



February 2024

Chief Executive's Report

Minister Neale Richmond visiting
County Hall, Tallaght

About the Chief Executive's Report

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

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

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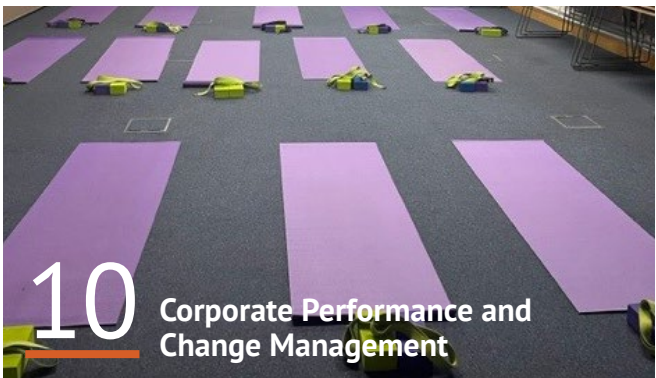
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Land Use, Planning and Transportation

School Street Scheme Completed at St Marks School Tallaght

As part of the initiative to create safe school streets around schools in the County, works at St Marks Junior and Senior NS in Springfield, Tallaght have now been completed.

A Safe School Street operates as a street where vehicular traffic is restricted across the complete width of the road during specific timed closures.

Redirecting vehicles away from the front of schools by means of specific timed closures, provides the safest possible environment for students to access school.

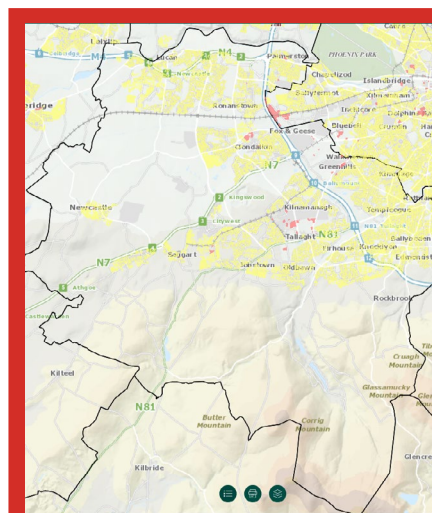
The scheme involved the upgrading of the crossing point to a raised zebra crossing with solar powered flashing Belisha beacons. It also included the installation of traffic calming

measures and the installation of pencil bollards, narrowing the carriageway to prevent parking on the road in front of the school, making that road now significantly safer than before for all road users, particularly school children and other vulnerable road users.

A School Street can either be fully pedestrianised or restrict vehicular access during termtime at fixed drop-off and pick-up times. The timings of restrictions should be determined by the school and those who need access to the street.

The project team from SDCC Active Travel worked closely with the School Community, the Principal, and the Church, to ensure a successful scheme could be completed. The road outside the school is now much calmer and

the speed along the stretch of the road outside the school as observed on site has significantly reduced.



South Dublin RZLT Map

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The first annual Residential Zoned Land Tax map was published in December 2023 with the tax to be payable from 2024 and collected by the Revenue Commissioners.

However, Budget 2023 changed the liability date so that the tax is deferred to 2025. The Council is now required to publish an updated map which will be consulted on from 1st February to 1st April 2024. The map will identify land meeting relevant criteria to be subject to the residential zoned land tax.

Submissions can be made seeking inclusion or exclusion or to seek a variation to the development plan where relevant.

Dublin Mountains Archaeology

The 'Dublin Mountains Community Archaeology' (DCMA) initiative is a partnership project involving SDCC, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP), and the Heritage Council. The mountains support a rich archaeological heritage which has not been promoted in an accessible way to the many visitors availing of the area's outdoor recreational opportunities. An increase in visitor numbers has also resulted in increased risk to the protection of the archaeological record.

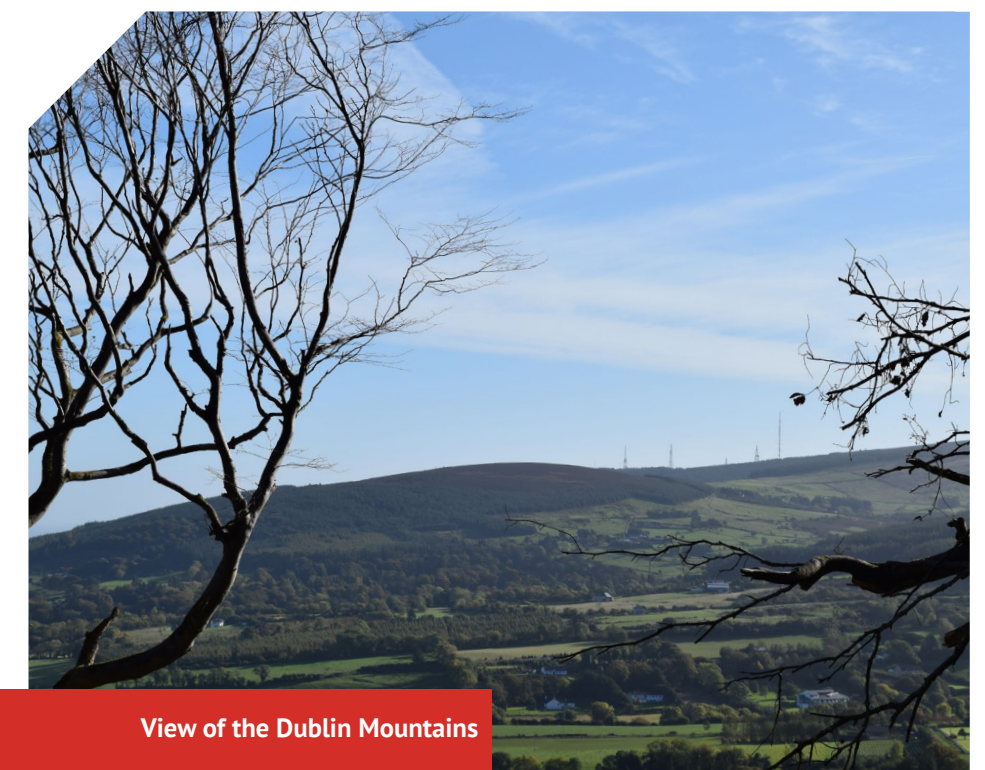
The key aims of the project are to promote better understanding of the rich archaeological resource of the Mountains, and to encourage appropriate engagement between visitors and the archaeological record. Through the provision of online information events, guided walks, stakeholder training programmes, the development of educational resources and the development of a Dublin Mountains Heritage Trail, the DMCA project is offering a co-ordinated approach for the project partners in which to effectively address shared corporate objectives.



Opening of Dodder Phase 4

The Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan TD, joined Mayor Alan Edge and local Councillors to open the Dodder Greenway Phase 4 at Dodder Road Lower in Rathfarnham.

Works on Phase 4 of the Greenway commenced in May 2022, and it runs from Springfield Avenue, along Dodder View Road and Dodder Road Lower. The project involved reduction of the vehicle carriageway width and construction of new footpaths and a new two-way grade separated. This phase brings the Greenway to Ely's Arch which is the County boundary with DLR and DCC. From here the project will continue into the city centre.



View of the Dublin Mountains



Housing, Social and Community Development

Active South Dublin Amateur Sports Awards

The Active South Dublin Amateur Sports Awards 2023, in association with The Echo, celebrated the outstanding achievements and contributions of athletes, coaches, and sports organisations from South Dublin on Thursday 25th January at an evening reception in the Plaza Hotel.

Now in its 16th year, the event was attended by Mayor Alan Edge, Colm Ward, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council and Louise Burke and Benny Cullen from Sport Ireland.

This important event recognised excellence across a diverse range of sports, from team-based sports to individual accomplishments.

The event not only honoured athletes but also fostered a sense of pride and unity among participants, who are

residents of the County, highlighting the positive impact of sports and participation on our local communities

The overall team of the year award went to Peamount United Senior Women's team (pictured above), who won the Women's Premier Division trophy for the fourth time in their history in November last year.

Ellen Walsh of Templeogue Swimming Club (right) picked up the overall Individual award on the night. Ellen has recently returned from claiming two titles in fifteen minutes at the Flanders Swimming Cup in Antwerp, Belgium.

The Olympian was presented with the award by Mayor Alan Edge and William O'Connor, News Editor with The Echo Newspaper.



Ellen Walsh winning the overall individual award

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Changes to the eligibility criteria of the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme 2016 came into effect on 29th January.

The changes include that the minimum reckonable income to qualify for the Scheme is now €11,000 and that in the case of joint applications, one of the two tenants must be in receipt of social housing supports for a period of ten years before making an application.

Further information relating to the scheme is available on www.sdcc.ie or alternatively the sales scheme team can be contacted at hloanacc@sdublincoco.ie.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project at Sarsfield Close, Lucan

Works commenced in October 2023 to upgrade four blocks of maisonette-style buildings in Sarsfield Close, Lucan.

This project under the national Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme with funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, includes upgrades such as installation of heat pumps, external and attic insulation and new windows.

Three of the four blocks are now complete with the final block due to commence shortly.

The buildings, which were constructed in 1970 and had a BER rating of G, have now been upgraded to an efficient B2 BER rating while additional works were also undertaken to improve the security and aesthetic of the buildings for residents.

Feedback from residents on the works has been really positive to date, with before and after images below demonstrating the external improvements to one of the blocks.



Community Grants 2024

The Community Grants Programme is now live and will remain open until 21 October. This Programme aims to provide financial assistance to Community and Voluntary Groups responding to locally identified needs within their communities. Funding can be sought for running costs, minor and major equipment as well as IT Infrastructure, while applications for event funding can be made to deliver Community/Village and Seasonal Festivals.

The Community Grants Booklet and Online Application form can be accessed through the Council's website. For further information and advice, contact Community Services on 01-4149270 or Community Development on 01-4149156, or by email at: communitygrants@sdublincoco.ie



Energy retrofit at Sarsfield Close, Lucan



Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

Library Lab: Make 2024 a Year of Discovery!

Budding scientist, tech enthusiast, or just curious about the world?

Library Lab is a new year long events programme from South Dublin Libraries, bringing together the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, arts, and maths.

This programme aims to amplify existing STEAM initiatives in our libraries, promoting digital learning resources, including the award winning Think Big Space and our state-of-the-art Maker Space facilities.

These innovative spaces are not just physical locations; they are gateways to imagination, creation, and exploration.

Library Lab envisions a collaborative learning experience, bridging the gap between classrooms and communities.

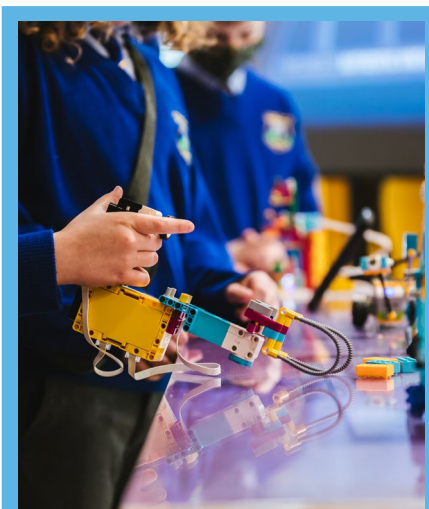
The programme will feature a mix of school-centric activities and public events, offering students, educators, and the general public opportunities to explore, create and connect.

Library Lab will cater to learners of all ages, with interactive workshops designed to create an inclusive environment for all to engage with STEAM events.

From explosive science shows and star gazing, to robotic coding workshops and biodiversity walks, Library Lab will offer a diverse range of experiences for all interests.

The programme kicks off in March with themed events scheduled for Engineers Week and Irish Astronomy Week.

For updates on the Library Lab programme, follow South Dublin Libraries on social media and see southdublinlibraries.ie.



Library Lab Robotics Coding

A Good Night's Sleep - Rua Red

This bold and colourful installation, running until the 2nd of March, has been created by artist Morag Myerscough working with the Irish Refugee Council's Youth Service, DoubleTake Studio, New Horizon HUB, and the Tallaght Ukrainian community. It was commissioned by Rua Red to explore the multifaceted theme of 'belonging'.

Over ten months, participants shared their hopes, dreams, fears and struggles, through colour, word, and sound. Weaving together these journeys, Morag designed a series of built enclosures that represent a safe, secure, and warm space that forms the basis for A Good Night's Sleep.



Empowering Neurodiversity Toys at South Dublin Libraries

Empowering Neurodiversity

The recently launched Neurodiverse South Toy Collection is a specialised collection of resources available for free borrowing at any branch of South Dublin Libraries.

Aiming to provide support for children and adults with neurodiverse needs, learning difficulties, disabilities, or complex needs, the collection includes resources in the categories of core developmental aids, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, language communication and social skills, play and life skills, and sensory and tactile aids.

The Neurodiverse South project also includes an annual series of free lectures and workshops. These events offer guidance, support and networking opportunities for parents, teachers, and healthcare professionals.

The project adds to a range of measures in our libraries to make them welcoming spaces for all, including regular sensory times, and the provision of Cubbie sensory regulation spaces. For up-to-date details on the Neurodiverse South Project see southdublinlibraries.ie



Showcase 2024 Trade Fair

One of the country's largest international trade fairs, Showcase 2024 welcomed almost 400 exhibitors and more than 4,000 buyers from Ireland and overseas. Upwards of €25 million in sales orders were expected to be transacted over the three days, with even more anticipated to be generated throughout the year due to the event.

It was a really successful event for LEO South Dublin, with eight of its clients asked to participate in this highly prestigious international event: Thomp2 Socks; Naturally Quirky; Donna McGee Artist; the Crochet Dolls; Bear's Little Fish; Jo Lawless, Goose & Gander as well as Eimear Fahey; Accessories for Babies.



Corporate Performance and Change Management

Workplace Wellbeing on Blue Monday

Blue Monday typically refers to the third Monday of January, considered by some as the most depressing day of the year. The Councils Health and Wellbeing Team organised an event to tackle the January Blues for staff.

In order to encourage staff to focus on self-care, connect with colleagues, and engage in positive activities; Yoga and Chair Massages were organised. Six Yoga classes were held throughout the day while also providing sound bath therapy, to encourage relaxation techniques and breathing techniques to calm the mind, with seventy two staff members attending.

The other activity that was organised was chair massages offered by "Mind Well". There were six therapists on the day offering neck, head, and shoulder massages that lasted 15 minutes. The massages released tension and reset staff members

for the day ahead. It proved a huge success with one hundred and six staff attending.

South Dublin County Council recognises the importance of Staff wellbeing and ultimately, while Blue Monday might be a symbolic day, addressing health and wellbeing concerns is a year-round commitment that goes beyond a single day.

The Council intends to constantly promote a working culture that values the health and wellbeing of all its staff by continuing health and wellbeing promotion in the form of webinars, seminars, health screening, cancer talks, and smoking cessation groups throughout 2024.

During 2023 the Council facilitated workplace wellbeing day, three extremely successful smoking cessation groups.

Two smoking cessation groups took place

in County Hall, while one took place in Ballymount Depot. The First smoking cessation of 2024 has just begun in Tymon Depot.



Mindwell Chair Massage

MyCoCo.ie Online Payments

In February, South Dublin County Council will begin to facilitate online payments in partnership with [MyCoCo.ie](https://mycoco.ie). This new system will initially facilitate rates payments online.

Connecting Government 2030 sets out the digital and ICT strategy for Ireland's Public Service; this is a vision of how government services will be presented and used in the future. A key objective of this vision is that 90% of applicable local government services will be consumed online by 2030.

It is the Council's objective to provide a genuine digital transformation of services, a channel shift to online provision and a focus on outcome-based delivery.

Referendums March 2024

On 8th March 2024, Irish citizens will be asked to vote in two referendums to make changes to the Constitution. This follows the publication of the Thirty-ninth Amendment of the Constitution (The Family) Bill 2023 and the Fortieth Amendment of the Constitution (Care) Bill 2023.

There will be two separate votes on whether to make proposed changes to the current text of Article 41 of the Constitution.

The first referendum concerns the concept of family in the Constitution while the second referendum proposes to delete an existing part of the Constitution and insert new text providing recognition for care provided by family members to each other.

To ensure that you can vote in these referendums, you can register or change your current voter registration details by logging on to www.voter.ie before 20th February 2024.

For more information relating to these referendums, please visit www.electoralcommission.ie.



Recruitment Update

Our recruitment continues with various positions open for applications during February including Librarian, Graduate Planner, Sports Inclusion Disability Officer and Project Manager. Prospective candidates looking for a career with the Council should register for job alerts on our recruitment portal, www.sdccjobs.ie.

Competitions recently closed for other positions such as Executive Technician, Assistant Planner, Graduate Engineer and Assistant Parks Superintendent while two recent graduates also recently starting working with us under the Willing Able Mentoring (WAM) work placement programme. This supports access to work opportunities for graduates with disabilities while building employer capacity to integrate disability into workplaces.

MARCH 8 FRIDAY

Referendums on Family and Care
Your independent guide

Find us online
electoralcommission.ie/referendums

Electoral Commission Booklet on the upcoming Referendums



Environment, Water and Climate Change

Council to spend €1.9 Million on Minor Improvement Works in 2024

The draft programme of minor improvement works in the public realm has been presented to the elected members at the January meetings of the four local area committees of the Council.

The draft programme this year consists of 68 schemes, including schemes for the provision of:

- New footpaths and footpath improvements.
- The installation of public lighting schemes in open spaces.
- Improvements on accesses to open spaces and entrances to parks.
- Improvement to parks and open space boundaries.
- Landscaping improvement works.
- Small planting schemes including the development of two mini woodlands.

- The provision of a boules court
- Provision of a dog run and improvements to one existing dog run.
- Development of a sensory garden.
- Provision of water fountains in a number of locations
- The replacement of a pedestrian bridge in one park location.

The budget provision for this programme of works was substantially increased in 2023 to offset the impact of inflation.

That increase in provision has been retained and built upon further in 2024 with the provision for this programme of works now increasing to €1.9m this year.

The draft programme of works will be presented to the elected members

of the Council at the monthly meeting in February, following which, implementation of the schemes will commence.

Recycle your plastic drinks bottles & cans to reclaim your deposit.



New deposit return scheme launched

New Deposit Return Scheme

The new Deposit and Return Scheme (DRS) for plastic bottles and aluminium cans is now live across the County. It works by charging a small deposit to anyone who buys PET bottles or Aluminium and Steel beverage containers from 150ml to 3litre's. The deposit rate is set at 15c for up to 500ml and 25c for between 500ml and three litres. Customers get this deposit back when they return the container to a retailer or other collection point. Over 40 countries have successfully introduced DRS's with 13 in Europe that have an average return rate of 90%. Further details can be found at www.re-turn.ie

Dublin Mountains Makeover

SDCC, as part of the Dublin Mountains Partnership, has partnered with Coillte, the Forestry Service, and other partners in the delivery of the Dublin Mountains Makeover. Coillte owns and manages approx. half of the forests in the Dublin Mountains and since 2020 has been transitioning nine forests away from a clearfell and re-plant cycle towards a sustainable 'Continuous Cover Forest' model.

Continuous Cover Forestry, coupled with the gradual replacement of some coniferous forest with mixed species broadleaf forest, has enormous benefits for biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation and the environment generally.

In addition, this plan has benefits for amenity and recreation, as these forests; with a mix of native species such as Scots Pine, birch, rowan, holly and willow, provide increased colour, interesting habitats and variety for visitors to enjoy. This work started in 2020 and will continue over many years. Further details are available at: <https://www.coillte.ie/coillte-nature/ourprojects/dublinmountainsmakeover/>



Christmas Decoration Winners

Winners of the Christmas Decorations Competition received their prizes from the Mayor on Monday 15th January. The challenge is for kids to make Christmas Tree Decorations out of recycled materials, aiming to get children and their parents thinking about how to reuse and recycle materials that might otherwise be thrown away. The competition is run annually by the Environmental Awareness team to encourage the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste materials in schools and at home. This year we had over 80 entries from ten different schools. The under nine winner was Kayla Adel from St Ronans NS, Clondalkin. The over nine winner was Willow Devoy, Rathfarnham Parish NS.



Dublin Mountains "Continuous Cover Forestry"

Minister Neale Richmond visits Local Enterprise Office South Dublin



In January, Local Enterprise Office South Dublin had the pleasure of welcoming Minister Neale Richmond TD, Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment with special responsibility for Business, Employment and Retail, to County Hall, Tallaght.

The focus of the visit was for the Minister to hear from the LEO South

Dublin team about its key local activities and to meet with a selection of clients who are supported by the Local Enterprise Office and the Council. Five LEO clients were present and they gave Minister Richmond an overview of their successful business stories and how the LEO had helped their develop and grow their business through a range of financial supports, training

and mentoring.

The LEO clients present were:
Bernard Ryan – Steplift Engineering
Supplier of material handling solutions across Ireland and across a wide range of industry sectors.

Carol Diaz Rosario – Latin Street Kitchens
Produces empanadas for the retail and food services sector and

Local Enterprise Week 2024

The Annual Local Enterprise Week will take place from Monday 4th to Friday 8th March 2024.

Local Enterprise Week, which is run every year by the 31 Local Enterprise Offices across the Country, will provide opportunities for Small and Medium sized businesses to engage and participate in workshops, seminars with expert speakers, training and networking sessions across the week.

currently listed at selected SuperValu stores.

Ciara Yeates – Serigarf

Providing a complete range of printing systems, consumables and services for the screen printing, heat transfer, dye sublimation, sandcarving, pad printing and embroidery industries to enable customers to fully decorate and customise their products.

Ciaran Maguire – Love Earth Green Solutions

Designer and creator of pioneering copyright technology that will change how we track our carbon footprint and monitor the positive impact we can have on our environment.

Feebee Foran – Forager

Harnessing the healing powers of wild Irish herbs, Forager produce collections of small batch, hand poured balms made with foraged native Irish wild herbs and 100% natural ingredients.

Now in its tenth year, the Local

Enterprise Office network is well established in its remit as the “first-stop shop” for advice and information to help start or develop business.

LEO South Dublin and the wider national network have a solid record of achievement in this period and will once again hold the showcase annual Local Enterprise Week during March.

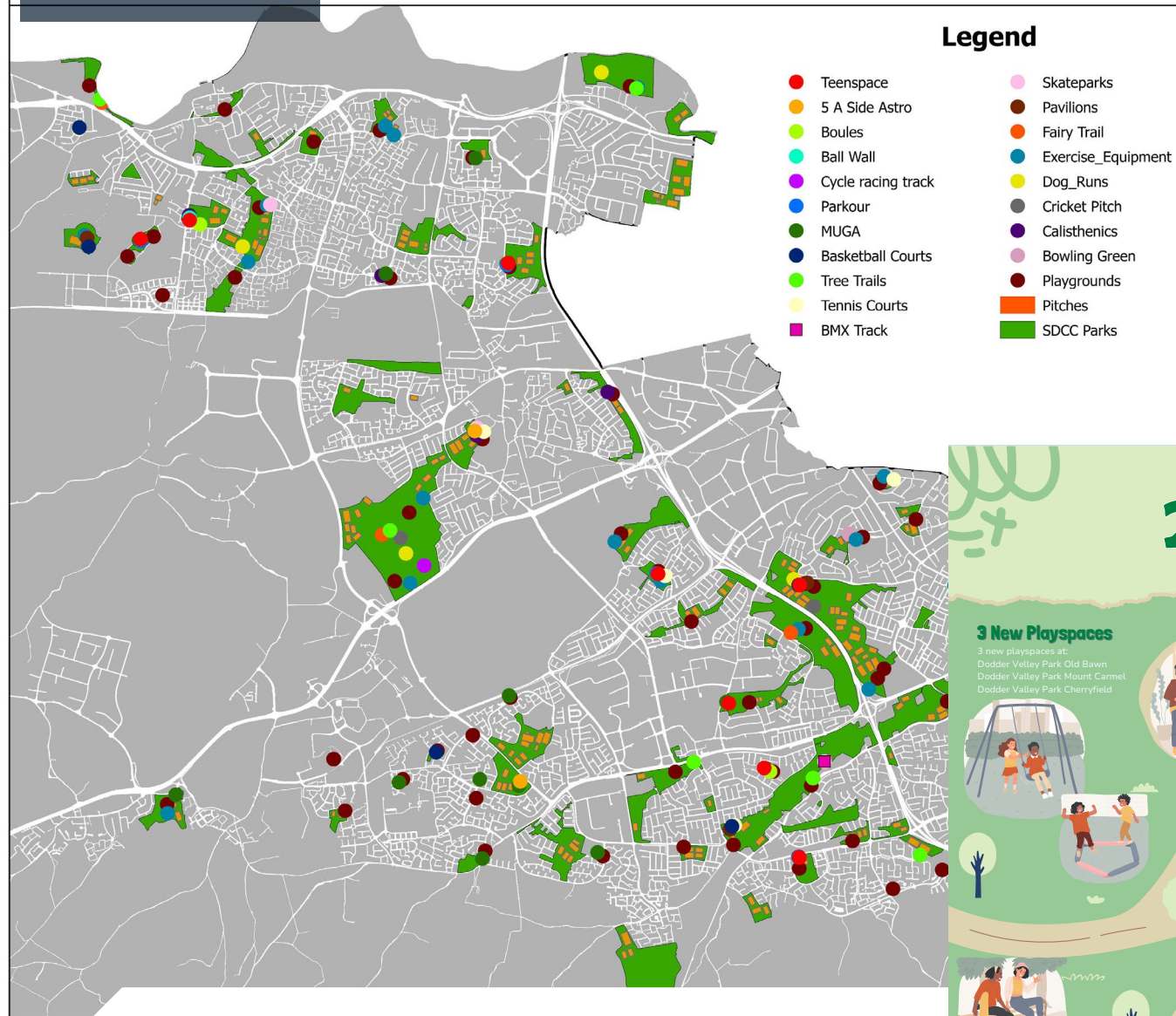
This showcases the supports available from LEO as well as providing opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses to participate in workshops, seminars with expert speakers, training and networking sessions from Monday 4th to Friday 8th March as well as the headline Local Enterprise Awards event which showcases and celebrates the achievements of the LEO South Dublin client portfolio.



Minister Neale Richmond at County Hall

Stay Active in SDCC Public Parks

SDCC Parks and Facilities



Active South Dublin: Park Events:

- 24th February: Couch to 3k events in Dodder Valley & Corkagh Park
- Operation Transformation 5k, Corkagh Park. To celebrate the end of Operation Transformation & our walking groups we will organise an event at the end of Feb/early March.
- Orienteering course: Clondalkin Park. The goal of this course is to provide participants with the knowledge to teach an orienteering session in their own setting.

Plus regular on-going events:
- Five weekly adult parkruns
- One family/children's parkrun.

For more information please contact:
info@activesouthdublin.ie

last year at Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght and both facilities can be booked at the following link: <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/sport-and-recreation/playing-pitches-and-facilities/book-3g-artificial-grass-pitch/>

SDCC has 55 playgrounds and playspaces in our parks and open spaces.

The recent teenspace programme for older children has seen the completion of eight teenspaces and several additional teenspaces are planned for 2024. Four of the teenspaces currently provide parkour facilities; at Tandy's Lane Park, Collinstown Park, Kingswood and Ballycragh Park.

There are 13 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and three skateparks available across the County. There are 16 open spaces with outdoor exercise equipment and another six callisthenic areas.

SDCC also provide and maintain 186 sports pitches, including GAA, rugby, soccer, cricket, hockey, american football and baseball as well as athletics tracks; we provide access to these facilities to clubs across the County.

Boules has been a recent addition to our parks with facilities at Avonbeg and Esker. There is a bowling green at Greenhills Park that is managed by Greenhills Outdoor Bowls Club and there are six public tennis court facilities and six basketball court facilities across the County.

For people looking to start the year with a daily walk or cycle our parks and open spaces provide 158,886m of off-road routes to cater for pedestrians and cyclists.

Please be thoughtful of the shared environment of our parks; and we respectfully remind cyclists to give way to pedestrians and vulnerable park users.

For people out walking their dogs, there are currently four dog runs at: Tymon Park, Corkagh Park, Griffen Valley Park and Waterstown Park, if you wish to let your dog run off-leash. For more information please contact communications@sdublincoco.ie

New Year, New You...Keep Active in 2024.

With days beginning to lengthen once more, it is timely to provide a reminder of the facilities available and events underway in SDCC's parks and open spaces that might help give a boost to any New Year resolutions to keep active and outdoors in 2024.

The Infographic on page 17 outlines

new facilities that were completed and open in our parks in 2023 and includes the opening of Airlie Park at Adamstown, Lucan. This park provides new playspaces, tennis courts, a cricket pitch and a new 3G Artificial Grass Pitch.

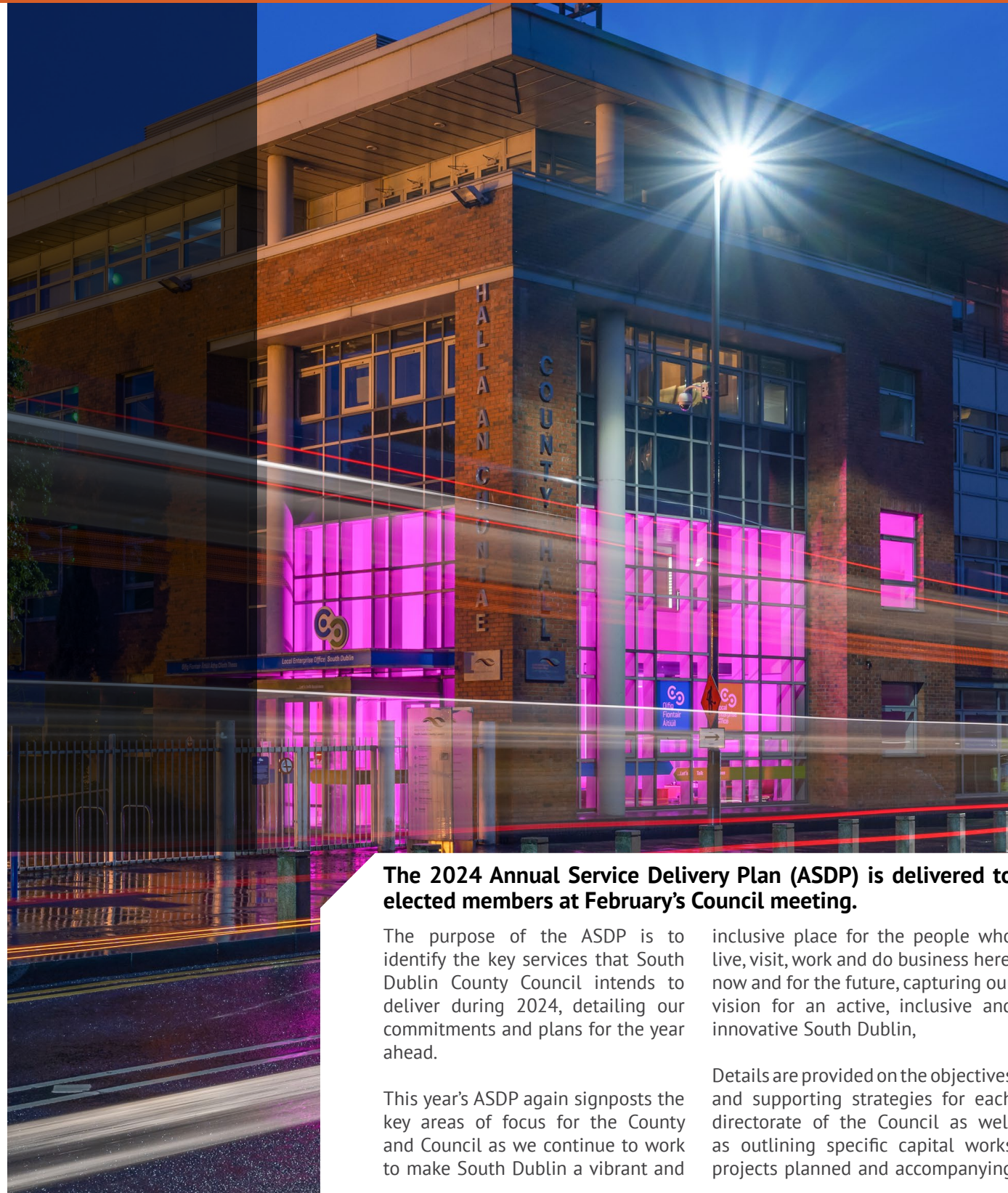
A 3G Artificial Grass Pitch also opened

2023 Public Realm Project Delivery



Project Delivery 2023 Infographic

2024 Annual Service Delivery Plan



The 2024 Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP) is delivered to elected members at February's Council meeting.

The purpose of the ASDP is to identify the key services that South Dublin County Council intends to deliver during 2024, detailing our commitments and plans for the year ahead.

This year's ASDP again signposts the key areas of focus for the County and Council as we continue to work to make South Dublin a vibrant and

inclusive place for the people who live, visit, work and do business here, now and for the future, capturing our vision for an active, inclusive and innovative South Dublin,

Details are provided on the objectives and supporting strategies for each directorate of the Council as well as outlining specific capital works projects planned and accompanying

Key Service Areas

The purpose of the 2023 Service Delivery Plan is to identify the key services that South Dublin County Council will deliver in 2024 across the following key service areas:

- Housing, Social and Community Development
- Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development
- Land Use, Planning and Transportation
- Environment, Water and Climate Change
- Organisational Capacity and Accountability

performance indicators. For 2024, a key aspect of our plans is the continued integration of our customer and digital services transformation strategy to enhance our service for everyone who interacts with the Council.

This, along with other initiatives, is aimed at ensuring delivery of high

quality, 24/7 customer service for the people of South Dublin County. We also outline our continued focus on delivery of social and affordable housing, through larger developments in Kilcarbery, Clonburris and Killinarden as well as through a range of additional delivery mechanisms.

We will also continue to deliver a range of community supports through our Healthy County Framework, Age Friendly Programme, libraries service, arts strategy, and other areas.

The ASDP also outlines our responses to the challenges of climate change, delivering on 125 climate action initiatives under our Climate Action Plan, while we also commit to continuing to improve the appearance of the County while promoting it a destination for tourism and enterprise.

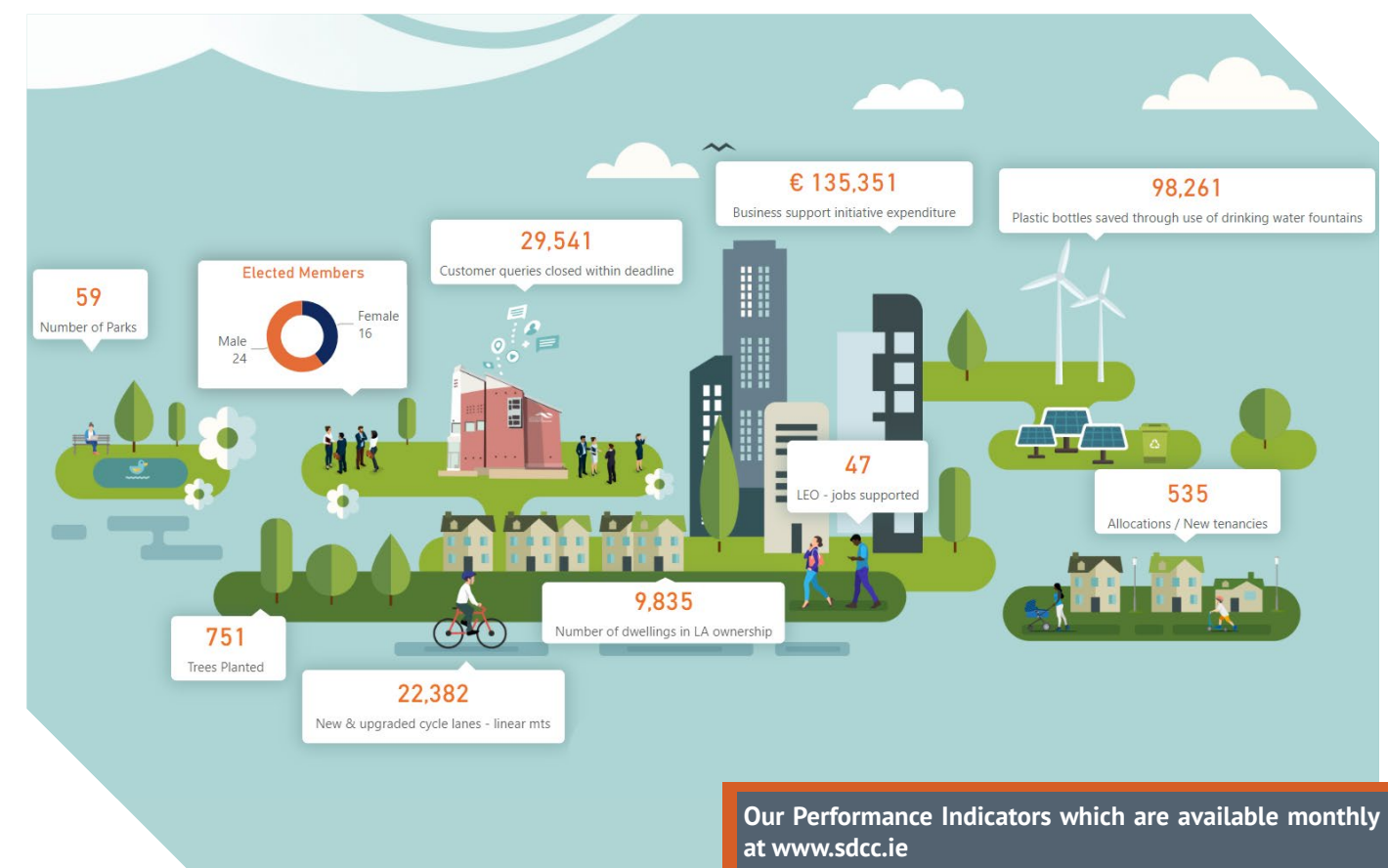
The Council adopts the Annual Service Delivery Plan with specific targets based on the objectives of our Corporate Plan 2020-2024. Among the targets we have set for the year ahead are allocating 700 social homes, planting 3,500 trees across the County

and upgrading 1,600 public lights to LED.

We will also seek to maintain active library membership of at least 60,000 people following on from sustained growth in recent years.

At the end of each year, we produce a report setting out the Corporate Plan achievements for the past year - the report for 2023 which was presented for review by the elected members at last month's Council meeting can also be viewed on www.sdcc.ie. This report also informs our Annual Report for 2023 which is in preparation and will be presented to Council in the coming weeks.

The approval, with or without amendments, of the Annual Service Delivery Plan is a reserved function of Councillors under Section 134A of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, and an infographic and summary of the final adopted ADSP will be delivered to every home, school and business in South Dublin County and will be promoted on social media.



Our Performance Indicators which are available monthly at www.sdcc.ie



Two major grant schemes have reopened for 2024, in an ongoing effort to support local businesses and event organisers in the County.

Organised by the County Promotion Unit, the Tourism Event and Festival Grant is targeted at organisations and event organisers who plan to hold public events or festivals within South Dublin County Council's administrative area.

The scheme aims to fund innovative events or festivals, in order to add value to the County's tourism product; Dublin's Outdoors and grow the visitor economy across key priority areas including culture, food, sports and activity.

Up to €60,000 has been allocated for this year's scheme with grants available for a maximum of 50% of overall costs.

Since 2018 the scheme has

provided €168,440 in funding support to events that have taken place across the County.

In 2023 the County Promotion Unit assisted a number of events throughout the year from a variety of areas, including sports, music, and art.

Brick Con Ireland returned to the Basketball Arena, Tallaght, and offered an unique LEGO festival featuring lego models on display, brick pits, competitions, colouring area, food stalls, vendors and guest meet and greets.

Jason Frehill, Director of Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development said; "With the recent adoption of South Dublin's Tourism Strategy, it's about promoting tourism development in the County. The scheme aims to support event organisers to develop events in the County, attracting both domestic and overseas visitors, which will have a positive impact on Tourism growth and the South Dublin economy."

The other grant scheme to be launched this year is the annual Shopfront Grant Scheme. This

provides grants for shopfront improvements ranging from painting updates to replacing an entire shopfront.

In addition to completing shop front improvement works, one applicant is awarded a prize of €1,000 for the Best Designed Shopfront.

Leo's Barbers were the lucky winners of the Best Designed Shopfront for 2023 and were presented with their winning cheque of €1,000 by South Dublin County Mayor Cllr. Alan Edge, in recognition of the work undertaken to transform the shopfront design of its business premises.

2023 was the tenth successive year of this progressive scheme,



with the Council supporting a range of different businesses throughout the County with over €260,000 being injected into local business shop front

improvements over the last ten years.

The Council encourages local businesses to apply for the 2024 scheme by contacting the County Promotion Unit by emailing econdev@sdblincoco.ie or by searching Shop Front Grant on the Council's website www.sdcc.ie.

A Focus On

Festival and Shopfront Grant Schemes Launched for 2024



Competitors at the Wado Martial Arts Ireland Event

Images of the
Month



Couch to 3k - Dodder Valley

Images of the
Month



Leo's Barber Shop - Winner of the Shopfront Grant



Christmas Decoration Competition winner Kayla Adel



Recent Tea Party at Kilamanagh

Images of the Month



Mayor Alan Edge presenting Emma Walsh with the Sportsman of the year award

Images of the Month



Councillors visit Lucan Swimming Pool



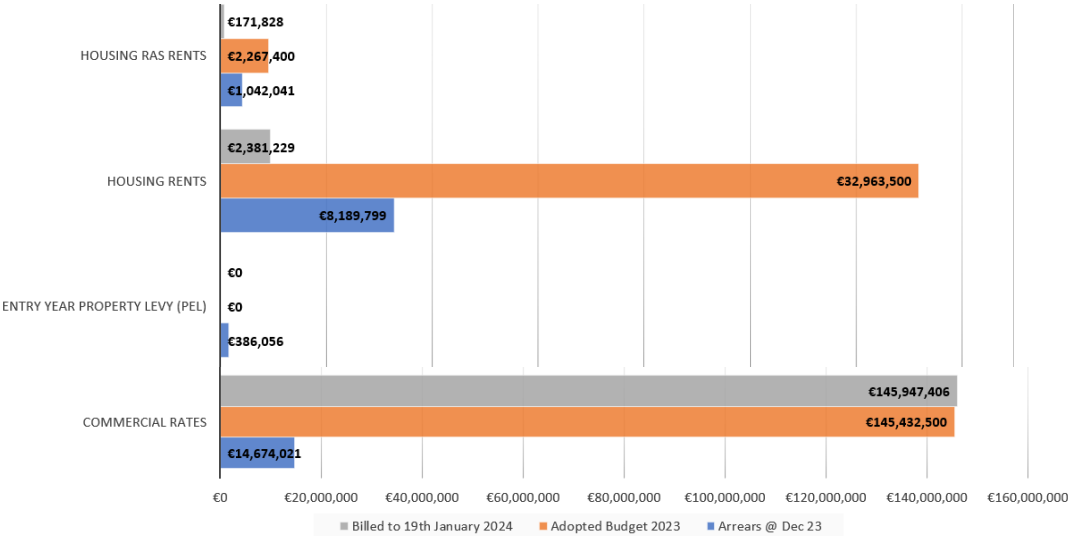
Minister Eamon Ryan Officially opening Dodder Phase 4



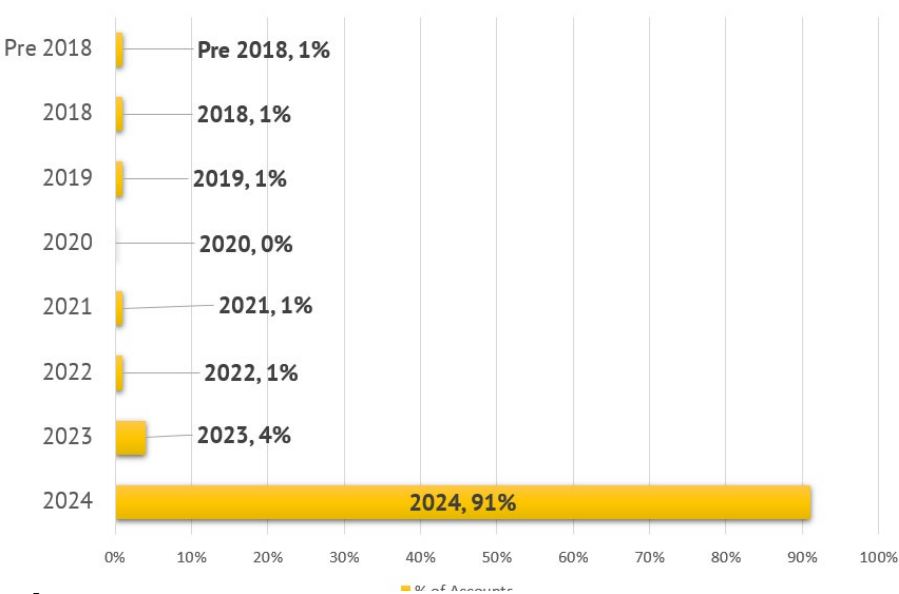
Minister Neale Richmond, Mayor Alan Edge, Thomas Rooney - LEO South Dublin & Feebee Foran

Finance Report

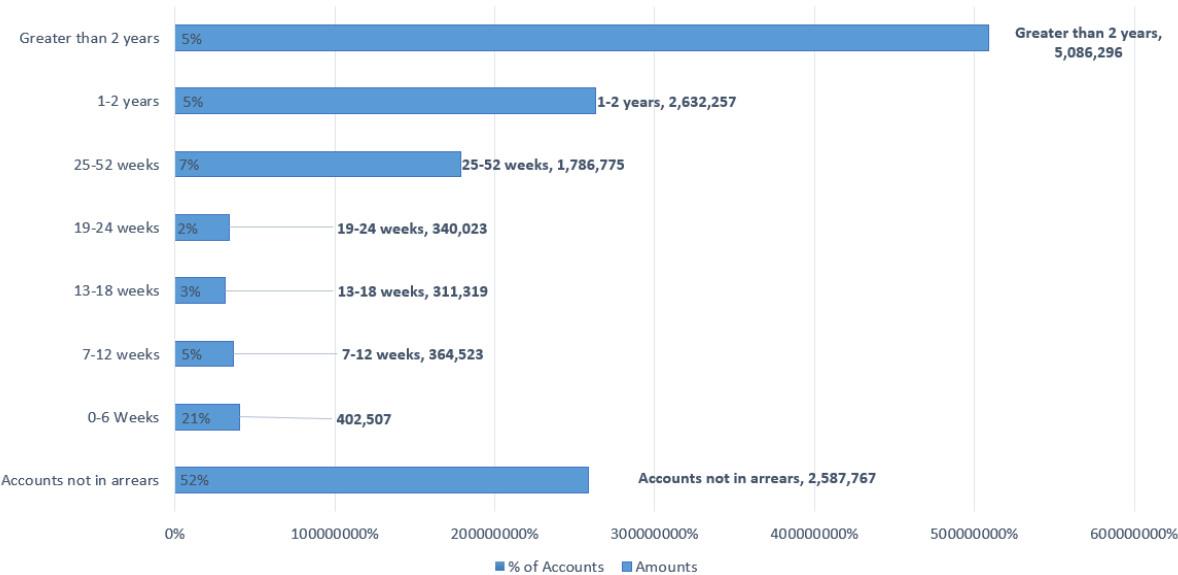
Billing & Collection Statement



Rates Aged Debt



Rents Aged Debt



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

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