

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council



annual
report

2023

Front Cover Photos

From Top: New Adventure Play Space at Blackrock Rock and Ballyogan Square.

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Foreword

The Annual Report for 2023 outlines and reflects on the work of the Council in delivering on its wide range of public services and major projects during the year. All the work contributed to putting Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown to the fore in terms of local public service provision, including housing, public realm schemes and infrastructure development, ensuring that our County is an attractive and inclusive place in which to live, work, invest and visit.

2023 was a year in which society continued to adapt to the post-Covid world, and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown continued to implement Public Realm improvements across the County which provided much needed public spaces for our citizens and visitors. Throughout the year, the Council worked to provide the highest quality services to its citizens. Full Council services were in place throughout the year, with staff continuing to move to a hybrid model of working.

Housing provision increased, grants and support to local businesses and community groups were enhanced and key pieces of infrastructure were delivered.

Below is a brief list of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's achievements and highlights in 2023 and the awards we are proud to have received during the year:

2023 Awards:

- Overall National winner at the Irish Congress for Social Housing's Community Housing Awards 2023 for embedding affordability at Enniskerry Road (in conjunction with Tuath and Respond Housing Associations, DHLGH and the Housing Agency).
- SEAI 2023 – Winner in the 'Residential Energy Upgrade' category for the innovative energy retrofit of 58 homes at the Beaufort development in Glasthule.
- Gold and Silver Awards at the All-Ireland Sustainability Awards for the innovative energy retrofit of 58 homes at the Beaufort development in Glasthule.
- Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023 – Winner in the 'Local Authority Innovation' category for the unique heat pump district heating system in the Beaufort development, Glasthule.
- In September 2023, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council were awarded the prestigious Gold Cycle-Friendly Employer certification from the European Cyclists' Federation, making it the first cycle-friendly County Council in Ireland. This achievement demonstrates DLR's ongoing dedication to encourage staff to cycle to work and incorporate cycling into their daily routines.
- Irish Construction Awards 2023 – Winner of the Civil Construction Project of the Year (Rock Road).
- Blue Flag status achieved at Seapoint and Killiney beaches.

Highlights of 2023:

- The Council's 2024 budget was adopted, and it provides 275 million for expenditure to invest in services and support for residents, businesses and visitors.
- 820 homes delivered in 2023 through build, leasing, acquisition, and Part V.
- Construction has started on new cost-rental homes in Kiltiernan.
- Official opening of 67 new homes at Ballyogan Square.
- Myrtle Square opened in November, offering a vibrant public space for everyone to enjoy.
- 508 housing allocations, the highest number in 30 years.
- Three new parks open at Cherrywood, including Tully Park, Ticknick Park and Beckett Park in May 2023.
- Pdraig Harrington unveiled the Marley putting green to the public.
- Work commenced on all-weather pitch at Oatlands College.
- DLR's Library Development Plan (Beyond our Walls) 2022-2026 launched in May.
- Adoption of the Dundrum Local Area Plan in October 2023.
- Extension of the Stillorgan Local Area Plan in November 2023.
- Happy Out cafe opens its doors at Dún Laoghaire Baths.
- India Fest 2023 took place in the Leopardstown Pavilion, November 2023 with almost 4,000 in attendance and a wonderful celebration of Indian culture, supported by the Social Inclusion Unit.
- DLR organised several events and sponsored Open House Dublin, Ireland's largest architecture festival which took place from 7-15 October.

- Coastal festival took place with over 100 events taking place in Dún Laoghaire.
- Opening of the Dún Laoghaire Baths artists' studios.
- The DLR Age Well Expo took place in June with approximately 1,000 attendees.
- Launch of Bolt Bikes within the County.
- Launch of the Road Safety Plan 2022-2030.
- We welcomed 78 cruise ships in 2023 with 186,000 passengers and crew to Dún Laoghaire Harbour

Projects completed:

- Delivery of 67 new build social homes at Ballyogan Square
- 94 homes retrofitted under the Energy Efficiency/Retrofit Programme
- 962 properties surveyed as part of our stock condition survey (bringing total to 1828)
- 2.5 million East Pier Revetment Repair Project.
- 2.5 million Carlisle Pier Repair Project.
- Merrion Gates to Seapoint Cycle Scheme (Rock Road section).
- Wyattville Road Cycle Improvement Scheme.



Denis O'Callaghan
An Cathaoirleach



Frank Curran
Chief Executive

Names, Addresses, Party Affiliations & Telephone Numbers of Members of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

AHMED, Kazi (F.G)

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BLAIN, Emma (F.G) (P.C)

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BRENNAN, Shay (F.F)

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SEXTON, Senan (IND)

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TUITE, Lauren (G.P)

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Councillor Membership of dlr Committees

✓ - Denotes membership for entire year

◆ - Denotes membership for part of 2023

Councillor Name	Dun Laoghaire Area Committee	Dundrum Area Committee	Organisation, Procedure & Protocol Committee
Ahmed, Kazi (FG)		✓	◆ Resigned January 2023
Baker, Marie (F.G)	✓		✓
Blain, Emma (F.G)		✓	
Brennan, Shay (F.F.)		✓	
Clark, Michael (FG)	✓		
Colgan, Anne (IND)		✓	✓
Dockery, Liam (FF)		✓	✓
Dockrell, Maurice (FG)	✓		◆ Appointed January 2023
Donnelly, Deirdre (IND)		✓	◆ Resigned January 2023
Dowling, Eva Elizabeth (GP)		✓	✓
Dunne, Daniel (GP)		✓	
Fanning, Martha (LAB)	✓		✓
Fayne, Mary (F.G.)	✓		✓
Feeney, Kate (F.F.)	✓		✓
Fleming, Michael (IND)		✓	
Gildea, Jim (F.G)	✓		✓
Grainger, Anna (FG)		✓	
Hall, Lorraine (FG)	✓		
Halpin, Melisa (PBP)	✓		✓
Hanafin, Mary (FF)	✓		✓
Kate Ruddock (GP)	✓		
Kennedy, John (F.G.)		✓	
Kivlehan, Tom (GP)	✓		✓
Lewis, Hugh (IND)	✓		
McCarthy, Lettie (LAB)		✓	
McLoughlin, Sean (IND)		✓	
McNamara, Frank (FG)	✓		
Moylan, Justin (FF)	✓		✓
Murphy, Tom (F.F.)		✓	✓
O'Brien, Peter (LAB)		✓	✓
O'Callaghan, Denis (LAB)	✓		✓
O'Connell, Juliet (LAB)	✓		
O'Connell, Maeve (FG)		✓	✓

Councillor Name	Dún Laoghaire Area Committee	Dundrum Area Committee	Organisation, Procedure & Protocol Committee
O'Connor, Oisín (GP)		✓	
O'Leary, Jim (FG)		✓	✓
Power, Una (GP)	✓		
Quinn, Dave (SD)	✓		◆ Appointed January 2023
Saul, Barry (FG)		✓	✓
Sexton, Senan (IND)		✓	
Smyth, Carrie (LAB)	✓		

Councillor Membership of Other Bodies

- ✓ - Denotes membership for entire year
- ◆ - Denotes membership for part of 2023

Councillor Name	Association of Irish Local Government	Audit Committee	Dalkey Heritage Town Company	dlr Properties	Dodder Greenway Steering Group	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board	Dún Laoghaire Drugs & Alcohol Task Force	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Leisure Services	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Mill Theatre Company	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Sports Partnership
AHMED, Kazi (FG)						✓				
BAKER Marie (F.G)										
BLAIN Emma (F.G)	✓									
BRENNAN, Shay (F.F)				✓	✓				✓	
CLARK, Michael (FG)						✓				
COLGAN Anne (IND)	✓	✓								
DOCKERY, Liam (FF)										
DOCKRELL, Maurice (FG)										
DONNELLY, Deirdre (IND)								✓		✓
DOWLING, Eva Elizabeth (GP)					✓					
DUNNE, Daniel (GP)										
FANNING, Martha (LAB)										
FAYNE Mary (F.G)										
FEENEY Kate (F.F)										
FLEMING, Michael (IND)										
GILDEA Jim (FG)										
GRAINGER, Anna (FG)										
HALL, Lorraine (FG)										
HALPIN, Melisa (PBP)										
HANAFIN, Mary (FF)										
KENNEDY John (F.G)										
KIVLEHAN, Tom (GP)		✓		✓						
LEWIS, Hugh (IND)										
McCARTHY Lettie (LAB)										
MCCLOUGHLIN, Sean (IND)										
MCNAMARA, Frank (FG)										

Councillor Name	Association of Irish Local Government	Audit Committee	Dalkey Heritage Town Company	dlr Properties	Dodder Greenway Steering Group	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board	Dún Laoghaire Drugs & Alcohol Task Force	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Leisure Services	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Mill Theatre Company	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Sports Partnership
MOYLAN, Justin (FF)			✓							
MURPHY, Tom (FF)								✓		
O'BRIEN Peter (LAB)					✓		✓			
O'CALLAGHAN, Denis (LAB)										
O'CONNELL, Juliet (LAB)			✓					✓		
O'CONNELL, Maeve (FG)										
O'CONNOR, Oisín (GP)				✓				✓	✓	
O'LEARY, Jim (FG)										
POWER, Una (GP)		✓				◆ Resigned April 2023	✓			✓
QUINN, Dave (SD)										
RUDDOCK, Kate (GP)						◆ Appointed April 2023				
SAUL, Barry (FG)				✓						
SEXTON, Senan (IND)										
SMITH, Donal (FF)										
SMYTH, Carrie (LAB)	✓			✓						

- ✓ - Denotes membership for entire year
- ◆ - Denotes membership for part of 2022

Councillor Name	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Theatre Company	Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly	Heritage Forum	Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited	Joint Policing Committee	Local Authority Members Association	Local Community Development Committee	Lord Edward Fitzgerald Memorial Fund	Local Policing Forum: Dundrum & Stillorgan (Est July 2021)
AHMED, Kazi (FG)					✓				
BAKER, Marie (FG)			✓				✓		
BLAIN Emma (FG)			✓						
BRENNAN, Shay (F.F)					✓				✓
CLARK, Michael (FG)			✓		✓				
COLGAN Anne (IND)									
DOCKERY, Liam (FF)									
DOCKRELL, Maurice (FG)									
DONNELLY, Deirdre (IND)	✓				✓			✓	
DOWLING, Eva Elizabeth (GP)					✓			✓	✓
DUNNE, Daniel (GP)							✓		
FANNING, Martha (LAB)									
FAYNE Mary (F.G)									
FEENEY Kate (F.F)							✓		
FLEMING, Michael (IND)									
GILDEA Jim (FG)		✓							
GRAINGER, Anna (FG)					✓				
HALL, Lorraine (FG)					✓				
HALPIN, Melisa (PBP)									
HANAFIN Mary (F.F)	✓	✓			✓			✓	
KENNEDY, John (F.G)					✓				
KINSELLA, Patricia (IND)									
KIVLEHAN, Tom (GP)			✓						
LEWIS, Hugh (IND)			✓						
McCARTHY Lettie (LAB)			✓		✓		✓		
MCLOUGHLIN, Sean (IND)									
MCNAMARA, Frank (FG)					✓				

Councillor Name	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Theatre Company	Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly	Heritage Forum	Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited	Joint Policing Committee	Local Authority Members Association	Local Community Development Committee	Lord Edward Fitzgerald Memorial Fund	Local Policing Forum: Dundrum & Stillorgan (Est July 2021)
MOYLAN, Justin (FF)									
MURPHY Tom (F.F)									
O'CONNOR, Oisin (GP)					✓				
O'BRIEN Peter (LAB)		✓							
O'CALLAGHAN, Denis (LAB)					✓	✓			
O'CONNELL, Juliet (LAB)	✓								
O'CONNELL, Maeve (FG)				✓					
O'LEARY, Jim (FG)									
POWER, Una (GP)									
QUINN, Dave (SD)			✓						
RUDDOCK, Kate (GP)					✓				
SAUL, Barry (FG)									
SEXTON, Senan (IND)									
SMYTH, Carrie (LAB)					✓				

✓ - Denotes membership for entire year

◆ - Denotes membership for part of 2021

Councillor Name	Local Policing Forum : Dun Laoghaire	Local Policing Forum: Loughlinstown, Ballybrack & Shankill	Local Policing Forum: Sandyford / Stepaside Area	Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	Memorials Committee	Public Arts Steering Committee	Regional Health Forum	Sandyford BID Company	Southside Partnership dlr	Sutton to Sandycove (S2S)
AHMED, Kazi (FG)										
BAKER, Marie (FG)					✓					✓
BLAIN, Emma (FG)										
BRENNAN, Shay (F.F)										
CLARK, Michael (FG)					✓	✓				
COLGAN, Anne (IND)										
DOCKERY, Liam (FF)										
DOCKRELL, Maurice (FG)										
DONNELLY, Deirdre (IND)										✓
DOWLING, Eva Elizabeth (GP)										
DUNNE, Daniel (GP)										
FANNING, Martha (LAB)				✓						✓
FAYNE, Mary (F.G)										✓
FEENEY, Kate (F.F)										✓
FLEMING, Michael (IND)						✓				
GILDEA Jim (FG)							✓			
GRAINGER, Anna (FG)							✓			
HALL, Lorraine (FG)										
HALPIN, Melisa (PBP)					✓					
HANAFIN, Mary (F.F)					✓					
KENNEDY, John (F.G)										
KIVLEHAN, Tom (GP)										
LEWIS, Hugh (IND)				✓	✓					
McCARTHY, Lettie (LAB)			✓		✓	✓		✓	◆ Appointed Oct 2023	

Councillor Name	Local Policing Forum: Dun Laoghaire	Local Policing Forum: Loughlinstown, Ballybrack & Shankill	Local Policing Forum: Sandycove / Stepaside Area	Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	Memorials Committee	Public Arts Steering Committee	Regional Health Forum	Sandycove BID Company	Southside Partnership dlr	Sutton to Sandycove (S2S)
MCLOUGHLIN, Sean (IND)					✓				◆ Resigned Oct 2023	
MCNAMARA, Frank (FG)										
MOYLAN, Justin (FF)	✓						✓			
MURPHY, Tom (F.F)										
O'CONNOR, Oisin (GP)										
O'BRIEN, Peter (LAB)				✓						
O'CALLAGHAN, Denis (LAB)			◆ Appointed March 2023		✓				✓	
O'CONNELL, Juliet (LAB)										
O'CONNELL, Maeve (FG)										
O'LEARY, Jim (FG)										
POWER, Una (GP)			◆ Resigned March 2023		✓		✓			
QUINN, Dave (SD)					✓		✓		✓	
RUDDOCK, Kate (GP)					✓					✓
SAUL, Barry (FG)					✓					
SEXTON, Senan (IND)										
SMYTH, Carrie (LAB)							✓			

Strategic Policy Committee Membership

- ✓ - Denotes membership for entire year
- ◆ - Denotes membership for part of 2023

Councillor Name	Community, Culture & Wellbeing SPC	Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	Environment & Climate Action SPC	Housing SPC	Planning & Citizen Engagement SPC	Transportation & Marine SPC
AHMED, Kazi (FG)	✓			✓		
BAKER, Marie (FG)	✓					✓
BLAIN, Emma (F.G)			✓	✓		
BRENNAN, Shay (F.F)		✓				✓
CLARK, Michael (FG)		✓	✓			
COLGAN, Anne (IND)				✓	✓	
DOCKERY, Liam (FF)			✓	✓		
DOCKRELL, Maurice (FG)				✓		✓
DONNELLY, Deirdre (IND)	✓					✓
DOWLING, Eva Elizabeth (GP)		✓				✓
DUNNE, Daniel (GP)	✓				✓ Chair	
FANNING, Martha (LAB)	✓					✓
FAYNE, Mary (F.G)		✓	✓			
FEENEY, Kate (F.F)		✓ Chair				✓
FLEMING, Michael (IND)	✓ Chair	✓				
GILDEA, Jim (FG)		✓		✓		
GRAINGER, Anna (FG)	✓				✓	
HALL, Lorraine (FG)		✓				✓
HALPIN, Melisa (PBP)					✓	✓
HANAFIN, Mary (FF)	✓				✓	
KENNEDY, John (F.G)		✓			✓	
KIVLEHAN, Tom (GP)	✓			✓		
LEWIS, Hugh (IND)			✓	✓		
McCARTHY, Lettie (LAB)			✓		✓	
MCLOUGHLIN, Sean (IND)	✓					✓

Councillor Name	Community, Culture & Wellbeing SPC	Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	Environment & Climate Action SPC	Housing SPC	Planning & Citizen Engagement SPC	Transportation & Marine SPC
MCNAMARA, Frank (FG)				✓	✓	
MOYLAN, Justin (FF)	✓			✓		
MURPHY, Tom (FF)					✓	✓
O'BRIEN, Peter (LAB)	✓			✓ Chair		
O'CALLAGHAN, Denis (LAB)		✓		✓		
O'CONNELL, Juliet (LAB)		✓			✓	
O'CONNELL, Maeve (FG)					✓	✓
O'CONNOR, Oisín (GP)				✓		✓ Chair
O'LEARY, Jim (FG)			✓ Chair		✓	
POWER, Una (GP)			✓		✓	
QUINN, Dave (SD)				✓	✓	
RUDDOCK, Kate (GP)		✓	✓			
SAUL, Barry (FG)		✓	✓			
SEXTON, Senan (IND)		✓	✓			
SMYTH, Carrie (LAB)			✓			✓

Sectoral Representatives	Community, Culture & Wellbeing SPC	Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	Environment & Climate Action SPC	Housing SPC	Planning & Citizen Engagement SPC	Transportation & Marine SPC
ALKEN, Gregory						✓
BROWNE, Dr. Josephine	✓	✓				
BROWNE, Ronan						
CAHILL, Emma					◆ Appointed Sept 2023	✓
CARROLL, Dara					◆ Resigned Sept 2023	✓
CLOONEY, Elizabeth			✓			
CLINCH, Andrew	✓					
CORBETT, Ger		✓				
DRUDY, P.J.				✓		
DUNNE, Olivia	✓					
EGLINGTON, Aileen		✓				
FENNESSEY, Bernard				◆ Resigned March 2023		
GALLAGHER, Matt					✓	
GEARY, David				◆ Appointed March 2023		
GIRVAN, David				✓		
GRACE, Sheila	✓					
GRAYDON, Geraldine					✓	
HOGAN, Orla			✓			
JACOB, Reji Chacko			✓			
JOSEPH, Thomas				✓		
KAVANAGH, Brian	✓					
KING, Dervla			✓			
KELLY, Frances						◆ Resigned Feb 2023
LONG, Jim						◆ Appointed Feb 2023
MAGUIRE, Philip			✓			
MCAREE, Diarmuid			✓			
MCCABE, Caroline		✓				
MEEHAN, Brid					✓	

Sectoral Representatives	Community, Culture & Wellbeing SPC	Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	Environment & Climate Action SPC	Housing SPC	Planning & Citizen Engagement SPC	Transportation & Marine SPC
MOORE, Aaron						✓
MULCAHY, Dan					✓	
MULLEADY, Julie						✓
NEILL, Pat						✓
NGADI, Pierrot	✓					
O'FARRELL, Gerard					✓	
O'NEILL, Sean				✓		
O'TOOLE, John		✓				
REYNOLDS, Maoiliosa				✓		
SCALLY, Sharon				✓		
SCOTT LENNON, Mark		✓				
SULTAN, Fardus		✓				
WALSH, Michael					✓	
YOUNG, John			✓			

Councillors Attendance at Meetings in 2023

Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	%
CLlr Ahmed Kazi	54	51	94%
CLlr Baker Marie	48	48	100%
CLlr Blain Emma	49	39	80%
CLlr Brennan Shay	57	46	81%
CLlr Clark Michael	50	48	96%
CLlr Colgan Anne	56	46	82%
CLlr Dockery Liam	46	35	76%
CLlr Dockrell Maurice	49	43	88%
CLlr Donnelly Deirdre	47	43	91%
CLlr Dowling Eva Elizabeth	58	54	93%
CLlr Dunne Daniel	53	52	98%
CLlr Fanning Martha	50	50	100%
CLlr Fayne Mary	48	46	96%
CLlr Feeney Kate	49	43	88%
CLlr Fleming Michael	49	46	94%
CLlr Gildea Jim	46	45	98%
CLlr Grainger Anna	57	47	82%
CLlr Hall Lorraine	47	39	83%
CLlr Halpin Melisa	47	39	83%
CLlr Hanafin, Mary	41	35	85%
CLlr Kennedy John	47	43	91%
CLlr Kivlehan Jnr, Tom	48	47	98%
CLlr Lewis Hugh	42	35	83%
CLlr McCarthy Lettie	54	51	94%
CLlr McLoughlin Sean	52	41	79%
CLlr McNamara Frank	46	39	85%
CLlr Moylan Justin	48	47	98%
CLlr Murphy Tom	53	39	74%
CLlr O'Brien Peter	57	54	95%
CLlr O'Callaghan Denis	52	52	100%
CLlr O'Connell Juliet	44	41	93%
CLlr O'Connell Maeve	46	45	98%
CLlr O'Connor Oisin	53	50	94%
CLlr O'Leary Jim	55	52	95%
CLlr Power Una	42	33	79%
CLlr Quinn Dave	47	44	94%

Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	%
Cllr Ruddock Kate	50	45	90%
Cllr Saul Barry	47	41	87%
Cllr Sexton, Senan	49	45	92%
Cllr Smyth Carrie	46	46	100%

Conferences/Training Attended During 2023

Date	Details	Conference/ Training	Location	No. of Councillors
7th & 9th February 2023	Association of Irish Regions Conference	Conference	Four Seasons Hotel Monaghan, Co. Monaghan	4
1st February 2023	AILG-UCC Certificate in CPD Climate Crisis and Local Government	Training	Online/Blended	3
23rd February 2023	AILG Elected Members February 2023 (In-Person) Module 1 Training " A briefing on the Electoral Reform Act"	Training	The Tullamore Court Hotel, Co. Offaly	4
25th February 2023	AILG Elected Members February 2023 (In-Person) Module 1 Training "A Briefing on the Electoral Reform Act"	Training	The Radisson Blu Hotel Limerick	1
24th February 2023	AILG-OPR Training Webinar 1 'Preparing and Making Local Area Plans: Driving Urban and Rural Regeneration'	Training	Webinar	1
4th March 2023	LAMA Spring Conference	Conference	West Lodge Hotel, Bantry Co. Cork	3
10th March 2023	Housing Ireland Conference 2023	Conference	Radisson Blu Royal Hotel/Dublin Royal Convention Centre	1
23rd March 2023	AILG Elected Members (In-Person) Module 2 Training "Local Authority Climate Action Plans - Action focused ambition at local and community levels"	Training	The Clayton Whites Hotel, Co. Wexford	1
25th March 2023	AILG Elected Members (In-Person) Module 2 Training "Local Authority Climate Action Plans - Action focused ambition at local and community levels"	Training	The Fairways Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1
29th March 2023	Cross Border Tourism Conference	Conference	Four Seasons Hotel Carlingford Co Louth	0
6th March 2023	The Suck Valley Way National Conference 2023	Conference	Abbey Hotel Roscommon	1
19th & 20th March 2023	AILG 2023 Annual Training Conference	Conference	Hotel Kilkenny, College Road, Sugarloafhill, Kilkenny	8
30th April 2023	AILG/OPR Training Connecting Ireland and Rural Public Transport Investment	Training	Webinar	0
26th May 2023	AILG Training Webinar 3 - "Urban Regeneration and Development Fund"	Training	Webinar	1

Date	Details	Conference/ Training	Location	No. of Councillors
15th June 2023	AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 3 "Overview of Existing Planning Legislation and Policy Guidance."	Training	Mullingar Park Hotel, Co. Westmeath	2
17th June 2023	AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 3 "Overview of Existing Planning Legislation and Policy Guidance."	Training	Avalon House Hotel, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny	4
10th June 2023	Sean MacDiarmada Summer School 2023	Training	Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim	0
20th July 2023	AILG Module 4 Training: "Uisce Eireann (Irish Water) – A Briefing for Councillors"	Training	The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Cork (Little Island)	1
22nd July 2023	AILG Module 4 Training: "Uisce Eireann (Irish Water) – A Briefing for Councillors"	Training	The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Sligo	5
8th Aug 2023	AILG Training Webinar 4 - "Irish Language Training for Elected Members"	Training	Webinar	1
13th & 14th August 2023	AILG Autumn Seminar	Seminar	Sligo Park Hotel	6
22nd August 2023	AILG-OPR September Councillor Training Webinar "Integrating Energy Supply and Planning"	Training	Webinar	1
29th August & 06th September 2023	AILG Training "Delivering Speeches in Irish" Two Part Online Course	Training	Webinar	0
13th September 2023	AILG Elected Member Training Webinar 7 – Age Friendly Ireland – Housing & Public Realm Training	Training	Webinar	0
19th October 2023	AILG Elected Members (In-Person) Module 5 Training "Elected Member Personal Security – Positive Home, Workplace and Mobile Security Practices"	Training	The Kilmore Hotel, Cavan	0
20th October 2023	AILG Elected Member Training Webinar 8 – CARO – Local Authority Climate Action Plans	Training	Webinar	0
25th & 26th October 2023	LAMA Autumn Seminar	Training	Ard Ri Hotel, Tuam, Co Galway	2
18th November 2023	AILG Module 6 Training Programme "Road Safety: New Speed Limit Policy and Safeguarding Road Users."	Training	The Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit, Co. Galway	1

Strategic Policy Committee Reports

Community, Culture & Wellbeing Strategic Policy Committee

5 meetings were held in 2023:

- Updates were given on the DLR Heritage Strategy 2021-2025, the Arts Plan 2016-2022, the Tree Strategy 2023-2033, the Festival of Inclusion 2023, the Community Grants Scheme 2024, and Street Feast 2023.
- Workshops were held in relation to the Arts Plan 2024-2030, the DLR Play Policy 2023-2028, and the DLR Local Sports and Physical Activity Plan 2023-2028.
- A presentation was also given on Making Change through Positive Action by International Community Dynamics.

Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee

Four meetings took place in 2023.

The development of a new Local Economic and Community Plan for DLR formed a major part of the work programme of the SPC in 2023. Regular updates were provided during the year, with members providing input at all stages.

Among the topics covered during presentations to the Committee were:

- Local Enterprise Week 2023
- Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan
- Development of the Tourism Strategy
- Overview of supports from Local Enterprise Office

Environment and Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee

There were four meetings held in 2023. Below are the highlights of some of the items discussed by the SPC in 2023.

- Strategic Noise Mapping and Noise Action Plan Update
- Presentation on the Rediscovery Centre
- Air Pollution and Mortality on the Island of Ireland
- Draft National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy
- Presentation on the DLR Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections Plan
- DLR Tree Strategy update
- Climate Action Plan Update
- Litter Management Plan 2024-2026
- Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy Update

Housing Strategic Policy Committee

There were 4 meetings of the Housing SPC held in 2023 during which the following matters were considered:

- The current provision of homeless accommodation in the County, Housing First and homeless accommodation in the pipeline – presentation by Peter McVerry Trust.
- National Disability Strategy Implementation Plan – presentation by the Housing Agency with an overview of the Strategy, the vision for the Plan and what has been done so far.
- Hail Housing - presentation by Hail on the areas they work in and the demand on their services.
- Housing Transformation Programme - a presentation on the upgrade of the housing system, the implementation of the document management system, the integration of systems and the changes yet to come.
- Guidelines for Universal Design Homes and Lifetime Adaptable & Age Friendly Homes – presentation by the Architects Department.
- Dublin Homeless Action Plan and the Business Plan 2022 – 2023, presentation by the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE).
- Financial Contribution Scheme – a presentation was made on the draft principles of a proposed Financial Contribution Scheme.
- Update on the work of the Housing & Disability Steering Group was given at each of the SPC meetings.

Planning and Citizen Engagement Strategic Policy Committee

The Planning and Citizen Engagement Strategic Policy Committee had three meetings in 2023. The below policy issues were discussed:

- Old Connaught and Rathmichael Local Area Plans
- Housing Taskforce
- Sustainable Compact Settlement Guidelines
- Village Design Statements
- Marine Spatial Planning
- County Development Plan Monitoring

Transportation & Marine Strategic Policy Committee

There were 4 meetings of the Transport & Marine SPC held in 2023 and below were some of the items discussed:

- Implementing a 30km/h speed limit
- Checks in place to ensure the placement of street parking spaces don't obstruct line of sight of road users
- Possibility of a license for all road users
- Placement of swimming buoys at bathing areas
- Safe active travel to school – cycling and walking routes
- Educating cyclists in relation to cyclist traffic lights
- Standardising approach to the timing of pedestrian lights

There were also a number of presentations and briefings given to the members by the Council Executive and outside agencies including:

- NTA on the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy 2022 -2042
- Council Executive on The Bray Core Bus Corridor
- Council Executive on The Road Maintenance Programme Update
- Council Executive on The Harbour Masterplan Update

A Parking Sub-Committee made up of members of the Transportation & Marine SPC was formed in 2023, with a remit to review parking within the County and to make high level recommendations under a number of themes including Parking Provision, Compliance and Accessibility. The sub-committee met six times throughout the year and presented 20 recommendations to the SPC at the December meeting.

Payments to Councillors in 2023

Councillor Name	Salary (LG 05 - 2021 & LG 02 & 07-2022)	SPC Chair	Travel & Subsistence (E104-2021 & LG 05-2022)	LRA Vouched	LRA Non-vouched	Mobile Charges
Ahmed Kazi	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 176.37
Baker Marie	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,172.80	€ 960.00	-€ 151.71
Blain Emma	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	
Brennan Shay	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,469.85	€ 163.38	€ 960.00	-€ 163.38
Clark Michael	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,471.94	€ 960.00	-€ 162.37
Colgan Anne	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,853.34	€ 960.00	-€ 142.06
Dockery Liam	€ 25,239.86		€ 4,521.07	€ 139.26	€ 960.00	-€ 139.26
Dockrell Maurice	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 180.54
Donnelly Deirdre	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 25.03	€ 960.00	-€ 187.15
Dowling Eva Elizabeth	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 104.11
Dunne Daniel*	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 194.15	€ 960.00	-€ 144.91
Fanning Martha	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 351.44
Fayne Mary	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 18.79	€ 960.00	-€ 159.84
Feeney Kate	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 1,623.92	€ 960.00	-€ 145.17
Fleming Michael	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 4,536.97	€ 960.00	-€ 461.70
Gildea Jim	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 3,000.00	€ 960.00	
Grainger Anna	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	
Hall Lorraine	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 233.31
Halpin Melisa	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 3,775.01	€ 960.00	-€ 127.82
Hanafin, Mary	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 172.85	€ 960.00	-€ 172.85
Kennedy John	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 2,499.96	€ 960.00	-€ 144.91
Kivlehan Jnr, Tom	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,533.46	€ 960.00	-€ 180.82
Lewis Hugh	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 17.24	€ 960.00	-€ 137.33
McCarthy Lettie	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 189.04
McLoughlin Sean	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 251.70	€ 960.00	-€ 251.70

McNamara Frank	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 178.24
Moylan Justin	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 17.24	€ 960.00	-€ 146.56
Murphy Tom	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,218.57	€ 33.08	€ 960.00	-€ 144.91
O'Brien Peter	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 4,531.45	€ 960.00	-€ 150.73
O'Callaghan Denis	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 1,399.98	€ 960.00	-€ 145.85
O'Connell Juliet*	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 1,571.25	€ 960.00	-€ 130.85
O'Connell Maeve	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 3,941.46	€ 960.00	
O'Connor Oisín	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 12.85	€ 960.00	-€ 126.52
O'Leary Jim	€ 28,148.50	€ 4,982.90	€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 132.36
Power Una	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 125.02	€ 960.00	-€ 125.02
Quinn Dave*	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 2,607.60	€ 960.00	-€ 126.52
Ruddock Kate	€ 27,883.96		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,200.00	€ 960.00	-€ 132.78
Saul Barry	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 16.54	€ 960.00	-€ 146.98
Sexton Senan	€ 28,635.84		€ 4,524.00	€ 126.78	€ 960.00	-€ 126.78
Smyth Carrie	€ 28,148.50		€ 4,524.00	€ 4,088.81	€ 960.00	-€ 169.33
Total Expenditure 2023 on Elected Members Expenses	€ 1,123,254.16	€ 29,897.40	€ 180,597.49	€ 98,032.99	€ 38,400.00	-€ 6,091.22

Councillor Name	Conferences/ Training/ Seminars	Estimated Amount due to Councillors for Conferences Training & Seminars	Cathaoirleach's Allowance/ Leas Cathaoirleachs Allowance (LG 04-2018 & LG 05-2021)	Additional Administrative Support/ Expenses (LG 04/2023)	Gratuity (LG 17-2014 & LG 02-2022)	Total
Ahmed Kazi	€ 638.55					€ 38,294.68
Baker Marie						€ 37,653.59
Blain Emma	€ 889.80					€ 38,722.30
Brennan Shay						€ 33,578.35
Clark Michael			€ 1,356.88			€ 39,298.95
Colgan Anne	€ 71.80					€ 38,415.58
Dockery Liam						€ 30,720.93
Dockrell Maurice						€ 37,651.96
Donnelly Deirdre		€ 1,128.31				€ 34,598.69
Dowling Eva Elizabeth			€ 3,219.72	€ 7,684.48		€ 48,632.59
Dunne Daniel*						€ 38,664.64
Fanning Martha						€ 37,481.06
Fayne Mary	€ 2,252.42	€ 402.26				€ 36,146.13
Feeney Kate		€ 335.92				€ 40,430.07
Fleming Michael						€ 42,690.67
Gildea Jim		€ 2,081.19				€ 38,713.69
Grainger Anna						€ 37,832.50
Hall Lorraine		€ 331.50				€ 37,930.69
Halpin Melisa						€ 37,279.69
Hanafin, Mary			€ 6,784.41			€ 40,416.91
Kennedy John	€ 168.21					€ 36,155.76
Kivlehan Jnr, Tom						€ 37,985.14
Lewis Hugh						€ 33,512.41
McCarthy Lettie	€ 287.01					€ 37,930.47

McLoughlin Sean							€ 33,632.50
McNamara Frank	€ 3,890.23						€ 41,544.49
Moylan Justin	€ 3,744.66						€ 37,247.84
Murphy Tom							€ 33,215.24
O'Brien Peter							€ 42,996.12
O'Callaghan Denis			€ 16,098.60				€ 50,985.23
O'Connell Juliet*		€ 242.23					€ 35,315.13
O'Connell Maeve							€ 37,573.96
O'Connor Oisín							€ 38,501.73
O'Leary Jim							€ 42,683.04
Power Una							€ 33,632.50
Quinn Dave*							€ 36,113.58
Ruddock Kate							€ 37,435.18
Saul Barry		€ 331.50					€ 33,833.56
Sexton Senan							€ 34,119.84
Smyth Carrie	€ 387.16						€ 37,939.24
Total Expenditure 2023 on Elected Members Expenses	€ 12,329.84	€ 4,852.91	€ 27,459.61	€ 7,684.48	€-	€ 1,516,417.66	

CORPORATE AFFAIRS



2023 in Numbers

2,167,532

website page views



Social media followers increased by:



7%



6%



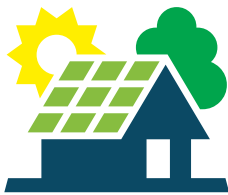
25%

Saving of
97,927 KWH
in gas consumption in Q4.



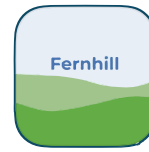
157

FOI requests



132

Solar PV panels installed on Ballyogan Operations Centre



Fernhill Park Augmented Reality app launched



52 Council & Area Committee meetings live streamed

989



staff attended Wellbeing seminars



113

press releases issued



171

New employees recruited



Over **141,000** customer contacts in the Civic Hub

Corporate Affairs

The Corporate Affairs department supports Elected Members in their policy and representational roles through the provision of quality service. It is responsible for the administration of all Council meetings, the compilation of the Register of Electors, preparation of the Council's statutory reports, Health and Safety, Governance, Communications, Data Protection, Freedom of Information, Corporate Procurement, Human Resources, Service Delivery and Workplace Partnership. All the services are supported by Information Technology, which ensures best practice and efficiencies in the delivery of services to the Councillors and the public.

These services include:

- An Cathaoirleach's Office
- Council meetings
- Facilities Management
- Communications Office
- Irish Office
- Digital Initiatives
- Customer Service
- Service Delivery
- Governance
- Freedom of Information
- Ethics Register
- Register of Electors
- Dundrum Area Office
- Audit Services
- Protected disclosures
- Health & Safety
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Workplace Partnership
- Archives

Council Meetings

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has 40 Elected Members (County Councillors), the Elected Members represent the following Local Electoral Areas (LEAs):

- Blackrock
- Dundrum
- Dun Laoghaire
- Glencullen-Sandyford
- Killiney-Shankill
- Stillorgan

The Secretariat Section manages Council Meetings, Dundrum & Dun Laoghaire Area Committee Meetings, Corporate

Policy Group meetings, Organisation, Procedure and Protocol Committee meetings and Deputation meetings.

In 2023 the following meetings of the Council were held:

- County Council Meetings (including the Annual Meeting, Special Council Meetings and the Budget Meeting): 16
- Dundrum Area Committee: 18
- Dún Laoghaire Area Committee: 18
- Deputations: 21
- Strategic Policy Committees: 24
- Joint Policing Committee: 4
- Organisation, Procedure and Protocol Committee: 5
- Corporate Policy Group: 7

Key Achievements 2023

- DLR Meeting Point Project Completed – DLR created a meeting management system with Storm Technology Ltd to be shared with other Local Authorities.
- 'TogetHER in Politics' Conference – a conference held by DLR in 2023 that was jointly funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to support women & diversity in Local Government.
- Training Programme held in November in Partnership with Women for Election to empower and support more women to run in the Local Elections 2024.
- Live stream of all Council and Area Committee meetings from the Council's website, in total 52 meetings were live streamed in 2023.

Facilities Management

The Facilities Management Section falls under the remit of Corporate Services and is divided into two sections. The in-house Facilities Management section has responsibility for County Hall, Harbour Square, Harbour Lodge and Dundrum Office. The external/outsourced Facilities Management section has responsibility for 19 buildings that vary from Libraries, Community Centres, Leisure Centres, Municipal Depots and Civic buildings. Work by the in-house Facilities Management Section includes:

- Building maintenance of corporate offices and general housekeeping.

- Purchasing / Procurement / Tender Process – utilisation of OGP contracts for Security, Contract Cleaning, Electricity, Gas, Mobiles and Fixed Line Services has resulted in considerable savings for the Council.
- Management of cleaning services, security services, canteen services, waste disposal and recycling, staff car parks, access control systems and fire evacuation procedures.
- Management of fixed line telephone system and corporate mobile telephones.
- Porters Desk.
- Setting up events in County Hall.
- Hire of halls / Civil Ceremonies.

Key Achievements 2023

- Monitoring of Planned and Reactive Maintenance programmes for 19 no. DLR Buildings, incorporating maintenance strategies for over 12,000 Council assets.
- Refurbishment of Ballyogan Operations Centre Plantroom, which included the replacement of degraded mechanical and electrical assets.
- Space optimisation and refurbishment projects across several corporate buildings, including the successful integration of Housing Maintenance staff into Ballyogan Operations Centre Administration Building.
- Key support in successful delivery of Heat Pump and Solar P/V installations in My Open Library branches.
- In September 2023, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council were awarded the prestigious Gold Cycle-Friendly Employer certification from the European Cyclists' Federation, making it the first cycle-friendly County Council in Ireland. This achievement demonstrates DLR's ongoing dedication to encourage staff to cycle to work and incorporate cycling into their daily routines.
- The fire alarm system for the Old Town Hall section of County Hall was replaced and a new system was installed and commissioned.
- The Building Management System (BMS) for County Hall had repairs carried out to provide greater control of the heating system. The BMS went live in October 2023 and there has been a significant reduction in the buildings gas consumption as a result. Gas consumption for County Hall in Q4 2023 vs the 2022 baseline has reduced by:
 - October – 23.9% reduction
 - November – 35.7% reduction
 - December – 25.5% reduction

These reductions amount to a saving of 97,927KWH versus the 2022 baseline (Adjusted to account for Heating Degree Days).

The responsibility for Corporate Buildings with staff falls under the remit of Corporate Services and the team are responsible for retrofitting and sustainability projects for these buildings.

Key Achievements 2023

- Approval of building energy upgrade for Harbour Master's Lodge. This is a heritage building and minimally invasive approach is required. Secondary glazing, designed by Conservation Architect is completed. Proposed actions include installation of heat pump, PV Solar panels, LED

lighting and insulation. When energy upgrades are complete the building will move from BER C2 to B2.

- Approval and installation of 132 panel Solar PV on Ballyogan Operations Centre administration building. Generating a potential 59,102kWh of electricity per annum, the equivalent of 18% of Ballyogan electrical consumption. Phase 2 of this project will include Solar PV on the utility building in Ballyogan and combined these projects will provide 45% of electricity consumption in Ballyogan Operations Centre. The proposed plantroom upgrade to install heat pumps will reduce gas consumption by 90%. All proposed projects will bring the BER to B1 and reduce carbon footprint.
- DeliveREE Project approval for proposed deep energy retrofit and Energy Performance Contract (EPC) for three buildings; County Hall, the Pavilion Theatre and DLR LexIcon Library. Following invitation to competitive dialogue in 2023, we are currently in negotiations with Energy Savings Contractor, with a view to awarding contract in 2024.

Communications Office

The Communications Office oversees communications for the organisation and is responsible for all internal and external communications, public relations, crisis management, advertising, event promotion and marketing extending across all service departments.

Key Achievements 2023

- Management of the Council's corporate website. The number of corporate website page views in 2023 was 2,167,532. The corporate website had 752,673 visitors in 2023.
- Launch of new corporate website + events.dlrcoco.ie merged into new site,
- Dun Laoghaire Harbour website merged with dlrcoco.ie
- Responded to all queries from local, national and international media - 205 in total.
- Issue of Press Releases – 113
- Promotion and management of Council service launches and events.
- Publication of three Editions of the DLR Times English/Irish
- Manage dlr Connect APP for outdoor staff + new screen installed at Ballyogan
- Developed and launched "Engineer your Future" Campaign to recruit engineers



- Manage digital screens in County Hall + Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire
- Video content creation for new services throughout the year,
- Publication of Annual Report 2022,
- Management of DLR's social media accounts, providing the Council with a highly responsive incoming and outgoing communications tool. Followers on DLR's social media accounts were as follows:
- Facebook followers increased by 7%.
- Twitter followers increased by 6%.
- Instagram followers increased by 25%.
- Development of the Council's Irish Language Scheme under the Official Languages Act 2003
- DLR Citizenspace - the public were invited to take part in a total of 68 consultations on the DLR Online Consultation Hub

An Cathaoirleach's Office

Corporate Affairs provides full support to An Cathaoirleach and the office which includes:

- Advice on protocol and event management
- Management of An Cathaoirleach's diary and appointments
- Issue and management of invitations and attendance at these events
- Co-ordination of Cathaoirleach events
- Responding to emails and correspondence
- Preparation of speeches

Irish Language

The Irish Language Development Office continued to provide practical advice and support to all Departments in relation to dealing with customers via written, web, media and oral communications.

During Seachtain na Gaeilge 2023 celebrations, lists of basic phrases were distributed to all staff for use in their daily work as well as words/phrases to use in correspondence. Continuous assistance was provided to all staff regarding changing their email signatures and out of office messages to be bilingual.

Many events were held during this hectic period, from a bilingual Trath na gCeist, to La na Gaeilge within DLR on 2nd March, to a pop-up Gaeltacht. Coffee mornings were held throughout Seachtain na Gaeilge to provide the opportunity for staff to converse as Gaeilge and to try and improve their Irish language skills.

The continuation of the Irish Language Advisory Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Chief Executive or his nominee, and consisting of the Irish Language Development Officer, other Council staff, Councillors and representatives of external organisations ensured that a focus was maintained on the development of the language with meetings taking place on a quarterly basis.

One of the great successes of the year was the event 'Ceol, Caint agus Craic le Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann' which took place in March. Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann are the largest group involved in the preservation and promotion of the traditional

music of Ireland since its foundation in 1951. The event took place in the Studio in DLR LEXICON as guests listened to local Comhaltas musicians play Irish traditional music. After the concert, there was an interactive session where people tried their hand at playing traditional instruments such as the bodhran and got a taste of the richness of traditional Irish music.

We also commenced a project with transition year students in both Colaiste Eoin and Colaiste Iosagain in relation to checking all the road signs in the County for any grammatical errors and amending them if required. This work will continue into 2024 and has been very well received by both schools.



Comhaltas

Civic Hub

The dlr Civic Hub is a digitally enhanced one-stop-shop that manages and delivers accessible Council services on living, working, visiting and doing business in the County. The Civic Hub provides an accessible single point of contact for customers' needs.

All customer queries are answered by the Civic Hub including phone, email, online queries, postal items and our public counter. This ensures consistency on while also providing the ability to track all queries across the organisation and allowing customers to receive updates on their requests. The Civic Hub also logs and tracks all representations from Elected Representatives.

The Civic Hub is a fully accessible facility with lower counters, customer seating and an induction Loop system in place. Self-service kiosks allow customers to access our services independently. We also have nine digital screens on-site to promote council services and events.

Key Achievements 2023

- Over 141,000 customer contacts
- 100,067 phone calls answered
- 36,751 emails responded to
- 1,858 items of registered post logged
- 2,709 in person counter queries dealt with

Service Delivery

A new service delivery role was created in 2023 to improve CRM efficiency and improve customer service delivery.

Key Achievements 2023

- Focus on resolving backlog of CRMs
- Rollout of CRM training
- Set up of CRM walk in clinics for staff
- Roll out of CRM apps for departments
- Creation of directorate dashboards for greater oversight of CRM
- Improvements to Councillor Portal

Procurement

Procurement is a strategic process that involves the acquisition of goods and services. DLR delivers a huge number of services across the County and our Procurement Unit is in place to ensure value-added procurement, that is strategically focused and supports the delivery of innovative, sustainable, cost-effective and quality services while meeting our National and European legal obligations.

The Unit is responsible for:

- Responded to 1,225 Procurement queries.
- Carried out 130 compliance checks on transactions across all departments.
- Procurement Audit recommendations 2022 – 92% Completed, 8% In progress.
- Roll out of new e-Tenders System across the organisation in May 2023.
- Assisted in the procuring departments in publishing 76 tenders on the new e-Tenders platform.

Governance

The Governance Section comprises of the Data Protection Unit and the Freedom of Information (FOI) Unit. The Data Protection Unit monitors compliance with data protection obligations, informs the organisation of these obligations, and acts as a contact point for data subjects and the relevant supervisory authority. The FOI Unit is the first port of call for all FOI requests, Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) and Data Access requests. In 2023 the Council received 157 FOI requests, 15 AIE requests, and 13 Data Access Requests.

Freedom of Information Statistics for 2023

Total Freedom of Information requests processed	157
Personal	41
Non-Personal	116
Requests Granted	38
Requests Part-granted	59

Requests Refused	43
Requests Transferred	0
Requests Withdrawn	11
Requests Handled outside of FOI	4
Internal Reviews Conducted	6
Appeals to Information Commissioner	1
Sources of Requests Received	
Members of the Public	103
Journalists	25
Business/Interest Groups	24
Oireachtas/Public Members	5

Register of Electors

The Register of Electors is now a rolling register since the introduction of the Electoral Reform Act 2022. The total number of electors on the register in December 2023 was 165,632. The Franchise section works continuously encouraging the public to register to vote and maintain their own details.

Dundrum Office

The Dundrum Area Office offered quality customer service facilitating key services such as submission of planning applications, the payment of housing rents, the display of engineering projects and open days like the Rates Evaluation walk in clinic. The office is proud to be a one stop-shop for many of our Council services. There are 10 Primary Schools in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown that benefit from the Urban School Meals Scheme which is managed in the Dundrum Office.

Key Achievements 2023

The Franchise section promoted the Register of Electors to encourage people to register to vote and update their details at various locations throughout 2023. There was also a nationwide campaign which encouraged all residents to register to vote or check their details which increased the number of people interacting with the Register of Electors. In 2023 the Register of Electors Team:

- Met with the Electoral Commission's Electoral Operations Team.
- Provided promotion stands in all Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown libraries with leaflets, flyers and application forms.
- Attended UCD and Dun Laoghaire IADT to promote the register to students.
- Joined the other Dublin Local Authorities to carry out a joint register campaign 'Have you Voter.ie'd'.
- Communicated with all second level schools in the County to encourage younger people to join the register.
- Attended town centres, shopping centres, and pop-up shops distributing information and encouraging citizens to join the register and update their details.

- Received 7,123 online applications via Voter.ie and Check the Register.

Internal Audit

The role of Internal Audit is to provide independent assurance to the Council's Senior Management and Audit Committee that the organisation's governance, risk management and internal control processes are operating effectively. Internal Audit examines and reports on the adequacy of the Council's Internal controls.

The Internal Audit Annual Plan, approved by the Audit Committee, contains a programme of audits that are completed throughout the year. The findings and recommendations from each audit are presented to the Management Team and Audit Committee. Internal Audit monitor implementation of recommendations from audit reports using the audit and risk management system Viclarity.

The section also provides support to the Audit Committee in carrying out their duties.

Key Achievements 2023

- Four completed Internal Audit reports were brought to Audit Committee meetings.
- Two "In-depth" checks, required under the Public Spending Code, were presented to the Audit Committee.
- The Internal Audit Charter was approved by the Audit Committee on 7th December 2023.
- Internal Audit staff participated in Local Government Internal Audit regional and national network meetings.
- Internal Audit staff participated in five Audit Committee meetings.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a statutory committee of the Council appointed under section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. It has seven members, comprised of three Elected Members and four external representatives. The current committee was formed following the Local Elections in May 2019. There were no changes to the membership during 2023. The Audit Committee met six times in 2023.

Key Achievements 2023

- Approved the Audit Committee Charter, Activity Report for 2023 and Annual Work Programme for 2024.
- Approved Audit Committee report on the audited AFS and Local Government Auditor's Report for 2022.
- Approved the Internal Audit Charter, Annual Report on 2023 and approved audits for the Internal Audit Plan 2024.
- Considered Internal Audit reports/statutory reviews and received regular updates on audit report recommendations.

Members engaged in learning and development utilising the framework of the 'Thinking Environment Programme' delivered over two sessions.

Protected disclosures Act 2014

There was one external Protected Disclosure in 2023.

Archive Services

The archive section is responsible for all the documentary heritage of the organisation, fulfilling the statutory function of the proper management, custody, care and conservation of local archives and making them publicly accessible.

The holdings consist chiefly of the Council Minutes and related records of the four townships which were amalgamated to form Dun Laoghaire Corporation – Blackrock, Dalkey, Killiney/Ballybrack and Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire). They are chiefly bound volumes with handwritten entries, dating from 1834.

The collection also includes documents relating to Marlay Park, Cabinteely House and the former Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company, among others. All catalogued material is publicly accessible and designated reading space is available. Assisting with research queries is an important part of regular activities. Working closely with DLR Heritage, Archive Services are also actively involved in the curation of exhibitions and increasing awareness of the archival history of the County.

Key Achievements 2023

- On-going cataloguing of the collection, focusing currently on the MacGrath Papers from Cabinteely House.
- Commencement of upgrade project of the designated archival storage facilities in County Hall.
- Curation of The Dun Laoghaire Baths 1843-2023 exhibition in DLR Lexlcon.
- Contribution to The Rush of the Race: Egattas in Kingstown/Dun Laoghaire exhibition in DLR Lexlcon.
- Revival of The O'Connell Championship Cup rowing race in Dun Laoghaire, and restoration of the 1875 silver trophy, now on display in County Hall.

Health and Safety

dlr is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy working environment, not just for employees of the Council, but for others who may be affected by the Council's activities.

The role of Corporate Safety and Health office is to advise the Chief Executive, senior management and associated Departments on the management of occupational safety and health within the Council.

In 2023, the Safety Management System (SMS) continued to be implemented, reviewed and amended, as necessary in line with statutory and public health requirements. The SMC continues to update applicable structures to support the safe undertaking of operations for and on behalf of the Council.

Audits and inspections of direct labour & contractor operations were routinely undertaken during 202 across all departments / functions of the Council.

Summary Achievements

- 210 in-house site inspections were completed during the calendar year

- 493 statutory inspections were completed during the calendar year with one immediate defect reported
- Software improve TTM arrangements implemented
- Active consultation with internal (safety reps) and external (LGMA / Irish Water / contractors) stakeholders were undertaken with a view to ensuring the safe undertaking of operations within the functional area

Human Resources

The Human Resources Section is involved in the administration of statutory employment provisions, and the staffing policies, procedures and schemes adopted by Management.

The Section also has responsibility for Recruitment, Staff Learning and Development, Time and Attendance Management, Superannuation, effective Employee Engagement, provision of the Staff Wellbeing Service and provision of support to the payroll function of the organisation.

HR ran an intensive Recruitment Programme in a very tight labour market during 2023, retention of staff remained a key concern and HR continued to work through its Learning & Development, Employee Engagement and Staff Wellbeing programmes to optimise the working life experience of our staff members.

The Council's Strategic Workforce Plan 2023-2027 was adopted and the second DLR Gender Pay Gap Report was published with a gender pay gap of -3.62, reinforcing our focus on supporting an open and inclusive workplace.

Key Achievements 2023

- 149 people left the Council, and 171 new people joined the team. 146 staff were promoted internally.
- 53 recruitment competitions were advertised, for which there were 1,730 applicants. A total of 947 interviews were conducted which resulted in 597 applicants placed on panels. At the end of 2023, we had a total whole time equivalent 1,164.6 staff.
- 482 L&D courses & conferences were delivered with approximately 2,700 staff trained. 34 staff members were supported in courses in further education under the Scheme of Assistance.
- The Staff Wellbeing Service continued to grow in 2023 with individual interactions increasing from over 200 in 2022 to

over 300 in 2023. 18 Wellbeing Seminars covering a range of topics were held throughout the year, and 989 staff attended these seminars online. Spectrum Life continued to provide a 24/7 365 days a year service to staff members & elected representatives. Training and awareness events included Safe Talk Suicide Awareness, Men's Health Promotion, Anti Racism Training, LGBT Awareness, Festival of Inclusion including Autism in the Workplace Awareness, Dignity & Respect at Work Awareness.

Information Technology and Digital Initiatives

From infrastructure management to IT service delivery, digital innovation to data management and security, the role of the Information Technology department is multifaceted, and crucial for the smooth functioning of the various operations within the Council.

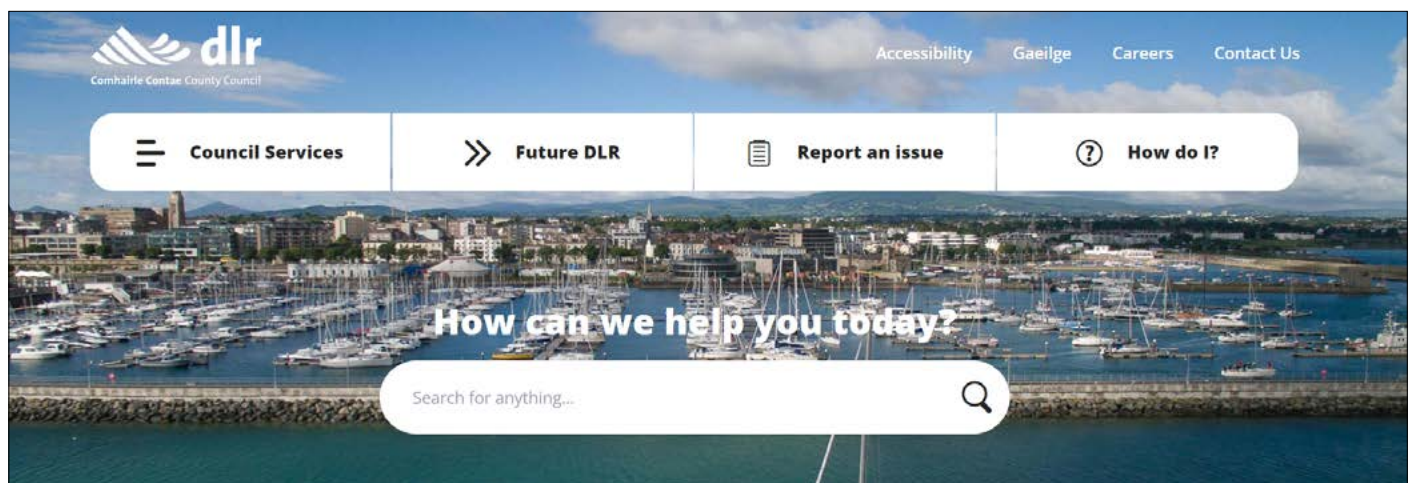
The IT department's responsibilities include:

Driving innovation and digital transformation by leveraging new and emerging technologies.

- Managing and maintaining the organisation's technology infrastructure, including networks, servers, hardware, and software applications.
- Implementing robust security measures and protocols to protect the organisation's data and systems.
- Managing relationships with new and existing technology partners.
- Continuously assessing and improving our IT processes, systems, and services to enhance our efficiency and user satisfaction.
- Leading and delivering technology projects from inception to completion, in alignment with the organisation's objectives.

Key Achievements 2023

- 3,714 calls were resolved by the IT Service Desk in 2023. In addition to this, we also added over 400 new hardware devices to our network.
- Managed the upgrade and redesign of the DLRCOCO.ie website.
- Delivered a new online HR forms portal, which has digitized over 10 services.



New dlrcoco.ie website launched

- Upgrade and replacement of Storage Area Network (SAN), combining a new integrated Enterprise Backup solution. The new solution has reduced energy consumption by 75% (6,760 kWh per year compared to 27,040 kWh previously).
- Focus on CyberSecurity including installing Defender to protect hundreds of laptops, introduction of a new Security Operations Centre and Security Incident and Event Management platform (SOC/SIEM) to monitor our network environment and moving to Mimecast software to dramatically improve email security.
- Introduction of MyCoCo to allow for more services to go online, starting with Rates, allowing customers to make payments and manage their account details.
- Improved use of Dynamics and apps has enhanced data security, field work and reduced license costs for outdoor and indoor staff working in Parks and ICC.
- The Smart Dun Laoghaire team, in conjunction with IADT, launched the Fernhill Park Augmented Reality app to promote eco-awareness of our natural resources and encourage interest in STEM subjects in school-goers in the County.

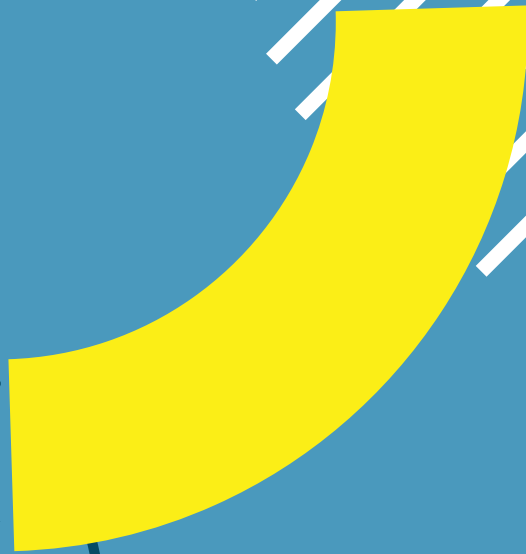
Workplace Partnership

The Partnership Committee held their schedule of meetings during the year. Partnership Action Groups continued to advance several objectives/activities.

Events & schemes included:

- Installation of dlr Connect touch screen at Ballyogan Operations Depot in partnership with the Communications office.
- There were two Consultation Groups established for the purpose of moving of Depot staff and operations.
- County-wide educational staff tours. A total of six tour days were held in partnership with the Communications Office. Feedback from attendees was very positive.
- Annual Staff Commemoration in County Hall & Ballyogan. The electronic version was made available to both retirees and staff.
- Long Service Recognition. 82 Staff with over 20 years of public service were invited to a celebration event, where they were individually acknowledged by our Chief Executive.
- Partnerships ‘Little Good News’ distributed to staff & retirees throughout the year.
- Video chats with different staff across our services continued in 2023.
- Publication of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 2023 Calendar.
- Christmas Saving Scheme continued with great success, the membership of the partnership saving scheme continues to grow. The scheme is open to staff & retired staff on the my-pay scheme.

ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES



2023 in Numbers



ISO50001 Recertification Audit Completed



total energy saving
across DLR buildings of

15.9%

14

events held during
Open House Dublin 2023



**Open
House
Dublin**



€227,500

received for the
Historic Structures Fund 2023



67

social housing units
in Ballyogan Square

Architectural Service

The Architects' Department provides services to improve the quality of life for all in the County, including strategically reviewing suitable sites for housing, civic amenities and urban development. Primarily the Department project manages the construction of social housing projects, along with housing adaptations and upgrades. The Architects also support other departments and sections including Infrastructure and Climate Change, Corporate Affairs, Parks, Community and Libraries on building projects, urban design, and public realm projects.

The Conservation Section contributes to the County Development Plan, advises on planning applications relating to protected structures and dwellings in Architectural Conservation Areas and allocates grants to successful applicants under the Conservation Grants and the Historic Structures Fund Schemes.

The Department is also responsible for dealing with Dangerous Structures and Places in the County under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act.

The Architects' Department drives the energy and carbon reduction agenda in the County in a range of areas: managing the corporate wide ISO 50001 Energy Management System and cross-departmental Energy Team, monitoring and improving the energy performance in the Council's own buildings, fleet and public lighting and engaging with stakeholders and government departments relating to energy efficient buildings.

DLR Architects support the Irish Architectural Foundation's Open House Dublin annual architecture festival. Free public tours, activities and events are organised to promote the high-quality built environment in the County and encourage a better understanding of the broad scope of architecture for all ages.

Housing

- Construction ongoing at the largest public housing scheme of 597 social and affordable homes at Shanganagh, Shankill with DLR in partnership with the Land Development Agency. The first homes are due for completion this year.
- Handover in July of 67 social housing units in Ballyogan Square.
- Tender preparation is underway for 52 apartments in Ballyogan Rise a mixture of both social and cost rental units, construction to commence later this year.
- Construction of 13 units at Rockville Green, Rockville Drive, due to start on site this year.
- Handover in October of 4 refurbished historic Coastguard cottages in Dun Laoghaire Harbour.



dlr CE & An Cathaoirleach Be Energy Smart at Home

- Tender preparation is underway for 125 units at Blackglenn Road a mixture of Affordable houses and both social and cost rental units, construction to commence later this year.
- Tender preparation is also underway for 25 Affordable houses at Mount Anville, construction to commence later this year.
- Four social units will be completed in summer 2024 in the renovated and extended Park House on George's Street, in Dun Laoghaire, overlooking the People's Park - demonstrating the feasibility of "living over the shop".



Coastguard Cottages, Dun Laoghaire

Urban Design & Public Realm

Phase 1 of the Dun Laoghaire Baths project was completed and the Happy Out cafe opened its doors in July 2023 to the public. Construction is underway for the accessible ramp linking the mid-level promenade walk to the lower level on the Baths.

DLR Architects continues to work with the Infrastructure and Climate Change Department and the Active Travel Section on the design of several public realm projects throughout the County. Together we are delivering safe routes to schools, living streets projects which include Blackrock village and Dun Laoghaire. We are also active with the Academy of Urbanism –

the continuing maintenance of the COVID and summer streets projects and are also involved in the Seafield safe and quiet streets initiative and the ongoing work on the Coastal Mobility Route.

DLR Architects are also bringing forward proposals for the Seafront area in Blackrock. This project includes a comprehensive re-imagining of the seafront area including the car parks outside the DART Station, links over the DART Line to the seafront and the development of a new civic plaza.

DLR Architects have completed the design of an exciting new Sports Facility at the Samuel Beckett Centre, Ballyogan. The centre will include swimming pools (25m and learner pool), sports hall, gym, studios, upgrades to three existing grass pitches, new small all-weather area, covered outdoor changing area, children's playgrounds, teen area, skate park, bike hub, civic space, extension of existing car park, drop-off parking areas, peripheral pathways with incidental activities, viewing areas, site drainage, landscaped areas enhancing site biodiversity.

DLR Architects have designed and overseen the conversion of the gym at Samuel Beckett Centre into a state-of-the-art new My Open Library, with adult and children's facilities including a recording studio, teen space, sensory area, study areas, an assembly room, as well as large areas of traditional bookshelves.

Civic Buildings

At Killiney, a Part 8 planning application is due to be lodged shortly for a Fáilte Ireland waters sports facility, with construction commencing later in the year.

Proposals are underway for locating a new Community, Cultural and Civic Centre in the heart of Dundrum. The proposal is to serve the people of Dundrum and surrounding areas in a manner that caters to the needs of existing and future generations, providing a large and updated library as well as community, cultural and civic amenities including a Council chamber.



Dún Laoghaire Baths - accessibility ramp

Conservation of the Built Heritage

The Conservation Division implements Part IV (Architectural Heritage) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and offers advice to members of the public and their agents on all aspects of the Built Heritage. The team continues to support the Planning Department with Development Management and Forward Planning.

Development Control

Planning Applications (including FI & comp reports)	Section 5 Declarations	Section 57 Declarations
261	43	0

Grants

The Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht's annual Conservation Grant Schemes are administered by the Conservation Division of the Architects' Department.

For the Historic Structures Fund 2023 (HSF) €227,500 was awarded from the Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht for 3 projects.

No. of projects funded	Amount of privately leverages funds spent by applicants	No. of days employment created (1 day =8 hours)
3	€70,292.75	453

For the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2023 (BHIS) DLR was allocated €126,400 which funded a range of projects.

No. of projects funded	Amount of privately leverages funds spent by applicants	No. of days employment created (1 day = 8 hours)
17	€152,495.00	470

Dangerous Structures

The Architects' Department implements the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964 in relation to Dangerous Structures & Places. The department co-ordinates the follow-up with Building Inspectors, Law, Property Management, various government agencies and the public to minimise risk. The table below outlines the categories of dangerous buildings and total number of cases reported in 2023.

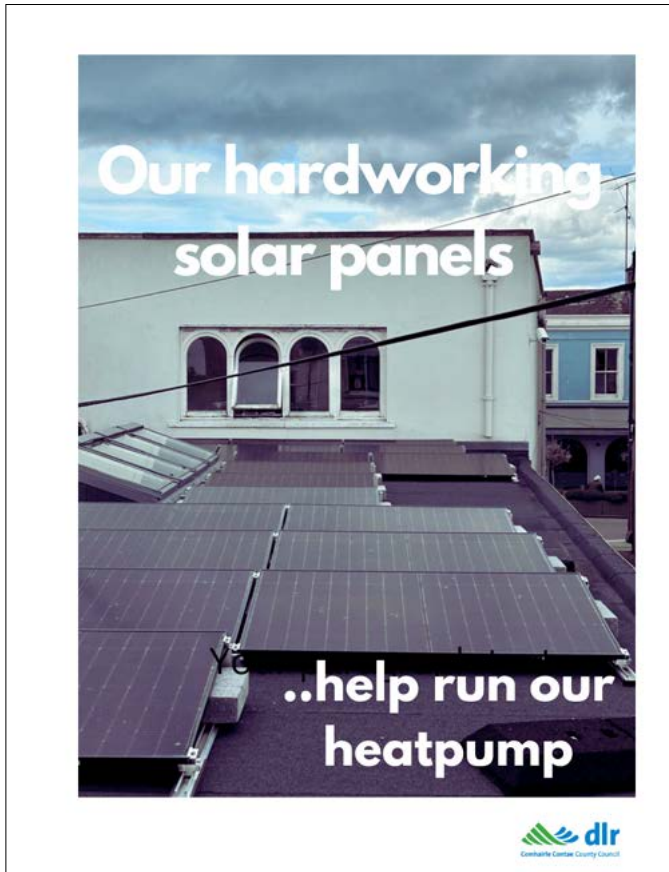
Dangerous	2
Potentially Dangerous	57
Not Dangerous	7
Total	66

Energy Management

Based on the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council improved energy efficiency by 48% (ranked third in the local authorities) in 2022 compared to the 2009 baseline. DLR's energy-related emissions in 2022 were 38% lower than the baseline of the 2016-2018 average with an absolute reduction target of 51% by 2030. There remains a significant gap in the non-electrical emissions associated with thermal (heating) and transport of a 16% reduction in 2022 to reach the 51% reduction target by 2030.



Launch of ZEB Summit



Significant investment is required to meet our emissions targets of net zero carbon by 2050 and to achieve a 51% absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Moving away from fossil fuel heating for DLR's 145 buildings and 315 fleet vehicles and continuing the rollout of LED upgrades for public lighting and new buildings need to be designed to zero operational carbon are required to meet the 2030 and 2050 targets.

DLR has held the international standard, ISO50001 Energy Management System certification since 2016. Compliance with the standard requires regular internal audits, and external annual surveillance audits and in-depth re-certification audits every three years, regular Energy Team meetings and pro-active energy management throughout the year across procurement, design, operations and regular communications and upskilling of staff. The ISO 50001 Energy Management System successfully passed the annual audit in November by the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) and renewed certification.

The 'Reduce Your Use' target set by government for public sector bodies was 5-10% reduction in energy consumption across the organisation and 15% across buildings specifically, covering the period of October 2022 to March 2023. DLR's performance over the course of the campaign show a total energy saving across DLR buildings of 15.9%. The total energy savings across the organisation, including fuel consumption by DLR Fleet, was 14.4%. The engagement and participation of wider DLR staff in energy saving-saving activities, and energy awareness raising more generally, also contributed to these very positive results. Multiple initiatives, such as the Step-Up Day in March 2023 to encourage staff to take the stairs instead of the elevator, were taken to raise awareness and support energy reductions across the organisation and within the wider community, including social media posts, presentations and operational changes in DLR buildings.

Open House 2023

DLR organised a number of events and sponsored Open House Dublin (OHD), Ireland's largest architecture festival which took place from 7th-15th October.

The OHD events provided for a wide range of thought-provoking experiences to encourage discussion about contemporary and historic architecture, infrastructure and urban design initiatives.



OHD Site Visit Shanganagh

Local Programme Highlights

Junior and Family events – Saturday 7th October

Fernhill Park Experience (interactive, educational, augmented reality game)	Fernhill House
Killiney Obelisk – Building Tour	Killiney Obelisk
The Oratory – Building Tour	The Oratory, Dun Laoghaire
‘Grounded’ Heritage Walking Tour	Blackrock Park

Junior and Family events – Saturday 7th October

Discussion with thought leaders on ‘The future of sustainable travel and public spaces – key opportunities and challenges’ chaired by An Cathaoirleach.

Saturday 14th October

County Hall Tour – Building Tour	County Hall, Dun Laoghaire
Grounded – Heritage Walking Tour	Blackrock Park
Dun Laoghaire Baths Tour with Architect	The Baths, Dun Laoghaire
Ballyogan Court Tour with Architect	Broadford Court, Ballinteer
How to be Energy Smart at Home - Q&A Seminar	Assembly Room, County Hall, Dun Laoghaire

The Grainstore Artist Studios	The Grainstore, Cabinteely
Coastal Mobility Route - Bike Tour	CMR Route with 3-4 stops, Sandycove - Blackrock
DL Anseo Street Art – Walking Tour	Walking tour of Street Art installations in Dun Laoghaire
Home - Presentation by Artist Mary Burke	Project Room, DLR Lexlcon
Shanganagh largest Passive House development – site visit	Shanganagh, Shankill



2023 Ballyogan Square

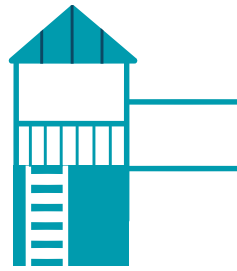
COMMUNITY CULTURAL SERVICES & PARKS



2023 in Numbers



59 arts development projects were delivered



Play Policy 2023-2028
(Completed and Adopted)



162 Community Grants were awarded to a total value of

€174,889

61

events supported through dlr Festival of Inclusion



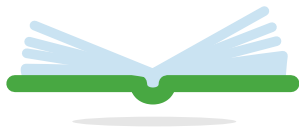
11,200

people directly engaged in DLR Sports Partnership initiatives



45,000

attendees at library events



New Library Development Plan – “Beyond our Walls 2022-2026” launched



1,200 HECTARES of Parks and Open Spaces managed & maintained

An Taisce Green Flags awarded to Marlay Park, Cabinteely Park, Shanganagh Park, People’s Park, Deerpark and Blackrock



37

clubs supported by dlr Sports Partnership



Community, Cultural Services & Parks

The Department includes a range of key services including the Arts; the Library Service; Community Development and Social Inclusion; Parks, Biodiversity, Heritage, and Sports Development & Partnership. These services are aimed at supporting community development, social inclusion, and driving quality of life and wellbeing for all.

- 162 Community Grants were awarded to a total value of €174,889.
- €1,000,000 funding administered to community groups in DLR through the Community Support Fund and the Community Recognition Fund, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development.
- DLR Age Well Expo took place in June 2023 with approximately 1,000 attendees.
- 24 meetings of the Community Response Forum took place, in response to the arrival of displaced Ukrainians and International Protection Applicants.
- The consultation phase for Community and Cultural Audit included 1,061 public submissions on the Council's citizen space; 75 service providers completed their own surveys. 58 people in total have attended 4 area-based focus groups, 1 online focus group and 2 consultations with young people.
- 45,000 attended events in library branches.
- 11,200 people were directly engaged throughout the year in DLR Sports Partnership initiatives delivered across key target population groups.

Community Development

Bi-monthly Community Facility Network meetings continued in 2023, with a view to cultivating a collaborative learning-resource and reflective practice space for managers/ board members, while tending to ongoing development of policies, energy awareness matters and website training.

The Community team continued to work closely with operators of DLR Community Facilities, providing community activation programmes as well as addiction services, family support services, youth services, childcare, active retirement groups, Men's Sheds, and social and recreational activities.

DLR submitted four entries to the 2023 Pride of Place Awards, with both Hillview and the DLR Community Support for Displaced Ukrainians winning runner up prizes.



Festival Of Inclusion Launch

Continued operation of the Estate Management Programme in 12 areas, working in partnership to progress actions to improve the local environment.

DLR was successful in receiving funding for National Play Day 2023, the theme for which was 'Wonder and Discovery'. Local Child & Youth Services benefited from the funding promoting and encouraging health, fitness, and a more active lifestyle through play.

DLR were awarded an allocation of funding from the Department of Health to continue rolling out a period dignity program. Products were distributed to 20 sites across the County which included Libraries, Youth Services, Community Facilities, Family Resource Centres and Community Development Groups.

Continued engagement of up to 115 participants across the DLR Community Employment Scheme, offering training opportunities, job skills, coaching and mentoring to those who are long-term unemployed or disadvantaged.

The Community Response Forum continued to meet fortnightly to provide coordination of supports to displaced Ukrainians and International Protection Applicants arriving in the County.

10,896 displaced Ukrainians fleeing the war, or 10% of the total amount of Ukrainians to enter the country, passed through and were managed in Ballyogan Regional Temporary Rest Centre.

Social Development and Inclusion

DLR Festival of Inclusion 2023, from 28th Sept to Nov 2023, celebrated the theme of 'Belonging'. 61 events were supported from 49 groups & organisations representing older people, migrant communities, LGBTQI+, Traveller, women's groups, groups from communities in areas identified as disadvantaged, disability groups and more with over 2,900 attendees taking part in DLR Festival of Inclusion 2023.

India Fest 2023 took place in the Leopardstown Pavilion, November 2023 with almost 4,000 in attendance and a wonderful celebration of Indian culture, supported by the Social Inclusion Unit.

A Community Music & Dance Day took place as part of Coastival 2023, organised by DLR Social Inclusion Unit with music and dance from the Philippines, India, Congo, traditional Irish music, Newpark Community Orchestra, Sweet Memories Dementia Inclusive Choir & Dun Laoghaire Ukulele Group.

Africa Day events took place in DLR during May 2023 to celebrate and highlight African culture, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Ongoing support was provided to the voluntary committee, DLR Integration Forum representing migrant communities based in DLR. Events took place during 2023 organised and supported by Forum member groups and funding provided by the Social Inclusion Unit to Africa Day, India Fest, Indian celebrations including Holi, Vishu, Onam, Sawan & Diwali as well as activities during the DLR Festival of Inclusion.

Support and funding provided to social inclusion groups with events and projects during 2023 including a number of Southside Travellers Action Group projects; Garda Older Person's Association Safety & Security Seminars, Making Connections, Meals on Wheels groups, Leaving Certificate Oral Irish Classes for DEIS secondary schools, Dementia Inclusive events etc.

DLR Social Inclusion Unit participated in the SALAAM project (Strategic Alliances Against Anti-Muslim Hatred) and Awareness Training was provided during the year to DLR Staff, Elected Members & the public in areas such as Cultural Competency, Anti-Racism, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Neurodiversity; Disability; Dementia & LGBTQI+ awareness.

DLR Age-Friendly Programme

DLR Age-Friendly Magazine 2023 launched in January, a free 84-page publication dispersed County-wide with information on Age-Friendly services, supports & activities across DLR.

DLR Age-Friendly Strategy 2022-2026 officially launched by Minister for Older People & Mental Health, Mary Butler TD in March with 60+ coordinated actions agreed by 20+ member organisations of the DLR Age-Friendly Alliance, the strategic



Coastival

partnership working together on enhancing the health and well-being of DLR's older population.

DLR Age Well Expo took place in Leopardstown Pavilion, Sunday 11th June - 45 exhibitors, 900+ in attendance & an array of speakers, performances, demonstrations, and activities - a very successful and enjoyable event organised and funded by DLR County Council and DLR Age-Friendly Alliance.

Eugene Magee stepped down as Chair of the DLR Age-Friendly Alliance in September and the Alliance is now chaired by Frank Curran, Chief Executive of DLR County Council.

Comhairle na nOg

DLR Comhairle na nOg AGM was held in person on 8th November. 91 young people attended, representing 17 secondary schools.

DLR Comhairle members created and published 2 podcasts on the topics of Substance Misuse and Mental Health.

DLR Comhairle members engaged with and participated in consultations with DLR on the development of the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP), Arts Development Plan, Climate Action Plan and the DLR-led Audit of Community & Cultural Facilities.

DLR Comhairle attended and participated in the National Showcase.

DLR Comhairle were represented, through the coordinators, on the DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force Youth Committee.

DLR Comhairle members engaged with the HSE who provided information workshops on Substance Misuse and Mental Health.

DLR Comhairle presented to Elected Members at the May Council meeting.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

7 LCDC meetings and 5 Subgroup meetings held in 2023.

LCDC monitored and reviewed progress on implementation of the SICAP Programme by Southside Partnership DLR CLG in 2023 – annual contract valued at €1,040,971 with an additional €232,600 allocated for SICAP supports for displaced Ukrainians and International Protection Applicants in DLR.

- 37 Local Community Groups & 633 Individuals supported in 2023.
- 410 children received educational or developmental support.
- 35 individuals progressed into employment.
- 97 individuals supported into self-employment.

Oversaw successful tender process for new SICAP programme 2024-28 with Southside Partnership DLR CLG appointed as successful bidder in December 2023.

Supported and monitored implementation of the community actions in DLR's Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 – 2021 and supported development of the LECP for 2023-2028.

Supported and promoted community interests including:

- DLR Public Participation Network (PPN) had 600 active member organisations, up from 568 in 2022. PPN representatives also served on LCDC and SPCs with LCDC members attending PPN National Conference in Arklow in October 2023.
- DLR Volunteer Corps: 160 local volunteering opportunities created and 1,319 newly registered volunteers in DLR. Supported events such as Donation Hub for New Arrivals, DLR Age Friendly Expo, Ukelele Hooley, India Fest, Santa Run.
- €311,589 in government grant funding administered to community groups in DLR under Community Enhancement Programme – Community Support Fund.



Eugene Magee & dlr Age Friendly Alliance

Supported implementation of Healthy Ireland Round 4 in DLR 2022-2025 with community-based actions in 2023 supporting the selected goals of the programme in DLR including Social Wellness Activity Programme, Mindful Gardening, Social Farming, Tea Dancing and the development of Social Walking groups.

Joint Policing Committee (JPC) /Local Policing Fora (LPF)

The JPC held 4 Committee meetings and 1 public meeting in 2023.

The DLR JPC Strategic Plan 2023-28 was approved by the JPC in May. Work continued throughout 2023 on the implementation of the plan under the four goals:

1. Supporting and Promoting Crime Prevention in DLR
2. Enhancing Safer Communities
3. Supporting Victims and the Vulnerable
4. Facilitating Community Engagement and Collaboration on Safety Issues.

There were 4 committee meetings of the Sandyford Stepside LPF and 1 public meeting; 5 meetings of the Loughlinstown, Ballybrack and Shankill LPF; 4 meetings of the Central Dun Laoghaire LPF and 1 public meeting; and 4 meetings of the Dundrum Stillorgan LPF.

Updates were provided to the JPC on progress with a domestic violence refuge in the County.

Library Services

2023 saw library services continue to rebuild usage patterns with increased activity levels in all of our library branches, while also retaining our commitment to online service delivery. The new Library Development Plan – “Beyond our Walls 2022-2026” was launched. A new national public library strategy – “The Library is the Place 2023-2027” was also launched.

Staff upskilling continued throughout the year including participation in LGMA programmes and delivery of in-house mentoring and training. Staff participated on national working groups to enable the role out of the new strategy and participated in Ireland Reads Day while continuing the Right to Read and Healthy Ireland at your Library programme.

Working with consultants MDB, work progressed on the Community and Culture Audit with public consultation, focus groups and service provider surveys.

2023 was a busy year for DLR Libraries. We programmed a broad and exciting series of events across our network of 8 libraries, as well as continuing with our regular wide selection of clubs and groups. On average, we held over 200 events per month. Under the umbrella of the Mountains to Sea Programme / theme of ‘Supporting Stories’, 3 Readers’ Days were held.

2023 Lexicon exhibitions programme highlighted local, national, and international talent and our extensive in-house collections continue to be promoted. Work on inclusive programming with colleagues in DLR Arts Office, Community section and DLR Age Friendly continued.

New MOL kiosks were also designed, the first of their kind for MOL services. Digital inclusion projects saw the expanded roll-out of Acorns, the purchase of Class VR and Rendevar Virtual Reality sets which are specifically designed for older people who may have cognitive or mobility issues. DLR library staff also



Enjoying VR

participated in the ADELE project, promoting the advancement of digital empowerment in Europe. DLR Lexicon hosted the ADELE visitors in October with 25 participants from seven European countries attending.

- Work began at Samuel Beckett Civic Campus to deliver Ballyogan library.
- Work commenced on the new Stillorgan library as part of the St Laurence’s Development.
- Heat-pumps and solar panels were installed at Dalkey and Deansgrange libraries, this work was part-funded by Department of Rural Community Development.
- Launched the Rapids Reads (Junior short loan collection) in Deansgrange & Dundrum Libraries and an Adult short loan collection in Blackrock Library.
- With DRCD funding we purchased 107 new IT devices which enabled the replacement of all public access PCs in library branches.
- Seachtain na Gaeilge (1-17 Marta) DLR Libraries hosted a series of events for children and adults throughout our libraries, including the launch of our new Stair Sceal Trail at DLR Lexlcon. Events included bilingual/As Gaeilge storytimes in Deansgrange, Shankill, DLR Lexlcon and Blackrock Libraries, Pictionary as Gaeilge for families in Dalkey Library, a giant



Seamus Heaney in his own words (Credit Titan)

conversation circle as Gaeilge in Deansgrange Library, and a Ceol agus Comhra session in Dundrum Library.

Key Achievements 2023

- Over 31,000 visits to the MOL libraries at Deansgrange and Dalkey.
- 517 loans of energy monitoring equipment - including newly acquired individual pieces of the Home Energy Kit.
- 24 transition year students participated in the Transition Year Work Experience Programme.
- 45,000 attended events in library branches.
- 51% of library issues now digital issues.

Top 10 Adult Fiction titles borrowed from DLR Libraries in 2023

1 Connelly, Michael	Desert Star
2 Osman, Richard	Thursday Murder Club
3 Connelly, Michael	The Night Fire
4 Child, Lee & Child, Andrew	No Plan B
5 Spain, Jo	Last To Disappear
6 Norton, Graham	A Keeper
7 Osman, Richard	Man Who Died Twice
8 Norton, Graham	Forever Home
9 Connelly, Michael	The Law of Innocence
10 Norton, Graham	Home Stretch

Arts Programme

The Arts Office leads the development of the arts, supporting the creative identity of DLR and enhancing quality of life. It also plays a role in pride of place and supports the DLR creative economy.

A highlight of 2023 was the opening of the Dun Laoghaire Baths Artist Studios facilitating six artists through workspaces, artist residencies and a Public Art Commission.

A review of our annual musicians in residence programme detailed the significant career impact such supports and performing opportunities can have.

A new project, Nature and Place, based in the Dublin mountains, invited artists and our local audience to respond to the mountains in a creative way that aims to renew our relationship with the natural world.

Key Achievements 2023

- 59 arts development projects were delivered in 2023.
- Undertook extensive public consultation to inform the next Development Plan 2024 – 2030.
- Grew our funding base to provide 80 grants and bursaries to individuals and organisations to support the delivery of local arts.
- The Municipal Gallery welcomed over 45,000 visitors.



Cruinniu na nOg Lexlcon (Credit Maura Hickey)

Creative Ireland

DLR Libraries continued to co-ordinate the Creative Ireland Programme 2023. Highlights included the Minceiri Cabaret – the first ever Cabaret show with Traveller cast and crew. September saw the publication of anthology Tearing Stripes off Zebras by WEB Women’s Writers Group, in memory of Eavan Boland who founded the group.

A follow-up programme of events is planned in 2024 to celebrate what would have been Eavan Boland’s 80th year. We also organised Seamus Heaney in his own words – Commemorating the 10th anniversary of Heaney’s death. Creative Ireland bursaries supported creatives in the County, the LBS Men’s Shed project, DLR Yarnspinners monthly storytelling circle.

Through Creative Ireland Creativity in older age funding, we hosted the second year of Creative Brainwaves, how creativity helps brain health in collaboration with GBHI (Global Brain Health Initiative).

A separate CI fund enabled a Social Prescribing programme, this collaboration between Southside Partnership and DLR Libraries aims to offer a targeted programme for people with disabilities, to help improve the mental health and well-being of participants and reduce the sense of isolation often felt by such vulnerable groups in our society.

Cruinniu na nOg, the National Day of Creativity for Young People, was celebrated in Ballyogan and DLR Lexlcon with over 3,000 people attending.

Music Generation

Following Music Generation DLR’s initial phase (2019 – 2022), the programme has been in a period of transition. DLR County Council with the Music Generation National Development Office are reviewing the programme’s stage of development and are planning the next phase.

Parks and Landscape Services

Parks & Landscape Services manage and maintain over 1,200 hectares of Parks and Open Spaces. In 2023 this also included a further transition to more pollinator friendly regimes with the addition of more “Slow to Mow” areas.

Major Parks in the County include Marlay, Cabinteely, Kilbogget, Shanganagh, Fernhill, Blackrock, Killiney Hill and the Peoples' Park.

Three parks in Cherrywood were transferred and opened to the Public in May – Ticknick, Beckett and Tully Park. There were several open spaces associated with new developments also taken in charge.

Neighbourhood Parks that are also managed include Clonmore Park, Ballawley Park, Crosthwaite Park, Vesey Park, Dillons Park, Loreto Park, Clonkeen Park, Loughlinstown Linear Park, Sorrento Park, St. Patricks Park, Dunedin Park, Royal Terrace Park, Eden Park, Hudson Road Park, Beach Gardens, Newtownsmith, Longford Gardens, Blackthorn Park, Hyde Park, and Bracken Road Pocket Park.

An Taisce Green Flags were awarded to Marlay Park, Cabinteely Park, Shanganagh Park, The People's Park, Deerpark and Blackrock.

Projects delivered include:

- Extensive tree planting across the County.
- Community Woodlands planted at Fernhill Park and Gardens, Nutgrove, Orby Park and Cabinteely Park.
- Upgrade of paths and installation of new paths at 12 locations across the County.
- Installation of Boules Court at Kilbogget Park, Marlay Park and Blackrock Park.
- Upgrade of park entrances at Loreto Park, Leopardstown Lawn, Leopardstown Oaks.
- New Putting Green developed and opened to public in Marlay Park.
- Installation of pump track/BMX and Basketball area in Blackrock Park.
- Tree Strategy: 2024-2030 A Climate For Trees (Completed and Adopted).



Marlay Park Putting Green

- Play Policy 2023-2028 (Completed and Adopted).
- Wildfire Strategy Killiney Hill and Roches Hill:
 - Strategy report preparation ongoing.
 - Initial Buffer Zone Vegetation Management commenced.
- Seating installed at various locations throughout the County.
- 8 Estates Taken in Charge: Open space and Street trees.
- A new sports pavilion was delivered at Fernhill Park & Gardens to support the clubs using the active reaction space.
- Works were completed on a new entrance at Killiney Hill Park which offer visitors universal access into the park, the tearooms and the toilets.
- Works were undertaken at Corke Abbey Valley Park including a new adventure play space, seating, tree planting, a wetland and protection of the riparian corridor.
- Works to the new all-weather pitch, padel courts and teenage zone were completed at Meadowbrook in Dundrum.



Myrtle Square

- Myrtle Square and the upgrade of Convent Lane was completed in Dun Laoghaire. The space offers a respite from the bustling urban environment with extensive seating, greening and play opportunities.
- A new adventure play space was delivered in Blackrock Park and other improvement works were undertaken in line with the masterplan including a boules court and temporary teenage zone.
- Works commenced on the refurbishment of 6 grass pitches throughout the County. In addition, works also commenced on the upgrade of the running track in Kilbogget Park.
- A new all-weather pitch at Oatlands College commenced which will provide the schools and local clubs much needed facilities for active recreation.
- Extensive public consultation and engagement was undertaken for Shanganagh Park Masterplan (Phase 1) including a new Part 8.



Coastival Nights 2023 Aideen McQueen

DLR Events

In 2023 DLR events:

- Allocated €120,000 to groups to support events across the County.
- Coastival took place with over 100 events taking place in Dun Laoghaire including Arts, Music, Comedy, Sports, water activities and a family fun day.
- Approximately 26k people attended Samhain in Marlay Park, over two days.
- The Christmas Festival of light took place across the County, with light installations in locations such as Cabinteely Park, DLR Lexlcon, Dundrum Library, and with the successful lighted walks in Marlay & Cabinteely. As part of Christmas with DLR Sports partnership, the Santa Dash took place in Cabinteely Park with about 300 participants.

Cemeteries

The Council continues to operate and maintain several cemeteries in the area. Many of these cemeteries are historic closed grounds. Deansgrange and Shanganagh are the two main operational cemeteries in the County. There are staff stationed at both cemeteries, with the headquarters for administration and customer service located at Deansgrange. Burial records for Deansgrange and Shanganagh cemeteries are available online to the public via the Council's website.

There were 1,181 interments in total in 2023. Total no. of graves sold in Shanganagh was 193. Total graves sold in Deansgrange Cemetery was 28. There were 35 niches sold in the Columbarium Wall.

- Deansgrange Cemetery retained its Green Flag.
- New tree / hedge planting.



Meadowbrook - New sports facilities

DLR Sports Partnership & Sports Development

In 2023 over 11,200 people were directly engaged throughout the year in DLR Sports Partnership initiatives delivered across key target population groups.

- Participation Programmes & Events – 9,500 people of all ages and abilities attended targeted initiatives across over 50 different projects.
- Disability Sports Inclusion – a wide range of initiatives and camps were delivered across all disability types for over 1,520 children and adults.
- Active Cities Dublin – Steering Group established and driving both capital and targeted participation projects to achieve a more active County.
- Volunteer/Coach Training – 1,100 trained in a range of relevant areas.
- Club Grants - €35,500 allocated to clubs across 37 separate grants.
- Information & Awareness Raising – utilising a range of communication channels (website, social media, print etc.) to inform individuals and communities of what is available in their local area.
- Sports Development Grants - €36,000 allocated to clubs and groups across the County
- Continued and developed partnerships with, FAI, Leinster Cricket, Leinster Rugby, through
 - Community programmes – activities for 30 youth groups across the County
 - School programmes - after school and in school sports activities (approx. 12,000)
 - Coach education – various coaching workshops, club visits, safeguarding courses.

Heritage

The County Heritage Plan sets out how we tell the stories of this place, care for what we hand on to the next generation and enable community-led initiatives. This involves cross departmental working within DLR, partnerships with organisations and collaboration with community groups. 2023 highlights included:

- Heritage conservation works.
- Dublin Mountains Community Archaeology programme with South Dublin County Council/Dublin Mountains Partnership.
- 18 Community-led heritage projects co-funded by DLR, support for Community Monument Fund applicants and National Heritage Week event organisers.
- Guided walks and heritage access: DLR Spring/Summer of Heritage, Open House, Coastal, Street Art tours, European Archaeology Days.
- Heritage Social Prescribing for health and wellbeing with the Southside Partnership.
- Sleibhte Seadchomhartha Bhaile Atha Cliath booklet and Know Your Locality course.

Biodiversity

DLR's Biodiversity spans all areas of the County from the marine and coastal areas to the growing urban lands and stretching westward to the mountains. Management of our biodiversity is guided by the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, EU Nature Restoration Law 2024 and the subsequent development of the National Restoration Plan for Ireland which is currently been drafted, the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030, All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 - 2025 and our own County Biodiversity Action Plan 2021- 2025. It involves a cross departmental approach with many sections of DLR affecting the outcomes for biodiversity. It also involves a collaborative approach with many partners including the Biosphere partners, government bodies, NGOs, public, local communities, sports bodies and individuals.

- Ecological surveys and development of the Killiney Hill (pNHA) Habitat and Species Management Plan co-funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Commencement of the Killiney Red Squirrel Restoration Project 2023- 2030.
- Review of the Dalkey Islands Tern Project and management co-funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- Badger Study for DLR County completed and surveys to commence in 2024.
- Commencement of the woodland management plan for Loughlinstown Woods pNHA.
- Loughlinstown Linear Park Biodiversity Plan.
- Biodiversity events including nature walks and talks and creation of wildlife pond for Broadford court residents, meadow creation with Shanganagh Community gardens.
- Coill na nOg a native tree and hedgerow planting initiative that was supported by DLR Biodiversity for schools.
- Curlew tagging project and mapping of important areas for Curlew in DLR.
- Development of Biodiversity Net Gain guidance for LAs commenced.
- Local seed harvesting for capital projects and seed saving courses for the public for 2023.

CoCo Markets

CoCo Markets continued to operate in Marlay Park on Saturday and Sunday, and in Dun Laoghaire on Sundays. The CoCo Markets serve as a springboard for emerging businesses, provide a forum for the local food movement and offer a focal point for vibrant community gatherings.

- Dun Laoghaire Coco Market - 62 Traders
- Marlay Coco Market (Saturday) – 27 Traders
- Marlay Coco Market (Sunday) - 22 Traders

FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



2023 in Numbers



Revenue Budget 2023 =

€275M



Commercial Rates =

39.7%

of Overall Budget 2024

Three-Year Capital Programme =

€949M



€350M

payments processed by accounts payable



45 LEO Measure 1 grants approved to the value of

€628,817

99

Trading Online Vouchers were approved to a value of

€223,843.50



659

LEO clients received business mentoring



78

Cruise Ships bringing

186,000

passengers and crew to Dun Laoghaire Harbour



862

properties assessed for misconnections



€2.5M

Carlisle Pier Repair Project completed



€2.5M

East Pier Revetment Repair project completed



853

students from

19

second level schools participated in a Student Enterprise programme

Finance & Water Services

The Finance Department provides a broad range of financial services including:

- Treasury Management and Cash Flow.
- Preparation of Draft Annual Budget and budgetary control.
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statements.
- Administration of the Financial Management System.
- Preparation of Three-Year Capital Programme.
- Payroll Administration.
- Commercial Rates and Property Entry Levy (P.E.L.) Billing & Collection.
- Environmental Waste Charges Arrears Collection.
- Payment of Suppliers.
- Insurance and Claims Administration.
- Administration and Collection of arrears of the Non-Principal Private Residence Charge (N.P.P.R.).
- Management and review of Risk Registers.
- Business Improvement Districts Levy (B.I.D.) Billing & Collection (on behalf of B.I.D. Company).

The Finance Department also ensures that statutory and financial accounting principles are complied with.

Sections	Services Provided
Payroll	Administration of payment of Salaries, Wages, Councillors Payments and Travel & Subsistence.
Insurances	Management/Administration of policies and claims.
Rates	Management and collection of Rates income and incoming arrears. Management and collection of P.E.L. and B.I.D. Levy
Waste and N.P.P.R. arrears	Management and collection of waste charges and N.P.P.R. arrears. Processing of N.P.P.R. exemption and discharge certificates.
Financial Management	Preparation of annual revenue Budget and Three-Year Capital Programme, Preparation of Annual Financial Statements, Budgetary control, Treasury Management; Bank Reconciliation; Income Receipting, Maintenance of Asset Register and Loan Repayments.
Accounts Payable	Payment of suppliers, Tax compliance; Statutory reporting.

Risk Management	Management of and facilitation of the quarterly review of the Corporate and Departmental Risk Registers and ensure mitigation strategies are aligned to the risks identified to lower the risk consequences.
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Key Achievements 2023

Rates

The Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act (LGROMA), 2019 was passed by the Oireachtas and enacted on 11th July 2019. Only certain provisions of the Act relating to rates commenced in 2019. The Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 2023 was identified as the vehicle for carrying Rates Act amendments. That Act was signed into law by the President on 13th October 2023.

Section 4(3) of the Local Government Rates & Other Charges Act, 2019 results in changes to how rates will be levied from 1st January 2024. Rates will now be due on 1st January and will no longer be payable in two moieties.

From 1st January 2026, interest will be applied on overdue rates (Section 12).

The Council continues to facilitate businesses who are experiencing difficulty paying their rates and where possible payment plans are entered into which are mutually acceptable to the business and the Council. There has been a continued increase in the number of accounts paying monthly instalments by direct debit.

We have increased enforcement including the use of a Debt Collection Agency, who have issued reminders to Commercial Rate's customers who are in arrears.

Rates Revaluation

Tailte Eireann, formerly Valuation Office, conducted a revaluation of all commercial and industrial properties in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's administrative area. Valuation Certificates for circa 5,078 Commercial Rates customers were issued on the 15th September 2023. The Certificate states the valuation of the commercial property and will be used to calculate the property's rates liability from 1st January 2024 onwards. The Commercial Rates Team have worked closely with Tailte Eireann to assist our Ratepayers through this process.

Accounts Payable

Accounts payable continued to work to ensure suppliers are paid as quickly as possible to assist with their cash flow requirements. Almost 30,000 payments were processed with a total value of €350m.

Capital Programme

The Council's three-year Capital Programme 2023 – 2025 sets out an ambitious programme of Housing, Recreational and Infrastructural projects across the County. Projected programme expenditure amounts to €949m.

Projects progressed during the year included the Shanganagh housing project which will deliver 597 social, cost rental and affordable homes, Blackglen Road improvement scheme, improvement works at Fernhill Park and Stillorgan Village. The capital programme is funded through a combination of grants, LPT and development contributions.

Budget 2024

The Council's 2024 Revenue Budget was adopted by the Councillors at the Budget Meeting held on 28th November 2023. The budget provides for expenditure of €275m to invest in services and supports for residents, businesses and visitors, Measures to support the physical and economic development of County are funded through a combination of commercial rates, LPT, grants and income from other services raised locally. In addition to adopting the Budget for 2024 the Elected Members also voted to reduce local property tax by 15%, maintained the vacancy refund rate at 35% and adopted the annual rate on valuation of 0.2077.

Water Services

The Flood Alleviation Section within Water Services manages the OPW funded Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Management (ECFRAM) projects. The first project commenced in 2019, namely the Deansgrange Stream Flood Relief Scheme (FRS); this is the first part of the Loughlinstown Scheme.

The Deansgrange Stream FRS is now at the end of the Planning Stage (Stage II) and has received approval from the Elected Members, following a Part 8 Planning Process, subject to clearance from An Bord Pleanála (a determination request was made on the need for a full EIAR) and also subject to funding approval from the OPW. In the meantime, the Section are progressing aspects of the detailed design and liaison with key stakeholders.

The second part of the Loughlinstown Scheme, the Carrickmines Shanganagh Rivers Flood Relief Scheme, commenced in 2020. An initial public engagement day was held (virtually during the pandemic) and data gathering was undertaken. This included topographical surveys, a rainfall and flow measurement survey and extensive environmental surveys. The river model has been developed and initial site investigations are completed. The preferred option was presented to the public in December 2023 and a Planning submission to an Bord Pleanála is currently being prepared.

The Monkstown and Stradbroom environs flood mapping project commenced in 2021 and is now substantially completed with final draft mapping being delivered to DLR by the consultant in 2023. This project is partially funded by the OPW Minor Works funding mechanism. Another project, the Dodder FRS Phase 3, is continually under review by our team. Although the project is managed by Dublin City Council (DCC), the Dodder River forms a border with Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and DLR's input to the project is important.

Key Achievements 2023

- Ongoing project management of the ECFRAM Loughlinstown Scheme.
- Securing Part 8 Approval for the Deansgrange FRS.
- Ongoing liaison with DCC over the Dodder FRS Phase 3.

Water Pollution Control

On the EU Dublin Urban Rivers Life Project, over 1,031 properties were assessed and 64 of these properties were misconnected.

Engagement with the Habitat Regeneration Initiative for the Carysfort Park Lake and Brewery Stream Group resulting in:

- 5 SSRS tests were carried out on the stream.
- A programme of regular sampling at the same 5 locations on the Brewery Stream.
- Misconnection surveys began in the catchment that contributes to the pond.

Key Achievements 2023

- Installation of a water quality sensor at Booterstown Marsh with the EU Score Project.
- Full participation in the Dublin Bay Bathing Water Task Force.
- 12 Licences to discharge to waters under Section 4 of the water Pollution Act 1994.
- 862 properties were assessed for misconnections. 82 properties had misconnections.
- 4 Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems were inspected under the Nation Inspection Programme.

Water Services – SLA Agreement with Irish Water

In May 2023, the Council signed the new Master Cooperation Agreement (MCA) with Uisce Éireann. The handover, which effectively transferred the management and control of Water supply and Wastewater provision over to them, was triggered on the 20th of September.

The Water Services Section had been responsible for managing and maintaining the public water and all drainage systems within the County under the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) prior to this. The new MCA will last until December 2026 and for this period, a number of Water Services staff will continue to assist Irish Water in planning for the provision of future infrastructure in the County, which is a necessary component in achieving the Corporate Goals of facilitating the development of housing and supporting business growth and employment opportunities in the County.

Consequently, a new Surface Water Operations Section was established at the end of 2023 to maintain over 600km of the Council's surface water pipe network. Flood alleviation and mitigation will be a key component of the team's goals. The section will be staffed by the existing Water Services team who wish to be re-assigned roles within the Council.

FORWARD PLANNING INFRASTRUCTURE

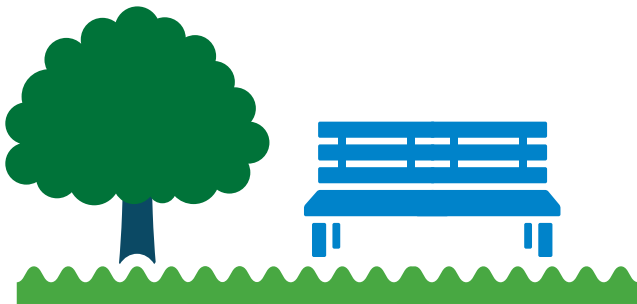


2023 in Numbers



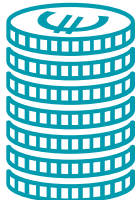
Planning granted in Cherrywood for

4810 + **c. 149,064sq.m**
homes of non-residential
development.



3 new parks **Ticknick,**
Tully and **Beckett**
opened in Cherrywood

Total funding under Call 1 &
Call 2 of URDF



€58.1 MILLION



Forward Planning Infrastructure

Forward Planning Infrastructure (FPI) has responsibility for progressing the implementation of the Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) Planning Scheme 2014, as amended. <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/planning/cherrywood-sdz>

The key focus of FPI is to assist all stakeholders, including the landowners in progressing the overall development of the Cherrywood SDZ and the approved Cherrywood Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) project along with the delivery of the approved projects under the Cherrywood Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF), Calls 1 and 2, that have been granted funding approval.

It also has responsibility for driving the Major Urban Housing Development Site (MUHDS) of Cherrywood. In May 2023, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and Department of Transport identified Cherrywood as a major urban centre as part of the Transport Orientated Development (TOD) study.

Cherrywood SDZ

The Cherrywood Development Agency Project Team (DAPT) continued in its role of guiding the development in the SDZ to ensure consistency with the requirements of the Cherrywood SDZ Planning Scheme 2014 (as amended).

Engagement continued with all key stakeholders in relation to all aspects of Cherrywood that require a coordinated approach from a number of state agencies and service providers including high-level engagement with the DHLGH.

Work continued in scoping and undertaking assessments of potential amendments to the approved Planning Scheme to ensure it responds to Government policy and to aid with the successful progression of this strategic area. FPI has commenced a plan-led review of the Town Centre and Environs area, the intention of which is to submit a proposed amendment to An Bord Pleanála in Q2 2024. A non-statutory Have Your Say public consultation process commenced on 15th December 2023.



Aerial photo of Cherrywood

Key Achievements 2023

- Total grant of planning in the Cherrywood SDZ now achieved in the order of 4,810 homes and c. 149,064 sq.m of non-residential development.
- Approved Amendment No. 8: Building Height and Density Review came into effect on 31st May 2023, supporting the potential for an additional c. 1,800 homes.
- Proposed Amendment No. 9: Car Parking Standards Review submitted to An Bord Pleanála in May 2023.
- The 3 Parks of Ticknick, Tully and Beckett all opened to the public on 31st May 2023.
- The Development Contribution in respect of development in the Cherrywood Planning Scheme Area 2023-2028 was adopted by Council on 9th October 2023.

Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF)

The objective of the fund as part of the Rebuilding Ireland Programme is to provide public off-site infrastructure to relieve critical infrastructure blockages which have been identified as one of the main impediments to the development of key sites for housing, thus enabling the accelerated delivery of residential units on these sites in both Dublin and urban areas of high demand for housing.

DLR has secured funding of c. €15m for the Cherrywood Druid's Glen project.

FPI continued to progress this LIHAF project in close consultation with the DLR Projects' Office, the landowners, the DHLGH and external state agencies. There is ongoing engagement by FPI and the DHLGH in relation to working through any potential challenges that may arise on site that could delay progress on these projects. The DLR Project Governance Board continues

to provide oversight and governance on all aspects of project delivery.

Key Achievements 2023

- Phase 2 (P*-P3) – Road and bridge - Contractor appointed and construction commenced on site in September 2023.
- Phase 3 (P3-P) - Significant bridge feature - Tender process completed for consultant selection to bring project forward from concept design to construction.

Major Urban Housing Delivery Sites (MUHDS)

Accelerating delivery of housing for the private, social and rented sectors is a key priority for the Government as part of the new Housing for All Plan. Planning activity remained strong in the 3 identified MUHDS areas of Cherrywood, Kiltarnan/Glenamuck and Woodbrook/Shanganagh in DLR for large scale housing delivery.

Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF)

FPI is progressing the URDF Call 1 project in respect of the Cherrywood Public Parks, Greenways and Attenuation Project and Call 2 in respect of the Cherrywood Public Access, Permeability and Amenity project.

The funding approval for the Call 1 projects is in the order of €17.8m, which comprises 4 distinct sub-projects, a brief overview of their status is as follows:

- Tully Park Phase 2 – project completed, and park opened in May 2023.
- Linear Park and Greenway – project at pre-tender stage.



Tully Park

- Pond 2a Surface Water Attenuation Pond – project at pre-tender stage.
- Pond 5a Surface Water Attenuation Pond – at tender evaluation stage.

The funding approval for the Call 2 project is in the order of €40.3m, which comprises the following 6 distinct sub-projects:

- 3 Public Parks – will create smaller centrally located multi-functional spaces in the village centres – Lehaunstown Park, Parade Green and Priorsland Park.
- Beckett Link (and Barrington’s Road Connection) - development of pedestrian, cycle and vehicle link from the Kiltarnan Link to the Cherrywood Town Centre, to include the uncompleted portion of Barrington’s Road.
- Castle Street Extension - Completion of Cherrywood’s bus priority route to connect it to the existing Park & Ride facility at Carrickmines Luas stop.
- Town Centre and Pedestrian Cycle Link - development of an elevated pedestrian and cycle bridge within the Cherrywood Town Centre.
- Ticknick Park-Ballycorus Access – development of vehicular, cycle and pedestrian access to the park.
- Smart Parking Study - research and application of measures to create efficiencies in Cherrywood’s required parking provision.

Funding for these projects is by way of 75% direct funding from the Government.

These projects, managed by FPI, have been progressed in 2023 in tandem with the multi-disciplinary design consultants appointed for each project and key stakeholders including the National Transport Authority (NTA).

There is ongoing engagement with the relevant landowners in relation to access to land acquisition, access for site investigations and surveys.

Key Achievements 2023

- Tully Park Phase 2 – construction completed and Tully Park along with Ticknick Park and Beckett Park opened to the public on 31st May 2023.
- FPI continued to progress the remaining approved projects under Call 1 and Call 2 of the URDF in respect of Cherrywood.
- DLR has met with representatives from the DHLGH on two occasions in 2023 as part of DLR’s LIHAF & URDF project review meetings on site in Cherrywood.
- DLR received confirmation on 14th of March 2023 from the DHLGH, that five URDF Call 2 projects will be approved to proceed to Decision Gate 2 of the Public Spending Code subject to further information being provided by DLR.



Tully Park playground

HOUSING



2023 in Numbers

1106 new homes delivered



962

properties surveyed as part of our stock condition survey

(bringing total to **1828**)

508

homes allocated, highest number in 30 years



8722

maintenance requests completed



5439

private rental inspections carried out



94 properties retrofitted



109

Croí Conaithe applications approved in principle



23

Housing First Tenancies delivered in 2023

16

Home Loans approved to value of

€3.7M



84

Homeless HAP tenancies were delivered in 2023



101 re-lets completed

6

Households downsized



21%

of all housing allocations made in 2023 were made to Disabled People



506

new rent accounts set up in 2023



Housing

The Housing Department provides suitable, secure, affordable homes and housing support for people who need it and who cannot provide it for themselves. In line with 'Housing for All – A new Housing Plan for Ireland', we work to increase the delivery of social and affordable housing through a range of options by working in partnership with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), Housing Agency, Land Development Agency, Approved Housing Bodies, and the private sector. We also work in partnership with the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) in the provision of our homeless service.

The Housing Department supports homeownership by providing home loans through the Local Authority Home Loan Scheme and managing the Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme. We manage, maintain and make efficient use of our housing stock and support older persons and disabled people by providing grants for adaptations and improvements to their homes.

Housing Delivery

The delivery of homes through construction and refurbishment is a priority for the Council. Inflation continued to be a challenge for construction projects during 2023. This challenging construction environment also affected delivery through Part V, with completion delayed some schemes. A total of 676 homes were delivered in 2023 in partnership with AHB's through new build, acquisition, and Part V. In addition, 144 long-term leased

properties (25 years) provided long term secure accommodation for households in need of housing. A new unit has been set up within the Housing Department to focus on affordable housing delivery, accelerated housing projects and PPP's.

DLR has commenced the delivery of 40 cost rental homes in Stillorgan, Tuath delivered 24 new Cost Rental homes in Kiltarnan in 2023, with a further 48 on site and Respond have also commenced the delivery of 67 cost rental homes in Sandyford.



43 new homes in Glencairn including wheelchair accessible and universally designed homes

Work continued onsite at Shanganagh for the delivery of 306 cost rental and 91 affordable purchase and 200 social homes in Shanganagh.

The Council continued to explore all options to increase the delivery of new homes during the year, including the Repair to Lease, long-term leasing, Buy and Renew and Mortgage to Rent schemes.

The tenant in situ scheme, introduced in 2023 to assist those facing homelessness, meant that the Council could purchase a privately rented property with a social housing applicant in situ if they had received a notice to terminate their tenancy. The purchase of 9 properties was completed in 2023 and several others are being progressed.

Croi Conaithe which provides grant assistance to owner occupiers to refurbish long term vacant properties continued in 2023 with approximately 122 applications received. There were 9 grants paid out during 2023.

Key Achievements 2023

- 820 homes delivered in 2023 through new build, leasing, acquisition and Part V (395 of these homes were delivered under Part V, including 13 by means of a long-term lease).
- 402 (205 of which were delivered under Part V) of the homes delivered were acquired by Approved Housing Bodies under the CALF scheme and will accommodate persons from the Housing List.
- 15 Part V Agreements were signed which will deliver 160 new social housing homes.
- Construction commenced at St. Laurence's Park, Stillorgan which will deliver 48 social homes and 40 cost rental homes.
- 109 applications for Croi Conaithe approved in principle.

Housing Adaptations for Older People and Persons with a Disability

People are assisted to remain living in their own homes for as long as possible through the provision of housing adaptation grants which enable them to carry out the necessary alterations to meet their accommodation needs. We also carry out works to our own housing stock to meet the needs of tenants who require adaptations to be carried out. Examples of alterations required include accessible bathrooms, level access showers, door widening, installation of ramps, grab rails and stair lifts.

Key Achievements 2023

- 210 grants paid under the Housing Adaptation Grants Schemes at a total value of €1,802,081.
- 173 adaptation works completed or closed on Council-owned properties at a cost of €568,014.

Maintenance

A natural consequence of the increased number of properties in our housing stock is an increase in the number of maintenance requests we receive. The 8,772 maintenance requests received in 2023 was the highest number the Council has ever received and represents a 40% increase on the number received in 2022.

We continued to survey properties in 2023 as part of our stock condition survey programme. At the end of 2023, we had completed surveys on 1,828 properties which represents 36% of our housing stock. The information gathered from the stock condition surveys is allowing us to develop a more strategic approach to maintaining and managing our properties,



Energy Retrofit awards – SEAI and All-Ireland Sustainability Awards for the innovative energy retrofit of 58 homes at the Beaufort development in Glasthule

including the identification of funding needed for the completion of necessary works.

A total of 469 properties were identified as requiring updated smoke alarms, due to current devices being 10 years old and due for consideration for replacement. These Smoke Alarms were upgraded during 2023 as part of the Smoke Alarm Programme.

Key Achievements 2023

- 8,772 maintenance requests completed.
- 962 properties surveyed as part of our stock condition survey.
- 469 Smoke Alarms installed.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme

A record number of properties (94) received energy upgrades in the 2023 as part of our Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme. The retrofitting programme continues to grow each year and now represents a substantial part of the work of the Housing Maintenance Team. All the properties retrofitted achieved the minimum B2 BER rating required under the programme.

The unique retrofitting project we undertook in our Beaufort development in 2022 received great recognition in 2023 by receiving SEAI, All-Ireland Sustainability and Excellence in Local Government Awards.

Key Achievements 2023

- 94 properties retrofitted.
- 3 separate national awards for the Beaufort Retrofit project.

Housing Re-lets

When a property is returned for re-let, every effort is made to ensure it is turned around as quickly as possible. Our re-let times for vacant properties continue to compare favourably with other local authorities and our vacancy rate of less than 2% is among the lowest nationally.

Our move to a planned approach for undertaking significant maintenance and upgrade works continued in 2023 through the stock condition surveys and the identification of properties suitable for the planned maintenance and energy retrofitting programmes. This move is expected to further reduce our average re-let times.

Key Achievements 2023

- 101 re-lets completed

Allocations and Transfer

The Housing Allocations staff assesses applications for Social Housing Support. Eligible applicants are placed on the Housing Waiting List, where their position is determined by the length of time they have had a valid application. Housing Allocations allocates properties to applicants on the Housing Waiting List and the Transfer List in accordance with the Council's Allocation Scheme. Properties are advertised on the Choice Based Letting System where applicants can express their interest. 2023 surpassed 2022 as the highest number of allocations made in a year providing homes for 508 households.

Households who have a minimum tenancy of 3 years can apply for inclusion on the transfer lists. Mutual transfers are also considered between tenants with similar properties and in cases where a transfer achieves a better use of accommodation.

Key Achievements 2023

- Embarked on a scanning project to digitise housing application files to move towards a paperless office.
- 508 Allocations made to applicants in need of Social Housing.
- Completed a Summary of Social Housing Needs Assessment for 2023.

Downsizing

Downsizing/rightsizing for Council tenants continued to be a priority during 2023. Many tenants find themselves in properties too large for their needs and wish to downsize. The Council will



Ballyogan Square

prioritise their transfer to alternative accommodation more suited to their current needs. This also enables the Council to make better use of our housing stock by reallocating the larger properties to families on the housing waiting list or transfer lists.

Every effort is made to find a suitable property that enables the tenant to remain in the community and location they have identified. There are many benefits for tenants who downsize including reduced maintenance and upkeep cost, lower heating bills and in most cases, a more accessible property for the tenant to suit their needs.

Key Achievements 2023

- 11 households approved for downsizing.
- 6 households downsized.

Homeless Services

The Council's Homeless Section works in partnership with the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) to assist homeless persons or persons at risk of becoming homeless, to access emergency accommodation and exit homelessness. In addition to assessing the needs of households and providing access to emergency accommodation, the Homeless Section also provides support such as Place Finders and Housing First as pathways out of homelessness.

The position of Resettlement Officer was filled in 2023. The role of the Resettlement Officer is to support households to move from homelessness to permanent housing. The Officer works in a holistic way engaging with rough sleepers to assist them towards supported homeless accommodation and working with households in emergency accommodation to support them to move to permanent housing.

At the end of 2023, there were 85 families and 155 single households registered as homeless with the Homeless Section. During 2023, 23% of allocations to the Housing Waiting List was to a homeless household. In addition, a huge amount of prevention work was undertaken with an additional 33 households allocated properties.

Housing First

Housing First practices a housing led approach that focuses on ending homelessness for those who have been homeless for many years or who are particularly vulnerable with complex needs. As well as providing Housing, the Housing First model works with tenants to address issues that have prevented them from sustaining tenancies previously. The objective of the Housing First model is to ultimately end long-term homelessness and support those with complex needs to live independently in the community.

Key Achievements 2023

- 23 Housing First Tenancies delivered in 2023

Place Finders

The Place Finders Service continued to support homeless households and households at risk of homelessness to find a property to access the Housing Assistance Payment.

Key Achievements 2023

- 84 Homeless HAP tenancies were delivered in 2023



St. Laurence's – Turning of the Sod at St. Laurence's – 88 new homes under construction

Tenancy Management

The Tenancy Management Section continued to support, advise, and assist tenants experiencing difficulties and to investigate complaints of anti-social behaviour and breaches of the tenancy agreement. Enforcement proceedings increased in 2023 with 5 Possession and 2 Excluding Order cases brought before the Courts. The Section continued its preventative role by attending Local Policing Fora and worked in close co-operation with An Garda Síochána, in particular over the Halloween period. The Section continues to promote good estate management with the aim of making our communities a safer place to live.

Key Achievements 2023

- 3 Pre-tenancy courses delivered.
- 41 Housing Welfare cases providing complex supports.
- 42 Tenancy Sustainment Service cases providing supports.
- 5 Possession Order cases before the Courts, 3 granted 2 ongoing.
- 2 Excluding Order cases before the Courts, 1 granted 1 ongoing.
- 12 Tenancy Warnings issued.
- 149 Anti-social Behaviour cases investigated.

Housing Rent

Rent collected by the Council is calculated in accordance with the Differential Rent Scheme. The Scheme determines a tenant's rent based on two factors:

- The total income of the household, and



Glasson Court Retrofit – xxxx homes at Glasson Court retrofitted under the Energy Efficiency/Retrofit Programme

- The size of the household

The number of rent accounts that we manage exceeded 5,000 for the first time in 2023 due to the continued increase in our housing stock.

Key Achievements 2023

- 506 new rent accounts set up in 2023.

Local Authority Home Loan Scheme

The Housing Department continued to support people looking to purchase a home by processing applications made under the Local Authority Home Loan scheme. The scheme is for the



Shanganagh – construction progressing of 597 new homes in Shanganagh



TAU – new bins at our Traveller Accommodation site in Dundrum

purchase of new or second-hand residential properties and for self-builds located within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. It also includes the purchase of homes through State schemes such as the Tenant Purchase Scheme and Affordable Housing Schemes.

Key Achievements 2023

- 16 Home loans approved .
- Value of approved loans is €3.7m.

Housing and Disability Steering Group

The Housing and Disability Steering Group was established in accordance with the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027. During 2023, the Steering Group met quarterly and gave updates at the quarterly Housing Strategic Policy Committee meetings. In addition, there were several sub-group meetings during 2023. A review of the Housing & Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026 was commenced during the year. 21% of all housing allocations made in 2023 were made to Disabled People.

Traveller Accommodation

The Traveller Accommodation section continued its efforts to progress the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 with the aim of delivering high-quality housing for members of the Traveller Community. Three projects were progressed to an advanced stage in 2023 and are on track to begin construction in 2024.

A new Traveller Liaison Officer position was filled for the first time in 2023. The creation of this position will help us to develop a stronger working relationship with our local Traveller Community and to support Travellers with any housing issues they have.

Key Achievements 2023

- Traveller Accommodation Projects -Woodpark Sallynoggin, St. Michael's



TAU – delivery of a new mobile home at our Traveller Accommodation site in Sandymount

- Monkstown, and Tig Mo Chroi Glenamuck Road are at advanced stage. Construction to begin in 2024.
- 3 Caravans issued in emergency circumstances.
- 7 dwellings refurbished, 3 casual vacancies, 4 families allocated standard housing.
- Safe play areas, site entrance improvements and Human Rights Focus Groups set up using Dormant Account Funding.
- Traveller Housing Clinic and Pilot Barrier project rolled out in 2023.
- 4 Caravan Loan applications processed.

Standards in Private Rented Housing

The Housing Standards Section made some positive changes to how we conduct inspections to ensure that we continue to inspect as many rental properties as possible.

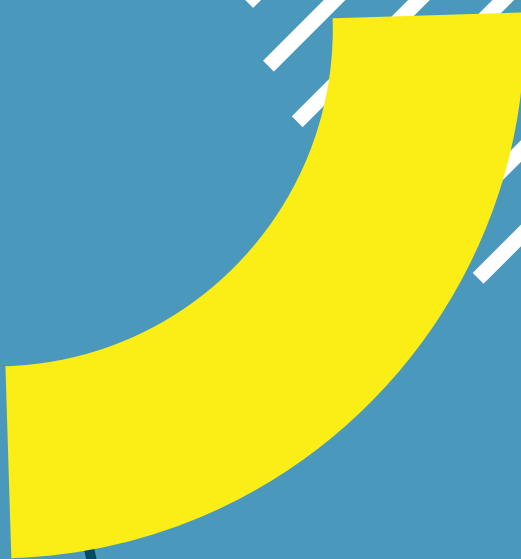
In 2023, a Housing Inspection App was developed with the support of our colleagues in the IT Department, allowing the 3 inspection teams (Environmental Health Officers, Third Party Contractor & DLR Inspectors) to conduct Housing Inspections online. This ensures that there is consistency in inspection reports and letters that are being issued to landlords.

Housing Standards also commenced a programme of inspections in student specific accommodation carrying out a total of 1,507 in this type of accommodation.

Key Achievements 2023

- 4,057 properties inspected.
- 5,439 inspections carried out.
- 797 properties compliant with the Housing Standards Regulations.
- 15 Improvement Notices issued.
- 9 Prohibition Notices served.

INFRASTRUCTURE & CLIMATE CHANGE



2023 in Numbers

74KM

of new segregated and existing cycle facilities upgrades.



3,402

Litter Patrols completed



116

Green Schools registered in the county



32

local areas represented in the Tidy District awards

312

finest issued by Environmental Enforcement Wardens

2

Compulsory Purchase Orders completed



11.4KM

of roads resurfaced



Over

5200 SQ. M

of graffiti removed



776



Voluntary community clean-ups

1893

waste inspections completed



9.8KM

of footway resurfaced



270,183

customers used Ballyogan Recycling Centre



13,432

tonnes of waste recycled



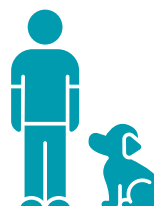
54

Commercial leases in place



2967

Environmental Enforcement customer queries logged in CRM.



189

dog licence checks completed.

Infrastructure and Climate Change

The Directorate of Infrastructure and Climate Change incorporates a wide range of services for citizens and visitors which are designed to provide high-quality environment, combat Climate Change and provide a high-quality infrastructure and public realm.

Capital Projects Office

The Capital Projects Office is responsible for the delivery of the Capital Programme for the provision of major capital schemes.

Key Achievements 2023

The following are the major Capital Projects/Schemes under design/construction or recently completed by the Council and funded by Development Levies/Grants.

Schemes under construction / completed:

- Bray Woodbrook Landfill Reclamation Project.
- Blackglan Road Improvement Scheme.
- N11 Druid's GLEN Road P*-P3 (Phase 2).
- Dun Laoghaire Baths Phase 2 – Mobility/Accessibility Works.
- Samuel Beckett Civic Campus - Phase 2A (Ballyogan Library including fit out).

Schemes at Detailed Design Stage:

- M50 Junction 14 Link Road.
- Enniskerry Road/Glenamuck Road Junction Upgrade (Golden Ball Junction).
- Glenamuck District Roads Scheme.

Schemes at Preliminary Design Stage:

- Blackrock Link (DART to Park).
- N11 Druid's Glen Road P3-P (Phase 3).
- Hillcrest Road.
- Cherrywood Road Upgrade.
- Leopardstown Link Road Phase 2.
- Bracken Road to Drummartin Link Road.
- Harold's Grange Road Improvement Scheme.
- Lehaunstown Housing Site Access Road (support role to Housing).

Special Projects:

Project management/support the following special projects:

- Offshore Windfarms and onshore grid connection.
- Shanganagh Castle (securing of property).
- Temporary Carpark at Shanganagh Park and Cemetery.
- Dundrum Community, Cultural and Civic Centre (DCCCC).
- Samuel Beckett Civic Campus – Phase 2B (Civic/Sports campus and swimming pool).

- Infrastructure Capacity Assessment Study of South East Area.
- Blackrock Seafront Public Realm.
- URDF Call 3 - Acquisition of long term vacant and derelict properties and acceleration of the provision of residential accommodation.
- IB Green Project – Corrig Road Park, Sandyford.
- Harbour Masterplan.
- East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Project (ECRIPP) - Irish Rail.

Active Travel Section

The DLR Active Travel Section was established in 2021. This dedicated team is focused on the delivery of safe and attractive walking and cycling infrastructure throughout our County. The Section is focused on not only delivering capital projects such as Active School Travel but also looking at the softer side of active travel promotion like school surveys. These schemes provide many benefits to the citizens and visitors of our County in terms of safety, climate action, environment, health, economic as well as overall quality of life.

Key Achievements 2023

The following are the key achievements - schemes under design or construction and completed projects by the Active Travel Section which are 100% funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA):

- Irish Construction Awards 2023 – Civil Construction Project of the Year Winner: Rock Road Sustainable Transport Improvements Scheme.
- We hosted a number of local authorities and public bodies who visited DLR to share knowledge and view our projects.
- Launched Bolt Bikes within the County.
- Held the annual Bike Week event within the County.
- Since 2020, the following has been delivered:
 - 22kms of footpath upgrades.
 - 74km of new segregated and existing cycle facilities upgrades.
 - 87 junction upgrades.
 - 15 new pedestrian/zebra crossings.
 - 686 new cycle stands and 22 new bus stops.

The following projects have been completed:

- Merrion Gates to Seapoint Cycle Scheme (Rock Road Section).

- Wyattville Road Cycle Improvement Scheme (Phase 2).
- Brewery Road Junction Upgrade.
- Clonskeagh Road (UCD to River Dodder).
- Coastal Mobility Route – TU Dublin research completed.

Construction commenced on:

- Glenageary Road Upper.
- Brewery Road Junction Upgrade.
- Deansgrange Road Cycle Route.
- Love our Laneways.
- Deerpark entrance improvements.

Part 8 planning was achieved for:

- Rochestown Avenue Active Travel Scheme (Approved with modifications).
- Dun Laoghaire - Living Streets (Requires decision of Elected Members).
- Blackrock - Living Streets (Approved).

Public consultation was completed on:

- Living Streets: Coastal Mobility Route.

Schemes that were progressed in 2023:

- DLR Connector.
- DLR Central (detailed design progressed).
- Cabinteely Park Greenway (pre-design engagement commenced).
- Safe Routes to Schools Lot 1 (detailed design progressed).
- Dodder Greenway (preliminary design progressed).

- Cherrywood to Shankill Greenway (preliminary design progressed).
- Seafield Safe and Quiet Streets (detailed design progressed).
- Leopardstown Road Active Travel Improvements (preliminary design completed).

Climate Action

In 2023 the Council prepared its draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 which sets out the actions that will be taken by the Council to prepare the County and people living in it for the known impacts of climate change – flooding, sea level rise, extreme weather events and drought. The public were invited to have their say and a series of public information sessions in respect of the draft Plan were held in County Hall, Dundrum, the Mansion House and in schools and third level colleges. Briefings were held for the Elected Members and the draft Plan was promoted on radio, in the print media and on social media platforms. The draft Climate Action Plan, the Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report and Appropriate Assessment Natura Impact Report, were on display in Council Offices and Libraries and on the Council website during the public consultation period from 20th of September-3rd of November 2023. A total of 61 valid submissions and observations were received.

Simultaneously, the Council continued to focus its efforts on the implementation and monitoring of its Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2019-2024 in the context of the ongoing causes and impacts of climate change. DLR collaborated across departments, staff and Elected Members, to achieve energy efficiency and emission reductions across its own buildings, facilities, travel, functions and services, whilst also influencing climate action in the wider community. Ongoing citizen and stakeholder engagement are at the heart of climate action



European Cycle Gold Medal



Bolt Bike Launch

and the new draft Plan has a Chapter devoted to Community Engagement with over twenty associated actions to ensure efforts are continued to contribute to the shared, National Climate Objective, as set out in the Government's National Climate Action Plan 2023 – Changing Ireland for the Better. Delivery of the 143 actions over the six themes in the draft Climate Action Plan will require the support of over forty partners external to the Council.

Key Achievements 2023

- Twenty-nine climate actions across five climate related themes were delivered in 2023. These included expanding the housing assistance programme to include tenant awareness around energy efficiency, waste prevention and water conservation, supporting the Bike Hub in Dun Laoghaire and the inclusive cycling for all campaign, completing the cargo-bike pilot scheme, the Summer Streets Initiative and the Disabled Accessible EV Parking and Charging Bay Pilot.
- To build flood resilience climate change impacts were incorporated into Emergency Response Plans and flood and risk management guidelines were implemented. The flood storage feasibility study for Fernhill Park was completed as were the Cabinteely Park and Kilbogget Park flood storage schemes and the Glenavon Park flood storage and integrated wetland.
- A region-wide map of green networks was created to support walking and cycling, and natural play space was incorporated into existing parks. A community garden was developed at Fernhill Park. The Council's Tree Strategy – A Climate for Trees was finalised, and the Hedgerow Study was updated. Demonstrator projects for Rain Gardens and Blue-Green Streets were piloted in new builds and retrofitted.
- Under the Resource Management theme, neighbourhoods/ areas in need of bring banks were identified, Big Belly Bins were monitored, and on-street Pizza Box Bin / Recycling Bins Trials were completed. Anti-litter and dog fouling campaigns were also rolled out. A collaborative project with Refill.ie to

reduce single use drinking water bottles was completed and Waste Management Guidelines were designed for developers of new housing schemes.

- Grant applications for the Community Climate Action Programme opened on Wednesday, December 13th. The Council was given an allocation of €883,000 from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) for communities to carry out projects in their local area that address community energy, travel, food and waste, shopping and recycling, as well as local climate and environmental action. Projects are eligible for 100% funding, up to a maximum of €100,000.

Environmental Awareness

The Environmental Awareness Section continues to engage with schools, communities, and the public to promote good environmental practice, resource management and environmental protection. Environmental Awareness provides the link between the local authority and the public by encouraging a strong community spirit and enabling the public to play their role in climate action and good environmental practices.

Numerous events, campaigns workshops, and competitions with schools and communities were organised throughout the year. Environmental Awareness, in conjunction with An Taisce, facilitates the Green Schools environmental education programme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. Promotion and support of the delivery of DLR's climate actions, environmental policies and regional environmental plans including areas of resource management, litter management and recycling.

Key Achievements 2023

- The Council continues to support community groups, residents' associations, and tidy district groups in cleaning up local neighborhoods through the promotion of several

anti-litter initiatives. The Community Clean-up Scheme and the National Spring Clean, run in partnership with An Taisce, resulted in 776 voluntary clean-ups in 2023.

- The annual Tidy Districts Awards received entries from 32 community groups in 2023, an increase of five areas from the previous year.
- A total of 116 schools registered for the Green Schools programme in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown in 2023, with 31 school visits and assessments carried out for Green Flag renewals.
- A marine themed PixelCan art display of over 2,000 recycled cans was exhibited in Dun Laoghaire Harbour over the June Bank Holiday weekend. The installation by Every Can Counts, supported by the Council, featured a team of 6 ambassadors who conducted 700 recycling surveys with members of the public, which was featured in the Irish Times.
- The Green Dog Walkers campaign was actively promoted to dog walkers across the County to encourage responsible dog ownership and increase awareness of the problem of dog fouling.
- A documentary on Fast Fashion was produced with the four Dublin Local Authorities and the Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Office (EMRWMO).
- Environmental awareness workshops were provided to schools and community groups including:
 - The four-week community Sustainable Living Programme in the DLR Lexicon Lab.
 - The Rubbish Film Festival competition and workshops delivered to 6 secondary schools to increase environmental awareness and encourage digital arts creativity.
 - The award-winning Composting for Schools programme was delivered to 14 teachers from 12 schools over four weeks in November 2023, by Composting Ireland, funded by the Council and the Eastern Midlands Regional Waste Office.

- The National Gum Litter Taskforce Roadshow visited the County in June to promote awareness about gum litter, a joint initiative with the industry and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

Green Business

The impacts of climate change, new regulations, rising resource costs and changing customer expectations require all businesses, irrespective of their size or sector, to adopt an eco-friendly approach to their operations. Ireland has a target to reduce carbon/greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030, and to achieve a climate neutral economy by 2050. To accomplish this, businesses are encouraged to invest in a greener future, through sustainable products, services and business models.

The Council's Green Business staff support an environmental awareness programme for businesses in the County and honour those organisations that demonstrate leadership in environmental stewardship. The transition from a linear economy to a circular economy is encouraged to enhance employment and increase the value recovery and recirculation of resources. Through capacity building workshops for SMEs, Corporates and Public Institutions, Green Business staff promote environmental best practices such as waste prevention, energy efficiency, water conservation and sustainable transport. This facilitates organisations to align their operations with the relevant policy actions in the Council's Climate Action Plan 2019-2024, the County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015 – 2021.

Green Business staff organise green business events, facilitate environmental certification and support the hosting of annual business awards in the County. By collaborating with national business support agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, Enterprise Ireland and local business representative groups e.g., Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Chamber of Commerce and Sandyford BID CLG, Green Business staff facilitate any business that wants



Chewing Out Gum Litter Enforcement

to implement resource efficiency and circular practices and principles.

Key Achievements 2023

The €coMerit Programme

Green Business staff continue to support the promotion and delivery of the €coMerit programme in the County. The €coMerit Programme is designed to help organisations be more energy efficient, prevent waste, conserve water, reduce their carbon footprint and save money in the process. Certificate holders also commit to promoting environmental awareness among their key stakeholders including staff, customers and suppliers. Participants achieve recognition for their environmental achievements through the award of an €coMerit certification which is reviewed annually to ensure continuous environmental improvement takes place. €coMerit Certificate holders have posted average year on year reductions in carbon emissions of 7.4% since 2009.

€coMerit Programme members in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown catchment include Blackrock Clinic, The Beacon Hospital, Dundrum Town Centre, Amgen, Dun Laoghaire Shopping Centre and Nutgrove Shopping Centre. Of particular note is Dundrum Town Centre, which in 2023 achieved the milestone of halving their carbon footprint, seven years ahead of the ambitious target set by the Paris Protocol.

Business Awards 2023

The Green Business Office sponsored, solicited nominations for and contributed to the judging of the Green Business Award category of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Chamber's County Business Awards 2023. This award is designed to recognise exceptional improvement in business performance, irrespective of size or sector, achieved through good environmental management. In the less than 50 employees' category Re-Cycle Bikes, Stepside was the winner and the Frascati Centre, Blackrock was highly commended whilst APC Ltd. Cherrywood



Gaelscoil Laighin, Mount Anville.

won the greater than 50 employees' category and the Clayton Hotel, Leopardstown was highly commended.

Environmental Enforcement, Litter and Animal Control

The Environmental Enforcement, Litter and Animal Control section is tasked with promoting the circular economy, eliminating litter pollution and encouraging recycling and other environmental local initiatives, such as:

- Monitoring and enforcing environmental legislation and regulations concerning air, noise, waste, litter and animal control.
- Investigating, assessing and resolving complaints logged on the Council's CRM system.

The National Environmental Priorities that this section is responsible for are:

- Litter and Waste
 - Tackling Illegal waste activities.
 - Litter Patrols and enforcement of regulations and associated bye laws.
 - Construction & Demolition Waste.
 - End of Life Vehicles and Metals.
 - Household and Commercial Waste.
 - Producer Responsibility initiatives including WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment), Batteries, End-of-Life-Vehicle Compliance Scheme (ELVES), Packaging waste.
- Air and Noise
 - Solid Fuel.
 - Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use.
 - Environmental Noise Directive (ENDs).
 - Air and Noise Control (including Planning).
 - Ongoing Air and Noise Enforcement Work.
 - Solvents, Deco paints and Petroleum Vapour Regulations.

Key Achievements 2023

- 2,967 Environmental Enforcement customer queries logged in CRM.



Happy Out Café



COMMUNITY AND ENERGY PROJECTS



TRAVEL



FOOD & WASTE



SHOPPING AND RECYCLING



LOCAL CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Community Climate Action Programme opened for applications in December 2023

- 3,402 Litter Patrols completed.
- 312 fines issued by Environmental Enforcement Wardens.
- Abandoned Cars - 17 cars were surrendered; 10 cars were seized.
- Over 5,200m2 of graffiti removed.
- 189 dog licence checks completed.
- 6 stray horses were reported; 3 horses were returned to their owner and 3 rehomed.
- 579 routine planned waste inspections completed.
- 1,321 non-routine waste inspections were completed.
- 183 non-routine and 100 routine Air and Noise inspections were completed.
- 116 Producer Responsibility inspections were carried out relating to WEEE, Batteries, ELVs, Plastic Bags, Packaging, Farm Plastics and Tyres.
- 292 Environmental Inspections relating to planning permissions were completed.

Recycling Centres

The Council provides recycling services to domestic users by way of 38 bring banks, 2 local recycling centres (Eden Park & Shanganagh) and Ballyogan Recycling Park.



Tidy Districts group 2023

Key Achievements 2023

- 9,049 tonnes of recyclable materials were brought to Ballyogan Recycling Park and a total of 270,183 customers used the facility in 2023.
- 836 tonnes of recyclable materials were brought to Eden Park Recycling Centre.
- 490 tonnes of recyclable materials were brought to Shanganagh Recycling Centre.
- A total of 4,383 tonnes of recyclables were brought to the Bring Banks across the County in 2023.
- There was a Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Dun Laoghaire and a free mattress amnesty in Ballyogan.
- The acceptance of hard plastics for recycling at Shanganagh Recycling Centre is continuing.

Estates Management Section

The core services of the Estates Management Section are:

- To ensure the good management and protection of Council owned property.
- To acquire lands as required to meet the corporate objectives of DLR.
- Disposal of lands in accordance with Section 183 legislation.
- To maintain the Derelict Sites Register.
- Engagement with State stakeholders, e.g., Dept of Education & Skills, Dept of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Uisce Eireann, Land Development Agency, and major property developers, e.g., Hines, Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) to progress major infrastructural projects.

Key Achievements 2023

- Institute of Art Design and Technology (IADT) in Dun Laoghaire: Negotiated License agreement with IADT and currently managing essential upgrade works on the Carnegie library (a Protected Structure), provision to facilitate the IADT's presence in Dun Laoghaire.
- Former Mount Anville Depot site/Dept. of Education and Skills: Preparation of a Licence agreement allowing Dept. of Education & Skills to access part of former depot site, Mount Anville to construct an interim 3-storey 8-classroom primary school with 2 no. Special Educational Needs Classroom and ancillary development school for Gaelscoil Laighean.
- Woodbrook DART Station: Disposal of Council's interest in land at Woodbrook/Shanganagh to enable construction of a

new DART station. Licence agreement for 3 plots of Council owned lands to facilitate the development of the new station completed. Estimated station opening is Q1, 2025.

- Offshore Windfarms and onshore grid connection: Dublin Array (RWE Renewables Ireland Ltd) will be one of Ireland's first commercial offshore wind farms to be constructed, helping to meet the Government's target of 5GW of offshore wind energy being connected to the Irish national grid by 2030. The project intends to apply for planning consent in 2024 and, subject to this being secured, construction of Dublin Array Project could begin in 2026. Property Management have facilitated the scheme, of national importance, by assisting RWE in land searches and in facilitating workshops between RWE and all relevant Council Departments. In addition, a Lease being devised for RWE to take up 2 vacant floors of Harbour Square, Block 2 for a duration of 10 years will be brought to Council in Qtr 2, 2024.
- Ballyogan Bailing Station: Estates Management assisted in over-seeing the conversion of the baling station, Ballyogan into use as a short-term shelter/accommodation for up to 300 refugees.
- Shanganagh Castle: Conservation consultants appointed for assessment of Protected Structure (Building A) and recommendations for restoration works to allow for future community uses in accordance with the current DLR County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Woodbrook/Shanganagh Local Area Plan.
- War in Ukraine – Humanitarian Response: As part of Ireland's response to the war in Ukraine, Estates Management is actively working with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) in seeking to establish multi-occupancy temporary accommodation centres for those fleeing the war in Ukraine within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.
- Wash House, Kelly's Avenue, Dun Laoghaire Upgrade works nearing completion which will maximise the potential utilisation of the building (a Protected Structure).
- Women's Refuge: Supporting the 30 Year Lease on Council owned lands at Kilcross, Sandyford, Co. Dublin, to facilitate a new purpose-built Womens' Refuge. Report brought to and noted at December 2023 Dundrum ICC Area Committee under Section 183 Legislation in conjunction with our Community Department.
- URDF Call 3 – DLR has been allocated €6m in funding under URDF Call 3 for an initial approved programme of identified properties. Call 3 is designed to address long term vacancy and dereliction across URDF cities and towns and the acceleration of the provision of residential accommodation. A working group is being set up for this project and an exercise to identify property owners is underway with action to follow-up in the New Year.
- ECRIPP (East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Projects) Co-ordinated cross function discussions/meetings between DLR service departments and Iarnrod Eireann/Jacobs Engineering to carry out both intrusive and non-intrusive works on Council lands along the coast with regard to rail infrastructure upgrades and future rail safety in coastal areas.
- Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO): Providing administrative support on 3 separate large-scale CPO schemes and co-ordinating/facilitating cross function discussions/meetings with Legal, Engineers, Valuers and Claimants:

- Blackglen Road/Harold's Grange Road Improvement Scheme;
- Glenamuck District Roads Scheme.
- M50, Junction 14.
- Acquisition of Foreshore areas at Dun Laoghaire Harbour – Property & Estates continue to support DLR Harbour in efforts to secure the acquisition by sale of Foreshore areas at DLR Harbour required for an Operations and Maintenance base for the Kish Bank Windfarm (RWE).
- New Lease Agreements:
 - Moran Park House – Renewal of Lease;
 - Automotive TEAM, Furze Road, Sandyford – Renewal of Lease;
 - Dom Marmion 21 Year Lease (approved by Council, November 2023);
 - GreenKing Composting Sandyford – Renewal of a 4 year 11 month Lease (approved by Council, February 2023).

Disposal of Council owned plots of land:

- 81 Lynwood.
- Lands at Woodbrook/Iarnrod Eireann (see above).
- Mount Anville – Department of Education – Disposal.
- Brookfield, Blackrock, Co. Dublin – Disposal.
- Farrenboly Cottages (rear of) Milltown, Co. Dublin).

Civic Defence and Fire Service

The Civil Defence for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is provided by Dublin City Council.

The Fire Service in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is also provided by Dublin City Council pursuant to an agreement under Section 59 of the Local Government Act 1955.

Transportation Services Traffic & Road Safety Section

The principal activities of the Traffic & Road Safety Section include:



Halloween 2023

- Design, construction and upgrading the Council's road network, traffic management and road safety.
- Management of the traffic signals system (SCATS).
- The provision of Statutory Signing & Lining.
- The provision and upgrade of pedestrian and cycling facilities and the improvement of facilities for mobility impaired and disabled road users.

Key Achievements 2023

- Permeability Scheme completed at Ballymoss and Arkle Road, Sandyford Business District.
- Zebra Crossings installed on Stillorgan Park Road and at Sandyford Village.
- Rapid Deployment Cycle scheme completed on Newtownpark Avenue.
- Brewery Road/St Brigid's Church Road- Junction upgrade and pedestrian improvements scheme completed.
- 302 cycle parking spaces installed at public and private locations.
- A total of 1626 children from 35 schools took part in the Cycle training for year 2023.
- An Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) for Dundrum was completed in 2023 which fed into the preparation of the Dundrum Local Area Plan.
- Continued management of the School Warden Service with 73 full time permanent staff and 13 reserves.

Paid Parking Control Section

The Council, through its Parking Enforcement Contractor, provides a parking enforcement service with an emphasis on using the service to maintain a smooth flow of traffic and to ensure compliance with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown's Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020. A key objective of the service is to ensure turnover of parking spaces particularly in town centre areas to support local businesses.

The Paid Parking Section administers a residential parking permit scheme in paid parking areas, offering residents the opportunity to purchase annual permits and visitor permits for their guests.

The section also works closely with other Departments within the Council, utility providers and private operators, to suspend paid parking bays in order to facilitate essential road maintenance and construction projects within the County.

Key Achievements 2023

- 63% of all parking charge payments made are cashless.
- Cashless parking has been introduced in 10 further locations.
- 3086 residential parking permits issued.
- 42,255 visitor parking permits were issued.
- 3 Car Clubs operating in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area with a total 72 permits issued to car club vehicles.

Ballyogan Operations Depot

Ballyogan Operations Depot is the only facility in DLR with a backup generator which in the event of a major emergency

means that DLR can still deliver essential services. It is home to roads, cleansing, water and housing outdoor staff. The depot must be available 24/7, 365 days a year, and open under emergency situations such as strikes, COVID, burst water mains, floods, storms etc.

The depot also has a stores facility for outdoor staff. The stores purchases stock and issues stock to stock to DLR departments, UE, and traffic contractors. The Depot Superintendent is responsible for upgrades to the depot and ensuring that equipment and plant for the depot is certified and serviced in line with HSA regulations, and SUDS legislation; these facilities include but is not limited to wash systems, management of wastes, hydrants, drainage and water reclaim systems, security and key holder systems, CCTV, AMPR and access control, fire systems and pest control.

Key Achievements 2023

- Project management of the build of a housing maintenance workshop to facilitate the move of housing depot staff to Ballyogan.
- Coordination of the amalgamation of Rochestown depot, Housing maintenance depot and Loreto depot staff; including ensuring the changing facilities, lockers, desks were in place for staff.
- Movement of water stock and housing stock with the view to centralising the stock in the depot for various departments.
- Provision of purpose-built emergency stores for all departments.

Fleet Management

The Fleet Section is responsible for the day-to-day management of the garage and 315 fleet. This includes:

- Ensuring compliance with RSA and road, traffic legislation; insurance, car tax, vehicle registration, NCTs.
- Procurement of vehicles through purchasing, hire and lease agreements; in the order of EV, HVO and newer more efficient diesel engines where the infrastructure allows.
- Vehicle testing (CVRTS), servicing, and repairs.
- Scrappage of old, redundant fleet.
- Breakdowns - ensuring that mechanics are available 24/7 in the event of an emergency / breakdown.
- Branding of vehicles.
- Management of the mymobility EV booking platform for the EV pool including the EV training of staff.
- Management of GPS system, incl; GPS installations, provision of various reports to line managers on idling, out of hours, speeding, out of boundary, for example.
- Maintenance of the national fleet register.
- Management of fuel card system for fleet fuel incl diesel and HVO – reporting on consumption to the energy team.
- Management of the E Toll account.
- Provision and delivery of driver training for Walk Around Checks
- Management of insurance cases and claims for fleet.
- Organisation of driving lessons for all departments, B licence, C licence for example.

Key Achievements 2023

- Delivered vehicle walkaround training to 81% of drivers and this included tips on eco driving.
- Replaced 3 vehicles with HVO jeeps for Marley Park and installed a HVO tank / system for dispensing HVO. HVO produces up to 90% less CO2 emissions than diesel.
- The Fleet Section took over the management of Parks Fleet in January 2023, this was an increase of 67% and now there is a complete fleet register in place for the Council.
- EV pool now has 7 EVs for staff to book from County Hall and 4 to book from Ballyogan, with more and more staff being trained and utilising the EV pool.

Road Maintenance

The Road Maintenance Section maintains a network of c. 823 km of roads and c. 1,400 km of footpaths. The section carries out a wide range of maintenance works including road resurfacing, footpath programmes, bridge & structure maintenance, drainage & gully repairs, cycleway maintenance and an accessibility works programme, as well as other works. The section also processes insurance claims, neighbourhood watch applications, hedge cutting notices and footpath dishing applications.

Key Achievements 2023

- €8.4m in TII funding for Phases 2 and 3 of the N11 Resurfacing scheme.
- €2.2m in NTA funding for the Glenageary Road Upper Active Travel Scheme to supplement Road, Footpath, Cycleway and Accessibility Improvement schemes.
- Road Resurfacing Programme Major Works (Roads Programme) – reconstruction/resurfacing of a road length of c. 10.0km.
- Road Resurfacing Programme Minor Works (Patching Programme) - road length of circa 1.4km reconstructed/resurfaced.
- Sustainable Patching Unit 1,628m2 minor repairs.
- Substantial Drainage and Gully Repair works carried out at 13 locations.
- Extensive resurfacing and footpath upgrades completed in 2 No. Estate Management Forum locations.
- Accessibility improvements implemented at 3 locations.

Roads Control

The Roads Control Unit is responsible for the control and management of roadworks throughout the County. The Unit also processes Section 254 licences, Surface Permit applications including licences for hoarding, scaffolding, skips and abnormal load permits, and implements the programme of permanent reinstatement repair works on behalf of Irish Water/ Water Services under a service level agreement.

The Unit carries out restoration works on roads and footpaths that have deteriorated directly due to utility or private development works by utilising 'long-term impact' charges collected from road opening licences.

Key Achievements 2023

- Processed 23 new Section 254 license applications.
- Processed and granted 1,295 Road Opening Licenses.
- Processed and granted 71 Surface and Hoarding Permits.
- Completed 598 permanent Irish Water Reinstatements.
- Completed road remedial works at Cherrygarth post completion of developments.

Public Lighting

The Public Lighting Section take in charge; install, operate, monitor, repair, upgrade and maintain all the lighting infrastructure on the Council-controlled roads, laneways, walkways and parks that are accessible to the public 24 hours per day. We also install, operate and maintain trials of lighting column mounted EV charging units, publicly accessible WiFi and environmental monitoring sensors for the NTA, TII and EPA.

We are working to reduce energy needs while maintaining and improving the lit environment for all users and keeping within lighting standards and guidelines. We are working with SMART technologies and renewable energy systems to enable works towards a 50% energy drop by 2030 and a Net Zero energy use by 2050.

Key Achievements 2023

- Commissioning and full turn on of a medium scale Carbon (Energy) Net Zero street lighting installation in Ireland.
- Installation of 751 LED lanterns.
- Installation of 2 additional EV chargers.
- Reduction of 3.5% energy used, while also installing and taking in charge over 200 additional lights and the energy used by the additional EV chargers.
- Installation of new decorative lighting on the East Pier and Newtown Smith Walkway

Cleansing and Beaches

The Cleansing and Beaches Section provides services centred around the cleaning of roads and public spaces, and maintenance of beaches and harbours. The section delivers a wide range of services including:

- Road, footpath, laneway and cycle track cleaning.
- Management of the street litter bin service.
- Maintenance of 22,000 gullies.
- Provision of emergency flood response.
- Dumping/litter clean-ups.
- Management of 2 recycling centres and Countywide bottle banks
- Weed control throughout the County.
- Management of beaches, harbours and bathing areas, inclusive of Lifeguard provision and Blue Flags.
- Bathing Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting.
- Management of filming and event licenses.
- Management of mooring permits for Coliemore Harbour.
- Management of public conveniences.

Key Achievements 2023

- Circa 480 Big Belly Bins were serviced and maintained throughout the County.
- Deep Cleans completed in 12 towns/villages.
- N11 and Wyattville Link Road Cleansing Projects.
- Extensive seasonal weeding was undertaken throughout the County.
- Successful management of a challenging bathing season.
- Blue Flag status at Seapoint and Killiney maintained.
- Recruited seasonal Lifeguards for Seapoint, Sandycove and Killiney Beach.
- Marker Buoys were deployed for swimmers at the 40 Foot and DLR Baths bathing locations.
- Completed circa 62,006 street bin collections.
- Purchased circa 10 new Big Belly bins.
- Support of over 776 voluntary clean-ups.
- Cleaned circa 12,594 gullies.
- Rubbish Collected in tonnes 1,615.
- Managed Dumping Incidents 274.
- Pollution Incidents 25.
- Dead Animals Collected 241.
- Killiney Beach “Clean to European Norms” in IBAL survey – significant achievement.



Seapoint Blue Flag

Coastal Protection

The Council continues to monitor coastal erosion at key locations along the coast, which are known to be vulnerable to erosion because of their geology and soil type. The key locations are south of Killiney Beach as far as the DLR boundary at Bray.

Key Achievements 2023

- Ongoing monitoring of the extent of erosion at key locations along the DLR coastline.
- Coastal Defence Strategy update commenced and is due for completion in 2024.
- Coliemore Harbour Rock Anchor Installation & Granite Stabilisation project was completed.
- Quinns Road Beach Access Rock Armour Remedial Repair Project was completed.
- Forty Foot Accessibility enhancement scheme delivered.
- Remedial concrete repair work began to the platform and 2 No water access steps in late 2023 at Kavanaghs Corner adjacent to the 40 Foot. The repair work will be completed in Q1 2024.

LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Legal Services Department

In 2023, the Legal Services Department supported the Executive in the delivery of services in accordance with its mission statement as follows:

“To provide effective, efficient and responsive legal services to our clients, to support our clients in delivering effective outcomes, to play an active role in identifying and managing legal risk, to share our knowledge and expertise with our clients.”

The Legal Department dealt with instructions and requests for advice from the Executive in the following areas:

- Advisory – Legal advice to the Management Team and Council staff in relation to the Council’s functions under the various Statutes relating to Local Government
- Property and land – Acquisition and disposal of property and land, advice, enhanced leasing, leases and licences, tenant purchase, Council loans, Part V agreements and wayleaves
- Judicial review of administrative decisions
- Dispute resolution including construction disputes (negotiation, mediation, conciliation)
- Commercial contracts
- Regulatory enforcement – planning and litter enforcement
- Civil litigation
- Recovery of rates and debt collection
- Corporate Governance
- Freedom of Information
- Data Protection

PLANNING



2023 in Numbers

1430

planning applications received



278

certificate of compliances validated

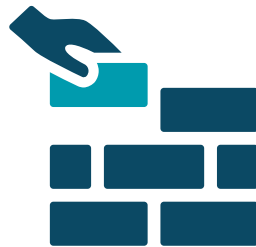


134

fire safety certificate decisions issued

2276

residential units commenced



727

commencement notices validated



26

disability access certificate decisions issued

3564

residential units completed



2956

residential units under construction in Q4



8

developments taken in charge



Planning

In 2023, the Planning Authority had several workstreams in addition to the day-to-day statutory functions. 2023 saw the extension of the Stillorgan Local Area Plan for an additional 5 years and the publication of the first set of the Residential Zoned Land Tax maps.

2023 also saw the adoption of a new County Wide Development Contribution Scheme, implementation of several legislative changes and the management of increasing workloads within an increasingly complex environment. This was managed while keeping an on-demand planning service in place that is agile enough to deal with varying demands across all aspects of the life cycle of developments, from Forward Planning, Development Management, Building Control to Taking in Charge.

Forward Planning

2023 was a busy year in Forward Planning with the Dundrum Local Area Plan (LAP) being adopted in October 2023. The LAP included for the first time an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) for Dundrum. The ABTA aims to ensure that future transport demand is managed in a sustainable way. The LAP includes multiple benefits for the local community including:

- Provision of an exciting new multi-functional, purpose-built community, cultural and civic facility in a landmark building in the heart of Dundrum which will also provide new library facilities.

- Provision of a new community focused local public park on Main Street.
- Provision of a wetland area to the rear of the existing Carnegie Library site.
- Identification of a site for a new school.
- New homes for the area on sites which include the former Central Mental Hospital and the old Shopping Centre site.

Work also commenced on a new LAP for Kiltiernan-Glenamuck with a 4-week pre-draft public consultation from the 12th September 2023 to the 17th October 2023.



Stillorgan Leisureplex January 2024

Work commenced in 2023, on an Infrastructural Capacity Assessment Study (ICAS) for the south-east of the County, which comprises the LAP areas of Old Connaught and Rathmichael. The study objectives are:

- Establish the existing context and capacities in the proposed LAP areas.
- Indicate the proposed high-level strategic enabling infrastructure required to facilitate plan-led development of the two proposed LAP areas.
- Provide a high-level implementation plan, to include a phasing programme which would set out the strategic infrastructural and service requirements for each successive phase of development in both proposed LAP areas.

Key Achievements 2023

- Adoption of the Dundrum Local Area Plan in October 2023.
- Extension of Stillorgan Local Area Plan in November 2023.
- Preparation of first annual County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 monitoring report in November 2023.
- Pre-Draft public consultation held on replacement Kiltiernan/Glenamuck Local Area Plan.
- Work commenced on an Infrastructural Capacity Assessment Study (ICAS) for the south-east of the County, which comprises the LAP areas of Old Connaught and Rathmichael.
- Pre-Draft public consultation was undertaken for the draft Old Connaught Local Area Plan.

Development Management

Development Management covers a broad remit and has statutory functions from conception (pre-planning) to

completion of development (compliances). 2023 saw the activity in development management shift from applications to completion of developments. This is shown by the number of compliance submissions received and the level of the amending permissions under the Large-Scale Residential Developments (LRD) legislation. These trends and figures correlate with the figures shown in commencement and completions of developments in the County. The process and procedures within the development management process were reviewed in 2023 to align with the impending E-Planning process. This will lead to greater department efficiencies and a better service for the public going forward.

Key Achievements 2023

- Adoption of the 2023-2028 County Wide and SUFP Section 48 Development Contribution Scheme.
- 1,430 planning applications received in 2023.
- 858 Number of compliance decisions issued in 2023.
- 29 LRD pre-planning meetings held and 203 pre-planning applications in 2023.
- 329 enforcement files closed in 2023.

Active Land Management

Active Land management refers to the suite of tools which are available to the Planning Department which aim to activate development of land for residential development. These include the Vacant Site Levy, Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) and Housing Task Force Review.



Respond 200 apts Lisieux Hall cost rental Sandyford

Key Achievements 2023

- Decisions made on 82 submissions from the public and landowners in relation to additions to or deletions from the draft RZLT map.
- Publication of 2023 final Residential Zone Land Tax maps in December 2023
- Continuation of Housing Task Force returns
 - 41 'active' residential schemes in DLR in Q4
 - 2,956 units were under construction in Q4

Building Control

Building Control's primary function is to promote a culture of compliance with the Building Regulations through the fulfilment of the various statutory functions and active engagement through a risk assessed inspection process. The level of construction activity in 2023 remained buoyant and the rate of commencement and completion remained strong.

The level of application for the various statutory certificates remained strong in 2023. The continued reliance on the 7-day notices form of commencement points to the level urgency for applicants to get on site despite the additional cost and risk associated with that process.

In 2023 the Building Control section was engaging on over 30 developments for taking in charge at various stages of the process. Building Control continues to engage with applicants, OMCs (Owners Management Company) and the service departments to progress these developments to the statutory process.

Key Achievements 2023

- 727 Commencement Notices validated.
- 278 Certificate of Compliances validated.
- 134 Fire Safety Certificate decisions issued.
- 126 Disability Access Certificate decisions issued.
- 8 developments taken in charge.
- 2,276 residential units commenced and 3,564 completed.

Departmental Service improvements

In 2023, the Planning Department went live on a pilot basis with the Local Government National Planning Portal which enables applicants to make a fully electronic planning application. This necessitated the review of all the processes associated with the planning application process to ensure that they align with e-planning, while at the same time being compatible with the existing paper-based approach, which will still be an option for applicants.

In 2023, the Planning department also embraced the business process improvement (BPI) approach to a number of our functions. Staff received training and will use aspects of our functions as a flagship process for review under the BPI approach.

Key Achievements 2023

- Progressing e-planning to pilot stage.

- Continually looking to integrate our processes and systems to align with a paperless approach of e-planning.
- Business process improvement was/is being applied to a number of our functions.
- New feature added to our internal planning software - "Workflow" - that allows the live tracking of the progress of a planning file.
- The use of Webinars and open days as part of the public consultation of the pre-draft and draft LAPs.

Local Enterprise Office

The Local Enterprise Office Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (LEO DLR) is the 'First Stop Shop' for people seeking advice, information and support when starting or growing a business. Services provided include business advice and mentoring, training, financial supports, networking opportunities, management development programmes, supports aligned to sectors and economic challenges e.g. LEAN and Digital process management, Financial Understanding, Strategic Development, Exporting, Green Initiatives, student enterprise programmes and enterprise competitions (e.g. National Enterprise Awards).

Key Achievements 2023

- 45 LEO Measure 1 grants (11 Feasibility Study, 9 Business Priming, 13 Business Expansion and 12 Export Marketing) were approved to the value of €628,817. This funding directly supported 44 new local jobs.
- 99 Trading Online Vouchers were approved (total: €223,843.50) to support businesses in enhancing their online presence.
- 6 IP Start Grants were approved.
- 14 Client Companies were transferred to Enterprise Ireland as part of the inter-agency Progression Pathway, reflecting how early-stage LEO support positions companies to successfully source further investment and opportunities to grow.
- 659 clients received business mentoring and 1,538 clients took part in training, seminars, management development programmes and networking events.
- 16 clients completed a Lean for Business Programme, which is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase competitiveness. A further 6 clients completed the Digital for Business Programme which is designed to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business.
- 853 students from 19 second level schools participated in a Student Enterprise programme which includes the enterprise awards, and enterprise showcase events.
- LEO DLR continued their focus on supporting small businesses to prepare for a low carbon, resource efficient economy of the future through their Green for Business programme with 23 applications approved in 2023 (up from 12 in 2022).
- Through our referral process with Micro Finance Ireland, 17 client loan applications were supported.
- LEO DLR are leading Action 2 of the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan which focusses on Developing Business Mentoring Capabilities and as part of this, we hosted a

Dublin Region Mentor Panel meeting (22nd September) which included Mentor Peer Learning Sessions, knowledge sharing and an Innovation workshop.

- Invizar, representing LEO DLR won the Best Start Up Award at the National Enterprise Awards 2023. The National Enterprise Awards highlight, showcase, encourage and support a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship in our communities in Ireland and celebrate the achievements of the core client portfolio of the LEOs.
- LEO DLR issued 47 newsletters to a database of 3,455 recipients while social media connectivity continued to increase standing at; 5,570 X (formerly Twitter) followers, 2,180 Facebook followers, 1,788 Instagram followers, and 988 LinkedIn connections.
- Collaborated with other Dublin Councils to plan the delivery of Food Sector Supports (Dublin Food Chain, Food Start and Food Academy programmes).

Economic Development

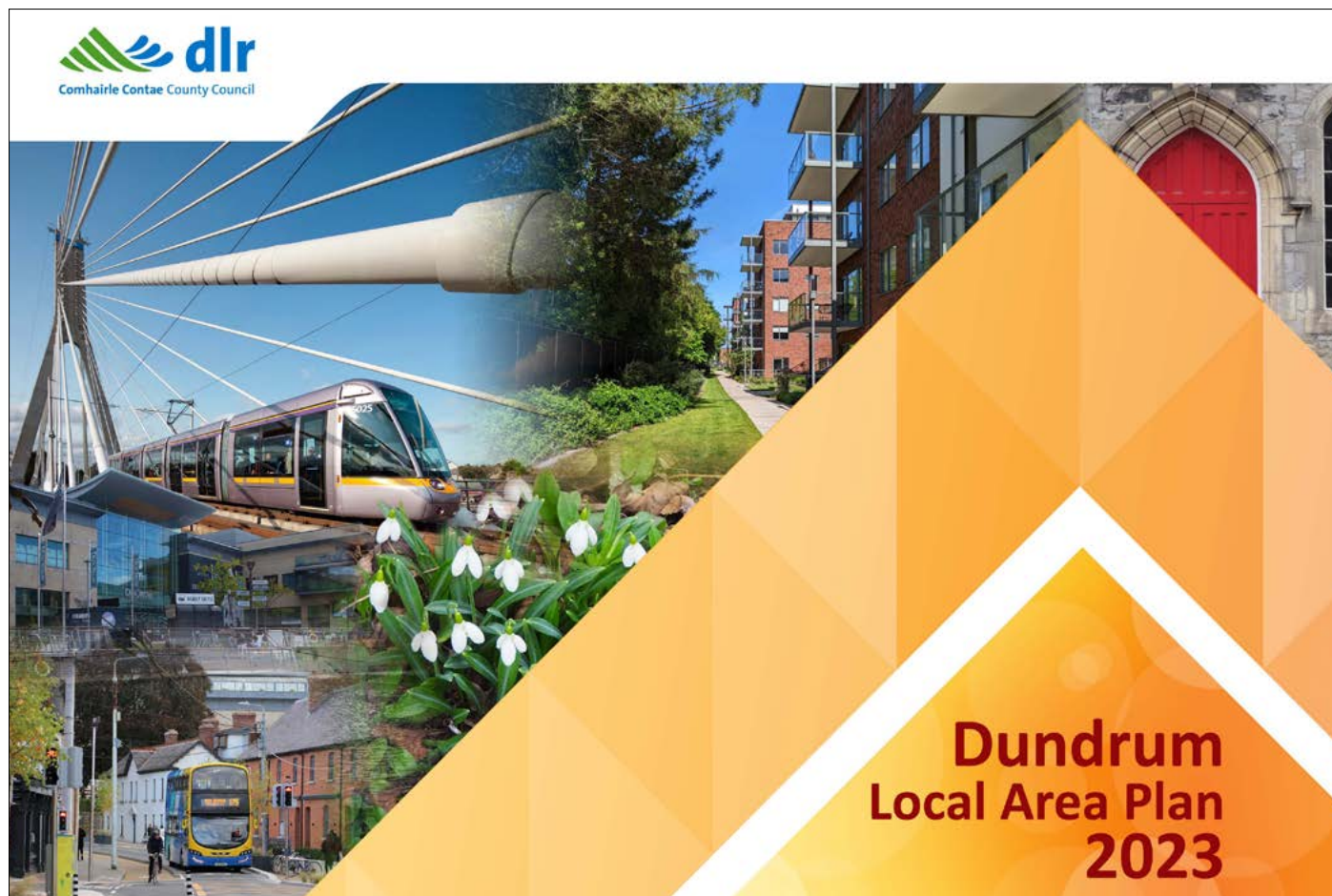
The Economic Development Unit works with internal and external stakeholders to create and support a healthy economic environment which will attract and retain business in DLR. It provides direct financial supports, drives strategic projects, acts as an internal Council voice for businesses in DLR and generally drives initiatives that foster economic growth in the County.

There has been a strong take-up of the following direct supports: Shopfront Improvement Scheme, Pop-Up Shop, Street Furniture Grant and Business Area Promotion Grants.

The Unit has a strong focus on building footfall to support street level retail businesses and driving place making initiatives to attract and retain customers and businesses alike.

Key Achievements 2023

- Significant place making initiatives delivered and in planning to support businesses.
- Continued engagement with broad DLR business base and a broad representation of their needs to internal stakeholders.
- Continued promotion of the support provided for Shopfront Improvement.
- Expansion County-wide of the popular Anseo Street Art initiative.
- Continued roll out of Age Friendly Business Recognition programme.
- Supported the growing Dun Laoghaire Comedy Festival to promote the night-time economy in the town during the off-season.
- Collaboration with Sallynoggin College to showcase upcycling of pre-loved fashion sourced in Dun Laoghaire's Charity and Vintage Shops.
- Delivery of Coastival Nights – complimentary events supporting the night-time economy.
- Expansion of Seasonal Fund for business networks to animate and illuminate towns and villages for the Christmas season.
- Collaboration with Dublin Canvas to paint Traffic Boxes in towns and villages.



- Increased sponsorship of DLR First Frames to support Irish language productions in collaboration with the Arts Office which provides support to emerging local filmmakers.
- Development of the Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028.

Tourism

2023 was a busy year for tourism in the County with a considerable number of festivals and events spread throughout the County. In 2023 we welcomed 78 Cruise Ships with 186,000 passengers and crew visiting Dublin and Dun Laoghaire.

In 2023 DLR Tourism started the process of developing a new 5-year Tourism Strategy. A considerable process of consultation and research took place. It is anticipated that the new strategy will be in place in early 2024.

Our collaboration with Failte Ireland to promote our County continues with a number of new projects developed including the Dublin Coastal Trail and the completion of the Destination Towns Programme.

A special focus was placed on the development of a Christmas Festival in Dun Laoghaire. Activities like Ice Skating, Santa Experience at the Maritime Museum, Fun fair at the Plaza, and a special Santa arrival event to launch the festival.

Key Achievements 2023

- The 2023-2028 Tourism Strategy completed all its consultation works this year and presented the draft strategy to Economic Development & Enterprise SPC and Councillors for input.
- Festivals & Events return to the County including the Councils support of the popular Food on the Edge Festival at Airfield Estate.
- The online promotion of the County continued on our social media channels targeting visitors to Dublin and encouraging them out of the city.
- A new suite of photos of the town during the summer and the new lights on key town buildings were completed this year for use in ongoing promotion of the town.
- The Launch of the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Trail with 10 points of interest in and around the Harbour.
- The department began the initial meeting of our new European project "POST" Polycentric Tourism Interreg Atlantic Project with Ourense, Spain, Braga, Portugal and Cognac, France.
- Our two annual Tourism Provider Networking Meetings took place in County Hall and Dalkey with a strong tourism provider turnout.
- The Tourism Department, in collaboration with the Dun Laoghaire Harbour team, welcomed over 78 cruise ships into the town with a team of welcome staff to guide and assist visitors with orientation on their arrival.

Twinning & International Relations

2023 was a busy year for Twinning with a number of activities and projects under way.

As part of our collaboration with the City of Vincennes the following activities took place:

- In June 2023, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown hosted a delegation from Vincennes for the Bloomsday festival in June.
- Granada Football Club travelled to Vincennes to participate in a football Tournament.
- Stepside Educate Together School brought a group of students visit Hector Berlioz (School) in Vincennes also visiting the Irish Embassy in Paris.

In April, we hosted a visit of the Mayor of Palo Alto, California, USA. A two-day programme was developed visiting Sandyford, UCD and other parts of the County.

In September, we hosted a visit of the Deputy Mayor of Brest, France, who was interested in re-energising our Twinning which was established in 1984 and will be 40 years old in 2024.

Dún Laoghaire Harbour

The Harbour Section currently has 16 direct staff within management, administration, maintenance and security. Harbour staff are responsible for the management of vessels within or on approach to the Harbour, Aids to Navigation, Port Security requirements, enforcement of the Harbour Bye-Laws, along with boat storage and swing moorings.

Harbour staff are also responsible for the management and upkeep of Harbour properties, liaison with Harbour Tenants, cleansing and general maintenance within the Harbour, as well as the management of all events and filming within the Harbour Estate.

Key Achievements 2023

- New Senior Executive Engineer and Assistant Harbour Master appointed.
- 76 Cruise Ships arrived into Dun Laoghaire with positive visitor feedback throughout.
- €2.5 million East Pier Revetment Repair project completed.
- €2.5m Carlisle Pier Repair Project completed.
- New ice rink operated during winter months.
- National Watersports Campus concept progressed with Irish Sailing and Diving Ireland.
- Tender issued for Harbour Masterplan Design Team.



Cruise Ship Visit to Dun Laoghaire

APPENDIX



Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) as at 31st December 2023

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Fixed Assets	1		
Operational		1,487,806,340	1,480,301,335
Infrastructural		1,766,121,709	1,771,343,791
Community		58,086,139	56,729,140
Non-Operational		101,967,287	101,967,287
		3,413,981,475	3,410,341,553
Work-in-Progress and Preliminary Expenses	2	63,580,640	39,624,137
Long Term Debtors	3	154,546,543	141,795,993
Current Assets			
Stock	4	1,104,920	980,204
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	77,130,097	64,957,730
Bank Investments		374,663,229	315,161,708
Cash at Bank		4,618,529	140,482
Cash in Transit		1,106,325	2,904,669
		458,623,101	384,144,794
Current Liabilities			
Bank Overdraft		–	–
Creditors & Accruals	6	131,586,396	110,905,019
Finance Leases		–	–
		131,586,396	110,905,019
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		327,036,705	273,239,775
Creditors (Amounts greater than one year)			
Loans Payable	7	124,853,986	132,840,016
Finance Leases		–	–
Refundable Deposits	8	44,908,983	43,187,981
Other		70,296,338	52,957,753
		3,719,086,057	3,636,015,707
Net Assets / (Liabilities)		3,636,015,707	3,560,935,144
Represented By			
Capitalisation	9	3,413,981,475	3,410,341,553
Income WIP	2	58,879,093	32,327,364
General Revenue Reserve		8,875,579	8,810,086
Other Specific Reserves		12,033,190	12,033,190
Other Balances	10	225,316,721	172,503,515
Total Reserves		3,719,086,057	3,636,015,708

Statement of Comprehensive (Income & Expenditure Account Statement) For Year Ended 31st December 2023

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure.

It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.

Note 16 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

	Note	Gross Expenditure 2022 €	Income 2022 €	Net Expenditure 2022 €	Net Expenditure 2021 €
Expenditure By Division					
Housing and Building		58,870,764	52,369,841	6,500,922	4,118,978
Roads, Transportation & Safety		27,315,716	12,909,116	14,406,600	15,909,238
Water Services		11,872,508	8,106,261	3,766,247	4,173,132
Development Management		34,007,247	16,343,658	17,663,589	16,098,189
Environmental Services		32,794,899	7,302,655	25,492,244	26,223,225
Recreation & Amenity		35,198,401	6,185,112	29,013,289	28,374,101
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare		4,723,137	3,609,318	1,113,819	1,439,550
Miscellaneous Services		12,614,092	14,782,102	(2,168,010)	747,981
Total Expenditure/Income	15	217,396,763	121,608,063		
Net Cost of Division to be funded from Rates and Local Property Tax				95,788,701	97,084,394
Rates				93,497,908	92,026,671
Local Property Tax				11,818,975	18,633,673
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfer				9,528,182	13,575,951
Transfers from/(to) Reserves	14			(9,462,689)	(13,506,676)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	16			65,493	69,274
General Reserve at 1st January				8,810,086	8,740,812
General Reserve at 31st December				8,875,579	8,810,086

Appendix 1

Energy Management and Awareness

The cross-departmental DLR Energy Team, led by the Energy Performance Officer and County Architect Andree Dargan, endeavours to improve energy performance across the organisation. The team features representatives of the Significant Energy Users (SEUs) with the largest influence on energy consumption within the scope of the DLR Energy Management System (EnMS). These are the Community Department, including Libraries, Parks and DLR Leisure buildings for which we are responsible; Infrastructure and Climate Change Department including Public Lighting and Fleet and Corporate Services, including key buildings County Hall and Block 1 Harbour Square and who are the DeliveREE project managers.

In November 2023, the DLR EnMS had an in-depth 2-day re-assessment audit carried out by the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) and DLR successfully passed the audit and retained the ISO 50001:2018 accreditation.

In addition to improving energy performance within the organisation, the Energy Team and wider DLR staff, also seek to encourage and support energy improvement across the County. The 'Reduce Your Use' campaign, which included an extensive communications and social media campaign contributed to a reduction of DLR's energy consumption by over 15%.

Andree Dargan, DLR's County Architect and Energy Performance Officer, presented at the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Public Sector conference held in Dublin City University (DCU). As one of the top performing local authorities in the country, Andree spoke about DLR leadership on energy-related initiatives and emissions reductions, embedding ISO 50001 within the organisation and the challenging 2030 and 2050 targets.

The DLR Energy Team exhibited at the Eurofound Open Day and the DLR Age Well Expo in June. In September DLR hosted an internal energy audit training event convened by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI). The training event sought to support public sector bodies with improving their respective energy management systems and achieving or maintaining ISO50001 certification.

Awareness-raising and practical supports have been delivered to the public to assist communities along their energy improvement journey including 'Home Energy Upgrade' chaired by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Denis O'Callaghan with the panel featuring ESB Networks about the Smart Meter Programme; Codema, Dublin Energy Agency; Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) and the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) and a lively discussion with a distinguished panel on 'The Future of Sustainable Transport and Public Space' in October. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's decarbonisation journey is a key part of our Council's climate action and our exemplar role within the Public Sector and participation in Ireland's SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Week from 23 September to 1 October highlighted several DLR public events promoting sustainability.

Key Achievements 2023

- DLR is ranked third in the local authorities for improved energy efficiency of 48% in 2022 compared to the 2009

baseline, based on the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland's (SEAI) Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) system.

- In relation to public lighting, Ireland's first medium-scale Carbon (Energy) Net Zero street lighting installation was commissioned by DLR. Installation of 751 LED lanterns and 2 additional EV chargers. There was a reduction of 3.5% energy used, while also installing and taking in charge over 200 additional lights and the energy used by the additional EV chargers. Installation of new decorative lighting on the East Pier and Newtown Smith Walkway.
- In relation to fleet section, vehicle walkaround training was delivered to 81% of drivers and this included tips on energy saving eco-driving. 3 vehicles with Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) jeeps for Marley Park replaced fossil fuelled vehicles and a HVO tank / system for dispensing HVO was installed. HVO produces up to 90% less CO2 emissions than diesel. Purchases included an additional electric van. The staff mobility hub's Electric Vehicle (EV) pool now has 7 EVs for staff to book from County Hall and 4 to book from Ballyogan and more staff are being trained and utilising the EV pool.
- In Dalkey and Deansgrange libraries Solar PhotoVoltaic (P/V) systems and heat pumps were installed. The DLR Lexicon was used as case study building for SEAI Internal Auditors Training and in the Lexicon building lights from level 3 were re-used on level 4.
- In County Hall, there was an installation of electrical sub-metering to assist in monitoring energy usage. The upgraded heating system in Harbour Square was brought online in early 2023.
- In Ballyogan Operations Centre there was the commissioning of a 62.04 kWp roof mounted Solar PhotoVoltaic (P/V) system. The P/V system is projected to generate 59,102 kWh of clean renewable electricity annually. Expected carbon emissions avoided is 27.76 Tonnes. Wireless data loggers were installed on significant use equipment and is feeding live data onto the energy monitoring platform. The main entrance door to the utility building was upgraded to improve the thermal quality.
- In the Community section, DLR's Community Workers have been encouraging the various community facilities and groups of the need for improved energy efficiency. Grant funding (Government-funded Community Support Fund Programme) in the region of €19,000 has been made available for sustainable projects including energy efficiency improvement projects.
- DLR Leisure installed Vision energy monitoring system across all three centres and reduced energy costs (2022 v 2023), due to prudent management of energy providers, efficiencies across all centres, Energy Performance Contract (EPC) oversight and management and staff training.

Actions Planned for 2024

- The Council will partner with MosArt for the inaugural Zero Emissions Buildings (ZEB) Summit to inspire and accelerate adoption of green building practices. Two workshops will be held in County Hall with a detailed interactive study of the public exemplar Shanganagh, one of the largest public housing certified Passive House schemes in Europe.

- With regard to public lighting there will be an upgrade of all lighting in Sandyford Industrial Estate and Leopardstown Industrial Park to LED decorative. Upgrade of all decorative residential lighting to decorative LED lighting across the County. 2 additional EV chargers will be installed. Additional trials of solar powered street lighting for residential roads will be carried out.
- In relation to the decarbonisation of fleet there is a rollout of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for Harbour staff vehicles. HVO tanks will be installed in other suitable locations for example, parks depots. The existing fleet in Marlay Park is changing to HVO fuel, with a tank already in situ. 12 e-bikes will be available to book through the mymobility booking platform for staff to utilise to attend meetings and inspections off-site.
- The Energy Performance Contract is being progressed to upgrade County Hall's heating system and decarbonise a number of buildings.
- In Ballyogan Operations Centre, options are being developed to upgrade to a bivalent heat pump system with the goal of reducing natural gas space heating by 90%. Further opportunities for solar P/V installations are being explored
- Community groups will continue to be encouraged to focus on energy efficiency and to apply for available energy efficient funding, such as the Community Climate Action Programme. Energy data will continue to be gathered by the community facilities owned by DLR and guidance will be provided where possible to support the reduction of energy consumption. Energy Rating Improvement reports are being arranged for a number of Community facilities. Where appropriate, equipment, such as lighting, in Council owned facilities that needs replacement, these will be replaced by more energy efficient equipment.
- DLR Leisure plan to replace dry fitness studios side air handling units (AHUs) in Meadowbrook for modern energy efficient units and will begin plans for fabric upgrades across all leisure centre buildings.

Appendix 2

Acronyms

AAMP - Ambient Air Monitoring Programme
BHIS - Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021
CCAP – Climate Change Action Plan
CCMA - County and City Management Association
CDP – County Development Plan
CPO – Compulsory Purchase Order
DHLGH – Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage
dlr PPN – Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Public Participation Network
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
ETB – Education and Training Boards
FSC – Fire Safety Certificates
FPI – Forward Planning Infrastructure
GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation
ICC – Infrastructure and Climate Change
JPC – Joint Policing Committee
LCDC – Local Community Development Committees
LDA – Land Development Agency
LGMA – Local Government Management Agency
LIHAF - Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund
LPF – Local Policing Forums
MUHDS – Major Urban Housing Delivery Sites
NOAC – National Oversight and Audit Commission
NTA - National Transport Authority
OGP – Office of Government Procurement
OPC - Older Persons Council
PPN – Public Participation Network
PQQ - Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
QQI – Quality & Qualification Ireland
RIAI – Royal Institute of Architects
RIHL – Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan
SDZ – Strategic Development Zone
SEAI – Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
SHD – Strategic Housing Development
SICAP - Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
SPC - Strategic Policy Committee
TAP – Traveller Accommodation Programme
URDF – Urban Regeneration Development Fund
WEEE - Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

Appendix 3

Performance Indicators 2023

(Not Published Yet)

Topic	Indicator	Value



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