

Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown

Local Economic & Community Plan
2023 - 2028



LCDC

Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil
Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Community
Development Committee

dlr

Comhairle Contae County Council

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Forewords

An Cathaoirleach

I am delighted as Cathaoirleach to welcome this new Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028 (LECP) for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and the initial 2-year Implementation Plan to support the ambition of the Plan.

It sets out the vision for the County as a progressive and climate-resilient County that is inclusive, promotes quality of life, health and wellbeing, economic activity and employment opportunities. The Local Economic and Community Plan reflects a commitment to social inclusion and equality that are very important to me as Cathaoirleach of this Council.

The LECP presents a clear roadmap for the economic and community development of the County for the duration of the plan. I look forward to seeing the progress over the period of the Plan in delivering measurable actions towards achieving its goals. I welcome the integrated approach that builds on the strengths of our diverse communities, encourages active participation and seeks to enhance health and well-being across the County. For our local economy, the Plan sets out to encourage innovation and foster balanced, sustainable and meaningful economic development that will benefit us all.

Underpinning this are the important principles of the DLR Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 which describes the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral County. The Local Economic and

Community Plan promises to support these principles by promoting and delivering best practice in climate action, biodiversity, and the circular economy.

This Plan has been developed following significant engagement with stakeholders across the County. My thanks to all who contributed whether by filling in a survey, attending a workshop, agreeing to be interviewed or by providing a written submission. These contributions have enriched the Plan and ensure that it reflects the views, experiences and ambitions of our business and local community.

I would also like to sincerely thank all those involved in the development of the Plan, including elected members, members of the DLR LECP Advisory Steering Group, members of the Local Community Development Committee and the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee, as well as all the officials involved.



Cathaoirleach,
Councillor Jim O'Leary

Chief Executive

The Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Economic and Community Plan for 2023-2028 has been developed to guide the sustainable economic and community development of the County over the next five years. The LECP was adopted at the County Council meeting held on 8th April 2024.

This is the second LECP for the County and builds on the achievements of the previous Plan, while also allowing us to address new and changing priorities. The LECP is aligned to a range of national, regional and local DLR plans, including the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031, DLR's County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the DLR Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

The LECP sets out the vision for the County, and the goals and objectives related to economic development, supported by clearly defined actions to promote job creation, support existing businesses, and strengthen the local economy. It includes community elements such as actions to support inclusion, promote active participation and civic engagement, support good physical health and mental wellbeing and create collaborative and connected communities. The Implementation Plan of actions developed to support the LECP sets out the desired impacts that these interventions will aim to achieve by 2028.

The plan reflects the extensive consultation carried out with the public, local community and business groups and other stakeholders. Their input has been vital in ensuring that the Plan has

at its heart the priorities of those who are central to the continued development of our County.

Finally, thank you to the elected members, the LECP Advisory Steering Group, and all the staff involved in the development of the Plan. Thank you to the members of the Local Community Development Committee and the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee who drove the development of the new LECP, and who will play a central role in monitoring the progress of the LECP over its term.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council looks forward to working with the County's economic and community partner organisations and stakeholders to deliver on the goals and objectives of the LECP, and to further develop Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown as a progressive, vibrant County that is attractive, inclusive and accessible for everyone.



Chief Executive
Frank Curran

Executive Summary

Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has a strong sense of community, an innovative economy and rich and diverse natural environment. This document, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's new Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), will look to build on the success of the County and meet the needs of DLR's communities and businesses over the 2023-2028 period. As such, the LECP has been developed through consultation and engagement with the public, community groups, the private sector and various other key stakeholders from across the County to ensure that it is reflective of their needs and ambitions.

The new LECP is a shared and integrated plan that will guide the sustainable economic and community development of the County over the next number of years. It is aligned with key policies at local, regional and national level, including DLR's County Development Plan 2022 – 2028, the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031 (EMRA RSES) and the National Planning Framework. Furthermore, the LECP has been developed within the principles of sustainable development and climate action and in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Similarly, through its goals, objectives and actions, it is envisaged that the LECP will contribute to the public sector duty to end discrimination, promote equality and protect human rights.



The LECP includes the following Chapters:

Chapter 1 which outlines the context and key stages in the preparation of the plan as well as a vision for DLR as it moves towards 2028.

Chapter 2 which includes an overview of key policies and strategies at a local, regional and national level which have been taken into consideration during the development of the plan and to which the LECP is aligned.

Chapter 3 which provides a socio-economic overview of the County, covering areas such as population, climate change, housing, employment, community wellbeing and transport and infrastructure.

Chapter 4 which contains an overview of the consultation process and presents key findings from the various strands of engagement by theme.

Chapter 5 which includes a SWOT analysis outlining the County's main Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Chapter 6 which outlines the high-level goals, objectives and outcomes that cover the 2023-2028 period, developed from the findings of the analysis and consultation process.

Chapter 7 which includes the initial 2-year implementation plan detailing specific actions that will assist in achieving the high-level goals, objectives, and outcomes. The implementation plan also identifies lead and partner agencies responsible for delivery of the actions along with associated KPIs.

Chapter 8 which provides an overview of the monitoring and evaluation approach that will support accurate reporting on the progress of the LECP.

Vision

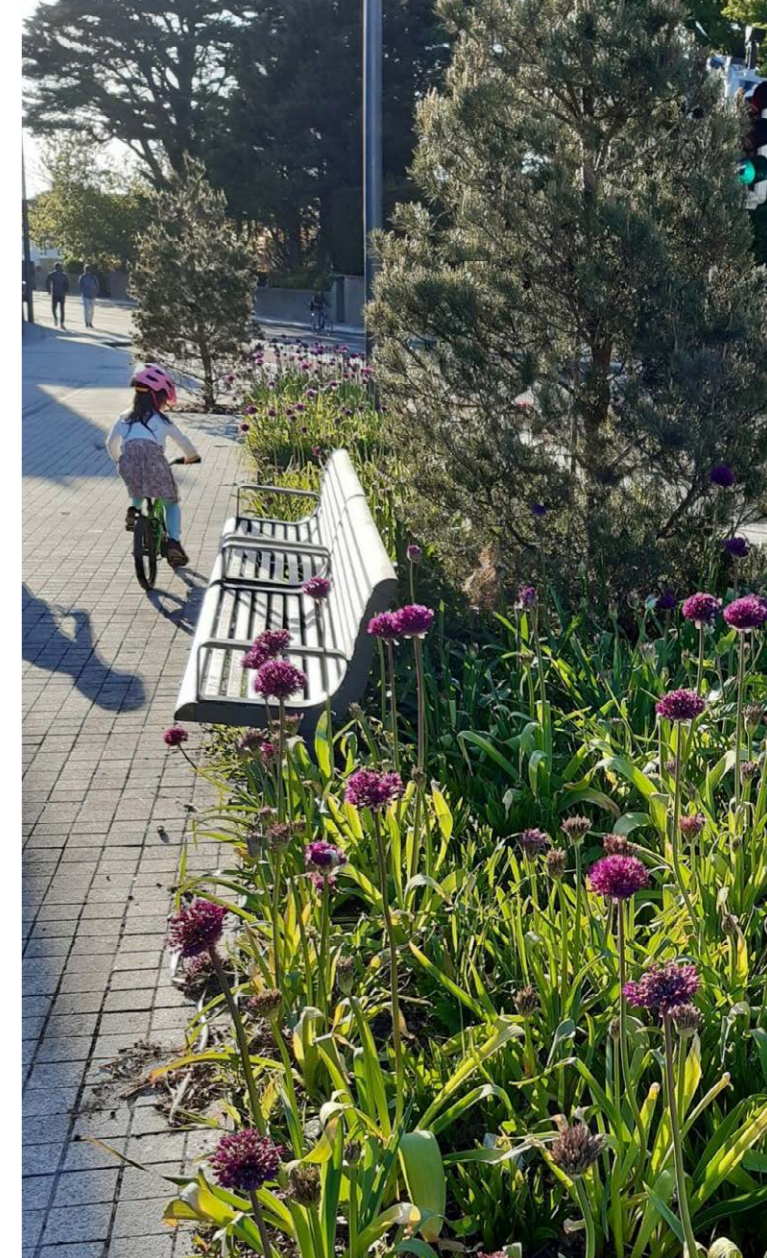
In order to frame the future of the County, a vision has been created, unifying and reflecting the various elements of the LECP including the goals, objectives and outcomes. The vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is as follows:

A progressive climate resilient County that is inclusive, promotes quality of life, health and wellbeing, economic activity and employment and builds a better future for all.

Analysis and Consultation

In the preparation of the new LECP, extensive consultation and socio-economic analysis was conducted. As noted above, the socio-economic analysis covered a number of areas including population, climate change, housing, employment, community wellbeing and transport and infrastructure. The consultation process included surveys, written submissions, workshops and interviews with a range of different stakeholders. This includes the general public, the private sector, community groups, education and training organisations and various service providers and agencies. Broadly, some of the key areas to be addressed that emerged from the analysis and consultation included:

- Driving sustainability, climate action and biodiversity initiatives to create a resilient County for current and future generations.
- Further promoting DLR as a business location, supporting existing businesses, attracting new investment and fostering an inclusive and innovative economy.
- Encouraging lifelong learning and upskilling and ensuring equal access to education and training
- Ensuring that communities across the County have access to the necessary supports, facilities, amenities and housing to live healthy and fulfilling lives, including those from marginalised and disadvantaged communities.
- Supporting arts and heritage initiatives and realising the full potential of the County's beautiful natural environment and amenities for the benefit of locals and visitors alike.
- Enhancing transport and mobility, connecting communities and revitalising DLR's towns and villages.
- Encouraging and supporting participation in the development of the County and local community and voluntary groups acknowledging their important role across DLR.



High-Level Goals and Objectives

The high-level goals and sustainable economic and community objectives for the 2023-2028 period are outlined in the table below. They have been developed from findings and insights that emerged from the socio-economic analysis and consultation process with further detail on each goal and objective as well as desired outcomes provided in Chapter 6 below. The goals and objectives are supported by a number of actions included in the initial implementation plan detailed in Chapter 7. The implementation plan will be revised after two years with the opportunity to update and include new actions to address issues that have emerged or to replace actions that have been completed or that have not progressed. As such, it is envisaged that new LECP will remain reflective and responsive to the County's need over the lifetime of the plan.



The 6 high-level goals and 19 objectives are as follows:

High-Level Goals	Objectives
<p>Goal 1 – Create a climate-resilient County by promoting and delivering best practice in climate action, biodiversity, and the circular economy</p>	<p>Objective 1.1: Implement climate action and biodiversity initiatives to support DLR's transition to a more sustainable County and protect the environment</p> <p>Objective 1.2: Raise awareness and encourage participation in sustainability initiatives across communities and businesses</p> <p>Objective 1.3: Encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport and travel</p> <p>Objective 1.4: Encourage and promote the Circular Economy in the County.</p>
<p>Goal 2 – Pursue balanced development of the local economy and enhance the business environment to build a creative, inclusive and robust economy</p>	<p>Objective 2.1: Increase collaboration and promote the County as a world class location to do business</p> <p>Objective 2.2: Attract new investment, support existing businesses and drive sustainable employment throughout the County</p> <p>Objective 2.3: Improve the business environment, encourage entrepreneurship and develop innovative clusters</p>
<p>Goal 3 – Develop pathways to employment through enhancing education and training opportunities for all</p>	<p>Objective 3.1: Encourage lifelong learning and increase the employability of the County's people</p> <p>Objective 3.2: Support disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access education and training</p> <p>Objective 3.3: Increase awareness, uptake and provision of apprenticeships and traineeships in the County</p>
<p>Goal 4 – Realise the County's potential as a sustainable tourism destination and protect and support the County's heritage and creative sector</p>	<p>Objective 4.1: Increase awareness of the County as a sustainable tourism destination</p> <p>Objective 4.2: Continue to develop and enhance the County's tourism offering</p> <p>Objective 4.3: Support and celebrate the County's rich heritage and creative sector</p>
<p>Goal 5 – Promote a healthy, inclusive and diverse County that supports good physical health and mental wellbeing across all our communities</p>	<p>Objective 5.1: Enhance equality and social inclusion across all communities</p> <p>Objective 5.2: Address poverty and deprivation where it exists</p> <p>Objective 5.3: Improve health and wellbeing across the County</p>
<p>Goal 6 – Continue to develop connected, vibrant and sustainable towns and villages and promote active participation and civic engagement within the County</p>	<p>Objective 6.1: Continue to develop a collaborative environment to deliver accommodation in the County</p> <p>Objective 6.2: Regenerate the County's towns and villages and increase connectivity and accessibility</p> <p>Objective 6.3: Support voluntary and community groups and increase community participation in the development of the County</p>

1. Introduction

This document represents Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's new Local Economic and Community plan for the 2023 – 2028 period. It has been developed in line with the requirements of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and the revised Local Economic and Community Guidelines 2021. The Plan builds on the 2016-2021 LECP and identifies goals, objectives, actions and outcomes to promote the economic and community development of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown over the next number of years.

This LECP has been prepared by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the Local Community Development Committee, and the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee. It has been developed through a consultative process that engaged a wide range of stakeholders including the public, state agencies, the private sector, service providers and community groups. The LECP sets out not only actions to be delivered by the Local Authority, but other actions that will be delivered by key partners involved in economic and community development in the County. As such, the delivery of the new LECP will require a collaborative and coordinated approach between the Local Authority and other key stakeholders with responsibility for its implementation.

In the development of the new LECP, particular consideration has been given to Climate Action, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and the public sector duty to eliminate discrimination, promote equality and protect human rights. The plan is fully aligned with other local, regional and national strategies and policies including DLR's County Development Plan (CDP) and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019-2031.



1.1 Context

As noted above, the new LECP has been developed in the context of the revised Local Economic and Community Plan Guidelines (2021). The revised guidelines introduce a change in format with the LECP now consisting of two distinct elements:

- The LECP Framework which includes the high-level goals, objectives and outcomes for 2023-2028. The goals set the high-level direction for the plan, the objectives seek to address key needs of the County and the outcomes represent the desired impact and results that the plan hopes to achieve over the lifetime of the LECP. As outlined in the LECP Guidelines, the objectives can be categorised as Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) and/or Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs).
- The Implementation Plan includes specific actions which assist in achieving the goals, objectives and outcomes of the overall plan. It also includes Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and identifies the agencies responsible for the delivery of the actions. Importantly, the Implementation Plan will be revised every two years.

This new format allows for a more flexible approach to the implementation of the LECP. It provides the Council and its partners with an opportunity to identify and replace underperforming actions as well as the ability to include new actions to address issues as they arise. As such, the LECP should remain adaptable and relevant to the County's needs over the 2023-2028 period.

Furthermore, the development of the new LECP has provided an opportunity to reflect on DLR's Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021. The previous LECP has provided a strong foundation from which to build, with significant progress made in relation to many aspects of the plan. However, the new plan has aimed to be clearer and more concise, considering lessons learned from the 2016-2021 LECP and the two-year timeframe for each iteration of the Implementation Plan. In doing so, it is hoped that this LECP will be a more efficient and effective tool to address the challenges and needs of the County over the next number of years.

1.2 Preparation of the plan

The LECP was prepared with oversight from Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown LECP Advisory Steering Group, with the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) responsible for the community elements and the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) responsible for the economic elements of the plan. Furthermore, the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly provided inputs to ensure that the LECP is consistent with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031. In contrast to the previous LECP, the community and economic elements have been prepared in an integrated manner to avoid duplication, noting the interconnected nature of community and economic wellbeing. In accordance with guidance from DRCD, the plan has been prepared through the following stages:



Preparation

The first stage saw the preparation of a socio-economic statement including an analysis of the County and draft high-level goals. This provided a baseline understanding of the County and a starting point for discussion in relation to the strategic direction of the plan.



Consultation

The second stage saw the implementation of a thorough consultation process. It included engagement with the public and other key stakeholders such as community groups, state agencies, service providers and the private sector. The engagement consisted of written submissions, surveys, workshops, and interviews.



Finalisation of the Plan

The full LECP was then drafted with inputs sought from relevant stakeholders including the Regional Assembly. Strategic Environmental Assessments and Appropriate Assessment screening reports were conducted to ensure adherence to relevant environmental regulations. Following receipt of feedback, the plan was revised and put forward for final approval. The plan was formally adopted by Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council on 8th April 2024.



Development of the Objectives, Actions and Outcomes

The third stage saw the development of the objectives, actions and outcomes using the information and insights generated from the research and consultation. Stakeholders identified as being responsible for the delivery of the actions were consulted before finalisation.

1.3 A Vision for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

A vision has been crafted for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, aimed at establishing a cohesive aspiration for the County. This vision has been shaped by insights taken from the consultation process and is in harmony with the objectives and outcomes outlined in the LECP. The vision is as follows:

A progressive climate resilient County that is inclusive, promotes quality of life, health and wellbeing, economic activity and employment and builds a better future for all.

2. Policy Context

The LECP has been informed by and is consistent with the aims and objectives of key policies and strategies at the national, regional and local level. This includes the current County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the EMRA's Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2019-2031. Noting the need to address the climate crisis, it has also been developed in the context of the principles of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A summary list of relevant policy documents to which the LECP has aligned includes:

From the existing policies and strategies, a number of recurring and common priorities relating to the objectives and aims of existing policy have been identified. These priorities have been taken into account during the development of the LECP to ensure that the plan aligns, complements and supports local, regional and national objectives and aims. This includes the following:

LEVEL	POLICY
International	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
	Climate Action Plan 2024
	National Volunteering Strategy 2021 - 2025
National	Our Rural Future - Rural Development Policy 2021 - 2025
	Project Ireland 2040: National Development Plan 2021 - 2030
	Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (2018)
	Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities 2019 - 2024
	Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024
Regional	Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2019 - 2031
	Town Centre First: A Policy Approach for Irish Towns (2022)
	Ballyogan & Environs Local Area Plan 2019-2025
	DLR Age Friendly Strategy 2022 - 2026
	DLR Climate Change Action Plan 2024 - 2029
	DLR County Biodiversity Action Plan 2021 - 2025
	DLR County Council Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024
	DLR County Development Plan 2022 - 2028
	DLR County Heritage Plan 2021 - 2025
	DLR County Sports Participation Strategy 2018-2022
	DLR Culture & Creativity Strategy 2023 - 2027
	DLR Digital Strategy 2021 - 2024
	DLR Healthy County Plan 2019-2022
	DLR Library Development Plan 2022 - 2026
	DLR Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 - 2021
	DLR Play Policy 2023-2028
	DLR PPN Vision for Community Wellbeing Statement 2022
	DLR Tourism Strategy and Marketing Plan 2017 - 2022
	DLR Tree Strategy - a Climate for Trees - 2024-2030
	Dundrum Local Area Plan 2023
	Stillorgan Local Area Plan 2018 - 2024

Community

- Enhancing inclusion, well-being and health across the community, including in areas of disadvantage or relative deprivation which may need more support.
- Ensuring equitable access to essential services and an ample housing supply throughout the County.
- Encouraging and supporting active participation in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's arts, culture, and creative sectors.
- Prioritising the revitalisation of DLR's towns and villages by fostering resilient and thriving communities.
- Advancing the County's sustainability by safeguarding the environment and implementing initiatives to address climate change.

Economic

- Promoting balanced, sustainable and meaningful economic growth supported by the necessary services and infrastructure to ensure the County's continued prosperity.
- Fostering an innovative business environment and supporting existing businesses and SMEs as well as attracting new investment to the County.
- Developing a skilled workforce that aligns with private sector needs, increases employment and ensures that the County remains a competitive business location.
- Embracing technology, not only in the private sector, but throughout the entire community to drive economic and community development.

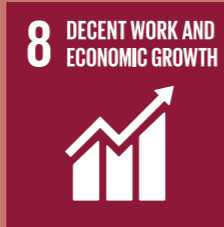
A short summary of some of the key overarching policies at international, national, regional and the local level is provided in the following pages.

2.1 UN Sustainable Development Goals

The UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice and tackle climate change by 2030. The SDGs are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand in-hand with strategies that lead to sustained, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and address a range of social needs, including education, health, social protection and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

The SDGs provide a critical framework for community development as they reflect the social justice, economic justice and environmental justice concerns of community work and community workers, and designate the processes of participation, empowerment and collective action required to achieve change.

Although all 17 SDGs hold significance for every nation and community, we have chosen several below to emphasize their alignment with the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) as a whole and the future trajectory of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. The Implementation Plan sets out the clear alignment of actions in the LECP with the relevant SDGs.



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
 – This SDG seeks to promote and support the development of sustainable, inclusive economic growth and the generation of fulfilling employment opportunities for all. It has clear alignment with a number of the goals and objectives of the LECP and will be an area of key focus in the economic elements of the plan over the next number of years.



Sustainable Cities and Communities – A pivotal aspect of this SDG is the creation of sustainable urban and rural areas characterised by thriving, secure, inclusive, and resilient communities. This aligns well with existing national spatial planning policies in Ireland, as well as Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's County Development Plan. Moreover, this SDG seeks to ensure access to quality services and to foster positive connections between the environment, the economy, and the community, which is also embedded in the overarching goals and objectives of the LECP.



Climate Action – The repercussions of climate change and the ongoing biodiversity crisis are being acutely felt in communities across Ireland and globally. Effective climate action and other initiatives aimed at conserving and safeguarding the natural environment are paramount in mitigating the impacts of climate change and preserving the environment for future generations. This SDG aligns with key national and local policies and is also strongly reflected in the LECP.

2.2 Climate Action Plan 2024

Ireland's Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2024 builds upon the Climate Action Plan for 2023 by reviewing the actions needed to deliver carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings. The Plan provides a roadmap for taking decisive action to halve Ireland's emissions by 2030 and reach net zero by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. In the new Plan, several current and future climate needs are outlined:

- Rapid and significant reductions in GHG emissions are required if we are to meet the 2015 Paris Agreement Goals.
- While the benefits of transitioning to a low carbon economy are increasingly being recognised, action to reduce emissions must be significantly accelerated in the period to 2030.
- Ireland must act now to secure an economy-wide low carbon future for all its citizens.

Given these needs, action is being taken by dlrcoco within its statutory plans to achieve the needs outlined within the CAP 2024. The DLR County Development Plan 2022-2028 illustrates the county's climate-first approach to spatial planning through Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.



2.3 National Planning Framework 2018

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a high-level strategy that aims to shape growth and development in Ireland out to the year 2040. The NPF draws upon lessons learned from the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2022 and provides a framework for the sustainable development of Ireland's existing settlements, as an alternative to an uncoordinated approach to development. The Strategy also contains a range of National Strategic Outcomes (NSOs) providing a wider context for targeting future growth across the country.

Specific growth priorities for the Dublin Metropolitan Area are outlined within the NPF. Housing affordability, connectivity through transport and availability of quality services are the key priorities for both Dublin City and the Metropolitan Area. Particular emphasis is on the delivery of these priorities within the built-up area inside the M50, such as the Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone.

2.4 Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2019 – 2031

The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Region serves as a comprehensive blueprint for creating a vibrant region with essential infrastructure to assist in encouraging investment and unlocking economic opportunities. It aligns with the National Planning Framework (NPF) by prioritising sustainable development patterns and aims to channel growth towards established urban areas and regional growth hubs.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is strategically positioned in both the Dublin City & Suburbs and Metropolitan Areas. In these areas, the primary focus is on consolidating and intensifying infill and brownfield sites for development. Several areas within the county are along the RSES-identified North-South Corridor, such as Woodbrook-Shankill and Old Connaught. These areas are identified as areas for both residential and economic development. Additionally, settlements such as Dún Laoghaire, Dundrum, and Cherrywood are designated as hubs for enterprise development and innovation in the region. In particular, Cherrywood's designation as a Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) and its location along the Metrolink/LUAS Greenline Corridor places added importance for its role as a centre for new residential and economic development. Ballyogan and Kilternan-Glenamuck hold similar roles for their potential to host the growth of new residential communities and mixed-use development along the Metrolink/LUAS Greenline Corridor, as well as lands at Old Connaught which hold similar residential development potential.

The county has significant retail importance within the RSES. As outlined within the RSES, Dún Laoghaire and Dundrum are identified as Level 2 [Major Town Centres and County (Principal) Town Centres], and Stillorgan, Blackrock, Cornelscourt, Nutgrove and Cherrywood as Level 3 [Town and/or District Centres and Sub-County Town Centres (Key Service Centres)] within the retail hierarchy.

2.5 Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022 – 2028

The DLR County Development Plan (CDP) provides an overarching strategy to guide the responsible and sustainable planning and development of the County from 2022-2028. The CDP is fully aligned with both the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES). It emphasises sustainability as its central tenet, with a specific focus on fostering dynamic, liveable, and climate-resilient communities.

The current iteration of the CDP gives specific regard to climate action and its role in shaping the future of the County's development, a slight divergence from the previous iteration of the Plan. Shifting primary focus away from enterprise and employment, initiatives relating to climate action heavily influence the goals and objectives of the current CDP, such as energy efficiency, climate resilience, and compact and connected growth among others. By giving priority to objectives centred around sustainability and climate action, the CPD aims to create a County which is socially and economically attractive, liveable and vibrant.

2.6 Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown PPN Vision for Community Wellbeing Statement 2022

The DLR PPN Vision for Community Wellbeing Statement aims to provide guidance to its members on how to achieve community wellbeing, both within community and voluntary groups and the people they serve. The vision statement is structured by PPN Ireland's six wellbeing headings:

The current iteration of the CDP gives specific regard to climate action and its role in shaping the future of the County's development, a slight divergence from the previous iteration of the Plan. Shifting primary focus away from enterprise and employment, initiatives relating to climate action heavily influence the goals and objectives of the current CDP, such as energy efficiency, climate resilience, and compact and connected growth among others. By giving priority to objectives centred around sustainability and climate action, the CPD aims to create a County which is socially and economically attractive, liveable and vibrant.

1. Values, Culture and Meaning

2. Environment and Sustainability

3. Health – Physical and Mental

4. Work, Economy and Resources

5. Social and Community Development

6. Participation, Democracy and Good Governance

At the heart of the PPN vision statement is an emphasis on adopting an inclusive model of democracy. The basis for using this model is to ensure active participation by groups and people of all ages and background in achieving community wellbeing across the County.



3. Overview of the County

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County (DLR) is located between the outer suburbs of Dublin City and the Dublin Mountains. The County covers the electoral areas of Blackrock, Dundrum, Dún Laoghaire, Glencullen-Sandyford, Killiney-Shankill and Stillorgan. Although the majority of the population in the County is urban, there are three designated rural electoral divisions – Glencullen, Tibbradden, and Shankill-Rathmichael. A new town, the biggest urban infrastructure in the country is being built at Cherrywood, which will have a population of 25,000 people.

Centres for employment in the County include Blackrock, Dún Laoghaire, Dundrum, Stillorgan, Cherrywood and Sandyford Business District, with major employers including international IT and pharmaceutical companies, as well as financial and service industries. DLR is also home to excellent educational facilities with UCD and IADT providing third level education in the County to thousands of students each year.

This Chapter provides a summary overview of the County based on available data identified from the CSO, Pobal and other relevant and reliable sources. Key highlights are outlined below covering population; housing; employment, economy & enterprise; community wellbeing; deprivation, poverty & social exclusion; transport & infrastructure; and climate change & energy.

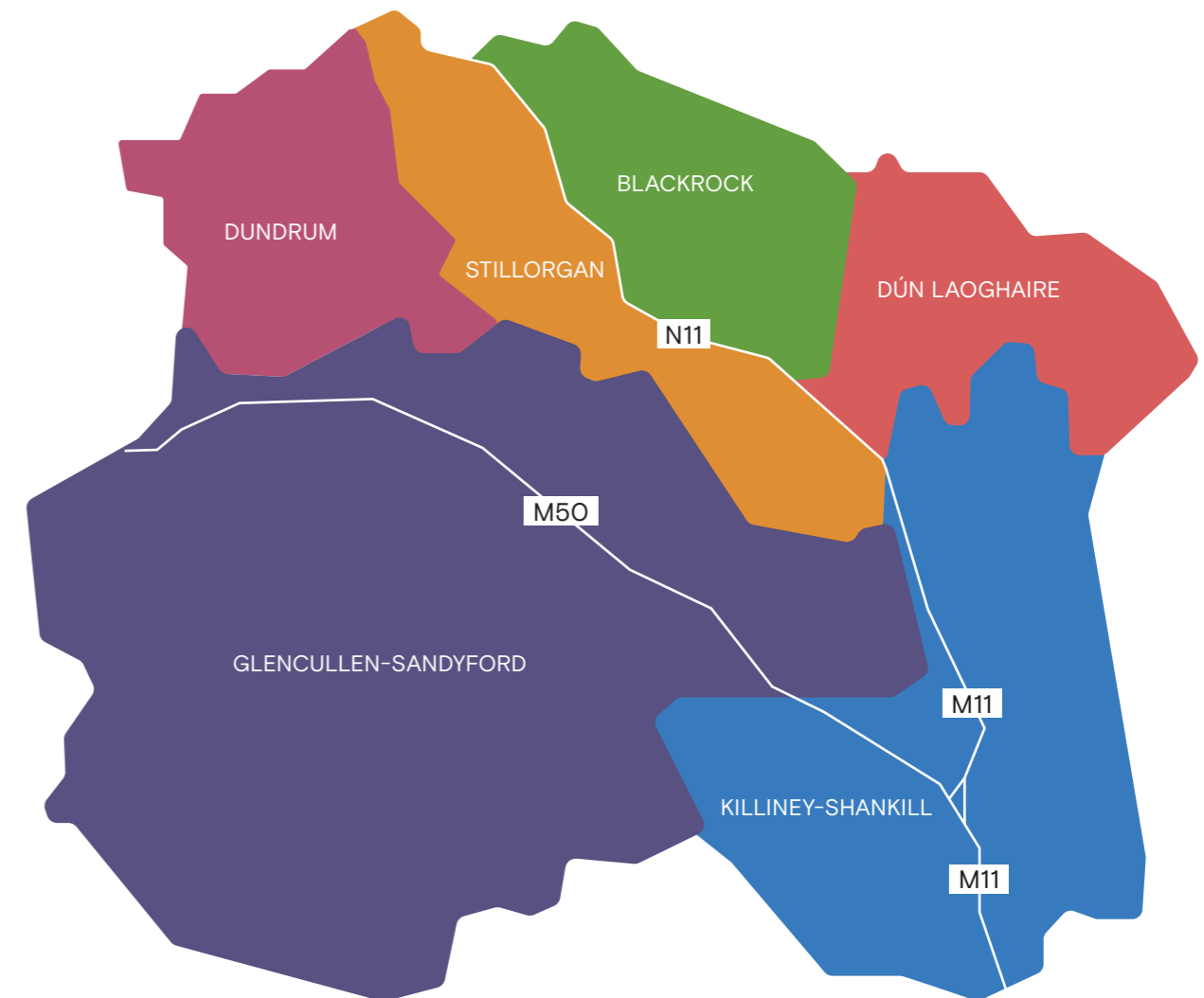


FIGURE 1: DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN ELECTORAL AREAS

3.1 Population

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has a growing and increasingly diverse population. The County's population is expected to continue to grow in the medium term.

- DLR is a growing County. According to the 2022 Census, DLR has a population of 233,860, up 15,842 from the 218,018 people who lived in the County in 2016.
- Population growth in DLR for the period 2016 to 2022 was 7.3% and this was broadly in line with that of the State at 8.1%.
- The location of population growth across the County between 2016 and 2022 was spatially uneven – with some areas growing significantly while other areas experienced population decline. The Electoral Divisions which realised population growth included both new residential growth areas such as Ballyogan and Environs and existing built-up areas such as Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire. Other Electoral Divisions experienced population decline including, for example, at Ballinteer, Ballybrack and Sandycove (Census 2022).
- DLR has experienced sustained population growth of c. 1.2% per annum through each of the last three intercensal periods (2006-2011, 2011-2016 and 2016-2022), comprising a c. 20% increase in total County population in the last 16 years.
- Recent population growth in DLR has been supported by high levels of inward migration (Census 2011 and 2016). Data from Census 2022 indicates a continuation of this trend.
- The National Planning Framework and EMRA Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy indicate continued population growth in DLR over the medium term (EMRA RSES).

- In 2022, the population of DLR was 52% female and 48% male (Census 2022).
- At 31% (72,777 persons), the proportion of the population in DLR comprising Children and Young People (0 to 24 years) was broadly in line with the State. Between 2016 and 2022, DLR experienced an increase of 4% in the population aged 0-24 (Census 2022).
- At 17% (39,918 persons), DLR has a higher proportion of population aged 65 years and over when compared to the State (15%). The rate of growth in population aged 65 years and over in DLR through the 2016-2022 period was, however, at 15%, lower than the 22% growth experienced at the national level. (Census 2016).
- DLR has an age dependency ratio¹ of 54% (Census 2022).
- The young dependency ratio² in the County, which stood at almost 28% in 2022, is projected to decrease to a young dependency ratio of c. 27% in 2031 and fall significantly further to c. 22% in 2040. In contrast old dependency³ in DLR is projected to continually increase. In 2022, the old dependency rate was 26.3%.
- DLR has an increasingly diverse population. The majority of the County's residents are Irish (83.4%). Other nationalities include British (1.6%), Polish (0.9%), other EU (4.3%), rest of the world (6%) (Census 2016). Since the latter part of 2022, conflict-affected Ukrainians have been accommodated in the County.
- 0.2% (429 persons) of the population in DLR are travellers. Across the State, Travellers comprise 0.6% of the population (Census 2022)



“Between 2016 and 2022, DLR experienced an increase of 4% in the population aged 0-24.”

1 - The age dependency ratio of a population is the sum of the young (0-14) and old (65+) as a percentage of the working age population (aged 15-64)
 2 - The young dependency ratio is the number of young people aged 0 -14 as a percentage of the population of working age.
 3 - The old dependency ratio is the number of people aged 65 and over as a percentage of the population of working age.

3.2 Climate Change & Energy

- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council adopted its new Climate Action Plan in 2024. The Plan covers the period 2024-2029 and seeks to address the current and future impacts of climate change on its residents, visitors, businesses, workers and the County as a whole. The plan features a range of actions across six thematic areas: Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature-Based Solutions, Circular Economy and Resource Management and Community Engagement. The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 sets in legislation a national target of a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030, with net-zero emissions to be achieved no later than 2050.
- The Council fulfils an exemplary role with respect to energy efficiency, including through their energy management practices.
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has 17km of coastline - the recorded average sea level rise in Dublin Bay for the period between 2000 and 2016 is 6-7mm per year (Climate Change Action Plan Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 2019-2024).
- The County faces significant flood risk, particularly along its coast where it is at risk of tidal flooding. Inland, it faces fluvial flood risk along the River Dodder and its many tributaries (Climate Change Action Plan Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 2019-2024).
- Total emissions for the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area amounted to 1,139,570 tonnes of CO₂-eq in 2016 (Codema, 2016).
- The sectors that produced the most emissions were the residential, transport and commercial sectors, accounting for 43.5%, 33.1% and 18.5% of total emissions respectively (Climate Change Action Plan Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 2019-2024).

- The County's residents produce 132 tonnes of household waste per capita per annum, which is significantly lower than that national average of 152 tonnes (Environmental Protection Agency, 2020).
- Residents in DLR recycle more per capita than the average, producing 63 tonnes per capita per annum in green bin waste, compared to a state average of 56 tonnes (EPA, 2020, from E & C Monitor).
- 83% of the public lighting in the County was LED by the end of 2022 (Annual Progress Report 2022 for Climate Change Action Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council 2019-2024).
- The Council has signed up to the European Circular Cities Declaration, being the first local authority in Ireland to do so. This is a commitment from cities and regions across Europe to enhance efforts to transition from a linear to a circular economy.
- Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has selected the Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock areas as a new Decarbonising Zone (DZ). The development of a DZ is a local authority action of the national Climate Action Plan 2021. This zone is set to become the focus for a range of climate action measures (such as the identification of projects and outcomes) that will contribute to achieving national climate targets.
- There are currently 27 Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) in DLR. These communities participate in the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) programme to become more energy-efficient, use renewable energy and consider smart energy solutions. CODEMA, Dublin's Energy Agency, are the regional coordinator for the Dublin and Mid-East region.
- The Green Business Section and the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) continue to engage with businesses across the County in programmes such as EcoMerit, MODOS and Green for Business.



“The Council has signed up to the European Circular Cities Declaration”

3.3 Households, Families & Housing

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has the highest rate of home ownership in Co. Dublin and has experienced a significant increase in housing construction, particularly in the delivery of apartments. 2022 will have the highest number of residential completions recorded in DLR in over a decade.

- DLR has a housing stock of 93,257 homes. Between 2016 and 2022 the housing stock in DLR increased by approximately 7,000 homes, or an average of approx. 1,200 per year. This comprised an increase of 8.4% in the total housing stock in the County, which was well above the comparative figure for the State which stood at 6% (Census 2022).
- There are 85,110 households in DLR. The average household size in DLR in 2022 was 2.71, and this was broadly the same as that of the State at 2.74 (Census 2022).
- In 2022, married couples with children comprised the largest number of households in DLR (26,259 households).
- In DLR, the number of families increased by 6% to 59,431.
- There were 39,186 family units with children in DLR in 2022, an increase of 4.6% since 2016. The average number of children per family was 1.24, which is lower than the national average of 1.34 (Census 2022).
- Of those families with children, 72% were married couples with 6% being cohabiting couples (Census 2022).
- Of the 8,476 families headed by a single parent, 85% were headed by a female (Census 2022).
- In 2022, 14.5% of families in DLR were categorised as 'Retired', which was above the State figure of 12% (Census 2022).
- In DLR there were 567 same-sex couples compared with 363 in 2016. This represented an increase of 56%. Nationally, there was an increase of 72% since 2016 (Census 2016, 2022).
- 3,652 households are on the Social Housing Waiting List for the County as of December 2023 (Housing Dept., Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council).
- In 2022, 68% of households in DLR were owner occupied. This compares to 69% in 2016. DLR's rate of home ownership continued to be higher than the rates of the State (66%). In 2022, 29% of households in DLR were owner occupied with a mortgage, while 39% were owner occupied with no mortgage (Census 2016, 2022).
- In Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown 28% were in rented accommodation in 2022 (Census 2022).
- In 2022, 21% of households were renting from a private landlord, up from 20% in 2016 (Census 2016, 2022).
- In Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, 13% of all those aged 18 and over (23,259 people) were living with their parents. This is similar to the State average and was up 2% since 2016 (Census 2022).
- There has been a significant increase in housing construction in DLR and an increasing trend towards the delivery of apartments. There were 2,709 residential completions in DLR in 2022, which was an increase on the figure of 1,367 residential completions in DLR in 2021 (CSO). Completions have continued to increase significantly in 2023, with over 2,325 new homes completed in the first three quarters of the year (CSO).
- The significant increase in completion transpires into the number under construction falling, however overall completions and construction are resulting in a robust pipeline of housing supply for the next 2-3 years.
- There are a total of 85 families living in Traveller Specific Accommodation in the County (Traveller Accommodation Plan 2019-2024).



3.4 Employment, Economy, and Enterprise

The socio-economic profile of the County reflects both a well-educated and highly skilled resident workforce. Over 90% of leaving certificate students typically progress to third level education and the County has the lowest unemployment rate in the country. However, the County also has a low workforce participation rate, reflecting the higher proportion of retired people and students residing in the County.



— Data from Census 2022 shows there were approximately 106,548 people resident in DLR who were at work, an increase of 11% from 95,925 in 2016 (Census 2022).

— Census 2022 data indicates that at 59%, DLR has a relatively low labour force participation rate. This reflects the higher proportion of people in the retired age cohorts and the large student population in the County (Census 2022).

— Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had the joint lowest unemployment rate nationally at 6%, and the joint lowest long-term unemployment rate at 3%. This continues a trend evident since the 2011 Census of falling unemployment rates in the County (Census 2011, 2016, 2022).

— Over 7,700 people in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had finished at primary level or had no formal education (5%), down from over 9,100 in 2016 (Census 2022).

— The average age at which people completed their full-time education in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown was 22.5 years, up from 21.7 years in 2016. Nationally, the average age increased from 19.9 years to 20.8 years (Census 2016, 2022).

— 65% of the population aged 15 years and over in DLR have completed some form of third level education (Census 2022).

— 91.6% of leaving cert students progressed to third level studies according to the 2016 Census. This is significantly higher than the other Dublin local authorities (Census 2016, latest available).

— DLR contains several third level and further education institutions, including UCD with c. 30,000 students, IADT with c. 2,500 students, the Smurfit Business School, Further Education Institutes and the Irish Management Institute

— At 34%, DLR had a significantly higher proportion of residents employed in Professional Occupations compared to 20% across the State. DLR has a lower proportion of Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations at 5%, compared to a national figure of 7% (Census 2022).

— DLR continues to have a high proportion of residents classified as Employers and Managers (20% in 2022).

— The occupational composition of the County is characterised by a significant number of residents employed in the knowledge economy and high-value growth sectors. In 2016, there were 11,232 DLR residents employed in Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities, followed by 10,934 DLR residents employed in Financial and Insurance Activities. The largest growth sectors between 2011 and 2016 were the Information and Communication sector, which saw an additional 2,108 DLR residents working in this profession, followed by Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities, which saw an increase of 1,785 workers. (Census 2016).

— 57% of DLR residents worked from home at least some of the time. This was the highest rate in the State, and significantly above the average of 32% (Census 2022).

— At the end of 2022, DLR had 333 Enterprise Ireland-supported companies. The majority of these companies (accounting for 70% of employee numbers) operate in the Digital Technologies, Fintech/Financial & Business Services and Hi-Tech Construction & Housing sectors. These Enterprise Ireland-supported companies provide 15,501 jobs.

— There are 63 IDA client companies located in the County, operating primarily in the financial services, software, ICT, and medical devices sectors. These companies represent significant foreign direct investment in DLR.

— DLR has an emerging social enterprise sector, and work is currently underway on the development of a Social Enterprise Strategy for the County.

— Dún Laoghaire Harbour welcomed over 90 cruise ships in 2023.

— 78,207 households have internet access and 3,150 (a drop of over 50% compared to 2016) do not have internet access (Census 2016, 2022).



3.5 Community Wellbeing

The County with its supportive environment and a range of inclusive facilities, programmes and initiatives aims to promote support for positive wellbeing outcomes for all in our communities.

- Services such as the Arts; the Library Service; Community Development and Social Inclusion; Parks, Biodiversity, Heritage, Sports Development & Partnership and Active Cities Dublin are aimed at supporting community development and driving quality of life and wellbeing for all.
- The Estate Management Programme is working in partnership in 12 areas, to progress actions to improve the local environ.

- The DLR Social Prescribing Programme for Health and Wellbeing was established in early 2019. A social prescribing programme connects people with activities and services in the local community to support with wellbeing and social connectedness. The programme accepts referrals from participating Health professionals (including GPs, Primary Care and local hospitals) as well as self-referrals.
- DLR has one of the highest rates of participation in sport and physical activity of any local authority in Ireland (Irish Sports Monitor 2017).
- Older age groups are less likely to take part in sport and exercise, with 38% of those aged 65 years indicating a need for increased participation of older people in physical activity. This compares to 73% among those aged between 16 and 24 (source as above).

- 88% of the population of DLR report their health as being “good” or “very good” (Census 2022).
- DLR has 191 playing pitches, including soccer, GAA, rugby and cricket grounds.
- The County has 63 parks, including 13 major/flagship parks. It is estimated that 80% of households in DLR are within 600 metres of a park (Age Friendly Strategy & Healthy County Plan 2019-2022).
- 49,999 people (21%) in DLR have a disability. This is slightly lower than the average nationally of 22% (2022 Census).
- 13,610 carers provide regular help in DLR (Census 2022).

- At the end of December 2023, the DLR Public Participation Network (PPN) had 600 active member organisations, an increase of 61 on 2022. This includes 472 Community & Voluntary, 110 Social Inclusion and 18 Environment groups.
- The DLR PPN concluded the dlr Vision for Community Wellbeing Statement in 2022 following extensive consultation.

3.6 Deprivation, Poverty and Social Exclusion

DLR is a County of contrasts, with areas of both affluence and disadvantage.

- In 2019, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown recorded the highest median household income in the State at €71,206, more than double that of the lowest (Donegal recorded a median household income of €34,655). Median household income in DLR was 12.5% higher than Fingal, which had the second highest level in the State. It is noted, however, that household income in DLR is not distributed evenly across the County. In 2016, 11 Electoral Divisions recorded a gross median household income less than €50,000, while 7 Electoral Divisions recorded a gross median household income greater than €85,000 (CSO).
- DLR includes areas of high socio-economic deprivation. Thirty-three of the 760 Small Areas⁴ in DLR are classified as disadvantaged or very disadvantaged. This accounts for 10,289 people, or 4.7% of the total population. In these areas, unemployment level is 21.4%. Twenty-eight per cent of the population aged 15+ has had education to primary level only, 44.3% are living in social housing and the lone parent ratio 42.4%. (Pobal Index).
- Members of the Traveller community have poorer health than the rest of the population (All Ireland Traveller Health Study, 2010) and face barriers in accessing education, training, employment, and health services. In 2022, there were 429 Irish Travellers living in DLR.
- In DLR, the weekly cost of full-time childcare is the highest in the country at €244 per week. There are significant variations within the County however: the highest weekly full-time fee was €324.35, with the lowest €134 (Pobal Annual Early Years Sector Profile Report 2020/2021).

- DLR has a relatively low proportion of community childcare services at 13%, with 87% provided by private operators (Pobal Annual Early Years Sector Profile Report 2020/2021).
- Since 2015, the social inclusion programme, SICAP, has delivered support to build stronger communities in disadvantaged communities and to provide support for disadvantaged individuals. The SICAP programme is making an ongoing contribution to the local community responses to people arriving from Ukraine into the County from March 2022. The SICAP programme 2024-2028 is structured over two goals:
 - **Goal 1:** Contribute to Building more Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities: Empower groups of individuals, local community groups, networks and social enterprises to address collective community needs.
 - **Goal 2:** Empower Disadvantaged people to Improve the Quality of Their Lives: Support disadvantaged individuals, children and families to progress their formal education and participate in lifelong learning, to progress into employment/ self-employment, and to improve their soft skills and wellbeing.
- The Festival of Inclusion was held in 2023 with the overall theme of promoting belonging in the County, with 60 events throughout the County being organised by the Council with a wide range of community/voluntary groups.



4 - Small areas are a sub-division of the Electoral Division administrative unit. Census Small Area (CSA) generally cover 65-90 households. (Census 2016)

3.7 Transport and Infrastructure

DLR is a well-connected County, with an extensive network of active travel and public transport routes.

- DLR has a growing network of active travel infrastructure.
- DLR is well served by public transportation with the DART and Luas, as well as a number of bus routes providing links to Dublin city centre. It also has a good network of road transport links, including the M50, M11 and N11.
- In Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, half of the 86,000 daily commuters drove to work by car. Over 13,000 used a train/DART/Luas while almost 7,900 went by bus. Commuters in the county were the most likely to use the train, at 15%. In terms of active travel, nearly 6,900 people walked to work while just under 6,400 people cycled (Census 2022).
- The average distance travelled to work by residents of DLR was 9km. Nationally, the average commute was 16.8km, and the lowest in the Dublin region was in Dublin City where residents commuted an average of 6km (Census 2022).
- The average journey time to work increased from 30.6 minutes in 2016 to 30.8 minutes in 2022 (Census 2016, 2022).
- Of the almost 23,600 primary school aged children (5 to 12 years old) travelling to school in DLR, nearly 11,200 went by car. Walking was the second most common means of travel at over 8,500 children. More than 1,600 children cycled, while almost 800 used a bus. Just under 400 went by train, DART or Luas. There were just over 15,900 children (aged 13 to 18) travelling to secondary school, including almost 5,500 who went by car. Nearly 2,800 went by bus while just over 2,300 went by train, DART or Luas. More than 1,500 cycled, while just over 3,000 walked (Census 2022).
- There were almost 12,800 third-level students commuting from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, including almost 3,600 who were travelling by bus. Just over 2,600 walked. More than 2,500 students travelled by train, DART or Luas, while almost 1,900 students drove. There were almost 1,200 students who cycled (Census 2022).



“In Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, half of the 86,000 daily commuters drove to work by car. Over 13,000 used a train/DART/Luas while almost 7,900 went by bus.

4. Consultation

The preparation of the new LECP has involved extensive consultation with a range of stakeholders from across the County. It has included engagement with community and voluntary groups, the DLR PPN, local business representatives, elected members and officials, education and training providers and the public. The consultation sought to encourage inclusive participation in the development of the County and provide an opportunity for all interested parties to voice their views. In doing so, the consultation process aimed to identify needs and gaps to be addressed as well as specific ideas and actions for potential inclusion in the new LECP.

Findings from the consultation process were used to revise the draft high-level goals and have also contributed to the development of the objectives, outcomes and actions outlined in Chapters 6 and 7 below. As such, the consultation process played a pivotal role in the development of the plan and continued engagement with key stakeholders and the public will be key to ensuring its successful implementation in the coming years. This Chapter details the approach and various elements of the consultation process along with an overview of some of the key findings organised by theme.



4.1 Consultation Approach overview

A connected County, with sustainable transport that links our communities and businesses

21%

A Greener County, where our natural beauty and cultural heritage is championed

16%

An Inclusive County, which welcomes the young and old from near and afar

36%

A Thriving County, a place where people want to live, work and visit

27%

FIGURE 2: COMMUNITY SURVEY – VISION FOR DLR

The formal consultation process spanned from April to July 2023. There were a number of elements to the process including online surveys, stakeholder interviews, workshops and written submissions. The consultation was promoted through the Council’s website and social media channels, and circulated to relevant stakeholder networks to generate interest, engagement, and attendance.

Further supplementary consultation also took place during the development of the objectives, outcomes, and actions to ensure alignment and buy-in from stakeholders who would be responsible for the delivery of specific actions. The below outlines a summary of the consultation approach:



Online Surveys - 2 online surveys were available for completion during the consultation; one for the community and the other for businesses. The surveys received a total of 174 responses, with 114 responses from the community survey and 60 responses from the business survey. The surveys sought views from the community and the private sector in relation to a number of different areas including climate change, the business environment, and community needs as well as the County’s key strengths and constraints. Hardcopy versions of the surveys which could be posted to the Council were also available on request.



Workshops - 8 workshops were conducted between April – May 2023. The workshops included 2 community workshops, a business workshop, a PPN social inclusion workshop, a workshop for elected representatives, a workshop for key committees (LCDC, SPC, ASG) and 2 workshops with Council staff. The workshops were focused on generating ideas and needs relating to the then draft high-level goals.



Stakeholder Interviews - 10 stakeholder interviews were conducted during April – July 2023. The interviews included representatives from the public and private sector who had in-depth knowledge of Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown and specific insights into needs and issues that could be addressed by the LECP.



Socio-Economic Statement and Written Submissions - The Socio-Economic Statement, which included an overview of the County (socio-economic analysis) and draft high-level goals, was published on the Council’s website to generate discussion and participation in the consultation. Written submissions were accepted throughout April and May 2023, with 11 submissions received from variety of organisations and individuals including from community groups, the private sector and public sector.

4.2 Themes from the Consultation

CLIMATE ACTION

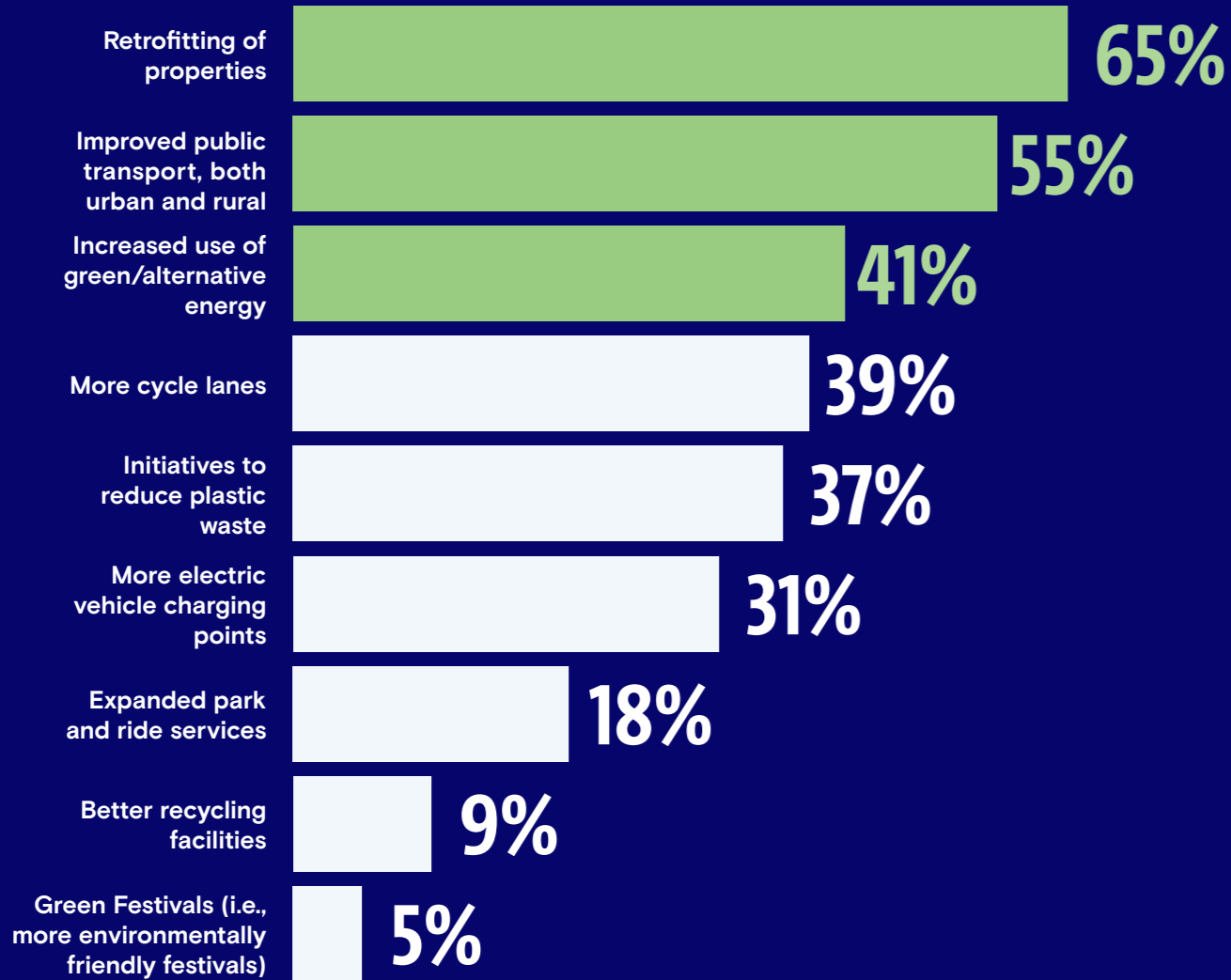


FIGURE 3: COMMUNITY SURVEY - GREEN INITIATIVES FOR DLR



Climate action was a key topic of discussion among stakeholders across all consultation strands. Further developing and raising awareness of accessible community-based climate action projects to enhance community involvement was felt to be important. Ideas included expanding the roll-out of plastic bottle return and recycle schemes in supermarkets and the development of a community climate action programmes to provide information and training.

Enhancing sustainability in the private sector was also noted as an area that should be addressed. It was highlighted that smaller businesses may need more support in this regard and the benefits of “going green” should be further promoted. Similarly, a recurring point made throughout the consultation was around the need to enhance the availability and knowledge of existing grants that can assist business to become more sustainable.

In relation to renewable energy, the potential economic, environmental and community benefits relating to the development of offshore wind farms at Kish Bank was highlighted. It was noted that the Kish Bank development could support the creation of a substantial number of jobs and contribute to a reduction in emissions through the energy that wind farms would generate. Although more of a national policy issue, it was also highlighted that in relation to solar energy, there are currently no grants available for the majority of businesses to install solar panels. In general, it was felt that the use of renewable energy across the community and private sector should be increased.

Improving the energy efficiency of the County’s building stock was also considered important, with opportunities to retrofit the County’s commercial and residential building stock being seen as a significant catalyst towards making the County more sustainable. It was felt that these opportunities could also lead to job creation and that it was important to ensure that the necessary skills and talent base were in place to meet demand.

TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

- Enhancing mobility across the County, particularly from east-to-west, was a recurring theme during consultation. The importance of supporting and encouraging more sustainable modes of travel was emphasised, including in relation to public transport and cycling and walking infrastructure. It was noted that this would not only enhance mobility in the County but also has the potential to reduce emissions and contribute to a healthy community.
- The need to ensure that travel and transport in the County is accessible to all, including for those with mobility issues or disabilities, was also highlighted. Furthermore, it was emphasised that the introduction of more cycle paths and walking infrastructure, while welcomed, should not affect the accessibility of areas for those with mobility issues or disabilities.
- Transportation was also seen as an enabling tool for better access to essential services throughout the County. The consultation findings underscore the integral role of transportation in connecting residents to vital services like healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND WELLBEING

- Ensuring that supports and services are in place and accessible to all those that need them, including for those from marginalised and vulnerable backgrounds, was seen to be highly important. This was particularly important given the growing population and increase of refugees stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Similarly, it was felt that there could be greater coordination and collaboration across stakeholders in relation to the delivery of services and programmes for the community.
- While it was noted that DLR was one of the most affluent local authority areas in the Country, it was highlighted that there are areas of deprivation which need continuing support. The consultation revealed a strong consensus on providing support for disadvantaged families. A number of ideas were put forward to contribute to healthy outcomes including in relation to nutrition and physical activity.
- The need to create more inclusive employment opportunities for all the community was also highlighted. This included opportunities for those that may not have completed formal education, those from marginalised and vulnerable backgrounds, single parents, and those living with a disability. By dismantling barriers and fostering a more accessible workforce, the County can realise the potential of all the community, while enhancing both economic and social inclusion.
- Sport and physical activity were seen to be an important contributor to community health and wellbeing. It was felt that initiatives to enhance participation should be continued and that all sports and recreational activities should be accessible and inclusive of all the community.
- Consultation findings also emphasised the importance of providing outlets for the County's young population that extend beyond sporting activities. Respondents expressed a desire for a wider range of recreational, educational, and artistic opportunities to engage and empower DLR's younger population.
- DLR's strong culture of volunteering was highlighted during the consultation. However, it was felt that community and voluntary organisations could benefit from further support, particularly in relation to attracting new volunteers and highlighting the benefits and opportunities to participate. Similarly, further capacity building supports would be of benefit particularly in relation to the more complex administrative requirements and funding applications that organisations are facing.
- Similarly, it was felt that further options should be explored to assist in enhancing public engagement in the development of the County with ideas suggested in relation to IT solutions and increased outreach.

TOWN CENTRES

There was a clear consensus on the importance of addressing vacancy issues in the County's towns and villages. It is evident that repurposing key sites can significantly contribute to revitalising these areas.

There was also a strong desire to invigorate the County's evening economy. Suggestions to assist in achieving this included exploring options for the enhancement of the schedule of events and festivals. The events and festivals not only add to the sense of place but also attract visitors, injecting vitality into local businesses during the evening hours.

Similarly, supporting existing businesses and SMEs as well as enhancing the retail offering was felt to be important. It was noted that a strong and diverse retail sector can increase dwell time of visitors and residents in town and village centres and contribute to their vibrancy and appeal.

The consultation also highlighted opportunities to encourage town and village centre living through over-the-shop living arrangements. It was felt that encouraging people to reside in these areas could foster a vibrant and dynamic community that sustains itself beyond business hours.

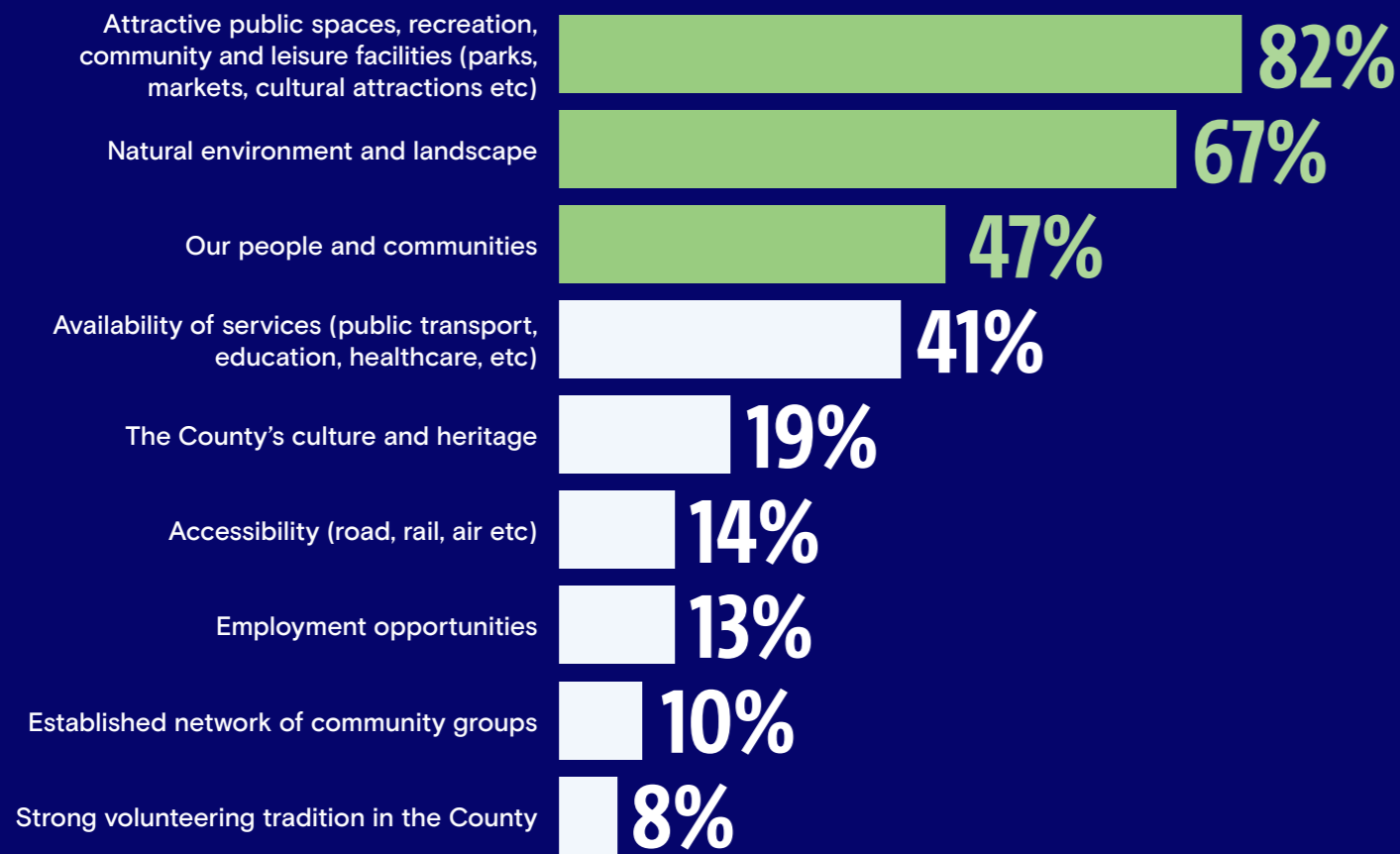


FIGURE 4: COMMUNITY SURVEY - DLR'S GREATEST ASSETS

HOUSING

Housing was a topic which arose in all strands of consultation. In particular, the cost of housing in DLR was seen as one of its biggest constraints. It was noted that the County had the highest average property prices in the State and that many people who had grown up in DLR were being priced out of the area and relocating elsewhere.

The availability and supply of housing was also a key concern raised during the consultation. It was felt that there could be a more streamlined and efficient planning process which could assist in speeding up the development of new units and properties. Other ideas included exploring the implementation of Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) as well as the introduction of Compulsory Sale Orders (CSOs) in relation to bringing existing vacant buildings back into use for residential purposes.

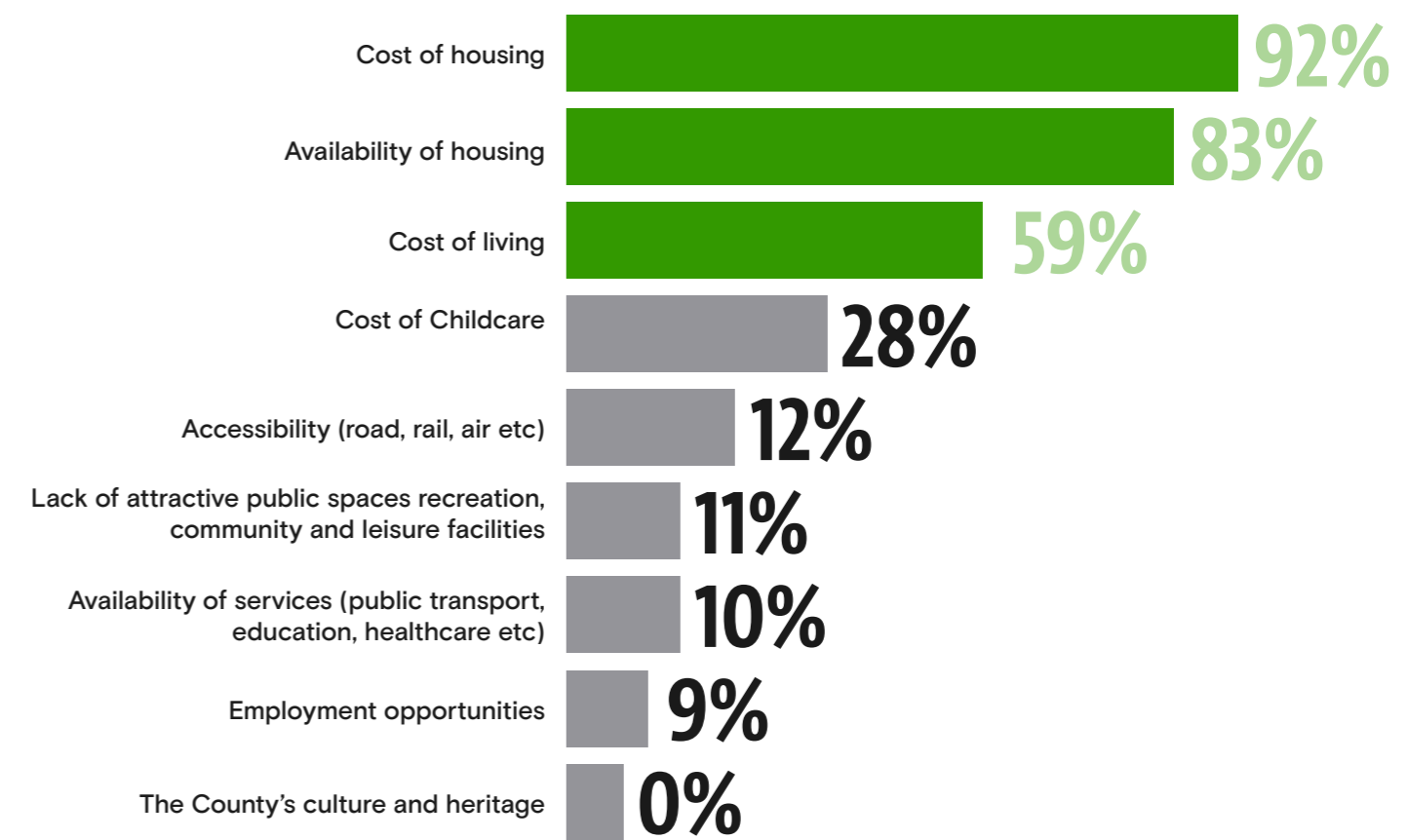


FIGURE 5: COMMUNITY SURVEY - DLR'S BIGGEST BARRIERS

Economic Development

In relation to driving economic development across the County, it was felt that there could be greater coordination and collaboration among key stakeholders such as the LEO, the IDA and Enterprise Ireland.

The consultation also highlighted a number of sectors that had the potential for substantial growth. This included ICT, AI, quantum computing, pharmaceuticals, MedTech, urban mobility and areas related to sustainability. It was felt growth in these sectors could support new economic opportunities as well as helping to ensure an innovative and sustainable County. Similarly, the harbour in Dún Laoghaire and more generally water-based activities, were also noted as areas and assets that are currently not realising their full potential and which could contribute significantly to the local economy.

The importance of attracting new investment and companies to the County was also highlighted as a key point. Similarly, supporting existing businesses and entrepreneurs was also seen to be of equal importance. To assist with this, it was felt that DLR needed to ensure that adequate supports, services and space were available to aid the further development of a thriving business environment.

The development of formalised business clusters in the County and related opportunities was also highlighted. This could contribute to further collaboration and innovation in the County, with suggestions including the development of marine and film clusters.

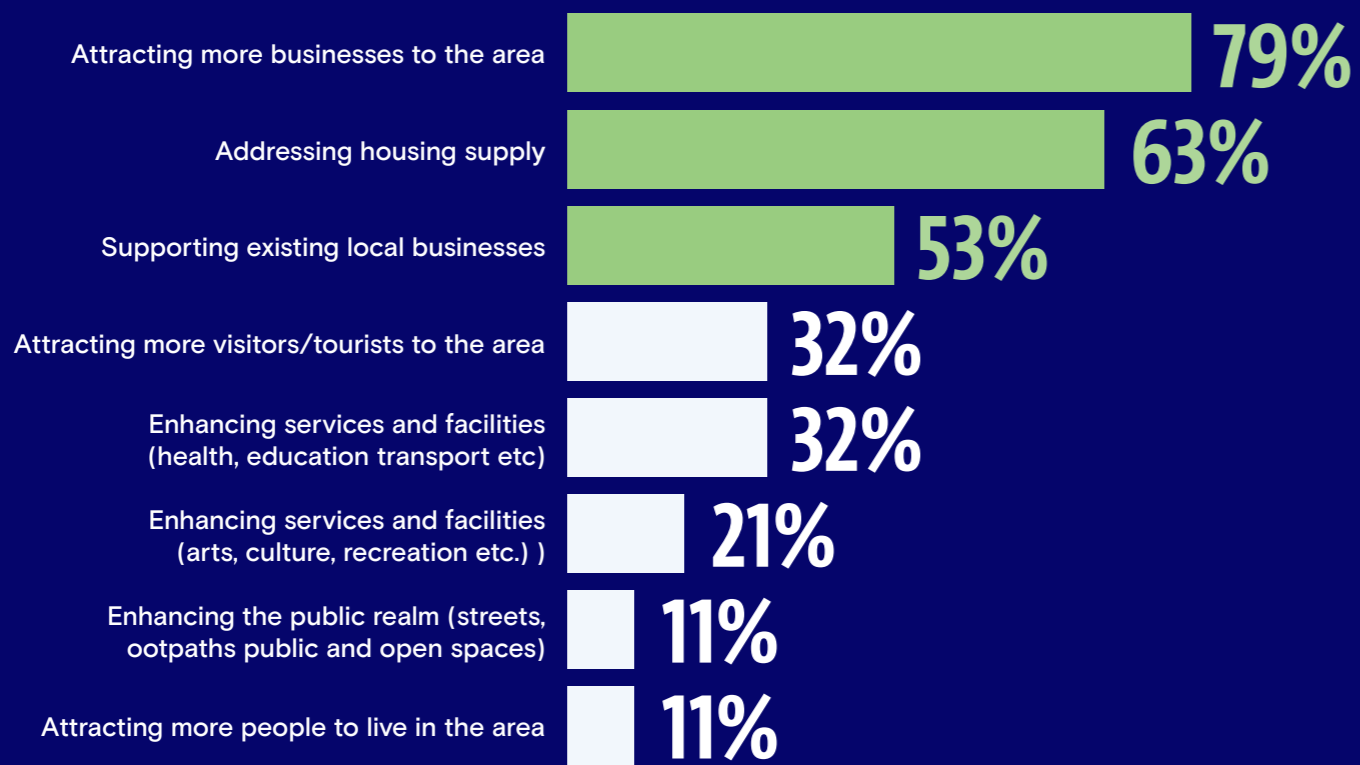


FIGURE 6: BUSINESS SURVEY – KEY OBJECTIVES FOR THE FUTURE OF DLR

Education and Training

The importance of promoting digital skills as a fundamental component of both work and daily life was highlighted during the consultation. The development of such skills needs to be inclusive of all the community, including young people, older people, and those with disabilities. As such, efforts are needed to provide accessible and inclusive opportunities for the development of digital skills.

The need to encourage and promote apprenticeships and traineeships within traditional trades and emerging areas such as retrofitting was also noted. Ideas to assist with this included incentives to increase uptake in training, enhancing links between employments and potential apprentices, and building on existing relationships between industry and education and training providers.

Similarly, it was felt that that further awareness could be raised around the diverse range of courses offered through the Education and Training Board in the County. Enhanced visibility of these educational resources can empower individuals to pursue skills development and education aligned with their interests and career goals. Furthermore, it was suggested that piloting “taster courses” could encourage individuals to explore further education and training opportunities.

It was also felt that options for individuals to re-engage with education, training and employment should be further promoted. This included ensuring that individuals have the support and resources needed to re-enter the workforce or advance in their careers.

Culture and Heritage

A range of ideas and opportunities to further develop the County’s cultural and tourism offering and realise the County’s full potential were suggested during the consultation. This included the development of an enhanced and targeted promotional and marketing campaign to highlight the County’s unique identity and what it has to offer as well as increasing collaboration between businesses in the tourism sector.

Similarly, it was felt that DLR should be seen as a must-visit destination in Dublin and efforts should be made to increase the range of experiences and activities available. This should include the development of linkages between key attractions and assets, including the County’s coast, mountains and culture. However, it was noted that the development of the County as a tourism destination should be done in a sustainable manner that protects and preserves the County’s assets for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

The important contribution that the heritage and creative sector makes to the County was also noted. This includes contributions to the County’s sense of place, the economy, and community wellbeing and inclusion. As such it was felt efforts should be continued to ensure that the heritage and creative sector is promoted and supported and remains accessible and inclusive for all those that wish to get involved. It was noted that this would need to include the promotion of the arts and other heritage related activities in schools across the County.

Similarly, DLR’s schedule of events and cultural days and the contribution they make to the County was also highlighted during the consultation. While it was important to continue to support existing events and programmes, it was felt that options to enhance the schedule of events could also be explored. It was noted that such events can benefit the retail and hospitality sector by encouraging people into urban centres and in doing so also contribute to the vibrancy and vitality of the County’s settlements.

5. SWOT Analysis

The socio-economic analysis has identified a number of key strengths and opportunities as well as weaknesses and threats for the County. The SWOT analysis will provide guidance in relation to key areas that this Local Economic and Community Plan should focus on. A summary of this analysis is presented in the table below.

Strengths	
Attractive towns and villages combined with coastal and mountain assets represent strengths for community and for tourism sector	A robust and resourced 4-year Economic and Enterprise Plan up to 2024
Ideal coastal location with a major harbour	A wide range of robust strategies and plans in place such as the Age Friendly Plan 2022-2026
A range of parks and green spaces, indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, and a network of community and sports facilities	Established networks of Community groups engendering civic pride
A metropolitan County rich in heritage and historical sites, with potential for enhanced and sustainable use and access	Highly educated and skilled labour force with a number of third level institutions based in the County
Record levels of housing supply, potential for development and growth	High number of persons employed in professional, managerial, and technical services
Located in the Eastern and Midland Region and in close proximity to Dublin City	Strategic employment location at Sandyford Business District and developing at Cherrywood
Growing tourism location with a diverse offering from mountains to sea	Growing experience in deploying smart solutions for economic and community gain
Vibrant, accessible, and inclusive expanding library service, arts, and events programmes	Ability to access national funding supports
Good public transport links with further expansion of the bus network planned along with extensive established and planned active travel links	Robust Climate Action Plan
Dedicated Active Travel team with access to significant NTA funding	High percentage of persons with 'good health' status
High ABC demographic	Mature collaborations between different stakeholders and agencies for engagement to progress and achieve the LECP community and economic objectives
Strong retail hubs along with fine-grained mixed-use centres	Capacity and ability to respond to unprecedented crises such as Covid pandemic and Ukraine crisis
Mix of social backgrounds in proximity to one another	

Weaknesses	
The high cost of housing may limit the ability of people, in particular younger people, to remain living, studying, and working in the County	Low labour force participation rate
Persistent deprivation in identified areas which have clear concentrations of more acute social deprivation	Limited capacity with respect to accessing EU funding
Difficulty in identifying and addressing deprivation in more dispersed locations	Low level of hotel accommodation in the County
Absence of DLR-specific socio-economic data in certain categories (e.g., visitor numbers, spend, etc.)	No sectoral managed clustering of business activities in the County
Weak cross-county and regional interconnectivity	Continued use of car travel for short journeys
Shortage of certain skillsets in the County's workforce	Challenge in engaging with hard-to-reach communities
M50 as a barrier to integrating developing areas	Limited collaboration with other Councils in the region



Opportunities	
Potential to develop ten-minute neighbourhood where people can access daily needs by walking, cycling or public transport	Opportunity for development and support of inclusive social enterprises
Established infrastructure of community, cultural and recreational facilities offers scope for more efficient and expanded use to develop and build community capacity	High levels of third level and further education & training facilities in the County can deliver localised services in line with needs
Opportunity to utilise natural resources for development of renewable energy	Significant potential to grow philanthropy throughout the County.
Opportunity for green infrastructure and nature-based solutions (land and marine) to address socio-economic threats as part of climate change mitigation and adaptation	Opportunity to grow the existing innovative support ecosystem to assist businesses and the general economy
Strong volunteering tradition in the County can support further additional services	Potential to relocate traditional city centre businesses to the County as a result of COVID experience.
Opportunities to develop economic and recreational marine sector	Significant opportunities for employment in Sandymount, Carrickmines and Cherrywood with planning for c. 47,000 sq. m of high intensity employment granted for the latter
BusConnects will provide east/west connectivity across the County when it is introduced, addressing a current limitation to mobility.	Opportunity to look at mixed tenure within the delivery of housing
Develop a sustainable night-time economy while protecting existing amenity	Capacity to expand the level of accommodation and services for overnight visitors to the County
Build on the experiential retail and multifunctional nature of towns and villages	Retail diversification opportunities to move to new markets/products
Build capacity to monitor economic success	Unrealised potential in the sustainable development of a creative economy
Develop better understanding of County through data	Community interest in working ever closer together in delivering accessible inclusive services
Opportunity to bring marginalised communities into the workforce.	

Threats	
Over-dependence on fossil fuels for household and business energy needs	Overnight visitors stay outside of DLR
Failure to utilise natural resources for development of renewable energy	Potential overdependence on large multinational employers
Heightened threat to DLR from climate change as a coastal County	Lack of critical skills in the SME sector impacting productivity and competitiveness
High cost of accommodation and the need to continue delivery of both public and private housing	Threat to high street retail arising from move to online and out-of-town shopping
Highest childcare costs in the State	Slow adaptation by many businesses and households in the mitigation of climate change
Tourist accommodation capacity issues may undermine ability to grow tourism and business sector	Limited universal/sustainable access to some heritage sites
Difficulties in adapting to the challenges posed by shifting demographics	Backdrop of rising inflation and potential inflationary pressures
Low occupancy rate of larger houses	



6. High-Level Goals, Objectives and Outcomes

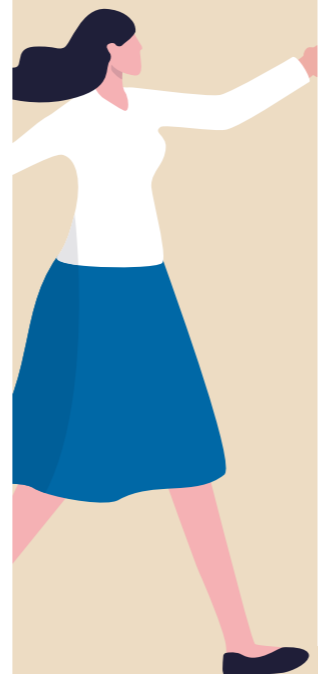
Overview

Based on the findings from the socio-economic analysis, consultation, and review of existing policies, a set of six high-level goals have been created. These high-level goals and their associated objectives, actions and outcomes, have been jointly developed by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, the LCDCC, and the SPC for Economic Development and Enterprise in consultation with key stakeholders who will play a pivotal role in the delivery of the LECP.

In accordance with the LECP guidelines, the goals, objectives, and outcomes cover both economic and community development. For each objective, the objective type is highlighted as a Sustainable Economic Development Objective (SEDO) or Sustainable Community Objective (SCO). In cases where the objective will contribute to both economic and community development, the objective type is listed as SEDO & SCO. The following sections offer an overview of each high-level goal, along with their corresponding objectives and outcomes. The specific actions for each goal are included in the initial two-year implementation plan outlined in Chapter 7.

The six high-level goals are detailed below:

Goal	Goal Description
Goal 1	Create a climate-resilient County by promoting and delivering best practice in climate action, biodiversity, and the circular economy.
Goal 2	Pursue balanced development of the local economy and enhance the business environment to build a creative, inclusive and robust economy.
Goal 3	Develop pathways to employment through enhancing education and training opportunities for all.
Goal 4	Realise the County's potential as a sustainable tourism destination and protect and support the County's heritage and creative sector.
Goal 5	Promote a healthy, inclusive and diverse County that supports good physical health and mental wellbeing across all our communities.
Goal 6	Continue to develop connected, vibrant and sustainable towns and villages and promote active participation and civic engagement within the County.



6.1 Goal 1, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 1: Create a climate-resilient County by promoting and delivering best practice in climate action, biodiversity, and the circular economy.

Our natural environment faces increased vulnerability due to the effects and threats of climate change and biodiversity loss. A key national and regional policy objective is to shift away from a carbon-based economy and ensure a just transition for all communities to achieve a more sustainable society. DLR County Council is committed to this transition and to the safeguarding of the County's natural assets and environment. Protecting the County's beautiful natural environment will also assist in maintaining the County's appeal as a desirable place to live, visit, and work. Therefore, it is imperative that DLR actively pursues a more sustainable future for the County's communities and businesses. This goal will require the implementation of initiatives across a number of different areas which are further reflected in the objectives and outcomes that follow. It will include efforts to enhance climate action and biodiversity initiatives across the community and private sector, encourage the uptake of more sustainable modes of transport, enhance the energy efficiency of buildings and develop a circular economy.

The goal aligns with and will look to build upon the strategic objectives of DLR's County Development Plan in relation to sustainability and climate action, namely Chapter 3 (Climate) and Chapter 5 (Transport and Mobility). It also aligns with the objectives in Chapter 7 (Environment and Climate) and Chapter 8 (Connectivity) of the EMRA RSES, the National Planning Framework's (NPF) National Strategic Outcome (NSO) 4 on Sustainability and NSO 8 on a Climate Neutral and Climate Resilient Society; the National Climate Action Plan 2024 and a number of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including 7, 11, 12 and 13, 14, 15.

Objective 1.1: Implement climate action and biodiversity initiatives to support DLR's transition to a more sustainable County and protect the environment (SCO)

The focus on transitioning to a more sustainable society is becoming ever more present as communities across the Country look to combat and mitigate the effects of the climate and biodiversity crisis. A more sustainable County, rich in biodiversity and protected for future generations, will benefit all those that live, work and invest in the County. As such, this objective is centred around implementing initiatives that will contribute to a just transition to sustainability as well as those that will seek to nurture and protect DLR's beautiful natural environment. This will include implementing the new Climate Action Plan for the County and progressing actions of existing plans and strategies relating to biodiversity, trees and heritage. It will also seek to expand the use and development of renewable energy and retrofitting across the County as well as progressing initiatives related to DLR's decarbonisation zone and other climate action projects.

Objective 1.2: Raise awareness and encourage participation in sustainability initiatives across communities and businesses (SCO)

The support and participation of DLR's communities and businesses will be key to the development of a more sustainable and climate resilient County. It will require active participation in climate and sustainability initiatives by those living and working in the County. As such, this objective looks to raise awareness, secure support and encourage participation in climate and sustainability initiatives. This will require continuous engagement with businesses, education providers and communities from across DLR. It will include promoting and raising awareness of the supports and grants available to help businesses "go-green" as well as opportunities related to the green economy. Similarly, in relation to the community, efforts will be focused on encouraging participation in climate action initiatives across all groups with awareness raising sessions and information on how they can contribute to the transition to a more sustainable County. It will also seek to support initiatives through DLR's Sustainable Energy Communities and projects funded through the Community Climate Action Fund.

Objective 1.3: Encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport and travel (SCO & SEDO)

Emissions from traffic continue to pose a challenge to the County with a significant level of private vehicle use for traveling to work and education. This objective looks to encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport to contribute to an overall reduction in emissions and traffic congestion. This in turn has the potential to assist with improving air quality and health outcomes for communities across the County. As such, this objective aligns with and supports other objectives in the plan related to public transport, connectivity and wellbeing. It will include continuing to promote and encourage walking and cycling and raising awareness around road safety across DLR. It will also seek to maintain, enhance and develop active travel infrastructure to support cyclists and pedestrians and ensure their safety including through the development of segregated cycle paths.

Objective 1.4: Encourage and promote the Circular Economy in the County (SCO & SEDO)

The circular economy can make an important contribution to DLR's transition to a more sustainable and resilient County. It is based around a model of responsible design, production, distribution and consumption, where products are repaired, reused and recycled⁵. This objective looks to encourage and promote the development of the circular economy in the County to assist in the reduction of waste and emissions. This will require close engagement with the community to further encourage and promote recycling, and raise awareness of recycling facilities and the products that can be recycled. It will also look to encourage the expansion of the plastic bottle and cans scheme in retailers across the County.

5 - See: <https://www.mywaste.ie/the-circular-economy/>

Goal 1 Key Desired Outcomes

- Achieve a decrease of 51% in emissions in line with government policy.
- Increased number of community and business-based climate and sustainability projects.
- Record increase in those using sustainable and active travel to get to work and education.
- Increase the average BER rating of the Council's building stock.



6.2 Goal 2, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 2: Pursue balanced development of the local economy and enhance the business environment to build a creative, inclusive and robust economy.

This goal seeks to enhance the County's business environment, ensure a thriving economy and increase economic prosperity throughout DLR. The County has a range of successful local and multinational companies including internationally renowned businesses in the IT and pharmaceutical sectors. Furthermore, it enjoys a strategic location, situated close to Dublin City and major transportation routes, meaning the County is well placed to build upon the success achieved to date. DLR County Council and its partners will look to further strengthen and expand the economy, stimulating job creation and employment. This will include providing support to existing businesses, actively competing for new investment, and cultivating a business environment that fosters innovation and growth.

This goal covers both economic and community elements of the LECP reflecting their interconnected nature and the overall contribution the goal can make to the wellbeing of the County. The goal is aligned with the County Development Plan, namely Chapter 6 (Enterprise and Employment) and Chapter 7 (Towns, Villages and Retail Development). The goal is aligned with Chapter 6 (Economy and Employment) of the RSES, the NPF's NSO 5 A Strong Economy supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills and UN SDGs 8, 9, and 12.

Objective 2.1: Increase collaboration and promote the County as a world class location to do business (SEDO)

DLR's proximity to Dublin city centre, well established business parks, natural beauty and appealing towns and villages makes it an attractive place for businesses. This is underpinned by good transport connections, access to services and a number of education and training providers which support a vibrant business ecosystem. Yet despite all the clear benefits and advantages that DLR has to offer, more can be done to promote the County to prospective businesses and investors to ensure a thriving economy. As such, this objective looks to increase collaboration between key stakeholders in the County and develop a more coordinated approach to the promotion of the County as a world class business location. This will include building the 'Collaborate DLR' brand and bringing together key stakeholders and agencies from the public, private, community and education sectors to drive economic development across the County. Similarly, it will seek to package DLR's many advantages into concise and appealing messaging to highlight the opportunities and benefits it offers as a business location.

Objective 2.2: Attract new investment, support existing businesses and drive sustainable employment throughout the County (SEDO)

Targeted efforts to attract new investment in tandem with supporting existing businesses within the County will be key to the prosperity of DLR over the next number of years. Building on objective 2.1 above, this objective will seek to attract new investment through a more coordinated approach utilising enhanced collaboration between key stakeholders and clear messaging of the County's benefits. Similarly, the Council will look to develop an evidence-based approach to enhance decision-making around economic development through the capture of relevant data. It will also aim to support the continued development of a skilled workforce that meets the needs of employers and improve the participation of vulnerable and marginalised groups, including those with disabilities, in the County's workforce. Furthermore, it will seek to support existing businesses including those in the retail, hospitality and creative sectors, as well as supporting the development of social enterprises. This will include raising awareness of existing supports, incentives and grants available for both current and new businesses.

Objective 2.3: Improve the business environment, encourage entrepreneurship and develop innovative clusters (SEDO)

This objective aims to continue to enhance the business environment throughout DLR, support the development of clusters and ensure an optimal environment that allows innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive. This will include developing the necessary infrastructure and services to retain and attract businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurs. It will also seek to understand the needs of the County and its businesses in relation to changing work patterns (e.g., hybrid working) and explore options and funding to enhance the County as a business location. Similarly, it will look to support the development of clusters in sectors where there are clear opportunities for the County. This includes the immense opportunity related to the harbour in Dún Laoghaire, which is a great, yet underutilised asset, that could support the development of a marine sector cluster. Similarly, efforts will be pursued to ensure that the County is seen as a film-friendly destination to support employment and investment as well as more broadly across the creative economy.

Goal 2 Key Desired Outcomes

- Increased number of LEO, EI and IDA supported companies in the County.
- Increased number of marine related companies based in the harbour.
- Increased number of local start ups and innovative clusters developed.



6.3 Goal 3, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 3: Develop pathways to employment through enhancing education and training opportunities for all.

Education, upskilling and lifelong learning will make an important contribution to the County's development over the next number of years. This goal aims to empower the people of DLR by facilitating better access to education and skills. To achieve this, we will drive initiatives that support the development of the community while nurturing a diverse talent pool through a range of educational and training opportunities. This will include providing opportunities for individuals to develop new and existing skills, supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable groups (including those with disabilities) to access education and training, and enhancing the provision of apprenticeships and traineeships in DLR. As such, this goal will also play a vital role in sustaining the County's economy through the development of a skilled workforce and will require input from a range of stakeholders in both the public and private sectors.

These objectives are aligned with the County Development Plan, namely Chapter 4 (Neighbourhood – People, Homes and Place) and Chapter 6 (Enterprise and Employment). This goal also aligns with various objectives within Chapter 6 (Economy and Employment) and Chapter 9 (Quality of Life) of the EMRA's RSES, as well as the NPF's NSO 3 and NSO 10. Additionally, it aligns with the UN SDGs, particularly goals 4, 8 and 10.

Objective 3.1: Encourage lifelong learning and increase the employability of the County's people (SCO & SEDO)

Lifelong learning and upskilling are important for personal development and can contribute to an individual's sense of achievement and wellbeing. It also assists with improving the employability of the community and as such supports the overall economy. This objective will look to encourage lifelong learning and increase the employability of the County's people. It will include the development of digital skills and literacy across all age groups, which will not only contribute to a more skilled workforce, but also assist in the development of skills for life (e.g., accessing online services) across the community. It will also seek to raise awareness of the opportunities for lifelong learning and associated training across DLR as well as strengthening the provision throughout the County including via the use of online courses and services provided by DLR libraries.

Objective 3.2: Support disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access education and training (SCO & SEDO)

Continuing to improve access to education and training opportunities for the most disadvantaged and marginalised groups, including individuals with disabilities, will be a key objective over the timeframe of the LECP. Achieving this objective will require ongoing engagement and outreach to these groups, as well as the identification and provision of tailored assistance to increase their participation in education, training, skills development, and lifelong learning. This will also include specific programmes to increase employment amongst those living with disabilities and others that may be from disadvantaged backgrounds. Similarly, it will also seek to ensure that the necessary supports are in place to support new communities, including refugees, into education and employment. Other services to support those from disadvantaged backgrounds will include afterschool clubs and supports for parents in relation to enhancing educational outcomes amongst children from disadvantaged areas.

Objective 3.3: Increase awareness, uptake and provision of apprenticeships and traineeships in the County (SCO & SEDO)

Ensuring an adequate provision of in-county apprenticeships and traineeships to support both economic and community wellbeing was repeatedly highlighted during the consultation process. As such, this objective looks to increase the awareness, uptake and provision of apprenticeships and traineeships in DLR. This will include raising awareness and increasing the provision of apprenticeships and training in the area of traditional trades (e.g., plumbers, plasterers, carpenters and electricians) and other key sectors such as IT. However, it will also seek to increase the provision of such courses and training in areas related to the green economy, such as retrofitting and renewables, as well as around the marine sector given the opportunities presented by the harbour in Dún Laoghaire. This will be achieved through engagement with both the private sector and education and training providers, including the Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board (DDLETB), to raise awareness of existing courses as well as ensuring alignment between the provision on offer and the needs of employers.

Goal 3 Key Desired Outcomes

- Increased number of individuals participating in lifelong learning.
- Improvement recorded in disadvantaged and vulnerable groups accessing training and education.
- Increased number of traineeships & apprenticeships available and participants enrolled.



6.4 Goal 4, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 4: Realise the County's potential as a sustainable tourism destination and protect and support the County's heritage and creative sector.

DLR contains remarkable natural beauty, with its inspiring landscape and natural environment standing out as some of the County's most valuable assets and key strengths. Additionally, the County possesses a rich cultural heritage and a thriving creative sector, both of which significantly contribute to DLR's unique identity, overall wellbeing, and economic vitality. When these strengths are combined with the County's strategic location within the Dublin region, it is evident that DLR holds immense potential as a tourism destination. As a result, DLR is ideally positioned to further enhance its tourism offering and realise its full potential as a popular visitor destination.

This goal aims to continue to build upon the achievements to date in relation to the County's tourism potential all while fostering the growth and accessibility of the arts, culture, and creative sector for the entire County to experience. Central to this endeavour is a strategic and sustainable approach that safeguards the County's heritage and environment for the benefit of future generations. This is aligned with the County Development Plan, namely Chapter 11 (Heritage and Conservation) and Chapter 6 (Enterprise and Employment). The goal also aligns with the EMRA's Chapter 6 (Economy and Employment) and Chapter 9 (Quality of Life) of the RSES, the NPF's NSO 7 for Enhanced Amenity and Heritage, as well as the UN SDGs 8, 12, 13 and 15.

Objective 4.1: Increase awareness of the County as a sustainable tourism destination (SEDO)

To assist the County in achieving its full tourism potential, this objective seeks to increase the visibility of DLR as a must-see tourism destination. The County has much to offer visitors and residents alike, with a beautiful natural environment including the mountains and the coast, rich heritage, numerous activities and attractions, and retail and hospitality businesses. Similarly, its proximity to Dublin City and associated key transport networks means the County is well placed to further benefit from its tourism potential. To do this, enhanced collaboration will be required between key stakeholders involved in the tourism sector to promote and market the County in a more coordinated and targeted manner. Furthermore, the County's amenities, heritage and attractions should be promoted to increase awareness around the experiences available. However, in line with the new tourism strategy, and national and regional policy, the promotion and development of the tourism sector must be done in a sustainable manner which protects and conserves the County's environment and heritage for future generations.

Objective 4.2: Continue to develop and enhance the County's tourism offering (SEDO)

As noted in objective 4.1 above, DLR has a beautiful natural environment and an array of attractions and amenities for visitors and residents to experience. This objective looks to build on the good work and success achieved to date and leverage existing strengths to further enhance the County's tourism offering. However, this will be pursued with a clear focus on responsible development and increasing sustainability across the tourism sector in the County. It will include the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the DLR Tourism Strategy 2024 - 2028 and the development of further high-quality attractions and experiences for people to enjoy. Furthermore, this objective will seek to ensure that the necessary services are available to support the tourism industry in the County. This will include supporting the development of a range of overnight accommodation and exploring options to enhance transport links between attractions and amenities, particularly in rural areas.

Objective 4.3: Support and celebrate the County's rich heritage and creative sector (SCO)

DLR's heritage and creative sector play an important role throughout the County. They add to DLR's sense of place, attract visitors, and directly contribute to community development and wellbeing as well as the economy. Taking this into account, this objective seeks to support and celebrate the County's rich heritage and creative sector over the timeframe of the LECP. This will include implementing DLR's Culture and Creativity Strategy and encouraging participation in creative and cultural initiatives from communities across the County, regardless of background, age, or ability. It will also support and champion the Irish language and explore opportunities to enhance and expand DLR's festivals and events. Similarly, it will look to support the County's heritage assets, protecting and conserving them for future generations whilst also raising awareness and enhancing accessibility including through the development of online resources.

Goal 4 Key Desired Outcomes

- Increased number of visitors from national and international locations.
- Recommendations of tourism strategy progressed.
- Increased numbers of local participants in culture and creative initiatives.



6.5 Goal 5, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 5: Promote a healthy, inclusive and diverse County that supports good physical health and mental wellbeing across all our communities.

DLR County Council is dedicated to nurturing an inclusive and healthy County where communities are supported and empowered to improve their health and wellbeing, both physical and mental. This goal aims to ensure that everyone in the County has access to the necessary supports, services and facilities to allow them to live healthy and fulfilling lives. This will be achieved through addressing a number of different areas and will comprise initiatives related to reducing poverty and isolation, enhancing inclusion, and supporting health and wellbeing (physical and mental) including through sports and physical activity. Furthermore, it is important to note that the needs of the community, including for those from vulnerable and marginalised backgrounds, those with disabilities, young people and the elderly; are varied and wide ranging. As such, the achievement of this goal will require a collaborative approach from a number of different stakeholders including DLR County Council, the HSE, the PPN and other community groups and service providers throughout the County.

Goal 5 is aligned with existing national initiatives relating to the Healthy Ireland Framework and the Connecting for Life Strategy, as well as with DLR's County Development Plan, namely Chapter 4 (Neighbourhood – People, Homes and Place) and Chapter 9 (Open Space, Parks and Recreation). This goal also closely aligns with the EMRA's objectives for building an inclusive region, as detailed in Chapter 9 (Quality of Life) of the RSES, as well as the NPF's NSO 3 relating to Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities, and NSO 10 centred on Access to Quality Childcare, Education, and Health Services. Additionally, it corresponds with the UN SDGs 1, 3, 5 and 10.

Objective 5.1: Enhance equality and social inclusion across all communities (SCO)

Initiatives that promote equality and social inclusion contribute to the wellbeing of people in communities across DLR and assists in combating isolation and loneliness. This objective looks to enhance equality and inclusion across all of DLR's communities and in doing so contribute to their mental and physical wellbeing. This will include providing assistance and supports to those from vulnerable and marginalised backgrounds as well as those living with disabilities, new communities, older people, and the traveller community. It will seek to ensure that all communities are encouraged to participate in community activities, health and wellbeing initiatives and decision making in relation to the development of their local areas. It will also seek to enhance coordination between key stakeholders involved in the delivery of existing programmes and support and develop libraries and community and cultural centres to deliver community initiatives.

Objective 5.2: Address poverty and deprivation where it exists (SCO)

DLR is one of the wealthiest local authority areas in the State. This is reflected in the high levels of income, home ownership and managerial jobs recorded in the County. However, it is important to acknowledge that poverty and deprivation are also evident in the County, with a number of areas being classed as either disadvantaged or very disadvantaged in comparison to national averages. As such, this objective seeks to address and reduce poverty and deprivation where it exists. It aims to assist those from disadvantaged backgrounds to access the necessary supports and services that can contribute to the alleviation of poverty and improved outcomes across areas such as health, education and employment. It will include the implementation of initiatives under the SICAP programme to support disadvantaged communities and reduce deprivation, as well as initiatives relating to family supports, parental advice and specific supports for young people. It will also seek to ensure that there is clear information available on the type of supports and services that can be availed of in the community and raise awareness of the existing provision.

Objective 5.3: Improve health and wellbeing across the County (SCO)

Directly connected to objective 5.1 and 5.2 above, objective 5.3 seeks to improve overall health and wellbeing in the County, both physical and mental. In doing so, it will aim to support initiatives that can contribute to improved physical and mental health. This will include initiatives relating to heritage and creativity, initiatives that encourage the development of healthy life choices and initiatives relating to the Connecting for Life Strategy for suicide prevention. Similarly, it will look to promote participation in sports and physical activity regardless of background or ability and ensure that the related infrastructure and facilities meets the needs of the community. It will also seek to prevent and reduce domestic violence and continue to provide supports to families, children, and young people as part of a holistic approach to health and wellbeing. As previously noted, enhancing social inclusion and equality, and reducing poverty will also contribute to the overall wellbeing of the County and as such, it will be important that every member of DLR's community, including those from disadvantage backgrounds or those living with disabilities, can avail of and participate in, services and activities that can contribute to the development of healthy, happy and fulfilling lives.

Goal 5 Key Desired Outcomes

- Increased levels of engagement and participation with community focused social inclusion projects.
- Record a decrease in the level of deprivation in the Pobal HP Deprivation Index.
- Increased number of those recording themselves as in good or very good health.



6.6 Goal 6, Objectives and Desired Outcomes

Goal 6: Continue to develop connected, vibrant and sustainable towns and villages and promote active participation and civic engagement within the County.

Towns and villages play a key role in the County offering essential services to residents, centres for businesses and attractions for visitors. Recently, their significance has been further emphasised with renewed focus on opportunities for their revival, regeneration, and growth. Like many counties, DLR faces challenges in relation to vacant and derelict buildings and the revitalisation of urban centres, that left unaddressed could lead to economic and community decline. This goal looks to actively support the ongoing rejuvenation and renewal of towns and villages throughout the County, and foster vibrant, resilient, and connected communities. This will include ensuring that adequate levels of accommodation are available, reducing vacancy and dereliction and seeking to enhance public transport across the County. Furthermore, recognising the vital role played by the community and voluntary sector in DLR, this goal will also look to strengthen and encourage participation in these groups and more generally increase community involvement in the development of the County.

Goal 6 is closely aligned with Chapter 6 (Employment & Enterprise) of the DLR CDP as well as Chapter 3 (People and Places) and Chapter 9 (Quality of Life) of the EMRA's RSES. It also corresponds with the NPF's NSO 1 focused on Compact Growth, NSO 4 on Sustainable Mobility and NSO 7 in relation to Enhanced Amenity and Heritage. Furthermore, it aligns with the UN SDGs 1, 10 and 11.

Objective 6.1: Continue to develop a collaborative environment to deliver accommodation in the County (SEDO & SCO)

The delivery and availability of accommodation continues to be an issue affecting communities across the County, including in the greater Dublin area. Having an adequate and affordable supply of housing is an important contributor to realising growth in the community and the economy. This objective will seek to encourage key stakeholders, involved in the delivery of accommodation in DLR, to work collaboratively to ensure that provision meets the needs and demands of the County. With the highest average property prices in the State, this will be an important objective that will contribute to community wellbeing and development as well as the vibrancy of DLR's towns and villages. Similarly, the objective will look to ensure that there is an adequate supply of housing and accommodation to support economic growth including in relation to existing businesses and to support new investment.

Objective 6.2: Regenerate the County's towns and villages and increase connectivity and accessibility (SEDO & SCO)

As previously noted, the County's towns and villages play key roles as hubs for services, businesses and community activities. They also provide a sense of place and belonging for communities across DLR with their importance further highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, like in many counties across the State, cases of decline, vacancy and dereliction have been recorded. This objective looks to regenerate the County's towns and villages while also increasing connectivity and accessibility throughout DLR. This will include following the principles of the national Town Centre First Policy and developing vibrant, multifunctional and safe spaces that can be enjoyed and accessed by all the community. It will also seek to address vacancy and dereliction and support the development of a vibrant retail and hospitality sector, including through the growth of the night-time economy. Furthermore, in line with views provided during the consultation, it will look to enhance public transport and mobility options in the County, particularly in relation to east-west connections. This will include exploring options for enhancement, such as the potential for orbital routes, with relevant stakeholders.

Objective 6.3: Support voluntary and community groups and increase community participation in the development of the County (SCO)

The community and voluntary sector play an important role in the County. It consists of many organisations and groups that provide vital services, supports, outlets and activities that contribute to community wellbeing and social cohesion. Similarly, they assist in ensuring that the views and needs of the community are heard and encourage community interest and participation in the development of their local areas. However, as highlighted during the consultation, the community and voluntary sector face a number of issues relating to increased administration, membership and replenishment of boards. Taking this into account, this objective aims to support voluntary and community groups while also increasing community participation in the development of the County. This will include providing capacity building supports to assist in addressing administrative requirements and raising awareness of volunteering opportunities to assist in attracting new members to the sector. Similarly, it will seek to explore options and initiatives to improve public engagement and increase community participation in local government decision making and the development of the County.

Goal 6 Key Desired Outcomes

- Record an increase in the number of accommodation units delivered.
- Reduction in commercial vacancy rate recorded.
- Increased number and frequency of cross-county Public Transport routes.
- Purple Flag attained.
- Increased numbers of volunteers registered and participating in community activities across the County.



7. Implementation Plan

This chapter outlines the initial 2-year implementation plan of the 2023 – 2028 LECP. It includes specific actions that will assist in achieving the high-level goals, objectives and outcomes outlined in the previous chapter. In line with the updated LECP guidelines issued in December 2021, the implementation plan will be revised every 2 years. This new approach to implementation offers increased flexibility to address unforeseen challenges and an opportunity to replace actions that may not be progressing. Therefore, the LECP will remain responsive to the County’s changing needs over the course of the six-year period, underscoring its significance in relation to both economic and community development. Key to realising the benefits of this new more flexible implementation approach will be the accurate monitoring and evaluation of progress both in terms of the initial implementation plan and the overall LECP.

The initial implementation plan, detailed below, contains a total of 67 actions related to the 6 high-level goals, 19 objectives and their associated outcomes. Lead and partner agencies responsible for the delivery of the actions have been identified along with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for each action. Similar to the goals, objectives and outcomes, the actions cover both economic and community elements in an integrated manner, highlighting the interconnected nature throughout the plan. As outlined in the LECP Guidelines, the objectives are defined as Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) and/or Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs). The type of objective i.e., SEDO and/or SCO, is highlighted for each objective in the implementation plan below.



The actions have been designed within the context of existing policies and strategies, including the County Development Plan, the EMRA RSES and the NPF to which the LECP is aligned. Furthermore, as outlined in the Policy Context in Chapter 2, the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have played a central role in shaping the development of the LECP. Collectively, these goals, objectives, outcomes, and actions will help guide the sustainable development of the County over the coming years.



7.1 Goal 1

Goal 1 Create a climate resilient County by promoting and delivering best practice in climate action, biodiversity, and the circular economy.

SDG Alignment:



Objective 1.1 Implement climate action and biodiversity initiatives to support DLR's transition to a more sustainable County and protect the environment

Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 1.2 Raise awareness and encourage participation in sustainability initiatives across communities and businesses

Objective type: type SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 1.3 Encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport and travel

Objective type: SCO & SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 1.4 Encourage and promote the Circular Economy in the County

Objective type: SCO & SEDO

SDG Alignment:












Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
1 Implement the County's new Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.	Climate Action Coordinator, (DLRCC)	DLRCC, CARO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of actions implemented as part of the new Climate Action Plan 	2024 - 2029
2 Encourage more climate resilient businesses by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making sure businesses know about grants and supports Raising awareness about retrofitting and renewable energy business opportunities 	LEO (DLRCC)	DLRCC, LEO, EI, SEAI, DLR Chamber, CARO, SSPDLR, SBID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of information sessions held No. of businesses availing of supports 	Ongoing
3 Work with colleges on climate-friendly projects and consider a staff appointment to check out EU funding for these projects.	Climate Action Coordinator (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SEAI, third level providers, SFI, DLR CYPSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of collaborative sustainability and climate initiatives implemented/ongoing Feasibility for the potential of centralised resource established 	Ongoing
4 Encourage and develop active travel in DLR including by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building active travel infrastructure Keeping cycle routes well maintained Teaching about road safety 	Active Travel (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KM of permanent segregated cycling network No. of educational sessions on road and cycling safety held Active travel maintenance plan/schedule in place 	Ongoing
5 Support the development of renewable energy infrastructure and encourage its use throughout the County.	Infrastructure and Climate Change (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SEAI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of renewable energy infrastructure initiatives No of relevant meetings/public engagements No of District heating projects supported 	Ongoing
6 Carry out the actions in our Biodiversity Plan (2021-2025), DLR Tree Strategy – a Climate for Trees (2024-2030), the County Heritage Plan (2021-2025) and the Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy (2022 - 2026).	Biodiversity Officer (DLRCC)	DLRCC in collaboration with community, the private sector and other key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of actions implemented from the Biodiversity Plan (2021-2025) No. of actions implemented from the DLR Tree Strategy – a Climate for Trees (2024-2030) No. of actions implemented from the County Heritage Plan (2021-2025) No. of actions implemented from the Biosphere Conservation and Research Strategy (2022 - 2026) 	Ongoing

Goal 1 Cont.

Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
7 Raise awareness of climate action initiatives and make information on how to participate available to all in the community.	Community Climate Officer (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DLR PPN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of information sessions held Clear information published 	Ongoing
8 Support business development in the green economy.	LEO (DLRCC)	LEO, DLRCC, EI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of businesses supported operating in the green economy 	Ongoing
9 Encourage sustainability and circular economy initiatives including through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to progress initiatives as part of the decarbonisation zone in Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock Raising awareness and promoting recycling facilities in the County and encouraging the expansion of the plastic bottle and cans return scheme Supporting and progressing initiatives with DLR's Sustainable Energy Communities Supporting and promoting retrofitting including in relation to the council's building stock 	Infrastructure and Climate Change (DLRCC)	DLRCC, CARO, WEEE Ireland, SBID, LEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of initiatives progressed as part of the decarbonisation zone No. of initiatives progressed with DLR's Sustainable Energy Communities No. of business implementing the plastic bottle and cans return scheme No. of Energy retrofitting projects carried out No. of projects funded through the Community Climate Action Fund 	Ongoing
10 Investigate innovative procurement solutions to help businesses transition to the circular economy.	SBID	SBID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress of Public Service Platform for Circular, Innovative and Resilient Municipalities through Pre-Commercial Procurement project 	Ongoing

7.2 Goal 2

Goal 2 Pursue balanced development of the local economy and enhance the business environment to build a creative, inclusive and robust economy.		SDG Alignment:				
Objective 2.1 Increase collaboration and promote the County as a world class location to do business <i>Objective type: SEDO</i>		SDG Alignment:				
Objective 2.2 Attract new investment, support existing businesses and drive sustainable employment throughout the County <i>Objective type: SEDO</i>		SDG Alignment:				
Objective 2.3 Improve the business environment, encourage entrepreneurship and develop innovative clusters <i>Objective type: SEDO</i>		SDG Alignment:				
Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe		
11 Build the 'Collaborate DLR' brand to promote the County as a place to live, visit and work.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, LEO, EI, SEAI, DLR Chamber, SSPDLR, SBID	• Brand developed	Ongoing		
12 Produce promotional material that highlights the business opportunity in the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, EI, IDA, UCD, IADT, SBID, private sector	• Value proposition developed	Q4 2024		
13 Work with others to introduce initiatives to support the creative economy, including consideration of a creative hub.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, LEO, IADT, Creative Ireland, SBID, UCD, DLR CYPSC	• No. of initiatives implemented supporting the creative economy	Ongoing		
14 Work in partnership with the film industry to advance the County as a film-friendly destination.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, IADT, Screen Ireland	• Development of feasibility study • No. of filming supports available • Liaise with industry stakeholders • Develop a Film Office	Q4 2024		
16 Work with marine businesses towards developing a Marine Cluster in the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, EI, IDA	• Progress made in relation to the development of a marine cluster	Q4 2024		
17 Support the development of Social Enterprise in the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DLR PPN	• No. of social enterprises in the County • No. of actions implemented from the Social Enterprise Strategy	Ongoing		
18 Conduct a study into the future of work patterns in the County and the resulting infrastructure and supports required.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SBID	• Study completed	Q2 2025		
19 Carry out a skills audit across the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLR, Regional Skills Assembly, Skillnet	• Audit complete	Q2 2025		

Goal 2 Cont.

Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
20 Continue to support business through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicising clear information on business supports and incentives Publishing clear information on how to start a business Providing information on business supports directly to businesses through information and advice clinics across the County 	LEO (DLRCC)	LEO, DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of businesses availing of supports and incentives Information on how to start a business published No. of clinics held 	Ongoing
21 Work to improve participation by the long-term unemployed, those with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in employment support services, including through providing outreach and effective case management.	Community (DLRCC)	DLRCC, DSP, DDLETB, SSPDLR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals availing of supports No. of individuals securing employment 	Ongoing
22 Support and encourage business organisations across the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of business organisations in the County 	Ongoing
23 Support economic opportunities through the development of a masterplan for Dún Laoghaire Harbour.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic opportunities supported in Harbour Masterplan 	Q2 2025
24 Conduct a feasibility study into the development of a conference/major event centre in the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study completed 	Q2 2025
25 Set up an EU Projects Office to identify relevant projects and funding.	DLRCC	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office established 	Q2 2025
26 Develop infrastructure to attract and retain businesses and employees in Sandyford Business District.	ICC, Community, Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, NTA, SBID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junction 14 on M50 delivered Enhanced cycle routes implemented Community facilities delivered Parks delivered 	Ongoing
27 Support collaboration in research and development between Sandyford BID and third level institutions in Fintech, Biotech and other key industries.	DLRCC	DLRCC, Sandyford BID, UCD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of projects supported 	Ongoing

7.3 Goal 3

Goal 3 Develop pathways to employment through enhancing education and training opportunities for all.

SDG Alignment:



Objective 3.1 Encourage lifelong learning and increase the employability of the County's people
Objective type: SCO & SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 3.2 Support disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access education and training
Objective type: SCO & SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 3.3 Increase awareness, uptake and provision of apprenticeships and traineeships in the County
Objective type: SCO & SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
28 Increase awareness of the DDLETB and its courses, and strengthen the provision of apprenticeships and traineeships, including in relation to traditional trades, the green economy, and the marine sector.	DDLETB	DDLETB, DLRCC, SSPDLR,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of apprenticeships and traineeships available No. of participants on DDLETB courses 	Ongoing
29 Engage with all stakeholders on an annual basis to establish and address training needs.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, DDLETB, SOLAS, UCD, IADT, Regional Skills Forum, SBID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual consultation completed 	Ongoing
30 Provide community afterschool homework clubs, grinds programmes, supports for parents and develop greater linkages with DEIS schools to assist disadvantaged communities in developing their education.	SSPDLR	SSPDLR and partners, DLR CYPSC, FRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of parents availing of supports No. of afterschool homework clubs and grinds No. of pupils in attendance 	Ongoing
31 Continue to strengthen and provide important services to the community through DLR's libraries including supporting literacy, numeracy and other skills development (including digital skills), as well as encouraging lifelong learning, and using technology to support accessibility.	Library Service (DLRCC)	DLRCC Library Service, FRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals availing of library services 	Ongoing
32 Develop coherent and integrated training and targeted supports for new communities (including refugees and other migrants) to assist them in employment and further education.	DDLETB	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DDLETB, DEASP, FRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of supports and training in place for new communities No. of individuals availing of supports and training 	Ongoing
33 Enhance the provision and awareness of lifelong learning opportunities and accredited training programmes to targeted individuals.	Community & Culture (DLRCC)	DDLETB, SSPDLR, DLR CYPSC, FRC, Crosscare and third level providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals participating in lifelong learning 	Ongoing
34 Promote the uptake of digital skills for work and life for all.	Community & Culture (DLRCC)	DDLETB, FRC, DLRCC Library Service, LEO, DLR PPN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of courses held No. in attendance 	Ongoing
35 Enhance the provision of employment programmes in DLRCC for new graduates.	(Human Resources) DLRCC	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes introduced 	Q3 2024
36 Increase employment of disabled people and people from other disadvantaged backgrounds in DLRCC by providing supported employment programmes.	Human Resources (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes introduced 	Q2 2025

7.4 Goal 4

Goal 4 Realise the County’s potential as a sustainable tourism destination and protect and support the County’s heritage and creative sector.

SDG Alignment:



Objective 4.1 Increase awareness of the County as a sustainable tourism destination
Objective type: SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 4.2 Continue to develop and enhance the County’s tourism offering
Objective type: SEDO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 4.3 Support and celebrate the County’s rich heritage and creative sector
Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
37 Develop a new Tourism Strategy for the County and implement the recommended actions.	Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New tourism strategy developed No. of actions implemented from new tourism strategy 	Ongoing
38 Develop new tourism attractions and experiences for visitors and locals.	Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of new attractions available 	Ongoing
39 Market and promote the County as a Tourist destination.	Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of promotional campaigns 	Ongoing
40 Explore rural transport opportunities.	Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options identified No. of routes enhanced/added 	Q2 2025
41 Enhance the coordination of an events programme and expand the number of events & festivals.	Tourism Unit & Events Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of events supported 	Ongoing
42 Support and promote the development of overnight accommodation options in the County.	Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value proposition created for the industry. No. of engagement sessions with industry 	Ongoing
43 Protect and promote the County’s heritage assets through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of conservation plans Increased visibility, access and accessibility to the County’s heritage assets 	Heritage Unit, Conservation Unit, Architects (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of conservations plans developed No. of heritage collections and sites accessible online and in person Complete the Built Heritage Stocktake in collaboration with National Inventory of Architectural Heritage 	Ongoing
44 Implement the actions in the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown Culture and Creativity Strategy and hold events to encourage as many people as possible to take part in creative and cultural activities and explore cultural heritage and local history.	Libraries and Arts (DLRCC)	DLRCC, DLR PPN, Creative Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of creative sector projects supported No. of actions implemented from the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023 –2027 Review of festivals and events completed and opportunities for enhancement identified No. of Irish language initiatives supported No. of individuals participating in creative and cultural initiatives 	Ongoing
45 Promote sustainable practices in the tourism sector.	LEO, Tourism Unit (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Fáilte Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of courses held and no. of businesses in attendance. No. of grant recipients. Participate in the INTERREG Atlantic Area Project POST. 	Ongoing

7.5 Goal 5

Goal 5 Promote a healthy, inclusive and diverse County that supports good physical health and mental wellbeing across all our communities.

SDG Alignment:



Objective 5.1 Enhance equality and social inclusion across all communities

Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 5.2 Address poverty and deprivation where it exists

Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 5.3 Improve health and wellbeing across the County

Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
46 Increase inter-agency collaboration to work with key stakeholders in the coordination and delivery of existing programmes and strategies such as the Age Friendly Strategy and Joint Policing Committee Strategy.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DLR CYPSC, DLR PPN, FRC, DDETB, DLRDATF, Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-agency working group for community development established Active Cities Steering Group providing leadership and collaboration to increase participation in Sport and Activity in the County No. of actions implemented from the Age Friendly Strategy No. of actions implemented from the JPC Strategy 	Ongoing
47 Develop and publicise a clear directory of community services in the County.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, HSE, CYPSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community services mapped with partners and directory published 	Q3 2025
48 Promote social inclusion across the County, work to address poverty and deprivation where it exists, and encourage marginalised communities to participate in community activities and decision making.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, FRC, DLR PPN, DLRDATF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals and groups supported by the SICAP programme Updated Integration & Diversity Plan developed. No. of individuals availing of disability supports No. of homeless individuals recorded 	Ongoing
49 Work to encourage all communities to take part in health and wellbeing activities to support healthy lifestyles, reduce social isolation and improve general health and mental wellbeing.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, HSE, SSPDLR, DVAS, Tusla, DLRDATF, DLR CYPSC, Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of health and wellbeing initiatives implemented 	Ongoing
50 Provide and promote family supports initiatives including early parenting advice, nutrition and childcare options.	CYPSC	DLRCC, SSPDLR, FRCs, DLR CYPSC, DLRDATF, HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of family supports initiatives implemented 	Ongoing
51 Support initiatives to prevent and reduce Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence including development of a Women's Refuge in the County.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, HSE, SSPDLR, DVAS, Tusla, FRC, DLRDATF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of initiatives supported Continued operation of the SAVE (Southside Addressing Violence Effectively) Network in the DLR County. Women's Refuge progressed 	Q4 2025
52 Work with key stakeholders to identify and deliver services and supports to young people and deliver actions in DLR's Children and Young People's Plan with the aim of improving outcomes.	CYPSC	DLRCC, DLR CYPSC, DLR Comhairle na nÓg, HSE, SSPDLR, Crosscare, FRC, DLRDATF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of awareness raising sessions held in relation to nutrition, healthy life choices and mental wellbeing No. of safe spaces available for young people to socialise No. of information sessions held in relation to participation in community, heritage and sports groups. No. of young people supported 	Ongoing
53 Ensure an adequate provision of sports infrastructure and develop programmes to encourage all in the community to take part in sports and physical activity.	DLR Sports Partnership	DLR Sports Partnership, FRC, DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of individuals participating in sports and physical activity No. of enhancements or new developments with regards to the provision of sports infrastructure No. of initiatives implemented under the Active City Programme No. of disability programmes 	Ongoing

Goal 5 Cont.

Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
54 Promote heritage and creative initiatives to support wellbeing and inclusion.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, DLRCC Library Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of heritage and creative initiatives that have supported community wellbeing and inclusion Availability of programmes/spaces for those with neuro-diverse needs. 	Ongoing
55 Continue to develop the use of libraries and community centres to promote access, inclusion and community development in our County.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, DLRCC Library Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of inclusive events and programmes NOAC statistics 	Ongoing
56 Progress delivery of new and improved community and cultural facilities where this investment is needed.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of community centres, library facilities and cultural centres. 	Ongoing
57 Deliver actions in the Play Policy to expand places to play.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC Parks Dept, DLR CYPSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of inclusive play spaces in the County 	Ongoing
58 Development of a Local Sports Plan that will set out how to increase participation in sport and physical activity in the County.	DLRCC	DLRCC, Sports Partnership, dlr Leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion and roll out of a fit for purpose Local Sports Plan for DLR 	Q4 2024



7.6 Goal 6

Goal 6 Continue to develop connected, vibrant and sustainable towns and villages and promote active participation and civic engagement within the County.

SDG Alignment:



Objective 6.1 Continue to develop a collaborative environment to deliver accommodation in the County
Objective type: SEDO & SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 6.2 Regenerate the County's towns and villages and increase connectivity and accessibility
Objective type: SEDO & SCO

SDG Alignment:



Objective 6.3 Support voluntary and community groups and increase community participation in the development of the County
Objective type: SCO

SDG Alignment:



Action	Lead	Partners	Outputs/KPIs	Timeframe
59 Continue to support the provision of housing and accommodation in the County.	Planning, Housing (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Approved Housing Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of new dwelling completions No. of social housing units available 	Ongoing
60 Work to address commercial dereliction and vacancy across the County through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collating information on long-term vacant properties Bringing buildings into active use Raising awareness on the supports available to owners 	ICC, Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Heritage Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on derelict sites updated No. of buildings brought back into use Information on over-the-shop living published 	Ongoing
61 Apply Town Centre First principles to the development of DLR's towns and villages.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, Town Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Health checks completed Annual work plan delivered 	Q4 2024
62 Provide safe, climate-friendly, accessible and attractive public spaces for use by all the community.	Architects, Parks, Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SBID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of public realm initiatives implemented 	Ongoing
63 Explore options to enhance public transport in the County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> East/West connection Dublin Airport connection 	Infrastructure & Climate Change (DLRCC)	DLRCC, NTA, TII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options identified No. of routes enhanced/added 	Q2 2025
64 Develop and implement measures to improve participation in community development and build volunteerism in the County.	Community, Culture and Parks (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DLR PPN, Dlr Volunteer Centre, DRCD, Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of groups that received capacity building support. Annual awareness campaign conducted No. of Volunteer Corp initiatives supported. 	Ongoing
65 Develop and implement measures to improve public engagement and participation in local government and in communities.	Corporate Affairs (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SSPDLR, DLR PPN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solutions and ideas identified and implemented to enhance engagement 	Ongoing
66 Support the development of a vibrant retail and hospitality sectors throughout the County.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, LEO, SBID, DLR Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of supports provided to retail and hospitality sector 	Ongoing
67 Work to identify appropriate strategy for the development of a vibrant night-time economy.	Economic Development (DLRCC)	DLRCC, SBID, Town Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Night-time economy committees established Progress made in relation to achieving purple flags for Dún Laoghaire and Dundrum. 	Q4 2024

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

This chapter outlines the Council's approach to monitoring and evaluating the 2023 – 2028 LECP. The adoption of the two-year implementation plan format has introduced increased flexibility to the LECP process. It provides the Council and its partners with an opportunity to revise the implementation plan, replace underperforming or completed actions and address new needs that may have arisen within the two-year timeframe. As such, accurate monitoring and evaluation will be a key factor in ensuring the LECP's success and in realising the benefits of the more flexible approach to implementation.

The performance of the implementation plan will be reported to the County Council, LCDC and Economic Development and Enterprise SPC on a six-monthly basis.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council holds the responsibility for overseeing the comprehensive implementation of the new plan and will ensure the regular and consistent monitoring of its progress. However, as the LECP is a shared plan, the monitoring of progress will require a collaborative effort between the County Council and agencies responsible for the implementation of specific actions. The accurate monitoring and evaluation of progress will contribute to the development of an evidence-based approach which can be utilised by the Council and its partners to effectively allocate resources to address economic and community needs.

8.1 DLR LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Approach

The monitoring and evaluation approach has been developed to be simple and efficient, taking into account the shared nature of the plan and the need for accurate and regular reporting. It is centred around collaboration, accountability, and effective communication between the Council and the various stakeholders that will contribute to the LECP's successful implementation.

As previously outlined, the high-level goals, objectives, outcomes and actions have been developed and lead agencies/groups and KPIs identified. Additionally, data sources have been identified that can help to contribute to the overall monitoring of progress of the LECP and are outlined below. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will liaise with lead agencies on a regular basis to obtain updates on the progress of assigned actions. To assist with this process, designated points of contact in each lead agency/group will be established to report on progress at agreed intervals. As each implementation plan will be revised after two years, it is recommended that lead agencies provide updates to the Council on the progress of actions on a half yearly basis. Furthermore, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will annually circulate an overall progress report on the plan, reflecting information gathered throughout the year.

8.2 What is being Monitored?

The actions and their associated KPIs will be monitored for progress, along with the desired outcomes connected to the overarching goals and objectives. These KPIs vary in nature, consisting of both quantitative (e.g., the number of information sessions conducted, or participants involved) and qualitative metrics (e.g., completion of a feasibility study or establishment of an economic forum). Regardless of the nature of the KPI, lead agencies responsible for actions within the implementation plan are required to provide clear and succinct updates on progress, including in relation to actions that may not have started or progressed.

These updates will contribute to the evaluation of progress on the actions as well as the overall goals, objectives, and outcomes for which Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will hold overall responsibility due to their higher-level and longer-term nature. The outcomes also vary, with a number being related to data available from national databases including the CSO, while in other instances there may be a requirement to specifically collect or obtain data from relevant agencies such as Enterprise Ireland or the IDA.

8.3 What will be Reported

Lead agencies will provide concise progress updates on relevant actions and their associated KPIs through designated points of contact on a half-yearly basis. In situations where KPI-related data is not yet accessible, this should be explicitly noted, along with an estimated release date for the data. Updates should also highlight any challenges preventing actions from being progressed or issues such as those relating to KPI reporting. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council will review the information provided and, where applicable, propose potential solutions.

To facilitate clear referencing, the goals, objectives, and actions have been numbered. When reporting, it is essential to include the action number and, if applicable, make reference to the sub-action. A detailed record should be maintained for each action and sub-action, indicating whether it has commenced, is currently in progress, or has been successfully completed. If certain actions have not yet commenced, the update should explain the reasons along with any projected start date if available. Actions that are not being progressed should also be documented, along with the reasons for their cancellation. Similarly, if feasibility studies have resulted in the rejection of specific initiatives or projects, this information should be clearly recorded to inform future policy decisions.

8.4 Data Sources

The below outlines a summary list of data sources used in preparing the LECP which will aid in the monitoring of its overall progress:

Business Demography

The Business Demography, updated annually, gives information on the numbers of enterprises, enterprise births and deaths and survival rates, as well as related employment figures. It can be used to update information on employment growth by enterprise category.

Census Information

Statistics from Census 2022 and future censuses will contribute heavily to monitoring progress, particularly in relation to the goals, objectives and desired outcomes. This includes information on principal economic status, means of travel (e.g., cycling, walking, or by vehicle), general health assessment, educational attainment and more.

GeoDirectory

The GeoDirectory provides information on a quarterly basis for commercial and residential vacancy at county and selected town level. It can be used to monitor the commercial and residential vacancy rates in DLR. This information can be supplemented with any findings arising from town centre health checks, when and if, they are conducted in the County.

HEA Enrolments by HEI Region/Home County

The Higher Education Authority (HEA) provides annual information on enrolments by county. This includes data on institution, course level and mode of study, amongst other areas.

Labour Force Survey (LFS)

The Labour Force Survey replaced the Quarterly Household Survey and provides labour force estimates in relation to measure of employment and unemployment at both national and regional levels. It is updated on a quarterly basis.

Live Register

The Live Register provides information on a monthly basis in relation to those pursuing jobseeker's benefit and jobseeker's allowance and includes county level information. Notably, it is not designed to measure unemployment, as it includes part-time, seasonal and casual workers that maybe entitled to jobseeker's benefit and allowance.

Pobal HP Deprivation Index

The Pobal HP Deprivation Index shows the level of overall affluence and deprivation at ED-level along with associated deprivation scores. It can assist in identification and analysis of the levels of deprivation and poverty in an area.

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme Reports (SICAP)

Pobal release annual reports related to the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme by county which includes indicators and identified trends around specific target groups including those from minority groups, the unemployed and older people.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A – Note on Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment

Screening Determination for Strategic Environmental Assessment under SEA Directive 2001/42/EC as transposed into Irish law under S.I. 435/2004, as amended.

Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council as the Competent Authority for the Local Economic and Community Plan (the plan) has undertaken screening for SEA under Directive 2001/42/EC. The screening assessment was carried out using the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects as set out in Schedule 1 of S.I. 435/2004, as amended.

Following assessment of the criteria and having regard to the nature of the Plan and the potential for likely significant environmental effects from implementation of the Plan, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council determined that the plan will not give rise to likely significant effects on the environment.

This determination has been made following consideration of the information contained in a SEA Screening Report and the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to S.I. 435/2004 as amended.

The principal reasons the Plan does not require an SEA are as follows:

The LECP does not set the framework for consent or land use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Development Plan (CDP) 2022 – 2028 and all other relevant plans. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and other relevant plans and their associated environmental assessments.

Appropriate Assessment Determination under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC as transposed into Irish Law by S.I. 477/2011 (as amended).

Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council has prepared a Local Economic and Community Plan (the Plan) for the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown functional area.

A screening determination for the need for Appropriate Assessment (AA) has been made by the Council in respect of the plan in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of the Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directives) and Regulation 42(11) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended).

The plan was examined and assessed for its potential to have likely significant effects on any European site in view of conservation objectives, either alone or in combination with other plans, programmes and projects. This assessment was documented in an AA Screening Report for the plan.

The AA Screening Report concluded that the plan will not introduce any sources of environmental effect, and therefore will not result in any likely, significant effect on European sites, including the qualifying interests, special conservation interest or the conservation objectives of such sites.

The principal reason for this is as follows:

The plan does not set the framework for consent or land use change. The supports provided will work within existing land use operators and all plans/projects arising from the implementation of the plan will be subject to compliance with the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Development Plan (CDP) 2022 – 2028 and all other relevant plans. There are no sources for impacts that are not already considered within the CDP and other relevant plans and their associated environmental assessments.

Taking account of the above, it is determined that full AA is not required to be undertaken for the plan.

9.2 Appendix B – List of Acronyms

List of Acronyms	Description
AA	Appropriate Assessment
AI	Artificial Intelligence
ASG	Advisory Steering Group
CARO	Climate Action Regional Office
CDP	County Development Plan
CPO	Compulsory Purchase Order
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CSO	Compulsory Sale Order
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committees
DDLETB	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board
DLR	Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown
DLRDATAF	Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown Drug and Alcohol Task Force
DLRCC	Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council
DVAS	Domestic Violence Advocacy Service
DZ	Decarbonising Zone
EI	Enterprise Ireland
EMRA	Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
EU	European Union
FRC	Family Resource Centres
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HEA	Higher Education Authority
HSE	Health Service Executive
IADT	Institute of Art, Design and Technology
IDA	Industrial Development Authority

List of Acronyms	Description
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LEO	Local Enterprise Office
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NPF	National Planning Framework
NSO	National Strategic Outcome
NTA	National Transport Authority
DLR PPN	Public Participation Network
RSES	Regional Spatial Economic Strategy
SBID	Sandyford Business Improvement District
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDZ	Strategic Development Zone
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland
SEC	Sustainable Energy Communities
SFI	Science Foundation Ireland
SICAP	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
SME	Small-to-Medium Enterprise
SPC	Strategic Policy Committee
SSPDLR	Southside Partnership Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
SWOT	Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat
TII	Transport Infrastructure Ireland
UCD	University College Dublin
UN	United Nations

9.3 Appendix C – List of Potential Funding Sources

Funding Stream	Summary
Climate Action Fund	Established to provide help and financial support to projects which will help Ireland achieve its climate and energy targets, providing at least €500 million in government funding up to 2027.
Connected Hubs Fund	Provides owners, operators and managers of existing remote working facilities and Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) with the opportunity to identify and develop their own solutions in consultation with local authorities and other groups.
European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund	Runs from 2021 to 2027 and supports the EU common fisheries policy (CFP), the EU maritime policy and the EU agenda for international ocean governance. It provides support for developing innovative projects ensuring that aquatic and maritime resources are used sustainably.
European Regional Development Fund	Designed to strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union. It aims to do this by correcting imbalances between regions enabling investments in a smarter, greener, more connected and more social Europe that is closer to its citizens.
European Structural and Investments Fund	The funds work together to invest in education, research, and job creation to help create a sustainable and healthy economy across the whole of the country. They are also spent on protecting the environment, and on supporting rural and coastal communities.
Greenway Programme	Funding of approximately €63 million through TII's Greenway Programme will see the ongoing development of around 70 Greenway projects around the country. The funding will see construction continue on a number of projects which will be completed in 2023, with other projects moving through planning and design stage.
Irish Strategic Investment Fund	Aims to invest on a commercial basis to support economic activity and employment in Ireland, with the fund being a strategic investor with strong connections in both the public and private sectors.
LEADER Programme	Aims to support the local development of Ireland's rural areas with the exception of the areas within the boundaries of the five main cities of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway.
Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme	Provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and for the necessary repair, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreation infrastructure in countryside areas across Ireland.
Rural Regeneration and Development Fund	Purpose of the fund is to support job creation in rural areas, address de-population of rural communities and support improvements in towns and villages with a population of less than 10,000, and outlying areas.
Sports Capital Grants	Primary vehicle for government support for the development of sports and physical recreation facilities and the purchase of non-personal sports equipment throughout the country.
Town and Village Renewal Scheme	Scheme is targeted at towns and villages with a population of 10,000 or less and all projects funded under the Scheme must be completed within a 12-to-18-month period.
Urban Regeneration and Development Fund	The fund was established to support more compact and sustainable development through the regeneration and rejuvenation of Ireland's five cities and other large towns, in line with the objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF) and National Development Plan (NDP).
Community Grants and Programmes	Community Grants and Programmes administered by the LCDC on behalf of Department of Rural and Community Development such as SICAP, Community Enhancement Programme, and Healthy Ireland.

9.4 Appendix D – List of written Submissions

As part of the consultation, written submissions were received from the following:

- Ballybrack Youth Group
- Christine Cosgrave
- Digital Dún Laoghaire
- DLR Comhairle na nÓg
- DLR PPN
- DLR Sports Partnership
- Dublin Array
- Frank Kelly
- Nutgrove Enterprise Park
- Southside Partnership DLR
- Transport Infrastructure Ireland

9.5 Appendix E – SPC and LCDC Members

Below is a membership list for the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC:

i.	ClIr Barry Saul
ii.	ClIr Denis O'Callaghan
iii.	ClIr Eva Elizabeth Dowling
iv.	ClIr Jim Gildea
v.	ClIr John Kennedy
vi.	ClIr Juliet O'Connell
vii.	ClIr Kate Feeney (Chair)
viii.	ClIr Kate Ruddock
ix.	ClIr Lorraine Hall
x.	ClIr Mary Fayne
xi.	ClIr Michael Clark
xii.	ClIr Michael Fleming
xiii.	ClIr Senan Sexton
xiv.	ClIr Shay Brennan
xv.	PPN – Aileen Eglington
xvi.	PPN – Fardus Sultan
xvii.	Chambers Ireland – Ger Corbett
xviii.	Chambers Ireland – Josephine Browne
xix.	Chambers Ireland – Mark Scott-Lennon
xx.	Tourism Sector – John O'Toole

Below is a membership list for the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council LCDC:

i.	ClIr Kate Feeney
ii.	ClIr Lettie McCarthy
iii.	ClIr Marie Baker
iv.	ClIr Tom Kivlehan
v.	Róisín Cronin (Local Enterprise)
vi.	Therese Langan (Chief Executive Nominee)
vii.	Aisling Heffernan (Health Service Executive)
viii.	Helena O'Neill (Túsla, in advisory role)
ix.	Maria Culbert (Education and Training Board)
x.	Stephen Fitzgerald (Department of Social Protection)
xi.	Sharon Commins (Southside Partnership)
xii.	John Doyle (PPN)
xiii.	Louise Keogh (PPN)
xiv.	Joe Varley (PPN)
xv.	Valerie Snow (PPN)
xvi.	Annette McAllister (PPN)
xvii.	Enda O'Dwyer (Dún Laoghaire Youth Service, Crosscare)
xviii.	Professor Joe Carthy (University College Dublin)

Below is a membership list for the Advisory Steering Group :

Sharon Commins	Local Community Development Committee
Ger Corbett	Economic Development and Enterprise SPC
Róisín Cronin	DLRCC
Helena Cunningham	DLRCC*
Councillor Kate Feeney	Economic Development and Enterprise SPC
Bernadette King	DLRCC
Councillor Tom Kivlehan	Local Community Development Committee
Therese Langan	Local Community Development Committee
Owen Laverty	DLRCC
Mary Ruane	Local Community Development Committee

*Aidan Blighe replaced Helena Cunningham in April 2023

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Comhairle Contae County Council



LCDC

Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil
Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Community
Development Committee