

dlr times

WINTER 2023

LOOK INSIDE
Community Climate
Action Programme
Winter Service Plan

The light & joy of
**Christmas across
the county**

 **dlr**
Comhairle Contae County Council

INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

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Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. A96 K6C9

PHONE: 01 205 4700

EMAIL: info@dlrcoco.ie

Dundrum Local Area Office

Dundrum Office Park, Main Street, Dundrum, D14

Monday – Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm

PHONE: 01 205 4880

EMAIL: info@dlrcoco.ie

dlrcoco.ie

dlrtourism.ie | events.dlrcoco.ie
libraries.dlrcoco.ie

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Designed by dlr

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 DunLaoghaireRathdownCountyCouncil

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The dlr times is available in Irish at dlrcoco.ie/dlritimes

Message from An Cathaoirleach



Welcome to the latest edition of the dlr Times. This Christmas special provides information on the many Christmas events taking place around the County including the new Sustainable Santa Experience, Ireland's

largest ice-skating rink, a bauble trail, 3D light installations and fairy-like forest walks.

In addition to Christmas events, you can read more about the launch of our Climate Action Programme and see updates on Travel projects.

You can also find out about our Graduate Engineers Recruitment campaign to find talented graduates with an interest in public service and the built environment across multiple disciplines.

Our winter service operation plan is now in place until April and we will treat approx. 220km of roads which represents 28% of the overall road network in the county.

We have also included information on the Vacant Homes Grant and the awards our housing department have won this year.

I would like to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

CLLR. DENIS O'CALLAGHAN

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

Our offices at County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire & Dundrum are closed at 13.00 on Friday 22 December and will re-open on Tuesday 2nd January 2024. Please contact 01 677 44 44 if you have an emergency.

CoCo Markets

PEOPLE'S PARK & DLR LEXICON, Dún Laoghaire
Sunday 11am-4pm

MARLAY PARK
Rathfarnham, Dublin 16

Saturday 10am-4pm & Sunday 11am-4pm

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Out of Hours: 01 677 8844
[after 5pm + weekends]
Homeless Persons: 1800 724 724
[after hours services]
Irish Water: 1850 278 278
[24 hours]

Your dlr parks



BLACKROCK PARK

TIME: Open Access

CABINTEELY PARK

TIMES: Sep 8am to 8pm | Oct 8am to 7pm | Nov – Jan 8am to 5pm | Feb 8am to 6pm | Mar 8am to 7pm | Apr 8am to 8pm | May – Aug 8am to 10.30pm

DEER PARK

TIME: Open Access

FERNHILL PARK & GARDENS

TIME: 9am - 6pm

KILBOGGET PARK

TIME: Open Access

KILLINEY HILL PARK

TIME: Open Access

MARLAY PARK

TIME: Sep 9am to 8pm | Oct 9am to 6pm | Nov – Jan 9am to 5pm | Feb – Mar 9am to 6pm | Apr 9am to 9pm | May – Aug 9am to 10pm

PEOPLE'S PARK

TIME: Dec – Mar 8am to 4.30pm | Apr – May 8am to 7.30pm | Jun – Sep 8am to 8pm | Oct – Nov 8am to 7.30pm

SHANGANAGH PARK

TIME: Open Access

Recycling information



BALLYOGAN RECYCLING

Ballyogan Road

TELEPHONE: 01 291 3600

TIME: Mon – Fri 8.30am to 5.30pm
Sat 9.30am to 5.30pm | Sun/Bank Hols 10.30am to 5.30pm.

CLOSED: Christmas Eve – St. Stephen's Day, New Year's Day, Easter Sunday.

EDEN PARK RECYCLING

Summerhill Road, Glashule

TIME: Mon – Thur 8.30am to 4pm
Fri – Sat 8.30am to 3.30pm.

CLOSED: Sunday, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays.

SHANGANAGH RECYCLING CENTRE

Cemetery Car Park, Shankill

TIME: Mon – Thur 8.30am to 4pm
Fri – Sat 8.30am to 3.30pm.

CLOSED: Sunday, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

We are committed to ensuring your voice is heard when it comes to the decisions that affect you & your neighbourhood in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. Our consultation and engagement platform dlrcoco.ie/haveyoursay allows you to have your say and tell us what your priorities and concerns are for the County.



Your dlr libraries



dlr Lexicon

Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire

TEL: 01 280 1147

TIME: Mon – Thur 9.30am – 8pm
Fri to Sat 9.30am – 5pm | Sun 12noon – 4pm

BLACKROCK

Blackrock Town Hall, Main Street

TEL: 01 288 8117

TIME: Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 1.15pm – 8pm

CABINTEELY*

Old Bray Road, Cabinteely

TEL: 01 285 5363

TIME: Mon, Wed, Fri* & Sat* 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 2pm – 8pm

DALKEY**

Castle Street, Dalkey

TEL: 01 285 5317

TIME: Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 1.15pm – 8pm

DEANSGRANGE**

Clonkeen Drive, Deansgrange

TEL: 01 285 0860

TIME: Mon 10am – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm | Fri & Sat 10am – 5pm.

DUNDRUM

Upper Churchtown Road, Dundrum

TEL: 01 298 5000

TIME: Mon, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm

SHANKILL*

Library Road, Shankill

TEL: 01 282 3081

TIME: Mon, Wed, Fri* & Sat* 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 2pm – 8pm

STILLORGAN

Unit J (First Floor), Stillorgan Shopping Centre

TEL: 01 288 9655

TIME: Mon, Tue & Wed 10am – 5pm | Thurs 10am – 8pm | Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

* Libraries with an asterisk are open either Friday or Saturday – please contact them for further details.

** Libraries with *My Open Library* service which offers extended hours to library members outside normal opening hours, from 8am to 10pm, 7 days a week. Contact library staff for details on how to register.

- On Bank Holiday weekends, all libraries are closed Saturday, Sunday & Monday.

Experience the Magic of Christmas in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown



The Christmas Season has officially started in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, and it is filled with lots of exciting events for everyone to enjoy. From Santa's early arrival to the enchanting Christmas walking trails, there is something for everyone to embrace the joy and spirit of the season!

Santa Claus himself arrived early to Dún Laoghaire and showcased his ice-skating skills at Ireland's largest ice rink, located at Dún Laoghaire Harbour. Joined by An Cathaoirleach Denis O'Callaghan, they took a charming train ride to the new Myrtle Square to meet the local children. But that's not all - Santa and his beloved elves have also taken up residence at the new Santa experience in the National Maritime Museum, which is now open for visitors to enjoy!

One of the countywide festive favourites this year is the illuminated Christmas walking trails in Marlay Park and Cabinteely Park. These walking trails, open from 4pm to 8pm Monday to Friday from the end of November, offer a serene and peaceful environment beneath the twinkling lights, away from the holiday hustle and bustle. Fully accessible for wheelchairs and buggies, these trails provide an oasis of calm for everyone to enjoy. We are proud to say that where possible all our Christmas trees are living trees, and their lights are LED, ensuring the smallest amount of electricity usage possible.

Furthermore, Santa Post Boxes have been placed at various locations, including dlr LexIcon in Dún Laoghaire, Marlay Park in Rathfarnham, Deerpark in Mount Merrion, and Cabinteely Park, commissioned by none other than Santa Claus himself! All letters placed in these post boxes are whisked off to the North Pole via Elf Airlines, where Santa personally replies to each and every one. Make sure to send your letters before the last post on Tuesday, December 19th at 5pm to Santa Claus, North Pole, The Arctic, The World! All our events can be found at dlrcoco.ie

But the festivities don't stop there! There are numerous other events taking place across the County that shouldn't be missed. Experience the Winter Wonderland at Airfield, enjoy Retro Drive-in Movies at Leopardstown, or try out Christmas cooking courses at the Dublin Cookery School in Blackrock. The Pavillion Theatre will be screening The Nutcracker and a stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol in December, while Sleeping Beauty will take the stage at the Mill Theatre. And let's not forget Santa's return to Dalkey Castle, where little ones can enjoy fun, stories, singing, and games with his elves Jingle and Twinkle. This Christmas, bring your family together and immerse yourself in the joy and spirit of the season. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has something for everyone to enjoy!





A message from An Cathaoirleach, Denis O'Callaghan

The start of my term as Cathaoirleach has been busy with my focus on community, housing, and climate change. I'm glad to have attended many openings and launches that benefit citizens across the County in these areas.

I was delighted to announce the return of the Dún Laoghaire St. Patrick's Day Parade, after a long absence. In partnership with Dún Laoghaire Business Association the return of the parade showcases the pride of the town and will unite the community and businesses in celebration.

“The upgraded Myrtle Square, which I recently opened, is a catalyst for others to develop further climate-led projects”

Many of our parks and open spaces have benefited from upgrades and new amenities. The upgraded Myrtle Square, which I recently opened, is a catalyst for others to develop further climate-led projects. Blackrock Park's new adventure place space encourages children's active play and Apna Park's new pump track is multi-sport, capable of use by bicycles, skateboards and in-line skates, suitable for all ages. Work has also begun on a new library in Ballyogan. These facilities represent significant additions to our public spaces.

Housing continues to be one of my priorities. I'm pleased to have participated in several projects that deliver additional social housing properties. dlr Housing Construction completed 67 social homes in Ballyogan Square, which I opened in October. More recently I turned the sod in St. Laurence's Park, starting works on 88 new homes and a new Library. Work is progressing well on the 597 homes in Shanganagh. The Part V Scheme has added almost 100 properties and seven properties have been purchased via the Cost Rental Tenant-In-Situ Scheme with another 34 in conveyancing. There have been 424 allocations to date and I'm looking forward to future projects that allocate further properties to those on our housing lists.

In October I joined the Lord Mayor of Dublin City County, Mayor of South Dublin County Council and Mayor of Fingal County Council to launch our Draft Climate Action Plans. The public consultation for our Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 is now closed, we thank everyone for their submissions.

Looking forward to 2024, I will continue to champion projects for the betterment of the County and join the community in experiencing all that dlr has to offer.

CLLR. DENIS O'CALLAGHAN



A message from Chief Executive, Frank Curran

2023 saw a significant number of projects completed in housing, parks and community and planning is already underway to commence new projects next year. I would like to thank An Cathaoirleach and the elected members for all their assistance this year as we continue to create a progressive and vibrant county for all our citizens.

The Dundrum Local Area Plan has now come into effect and will include the provision of a new multi-functional, community, cultural and civic building in the heart of Dundrum and a new community focused public park on the Main Street.

Applications will open in December for the Climate Action Programme with €883,000 available for communities to carry out projects in their local area and we will be hosting a workshop in January where you can find out more.

“Progress continues on residential delivery at Cherrywood with 4,468 units permitted, 1,064 completed and an additional 918 homes under construction”

Living Streets Dún Laoghaire which aims to make our local streets safer and greener is currently open for public consultation and I hope that you will share your views with us. A contractor is due to be appointed next year for the Glenamuck District Distributor Road with work to commence by Q1, 2024.

A design team will be appointed in the new year to produce a Dún Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan to guide the harbour into the future. In addition, we will commence the design and planning phase of the proposed National Watersports Campus.

In February 2024, we will partner with MosArt to host the forward-thinking ZEB Summit, which will facilitate important conversations on achieving net-zero buildings. This event will also showcase the certified passive housing scheme currently being constructed at Shanganagh Castle.

Progress continues on residential delivery at Cherrywood with 4,468 units permitted, 1,064 completed and an additional 918 homes under construction.

The Annual Budget process for 2024 is underway and is due for adoption by Council in December. This is an expansionary Budget that will provide an investment of €275m in services and supports for our residents, businesses and visitors next year.

There are so many events to choose from this year, including ice skating, santa visits and festive walks in our parks. I hope that you and your family will be out enjoying the festive season and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas & a peaceful new year.

FRANK CURRAN

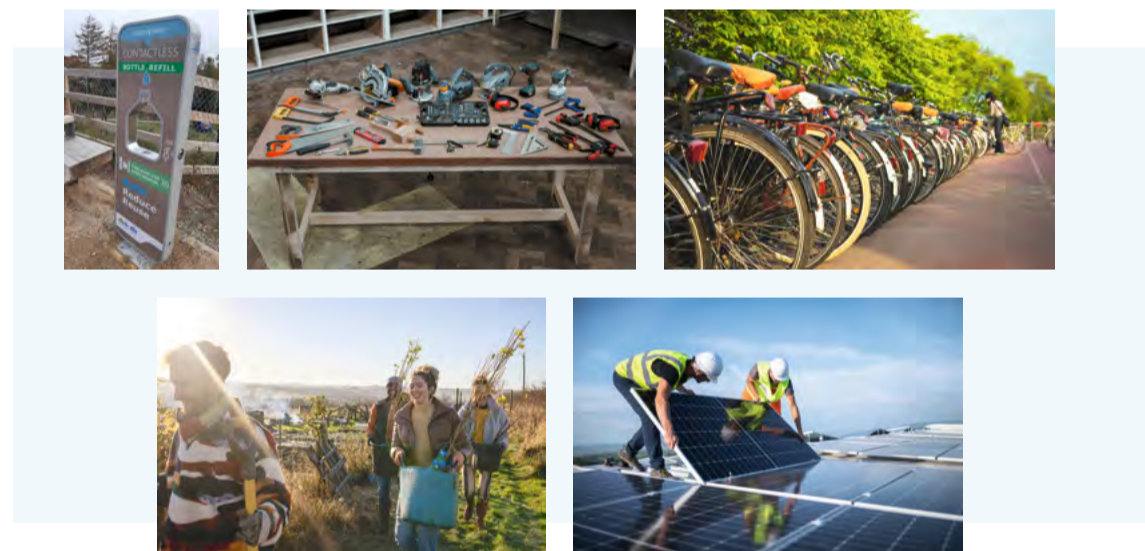


Community Climate Action Programme opens for applications this December!

€883,000 available for communities to carry out projects in their local area that have a direct climate action impact.

Are you part of a community group interested in taking local climate action? Does your group have an idea for a project, big or small, that could not only benefit your local community but also make a positive impact in addressing climate change? If so, you may be interested in applying for funding from the new Community Climate Action Programme.

The Community Climate Action Programme is aimed at helping all communities to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities that will contribute to Ireland and dlr's climate and energy goals. In cooperation with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) we will provide funding to local communities to implement projects on a local level that have a direct climate impact. Under the Programme, we have been given an allocation of €883,000 for communities to carry out projects in their local area that have a direct climate action impact.



How will the programme work?

Proposed projects should address at least one, but preferably more than one of the following themes: community energy, travel, food and waste, shopping and recycling, as well as local climate and environmental action.

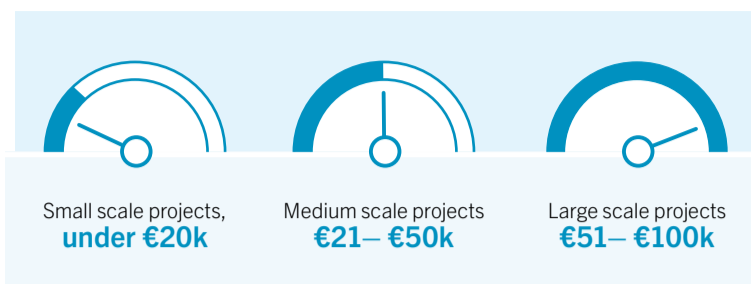
Possible projects could include retrofitting community buildings, installing water refill stations in your local sports club, establishing a repair hub, launching a bike or tool library, or initiatives that promote biodiversity.

The projects can include a suite of measures, not just one specific action and importantly, projects must have a direct climate impact including at least one, preferably more, of the following:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Improving energy efficiency
- Increasing climate resilience (help adapt to the consequences of climate change)
- Assisting communities transition to low carbon and sustainable economy

The Community Climate Action Programme grants can fund up to 100% of all eligible costs for a successful project.

There are three levels of funding available:



Communities eligible for the scheme must be: not-for-profit; located in the operational area of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council; registered with the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown PPN or connected with other collectives such as the Wheel, Tidy Towns and /or a community group with Articles of Association or a Constitution, which hold an AGM, and for which approved minutes are available.

Private individuals, commercial undertakings, schools, and national level community or environmental organisations are NOT eligible for funding under this programme.

Possible groups that would be eligible could include sports clubs, resident associations, social enterprises, local Tidy Towns group, community centres, local charities, and local environmental groups.

Group or organisations who think they might be eligible are encouraged to get in contact with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Community Climate Action Officer to discuss and develop their project ideas.

Applications for the programme will be open from December -until the end of February.

Community Climate Action Workshop

We will be delivering a workshop in mid-January to support community groups in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown to develop proposals for local community action projects, based on expert advice and case studies.

If your group has an idea for an application or would like to collaborate with other local groups on a project, this workshop will support you with concise information about the programme and suggestions on how to create a strong project proposal.

This workshop will be delivered by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Global Action Plan.

For more information about the Community Climate Action Programme contact our Climate Action Officer, Cynthia O'Mahony at climate@dlrcoco.ie or go to dlrcoco.ie/ccap.

Important: Funding will be allocated to community organisations based on an appraisal of the application forms submitted to dlr and approval of the Minister. Community groups are expected to complete their climate action projects within 18 months of the approval date.

If your group has received more than 200K of State aid within the last three years, it may limit your eligibility under a state aid EU rule known as De Minimis. When you make an application, you will be advised as to whether you are affected by this State Aid rule that exists to avoid unfair competition in the marketplace.





Celebrating Christmas across the County



We have a wide range of festive activities for all the family this year.

Brand new events taking place over the Christmas period are Ireland's largest ice-skating rink from November until January in Dun Laoghaire Harbour. Also, The National Maritime Museum (located beside the Lexlcon) hosts a new Sustainable Santa Experience during November & December.

The familiar light up Christmas baubles will dot the town along with street lighting, lighting of our iconic buildings & tree lined streets. Join in the charity carol singing on the new Myrtle Square though the Christmas period.

Watch out for the Traditional Christmas Family Funfair at the Harbour Plaza and Christmas shop windows decorated around the town to celebrate this magical time of year.

Before you go drop by Santa's Postbox at the Lexlcon to make sure you get your letter off in time for Santa's arrival this December 25.



Traditional Christmas Family Funfair

Santa's Sleigh Ride, Ferris Wheel, Fairground Festive Organ and Vintage Train ride at Harbour Plaza (adjacent to DART station) over the Christmas period.



Santa Claus Boxes

Santa Post Boxes are in place at dlr Lexlcon in Dún Laoghaire, Marlay Park in Rathfarnham, Deerpark in Mount Merrion and Cabinteely Park by special commission of Santa Claus. Make sure to send your letters before the last post on Tuesday, December 19th at 5pm to Santa Claus, North Pole, The Arctic, The World!

Christmas



Ireland Largest Ice-skating rink at Dun Laoghaire Harbour

Fun for all the family at the largest ice skating rink in the Republic of Ireland. Book your slot from kids 3 years & up at www.iceskating.ie. Early bird tickets from €14.00 * Tickets limited. Penguin skating supports are available to book for new skaters on the ice.



Shop Local this Christmas!

Support your local businesses this festive season by shopping local. Remember, many local retailers and services also offer online shopping too, so you can click local to support your neighbourhood shops and businesses.

Find out more at dlrcoco.ie/business/shop-local



Christmas Baubles, Streets Lights for Christmas & Light up main buildings

Get in the Christmas mood with a stroll around Dun Laoghaire Town with its baubles, Christmas trees, Christmas street lighting and iconic buildings lit up. There will also be a crib outside St Michael's Church.



Santa Experience at the National Maritime Museum

Bring the whole family (up to 8 people at one time) to see Santa at his new grotto in the National Maritime Museum this season. Take your own private group shot, receive a special gift, post your letter to Santa at his express post box and view the model train buzzing around its track in the museum. (Adults €8, Kids over One €15.00 & 12 / under €5.00) Tickets can be booked at mariner.ie.



Myrtle Square Christmas lights

The New Myrtle Square outside the Bloomfields Shopping Centre will host Christmas lights and charity carol singing in December. Find out more on dlrcoco.ie



Walking Trails at Marlay Park & Cabinteely Park

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown will delight residents and visitors with a range of countywide festive favourites. The very popular illuminated Christmas walking trails in Marlay Park and Cabinteely Park walking trails are free to attend and open from 4pm to 8pm Monday to Friday from the end of November (not operating on Monday 25 Dec, Tuesday 27 Dec and Monday 1 Jan). They are fully accessible for wheelchairs and buggies and are an oasis of calm beneath the twinkling lights away from the hustle and bustle of Christmas.

Public Information



Winter Service Plan & Operation

It's that time of the year again and we are gearing up for another winter service season. This year the season formally started in October and will finish at the end of April next year. Over the last number of months all associated plant and equipment e.g. gritters, vehicles, snow ploughs, etc. have received all of the necessary servicing in advance of the season commencing.

Our winter service operation is based in the Operations Centre in Ballyogan and this is where the salt barn is located which has a capacity of approximately 1,400 tonnes. All of the gritting trucks are based there, and following each gritting run, the trucks must be washed down in the dedicated wash down facilities to ensure that all the truck bodies are completely free of salt granules since they are highly corrosive.

Under this year's Winter Service Plan, we will treat approximately 220km of roads which represents approximately 28% of the overall road network within the County. The salting operation is carried out by deploying a fleet of 10 trucks with gritters each truck driving a specific, pre-defined route. Each route takes approximately two hours to complete and depending on the weather conditions, one or two gritting runs may be required, one at 7pm and another at 5am the following morning.

In addition to the work on the formalised gritting routes, additional work is carried out to assist residents on local roads in certain problematic rural areas. Salt boxes are provided in these areas for use by residents to assist with keeping minor roads open, and throughout the season these boxes are periodically topped up.

Snow clearance is also part of our winter plan and if necessary, most of the larger gritting trucks can be fitted with a snow plough. If we have a serious snow event occur during the winter, every effort will be made to clear the snow as quickly as possible.

Over the winter service season, members of the public who wish to report winter service issues during normal working hours can contact us at the Civic Hub via telephone on 01 2054700 or email us at info@dlrcoco.ie or through our on-line report it form at dlrcoco.ie

We operate an after-hours call service on 01 677 8844.

Finally, we would encourage you to visit the national "Winter Ready" website www.winterready.ie which contains very useful information on planning for the coming months.

Please keep footpaths and roads clear of obstructions

We are calling on householders and landowners/occupiers to please ensure that footpath and roadside hedges, overhanging trees, and bushes are cut and maintained so that all pedestrians can travel safely along footpaths and at junctions. This can also be an issue for cyclists along some routes where branches from trees overhang a cycle track and can be a problem on some routes for visually impaired persons as they are not expecting an overhead obstruction.



The season when hedge cutting is permitted under the Wildlife Act is between the start of September and the end of February the following year.

Road safety is a shared responsibility; it's about us all doing our share to make our footpaths and roads safer and ensure the success of our Road Safety Strategy.

If you have any queries in relation to verge cutting in your area, you are advised to contact us by emailing info@dlrcoco.ie or calling 01 205 4700. This initiative is supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Disability and Consultation Group.

New edition of annual dlr Age-Friendly Magazine available from early January 2024

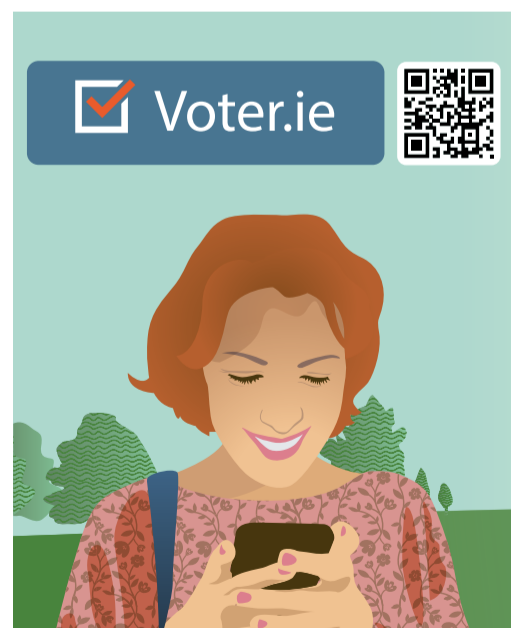


The Age-Friendly Programme of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (dlr) County Council and the County Age-Friendly Alliance are delighted to announce that the next edition of the dlr Age-Friendly Magazine will be available free of charge to the public from January 2024.

The theme this year of our Age-Friendly magazine is 'Good Brain Health' and along with information on the many

services available and activities taking place, there will also be creative writing, articles, recipes, puzzles and much more.

If you would like a copy sent to you in the post, contact the Community Section of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin on (01) 205 4893 / email community@dlrcoco.ie



Did you know that the electoral process has changed?

The Electoral Reform Act 2022 came into force last year. Even if you are already registered, you now should add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode. This will allow your local authority to confirm your details and ensure the accuracy of the electoral register.

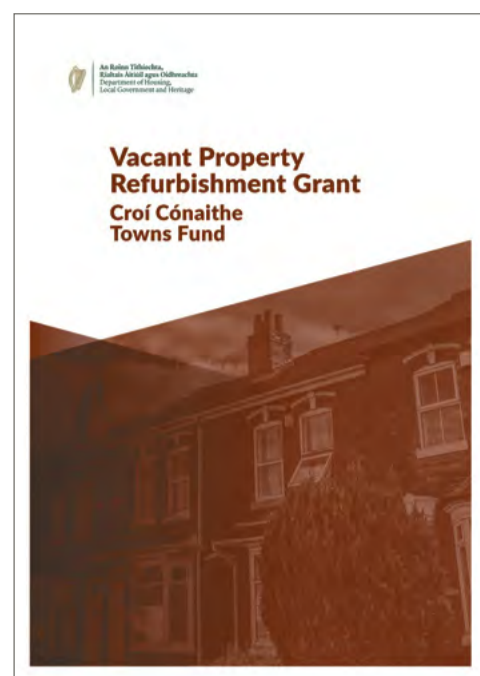
If you have changed address recently or someone in your household has moved out or turned 16, please update your details online or contact us directly.

A person may pre-register from the age of 16 years of age, however they will not be able to vote until they are 18.

How can I update my details or register to vote for the first time?

Please check www.Voter.ie (Dublin only) or www.checktheregister.ie (nationwide)

Please email us at registerofelectors@dlrcoco.ie or telephone 01-2054880



Vacant Homes Property Refurbishment Grant / Croí Cónaithe Grant

We have received over 100 applications to date for the Vacant Homes Property Refurbishment Grant (Croí Cónaithe) which aims to bring long term vacant homes back into residential use. In order for a property to be eligible, it must be vacant for at least two years. The Refurbishment Grant is up to the sum of €50,000, with a possible top-up of €20,000 if remedial structural works are required in the case of derelict properties.

Applications can be sent to the Vacant Homes Officer, Housing Department, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, County Hall, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, or via email to vacanthomes@dlrcoco.ie.

Please see dlrcoco.ie/housing for further information.



Woodside, Enniskerry Road, Stepside



Beaufort Housing Development, Glasthule

Awards for Cost Rental & Older Persons Housing

This year, our Housing Department secured the overall national winner award at the Irish Council for Social Housing Community Housing Awards 2023 for cost rental housing at Enniskerry Road, Stepside. Woodside is Ireland's first purpose-built cost rental development with 50 cost rental and 105 social homes, which are managed by Respond and Tuath Housing Associations. The homes at Woodside benefit from high quality design and landscaping with communal space, all of which were commended by the judges.

We were also proud to receive gold and silver awards at the All-Ireland Sustainability Awards for our innovative energy retrofit project in Beaufort Housing Development, Glasthule. The Gold award was received in the 'Energy Initiative / Project of the Year' category that aims to showcase examples of best practice within proactive energy management that will enable a more sustainable future energy system for all. The Silver award was received in the 'Housing / Building Initiative of the Year' category that aims to showcase the most innovative and inspiring green building, infrastructure and architectural projects developed over the past 24 months. In addition, we were the winners of the Residential Energy Upgrades Category in the SEAI 2023 awards. We partnered with SSE Airtricity Energy Services to upgrade Beaufort Housing which resulted in an energy reduction of up to 80% per unit per year.

The housing retrofit at Beaufort also won in the Local Authority Innovation category at the Excellence in Local Government Awards for the unique heat pump district heating system.



Mark Noonan

BUILDING INSPECTOR, CLERK OF WORKS, HOUSING DEPARTMENT

What do you have for breakfast?

Most mornings, I like to start my day off with a good breakfast of two poached eggs on brown toast. And of course, a pint of full fat milk.

What do you do?

I am a Clerk of Works in the Housing Department. This is a technical role which involves many different types of housing inspections. For example, we have received over 100 Croi Conaithe applications which gives up to €50,000-€70,000 to bring vacant homes back into use.

I recently joined the newly established affordable Housing team where we have quite ambitious goals and plans for the future delivery of housing in the county.

What is your typical workday like?

No one day is like another. There is a great mix of office work and being out and about doing inspections. I like to be in the office early in the morning, but this varies as we tend to work around people's availability when we do inspections.

Recently, dlr put out a call to participate in competitive dialogue to deliver social and affordable housing. We received a large number of submissions and I look forward to playing my part in this process to help ramp up housing delivery within the county.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

People I meet every day have real concerns about the future housing needs of their families. While it brings home the situation the country is in, it is also a reminder that my work and the work of my colleagues in Housing has a tangible effect. It is a constant motivator.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

I have always enjoyed meeting people, you get a real sense of what is happening in the county.

I also enjoy working as part of a highly motivated team where a strong emphasis is put on problem solving and with a good attitude. I think attitude trumps everything and that's what our team has put a focus on. If you apply the right attitude and application to anything you have good foundations for success, which in our case relates to the delivery of new homes.

Favourite place to visit?

I love the quarry in Dalkey, it is so steeped in history, you can almost hear the echoes of the past as they brought stone down the Metals to build the piers. Looking over the harbour from our canteen is always lovely. I was lucky enough to live in Rome for a number of years, my family and I love to go back when we can. I also love to visit my small hometown in County Limerick, it is nearly as glamorous as Rome.

Active Travel: A Year in Review

Construction completed on: Rock Road, Brewery Road, Wyattville Road, Clonskeagh Road. Schemes under construction including: Deerpark, Deansgrange Road, Love our Laneways (Pearse Drive), Stillorgan Park Road (construction commencing Q1 2024).

Schemes completing detailed design and preparing for tender: DLR Central, Seafield Safe and Quiet Streets, SRTS Bundle 1, Taney Road to N11, Living Streets: Coastal Mobility Route, Living Streets: Blackrock.

Planning permission achieved: Living Streets: Blackrock, Rochestown Avenue and Deansgrange Cycle Route.

Schemes currently going through public consultation: Living Streets: Dún Laoghaire.

Schemes at pre consultation stage: SRTS Bundle 2, DLR Connector, Cherrywood to Shankill Greenway, Cabinteely Greenway, Dodder Greenway.



Rock Road

Rock Road Sustainable Transport Improvement Scheme:

This project (which recently won the Irish Construction Industry Award for Civil Construction Project of the Year) consisted of the construction of a two-way cycle lane at Rock Road, drainage, landscaping including rain gardens and SuDs features, re-surfacing, line marking and the application of high friction surfacing.

The project encourages a safe and free-flowing cycle facility connecting to recent projects like the Blackrock Park upgrades and the Coastal Mobility Route. Delivering safe, segregated cycle facilities along the Rock Road / Merrion Road.

As a climate conscious County, we are always looking at ways to reuse materials to minimise waste. In this scheme we used a machine to essentially 'microwave' parts of the old road surface to reseal it and avoid having to replace it, the scheme also retrofitted a rain garden into the central median, so, during periods of rainfall, the surface run-off will flow across the road and through the gaps formed within the road kerb and into the Rain Garden, which consists of a moisture retentive yet free draining substrate, which in turn, irrigates the pollinator friendly ground cover planting mix. It also has the benefit of softening the road infrastructure by greening the area with tree and other planting.

Clonskeagh Road Project:

The completion of the Clonskeagh Road (UCD to River Dodder scheme) is an important element of the wider NTA plan to create a continuous high quality cycle lanes from Sandyford to the City Centre and reflects ongoing collaboration between ourselves and UCD to improve the cycle network in the vicinity of the University.

The scheme has improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists along Clonskeagh Road from UCD to the County boundary and the Dodder Greenway. It has provided the following features:



Clonskeagh Road

- Enhanced facilities for cyclists on both sides of Clonskeagh Road including the provision of 2.0m wide cycle tracks along most of the route.
- Enhanced transitions for cyclists through junctions.
- Upgraded bus stops.
- Upgrade of pedestrian crossings along the route.
- Reconfiguration of the junction of Clonskeagh Road and Beech Hill Road.

Infrastructure funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA)



Shanganagh, Shankill

Zero Emissions Buildings (ZEB) Summit

21 & 22 February 2024

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council & MosArt are thrilled to announce the launch of the ground-breaking Zero Emission Buildings (ZEB) Summit, a transformative annual event set to redefine the future of sustainable living. The event will commence with an interactive workshop where we will showcase the innovative Shanganagh Castle Passive House Development currently under construction.

Visit <https://zebsummit.com> for further information and to book your place.

Graduate Engineers Apply Today

We are seeking talented graduates with an interest in public service and the built environment across disciplines including Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Structural Engineering. We have roles open across various council departments.

Apply now to help shape and create a better future and environment for all to live in and have the opportunity to build a meaningful career.

dlrcoco.ie/engineers



Multi-use track opens at Apna Park

A new temporary Pump Track has now opened in the Apna Park Car Park, Dún Laoghaire. The track is a multi-sport track, capable of use by bicycles, skateboards and in-line skates. Since it's construction, it has proven very popular with people of all ages using it. The track is a trial until we know how much it is used. A mini-ramp is now currently under construction adjacent to the track which will further add to the area.



Family time at Your Library

Family events and activities take place in our libraries during the month of December to support the involvement of the whole family in children's reading and storytelling. Part of the national Right to Read programme, the aim is to support a family-focused approach to reading with children and to increase awareness of the benefits of reading as a fun, recreational activity for children. Contact your local dlr Library for more info about events and activities happening.

Guiding Lights: Music and Art from Impressionism to Jazz with Emilie Conway

4, 11 & 18 December, 11.00am-12.30pm, Studio Theatre, dlr Lexlcon. For details of topics covered in each session, visit our website. Booking via dlr Libraries Eventbrite

Join vocal jazz artist, Emilie Conway for these Musical Monday talks and performances, as we explore the relationship between music and art. Following the sound of the music and the smell of oil paint, we will journey through time to la Belle Époque Europe, Paris, Munich, Vienna, east to St. Petersburg, through World War I, the Spanish flu, the Jazz Age, the Roaring '20s and at the outbreak of World War II, fleeing to the safety, lights and glamour of New York in the 40s.



dlr Lexlcon | EXHIBITIONS



Age is a privilege, unless you forget! Debbie Castro exhibition

December & January, Level 3, dlr Lexlcon, Talk and workshop will be announced Jan 2024

Age is a privilege, unless you forget! is an intimate collaboration with the artist's father, Charles. Multi-layered, it explores the perspective of a person living with dementia with an aim to open up a dialogue for the wider community.

There are no answers and no guarantees with this illness, only that it gets progressively worse. The number of people with dementia by 2051 worldwide is thought to rise to 250 million and as such, needs to be discussed as much as possible now.

Living Well with Dementia Art exhibition

December & January, Level 4, dlr Lexlcon

Friday Friends is an exhibition of various art works produced by the members of the Living Well with Dementia art group. This weekly group is facilitated by Caroline Hyland who is an illustrator and art facilitator with a background in Visual Communications, Art Education and Occupational Therapy. The LWwD weekly art group is open to all but is particularly welcoming to people living with dementia. Every Friday, using a variety of media, Caroline guides the group in the creation of beautiful artwork and provides an opportunity for participants to engage in meaningful self-expression, pleasure, and enjoyment. This exhibition showcases the innate talent and artistic ability that lives within us all.

This exhibition promotes Living Well with Dementia and advocates for a society to see the person first and not the disease.



Christmas Bank Holiday Arrangements

dlr Libraries and dlr Lexlcon will be closed from Saturday 23 December to Monday 1 January inclusive. All Libraries will re-open as normal on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

During these times, My Open Library (MOL) hours will be in operation in Deansgrange and Dalkey Libraries**

**You must register for this service in advance with library staff

All our online services are available 24/7; all you need is your library card and PIN

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

dlr Libraries | JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Studio Saturdays

Studio Theatre, dlr Lexlcon

Our Studio Saturdays programme will continue into 2024! Tailored especially for children with additional needs/ neurodivergence, a range of activities and experiences will be on offer such as movement, messy play, arts & crafts and lots more. As always, a sensory space is available for anyone needing to self-regulate. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for updates on Studio Saturday events, please contact libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie.



Save the dates! **Saturday 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 9 March, 6 April, 18 May & 29 June**



Kanopy Film Streaming Service

Kanopy provides instant access to thousands of critically-acclaimed movies, documentaries and shows for children. Partnering with studios like A24, The Criterion Collection, PBS and more, there is sure to be something for everyone in the family to enjoy.

dlr Library patrons can easily access this new service with their library card, and all for free! Just follow the link on our website, enter your library card details, create an account and begin streaming! You have 10 credits per month to watch movies, series, and documentaries and you can stream Kanopy on any of your favourite devices.



My Open Library

My Open Library is a service offered by dlr Libraries, in Dalkey and Deansgrange branches. It allows library members to access a library outside normal opening hours of the library every day, early in the morning and late in the evenings, and all day Sunday from 8am to 10pm. There are no library staff present when My Open Library is in operation, but the library is monitored by CCTV cameras all the time during these times.

your dlr Councillors represent you

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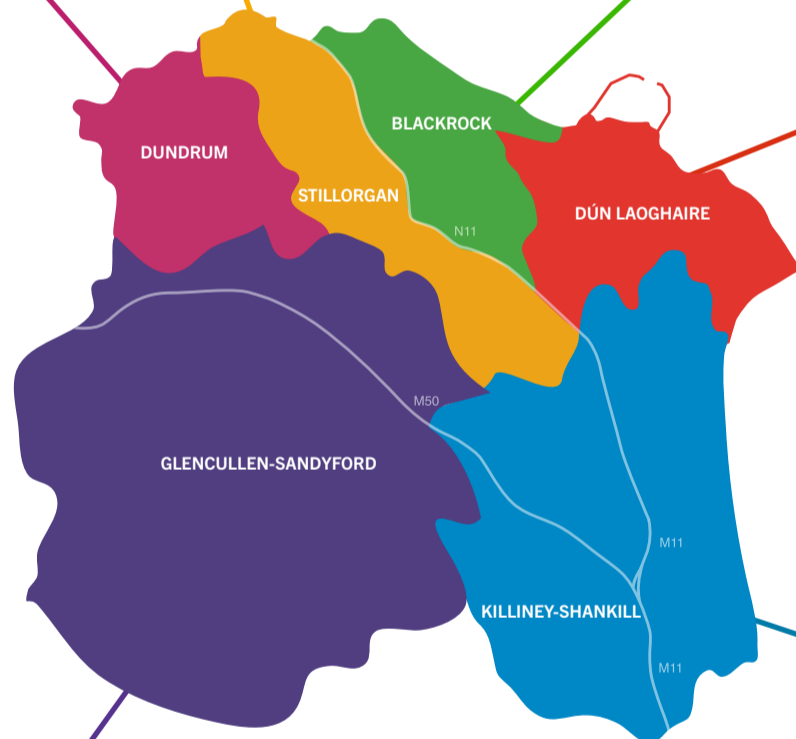
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