

SDCC

Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas

South Dublin  
County Council

# Chief Executive's Report

How we're  
creating greater  
opportunity for  
all

May 2026



Special Olympics Reception



## About the Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report is presented to elected members at each SDCC monthly meeting. It forms a key part of our governance and oversight framework, supporting members in their role by providing timely updates on the work of the Council.

In line with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014), the report outlines the performance of executive functions, the implementation of Council policy, and the delivery of services across the organisation.

This report should be read alongside updates provided to Area Committee Meetings and the quarterly Capital Progress Report, which together offer a comprehensive view of Council activity and progress.

Each edition includes:

- Updates on how we are delivering on our Corporate Plan goals
- Highlights of major initiatives and events
- A visual snapshot of recent community and Council activities

The report also provides an opportunity to shine a light on areas of our work that may not always be in the spotlight but are vital to the day-to-day life of the county.

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# Climate Leadership



Please donate your Re-turn logo drinks containers at designated donation points.

[www.re-turn.ie](http://www.re-turn.ie)

## Re-Turn for Children's Charities scheme

Dedicated Re-turn for Children bins have been installed at our offices in County Hall and in Clondalkin. The fundraising initiative, launched in conjunction with Re-turn, the operator of Ireland's Deposit Return Scheme, supports six national children's charities.

Instead of redeeming the 15 cent or 25 cent deposit, eligible empty bottles and cans can be placed directly into the dedicated bins with the deposit refunded to the initiative and donated to children's charities. The bins are located in County Hall (main staff canteen and in the concourse near the main

entrance) and in the hub canteen at our offices in Clondalkin.

This scheme will benefit both the environment and the wider community. Donated containers are kept out of general waste and litter streams, ensuring high-quality plastic and aluminium are recycled. This supports the circular economy by reducing the need for virgin materials and saving energy. At the same time, each bottle or can donated contributes directly to fundraising for children's charities, supporting vital services and programmes for children across Ireland.

## Cycle Right programme delivery across the county

We continue to support the delivery of the Cycle Right programme, Ireland's national standard for cycle training, as part of its wider objectives around road safety, active travel and sustainable transport.

The programme is supported by the Department of Transport and the Road Safety Authority and is delivered locally in partnership with SDCC. Through a network of qualified and accredited instructors, the schools-based programme focuses on developing road awareness, bike-handling skills and safe on-road cycling behaviour among children from an early age.

During the first quarter of 2026, Cycle Right training was delivered in schools across several areas of the county, with a total of 394 students taking part. Training was provided in Clondalkin, Lucan, Tallaght and Rathfarnham, supporting consistent access to cycle training across communities.

This continued delivery reflects our commitment to improving road safety outcomes, encouraging active travel habits from a young age and supporting sustainable transport choices across the county.

## Innovative solar-powered lighting installed in Bawnogue

As part of the Bawnogue district centre enhancement project, solar-powered public lighting has been installed beneath high-voltage electricity transmission pylons, demonstrating the effective dual use of pylon wayleave land. The initiative provides safe and reliable lighting in areas that have traditionally remained unlit and underused.

The off-grid lighting units make use of unobstructed solar exposure along the transmission corridors, generating and storing their own power and operating independently of the electricity network. Each unit incorporates solar panels, battery storage and energy-efficient LED lighting within a durable, weather-resistant housing. The lights activate automatically at dusk and

switch off at dawn.

The system has been designed in full compliance with safety and proximity requirements relating to high-voltage infrastructure and has been delivered in coordination with ESB Networks. Installation required no trenching or cabling, resulting in minimal disruption and low ongoing maintenance, with battery replacement forming the primary routine requirement.

This innovative approach improves safety and accessibility in the area while supporting renewable energy use and contributing to wider sustainable infrastructure and climate objectives.

# Climate Leadership



## Clondalkin Decarbonising Zone: leading local climate action

As part of Ireland's commitment to delivering local climate action 41 Decarbonising Zones (DZ) were established in a coordinated nationwide approach. These zones, which include urban, part-urban and rural areas, cover more than 530,000 people across all local authority areas. They act as testing grounds for locally led climate measures, including retrofitting, renewable energy, sustainable transport and biodiversity initiatives, all contributing towards a national target of a

51% reduction in emissions by 2030.

Clondalkin is designated as South Dublin's Decarbonising Zone and provides a collaborative opportunity for the council, communities and local stakeholders to work together to reduce carbon emissions and build a more sustainable and resilient area.

During the past year, extensive engagement has taken place across Clondalkin

through public surveys, local events and workshops involving residents, businesses and community organisations. These conversations have shaped the Decarbonising Zone Implementation Plan, which is now being finalised.

Ahead of the publication of the plan, which is expected to take place in September, a number of initiatives have already progressed within the Clondalkin DZ. Local businesses have also been supported through the Climate Innovation Programme, delivered in partnership with Trinity College Dublin and Munster Technological University. This free programme focused on turning climate theory into practical, cost-saving actions, with participants developing plans to reduce emissions, cut waste and improve efficiency, demonstrating that climate action and economic resilience can advance together.

Several local community organisations, including Clondalkin Addiction Services Programme, Oakfield Trust, Round Towers GAA and ACE Enterprise Park, are leading the way with community climate action projects within the zone, including energy retrofits, solar PV installations and EV charging infrastructure. An electric Green Machine sweeper has been introduced as part of the council's fleet decarbonisation programme, replacing a petrol-powered unit previously used in the area. These initiatives demonstrate the impact of community led action in reducing

emissions, enhancing local facilities and lowering energy costs.

Clondalkin is also part of the Regions Putting Energy Efficiency First project, an Interreg Europe initiative launched in 2025. Delivered locally in partnership with Dublin's energy agency Codema, the project promotes the EU Energy Efficiency First principle by identifying barriers to improved energy efficiency and highlighting good practice. Engagement with stakeholders and councillors has helped shape a roadmap for future policy improvements, with the next phase focusing on shared learning with European partners to inform future updates of our Climate Action Plan.

In addition, we continue to upgrade public lighting and retrofit social homes for better energy efficiency while the the EnergyCloud pilot which delivers free hot water to social homes is also ongoing and further measures in Clondalkin, preparation for the launch of bike libraries this year, expansion of bike-sharing options, development of an energy education programme for communities and the advancement of the Bawnogue District Enhancement Scheme, incorporating sustainable measures.

Updates on climate action initiatives in the Clondalkin Decarbonising Zone and elsewhere in South Dublin are available at [www.sdcc.ie/climateaction](http://www.sdcc.ie/climateaction).

# Climate Leadership



## New Litter Management Plan approved

A new Litter Management Plan was adopted by the elected members of the council at the monthly meeting in April. The new plan, which is required under the Litter Pollution Acts, sets out how SDCC aims to meet our statutory obligation to address litter and illegal dumping.

The process to update the Litter Management Plan began in February, with engagement through the Environment, Public Realm and Climate Change Strategic Policy Committee, followed by public consultation and review by the Circular Economy subcommittee of the SPC with the draft plan then subsequently recommended for adoption by the council at an SPC meeting held on 30 March.

The purpose of the Litter Management Plan is to outline a coordinated and strategic approach to tackling litter and illegal dumping. This includes enforcement and clean-up measures, alongside a strong emphasis on prevention, awareness and community engagement. Addressing litter

plays an important role in protecting the local environment, enhancing quality of life for residents and supporting the broader ambition of being a place that meets the needs and ambitions of everyone here now and in future. Reducing litter also helps ensure that public resources are used more effectively, as savings on on cleaning and illegal dumping can instead be directed towards improving our parks, open spaces and community facilities.

The review of the previous plan highlighted a number of positive achievements including improved national cleanliness rankings, with Tallaght moving ten places up in the Irish Business Against Litter survey and improving from “Littered” to “Clean to European norms”. Over the period of the plan, solar-powered compactor bins were installed at key locations, education and awareness initiatives were expanded through increased participation in the Green Schools Programme, and strong levels of community engagement were supported, with more than 660 clean-up

and enhancement events held during last year. Progress was also made with the introduction of an online graffiti reporting system, the installation of public drinking water stations to reduce plastic bottle waste, and the positive national impact of the Deposit Return Scheme in reducing common litter items such as cans and plastic bottles.

Building on this progress, the new Litter Management Plan sets out clear objectives and priorities informed by the review process and public consultation. These include a stronger focus on litter prevention and circular economy principles, increased collaboration with stakeholders and the continued rollout of solar-powered bin infrastructure. The plan also prioritises the expanded use of CCTV and other technologies to deter illegal dumping, enhanced engagement with fast-food outlets to reduce packaging-related litter, and clearer promotion of SDCC services and initiatives.

Operational priorities within the plan include increasing the visibility of Litter Wardens, strengthening enforcement activity and improving our communication with local businesses and communities. Over the lifetime of the plan, further actions will include closer collaboration with schools and community groups on anti-litter campaigns, alongside improvements to the design and appearance of our litter bin infrastructure. A continued emphasis on partnership and prevention underpins all actions identified in the plan.

Public consultation played an important role in the development of the Litter Management Plan, with submissions considered as part of the Chief Executive’s Report. These contributions helped shape the final priorities and ensure the plan reflects the views and concerns of residents and stakeholders and which can be viewed on [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie).



# Quality Housing



## Free hot water for tenants through innovative wind energy scheme

A new initiative being delivered in partnership with EnergyCloud will provide free hot water to hundreds of council tenants through the use of surplus renewable energy.

Following a successful pilot involving 22 homes in Dunawley, the scheme is now being extended to more than 600 properties across four estates: Tór an Rí, Buirg an Rí, Méile an Rí and Mac Uilliam. The scheme works by using surplus wind energy that would otherwise go to waste. A smart immersion controller is installed in each participating home, allowing excess renewable energy to be diverted directly to the household's hot water tank. Tenants retain full control over their immersion at all times, and any energy costs incurred

are refunded the following month, meaning hot water is provided at no cost to the household.

Nationally, the scheme delivered free hot water on 117 nights in 2023, resulting in meaningful savings for participating households. Extending the programme locally supports tenants with cost-of-living pressures while also contributing to climate and sustainability goals.

The initiative highlights the benefits of collaboration between local authorities, technology partners and communities, demonstrating how renewable energy can be used more efficiently to reduce household costs and support more sustainable living.

## Vacant Above the Shop Grant

New funding has been announced by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to support the reuse of vacant space in cities, towns and villages, including the Vacant Above the Shop Grant. The scheme aims to unlock unused space by converting vacant and derelict buildings, as well as unused areas above existing commercial premises, into homes.

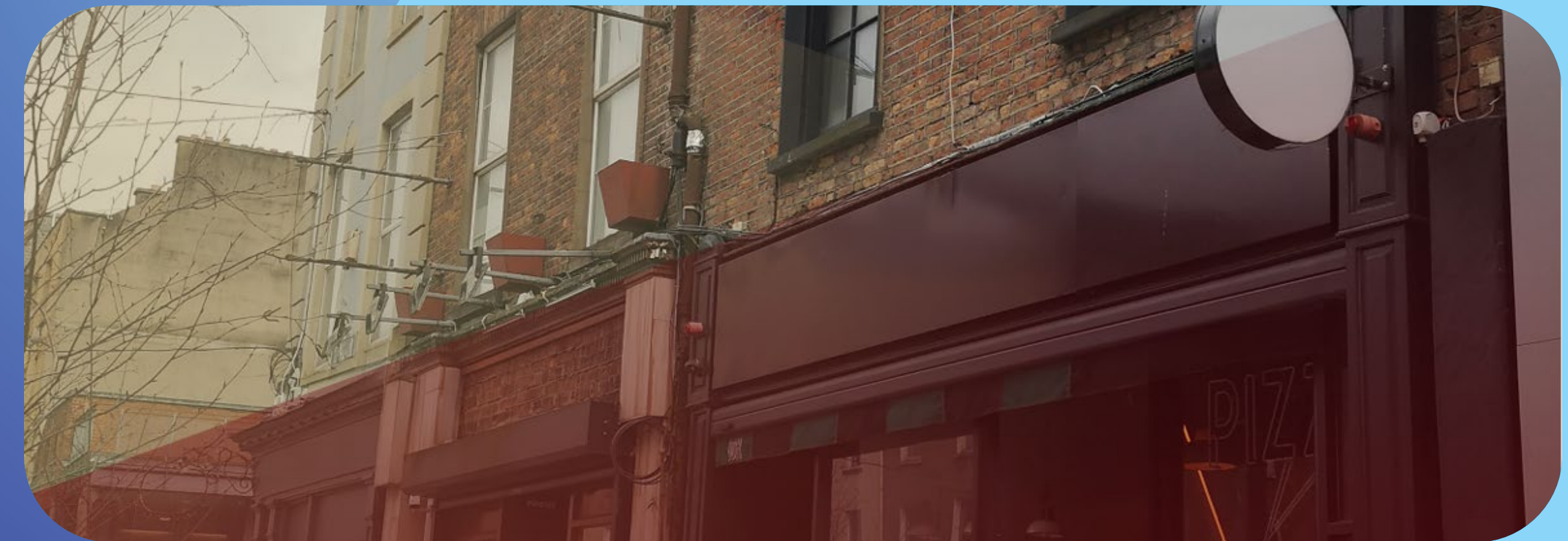
The Vacant Above the Shop Grant supports the refurbishment or conversion of vacant space above ground-floor commercial premises, while retaining the commercial use at street level. Eligible properties must have been built before 2008, be located in a city, town or village, and have upper floors that have been vacant for a minimum of two years.

Grant funding of up to €95,000 is available for the refurbishment or conversion of the first above-the-shop unit. Additional funding of up to €20,000

is available for a second unit, with a further €20,000 available where three or more units are created, subject to a maximum grant of €135,000 per building. Completed units may be used as a principal private residence or made available for rent.

An Expert Advice Grant is also available to support owners before they apply for the Vacant Above the Shop Grant. This provides up to €5,000 towards the cost of professional advice on converting above-the-shop spaces or entire former commercial or public use buildings to residential use. The funding supports the preparation of an Expert Advice Report to help progress vacant properties towards reuse.

Further information, including frequently asked questions and application forms, is available at [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie).



# Quality Housing



## RAS Dublin pilot scheme

The RAS Dublin pilot scheme is an enhanced Rental Accommodation Scheme designed to make it easier for private landlords to provide long-term housing while supporting households in need of secure accommodation. The pilot offers a straightforward and reliable partnership with local authorities, combining long-term letting arrangements, secure rental income and dedicated support throughout the tenancy.

RAS provides stable, long-term housing for eligible households through structured multi-year agreements, rather than short-term or emergency arrangements. SDCC, along with the other Dublin local authorities, works directly with private landlords to provide good-quality homes for approved tenants, increasing the supply of

secure housing options across the city.

The scheme operates through a three-way arrangement: landlords provide the property; the council pays the rent directly to the landlord and tenants are accommodated under normal tenancy arrangements. Guaranteed monthly rent removes the risk of missed payments or extended vacancy periods for landlords, while tenants benefit from long-term security and homes that meet required safety and quality standards. Most agreements run for six to eight years, providing landlords with predictable and reliable income. Where a tenant leaves during the contract period, rent payments continue until a replacement RAS tenant is assigned.

All participating properties must meet the

Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. Homes are inspected by the council before the tenancy begins and during the rental period. Landlords are required to maintain the property and insurance in line with standard private renting practices. Properties must also be registered with the Residential Tenancies Board, and landlords must hold valid tax clearance.

Rent levels are determined by the local authority, taking account of local market evidence, comparable properties and the terms of the pilot scheme. Tenants pay rent to the council through the Differential Rent Scheme, ensuring a fair, transparent and consistent system for all parties.

The RAS Dublin pilot scheme offers a range of benefits for landlords, including payment of up to 100% market rent, guaranteed rental income for the duration of the contract and continued payments during vacancy periods. There are no advertising costs, as tenants are sourced directly through the scheme. Landlords may also avail of front-loaded rent payments where requested, financial support towards reinstatement costs at the end of the contract of up to three months' rent, and access to 100% mortgage interest tax relief, subject to Revenue guidelines.

For further information, landlords can contact the RAS Team by phone on 01-414 9000 or by email at [ras@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:ras@sdublincoco.ie).



# A Thriving Economy



## LEO Food and Drink Export Programme supports SME export growth

LEO South Dublin's Food and Drink Export Programme is a targeted support initiative designed to strengthen the export capacity of established Irish food and drink SMEs. The programme addresses a key capability gap within the sector by providing structured export training, market-led planning and direct commercial engagement opportunities.

The initiative aligns with national priorities, particularly in the context of continued growth in Ireland's food and drink sector. With exports reaching a

record €19 billion in 2025, global demand remains strong, highlighting the importance of supporting businesses to become export-ready and scalable for international markets.

This year, the second cohort of the programme will support 12 local food businesses. Participants will benefit from an integrated suite of professional development supports, including workshops, one-to-one mentoring, targeted market research and structured business development activity. Each

business will also develop a tailored Export Development Plan to support its international growth ambitions.

Additional supports include guidance on regulatory and logistics requirements, preparation of international sales materials and targeted advice focused on up to three priority export markets, ensuring companies are well prepared to enter or expand within overseas markets.

To strengthen the programme's commercial impact, each participating business will receive between 10 and 15 qualified international sales leads, sourced through specialist networks. This ensures that capability building is directly linked to high-value market access opportunities, supporting participants to translate strategic planning into tangible export outcomes.



# A Thriving Economy



## Work IQ Innovation Centre continues to support enterprise growth

Work IQ Innovation Centre continues to show steady growth and sustained levels of activity across its operations. The centre currently supports 36 businesses operating across a wide range of sectors, including pharmaceutical consulting, financial advisory services, software engineering, digital marketing, data design, leadership development, media and career coaching. Occupancy of the centre has increased to 59%, while the cumulative number of office licences issued now stands at 47. Since opening, the centre has supported the creation of 199 jobs, reflecting its ongoing role in supporting and facilitating local enterprise development.

Oxford Innovation, who manage the centre on behalf of SDCC, continue to report a strong pipeline of interest and potential new occupants while feedback from prospective tenants has informed the design of a new coworking space, which is currently in development to

respond to evolving workspace needs. Engagement with external partners has continued to progress. Collaborative work with Tallaght University Hospital and Technological University Dublin is advancing, while discussions with additional potential partners are ongoing.

The centre also plays an active role within the local innovation ecosystem. Recent activity has included hosting the launch of the South Dublin County Council Economic Strategy and facilitating a range of events as part of Local Enterprise Week which included sessions delivered by South Dublin Partnership and Startup Network Europe as well as LEO mentoring clinics, training programmes, and network meetings, export programme sessions as Work IQ continues to develop as a space that is integral to engagement by local businesses, entrepreneurs and innovators.

## Support for Clann Chrónáin tour guide training

The voluntary group Clann Chrónáin Tour Guides, based at Brú Chrónáin – the Clondalkin Round Tower Visitor Centre, continues to go from strength to strength. Since the centre opened in 2017, the group has worked in association with the Clondalkin Round Tower Heritage Group to deliver guided tours and share local history and heritage knowledge with visitors and the wider community.

The group recently completed a structured training and upskilling programme for both existing and new volunteers. Delivered over an 11-week period, much of the programme was led by the group's long-established volunteer guides, reflecting the depth of experience, expertise and commitment within the group across a wide range of

local historical and cultural heritage topics.

SDCC's heritage programme supported this voluntary initiative by facilitating the involvement of external expertise to complement the in-house programme. External contributors delivered best-practice tour guide training and provided practical assessment and formative feedback, helping to maintain a consistently high standard of visitor experience.

Clann Chrónáin continues to develop innovative ways to engage a wider audience, supporting increased footfall to Clondalkin and further strengthening Brú Chrónáin as an important cultural and heritage destination.



# A Better Place



## Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy review and consultation update

The review of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy has formally commenced, marking an important statutory process to update the long-term spatial and economic framework for the region.

The review process began on 26 March with the publication of a Strategic Issues Paper. This paper sets out the key challenges, opportunities and strategic questions facing the region and provides the basis for an initial pre-draft public consultation. This stage of consultation offers an early opportunity for communities, stakeholders, local authorities and public bodies to help inform the direction of the revised strategy. Public consultation on the Strategic Issues Paper will remain open until 22 May.

Submissions received during this

pre-draft consultation will inform the preparation of a draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, which will be published at a later stage for statutory public consultation.

As a long-term strategy guiding regional growth and development, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy is of strategic importance to South Dublin and the wider region. It sits within the planning hierarchy beneath the National Planning Framework – First Revision and will provide a key framework for the preparation of the next County Development Plan. Implementation of the strategy is progressed through coordinated engagement between local authorities, Government Departments and relevant public bodies, aligning spatial planning and economic development around the core principles of healthy placemaking, climate action and economic opportunity. This work

builds on progress made under the first Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy adopted in 2019.

The Planning and Development Act 2024 requires that the review of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy is completed in advance of

the commencement of reviews of new ten-year County Development Plans. Further legislation is expected to provide a mechanism to postpone the commencement of County Development Plan reviews, allowing timelines to align with the requirements of the new Act.

## Oldcastle Drive playspace

Funding secured through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Dormant Accounts Fund will support measures that enhance tenancy sustainment and community development within Traveller-specific group housing schemes and halting sites.

This funding provides for a range of initiatives, including the development of play areas within Traveller-specific accommodation. These spaces are designed to create safer, more engaging environments for children, supporting wellbeing, development and opportunities for active play.

Following extensive consultation with residents of Oldcastle Drive in Clondalkin, along with engagement among a range of teams in the council, our Traveller Accommodation Unit submitted an application to DHLGH for support for the new playspace. We were delighted to recently receive notification that this application was successful for a playspace which will enhance the

day-to-day environment for children living in Oldcastle Drive, promoting inclusion and active play. The design will reflect Traveller traditions and has been informed by similar projects delivered successfully elsewhere in the county. This investment represents a welcome addition to the community and will provide lasting benefits for children and families in the area.



# A Better Place



## Historic Structures Fund 2026 support for Peamount Hospital

Peamount Hospital has been awarded €90,108 under the Historic Structures Fund to support conservation works to St Finian's former schoolhouse, a timber-clad, timber-frame building constructed in 1935 to designs by Beckett and Harrington Architects.

The Historic Structures Fund is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is administered locally by our Architectural Conservation team. The fund supports the repair and reuse of historic buildings where projects demonstrate a clear residential or community benefit.

The allocation will support continued conservation works to the external fabric of the building as part of its adaptive reuse for community purposes within the wider hospital complex. This marks the third consecutive year of support under the fund for the project, following awards of approximately €180,000 in 2024 and 2025 for earlier phases of conservation works.

The continued investment will help protect the architectural and historical significance of the former schoolhouse while supporting its long-term sustainable use as a community asset.

## Whitestown Greenway

Work is now almost complete on the Whitestown Greenway, which will create a new green infrastructure corridor along the Whitestown Stream between Killinarden Park and Sean Walsh Park.

The project is expected to be finished this month providing approximately 640 metres of new pedestrian and cycle infrastructure. The route has an important interconnecting function within the wider cycling and walking network, linking with a combination of existing, approved and planned schemes, including the Dodder Greenway, the Citywest to Rathfarnham cycle scheme and the N81 cycle scheme. The greenway will also connect to the Dublin Mountains Way trailhead.

Public lighting is being installed along the length of the route, with a design that allows lights to dim during periods of non-use to accommodate bats travelling along the Whitestown Stream corridor. The scheme also includes 24-hour CCTV coverage and a controlled pedestrian crossing at Whitestown Drive, enhancing safety and accessibility for users.

The project has an overall construction cost of approximately €2 million, with €300,000 in funding support provided through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht's Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.



# Connected Communities



## Bealtaine festival events

Local community groups and centres are being supported to deliver a varied programme of Bealtaine activities throughout the month, celebrating creativity, culture and positive ageing while encouraging people to stay socially connected and active.

A wide range of organisations are taking part, with events designed to promote wellbeing, lifelong learning and community participation. Firhouse Active Age will host a series of Lust for Life events alongside creative workshops in Firhouse Community Centre. The Park

Community Centre will offer outdoor Tai Chi sessions, weather permitting, followed by refreshments and live music, as well as a flower-arranging workshop. Buadain le Gaeilge will host a Féile Bealtaine singing session open to all, while Belgard Community Centre will feature performances by Belgard's Trad Group and Boland's School of Dance.

Additional initiatives include a Bealtaine event hosted by the Cara Café Dementia Café in Ballyroan Community Centre. Esker Active Retirement is taking part in a four-week health and wellbeing

programme, while Ballyowen Community Centre is hosting a schedule of activities in partnership with Ballyowen Women's Group, including Tai Chi, chair yoga and engagement with the local Historical Society.

North Clondalkin Library will run a month-long programme featuring Making Memories workshops, calligraphy classes, a Bealtaine Movie Club, a My Fair Lady

sing-along and a genealogy session facilitated by Cathy Scuffle. A tea dance taking place on 20 May will be the library's flagship Bealtaine event.

For more information, or to find out what is happening in your local area, contact your local community centre or community officer by emailing [community@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:community@sdblincoco.ie).

## Time Capsule launch at North Clondalkin Library

The Time Capsule Sessions are an interview series that records the experiences of people who moved to the North Clondalkin area from the 1970s onwards. Through in-depth conversations, participants reflect on what brought them to the area and the memories and moments that have shaped their lives over time. Each interview contributes to a shared record of North Clondalkin's social history.

The project has culminated in a photographic exhibition now on display at North Clondalkin Library. The exhibition brings together each recorded account with a portrait of the participant, captured by award-winning photographer and Humans of Dublin creator Peter Varga.

The exhibition was officially launched by Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns on Monday 30 March. The launch event brought

together participants, local residents and community partners to recognise the contributors and mark the opening of the exhibition.

The Time Capsule Sessions exhibition is open to the public at North Clondalkin Library and invites visitors to explore the personal stories and shared experiences that have helped shape the identity of the area.



# Connected Communities



## Event for local Special Olympics athletes

On Monday 27 April, we were delighted to welcome 84 local Special Olympics athletes to Tallaght Stadium to mark their upcoming participation in the Ireland Summer Games 2026. The games are expected to attract over 1,200 athletes, along with many coaches, family members, volunteers and spectators, across four days of activity in venues around Dublin from 18–21 June.

The summer games event will officially start with an opening ceremony in Tallaght Stadium on 18 June, so the recent event was also a great opportunity to give a preview of the facility to the athletes and their coaches and family members.

On the evening athletes spoke about their anticipation for the games as they reflected on the scale of the occasion while Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Pamela Kearns praised their achievement in reaching the national finals and described them as strong ambassadors for the county.

The CEO of Special Olympics Ireland, Karen Coventry, thanked SDCC for organising the event for the local athletes and said the games will have a positive impact on athletes and their communities.

To stay informed on the Ireland Summer Games 2026, visit [www.specialolympics.ie](http://www.specialolympics.ie).

## Junior safety road safety workshop promotes e-scooter awareness

Young people took part in a multi-agency road safety workshop on 20 March, aimed at raising awareness of the dangers associated with e-scooters, scramblers and unsafe road use. The interactive session brought together emergency services and healthcare professionals to provide practical, real-world learning.

The workshop was organised in collaboration with the South Dublin Junior Safety Forum and took place in Tallaght, with representatives from An Garda Síochána, Dublin Fire Brigade and Children’s Health Ireland in attendance. Students learned about the potential consequences of road traffic incidents and gained insight into the roles played by emergency responders.

An Garda Síochána and Dublin Fire Brigade delivered a simulated incident involving a young woman who had been thrown from an e-scooter. Students observed the coordinated response as the scene was secured, the situation assessed and urgent medical care provided. The demonstration emphasised the importance of rapid response, teamwork and safety awareness during emergencies.

Providing a clinical perspective, Dr Donnelly from Children’s Health Ireland, alongside Clinical Nurse Specialist Orla Stavelly, spoke to students about the injuries commonly treated in the emergency department as a result of

e-scooter and bicycle collisions. They outlined the often serious and long-term impacts of these incidents, reinforcing the importance of protective measures and responsible behaviour on the roads.

Students were also given the opportunity to speak directly with emergency service personnel and ask questions about making safer choices when using e-scooters, scramblers and sharing the road with other users.

The workshop reinforced the importance of education, prevention and shared responsibility in keeping roads safe, while also highlighting the vital work carried out daily by emergency services. The South Dublin Junior Safety Forum continues to promote safety awareness among young people, supporting safer decision-making across the county.



# Connected Communities



## Easter Sports Camp

Active South Dublin recently delivered an Easter camp for children with a disability at Collinstown Sports Complex on 31 March and 2 April. Children with intellectual disabilities, aged from 5 to 14, participated in wide range of activities including judo, frisbee, tag rugby, and cycling as part of our sports inclusion programme.

The cycling session was delivered in partnership with the Cycling Inclusion Centre of Excellence that is onsite

and which was recently opened. The facility is managed by DDLETB and is supported by Active South Dublin and SDCC and centre staff led the cycling session in the camp.

The weekend of events demonstrated the impact of our sports inclusion programme we greatly appreciate the work of the sports coaches involved who delivered such engaging and beneficial sessions for all the children who participated.

## Summer events across the county

Preparations are underway for a wide range of events taking place this summer, offering opportunities for families and communities to come together and enjoy local parks, heritage and public spaces.

One of the highlights returning this year is the popular Tymon Park Summer Market, which will take place on Sunday 31 May, Sunday 21 June, Sunday 26 July and Sunday 30 August. The market will offer street food, crafts, artisan produce and live entertainment, creating a relaxed and welcoming family day out. It will be located at the Castletymon Road entrance beside the playground.

In Clondalkin, the Brú Chrónáin Family Funday will take place on Saturday 11 July in the grounds of the Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre. The event will include craft stalls, stilt walkers, games, juggling, face painting and visits from the mobile library. Volunteer tour guides will also be available to provide complimentary narrated tours of the visitor centre throughout the day.

Meanwhile, plans are in place to host a series of events in the new outdoor performance space in Corkagh Park, close to Park House Café. The first of these will be a performance by Tumble Circus on Monday 11 May, as part of Age and Opportunity's national Bealtaine Festival.

Further details on these events and additional activities planned will be shared on the Council's website and social media channels in the coming weeks.



## Cultural Richness



### Creative and Active Balgaddy

The launch of the Creative and Active programme in Balgaddy on Saturday 17 April marked the beginning of a new community-focused initiative designed to encourage creativity and active participation. Held throughout the day at Balgaddy Community Centre and The Green beside Tor an Rí, the event welcomed more than 200 people from the local area.

Young people, families and residents took part in a range of creative and physical activities aimed at bringing the community together in an inclusive and welcoming setting. The programme combines music, dance, performance and sport to support self-expression while encouraging people of all ages to get involved and stay active.

During the launch event, attendees participated in workshops, demonstrations and performances led by facilitators and artists. Activities included dance sessions, music-making opportunities and creative showcases. The various events were very well received as participants enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in local and inclusive creative activities. The success of this initial venture is an important first step in developing a sustained, community-led programme for Balgaddy and we will now look to harness the potential to build confidence, develop skills and create new pathways for engagement as we seek to expand the Creative and Active programme to support local community development, creativity and wellbeing over the coming months.

### Launch of RePlay street art festival

A new street arts festival, RePlay, will be officially launched this month, offering a first look at a free, family-friendly cultural event coming to Tallaght later this summer.

The launch will unveil the full festival programme and artist line-up for RePlay, which will take place on 16 August in Parthalán Place, the recently reshaped urban space in the heart of Tallaght. The festival will invite people of all ages to experience contemporary urban culture in a shared public setting.

RePlay will showcase a broad mix of street arts and urban expression, creating opportunities for people to take part while supporting artists to share their work in an inclusive and accessible way. The launch event will introduce the festival concept

and provide a preview of the activities planned for August.

During the festival, Parthalán Place will be transformed into a lively cultural hub featuring live DJs, street dance performances, graffiti art, rap cyphers and spoken word. The programme will also include skateboarding, BMX and roller-skating demonstrations, alongside interactive workshop areas where participants can try activities under the guidance of experienced practitioners.

RePlay is designed to bring people together through creativity, encouraging participation, collaboration and connection in public space and full details of the festival will be announced at the official launch on 25 May.

### South Dublin Live

South Dublin Live is a programme of live performances taking place across a variety of venues and local spaces this summer, offering audiences the opportunity to experience culture close to home while supporting artists and producers to present their work.

The programme will run throughout the summer months and into September, with a focus on accessible, high-quality performance across a range of art forms.

The opening event will be a concert at Rathfarnham Castle in June, curated by Artscope, following the success of their fully booked concert series last year.

Through a diverse mix of genres, formats and locations, South Dublin Live continues to strengthen connections between artists, audiences and communities, supporting local cultural engagement. The full programme is available at [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie).

# Cultural Richness



## Ruaille Buaille returns to Lucan

Ruaille Buaille, Lucan Children's Music Festival, will return from Wednesday 3 June to Saturday 6 June, offering four days of music and creative activity for children, families and the wider community.

The festival includes workshops and performances taking place in schools and libraries across the area, before culminating in Cruinniú na nÓg @ Ruaille Buaille Music Village. This full-day celebration for children and accompanying adults will take place in the grounds of Lucan House and will bring together live music, creative workshops and interactive performances.

This year's programme will also feature two performances by Tumble Circus, family art workshops led by Geraldine Art, visits from the SDCC Mobile Library and Ceol Connected @ Ruaille Buaille. Audiences can also look forward to performances by the WhistleBlast

Quartet, along with a Let's Chat session offering opportunities to meet and engage with festival performers. The popular School Art for Railings project also returns, with artwork created by students in local schools selected for display as posters throughout Lucan.

A core focus of Ruaille Buaille continues to be the commissioning of new music for children with premieres of new works by composers Tadhg Kinsella, Abigail Smith and Kenneth Edge, all commissioned by the festival, award-winning musician Kyle Riley, also known as Little Folk, also joins the programme this year.

Supported by SDCC, the festival remains a key part of local cultural life, placing creativity for children and young people at the centre of community engagement in Lucan and surrounding areas, with full programme details available at [www.ruaillebuaille.ie](http://www.ruaillebuaille.ie).

## Behind the Scenes Productions and The Night Belongs to Us

Behind the Scenes Productions and The Night Belongs to Us are initiatives of our Arts Office, providing pathways for local young people to develop skills, create work and take part in live performance. Both programmes focus on youth-led activity and support new voices to be heard within the creative industries.

Behind the Scenes Productions will produce the launch of the SubSounds Schools Album at Áras Chrónáin on Friday 22 May at an event featuring original music created by young people participating in the programme which will celebrate

emerging talent through live performance.

The same company is also producing The Night Belongs to Us, an open mic event taking place in Rua Red on 26 June. This will offer young performers an opportunity to share music, spoken word and other creative work in a supportive environment, helping to build confidence, connection and performance experience.

For further details on both programmes please see [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie).

## Launch of Tallaght Library's local studies archive

Tallaght Library recently marked the opening of a redesigned local studies area with an evening event focused on the importance of preserving and sharing local history.

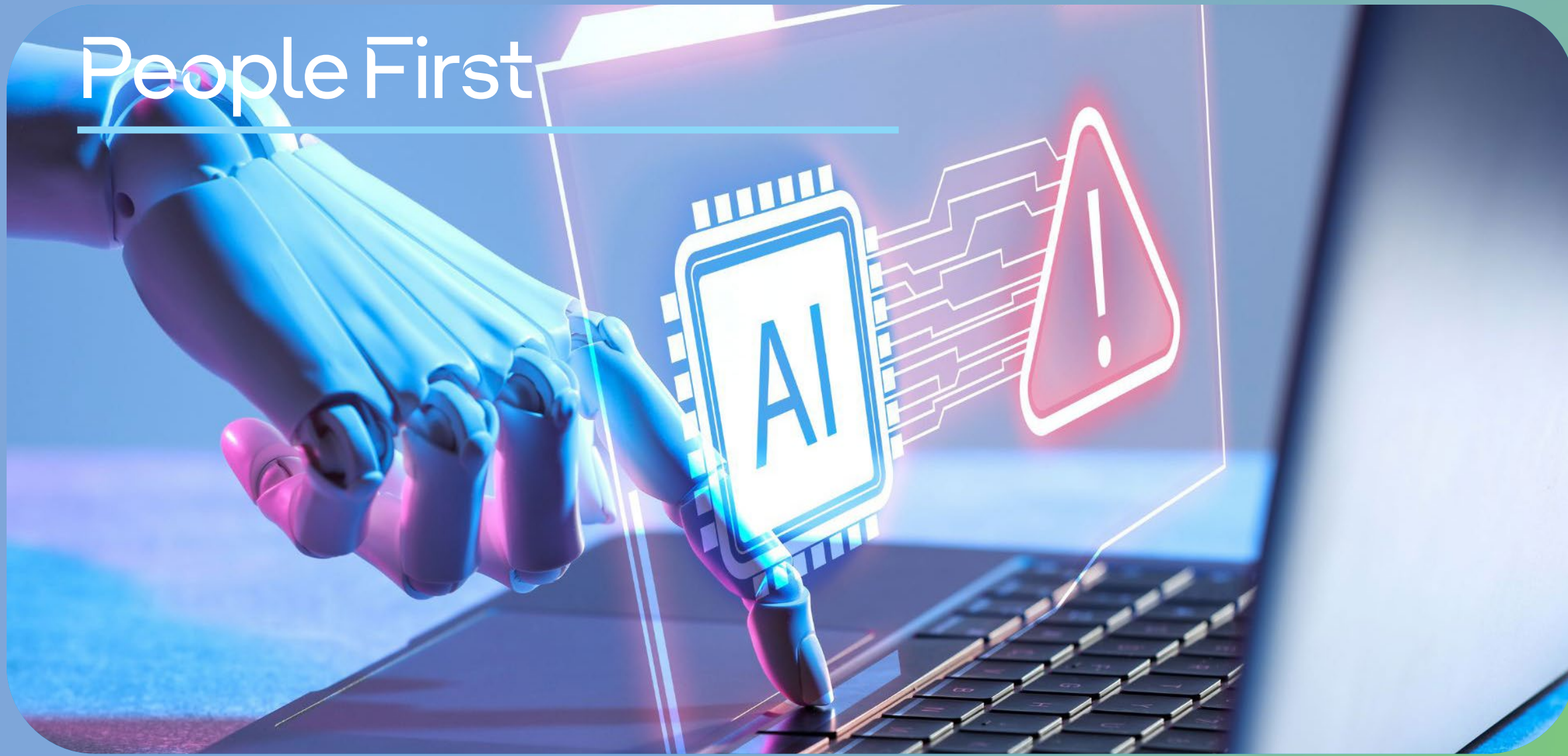
The event was hosted by Carla Soden, our newly appointed archivist, who spoke about her role and the value of making archival collections accessible to researchers and the wider public. She also highlighted how local archives support learning, research and a deeper understanding of the county's shared heritage.

The redesigned local studies

area provides a comfortable and well-equipped space for anyone interested in exploring the history of the county. It offers access to local history records, reference materials and archival resources, supporting students, family historians and community researchers.

The launch brought together residents, history enthusiasts and library staff to celebrate the new facility and to recognise the ongoing work of the archives in preserving South Dublin's heritage. The local studies area is now open to the public and invites visitors to explore the county's rich historical record.

## People First



### Artificial intelligence literacy training

As part of its people-first and safe-by-design approach to artificial intelligence, SDCC is continuing to take practical steps to support the responsible use of AI tools across the organisation.

Building on established governance arrangements, human oversight and strong data protection practices, Digital Services has launched an AI literacy programme to help staff safely explore how AI can support everyday work. This work continues to align with the EU Artificial Intelligence Act and the Council's commitment to maintaining public trust.

To date, 82 staff members have taken part in AI literacy training. The sessions use clear language and practical examples to show how AI tools can support efficiency and day-to-day tasks,

while reinforcing that people remain fully in control of decisions and outputs at all times.

An initial session focused on building a shared understanding of what artificial intelligence is and how it can be used responsibly in a local authority setting. A follow-on session then explored practical applications, demonstrating how AI tools can support everyday work within familiar office environments, while emphasising careful handling of information.

This ongoing programme will help build staff confidence and capability, supporting the safe and considered adoption of artificial intelligence while keeping people, trust and public service values at the centre of the organisation's approach.

### Strong engagement cyber security awareness week

As part of the ongoing Cyber Security Programme, Digital Services delivered a week-long programme of cyber security awareness events for staff from 13 to 17 April 2026. Cyber Security Awareness Week focused on a clear and consistent message that keeping the organisation safe is a shared responsibility.

Across the week, staff recorded a total of 931 attendances, reflecting a strong and encouraging level of engagement. This participation provides confidence that key messages are resonating and that safer digital habits are being reinforced across the organisation.

Sessions explored how many cyber-attacks operate and highlighted that people, rather than systems, are often the primary target. Common tactics such as applying pressure, creating false urgency or impersonating trusted contacts were examined. Staff were encouraged to slow down, think before acting and make safe decisions as part of the organisation's human firewall.

The sessions also reinforced that while technology enables more effective ways of working, it can introduce new risks. Simple everyday habits, clear processes and consistent ways of working play an important role in protecting people, systems and data. Cyber security is most effective when everyone remains alert and takes shared responsibility.

Throughout the week, staff had opportunities to ask questions and receive practical advice, helping to embed security awareness into day-to-day work. An online performance of *Hooked* demonstrated how easily mistakes can happen under pressure and highlighted the importance of awareness in preventing incidents.

Real-world examples of cyber incidents from other organisations illustrated the serious impact of phishing and ransomware attacks, while also reinforcing that early reporting can prevent issues from escalating.

The key messages from the week were clear: pause before responding to unexpected requests, trust instincts when something feels wrong, and report concerns immediately, even if a mistake may have been made.

# People First



## Disability Advisory Board meeting

A new Disability Advisory Board has been established following an open expression of interest process, including shortlisting and interviews. The Board replaces the previous Disability Advisory and Consultative Panel and represents an important step in strengthening the approach to accessibility and inclusion.

A total of 13 members have been appointed, bringing a diverse range of lived experience and expertise. The members are Michael Seifu, John Bird, Sinead Tighe, Jessica Conlon, Vincent Stack, Oisín Putt, Carrie Young, Eoghan Gorman, Richard Ryder, James Casserly, Lynn McDonald, Eric Byrne and Sinead Smart. The role of the Disability Advisory Board is to provide guidance and advice on

issues affecting disabled people across services, functions and facilities. Its work will support the continued development of accessible and inclusive practices across all areas of activity.

The Board held its inaugural meeting on 7 May at County Hall in Tallaght, with support from the Access Officer, Grainne Meehan, and Senior Executive Officer, Brenda Shannon.

Opening the meeting, Mayor Cllr. Pamela Kearns welcomed the establishment of the Board and noted that it will make a significant contribution to strengthening accessibility and inclusion, while helping to identify areas where further improvements are needed across the county.

Councillor Emma Murphy, Chair of the Strategic Policy Committee for Social, Community, Equality and Integration, also welcomed the establishment of the Board and highlighted the strong support of the committee for its role and work programme.

During the meeting, members received presentations from Gary Walsh, Senior Engineer, on accessible pathways, and from Ralph McGarry, Senior

Executive Officer, and Declan Healy, Communications Manager, on work relating to accessible branding and communications.

This new Board provides a structured and ongoing forum for engagement, supporting meaningful progress and ensuring that accessibility and inclusion continue to be embedded across services and decision-making into the future.

## National Workplace Wellbeing Day

National Workplace Wellbeing Day took place on the 29 April this year; this is a dedicated day to emphasise the importance of health and wellbeing in the workplace.

Building on last year's success, SDCC staff were invited to take part in a variety of activities including chair massages, sound baths and guided meditation offering moments of calm and relaxation during the working day. A group staff walk also took place, encouraging movement, fresh air and social connection.

Information stands were available throughout the day, providing staff with the opportunity to access available resources and advice to support better wellbeing for all.

National Workplace Wellbeing Day is a key component of our programme of health and wellbeing initiatives. Events such as this align closely with the core pillars of our Staff Wellbeing Strategy, focusing on physical, social, and mental wellbeing.



# County Matters



## 100% of our road fleet now decarbonised

We operate a fleet of more than 300 vehicles with a target under our Climate Action Plan to decarbonise a minimum of 31% of this by 2030 to support corporate emission-reduction targets and national climate obligations. Supporting this overall target, we embarked on an ambitious approach to achieve full decarbonisation of our road fleet.

This started in 2024 with the introduction of a pilot project to trial the use of Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in some of our fleet as an alternative to conventional road diesel. HVO is a renewable fuel that delivers significant lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions reductions compared with fossil diesel. Following the successful completion of the pilot, HVO has now been rolled out across 100% of our road-going diesel vehicles. This has enabled emissions reductions on vehicles where there is not yet a viable electric alternative, delivering results well in advance of expectations.

To further embed low-carbon operational practices, two new winter maintenance vehicles have been procured that will operate exclusively on HVO. These vehicles are currently under fabrication and are scheduled for delivery later this year, ensuring that specialised winter services align with the same decarbonisation standards as the wider fleet.

Alongside this transition, we continue to prioritise further procurement of electric vehicles where operationally appropriate. In addition to reducing emissions and lowering operating costs, electric vehicles deliver wider benefits for air quality and noise reduction in communities. Last year, eight electric vehicles were acquired to replace internal combustion engine vehicles on a direct one-for-one basis while in the first quarter of this year, two large electric vans were delivered, with delivery of a further six medium electric vans expected this month. These additions will increase electric vehicles to 11% of our overall fleet

with further investment planned over the next two years.

Operational equipment is also being decarbonised where feasible with two electric Green Machine pedestrian sweepers recently introduced for use in Clondalkin and Lucan. These sweepers contribute to emissions reductions in non-road mobile machinery while also improving air quality in public spaces.

To support the expanding electric fleet, investment is underway to deliver a network of designated depot charging points. A tender for the installation of depot-based charging infrastructure is scheduled to be published during the summer. This project is a key enabler for the continued transition to electric vehicles and will be delivered across several depots.

In parallel, upgrades have already been implemented to existing charging infrastructure at council depots to increase

capacity, reduce charging turnaround times and improve reporting on electric vehicle utilisation and operational efficiency.

Construction of a new mechanical depot, designed specifically to support the maintenance of electric vehicles, commenced last month. This facility will enable proactive servicing and support by the Mechanical Services team as the electric fleet continues to grow.

The transition from fossil diesel to electric vehicles, combined with the full substitution of road diesel with HVO, means that the Council has effectively decarbonised its road-going fleet. This means that we have effectively already exceeded our original Climate Action Plan target of 31% fleet decarbonisation by 2030 and represents a significant contribution to overall emissions reduction, with additional benefits for local air quality.



# County Matters

Proposed Variation No 3

South Dublin County Council

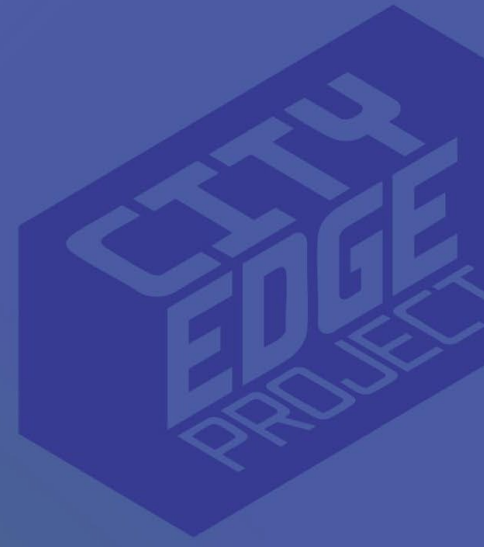
## City Edge Strategic Urban Regeneration Framework 2026



### Public consultation under way on City Edge Strategic Urban Regeneration Framework

Public consultation has been undertaken on the draft City Edge Strategic Urban Regeneration Framework, which sets out a statutory planning approach of City Edge within the SDCC administrative area. The framework builds on the vision and delivery strategy established in the City Edge Strategic Framework adopted in 2022 and provides detailed guidance to support future development.

The Strategic Urban Regeneration Framework identifies a number of Priority Development Areas where mixed-use regeneration will be focused in the short to medium term. These areas account for approximately 28% of the City Edge lands within our area with the potential to deliver around 9,000 new homes and support up to 12,000 jobs.

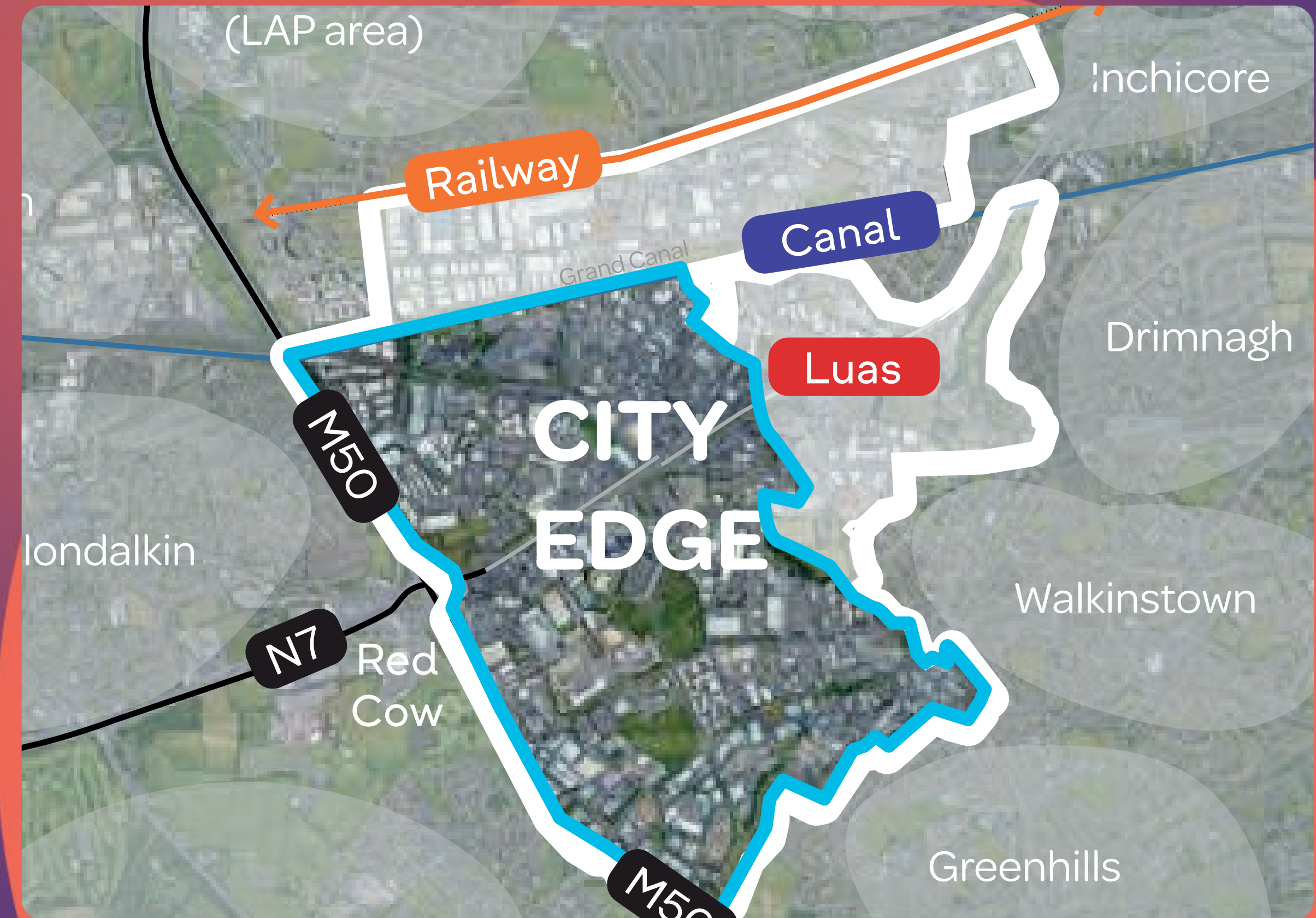


The overall vision for City Edge is to create a connected, green and inclusive mixed-use urban quarter that supports healthier living, stronger communities and a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.

The draft framework is proposed as a Variation to the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028 and is accompanied by the required environmental assessments and transport

modelling reports.

Submissions could be made until 12 May after which, a Chief Executive's Report will be prepared summarising the submissions received and providing responses to the issues raised. Elected members will then consider the report and decide whether to adopt the proposed Variation, with or without modifications, or to reject it.





## 2025 AFS demonstrates strong asset base and stable overall position

The completion of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS), which was noted at the council meeting last month, marks an important milestone for the organisation and provides an opportunity for reflection on our financial performance. Overall, it shows strong and resilient performance for the financial year ending 31 December 2025. Despite challenges from wider economic conditions, inflationary costs and sector-specific volatility, maintaining effective financial controls allowed us to retain focus on our strategic objectives and supported continued delivery of high-quality services. The year-end position highlights the importance of continued financial discipline, particularly in the context of inflationary pressures and wider external uncertainty.

### Small revenue account surplus demonstrates narrow operating margins

Revenue expenditure amounted to €392.9 million which was 0.25% above budget, reflecting the tight margins in our day-to-day operations. With income

broadly matching expenditure, our closing surplus was just €24,002 resulting in an accumulated revenue reserve of €12.39 million at year-end.

### Continued capital investment at scale

Capital expenditure totalled €333.6 million, reflecting continued investment in acquisition, construction and enhancement of significant fixed assets, supported by income of €302.3 million before transfers from the revenue account of €47.5 million. This means that our capital account finished the year with an overall positive movement of €18.8 million, ensuring that we are well positioned to continue delivery of housing, infrastructure and amenities to build on the achievements of 2025 which saw completion of 812 social homes, exceeding the target of 772, alongside continued energy-efficiency upgrades, active travel schemes, strategic infrastructure at Clonburrish SDZ, and multiple community and parks projects as part of our broader capital programme.

### €3.7 billion fixed asset base

Our fixed assets net book value was €3.7 billion at year end. This includes operational assets valued at €2.5 billion and infrastructural assets of €1.1 billion, reflecting the scale of our service delivery and infrastructure responsibility while community assets valued at €27 million and non-operational assets of €89.2 million made up the remainder of our asset base.

### Improved debtor position reflects collection performance trajectory

Our financial statement also shows a continued reduction in monies outstanding to the council as our collection rates improved. Of particular note, commercial rates collection reached 95% with arrears reduced to €11.1 million, the lowest level recorded since 2008, while the marginal increase in housing loan arrears was due to capitalisation of some customer credit balances.

### Managing risk and uncertainty going forward

Looking ahead, while our relatively strong financial position presents opportunities to continue to invest in local services and infrastructure, wider economic issues including energy market volatility and inflationary pressures necessitate continued vigilance. Maintaining reserves and delivering core services will require ongoing control of both revenue and capital expenditure, while responding to continued demands for housing, infrastructure and community investment.

The work of all staff involved in ensuring the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of the AFS as well as ongoing financial management across all workstreams is greatly appreciated and ensures that the council has the platform to continue to create greater opportunity for all in South Dublin.



# County Matters



## Minister marks opening of first section of South Link Street at Clonburris

The Minister for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage marked a significant milestone in the delivery of the Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) with the official ribbon cutting of the first completed section of Stage 1B of the South Link Street on Wednesday, 29th of April.

The event was attended by representatives from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage including Minister James Browne, the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) Team, the Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Pamela Kearns, SDCC Director of Services for Planning and Transport Eoin Burke and the SDCC Planning and Delivery Team, Design Teams, Project Managers, private landowners and the main contractor Clonmel.

The South Link Street is a key piece of infrastructure, comprising approximately

4km of new east-west roadway, including junction upgrades, drainage, water services, landscaping and parkland. It is a critical element in unlocking lands for housing delivery across the SDZ.

The event marked the opening of the first completed section of Stage 1B of the South Link Street, building on the earlier delivery of Stage 1A, which is already operational.

Further sections of Stage 1B will open on a phased and incremental basis over the coming years, aligned with adjacent housing delivery and the reduction of construction activity. This approach ensures that the infrastructure can be brought into use safely while supporting the continued development of the wider Clonburris area.

Located less than 15 minutes by rail from Dublin City Centre, Clonburris is one of the largest regeneration and housing

opportunities in the country. The area has the capacity to deliver approximately 9,500 new homes, alongside 90 hectares of parks, schools, community facilities and high-quality public realm, supporting a future population of over 23,000 people.

Clonburris represents a flagship example of compact, sustainable development aligned with the National Planning Framework (First Revision 2025) and the Government's national housing strategy, Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025-2030: An Action Plan on Housing Supply and Targeting Homelessness. The project supports delivery targets set out in SDCC's Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026, demonstrating how coordinated national investment can accelerate housing delivery in strategic, well-connected locations.

As of Q4 2025, substantial progress has been made in housing delivery across

the Clonburris SDZ, with 4,231 homes granted planning permission, 3,106 homes under construction and 1,419 homes completed, of which 1,014 are already occupied. The development includes a mix of social, affordable, cost rental and private housing.

The project highlights the strong collaboration between SDCC, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the National Transport Authority, Clonburris Infrastructure Ltd and key landowners including Cairn Homes, Kelland Homes and Evara.

This milestone represents a significant step forward in the transformation of Clonburris into a vibrant, well-connected and sustainable new community. Continued investment in infrastructure will support the ongoing delivery of housing and community amenities in the years ahead.



# County Matters



## Transforming Lucan: investment in place, community and wellbeing

A programme of significant investment and enhancement is transforming Lucan through a series of connected projects focused on community wellbeing, sustainable development and high-quality public spaces. Together, these initiatives are strengthening the whole area as a vibrant and inclusive place to live, work and visit, while supporting the delivery of the council's key priorities.

A key part of this investment is the development of Lucan Leisure Campus, a modern, multi-facility hub located beside Griffeen Valley Park. Designed for people of all ages and abilities, the campus brings together sport, leisure, childcare and community facilities within a single, accessible setting.

Delivered in phases, the campus now combines a new purpose-built swimming pool with the refurbishment of the existing leisure centre. The new building facility includes a 25-metre pool alongside a separate multi-use pool with a movable floor, allowing for a wide range of activities. Supporting facilities such as a sauna and steam room wellbeing suite, exercise rooms, and flexible studios provide opportunities for both structured programmes and casual use. A welcoming entrance space with café encourages social interaction and connection around shared activities.

Alongside this, the existing leisure centre on site has been significantly upgraded and now includes an enhanced sports

hall, training spaces and a new permanent home for Esker Boxing Club, as well as a crèche and secure outdoor play area. A new changing pavilion, nearing completion, will support field sports users in Griffeen Valley Park. The campus has been designed to a high energy standard, supporting sustainable building practices while delivering long-term community benefits.

Other key aspects of our investment in Lucan are also visible within the historic core of the village, where the reopening of Lucan Village Green has created a new social focal point for local communities and visitors alike. Located between the Griffeen River, Main Street, Lucan Road

and Dispensary Lane, the renewed space provides a central gathering place within the village.

The redesigned green includes seating areas, a bandstand, access to the river, amphitheatre-style seating and new planting, creating a welcoming and flexible space that can be enjoyed throughout the day. The layout supports both everyday use and larger community events, contributing to the vitality of the village centre.

This work is complemented by wider public realm improvements, including enhanced access to Lucan Demesne, upgrades to the Liffey Weir promenade and refurbishment works to Lucan



# County Matters



Bridge. Together, these projects improve connectivity, accessibility and the overall appearance of the village, supporting stronger links between natural, historic and civic spaces.

A further key element of Lucan's transformation is the opening of Lucan House and Demesne to the public. Following a pilot trial opening phase, the grounds now provide controlled access for visitors to experience the landscape, biodiversity and heritage of this historic site.

The demesne is undergoing a phased programme of conservation and restoration works, designed to protect its architectural and environmental significance while improving access over time. Information boards across the

site provide insight into its historic use and ongoing conservation approach, helping visitors to connect with the area's heritage.

Public access is currently managed to ensure safety, protect sensitive features and support ongoing works. While some areas remain restricted, the phased opening offers an early opportunity to experience the space and understand the long-term vision being developed through the emerging masterplan.

Taken together, these projects reflect a clear and consistent approach to place-making, focusing on quality design, sustainability and community need. Investment in sports facilities supports active lifestyles and wellbeing, while enhanced public spaces encourage

social interaction and local activity. Conservation works ensure that Lucan's heritage is protected and integrated into its future development.

These improvements also support wider strategic goals, including healthier communities, sustainable infrastructure and economic vitality. By strengthening connections between public facilities, green spaces and the village centre, Lucan is evolving as a more accessible,

inclusive and resilient place.

As these projects continue to develop and mature, they demonstrate the value of coordinated investment in shaping places that work for people, support community life and respond to future needs. Lucan's ongoing transformation reflects a long-term commitment to creating high-quality environments that enhance everyday life across the county.







# Finance Report

## Billing & Collection Report @ 24th April 2026

Billing	Arrears 31 Dec 2025	Budget	2026	Billed	Receipts/Credits	Arrears	% of Billed income
Commercial Rates	€11,192,587	€157,614,100		€159,798,622	€97,145,316	€73,845,893	61%
Housing Rents	€7,802,151	€42,547,400		€14,068,836	€14,125,661	€7,745,326	100%
Housing RAS Rents	€1,201,981	€2,315,500		€738,233	€730,747	€1,209,468	99%
Cash Receipts	Arrears 31 Dec 2025	Budget	2026	Billed	Receipts/Credits	Arrears	% of Budget income
Planning Fees	n/a	€1,110,000		n/a	€149,923	€0	14%
Fire Certificates	n/a	€450,000		n/a	€152,767	€0	34%
Parking Fees	n/a	€803,000		n/a	€273,284	€0	34%
Water Services/Uisce Eireann	€91,652	€1,759,400		€1,185,781	€430,747	€846,686	24%
	<b>€20,288,371</b>	<b>€206,599,400</b>		<b>€175,791,472</b>	<b>€113,008,445</b>	<b>€83,647,372</b>	

### Debt Analysis - Social Housing Rent Accounts

Category	Number	Amount	%
No arrears	6565	<b>2,926,457</b>	<b>60%</b>
0-6 weeks	1879	388,244	<b>17%</b>
7-12 weeks	429	331,448	<b>4%</b>
13-18 weeks	315	405,039	<b>3%</b>
19-24 weeks	233	383,474	<b>2%</b>
25-52 weeks	571	1,731,259	<b>5%</b>
1 - 2 years	465	2,560,533	<b>4%</b>
> 2 years	485	4,871,786	<b>4%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,942</b>	<b>€7,745,326</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Debt Analysis - Commercial Rates Accounts

Category	Amount	%
Current	63,712,626	<b>86%</b>
>1 year	3,284,240	<b>4%</b>
>2 years	3,004,312	<b>3%</b>
>3 years	1,288,106	<b>2%</b>
>4 years	1,048,253	<b>1%</b>
>5 years	514,307	<b>1%</b>
<b>2020</b>	64,068	<b>0%</b>
<b>Pre 2019</b>	1,929,980	<b>3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,845,893</b>	<b>100%</b>

Opening of Stage 1B South Link Street



Mythical Sculptures Launch at Sean Walsh Park



Motorcycle Safety Campaign



Reception for Firhouse Rugby



Sod turning at Adamstown Boulevard park



## Socials

Facebook

X

Instagram

YouTube

## Website

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

## Corporate Plan

[corporateplan.sdcc.ie](http://corporateplan.sdcc.ie)

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