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South Dublin County
Sports Partnership

— SPORT IRELAND —



2022

South Dublin Sports Partnership Annual Report





01 414 9000



info@sdcsp.ie



www.sdcsp.ie



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CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT

2022 was the year that, following Covid, things began to settle back into order again. The beginning of the year was still marked with lockdown restrictions and event cancellations but as the year progressed life, like the Spring sun, began to come out and blossom.

During the year we were able to continue the delivery of many of the activities that we have become known for – our support for the Operation Transformation programme and the activities like the walking programmes and Couch to 5k that we organise alongside it; our mountains and parks promotion; our school's programmes delivering multi-sports such as athletics, martial arts, boxercise, cycling and more; and our community programmes that reached out to teenage girls and adult women, adult men, older aged, people with a disability, asylum seekers and refugees and especially those living in areas of disadvantage. In 2022 we reached over 20,000 people and given the limitations on our personnel resources with a staff of 4, this is indeed a great reflection on the work carried out by the staff.

Another area where progress has been made is in the continued development of facilities. In partnership with the HSE Health promotion team and SDCC Parks Dept. we developed a new Parkrun in Dodder Valley Park. Since its launch in November 2022, the event continues to attract approximately 150 people weekly and is going from strength to strength.

The Sports Partnership was also responsible for covering the cost of the development of a new walking circuit in Fettercairn Park, the installation of autism-friendly play equipment in Sean Walsh Park playground, a new bowling (boules) pitch in Griffeen Valley Park and the installation of a new Poolpod in Clondalkin leisure centre. This lift-style piece of equipment allows pool users with limited mobility the opportunity to access the pool with ease thereby significantly increasing their feeling of inclusivity and comfort.

In the background is the administration element. As mentioned we currently have a staff of 4 – a Coordinator, an Administrator, a new Communications Officer and a new Active Cities Officer. We lost our Community Sports Officer and Disability Sports Officer to internal promotions and both posts have yet to be filled.

Two significant pieces of administration work in 2022 included procurement and contracts for the development of an online booking system for community centres and for a new county sports plan. The booking system will help to make our community centres more visible to the public, more customer friendly and ultimately more attractive for the population to visit and use. The sports plan is unique in that for the first time the whole of South Dublin Co Co – Planning, Roads, Community, Housing, Parks, Corporate – will be involved in developing a plan that affects sport and active recreation into the future. This cross-collaboration has been promoted by higher-level management in the organisation and the resulting plan when it emerges in 2023 should prove to be the start of an exciting and ambitious period for participation, facility development, partnership and budget increases.

The year was completed with the delivery of our annual Sports Awards in partnership with The Echo newspaper. This was the first in-person delivery in 3 years and while it was a smaller event than previously given that the start of the year was Covid affected, there was a real measure of joy that our sportspeople and volunteers could once again be celebrated and honoured for their efforts.

As we move into 2023 we recognise that we still have many challenges to address but there are also many positives. We have access to more funding, we are in the process of developing a new strategic plan that has significantly helped to foster partnerships that will help us to deliver on objectives and most of all, we are as committed as ever to delivering for the community.

Is Feidir Linn !

Danny Towell

Chairperson, SDCSP





ABOUT US

South Dublin County Sports Partnership (SDCSP) is one of a national network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs), set up by the then Irish Sports Council (now Sport Ireland) to actively promote increased participation in sport and physical activity across the entire community, with a particular emphasis on those who are less active.

The SDCSP office is based in County Hall, Tallaght. SDCSP is primarily funded by the Irish Sports Council with assistance from local partners, especially South Dublin County Council and the HSE.

Our History

In the Irish Sports Council's (ISC) strategy "A New Era for Sport 2000-2002", The Council proposed to establish a nationwide network of Local Sports Partnerships to create a national structure to co-ordinate and promote the development of sport at a local level.

The ISC identified that the effective development of sport and recreation at a local level would be best delivered through the adoption of a partnership approach between all bodies and organizations involved in the delivery of sport and recreation locally.

Following the Irish Sports Council's competition process in 2007 South Dublin County was designated as a Local Sports Partnership site and the recruitment of a Co-ordinator took place in November 2007.



VALUES

We value the diversity of our community and the diversity of our sports and healthy lifestyle offering and will strive to build on that.

We value the active population in sports in our community and the important role they play in helping us to spread the message of active participation.

We especially value the efforts of volunteers, coaches, administrators, teachers, professionals and others.

We value the voice of our communities, especially the disadvantaged and will seek to be responsive to them as much as possible.

We value the partnerships we have built up, both local and national, and will work to ensure that our common goals are achieved.

We believe that everybody regardless of background, age or ability has the right to enjoy the benefit of sport and healthy physical activity.



KEY OBJECTIVES

Our Aim

SDCSP aims to develop and support opportunities for increased participation in sports and physical activity by the community and in South Dublin County, regardless of their background, age or ability.

We work to build an environment where people in South Dublin County can participate in sports and/or healthy physical activity that will have a long-term positive effect on their lifestyle, health and well-being by;

- Supporting clubs, schools, community groups and businesses, directly or indirectly.
- Coordinating and delivering programmes and activities.
- Supporting partnership between agencies.
- Looking to maximise the benefit of our resources - built and natural, financial and personnel.
- Being flexible and targeting areas of greatest need.
- Making submissions to local and national plans in support of sport & healthy physical activity in our community .

Our Goals

- Enhanced planning of sport at a local level.
- Increased levels of local participation.
- Enhanced local coach deployment.
- Club development.
- Volunteer training
- Local Directories of sports bodies and facilities.
- 7Better use of existing facilities.
- Clear priorities for local facility provision and improvement.
- School/club/community and possibly school – National Governing Body.
- Local sports events

STRATEGIC PILLARS

1.: To Lead

To upskill sports leaders to ensure that there is a greater introduction to, and pathway in, sport and physical activity

2: To Inspire.

Our biggest challenge and our greatest focus will be on getting those who are least active, more active. Research shows that certain groups in our community are less inclined to participate in sports or physical activity, for example, teenage girls and women in general, people with a lower income or educational attainment; people with a disability, older aged or ethnic minorities such as Travellers etc. Each of these groups will be priority areas but on top of that, we will work on localised plans that can put extra focus on a target group or a geographic area as needs dictate.

3: To Enhance.

South Dublin County has a wide range of physical resources – parks, mountains, waterways and community and sports facilities – that need to be promoted, supported and utilised. We also have a wide variety of agencies and local organisations that are involved in the delivery of sport and healthy physical recreation. By harnessing the strength of these organisations, we can work to ensure that we get the best use of people and financial resources.





THE TEAM

Staff & Management

Thomas McDermott
Coordinator



Tracey Kelly
Administrator



Active Cities Officer
Darragh Conway



Comms Officer
Ellen Connolly

Committee 2022

- Cecil Johnston replaced by Kim Dempsey: SDC Partnership
- Ciaran Farrrelly: Sports Officer SDCC
- Paula Swayne: Sports Officer SDCC
- Stephen Jameson: Leinster Rugby
- Cllr Paddy Holohan & Cllr Carla Bailey: SDCC
- Tim O'Connor: TU Tallaght
- Darren Bruton: Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board
- Danny Towell: Chamber of Commerce
- Stephen Heaney: Public Participation Network
- Suzanne Furlong: Public Realmh SDCC
- Robbie de Courcy: FAI Development Officer
- Daniel Russell: HSE
- Catherine Keane: School Principal



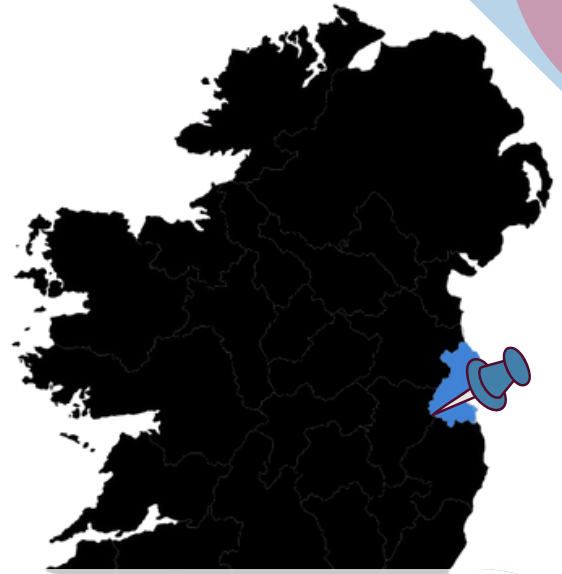


€773,869

Invested in 2022

25,111

Participated in programs, events and training & development.



Funding

€284,102

Allocated to Active Cities projects in 2022 like Park Fit & Park Yoga, Colour Dash, Try track & Fiels and Try One Challenge.



Inclusive

913 Children took part in Inclusive camps INC Horse Riding & Rugby
943 Adults participated in programmes from Boxing to Zumba

Community

€33,252 Allocated to clubs and community groups

250 Participants registered for Safeguarding courses.
1500 Participants took part in our Colour Dash in Corkagh Park



Older Age

220 Older people took part in Activator Pole programmes

350 Participated in Community Walks



Social Media

1280 Twitter Followers (8% increase since 2021)

6624 Facebook Followers (33% increase since 2021)

2593 Instagram Followers (19% increase since 2021)



Other Highlights

Pool Pod

Installed into Clondalkin Community Center Pool., providing access for all to the swimming pool.



SportsKey

14 Community Centers signed up for a new online booking management system.



CASE STUDY

Online Booking System for Community Centres

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2021 SDCSP received €65,000 in funding through the Dormant Accounts Fund for the development of an online booking system for South Dublin Co Co's network of community centres. This followed the development of an online booking system for its pitches and a survey of community centres which found a strong interest in the proposal. SDCSP subsequently went out to tender for the project and work started in August, provisionally looking at 3 pilot sites, Adamstown Community Centre, Kilnamanagh Family Recreation Centre and The Park Community Centre. By the end of 2022, the number of centres that had signed up to the project was 14.

KEY OUTCOMES

- The project proposes to increase the visibility and attractiveness of community centres by allowing users to see what facilities are available to rent and what activities are being offered.
- The system will considerably lessen the administrative tasks that centre staff have to spend on bookings with invoices being automatically created, double bookings erased, no manual handling of cash etc.
- For users looking to book a facility, be they clubs or others, there is greater clarity and ease in booking and for the general public, there is also greater visibility in what activities the centres offer.

KEY LEARNINGS

- Covid considerably changed the way people transact. People got used to using bank cards instead of cash and a tipping point was reached where cashless transactions for everyday purchases is the new norm.
- At the same time, Covid severely affected business in community centres so there was an understandable caution in taking on a new system that could have cost implications for the centres. In this respect, the fact that SDCC underwrote all costs for the system development and software licence fee was welcomed by the centres.

NEXT STEPS

In 2023 it is planned to bring additional centres onto the booking system and also to develop a website page where all information on centre facilities and calendars will be available in one location. This will bring the system on another step towards our goal of improving the customer experience.



“SportsKey has been a great addition to the centre. Allowing our community users to book and pay online has driven extra usage of our facilities and increased revenue. The administrative staff have been really pleased with how user-friendly and efficient the system is.”

Testimonial, Kilnamanagh FRC



FUNDING

Income	Total Income 2022
Community Sports Hub - West Tallaght	-34,168.68
Community Sports Hub - North Clondalkin	-18,052.85
Youth Leadership	-15,243.41
Innovation Grant	-65,000.00
Volunteer Supports Grant	-11,500.00
Payments for Training Courses	-16,571.83
Sports Inclusion	-121,585.69
Aspire Graduate 2021	-3,171.95
LSP Community Support Fund 2020	-15,000.00
Active Cities	-469,494.84
Women in Sport Grant	-10,391.20
Covid Small Clubs Grant Scheme	-28,800.00
Sport Ireland Grant 2021	-194,254.65
Contribution from Climate Change	-30,000.00
2022 Sport Ireland Grant - 75%	-183,505.00
HSE Funding	-9,000.00
2022 Operation Transformation	-750.00
Total Income	-1,226,490.10

Expenditure	Remaining per Dormant Account Grants 2022
ISC Programmes	0.00
Operation Transformation	-750.00
Women in Sport	-8,991.20
Sports Inclusion	-37,559.27
Sports Leader	2,736.22
Club Development Grants	0.00
HSE Health & Wellbeing	-1,167.79
Community Sports Hub - North Clondalkin	530.03
Community Sports Hub - West Tallaght	-17,275.24
Healthy Ireland	0.00
Innovation	-2,454.50
Volunteer Support Fund	-11,500.00
Covid Small Grants Scheme	-28,800.00
Community Support Fund	-5,150.00
Aspire Graduate Salaries	130.05
Active Cities	-185,392.67
Salaries & Admin Costs	0.00
Total Carried Over to 2023	-295,644.37



2023

Sports Partnership will be looking to continue its broad range of direct programmes and indirect supports across the community.

There will be a renewed focus on new communities given the increase of over 30,000 in our population since the last census, on refugees and International Protection Applicants, disadvantaged schools and communities, and club and community group support.

In addition, we will also be concentrating on the development of a County Sports Plan, a strategic document that will give us a signpost for what we want to do and achieve between 2023-2028. Initial discussions have taken place on this and the objective is to develop a plan that will include all elements of South Dublin Co Co – Community, Housing, Environment, Planning, Active Travel, Tourism and more – in order for sport and recreation to be best served in all sectors.



SDCC First Pool Pod opened in Clondalkin Leisure Centre Dec 22