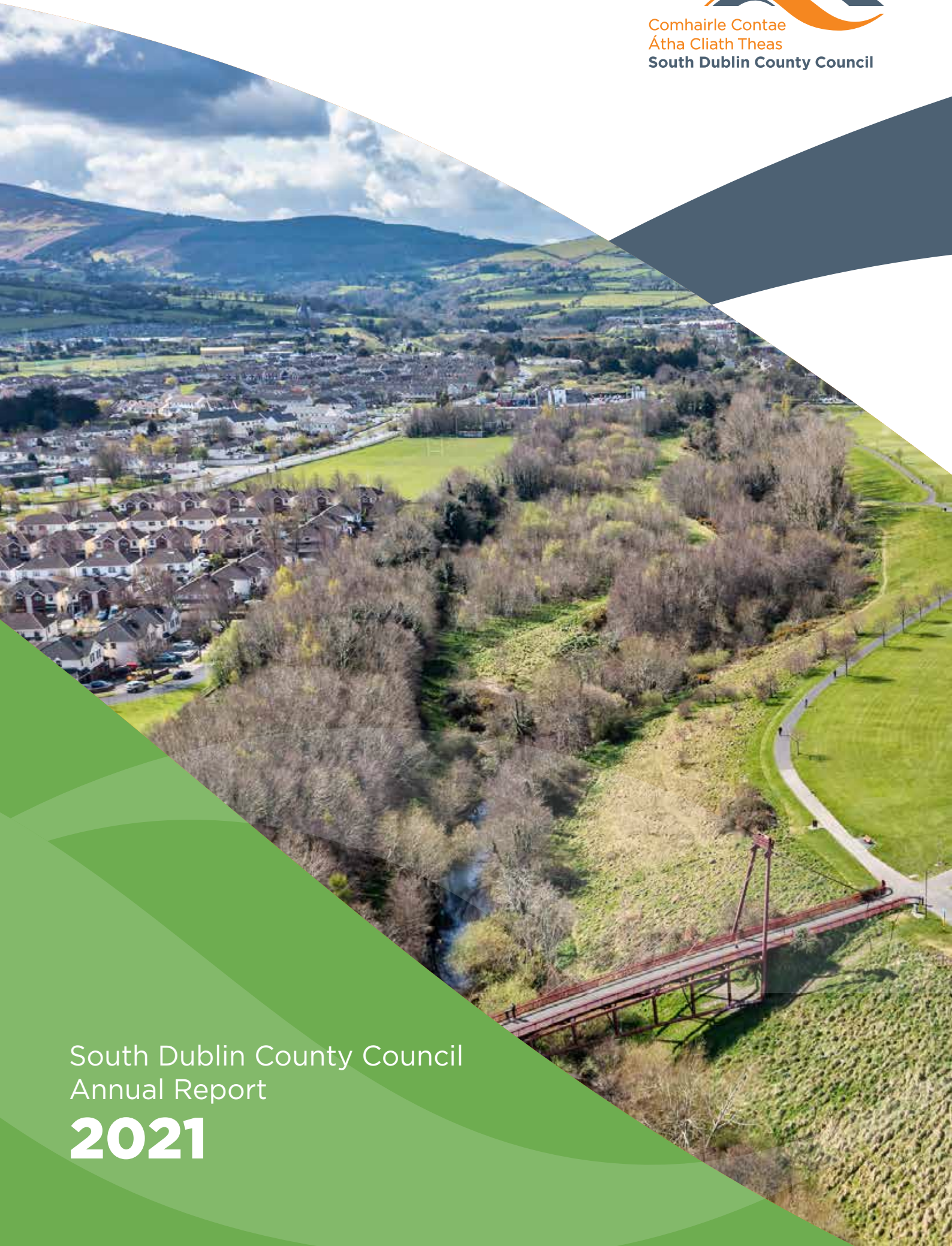




Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council



South Dublin County Council
Annual Report

2021

Our Mission

To make our county a vibrant and inclusive place for the people who **live, visit, work,** and do **business** here, now and for the future.



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Mayor's Foreword



A chairde,

Is onóir mhór domsa é an réamhrá seo a scríobh do Thuairisc Bhliantúil Chomhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas. Mar chéad saoránach an chontae, feicim na hiarrachtaí atá ar siúl ag meitheal agus comhairleoirí an Chomhairle chun ár saoil a fheabhsú. Idir thithíocht agus bithéagsúlacht, sláinte agus slándáil phoiblí, tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag obair go dian ar bhur son.

As Mayor, it is a tremendous honour to write this foreword for the South Dublin County Council Annual Report. As first citizen of South Dublin County, I see first-hand the efforts made by council staff and elected representatives to improve the lives of everyone in the County.

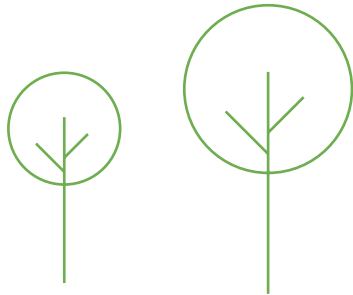
It has been a challenging two years for South Dublin County, and while we are somewhat returning to normality, the spectre of COVID-19 hangs over us, and we are still adapting to a world where public health has taken on a whole new meaning. I want to thank the volunteers and frontline workers who protected us through the public health

measures and who continue to do so as we adjust to another “new normal”.

While we are returning to pre-pandemic practices, such as in-person meetings and customer service hours in the council being expanded, it's important to note that South Dublin County Council didn't stop working during the extended periods of restrictions. Public realm projects, housing developments, work on biodiversity and climate action, all continued during 2020 and 2021, and we are reaping the benefits as a community.

Ireland is faced with twin emergencies, in the form of our ongoing housing crisis, but also the global climate and biodiversity crisis. While much of our response to the first is dependent on central government, the Council's housing plans have seen affordable housing, cost rental and social housing developments spring up across the county. South Dublin County Council has been progressive in the face of climate change, and projects such as the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, Stepping Stone Forests, the Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE Project and the Sustainable Drainage Strategy show that we are not only acting but also getting ahead of the curve and leading the way.

In our Budget for 2022, your elected members prioritised our response to these two defining crises of our time, and we have also drawn up a progressive Development Plan that aims

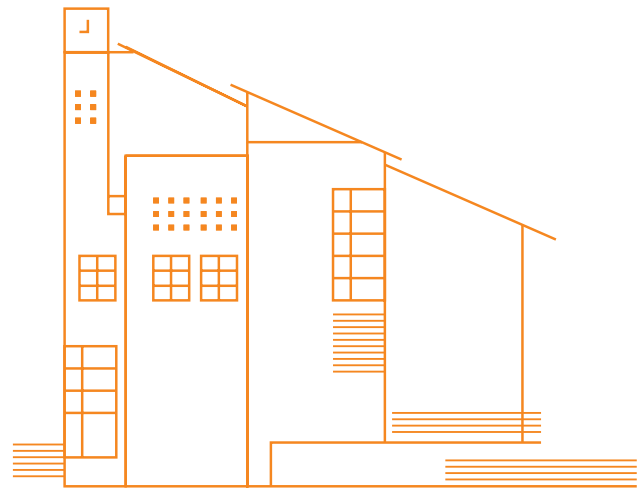


to improve not only the quantity but also the quality of housing in South Dublin County, for those in need of social housing, for older people, for Travellers, for disabled persons. As a council, we represent everyone, and our actions in the last year have reflected this responsibility.

We have been rocked by the advent of an illegal war in Ukraine, and indeed have welcomed the first hundreds of what will become many thousands of refugees. We have a human duty to look after those less fortunate, and this starts at home. We must act as a beacon of hope for others such as our Ukrainian brothers and sisters, but also for those communities in Ireland who are marginalised. South Dublin County Council has done tremendous work for women, the LGBTQI+ community, migrants, the Traveller community, and many other groups in need of additional support. We have also supported local businesses to thrive and prosper through the pandemic and into the future.

I am grateful to each and every one of my fellow councillors on South Dublin County Council. They put their trust in me as Mayor, and I hope I have repaid them. They work tirelessly on your behalf, improving the lives of countless citizens in South Dublin County, and they often go unrecognised for this work.

I want to thank the Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council, Daniel McLoughlin, and



the directors of services within the council, whose willingness to work with communities and councillors underpins all of the progressive actions the Council can be proud of over the last year.

Above all else, I want to thank you, the citizens of South Dublin County. It is your sense of community that has seen us emerge from a difficult period, stronger and more able to cope with such events in the future. Thank you to all the community groups who showed such leadership in the last two years. Thank you to every citizen in South Dublin County. As councillors, we answer to you, and we are here to make your lives better.

“ We have a human duty to look after those less fortunate ”

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine, mar a deir an seanfhocal, agus is ar scáth a chéile a aithnímid go bhfuil fírinne sa tseanfhocail eile, ní neart go chur le chéile. Fanaimis le chéile, níos láidre, níos cineálta, níos sásta.

Councillor Peter Kavanagh,
Mayor of South Dublin County Council

Chief Executive's Introduction



As in 2020 the achievements as set out in this Annual Report must be viewed through the prism of a year heavily influenced by COVID related restrictions and associated considerations. The significant efforts of the organisation to continue to maintain essential services, develop critically important infrastructure and plan for the future, are a testament to all involved.

Across the organisation, working patterns remained both flexible and responsive in compliance with health and safety advice and return to work regulations. Frontline services including public realm, parks, housing, water and drainage and street cleaning adapted their schedules and work to revised rotas. Office-based services followed government advice with working from home applying to between 50% and 85% of staff at different times, as restrictions altered. While organisationally disruptive and personally challenging, it is clear that a hybrid model of home / office working is the future, and the accelerated digitisation of services is paramount to achieving this. Financially, government supports to business resulted in commercial rate collections remaining stable. Other sources of income

suffered, most notably rental income, where the challenges of lockdown impacted heavily on collection levels. Nevertheless, the overall financial position of the organisation remains strong and particularly so, regarding our capital investment plans.

Notwithstanding disruptions, delays and the all-round challenges in both human and socio-economic circumstances, significant progress was made across a range of areas underpinning the core objectives of our Corporate Plan. A range of policy and project specific decisions were made by Council which will further enhance the economic and social wellbeing of the County. Unsurprisingly, there was a continued focus on housing. The Council's five-year strategy under "Housing for All" which commits to the delivery of approximately 6,500 social and affordable homes was submitted to government in December. To this end, Elected Members approved new housing projects at Lindisfarne, St Ronan's Crescent, Pearse Brothers Park, St Aongus Park and most significantly, 620 units at Killinarden. The Kilcarbery development which will deliver over 500 social and affordable homes commenced and will see Phase 1 units occupied in 2023. Three hundred and sixty-eight new build homes were provided in 2021. In addition to new build, the Council also facilitated 802 new Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) / Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) tenancies. We commenced our multi-annual Retrofit

Programme with 117 houses, funded by a €3.2 million allocation from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH). This will complement the Council's own €10 million Planned Maintenance Programme which got underway in 2021, following lengthy COVID delays.

The County Development Plan review process continued throughout 2021. This is the most significant policy document to underpin the Council's strategic perspective for the growth of the County, over the forthcoming twenty years and beyond. In conjunction with this process the Council in partnership with Dublin City Council, are leading the master planning of over 1,500 acres of industrial lands along the Naas Road, east of the M50. Titled the "City Edge" project, it seeks to plan the repurposing of these lands as a new exciting mixed-use quarter, which may well be home to 80,000 people and 60,000 jobs.

Investment in the social fabric of the County for current and future communities is essential to this Council's vision for a vibrant and welcoming County. In this regard, we opened two new libraries in Clondalkin and Tymon, a major new €5 million park at Tandy's Lane Adamstown, and new play spaces in Firhouse, Willsbrook, Whitechurch and Corkagh Park, together with teen spaces in Collinstown and Ballycragh. Planning approval was secured for the completion of Tallaght Stadium, a new all-weather facility in Sean Walsh Park, and the major redevelopment of Corkagh and Killinarden parks. In a first for the Council, we also secured planning approval for a new Intergenerational Centre at Tymon Park which will go into construction in late Summer 2022. Other projects approved through planning for progression by the Council during 2021 included Tallaght Mobility Hub, Rathcoole Courthouse, Dodder Road cycle lane and the final phase of the Grand Canal Greenway.

The progression of our Climate Action Plan continued apace, with the commencement of the Tallaght District Heating Project, securing and spending €21 million on cycling infrastructure, including Phase 3 of the Dodder

Greenway and the further expansion of our urban afforestation and wildflower meadow planting schemes. The cycling projects are part of the Cycle South Dublin Strategy adopted by the Council in 2021, which targets the delivery of 263km of cycle lanes costing €280 million over 10 years. We also submitted a Decarbonisation Zone proposal for both Clondalkin and Tallaght and hope that the proposal for both will be approved by government in early 2022.

The upgrade and enhanced aesthetic presentation of the County continued, with the commencement of the Templeogue Village enhancement project, the planning of major works for Lucan Village and our first district enhancement project at Tymon shopping centre. The second phase of the N81 landscaping project was also completed. These improvements, underway and planned, are all part of our Economic Development Strategy, as is the expansion of Grange Castle Business Park, and the planned Innovation Centre in Tallaght town centre, for which tenders were received in December. Forward planning is also a key component of our Economic Development Strategy.

In total, the Council received provisional approval for €186 million in URDF funding, including €176 million for supporting infrastructure in relation to Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) and €10 million for the development of a central plaza and civic buildings in Adamstown SDZ. This is in addition to the €35 million previously approved for Tallaght town centre projects.

We look forward to continued progress in 2022. While challenges remain, in the context of residual COVID related issues and economic inflationary pressures, there is much to look forward to. We should be confident in our ability to manage the challenges and to progress the development of the County for the betterment of present and future generations.

Danny McLoughlin,
Chief Executive

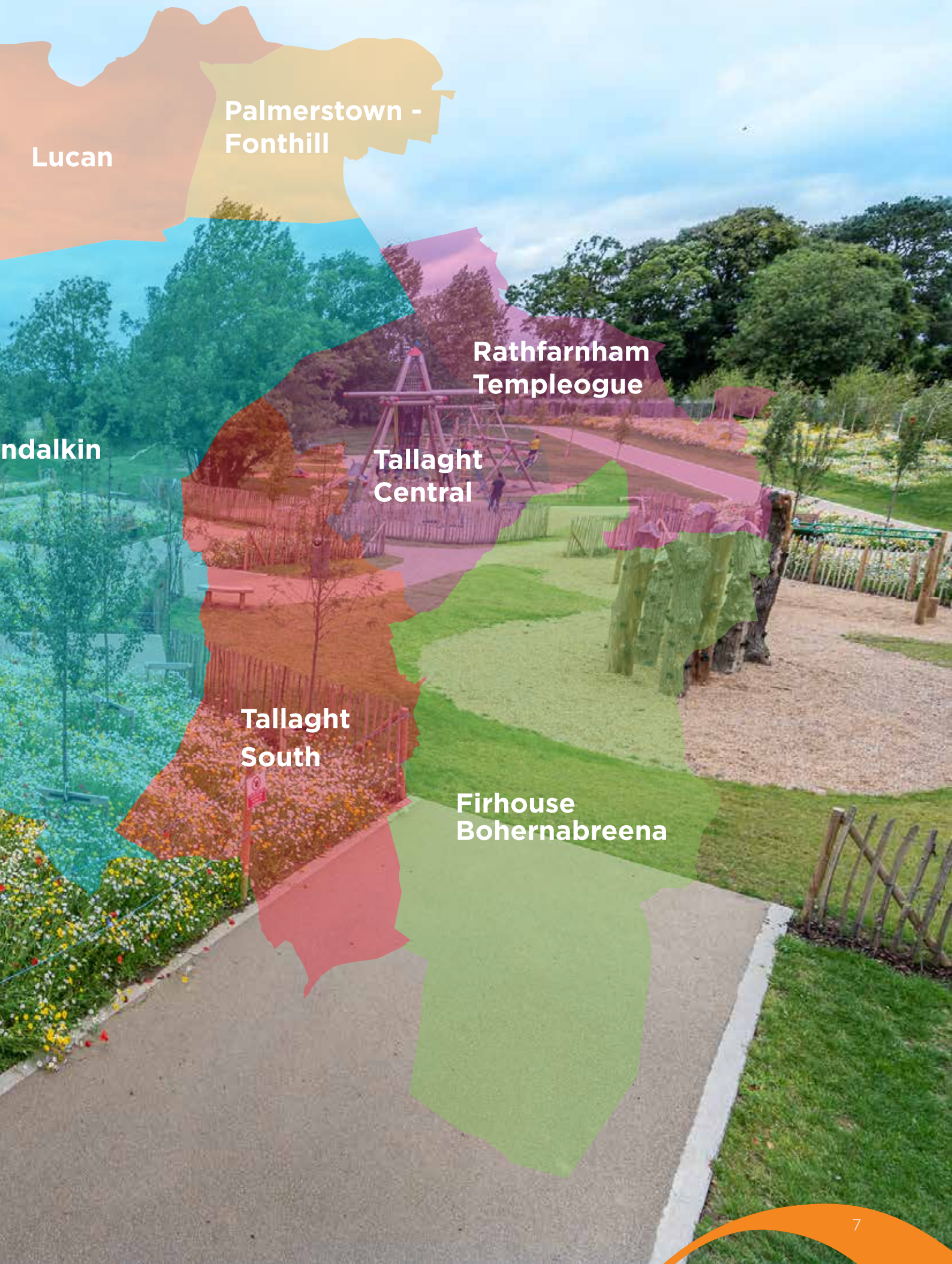
About the Council

South Dublin County Council came into existence on 1 January 1994 and operates in an area of 222.74 square kilometres. It is bounded by Dublin city to the northeast, the Dublin Mountains and County Wicklow to the south, the River Liffey to the north separating it from Fingal and County Kildare to the west.

The County has a population of 278,767 people living in 92,363 homes according to the 2016 census, representing a 5.1% population increase from the previous census in 2011. This is higher than the national population increase of 3.8% and on a par with the level of growth in Dublin City.

The Council is made up of 40 Elected Members spread across seven electoral areas with the Mayor elected by the members annually. Along with the Corporate Policy Group, six Strategic Policy Committees develop and recommend policy to the Council. Committees are made up of elected members and representatives of the business, farming, environment, community and trade union sectors.





Lucan

Palmerstown -
Fonthill

Rathfarnham
Templeogue

ndalkin

Tallaght
Central

Tallaght
South

Firhouse
Bohernabreena

Our principal services

We have five service areas as follows:

Economic, enterprise and tourism development



- Economic development and promotion of the county for investment
- Enterprise development and supports
- Asset management
- Library services, the arts office and cultural infrastructure
- County promotion and tourism development

Land use, planning and transportation



- Development management
- Forward Planning
- Road construction and maintenance
- Traffic management
- Public lighting
- Building control
- Heritage and conservation promotion

Housing, social and community development



- Social housing programme
- Housing allocations, maintenance and refurbishment
- Social services, estate management and community development
- Age-friendly and social inclusion initiatives
- Sports programmes and health and wellbeing initiatives

Environment, water and climate change



- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Major emergency management
- Waste and enforcement
- Water and drainage services
- Veterinary services
- Public realm management and maintenance

Organisational capacity and accountability



- Corporate services
- Human resource management
- Financial management
- Information and communication technologies
- Architectural services
- Legal services

Council meetings 2021

There were 113 meetings of the full Council, Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee, Corporate Policy Group (CPG) and Area Committees comprising:

- Eleven County Council meetings
- One Annual meeting
- Five Special Meetings of the County Council
- One Annual Budget meeting
- Five Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee meetings (including one Special Budget meeting)
- Eleven Corporate Policy Group meetings
- The four Area Committees for Clondalkin, Lucan, Rathfarnham / Templeogue-Terenure and Tallaght each met ten times in 2021

In addition, there were:

- Twenty-five meetings across the six Strategic Policy Committees
- Four meetings of the Joint Policing Committee (JPC)
- Five Audit Committee meetings
- Two Oireachtas Members meetings
- Five County Development Plan meetings



Strategic Policy Committees (SPC)

Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries SPC

Current Council Members

- Alan Edge (Independent) - Chair
- Mick Duff (Independent)
- Kenneth Egan (Independent)
- Alan Hayes (Independent)
- Peter Kavanagh (Independent)
- Teresa Costello (Fianna Fáil)

Sectoral Members

- Ms. Freda Manweiler - Public Participation Network (PPN)

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed
24/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Sectoral recovery • Sectoral Recovery Role of Creative Ireland, Cruinniú na nÓg, Music Generation and so on • Opening of new libraries • “Coiste na Gaeilge” / Irish Language subcommittee • Arts Resilience Bursary
05/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coiste na Gaeilge • Libraries reopening • Joint SPC meeting
01/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of new libraries • Library of things • Coiste na Gaeilge • Creative Ireland • Arts Development Strategy • Local live performances
03/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Quarter • Library updates • Arts update

Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism SPC

Current Council Members

- Cathal King (Sinn Féin) – Chair
- Lynn McCrave (Fine Gael)
- Ronan McMahon (Independent)
- Leah Whelan (Solidarity)
- Ed O’Brien (Fianna Fáil)
- Louise Dunne (Sinn Féin)
- Liona O’Toole (Independent)
- Pamela Kearns (Labour)

Sectoral Members

- Jack McDonnell - TUD Tallaght
- Tara De Buitlear - PPN
- Sherri Brennan - Business Chamber of Commerce
- John Kiberd- PPN

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed
10/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation Centre • Tourism and County promotion projects • Grange Castle Business Park • Tallaght Stadium • Round Tower Visitor Centre • Destination towns and Lucan • Enterprise and business support
12/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID business supports • Development of Food Strategy • Circular / green economy
08/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Enterprise Office Development Plan • Tallaght Stadium • Circular / green economy • Innovation Centre • Grange Castle West Access Road
24/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round Tower lighting up policy • Circular / green economy • Innovation Centre • Grand Canal Greenway • Grange Castle West Access Road • Tallaght Stadium

Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change SPC

Current Council Members

- David McManus (Fine Gael) - Chair
- Emma Murphy (Fianna Fáil)
- Dermot Richardson (Sinn Féin)
- Madeleine Johansson (Solidarity))
- Francis Timmons (Independent)
- Guss O’Connell (Independent)

Sectoral Members

- Una Ruddock - PPN
- Deirdre Mooney - Business Community
- Donal Andersen - Agricultural and Farming

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed	Discussed at every meeting
16/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allotments review • Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy • Climate Change training programme • Flood Alleviation and Surface Water Schemes • Green Infrastructure Strategy • Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living With Trees’ tree management policy • Climate Change Action Plan • Biodiversity Action Plan
04/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management Plan • Decarbonisation Zones • Sports Pitch Strategy • Air and Noise Plans • Green Infrastructure Strategy • Parks and Open Spaces Strategy • River Basin Management Plan 	
07/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise Action Plan • Air Quality Plan • Flood Alleviation Schemes • Casual Trading Bye Laws • Scrambler and Quads Task Force • Green Infrastructure Strategy • Parks and Open Spaces Strategy • Decarbonisation Zones 	
02/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Waste Management • Flood alleviation • River Basin Management Plan • Pollinator Plan • Presentation by Comhairle na nÓg 	

Housing SPC

Current Council Members

- Deirdre O'Donovan (Fianna Fáil) - Chair
- Laura Donaghy (Green Party)
- Kieran Mahon (Solidarity) Joanna Tuffy (Labour)
- Shane Moynihan (Fianna Fáil)
- William Carey (Sinn Féin) Brian Lawlor (Fine Gael)

Sectoral Members

- Betty Tyrrell-Collard - Trade Union
- Sharon Harty - PPN
- Gerry Stockil - PPN

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed
11/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work programme 2021 • Social Housing Output 2020 • Overview of future social housing supply • Traveller Accommodation Programme • Allocations update • Relets update
13/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme • Approved Housing Bodies • Allocations update • Strategic Plan for Housing Disabled persons • Integrated Housing System • Council-led housing developments
11/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing for All • Killinarden Mixed Tenure Housing Development • Caravan Loan Scheme • Allocations update • Housing supply update • Open Data / Integrated Housing System • Healthy Homes Project • Estate Management / Community Development • Acquisitions Strategy • Strategic Plan for Housing Disabled persons
11/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022 - 2026 • Housing delivery update • Statutory Homeless Action Plan 2022 - 2024 • Anti-Social Behaviour • Planned Maintenance and Energy Efficiency Programme • Allocations and Homeless report • SPC work programme 2022 • Housing Grants Report

Social, Community and Equality SPC

Current Council Members

- Trevor Gilligan (Fianna Fáil) - Chair
- Paddy Holohan (Sinn Féin)
- Vicki Casserly (Fine Gael)
- Shirley O'Hara (Fine Gael)
- Charlie O'Connor (Fianna Fáil)
- Carly Bailey (Social Democrats)

Sectoral Members

- Lynn Byrne - PPN
- Daire Hennessy - PPN

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed
16/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Well • Community Grants • Age-Friendly update • Community Endeavour Awards • Work programme 2021
18/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Partnership overview • Equality access initiatives • Age-Friendly Programme • Keep Well • Bealtaine programme of events • Community facility capital projects
21/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Sports Plan • Community Infrastructure Fund • Social inclusion • Home Security Locks / Carbon Monoxide / Assistive Technologies • Estate Management / Community Development • Capital Projects • Healthy Homes Project • Community Grants
16/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme • Local Community Development Committee • Community facilities • Community Sports Hubs • Leisure Center Management • Grants Overview 2022 • Capital Projects • Work programme 2022 • Disability Participation and Awareness Fund

Land Use, Transportation and Planning SPC

Current Council Members

- Liam Sinclair (Independent) – Chair
- Paul Gogarty (Independent)
- Derren Ó Brádaigh (Sinn Féin)
- Baby Pereppadan (Fine Gael)
- Eoin Ó Broin (Independent)
- Yvonne Collins (Fianna Fáil)

Sectoral Members

- Eoin Ahern - PPN

Meeting date	Policy issue addressed
25/02/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Byelaws • Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy • Cycle South Dublin • Biodiversity
27/05/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naas Road Planning Framework • County Development Plan - Green Infrastructure and Open Space • County Development Plan - Sustainable Movement • Clonburris
23/09/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naas Road (City Edge) Planning Framework • Clonburris • Biodiversity Action Plan • Development Plan 2022 - 2028: progress update • Street Improvement Management Guide • Adamstown
26/11/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Improvement Management Guide • Development Plan 2022 - 2028: update on public consultation • Adamstown • Works Programme 2022 • City Edge • Naming of Infrastructure Policy • Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy



Corporate awards

Chambers Excellence in Local Government Awards



Winner of Best Practice in Community Engagement

South Dublin County Council was awarded the Best Practice in Community Engagement award for the public consultation of the County Development Plan and the Age-Friendly Initiative award for the Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age-Friendly Accommodation.

South Dublin County Council was also shortlisted in the following categories:



Supporting Sustainable Communities

Redevelopment of Killinarden Park and new Green link



Health and Wellbeing

Zooming through Lockdown



Supporting Tourism

The Dodder Greenway




Local Authority Innovation

Tallaght District Heating Network



Sustainable Environment

SDCC Pollinator Action Plan 2021 - 2025




Best Library Service

The Creative Studio as part of NCL (North Clondalkin Library)



Festival of the Year

SnaGÁCT (Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas)



Heritage and Built Environment

Grange Castle Pocket Park in Clondalkin

Annual progress report of the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024

Progress on the Corporate Plan Indicators

The following local service indicators were selected for measurement over the five-year period of the Corporate Plan:

	Performance indicator	Baseline data 2019	Delivered in 2021
Economic, enterprise and tourism development	Number of business support initiatives and expenditure	35 / €300,000	28 / €177,017
	Number of jobs created or supported in Grange Castle business park	6,000 (including construction)	7,500 (including construction)
	Number of economic development land disposals	20	1
	Number of active library members	47,462	29,045
	Amount of library space in m2	5,798	7,791
	Number of festivals / tourism events	11	2
Land use, planning and transportation	Number of private homes completed	1,107	696
	Amount of new and upgraded footpaths – linear m2	74,644	68,200
	Amount of new and upgraded cycle paths – linear m2	7,508	28,890
	Village and district centre enhancement schemes completed	1	0
	Number of public LED lighting upgrades completed	1,739	1,561
	% of pre-planning meetings within eight weeks of request	54%	65%
Housing, social and community development	Number of new housing allocations	618	744
	Number of homeless exits / preventions	738	725
	Amount of planned maintenance expenditure	€1.7m	€1.57m
	Number of interagency meetings	39	44
	Number of visitors to council leisure facilities	593,463	210,304
	Number of participants on Council-led sports and health and wellbeing initiatives	136,187	80,600

	Performance indicator	Baseline data 2019	Delivered in 2021
Environment, water and climate change	Climate action initiatives under climate action plan	43	120
	Number of trees planted	1,914	688
	Number of environmental / climate action awareness sessions	131	226
	Number of new teenspaces / new or upgraded pitches / new active recreational facilities	15	11
	Properties protected by flood protection schemes ¹	0	0
	Local authority energy savings ²	29.6%	NA
Organisational capacity and accountability	People on the electoral register	194,497	195,291
	Customer queries received	78,006	83,715
	Customer queries closed within deadline	72,814	74,269
	Members reps (matters raised by Elected Members) received	9,609	10,233
	Members reps closed within deadline	4,925	5,580
	Freedom of Information / Data Access requests responded to	287	295
	Citizens who actively engaged with us through our consultation portal, citizens survey, and participatory budgeting votes cast	6,164	9,410
	Learning and development courses per staff member	2.78	2

1 Flood alleviation schemes to protect properties are currently in the planning process.

2 Energy-saving figures for 2021 are being calculated by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and are not yet available yet but will be included in the final draft.





Reports on service delivery and Corporate Plan objectives

The Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024 for South Dublin County Council identifies five high-level themes with corresponding objectives and strategies. This chapter reports on the progress made on those objectives and strategies under each theme.

1



Economic, enterprise and tourism development

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2



Land use, planning and transportation

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3



Housing, social and community development

Page 30

4



Environment, water and climate change

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5



Organisational capacity and accountability

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Listed under each theme are objectives with key achievements from 2021 listed underneath.

Economic, enterprise and tourism development



OBJECTIVE 1:

Maintain a supportive business environment

- Construction work began on the new **Innovation Quarter** in Tallaght. The Innovation Centre will be a four-storey 2,980msq building of significant architectural merit that provides three floors of flexible office accommodation to support start-up enterprises.
- **Local Enterprise Office South Dublin** offered a wide variety of training programmes and workshops with approximately 2,450 participants taking part in 2021.
- A successful **South Dublin Local Enterprise Week 2021** was held between Monday, 1 and Saturday, 6 March. Local Enterprise Week is a collaboration between local and government support groups, with a common goal in 2021 to help small and micro businesses to meet the exceptional challenges presented by COVID 19.
- **Local Enterprise Office South Dublin** provided over **€2,100,000** in support to local businesses in 2021. This included €926,000 of Business Start-up, Expansion and Feasibility Grants approved and over €1,000,000 supporting companies develop their online business.
- A new enterprise space, '**The Edge**', opened in Bolbrook with funding provided in part by the Council.
- The **Student Enterprise Programme** was held in South Dublin County.
- The Council worked with local hospitality and tourism providers to apply for grant funding under Fáilte Ireland's new **Outdoor Dining Enhancement Investment Scheme**.
- Minister of State for **Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English T.D**, visited the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO) to engage with the LEO teams and their client companies.
- Business support fund financing was agreed for Budget 2022 and the projects and supports funded will be reviewed by the **Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)**.
- **SCENE: South Dublin Creative Economy Network** was launched



OBJECTIVE 2:

Support and Increase foreign direct and local investment in the County

- Continued to work with IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland to manage and promote Grange Castle International Business Park.
- The Grange Castle Conservation and associated Pocket Park development were awarded a Construction Excellence Award.
- Grange Castle Business Park supported in excess of 5,300 jobs by the end of 2021.
- Grange Castle West Access Road, which will facilitate up to 10,000 jobs, commenced construction and is due for completion in early 2022.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Manage the assets of the Local authority in a way that fully supports economic development

- Continued to implement the local Digital Strategy, in line with the National Broadband Strategy.
- The Council's property management function continued to proactively manage and administer the Council's land bank.
- Tallaght Stadium played host to live sports and music events, including League of Ireland, international soccer matches and more.
- Over 72,000 people visited either Rua Red or the Civic Theatre in Tallaght.
- The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media announced funding of €250,000 towards the adaption of Chamber Square, Tallaght, to enable year-round public engagement in cultural events and activities.



OBJECTIVE 4:

Maximise the contribution of arts, libraries, heritage and the Irish language to the citizen and visitor cultural experience

- New libraries in **Castletymon** and **North Clondalkin** were officially opened and a new **mobile library** was launched.
 - A sensory garden in the **North Clondalkin Library** was opened.
- The **Red Line Book Festival** delivered an exciting programme of events to celebrate its tenth year while a separate literature festival, **Between the Red Lines**, was held in February.
- Implementation of the **Library Development Plan 2018-2022** continued.
 - Implemented programmes under **Healthy Ireland**, **Right to Read** and **Work Matters** in accordance with national strategies.
 - Bursary awards were provided through the Council's **Exploring and Thinking Bursary** for early childhood arts.
 - **South Dublin Libraries'** annual **Summer Stars Reading Adventure** was held and **Cruinniú na nÓg South Dublin 2021** took place to celebrate Ireland's National Day of Youth Creativity.

- **Tallaght Library** held its first-ever **ComicFest**, supported by the **Creative Ireland Programme South Dublin**.
- Continued to roll out '**Toys, Technology and Training**' to provide support and additional learning aids to junior patrons, their parents, carers or guardians and other interested parties who may have learning difficulties or other additional needs.
- A comprehensive **live performance programme** was rolled out during the year, which included a landmark live concert in **Tallaght Stadium**.
- For five weeks in November and December, the **Mobile Music Machine** provided a series of forty **COVID Care Concerts** to residents of nursing homes throughout the County.
- **Áras Chrónáin's Seó Beo Arís: The Revival of Live** project, supported by the **South Dublin County Arts Office** and funded by the **Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media** was held in August.
- The **ReFrame Arts Development Strategy 2022 - 2026**, which provides the framework for the delivery of arts services to the citizens of **South Dublin County**, was approved by **Elected Members**.



OBJECTIVE 5:

Implement a Tourism Strategy focussed on new product and brand development

- Progressed a branding and marketing plan to promote Tallaght Stadium as an events venue to include music, festivals and community events.
- Seventeen Shop Front Grants were awarded in 2021 to complement the ongoing village improvement works across South Dublin County.
- Christmas Craft Fairs were held in multiple locations throughout the County.
- Continued to roll out the Tourism Marketing Strategy and Implementation Plan.
- The Council provided Tourism Event and Festival Grants to organisers holding a public event within South Dublin County as COVID restrictions eased in autumn. This followed an Outdoor Dining Scheme in the summer that provided financial support to businesses.
- A new urban outdoor market was successfully trialled in Corkagh Park. Urban Picnic at Corkagh Park hosts street food, crafts, and artisan produce with family entertainment provided to add to the atmosphere.



Land use, planning and transportation



OBJECTIVE 1:

Strategic planning for resilient and compact growth

- Carried out extensive preparation of the **County Development Plan** through a robust public consultation process.
- The Council received and processed **1,036** planning applications.
- The **Cycle South Dublin** programme of work was approved by elected members in April. The programme seeks to progress works on 260km of new and improved cycle lanes across the County.
- The **National Transport Authority (NTA)** awarded South Dublin County Council €20,705,000 for active travel, walking and cycling measures.
- Actively monitored and coordinated the delivery of homes and infrastructure on lands within our Strategic Development Zones (SDZs) and Local Area Plans, including progressing the delivery of the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) funded Celbridge Link Road and Airlie Park and completed delivery of Tandy's Lane Park in the Adamstown SDZ.
- The Council secured first stage approval from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), for €186.3 million of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) to enable the delivery of a series of strategic infrastructure projects within the **Clonburris** and **Adamstown Strategic Development Zones (SDZs)**. These projects would enable the speedy delivery of new homes in these two areas.
- Contributed to the statutory review of the **Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy (2016-2035)** with the NTA.
- As part of a national strategy to regenerate Dublin, South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council launched a joint urban regeneration effort known as the **City Edge Project**. Located at the western edge of Dublin City Centre in the Naas Road, Ballymount and Park West areas and covering an area of 700 hectares, the City Edge project is set to become one of Europe's largest urban regeneration projects. A public consultation and international conference took place to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the plans.



OBJECTIVE 2:

Connect places through sustainable mobility projects

- Turned the sod on a new bus interchange facility for **Liffey Valley Shopping Centre** as part of the NTA's Bus Connects strategy
- Officially opened the **Dodder Greenway Bridge** at an event with Minister for Transport and the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan TD, secured planning approval for phase 4 of the Dodder Greenway and commenced an informal public consultation on the preferred option for phase 5.
- Progressed delivery of a new **active travel scheme** along Grange Road between Nutgrove Avenue and St. Enda's Drive in Rathfarnham, Dublin, and a new active travel and public park alongside the N81 at Jobstown Junction.
- **Active Travel schemes** were also completed on Fortunestown Road and along Monastery Road, which now links Clondalkin Village to the Red Cow LUAS station.
- The **Belgard North Link Road** in Tallaght was completed and now provides enhanced vehicular and active travel connections into the regeneration lands in Cookstown.
- Approval was secured to deliver a **new 1.4km Active Travel scheme** along Avonbeg Road in Tallaght, a contractor was appointed and works are set to commence in January 2022.
- **Part 8 planning permission** was secured for the Tallaght Town Centre public realm and transport interchange scheme and this project moved into detailed design and is set to be on site in 2022.
- The Council, in collaboration with the National Transport Authority (NTA), trialed enhanced pedestrian and cycle facilities along **Wellington Road** and commenced an informal round of public consultation on the preferred design for the permanent scheme.
- The first round of informal public consultation on the preferred design took place for the **Canal Loop Greenway** that would see the first phase delivery significantly improved active travel connections between the **Grand Canal** and **Lucan**.



- Agreed a programme of **School Street improvement projects** for enhanced active travel and traffic calming works at several schools across the County and commenced design works at the first four school locations.
- The Council carried out a public call for applications for new bike stands, following this, **30 schools, 20 sports clubs and seven parks** were identified for bike stand installation commencing in 2020.
- The **South Dublin County Council (Control of Parking) Bye-Laws 2021** were made by resolution of the Council in May.
- Held multiple events as part of **National Bike Week** from 13 to 18 September.
- The **Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG)** continued to meet during 2021 and to oversee the implementation of the **Road Safety Action Plan**.
- The **2021 annual maintenance and upgrade programme** was delivered and included upgrades to; 97,583 sqm of road; 74,985 sqm of footpath; and 14,127 sqm of cycle paths.
- The **Winter Maintenance programme** was carried out.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Through the built environment, promote a sense of community in the different places of South Dublin

- Enhancements works commenced in **Templeogue Village** as part of the Council approved village enhancement scheme.
- Public consultation commenced on the statutory Part 8 planning application for the **Castletymon District Centre** enhancement project.
- A consultant team was appointed to develop the **Lucan Village Enhancement schemes**, which includes two proposals. Firstly improvement works at the entrance to the Lucan Demesne and along the Liffey Promenade and secondly improvement works to the Village Green and Main Street. As part of the design development a series of informal consultations took place with local stakeholders.
- Repair work to **5,543 public lights** across the County was carried out and **1,561 new LED lights** were installed.
- The **Naming of Infrastructure Committee** met twice and agreed that the pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Dodder that links Bawnville and Kilinenny be named the **Jim Lawlor Bridge**. A commemorative plaque was also agreed in recognition of **Dr Noël Browne (Minister for Health 1948 - 1951)** and all those women and men



who fought for the eradication of tuberculosis and the advancement of the social conditions of the working class.

- Continued support was provided for the **national ePlanning tool** as well as the progression of other online public engagement options for the Council.
- Formed the **Internal Steering Group for Biodiversity** to provide governance structures to oversee the implementation of the **Biodiversity Action Plan**.

- The video ‘Clondalkin’s Tangible Threads - Irish Crochet in the world of haute couture’ produced by the Council for National Heritage Week 2021 was awarded a County Award by the Heritage Council.
- Funded seven projects through the **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** for the amount of €171,511 with €99,511 in private leveraged funds.



Housing, social and community development



OBJECTIVE 1:

Deliver quality social and affordable housing across the County to meet housing needs

- Developed a new **Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026** outlining proposals to deliver 3,707 new social homes across the County as well as 2,730 affordable homes over the next five years.
- Approved a development agreement to deliver over 1,000 homes, including 310 social homes, at **Kilcarbery, Clondalkin**.
- **Six hundred and twenty new homes** (including 125 social homes and 372 affordable homes) were approved for Council-owned lands at **Killinarden, Tallaght**.
- Continued the development of **120 new age-friendly homes** in partnership with Clúid Housing at **Springfield and Whitestown Way in Tallaght**.
- Approved three new age-friendly housing developments at **Pearse Brothers Park, St. Aongus' Green and St. Ronan's Crescent**.
- Progressed the delivery of social homes at sites in **Ballyboden, Lucan, Kingswood and Clondalkin** and approved.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Provide optimal and innovative housing management, supports and regulation for better tenures, tenancies and estates

- Management and maintenance of the Council's social housing stock of **9,688 homes** continued.
- Introduced a new online integrated housing system to maximise customer service and organisational efficiency.
- A new planned maintenance workstream was formed within the Council for enhanced delivery of planned and cyclical maintenance and the **Energy Efficiency Retrofit** programmes.
- Continued to roll out a **Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age-Friendly Accommodation**, which was also awarded a Chambers Excellence in Local Government award for an Age-Friendly Initiative.
- By the end of 2021, there were a total of over **4,800 active Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) tenancies** (including enhanced HAP) in the County, along with 1,065 homes through the **Rented Accommodation Scheme (RAS)**.



- Progressed consultation on the new Dublin Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2022 -2024 and continued to work with the South Dublin Homeless Forum to maximise support for homeless persons.
- Administered our €2.9 million allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for older people and disabled persons allocation of €2,900,000 and introduced a pilot new Caravan/Mobile Home Loans Scheme with an allocation of €450,000.
- Four hundred and eleven housing adaptation grants were awarded to make existing private homes more suitable to live in for a person with a physical, sensory or intellectual disability or mental health difficulty.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Lead inclusion, equality and interagency initiatives for integrated and socially connected communities

- Continued to implement the South Dublin Age Friendly County Strategy 2020-2024.
- Launched the Residents' Association Handbook aimed at helping residents' associations within the County set up and run their groups.
- The Social Inclusion Festival took place between 15 and 21 November to promote social diversity in South Dublin County and Bealtaine Festival was held in May.
- The Joint Policing Committee continued its work with community and elected representatives along with An Garda Síochána and the Council in addressing policing and crime issues.
- Provided Age-Friendly Digital Supports to citizens through an HSE Health and Wellbeing grant.



- Supported a community resilience project for the Balgaddy area that aims to improve community safety and quality of life for residents in the area.
- Two hundred and twenty-four Community Grants were issued to community and voluntary groups.
- Supported the launch of a countywide LGBT+ network.
- Provided funding and support for the Creative Places art project delivered in Mac Uilliam estate, Tallaght
- Delivered a second round of the COVID-19 Emergency Fund grants for community groups.
- Supported the South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum for representatives of new communities in South Dublin County to collaborate, network and actively participate in the County.
- Administered an overall budget of €350,000 for the Communities Infrastructure Fund.

OBJECTIVE 4:

Lead a healthy, active and participative County

- Three hundred and sixty-five thousand euro was approved by the Local Community Development Committee under the Department of Rural and Community Development Community Enhancement Programme for local and community groups.
- Continued to implement the Healthy South Dublin County Strategic Plan.
- Over 210,000 people accessed South Dublin County Council's leisure facilities in the year.
- Over 74,000 participants took part in one of 587 sports programmes coordinated in 2021.
- Supported over 3,300 students from 41 primary schools to participate in the Marathon Kids.
- Held Sports Partnership Disability Summer Camps.
- Supported the establishment of three new running clubs in Bawnogue, Clondalkin and North Clondalkin through the South Dublin County Sports Partnership.
- Agreed a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Health under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme to work together to reduce health inequalities by addressing the wider social determinants of health in communities experiencing high levels of deprivation.

Environment, water and climate change



OBJECTIVE 1:

Create a sustainable low carbon and climate-resilient County

- Continued to implement the South Dublin County Council Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2019 - 2024 and reported on its progress.
- Continued to implement actions from SDCC's Pollinator Action Plan 2021-2025. The Pollinator Action Plan is based on the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and it sets out a broad range of actions that South Dublin County Council has committed to over the next five years.
- Continued to support the Climate Action Regional Office and worked together with the other Dublin Local Authorities to deliver Climate Action Plans and regional strategies.
- Construction progressed on the Tallaght District Heating Network and Energy Centre. Trading as Heatworks, Ireland's first publicly owned, not-for-profit energy company, will provide low carbon heat to local community buildings.
- The Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme was granted planning approval and we continued to progress flood alleviation schemes on the Poddle and Camac rivers.
- Major emergency planning training was available online for staff to better understand the Local Authority's roles under the MEM Framework to respond to severe weather and other events. A Rest Centre activation exercise was carried out with Dublin Civil Defence and SDCC Housing and Community Staff.
- Citizen engagement on climate change continued with the rollout of the first Dublin Climate Action Week, National Spring Clean, Dublin Community Clean Up, Eco Week, and Climate Action Workshops.
- Launched a Climate Action Newsletter to keep citizens informed of the climate change-related work being out by the Council and began to develop a new Climate Change section on the Council's website.



OBJECTIVE 2:

Improve the visual appearance of our County in the interest of economic and social development

- The **Derelict Sites Register** was maintained with 212 Dangerous Buildings / Derelict Sites inspections carried out during the year.
- Continued to roll out the **Litter Management Plan 2020- 2022** while using environmental monitoring initiatives to help combat illegal dumping and other litter issues.
- Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park and Rathfarnham Castle Park were all awarded **Green Flag Awards**.
- **South Dublin Canvas** was delivered for a fourth consecutive year.
- Agreed and carried out a programme of improvement works for parks, the public realm and open spaces for 2021 that consisted of 59 minor works schemes areas amounting to a total expenditure of over **€1 million**.
- Carried out actions identified in the **Council's Pollinator Plan** including the annual cutting of 145 hectares of meadowland, maintenance of existing pollinator-friendly flower beds and the addition of eight new pollinator planting schemes.
- Delivered a range of projects and campaigns under the **Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness Fund**.
- Provided the road sweeping and associated services contract including the annual cleaning of all road gullies and the provision of the weed control and leaf removal services.
- Delivered a pilot **South Dublin County Council Climate Grant**.
- Launched a new '**Living With Trees 2021 - 2026**' tree management policy while continuing to operate a three-year rolling programme of tree maintenance.
- The construction of the **second phase of the N81 landscape works** re-commenced following COVID lockdown in 2021 and was approaching completion by year end.



OBJECTIVE 3:

Support a Green Infrastructure Network across the County to provide a shared space for amenity, recreation, biodiversity protection, flood management and adaptation to climate change

- Ongoing implementation of SDCC's Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Continued implementation of SDCC's Sports Pitch Strategy.
- Inspected 14,466 trees around the County while planting 688 and pruning a further 7,537.
- Completed and opened playspaces at Ballycragh Park, Tandy's Lane Park and Whitechurch.
- Completed and opened teenspaces at Ballycragh Park, Collinstown Park and Tandy's Lane Park.
- Officially opened Tandy's Lane Park at a ceremony with Minister Darragh O'Brien. Tandy's Lane Park is approximately seven hectares in size and includes extensive areas of footpaths with seating.
- Completed the Part 8 planning process for the upgrade of Killinarden Park.
- Completed the Part 8 Planning process and secured €1.29million in the capital budget for an Intergenerational Centre at Tymon Park.
- Completed the Part 8 Planning process for an Astro at Sean Walsh park and commenced its detailed design.
- Incorporated SDCC's first Green Infrastructure Strategy into the Draft County Development Plan currently under development.
- Continued the development of a Parks and Open Space Strategy for the County.
- Opened Ireland's first purpose-built callisthenics and functional workout area at Tymon Park.
- Commenced the public consultation and Part 8 process for the proposed enhancements and upgrades at Corkagh Park.
- Progressed the pavilion construction programme and officially opened the Old Bawn Pavillion while launching an innovative online pavilion booking system.
- Progressed the planning for wetlands at five locations in conjunction with the Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE project.



OBJECTIVE 4:

Manage regulatory, licensing and enforcement requirements, including Service Level Agreements

- Implemented National Waste Prevention, Management and Enforcement priorities for 2021.
- Delivered proactive litter and waste enforcement services to ensure high standards of cleanliness in the County
- Developed and implemented the 2021 Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI), Inspection and Compliance Plan, carrying out over 11 thousand environmental inspections across the Waste, Litter, Noise, Air, and Water licensing and enforcement workstreams.
- Continued to liaise with the Eastern Midlands Regional Waste Office in implementing actions and goals under the eight strategic objectives of the Waste Management Plan 2015–2021.
- Progressed environmental monitoring contracts on historic unauthorised landfill sites in the county as well as the proposed remediation of Bobernabreena landfill.
- Managed waste licenced facilities at Ballymount and Arthurstown to a high standard and in compliance with the terms of the relevant waste licences.
- Accepted a total of 30,016 tonnes of waste materials at Ballymount civic amenity recycling centre, of which 14,892 tonnes was recycled and the remainder recovered.
- Monitored compliance under the Control of Horses and Control of Dogs legislation and appointed Midland Animal Care Limited to provide dog shelter services.
- The Annual Service Plan for 2021 was agreed with Irish Water and the service continued to be provided under a Service Level Agreement.
- Joined Irish Water and Dublin City Council at a sod-turning on a new reservoir in Saggart.
- The 2021 Service Plan was agreed for delivery with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.
- Continued to implement the programme of measures arising from the River Basin Management Plan 2018 - 2021.
- Supported the delivery of Dublin’s Emergency and Fire Services.
- Continued the implementation of the Dublin Environmental Noise Action Plan 2019 - 2023.
- The Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 was delivered, setting out 14 broad measures and a number of associated actions to address the exceedance of the nitrogen dioxide annual limit value.
- Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLA) 2021 work plan was agreed upon by the 12 Eastern Local Authorities.

Organisational capacity and accountability



OBJECTIVE 1:

Support the policy and leadership role of councillors in providing effective local government

- The annual Council meeting was held in June and the Budget Council meeting for the 2022 budget was held in November 2021. Over the year 111 meetings were supported across the full Council, Corporate Policy Group, Area Committees, Organisation Procedures and Finance Committee, Strategic Policy Committees, the Joint Policing Committee, and with Oireachtas Members.
- The Draft Register of Electors, which came into force on 15 February 2021 and remains in force until 14 February 2022, was published with 194,077 people registered in the County.
- Council meetings were held online to ensure compliance with government physical distancing guidelines.
- A voter registration promotional campaign was held and a 'Women in Politics' website

section and promotional video were launched to support women running for election in local government.

- The first South Dublin County Council Women's Caucus of the Council's current and past female Elected Members and a programme of work was agreed.
- A 'Coiste na Gaeilge', an Irish language committee was launched and operates as a working group of the Arts, Culture, Gaeilge, Heritage and Libraries Strategic Policy Committee to support and promote the use of Irish among the general population.
- The Civic Honour of Mayoral Receptions were held on three occasions during 2021 for Shamrock Rovers, Rhasidat Adeleke and Jodie Brown of Tallaght Martial Arts to celebrate their significant sporting achievements.



OBJECTIVE 2:

Deliver quality services that treat all service users with dignity, respect and equality

- Customer Services operated throughout the pandemic with staff providing the service while working from home when necessary utilising the Council's online systems and answering phones. In total **74,269 customer queries** were received and responded to, 48,835 of which were Housing related, and 230,507 telephone calls were answered.
- A **Customer and Digital Services Transformation Strategy** was launched and a working group formed of senior managers across the organisation to actively support the Council's **Digital Transformation** agenda and an accompanying **Channel Shift Strategy** to promote greater use and development of the Council's digital services.
- South Dublin County Council's **Human Rights and Equality Framework** was significantly progressed in 2021 with the formation of a cross-departmental working group of the executive and the engagement of Niall Crowley, an equality and human rights expert, to work with the members of the working group in deepening their understanding of human rights and equality issues, further develop the framework and agree their programme of work.
- **Make Way Day** was marked and actively supported with an online seminar and National Accessibility Week in November was supported with events and promotional campaigns highlighting accessibility issues and positive examples in practice.
- **Pride Month, International Transgender Day of Visibility and International Transgender Day of Remembrance** were marked by flying the respective flags at County Hall. A '**Trans Pride at Work**' virtual conference took place in March.



OBJECTIVE 3:

Foster a strong governance culture in the organisation

- The **Audit Committee** met on five occasions during 2021 to execute its statutory functions and to provide assurance on the corporate governance within South Dublin County Council. In addition, the Chair of the Audit Committee attended the County Council meeting on 8th November 2021 to present the Committee's report on their consideration of the audited Annual Financial Statement 2020 and the Auditor's Report. The **Audit Committee Annual Report for 2020**, its **Charter and Work Programme for 2021** was reported to the Council for noting at the Council meeting in March 2021.
- The new **Corporate Procurement Plan 2021 - 2023** was agreed and launched. The **Procurement Steering Group** met on six occasions during 2021 to monitor and lead the Council's procurement activity, including 71 tenders published and participation in 38 Office of Government Procurement (OGP) procurement processes and seven Local Government Operational Procurement Centre (LGOPC) processes.
- Processed and issued 295 decisions in 2021 in respect of requests under **Freedom of Information, Access to Information on the Environment, Data Protection and Ombudsman** legislation.
- The **Quality Assurance Report** under the Public Spending Code was published and submitted to the **National Oversight and Audit Commission**.
- The **National Performance Indicators for 2020** and the Corporate Services Department carried out an analysis of the Council's performance with particularly good performance in the number of private rented inspections and social housing vacancy rates highlighted, in comparison to other local authorities.
- The **Ethics Declarations** for all Councillors and relevant staff were received and the register was publicly available. The declarations of all Councillors were published on the website, along with all declarations of political donations and the Section 142 Register of all payments made to Councillors, including the representational payment, the allowance and tr5avel and subsistence payments.
- The **Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2021** was approved by Council at the February Council meeting and the Annual Report for 2020 was approved at the May Council meeting. The Chief Executive's Monthly Report to Council was presented at every Council meeting and then widely disseminated through social media and the website.



OBJECTIVE 4:

Build public trust through the delivery of effective communications and citizen engagement

- The **Seachtain na Gaeilge** programme of events were held throughout March.
- Twelve community-led projects were selected by the public to be funded in the **Tallaght Central electoral area** through the **€300k Have Your Say** participatory budgeting initiative.
- The **Mayor's Initiative** was held in June as a pillar of light was shone from Tallaght Stadium to pay tribute to all those who have worked on the frontline in the fight against COVID-19 and to reflect on the impact of the pandemic.
- Reach across South Dublin County Council's social media channels was approximately **17 million post views** with engagement with the Council's social media posts totalling over **480,000**.
- South Dublin County Council features **1,140 times** in media coverage in the local and national press.
- A summer and winter edition of the **Citizen's Newsletter** was published, and regular staff digital newsletter updates to support the communications to all stakeholders.
- Webpages on the Council's website **www.sdcc.ie** were viewed over **2,700,000** times in 2021.
- There were **9,410 separate responses** from people engaging in the Council's public consultations and citizen engagement initiatives, a significant increase on previous years.



OBJECTIVE 5:

Develop organisational capacity to actively support the delivery of the Corporate Plan objectives and the local government reform programme

- The Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan continued to support employees through the organisation of numerous health and wellbeing seminars and the Digital Health Platform was available for staff and elected members to better support mental and physical wellbeing. Additional direct employee supports were also provided wherever needed through the Employee Assistance Programme and the employment of the new Staff Welfare Officer. Health and Safety of all employees continued to be monitored and supported through the effective operation of the Safety Management System and the Corporate Safety Statement.
- A series of internal events were held for Innovation Week 2021 to promote, encourage and support innovation within the Council, including the Staff Innovation Awards, launching the new Lean Six Sigma programme across the Council, and hosting a national Innovation Conference as part of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's programme of events for Innovation Week.

- The Council's senior executive team embarked on a strategic workforce planning process across all staff, supported by the formation of a cross-departmental People Strategy Group made up of senior managers and a significant focus on HR data analytics. We also commenced preparations for the introduction of a formal Blended Working Policy to support this initiative while maintaining our commitment to the delivery of the highest standard of public services directly to citizens and local communities.
- The Council welcomed 165 new staff to the organisation to fill vacancies bringing the headcount to over 1,300. We significantly improved the induction and onboarding programme as a result of feedback from new employees and to address the challenges of the pandemic for new employees.
- The organisation was delighted to be reaccredited on the Engineers Ireland CPD accredited employers standard for the maximum period of 3 years following an extensive audit on our CPD programme.



OBJECTIVE 6:

Advance the Council's use of information and communication technology (ICT) through secure, modern, and intelligent initiatives enabling better experiences and outcomes in service delivery

- Supported and delivered Microsoft Teams throughout the organisation to ensure service delivery continued during the pandemic.

- Ensured the Council's cyber security measures were constantly, reviewed, updated and monitored with awareness raised among staff.
- Developed dashboard capability for performance monitoring and reporting.
- Supported project delivery throughout the organisation through the provision of cloud technologies and other online tools and facilities.





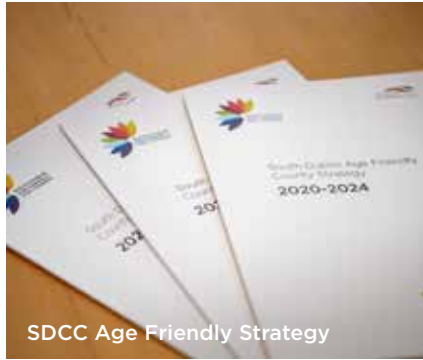
OBJECTIVE 7:

Provide robust financial management and risk management systems

- Reviewed and updated the risk register throughout the organisation.
- Continued to monitor and internally promote the **Capital Project Monitoring System** which tracks the progress of projects to provide reliable and up to date information which facilitates better coordination and more efficient management for the delivery of the projects.
- Continued to develop the **debt management unit** to ensure timely income billing and debt management across the organisation.
- Prepared the annual accounts for audit in line with the **Local Authority Accounting in Ireland Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations**.
- The **Annual Budget for 2021** was actively monitored and controlled with quarterly reports issued to Council and to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The three-year capital programme incorporating projects of **€751 million** was produced for 2022 - 2024.
- Consulted with the public on the **local property tax variation procedure** and brought proposals to elected members for approval.
- The Council adopted a **2022 Revenue budget of €282 million**.
- The **2020 Annual Financial Statement** was prepared with subsequent audited accounts and audit report submitted to Council and audit committee.



Living With Trees Launch



SDCC Age Friendly Strategy



Castletymon Library Opening



Shamrock Rovers' Reception



Cruinniú na nÓg



Accessibility Week



Minister O'Brien Visit to Kilcarbery Grange



Social Inclusion Week at Café Aon Scéal



Africa Day Launch in Balgaddy



Dublin Climate Action Week Launch



Minister English Visit to Local Enterprise Office



Urban Planter



Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme



Daring Dames Circus at Castletymon Library



Lealand Planting Day



Mobile Library Launch



Tymon Park Callisthenics Area



Pilot Pollinator Planting
County Hall entrance



Firhouse Playspace Opening



Red Line Book Festival



Local Live Performance



Corkagh Park Playspace



Staff at Castletymon Library



Seachtain na Gaeilge



Whitechurch Playspace Opening



Community Bus Launch



Minister O'Brien visit to
Whitestown Way



Antiracism Talk for
Social Inclusion Week



Deerpark Community Centre
Reopening



Corkagh Park Masterplan
Contract Signing



Appendices

Appendix 1.1

Financial statements

Statement of Financial Position (balance sheet) at 31st december 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Fixed Assets	1		
Operational		2,156,328,553	2,128,057,110
Infrastructural		1,151,706,525	1,136,198,253
Community		11,385,832	11,631,281
Non-Operational		88,543,225	83,798,948
		3,407,964,136	3,359,685,593
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	2	72,716,391	79,791,799
Long Term Debtors	3	195,246,399	188,130,089
Current Assets			
Stocks	4	-	-
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	55,722,856	63,796,289
Bank Investments		412,170,467	335,370,466
Cash at Bank		9,612,240	36,736,854
Cash in Transit		33,676	33,676
		477,539,238	435,937,285
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)			
Bank Overdraft		-	-
Creditors & Accruals	6	110,200,473	104,107,487
Finance Leases		-	-
		110,200,473	104,107,487
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		367,338,765	331,829,798
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)			
Loans Payable	7	170,396,717	178,147,941
Finance Leases		-	-
Refundable deposits	8	33,858,775	31,814,255
Other		62,958,849	50,677,957
		267,214,340	260,640,153
Net Assets		3,776,051,350	3,698,797,125
Represented by			
Capitalisation Account	9	3,407,964,136	3,359,685,593
Income WIP	2	73,719,608	87,457,637
General Revenue Reserve		12,237,737	12,210,776
Other Specific Reserves		-	-
Other Balances	10	282,129,869	239,443,119
Total Reserves		3,776,051,350	3,698,797,125

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure Account Statement)

for year ending 31st December 2021

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure.

It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division.

Note 16 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Expenditure by Division	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
		2021	2021	2021	2020
		€	€	€	€
Housing & Building		83,654,125	85,988,469	(2,334,344)	(533,100)
Roads Transportation & Safety		30,265,657	6,112,547	24,153,110	21,320,623
Water Services		12,097,928	8,545,179	3,552,750	3,153,833
Development Management		19,473,384	10,995,747	8,477,637	7,666,164
Environmental Services		36,046,397	5,110,257	30,936,140	29,861,290
Recreation & Amenity		38,559,537	5,660,534	32,899,003	31,573,740
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare		1,431,956	601,046	830,911	702,563
Miscellaneous Services		35,377,980	44,243,282	(8,865,302)	(3,342,376)
Total Expenditure/Income	15	256,906,965	167,257,061		
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax				89,649,904	90,402,738
Rates				131,418,709	130,712,588
Local Property Tax				5,449,671	5,440,667
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	16			47,218,476	45,750,517
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	14			(47,191,515)	(45,729,651)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				26,961	20,866
General Reserve at 1st January 2021				12,210,776	12,189,910
General Reserve at 31st December 2021				12,237,737	12,210,776

Appendix 1.2

Entertainment and associated expenses

Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2001 requires that the annual report of a local authority record the expenditure and other particulars in connection with the provision of receptions and entertainment in relation to:

- a.** Distinguished persons, and
- b.** In connection with the holding of special events relevant to its function.

Pursuant to this requirement, South Dublin County Council hereby confirms that this figure was €833.00 in total for 2021.

Appendix 2.1

Current Elected Members

Clondalkin

Councillor Trevor Gilligan	FF
Councillor Shirley O'Hara	FG
Councillor Kenneth Egan	FG
Councillor Francis Timmons	IND
Councillor William Joseph Carey	SF
Councillor Peter Kavanagh	IND
Councillor Eoin Ó Broin	SD

Rathfarnham - Templeogue

Councillor Carly Bailey	SD
Councillor Yvonne Collins	FF
Councillor Lynn McCrave	FG
Councillor Pamela Kearns	LAB
Councillor Ronan McMahon	IND
Councillor David McManus	FG
Councillor Laura Donaghy	Green

Lucan

Councillor Ed O'Brien	FF
Councillor Vicki Casserly	FG
Councillor Liona O'Toole	IND
Councillor Paul Gogarty	IND
Councillor Joanna Tuffy	LAB

Palmerstown - North Clondalkin

Councillor Guss O'Connell	IND
Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh	SF
Councillor Madeleine Johansson	PBP
Councillor Alan Hayes	IND
Councillor Shane Moynihan	FF

Firhouse - Bohernabreena

Vacant Seat	Green
Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan	FF
Councillor Brian Lawlor	FG
Councillor Emma Murphy	FF
Councillor Alan Edge	IND

Tallaght Central

Councillor Kieran Mahon	SOL
Councillor Charlie O'Connor	FF
Councillor Mick Duff	IND
Councillor Teresa Costello	FF
Councillor Cathal King	SF
Councillor Liam Sinclair	ARG

Tallaght South

Councillor Patrick Pearse Holohan	IND
Councillor Leah Whelan	SOL
Councillor Dermot Richardson	SF
Councillor Louise Dunne	SF
Councillor Baby Pereppadan	FG

Appendix 2.2

Payments made to Councillors in 2021

Payments made to Councillors under Section 142 of the Local Government Act

Representational Payments Total	€859,825.18
Area Committee Allowance	€21,144.33
Monthly Payments	€251,777.29
Vouched Expenses	€18,667.01
Strategic Policy Committee Chairperson's Allowance Total	€45,000.00
Mayor's Allowance	€29,892.20
Deputy Mayor's Allowance	€5,979.48
Training	€7,310.24
Conferences	€3,123.37
Other Payments	€1,676.20
Total of Expenses paid to members in respect of attendance at meetings of the County Council and its Committees	€1,244,395.29

Appendix 2.3

Council membership of committees and other bodies

Area Committee Chairs

Clondalkin	Councillor Francis Timmons
Lucan / Palmerstown / North Clondalkin	Councillor Joanna Tuffy
Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse /Bohernabreena	Councillor Alan Edge
Tallaght	Councillor Teresa Costello

Audit Committee

The composition of the Audit Committee in 2021 was as follows:

Eilis Quinlan, (Chair) Quinlan and Co Chartered Accountants
Ann Horan, Non-Executive Director of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland
George Kennington, Partner Audit, Crowe Ireland
Martin Nolan, Director of Compliance and Professional Standards, Relate Software.
Councillor Ed O'Brien*
Councillor David McManus
Councillor Guss O'Connell
Councillor Teresa Costello*

**In October 2021, Councillor Teresa Costello replaced Councillor Ed O'Brien on the committee.*

Joint Policing Committee Membership for 2021

Councillor Peter Kavanagh, Mayor	Colm Ward, South Dublin County Council
Councillor Emma Murphy (Chair)	
Councillor Yvonne Collins	Chief Superintendent Finbarr Murphy
Councillor Carly Bailey	Chief Superintendent Peter Duff
Councillor Derren O Bradaigh	Superintendent Ian Lackey
Councillor Mick Duff	Gemma Carton, Garda Diversion
Councillor Louise Dunne	James Phibbs, Garda Síochána
Councillor Cathal King	
Councillor Lynn McCrave	Sue Dorgan, PPN
Councillor Shane Moynihan	Enda Creegan, PPN
Councillor Eoin Ó Broin	Emer Meighan, PPN
Councillor Deirdre O'Donovan	Trevor Bissett - Drug and Alcohol Task Force Community
Councillor Shirley O'Hara	
Councillor Liona O'Toole	Grace Hill, Drug and Alcohol Task Force Community
Councillor Baby Pereppadam	
Sean Crowe T.D.	
John Lahart T.D.	
Emer Higgins T.D.	
Paul Murphy T.D.	
Mark Ward T.D.	

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Representative	Sector
Private	
Mary Corcoran	
Phil Mulvaney	Community
Tony Fegan	
Larry O'Neill	SDC Partnership
Tricia Nolan	
Gerry Stockil	PPN Community Pillar
Kattia Siles Tomney	
Justin Byrne	PPN Environment Pillar
Aiden Lloyd	
Maurice Walsh	PPN Social Inclusion Pillar
Jessica Conlon	
Bibiana Savin	
Andy Leeson	Youth Services
Public	
Cllr Kieran Mahon	
Cllr Alan Hayes	Councillor
Cllr David McManus	
Padraig Rehill	HSE
Margaret McQuillan	
Deirdre McKeon	DDLETB
Marguerite Gallagher	DSP
Eugene Donnelly	
Thomas Rooney	LEO
Colm Ward	SDCC

Appendix 3

Training and conferences attended

Name	Date	Location
AILG Module 1	16/09/21	Kerry
	18/09/21	Waterford
	23/09/21	Wicklow
	02/10/21	Sligo
	05/10/21	Tipperary
	07/10/21	Galway
Celtic Conference - Health and Safety	24/09/21 - 26/09/21	Cork
Celtic Conference - Mental Health	08/10/21 - 10/10/21	Cork
LAMA Annual Conference	03/11/21 - 05/11/21	Sligo
AILG Module 2	06/11/21	Galway
	10/11/21	Kilkenny
Irish Planning Institute Conference	17/11/21 - 19/11/21	Wexford

Appendix 4

Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty

Section 42 of the 2014 Irish Human Rights and Equality Act requires public bodies to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality, and protect human rights for staff, service users and policy beneficiaries across all their functions. Specifically, public bodies are required to implement three steps:

1. **Assess:** establish those issues that face the identified groups for the Duty that have a relevance for the functions of SDCC.
2. **Address:** check plans and policies at final draft or review stage to establish what actions are being taken to address these issues and what further actions need to be included for an adequate and appropriate response to these issues.
3. **Report:** report annually on progress made on implementing the Duty and addressing the issues identified.

The identified groups, for the Public Sector Duty are those:

- covered by the grounds under our equality legislation: gender (including gender identity); civil status; family status (including lone parents and carers); age; disability; sexual orientation; race (encompassing race, colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins); religion; and membership of the Traveller community; and
- groups covered by the ground of socio-economic status, who are at risk of or experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

In 2021, the Council established an Equality and Human Rights Working Group to guide and monitor the implementation the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty.

To date the working group has:

- Participated in equality and human rights training and training specifically on the Duty;
- Developed an equality and human rights values statement for the organisation which sets out benchmarks for our ambition in implementing the Duty;
- Gathered the evidence for and completed an assessment of equality and human rights issues facing the identified groups for the Duty, and relevant to our functions, in compliance with the first step of the Duty;
- Presented the assessment of issues to a cross section of civil society organisations representative of the identified groups, and received their contribution to and validation of the assessment;
- Drafted the detailed SDCC equality and human rights framework for implementing the Duty;
- Identified key moments to implement the Duty during 2022 which include new strategies, and review of current policies and operational procedures in the first annual workplan developed for the Duty.
- Prepared a draft communications campaign to roll out in 2022.

Appendix 5

Energy Efficiency Report

The Energy Efficiency Report for 2021 will be included once the report has been finalised by Codema who collate the information on behalf of all Dublin local authorities.

Appendix 6

Protected Disclosures

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 requires the publication of an annual report relative to Protected Disclosures received.

Pursuant to this requirement, South Dublin County Council hereby confirms that no reports were received in 2021.

Appendix 7

Local Performance Indicators

Corporate Performance and Change Management

Statistic Name	2021 Totals
Number of Customer Queries received	83715
Number of Customer Queries closed within deadline	74269
Number of Members Reqs received	10233
Number of Members Reqs closed within deadline	5580
Number of Freedom of Information/Data Access Requests responded to	295
Number of Citizens who actively engaged in Council consultations (including consultation portal, citizen surveys and PB votes)	9410
Telephone calls answered	230507
Answered within 20 seconds (%)	94.325
Media queries responded to	348
Fix your street queries responded to	5654
Social Media Reach	16673289
Social Media Engagement	482378
Web pages opened	2275387
Staff employed - WTE	1311
Percentage attendance rate on courses	85.4167
Percentage of Training Programme for 2020 delivered (April to April)	42.333
Apprenticeships/graduates	23
Number of Customer Care Queries/Complaints received in Irish	0

Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

Statistic Name	2021 Totals
LEO - jobs supported	45
LEO - projects approved	32
LEO - training participants	2081
LEO - mentoring sessions	573
Business support grants spend	17116.15
Business support grant spend (projects)	22
Business initiative with Chamber meetings held	211
Shopfront grants paid	64675
Grange Castle jobs sustained	5328
Library - visitors actual	271794
Library - visitors online	99887
Library - items borrowed	681823
Library - computer sessions	10438
Libraries - events hosted	2025
Library wi-fi users	22672
Arts grants paid	130
Arts events hosted	125
Visitors to the Civic Theatre	4884
Visitors Rua Red	67284
GC Jobs (Construction)	788
SDCC Investment in Tourism Projects	9486.99
SDCC Investment in Grange Castle Business Park Projects	0

Environment, Water and Climate Change

Statistic Name	2021 Totals
Grass cut - Hectares	6511
Trees inspected	14466
Trees pruned	7537
Trees removed	521
Trees planted	688
Tonnage of waste collected - street bins	500.34
Tonnage of waste collected - litter/illegal dumping	7235.26
Tonnage of waste collected - road sweeping/gullies	10683.32
Km. of roads swept monthly	930
Derelict site/Dangerous building inspections	212
Number of environment inspections	1767
Litter - fines issued	388
Number of waste enforcement notices issued	77
% of unaccounted for water	36.0525
Drinking water network repairs completed	634
Water pollution incidents dealt with	72
Plastic bottles saved through use of drinking water from fountains	70042
Number of environmental/climate action awareness sessions	68
Number of dogs impounded	240
Number of horses impounded	45
DFB fire incidents mobilised	2000
DFB Ambulance incidents mobilised	14192

Housing, Social and Community Development

Statistic Name	2021 Totals
Total housing stock	9688
Construction starts	10
Construction completions	2
Total housing needs assessed	7233
Allocations - New Tenancies	577
Number of voids	91
Time taken to re-let dwellings (weeks)	29,8758
Total RAS units	1065
Total HAP units	4073
Total units leased	1803
No. of housing grants approved	411
Housing Maintenance requests received	17202
Housing Maintenance requests completed	13933
Number of PRTB Inspections	907
Total PPN registrations	65
Planned Maintenance - units completed	53
Number of community grants issued	224
Number of sports programmes	587
Number of community events	18
Number of sports programme participants	74025
Number of community event participants	1209
Visitors to leisure facilities	210304
BER inspections	0
BER Certs published	0
Mechanical Inspections	1680
Energy upgrades completed	0
Electrical inspections completed	954
Number of anti-social incidents reported	891
Number of actions taken in response to reports	6018
JPC and Policing Fora meetings held	92
Number of Local Festivals supported	0
DPG Works	173
Tidy Towns Groups Supported	1
Number of CE participants	84
% of CE participants allocated	63.333

Land Use, Planning and Transportation

Statistic Name	2021 Totals
Planning applications received - new housing	125
Planning applications received - new housing (units)	2907
Planning granted new houses - applications	45
Planning granted new houses - applications (units)	989
Planning applications housing - applications	170
Planning applications housing - applications (units)	3896
Planning Refused - number of houses	567
Planning applications - other	916
Planning other - number granted	790
Planning other - number refused	58
Additional information requests - all classes	337
% decisions upheld by ABP	65.5
Pre planning meetings held	97
Planning enforcements initiated	244
Enforcement files closed	62
Building control inspections (number of units inspected)	197
Commencement notices received (number of units commencing)	1272
TIC requests received	8
TIC completions	1
Area of footpath repaired in m2	74985
Area of new footpath in m2	1100
Area of road repaired in m2	97583
Area of new road in m2	1440
Area of cycle track repaired in m2	14763.25
Area of new cycle track in m2	14127
Number of public lights in charge	30752
Number of public lights repaired	5543
Traffic lights repaired	707
Public Lighting LED Programme	1561

Appendix 8

Senior Management Team

Chief Executive	Daniel McLoughlin
Director of Corporate Performance and Change Management	Lorna Maxwell
Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development	Frank Nevin (retired); Jason Frehill
Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change	Teresa Walsh
Director of Housing, Social and Community Development	Colm Ward
Director of Land Use, Planning and Transportation	Mick Mulhern
Head of Finance	Ronan Fitzgerald
Head of Information Systems	Tommy Kavanagh
County Architect	Eddie Conroy
Law Agent	Lorcan Gógan (retired); Sean O'Shea



South Dublin County Council
Annual Report

2021

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