



November 2022

# Chief Executive's Report

Grange Castle



# 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.

# Contents



## 04 LUPT

Highlights from Land Use Planning and Transportation.



## 06 Housing Social and Community Development



## 08 Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development

## 22

### Images of the Month

## 24

### Finance Report



## Features

### 14 Age Friendly Homes & Rightsizing

Old Bawn formally commenced construction with a sod-turning on 26th October

### 16 M4 Bus Priority Project

First bus priority measures pilot to be trialed in Ireland in partnership with Kildare County Council

### 18 "Lego" comes to South Dublin

South Dublin County was the location for the biggest showcase of LEGO ever seen in the country recently.

### 20 Council Focus

South Dublin County Council Innovation Strategy launched during Innovation week

## 10 Corporate Performance and Change Management



## 12 Environment, Water and Climate Change







# Land Use, Planning and Transportation

## 2022 Footpath Repair Programme Update

The annual footpath repair programme for 2022 is nearing completion with over 80% of the works carried out. The ambitious programme consisted of 77 schemes that were tendered to contractors and which was complimented by our own direct labour crews who undertake one off repairs of damaged/broken footpath sections.

We tendered for these works in early 2022 and this ensured that we were able to lock in prices prior to the significant inflation experienced in the later part of the year. These lower rates allowed us to maximise our budget and get the maximum amount of repair work done this year.

So far this year over 42,000m<sup>2</sup> of footpath has been repaired which would approximately equal 21km. By years end we would hope to have increased this repair figure to 46,000m<sup>2</sup>.

For 2023 we would hope to be able to maintain this output and road maintenance staff are currently preparing next years proposed footpath repair programme.



## Ely Gate Repairs and Restoration Works

Ely Gate, located on Dodder Park Road, is an important historic structure within the County. We started works to repair the existing gate early in 2022 and these restoration works were completed in October this year.

The scale of restoration works needed to the gate was extensive and took a number of months for wrought iron specialists to make these repairs. As part of this, a paint analysis was also carried out as part of the project and the gates have been painted to match the original colour.

The works were funded from the Council's public realm and architectural conservation budgets along with grant funding from the Departments BHIS grand funding scheme.

## Progress Update on the Dodder Greenway

The Dodder Greenway walking and cycling scheme is well underway with Phase 4 works currently started along Springfield Avenue. Works are progressing well and we are almost half way through the construction phase and we hope to be finished works on Springfield in Q2 2023.

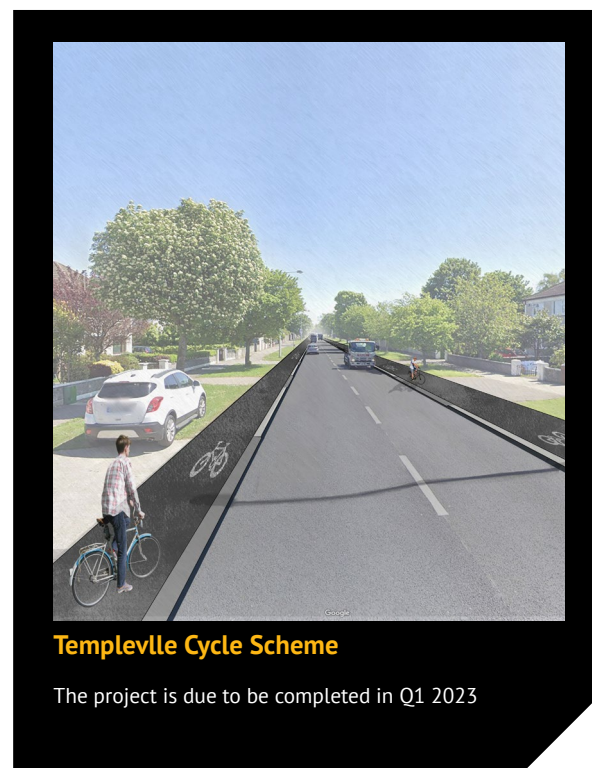
Alongside this the surveys and results from the temporary traffic calming trial along Dodder Lower Road are completed and we are currently in discussions with the NTA as to whether or not we met the criteria that were set to determine if the trial was a success or not.

We hope to have a decision on this soon and following this we will progress with a permanent scheme.

Also following two extensive public consultation phases Phase 5 Firhouse Road/ Butterfield Ave was granted Planning Permission by the Council in October.

This scheme includes a 2-way segregated, protected cycleway linking Dodder Valley Park at Cherryfield to Kilvere Park off Butterfield Avenue. It also allows for single lane segregated cycle facilities each side of the Spawell Link Road, an upgrade to two junctions on Firhouse Road at the Spawell Link Road and Butterfield Avenue (Blue Haven).

Detailed design is now underway and it is envisaged that procurement will commence in Q1 2023 with construction to commence in Q2 2023.



**Templeville Cycle Scheme**

The project is due to be completed in Q1 2023

## Delivery update on the Templeville Cycle Scheme

The Templeville Cycle Route will provide improved cycling connectivity from Limekiln Road to Templeogue College via Templeville Road and Greentrees Road.

These works will help to calm traffic along Templeville and Greentrees Road and will provide additional safe space for cyclists and pedestrians through the introduction of segregated cycle lanes, a new junction layout at Glendown Road, numerous raised junctions and toucan crossings. The scheme also provides a new shared path entrance to Templeogue College which will provide a safer travel environment for all users, especially school children.

Construction began in August 2022 and the Wainsfort Roundabout to Wellington Roundabout on Templeville Road is now complete. The project will be completed in the New Year.



Active Travel Submissions welcome at [sdcc.ie/en/active-travel](https://sdcc.ie/en/active-travel)





# Housing, Social and Community Development

## Rathcoole Courthouse

Work is continuing on the conservation, upgrade and extension of the historic protected structure Court of Petty Sessions Building on the Main Street in Rathcoole Village with a scheduled completion date in February 2023.

These works, which will safeguard the fabric of the original building and provide additional space for future local community needs, received Part 8 planning approval from the Council's Elected members in June 2021 and include:

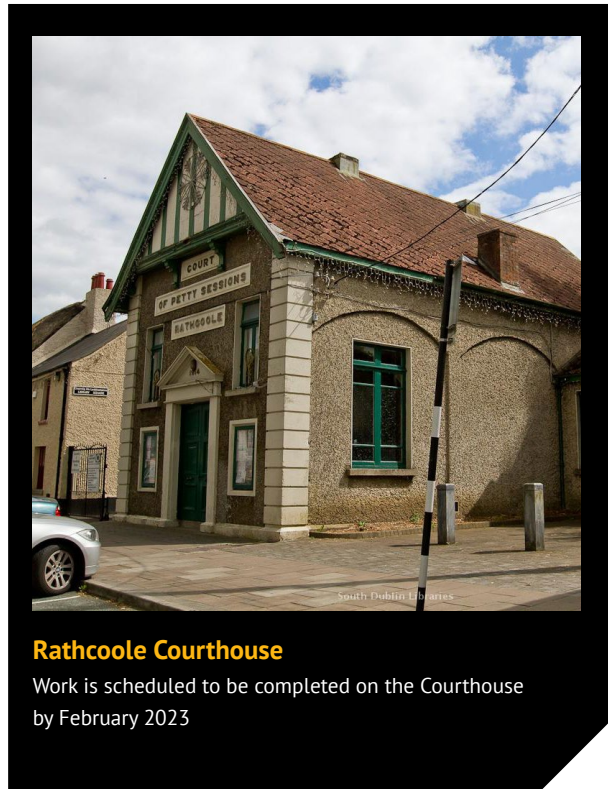
- Roof, floor and structural repairs and upgrades to the existing building
- Accessibility works including an

access ramp up to the stage, automated door and toilet facilities

- A new extension behind the former courthouse building comprising café area and meeting room

In recent years the building has been managed by the local voluntary Rathcoole Community Council as a space to accommodate a range of community activities which can be further expanded once the works are complete.

The project will cost approximately €700,000 and is largely funded by the Council with €200K also secured from the Department of Rural and Community Development through the Town and Village Renewal Scheme.



**Rathcoole Courthouse**

Work is scheduled to be completed on the Courthouse by February 2023

## Marathon Kids Finale

The 2022 Marathon Kids School programme reaches its finale this month with a Final Mile event to be held this month at the National Sports Campus in Dublin 15.

Marathon Kids is an 8-week program for 5th-6th class students. The program includes daily short runs, physical and mental health education, nutrition, and exercise. The program aims at promoting physical activity among students and fighting child obesity.

Over 15,000 students across Fingal County Council, Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Local Sport Partnership were participating.



## Balgaddy Outdoor Movie Event

An outdoor movie event for families in Balgaddy, organised by North Clondalkin Community Development Programme together with the Balgaddy Residents' Association, took place on 28th October. The event which took place in a marquee on the green area between Tór An Rí and Méile an Rí and also included a magic show and face painting for local children which formed part of local Halloween celebrations.

It was attended by 150 local residents, building on the success of the Better Block local community initiative in July and was supported by the Council's Estate Management and Community team along with various other agencies.

## Online Social Housing Applications

From 28th November, new social housing applications can be made online through the Council's housing online portal at <https://hol.sdblincoco.ie/>.

This will allow applicants to submit their application details and upload supporting documentation at any time, 24/7 from any device. Users will also have the option of saving their form and returning to complete it at a later stage. This innovation will greatly improve the time taken to assess and approve applications.

A video user guide will be available on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie) and a social media awareness campaign will accompany the move while staff support will be available to assist customers facing issues using the new technology.



Children enjoying "Hocus Pocus" at Balgaddy Outdoor Movies



# Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development



## Rathfarnham Stables & Courtyard

South Dublin County Council are delighted to announce that they are seeking expressions of interest from businesses to partner with the Council on the development of the state-of-the-art 1,400 sq. metre mixed-use hospitality/retail/lifestyle offering at Rathfarnham Courtyards.

The Council has committed to a significant investment in the provision of a new facility at this location that will deliver a high-quality experience, which will serve to complement Rathfarnham Castle and Demesne as a key tourism and local amenity. With over 35,000 people living within 1km of Rathfarnham Castle Stables and Courtyard, this will be a major asset and public amenity for the local community.

Full details on the terms and conditions on the development opportunity at The Castle Stables and Courtyard at Rathfarnham are available on [www.sdcc.ie/courtyards](http://www.sdcc.ie/courtyards)



## SIAL - Inspire Food Business Show Paris 15th - 19th October

Dublin Food Chain organised a Dublin Regional visit to SIAL (Global Food Marketplace trade fair) 2022.

The event was aimed at our Artisan food producers and the trip included special talks on Food Innovation with a meeting and short presentation from the Director of Bord Bia France on supports for Food Exporters.

Seven South Dublin Local Enterprise Office clients participated on the trip together with representatives from the LEO Team.

## Red Line Festival celebrated the word in all its forms

The Red Line Festival was a great success this year and ran from October 13-16th with over 40 events in fascinating performance venues including Rathfarnham Castle, Pearse Museum as well as libraries across South Dublin.

From 'True Crime' with Paul Williams, Ex-State Pathologist Dr Marie Cassidy and Private Investigator Patrick Marry to rapping with writer in residence Selló at The Civic or Shadow puppet making at Pearce Museum and a whole series of sports events at Tallaght Stadium, poetry awards and Puca puppets, the Red Line Festival was a celebration of all things literary be it spoken, written, sung, played, illustrated, or even just thought! Red Line Festival was also delighted to work with NOISE Music DJ Pro-

gramme and 'Give Us The Night' providing opportunities for young people to learn how to DJ and develop their musical knowledge.

The poetry programme took the limelight when award winning poet Jessica Traynor announced the winners of the Red Line Poetry Competition. First place went to Nuala Roche for "Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves". This was an incredible achievement as almost 300 poems were entered this year of an exceptionally high standard.

On Sunday at Tallaght Stadium, Jonathan Wilson discussed his biography of Bobby and Jack Charlton with local journalist Ronan O'Flaherty. Siobhán Doyle gave a brilliant talk on The History of GAA in 100 objects and George

Hamilton had a rousing discussion with Gareth Maher about his book: Away Days - 30 years of Irish footballers in the Premier League.



Selló at The Civic Theatre

## National Women's Enterprise Day

The National Women's Enterprise Day took place on Thursday 13th October 2022 hosted by Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Local Enterprise Office on behalf of the Dublin Region.

It was a great event with over 250 female clients in attendance. This year's Leading Light Sarah Power of Lucy & Me represented LEO South Dublin as a guest speaker on a panel of female entrepreneurs.

The panelists shared their success stories with MC Aine Kerr. This was followed by a Q & A session from the audience



Mayor Emma Murphy with LEO South Dublin Representatives





# Corporate Performance and Change Management

## Official Languages Act

South Dublin County Council have begun to enact the amendments in the Official Languages Act 2021. These include new provisions aimed at strengthening the language rights of Irish speakers, particularly relating to advertising, general communications and commercial communications which engage with the public. Through this, South Dublin County Council aim to deliver a minimum number of communications and advertisements in both of the State's official languages (English and Irish).

The two main provisions which must be met are:

1. That at least 20% of any advertising/communications in a calendar year will be in the Irish Language
2. That at least 5% of all money spent on advertising/communications in a calendar year, will be spent specifically on Irish Language Media (e.g. RnaG, TG4, Raidio Na Life.) and will be in the Irish Language.

These changes came into effect on the 10th October and will mean communications and advertising such as public notices, awareness campaigns, outdoor advertising will be in both official languages going forward.

**Value your vote!**  
Register of Electors

Now is the time to check if you are registered to vote on [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie).

Details of Eligibility to Register are available on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)

Voter.ie

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas South Dublin County Council

### Electoral Reform Act

The Electoral Reform Act 2022, which commenced in October, introduced the modernisation of the electoral registration process.

This change allows for a 'rolling register' as well as pre-registration for 17 year olds.

Please check Voter.ie if you would like to check or update your details.

## Energy Efficiency in South Dublin

The Council has launched an energy efficiency campaign to target reductions in energy use. All public sector bodies including Local Authorities are taking a leading role in lowering their energy consumption and costs – as a first step in the new Autumn 'Reduce Your Use' energy efficiency campaign.

This campaign includes targeted reductions in energy use by the Council, through simple and easy to implement measures, such as:

- Reducing energy use from lighting by continuing to roll out the LED lighting programme, which is now at 50% completion and is saving 180,000 KWhs of Electricity and reducing CO2 Emissions by 58 tonnes annually.
- Ensuring that there is no non-security/safety lighting in use after 8pm.
- The District Heating project will commence before the end of the year as part of the innovate approach the Council takes to energy efficiency.

- Reducing heating in Council buildings, including libraries by one degree and reducing the length of time that heating will be used.

It is expected that this campaign can deliver 5-10% energy savings overall, and up to 15% in Council buildings.



### Digital Spotlight - Social Takeover

Due to the ongoing energy crisis, SDCC provided a digital spotlight for Developmental Language Disorder Day to replace the lighting up of County Hall for awareness campaigns.

## LGMA Career Drive

The Local Government Management Agency engaged in a career drive for Local Government Jobs this month. This included a paid social media campaign which went live on Monday 10th and was linked to the sector's People Strategy, by promoting the wide range of roles available in the sector including here at South Dublin County Council.

During the campaign, South Dublin County Council placed a particular emphasis on promoting the value of the work that is done through the Council and the significant employment opportunities that exist in the Council for rewarding careers. For exciting career opportunities, visit Local Government Jobs

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council

**Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú), 2021**  
**Alt 10A. Fógraíocht ag Comhlachtaí Poiblí**  
**Official Languages áAmendmenté Act 2021**  
**Section 10A. Advertising by Public Bodies**

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL  
CULTÚR  
DUBLIN  
GAEILGE  
IRISH  
TEANGA  
LA GUA G  
RANNPHÁIRTÍOCHT NA nDAOIMÉ  
CITIZEN  
ENGAGEMENT  
POBAIL LE BHARLANNA  
COMMUNITY  
LIBRARIES  
SEIRBHÍ  
SERVICES  
OIDHREACHT  
HERITAGE

Official Languages Act



# Environment, Water Climate Change



## Council uses Drones for Investigative Works

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or drones, are increasingly used in the delivery of services across the world. Drones allow their remote operators to safely view and assess in a way that was impossible merely a handful of years ago.

In South Dublin County Council, the Waste & Litter Enforcement Management Team identified a unique and innovative use-case for drone technology – tackling the persistent problem of illegal dumping.

The Council uses drones to actively investigate incidents of reported dumping on lands/property that were previously inaccessible. There is a small cohort of individuals engaging in illegal dumping activity that negatively impacts our local environment.

Seven staff members of South Dublin County Council have been IAA (Irish Aviation Authority) trained to ensure compliant, safe, and efficient piloting of the drones when used to combat illegal dumping.

Today, the drones are used by South Dublin County Council by trained personnel and are used to respond to public reports of illegal dumping, as well as to survey suspected illegal activity. Remotely operated, the drone can target locations within a 300-metre radius of the pilot.

For members of the public, concerns have been raised regarding drone footage and privacy, a concern which South Dublin County Council take seriously. Data collected by the drones is managed safely and securely with relevant footage only ever used as evidence in enforcement actions.



Public Realm Improvement Works

## Over €1 Million invested in Public Realm Improvement Works Programme

The programme of minor improvement works in parks and estate open spaces which was approved by the Elected Members for 2022 is currently nearing completion.

The programme consisted of 82 schemes in total with 28 of these footpath improvement schemes, 30 were planting schemes, three were improvements to accesses, four public lighting schemes, three improvements to play spaces, three were for the provision of seating, four boundary improvement schemes, two car park marking schemes, a major upgrade to tennis and basketball courts at Dodder Valley Park and a scheme to extend the Knockmitten calisthenics work out area.

## Griffen Valley Park Teenspace opens

Works at the Teenspace in Griffen Valley Park have been substantially completed and are available for use. The Teenspace was developed around the existing ball wall and consists of two new half basketball courts, a variety of seating options, a music post, a fitness/calisthenics workout area, a basket swing and new bike stands. The area already has a water station.

Works have commenced on a small kickabout area adjacent to the ball wall which will further extend the range of activities available for teenagers.

The Teenspace concept came through talking to teenagers across the county about their experiences of parks and other public spaces. They reported being excluded and moved on everywhere they gathered. The aim of the teenspaces is to give local teenagers a place to meet and engage in a range of activities. The activities are chosen by teenagers during local consultations.

So far, the teenspace in Griffen Valley Park has proven to be a popular meeting place for teenagers and has brought great life to the area. The teenspace has facilitated many hours of activity, contributing to positive physical and mental health among local teenagers.



## Be Winter Ready

Winter is upon us once more and the Council is prepared to respond to a variety of weather events if and when they occur. Our Winter Maintenance Plan for roads includes salt gritting of primary and secondary routes to aid in safe travel during icy conditions.

Additionally, salt storage bins can be found in strategic local locations where conditions have been icy in previous years but where gritting is impractical. Drainage maintenance and the clearing of trash screens at rivers and streams to prevent local flooding will continue as usual.

Visit the Be Winter Ready section on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie) for more.



Griffen Valley Park Teenspace



# Age Friendly Homes and Rightsizing



## Allocations have commenced for the initial Age Friendly homes

Under our Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026, the Council, together with Approved Housing Bodies, will deliver up to 600 high-quality, new age friendly homes to support older people to age in place and live independently for longer in their own communities.

These homes are designed using best practice in design, location and supports by our Age Friendly Housing Technical Advisor include the following:

- 12 homes in Brady's Field in Old

Bawn which our Mayor, Cllr. Emma Murphy formally commenced construction with a sod-turning on 26th October (see photo)

- 93 homes in St. Marks' and Sallymills, Clondalkin to be completed in December 2022
- 131 homes in Fernwood, Maplewood and Whitestown Way, all in Tallaght, and Templeogue Village that will be ready for occupation in 2023

In addition, developments in Palmerstown, St. Aonghus' Green, Pearse Brothers' Park and St. Ronan's Crescent have

Part 8 planning approval while potential additional age friendly homes are being explored in Citywest, Rathcoole, Lucan, Bawnogue, Walkinstown and Tallaght including various AHB (Approved Housing Bodies) & private developments.

Allocations have commenced for the initial homes becoming available with properties advertised through Choice Based Letting and rightsizing applications being progressed for both social housing tenants and private homeowners.

The Council's Rightsizing Policy, adopted by the Elected Members in December 2020, provides for allocation of age friendly homes to people aged 55 or older through the housing list (including homeless, medical priority or HAP transfers), transfers (existing Council tenants rightsizing) or the community list (financial contribution for private homeowners rightsizing).

It is intended that 50% of homes in new age friendly housing developments will

be used for rightsizing, with priority for tenants transferring from local areas, and one in five rightsizing opportunities will be available to private homeowners through the Community List. For inclusion on the community list, the Council and the homeowner must agree that the Council will either purchase their existing home at a discount of 30%-40% or accept a financial contribution from the net proceeds of sale of 20%-50%, depending on the homeowner's age. Potential Community List applicants are strongly advised to get independent financial and legal advice to fully understand the terms and conditions involved. All other new age friendly homes will be for the existing social housing need of older persons.

Our 2020 Age Friendly County Strategy highlighted local demographic and underoccupancy challenges following a significant census-on-census increase in the number and age profile of older people and noting that over 11% of our three- and four-bedroom social homes are occupied solely by just one or two

older people living in homes. There is considerable evidence from Tallaght University Hospital and other stakeholders about older persons' accommodation circumstances and needs. The Council has also worked with Age Friendly Ireland to research rightsizing attitudes, benefits and potential to inform our rightsizing policy. There is huge potential to maximise the efficiency of existing public and private housing, but we recognise the diverse needs of older persons and aim to provide a voluntary opportunity for a better quality of life through rightsizing to homes that will meet their evolving needs into the future.

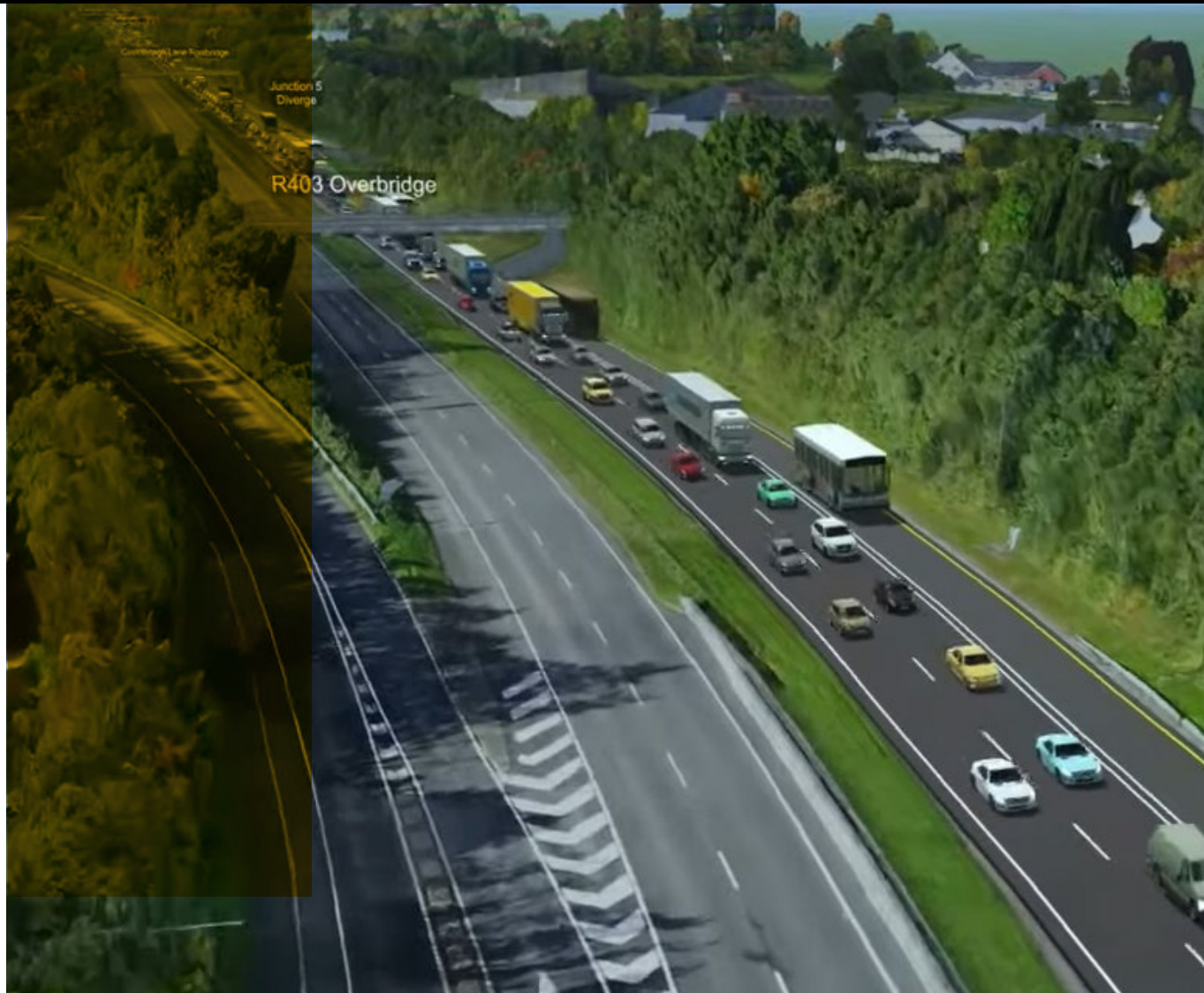
Our Age Friendly Healthy Homes Co-ordinator, Mary Roach, engages on a case-by-case basis with older person households to discuss rightsizing and other housing and healthcare supports. Any current tenant or private homeowner who feels their home is no longer suitable for their needs can email [mroach@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:mroach@sdblincoco.ie) to discuss their accommodation options.



Old Bawn Social Housing Project



# M4 Eastbound Bus Priority



## M4 Eastbound pilot to be first hard shoulder bus priority on a motorway

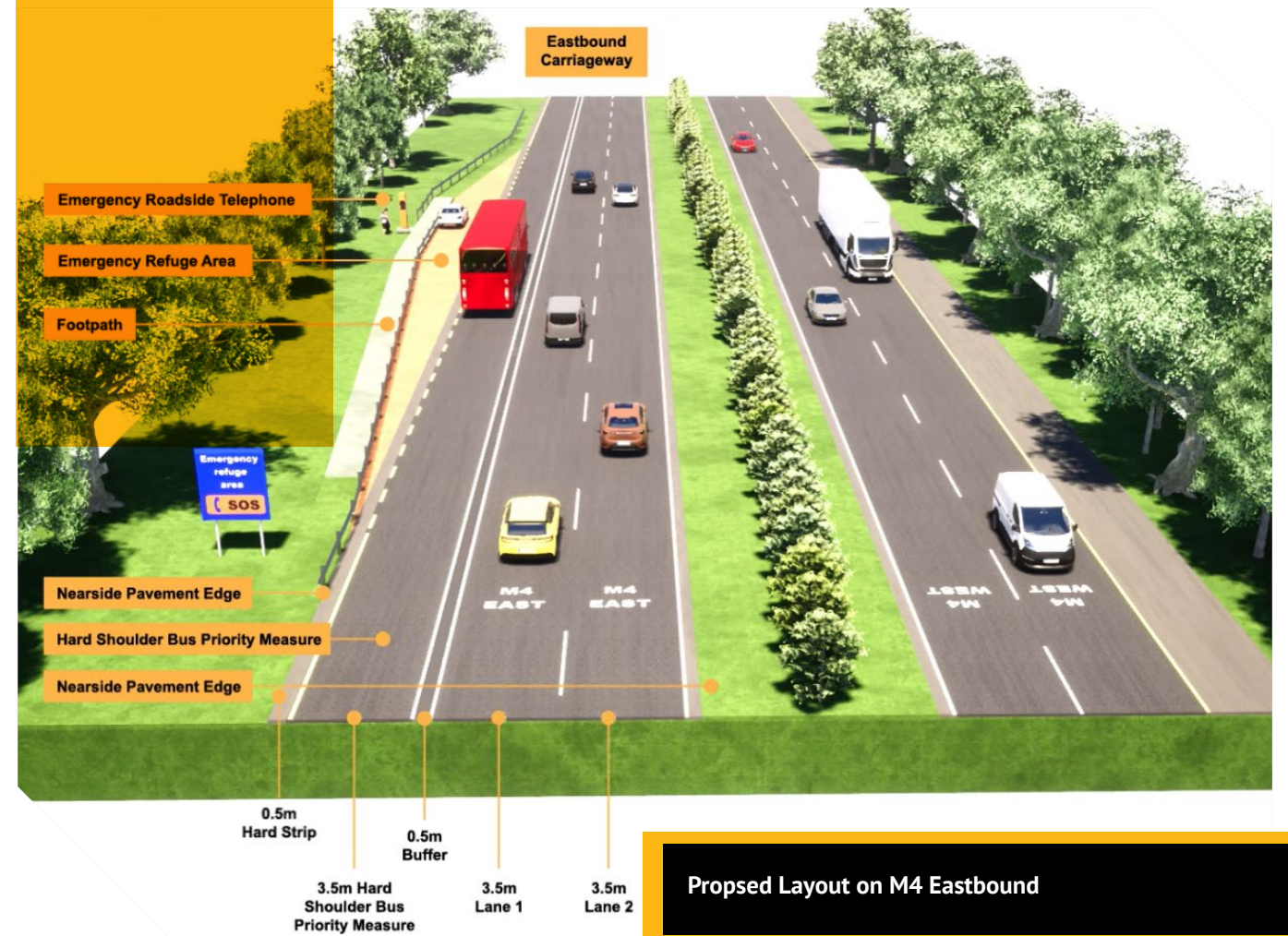
A public consultation was launched on 14 October as part of the Part 8 Planning Application for the first bus priority measures pilot to be trialed in Ireland. The project will see the introduction of hard shoulder bus priority measures on the M4 Eastbound between Junction 7 Maynooth and Junction 5 Leixlip, representing a significant step towards sustainable transport in Ireland.

The project will run from Junction 7 Maynooth through Junction 6 Celbridge finishing at Junction 5 Leixlip and include emergency refuge areas and noise mitigation measures. The development is expected to reduce bus journey times and traffic, increase bus passenger numbers and the reliability of bus services as well as reduce the volume of cars on the road.



The Bus Priority Measures Pilot project is a collaboration between Kildare County Council, South Dublin County Council, the Department of Transport, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the National Transport Authority. Delivery of the development will be managed by Kildare NRO and Engineering Consultants, ARUP.

A public consultation has been launched as part of the Part 8 planning application for the project, providing an opportunity for input and feedback on plans for the development. Closing date for submissions is 25 November.



Proposed Layout on M4 Eastbound



# 'LEGO' comes to South Dublin



**South Dublin County was the location for the biggest showcase of LEGO ever seen in the country recently.**

The first ever Dublin Brick Con event featured over 1,600 sqm of Ireland's biggest and best custom models with over 1 million bricks, fun activities, special guests, and more.

Supported by South Dublin County's tourism brand Dublin's Outdoors, through the annual tourism event and festival grant, visitors from near and far descended on the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght during the 15th and 16th of October to meet well known LEGO masters, builders, and enthusiasts. Kids of all ages got carried away

with many different attractions such as custom and unique LEGO models on display, free play brick pits, LEGO workshops, LEGO building competitions, and special guest meet and greets.

Some of the custom models on display included the GPO and Fleet Street during the 1916 Easter Rising, and Ireland's largest LEGO castle with over 1,000 LEGO knights. Also included at the event were models based on pop culture, sci-fi, and a range of other interests.

The organisers of Dublin Brick Con have

been hosting smaller sell out shows in Limerick, Galway and Cork since 2018, but the event supported by Dublin's Outdoors was their first foray into Dublin.

Dublin Brick Con supported tourism in the region as attendees travelled from across Ireland, and as far as the UK, mainland Europe, and the United States, to attend the event. With almost 4,000 attendees, this sold out event supported local businesses as well as hotels, as many exhibitors and staff required accommodation.

The Council operates the Tourism Event and Festival Grant scheme which is targeted at organisations and organisers who plan to hold a public festival or event within South Dublin County Council's administrative area.

The aim of the scheme is to fund innovative events or festivals 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. The maximum grant available of €7,500 and is directly linked to the number of spectators from outside the county or overseas.

So far this year the council has received a number of applications from event organisers seeking support under the scheme. Other events supported across South Dublin County this year included music and sports events.



Patrick, Martha and Rob Connelly at Dublin Brick Con





**Staff Innovation Awards Winners**

## Innovation Week 2022 in South Dublin County Council

Now in its fourth year, South Dublin County Council ran another hugely successful innovation week from 24th-28th October. Staff learned about innovation and how to create a culture where innovation thrives. They also experimented and workshopped innovative techniques and shared learnings and knowledge on examples of innovation within the organisation.

With the help of Dr. Karl Thomas, an innovator, design sprint facilitator, and an award-winning artist and designer, and the academic lead in innovation for Trinity College Dublin, staff were brought through the Innovation Mindset, Functional Creativity, and the Design Thinking Philosophy. Staff played the Global Innovation Game, a hackathon-style competitive process between departmental teams to develop innovative services, which were then pitched to colleagues. The winning team received the 'big investment', as decided by all competitors, and were crowned the winners of the Global Innovation Game.

But the culmination of the week was the

Staff Innovation Awards. Running for the second year, an open invitation was issued to all staff to nominate a person or a team who have created, or are in the process of creating a new, viable offering that adds value. The Awards Event was held in the Civic Theatre, Tallaght on the last day of Innovation Week, and we are delighted to present the below winners of the Innovation Awards 2022.

**1. Innovation in Citizen Engagement:** South Dublin County Council's City Edge project team were the winners of this award for their design of a transformative initiative, unique in Ireland, reimagining the Naas Road, Ballymount and Park West areas in Dublin. Creating a new urban quarter, it has the potential for 40,000 new homes and 75,000 jobs, making it one of the largest regeneration schemes in Europe. The team's very innovative approach both to the initiative itself and to consulting and engaging with the public is what won this award.

More information on the City Edge project is available [here](#)

## 2. Innovation in Service Delivery:

This award was won by a very talented General Operative in the Public Realm division who creates wonderful wooden sculptures by upcycling tree trunks. Each sculpture is beautifully designed and intricately carved.

These sculptures are on display in Tymon Park, Sean Walsh Park and along the Dodder Valley Greenway. The interest and positive feedback generated from members of the public by these sculptures reflects so well on South Dublin County Council and really adds to the character of our public realm.

## 3. Innovation in the Workplace:

A new Staff Communications App that was designed and is content managed by two members of our Learning and Development team to ensure South Dublin's outdoor staff are not disadvantaged by the lack of access to an intranet but are as fully informed and engaged as our office based staff through the use of this App.

The Staff App has been a huge success. An incredible amount of work has gone into the preparation and the launch of it.

The team have ensured to engage with staff through workshops and trials to ensure that this is something that will benefit outdoor staff and have tailored it to meet their needs.

An ongoing amount of work continues to keep it up to date and ensure that it is benefiting staff and meeting their needs. Its so good that the intention is to bring all staff onto this app so that everyone has access to the same information.

## OVERALL INNOVATION AWARD WINNER 2022

Data Visualisation of the Council's Monthly performance indicators - Accountability and Transparency is one of the Council's core values and as a public body this is fundamental to our operations and our relationship with the citizens we serve.

We have been presenting monthly reports on our Key Performance Indicators to our elected Council and the public for a number of years, but through this project, this team have transformed these reports from a spreadsheet of numbers to an interactive visual presentation of the same data, but in a way that facilitates easier analysis and comparison over time.

It brings to life the value for money of local government for our citizens and elected representatives. The digital dashboards are available [here](#).

## South Dublin County Council launches its inaugural Innovation Strategy and celebrated Innovation Week from 24th to 28th October 2022

South Dublin County Council is delighted to launch its inaugural Innovation Strategy during this year's Innovation Week. The strategy outlines our strategic innovation priorities and actions over that period and how innovation will create and add value for both the citizens we serve and our staff at the forefront of service delivery.

Innovation is not new to SDCC. In 2019 the Council signed the Declaration on Public Service Innovation, which among other things, stipulates that innovation is the responsibility of every public servant and commits the organisation to enable, support, inform and equip our staff to innovate in their roles.

As an organisation, South Dublin County Council has a strong tradition in innovation. We have seen many successful and award-winning innovative projects over the years, implemented across the organisation. These include our "300K Have Your Say" initiative, Our Play

Space and Teen Space Programmes, mydoorstep.ie, Grange Castle Business Park, Tallaght Stadium and the Tallaght District Heating Scheme.

We have recently launched the "Think Big Space" in collaboration with AWS, an educational lab in Tallaght which aims to inspire an interest in science, technology, engineering, arts and maths among students, educators and local communities. We are presently building a high-quality, high-impact Innovation Centre in the heart of our new Tallaght Innovation Quarter (with a life science / digital tech focus), that combines on site 'hard' and 'soft' infrastructure, transforming the innovation landscape for South Dublin.

Harnessing the power of innovation to deliver world-class public services in South Dublin County Council is at the core of this strategy. South Dublin County Council has a proven track record in this regard and this strategy underwrites our commit-

# A Focus On South Dublin County Council Innovation Week & Innovation Strategy

ment to continually improve service delivery into the future. By building innovative leadership at all levels, we will create value and continue to deliver high-quality, integrated, and inclusive services that meet the changing needs of our citizens.

The strategy has three pillars:

- Citizen-centric innovation,
- Building an Innovation Culture, and
- Scaling up innovation

These are aligned with the Public Service Innovation Strategy, Making Innovation Real. It was developed by the Council's Innovation Network and is approved and supported by the Senior Management Team. The Innovation Network was formed after last year's Innovation Week and is made up of staff interested and engaged in innovation working at all levels of the organisation.



**Innovation Awards Ceremony**



# Images of the Month



Minister Frank Feighan at the launch of Slaintecare Healthy Communities in Tallaght

# Images of the Month



Balgaddy Cinema Night



Social Housing for Older Persons - Old Bawn



Green Flag Award for Rathfarnham Castle Park



# Images of the Month



Knockmitten Calisthenics

# Images of the Month



Bake at North Clondalkin Library



Older People's Public Consultation



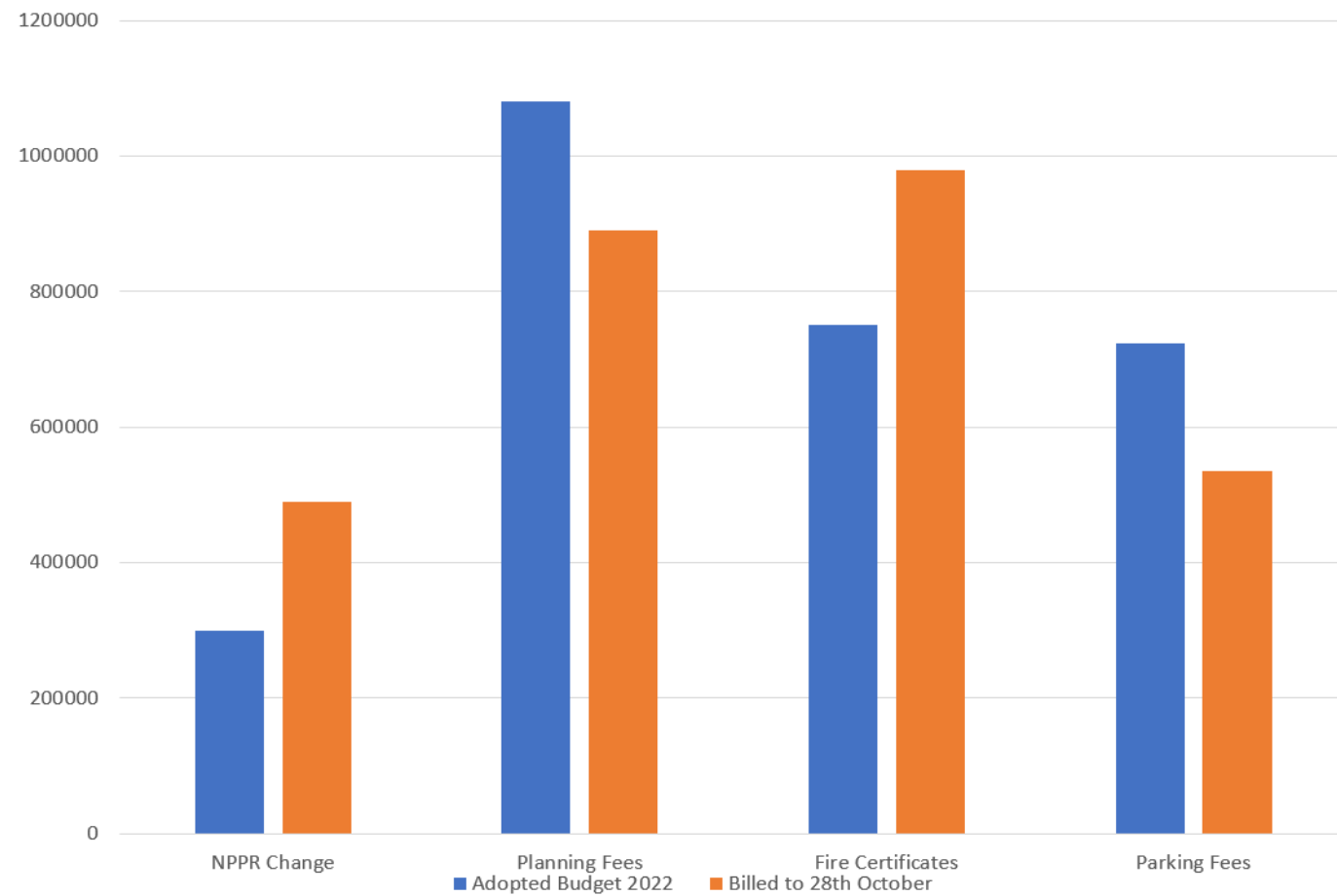
Road Safety with Aviva



# Finance Report

# Follow us on Social media

Income Sources via Cash Streams



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

South Dublin County Council



@sdublincoco



Southdublincoco



South Dublin County Council



@sdublincoco





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