

# dlr times

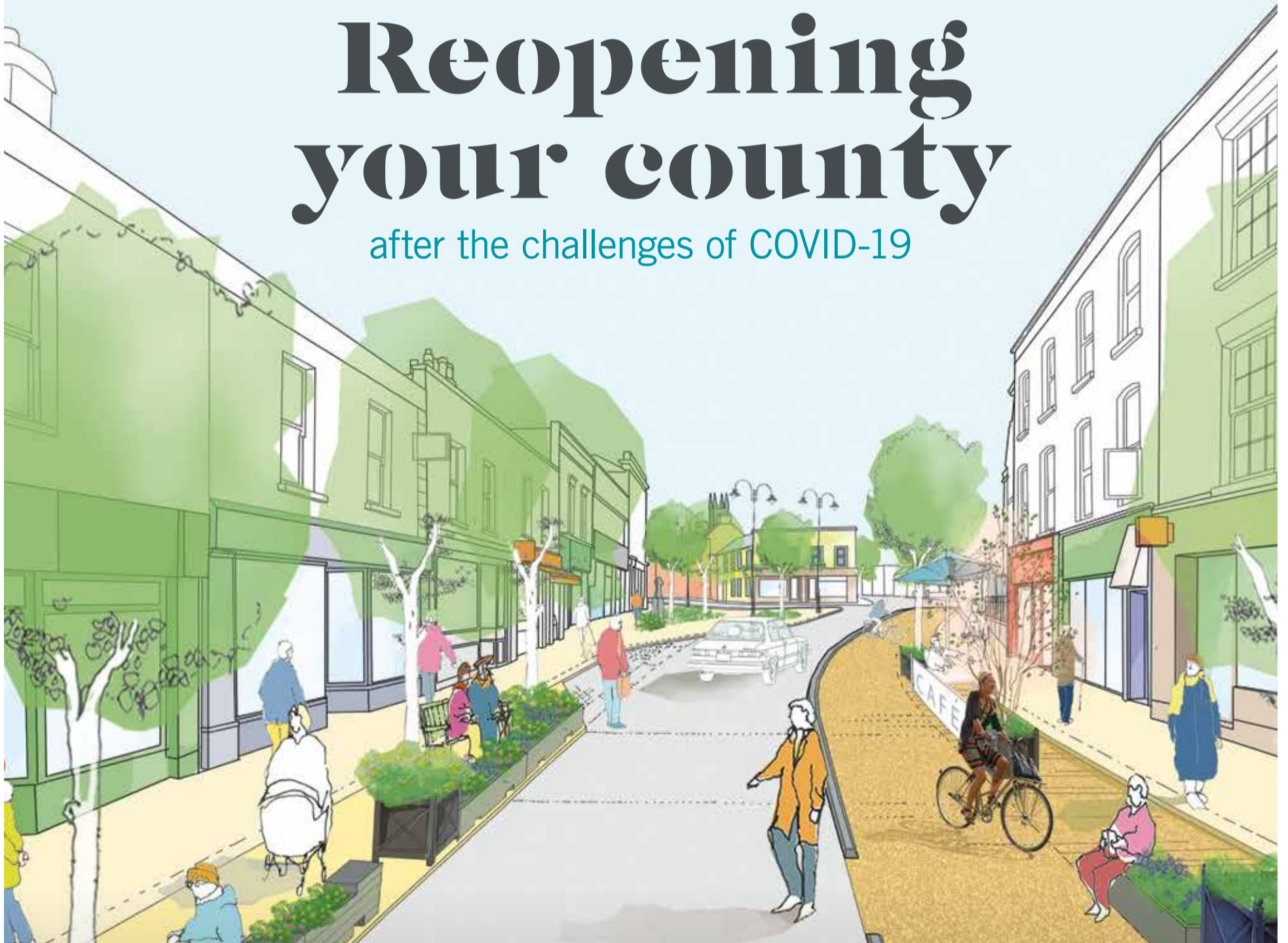
SUMMER 2020

INSIDE  
Thanks to all  
the COVID-19  
volunteers

New  
Cathaoirleach  
Elected

# Reopening your county

after the challenges of COVID-19



 **dlr**  
Comhairle Contae County Council

INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

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## Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

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DunLaoghaireRathdownCountyCouncil

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commsoffice@dlrcoco.ie



## Message from An Cathaoirleach

*It is incredibly exciting and a real honour to be elected as Cathaoirleach of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. Bringing positive change for everyone in our county is a key focus for me over the next year. I want to bring about improvements in where we live, how we travel, and create an environment that works for all. I want to lead on active engagement between the Council and you the citizen, and ensure that we take on your ideas to enhance your local community. Some of these measures are already underway and you can read about public realm initiatives and supports for business and the community in this edition of the dlr Times.*

**CLLR. UNA POWER**



## Message from the dlr Chief Executive

*These last few months have been a challenge for each and everyone of us. We have been separated from family, friends, our communities, clubs and workplaces as we united together to combat the threat of COVID-19. It has been a privilege to stand with the staff of dlr, the Elected Members and all of the volunteers across the county who have selflessly given of themselves to ensure that the vulnerable in our county would not be left isolated and alone. The dlr Community Call provided a one-stop resource for all people in the county and everyone involved ensured that no-one was left waiting for a service whether it was shopping, medicines, a companion phone call or even a surprise bundle of libraries books – along with the hand soap, chocolate and flower seeds to plant for another brighter spring day.*

*I would like to give my sincere thanks to all of the Council front-line workers and join with all of you in thanking all front-line workers who kept us going – from the medical staff to the retail workers and public transport providers. I would also like to thank you the citizens of this county who worked with us as we navigated our path through the crisis. I want to thank Councillor Shay Brennan who was Cathaoirleach during this for his support as our world changed.*

*I look forward now to the county re-opening for business and leisure. We will take to the high seas with our COVID stories told in flags and our buildings will be open again to welcome you. I would like to congratulate Councillor Power on her election as Cathaoirleach and wish her the very best as first citizen of the county for the year ahead.*

**PHILOMENA POOLE**

## CoCo Markets

### PEOPLE'S PARK

Park Road, Dún Laoghaire

### MARLAY PARK

Rathfarnham, Dublin 16

Further updates to follow on dlrcoco.ie



## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**Out of Hours :** 01 677 8844  
[after 5pm + weekends]

**Homeless Persons:** 1800 724 724  
[after hours services]

**Irish Water:** 1850 278 278  
[24 hours]

## Your dlr parks



(Cocooner times: 1.30-3.30pm)

### BLACKROCK PARK

**TIME:** Sep 8am to 8pm | Oct 8am to 7pm | Nov – Jan 8am to 4.30pm  
Feb – Mar 8am to 6pm | Apr 8am to 8pm | May – Aug 8am to 9pm

### CABINTEELY PARK

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

### DEER PARK

**TIME:** Open Access

### FERNHILL PARK & GARDENS

**TIME:** 9am - 6pm

### KILBOGGET PARK

**TIME:** Open Access

### KILLINEY HILL PARK

**TIME:** Open Access

### MARLAY PARK

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

### PEOPLE'S PARK

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

### SHANGANAGH PARK

**TIME:** Open Access

## Recycling information



### BALLYOGAN RECYCLING

Ballyogan Road

**TELEPHONE:** 01 291 3600  
**TIME:** Mon – Fri 8.30am to 5.30pm  
Sat 9.30am to 5.30pm | Sun/Bank Hols 10.30am to 5.30pm.  
**CLOSED:** Christmas Eve – St. Stephen's Day, New Year's Day, Easter Sunday.

### EDEN PARK RECYCLING

Summerhill Road, Glasthule

**TIME:** Mon – Thur 8.30am to 4pm  
Fri – Sat 8.30am to 3.30pm.  
**CLOSED:** Sunday, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays.

### SHANGANAGH RECYCLING CENTRE

Cemetery Car Park, Shankill

**TIME:** Mon – Thur 8.30am to 4pm  
Fri – Sat 8.30am to 3.30pm.  
**CLOSED:** Sunday, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays.

## Your dlr libraries



Please check your local library for opening times. Hours may vary during Summer 2020.

### dlr LEXICON

Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire

**TEL:** 01 280 1147  
**TIME:** Mon – Thur 9.30am – 8pm  
Fri to Sat 9.30am – 5pm | Sun 12noon – 4pm

### BLACKROCK

Blackrock Town Hall,  
Main Street

**TEL:** 01 288 8117  
**TIME:** Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 1.15pm – 8pm

### CABINTEELY\*

Old Bray Road, Cabinteely

**TEL:** 01 285 5363  
**TIME:** Mon, Wed, Fri\* & Sat\* 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 2pm – 8pm

### DALKEY

Castle Street, Dalkey

**TEL:** 01 285 5317  
**TIME:** Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 1.15pm – 8pm

### DEANSGRANGE

Clonkeen Drive, Deansgrange

**TEL:** 01 285 0860  
**TIME:** Mon 10am – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm | Fri & Sat 10am – 5pm. *My Open Library* self-service 8am-10pm, 7 days a week, including bank holiday weekends.

### DUNDRUM

Upper Churchtown Road,  
Dundrum

**TEL:** 01 298 5000  
**TIMES:** Mon, Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm

### SHANKILL\*

Library Road, Shankill

**TEL:** 01 282 3081  
**TIME:** Mon, Wed, Fri\* & Sat\* 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue & Thur 2pm – 8pm

### STILLORGAN

St. Laurence's Park,  
Stillorgan

**TEL:** 01 288 9655  
**TIME:** Mon 10am – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm | Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm, 2pm – 5pm

\* Libraries with an asterisk are open either Friday or Saturday – please contact for further details. - On Bank Holiday weekends, all libraries are closed Saturday, Sunday & Monday while Deansgrange opens in *My Open Library* mode.



# A community united in adversity

**The challenges faced by every single person in this county over the last few months have been unparalleled in terms of scale and intensity. We have lost loved ones, businesses have closed, jobs have disappeared, schools shut.**

**We have had to learn to live apart, relying on technology to stay in touch, as we tried to retain fragments of social interaction while familiar routines and patterns in our lives were pulled apart. Government guidelines, health and safety recommendations and terminology became the commonplace.**

**We have all had to abide personal or work place sacrifices in order to comply with guidelines to help our society manage the unprecedented threat of COVID-19. It has had a profound effect on every aspect of how we live and in how the Council operates and provides services.**

**Through it all our communities have also witnessed a resilience and togetherness that has shown what is best about our county. As we move into the summer we are also moving into a place of recovery with the Council working to enhance our public spaces.**

Amidst all the adversity and the specific threat to those who are vulnerable there has been clear signs of resilience and hope as local communities, volunteers groups and organisations, in particular the GAA, banded together with the Council to operate our Community Call programme, answered a call over 5,000 times and ensured that nobody was left without, that those cocooning had access to food and medicines and that social isolation for those living alone was diminished.

Amidst the complexities of managing home-schooling, remote working, hair cuts or how to get the shopping done safely, many of us found small joys in novel and unexpected places. Some have had more time to appreciate nature from our gardens, balconies and local parks in our immediate areas. Many of us rediscovered old skills long dormant, and found new interests in online courses, digital tours and virtual exhibitions, provided by Council staff and discovered the benefits of indoor & outdoor exercise and movement courtesy of our sports co-ordinators. Our Libraries have ensured a diverse online offering and even dropped books to the doorsteps of those cocooning.

As we transition into Phase 3 and onward in the Governments Reopening Roadmap, we are moving into a new space in terms of how we operate as a society. The Council has placed public and staff safety of paramount importance as this phased return to a new normal and more familiar patterns roll out.

All measures by the Council to open back up your county have and will be undertaken in a controlled, considered and safe manner.

We will be guided by national policy, health & safety expertise and emerging best practice in COVID-19 safety. We will be opening public buildings in a graduated manner and signage and sanitation stations

will be in place in all areas and other protective measures will be put in place at all public counters where required, for the safety and comfort of all. We will keep you up to date as reopening begins and service levels increase.

Listening to you the citizen, Councillors and local businesses, working together we are making good progress in the initial steps of getting our county back up and running safely. We are re-imagining how we manage our public spaces and we have taken some innovative steps in certain areas to increase the ability of people to enjoy our towns and villages in safety while mindful of physical distancing considerations.

Some of these new approaches include significant changes to the public realm in our towns including increased access to space for pedestrians and cyclists, street renovations and one-way systems. We have been supporting small and medium sized businesses by distributing new business support grants and providing support to our local volunteer sector with expense grants. More information on these initiatives are inside this edition.

These are extraordinary times and the County Council is deeply indebted to the citizens of our area, and all of our staff, for their flexibility, forbearance and determination. Above all, though remaining apart from each other for many months, our county has shown a remarkable sense of joined endeavour, concern for others and volunteer spirit.

With that same resolve in the coming months, as we begin to reopen our county together, we can make it an even better and more inclusive place to live.

## New Cathaoirleach Elected



Councillor Una Power has been elected Cathaoirleach of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council at the Council's Annual General Meeting on 8 June. Councillor Power, a representative of the Green Party, was elected to the County Council in 2019 as a first time Councillor, to represent the Killiney-Shankill Ward.

The new Cathaoirleach, who holds an BA in Politics and German and is undertaking an Masters in Public Policy at UCD, has worked as a political activist and in the NGO sector and has been a member of the Green Party for many years.

The newly-elected Cathaoirleach outlined her main priorities for the year:

*"Building healthier and more connected communities, helping to support our communities and our businesses come out of lockdown into our 'new normal'. Providing safe walking and cycling infrastructure for all ages and abilities will be a key focus of mine in achieving this aim, as well as ensuring people can safely access our local businesses. I want to improve our Council's engagement with citizens in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown by developing a citizen's engagement platform, like Dublin City Councils BETA Project, where members of the public can suggest solutions to the issues facing their communities, which will then be trialled by the Council to gauge effectiveness. It is residents who know their areas best and who can bring creative ideas on transport, planning, biodiversity and a whole range of issues".*

Councillor Séafra Ó Faoláin was also elected Leas Chathaoirleach at the meeting. Councillor Ó Faoláin, a representative of the Green Party, was elected in the Blackrock Local Electoral Area in 2019, as the youngest Councillor in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown at 22 years of age. Born and raised in the area, Councillor Ó Faoláin was educated in Blackrock College and Trinity College Dublin, where he was heavily involved in climate activism. He is currently studying a Masters in Public Policy in UCD.

## News for Ratepayers



### RATEPAYERS

The Council is conscious of the on-going impact that COVID-19 is having on many businesses and citizens throughout the County and staff are continuing to work with customers whose finances are negatively affected.

### RESTART GRANT

The Government announced details of the Restart Grant on the 2nd May. The grant is aimed at helping micro and small businesses. To avail of the Restart Grant, applicants must be a commercial business in our Commercial Rates Payment System and (1) have an annual turnover of less than €5m and employ between 1 to 50 people (2) have suffered a projected 25%+ loss in turnover to end June 2020 and (3) commit to remain open or to reopen if it was closed. The grant is based on the 2019 rates bill subject to a minimum grant of €2,000 and a maximum grant of €10,000. It is open to applicants to apply on the Council's website [www.dlrcoo.ie/restartgrant](http://www.dlrcoo.ie/restartgrant)

### RATES WAIVER

The Government also announced on the 2nd May, 2020, that commercial rates will be waived for a 3 month period beginning on 27 March 2020, for all businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19.

# dlr LEO Business Community Supports



Early in the crisis we offered specific COVID-19 relevant supports to our business community. The Business Continuity Vouchers (BCV) provided €2,500 to bring the right expertise into more than 250 dlr companies them to keep in business during this crisis and plan their next steps.

Unlike Brexit where we advised companies to look at markets beyond the U.K we now have a situation whereby trading conditions are not really much better anywhere else for now at least. The lowest hanging fruit for many businesses is to build or improve

their online presence. The Trading Online Voucher has been in existence for some time now however in response to COVID-19 we are now offering a 90% (up from 50%) grant for a spend of up to €2,500 to get businesses online or improve their online presence and businesses can apply for two consecutive vouchers.

In any crisis there comes shock and we are seeing this across the board in the business community. We teamed up with [www.LIFTIreland.ie](http://www.LIFTIreland.ie) last year and are busy spreading this great leadership program internally in dlr and into the broader business community. Of course like everything else it has gone online and they have revised their content for these times with "resilience" being one of the highly relevant skillsets that has been added to the arsenal. The one important thing that people miss when we speak about leadership is that we are all leaders and this program is aimed towards everyone no matter of their position or status in a company.

Without COVID-19 we were on course to have a record year of creating new jobs and supporting new enterprises with our range of grants, these activities have not stopped and we expect them to be more in demand than ever when we start the recovery stage of the crisis as people look for new opportunities to get back into the workforce. Other items worth mentioning our partners Micro Finance Ireland have announced a COVID Business loan ([www.microfinanceireland.ie](http://www.microfinanceireland.ie)) of up to €50,000 with a 6 month holiday on capital and interest payments. If you apply for this loan through our office you will be eligible for a rate of 4.5 % and if you want to use this opportunity to develop a new innovation perhaps the Feasibility Study Grant or Agile Fund is right for your business.

Find out more at the LEO website [www.localenterprise.ie/DLR/Financial-Supports](http://www.localenterprise.ie/DLR/Financial-Supports)

## Calling All Artists!



As part of the Economic Development Unit's ongoing work to encourage increased footfall and activity around our Towns and Villages, we are partnering with Dublin Canvas to invite artists to help brighten up the county.

Dublin Canvas is a public art project which aims to bring flashes of colour and creativity to everyday objects within Dún Laoghaire Rathdown. The project takes the grey traffic boxes you've probably never given a second glance to, and transforms them into canvases to help brighten up the streets of the county's towns and villages.

Full details are available at [www.dublincanvas.com](http://www.dublincanvas.com)

Image above is from 2018 project, 'The Humpback' by Nicholas & Edgar Henihan. Stonebridge Road, Shanganagh Road, Shankill.



We are asking everyone of all ages to come together in a day of solidarity and create a flag that we will fly at Dún Laoghaire Harbour.

As we emerge from the final phases of the COVID-19 public restrictions, we are asking you to make a flag with your message of hope for the future. Tell us your COVID-19 story!

We are asking you to make a flag (or flags) telling your COVID story or with your message of hope for the future. You can really let your creativity run wild and stitch, draw, paint or stencil any design. You can design one flag or a series of flags to be strung together.

Once we receive the flags we will hand them over to members of the Dún Laoghaire sailing community to be flown from the masts of boats in Dún Laoghaire Harbour. The flags will be attached to the boats and flown with pride in the harbour and when out on the sea.

Entry is open to everyone and the closing date is the end of the Summer. For more information and how to enter see our website [www.dlrcoco.ie/flyyourflag](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/flyyourflag)



## Tourism Returns

The tourism & hospitality industry is this month making a return after the COVID-19 lockdown. All over this county there are a huge variety of indoor & outdoor activities, parks, bathing areas, trails and scenic walks to rediscover. Zipit (Tibradden Wood), Glencullen Adventure Park, biking, horse riding and guided walks in the Dublin Mountains are back up and running to get out and enjoy nature again. On the coast, bathing areas at the 40 Foot, SeaPoint and Sandycove are open, Kayaking is available in Dalkey while the Irish National Sailing School and Dublin Bay Cruises return to the water at Dún Laoghaire Harbour. The beautiful Airfield Estate has reopened in Dundrum while parks at Fernhill, Marlay, Peoples Park, Killiney Hill, Cabinteely are open to enjoy a family picnic on the weekends. In addition to the wealth of things to see and do in your area we welcome a variety of other attractions & hotels opening their doors again later in the summer.

Find out more on our website and social media pages [www.dlrtourism.ie](http://www.dlrtourism.ie) (Facebook & Instagram @dlrtourism)

## Housing Adaptation Grants

As an Age-Friendly County, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council works to support older people and persons with a disability to live independently, or with care, in their own home for as long as possible, through the provision of grants which are available to home owners.

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability assists persons with a disability to have necessary adaptations, repairs or improvement works carried out in order to make their accommodation more suitable for their needs. An Occupational Therapist will help decide the type of alteration most suitable for the needs of the resident. Eligible works include accessible showers, stair lifts, downstairs toilet facilities and changes to make access to the home easier and safer such as ramps and handrails.

The Mobility Aid Grant is available to cover a more basic suite of works to address the mobility problems of a member of a household. Qualifying works include the provision of stair lifts, access ramps, grab rails and occasionally accessible showers. An Occupational Therapist will advise on the type of adaptation best suited to the needs of the resident.

The Housing Aid for Older People Grant provides assistance of up to €8,000 to persons over the age of 66 years living in poor housing conditions. Typical works include essential roof repairs, re-wiring and central heating where none exists.

The application process starts with a single application form used for all grants schemes. The forms are available to download from the Council's website [www.dlrcoco.ie/en/housing/housing-grants](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/housing/housing-grants).

The Housing Department will be happy to assist you with any queries and can be contacted at 01 205 4700 or at [housinggrants@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:housinggrants@dlrcoco.ie)

# Thanks to our Volunteers

Since the very beginning of the COVID-19 crisis our county's strong community spirit has shone through. People from all walks of life took the time and effort to provide assistance to those who were the most vulnerable during the darkest days of the pandemic.

The services provided by these volunteers have been essential and always welcome. Volunteers took time out from their own lives and concerns and provided lifelines to our vulnerable citizens, especially elderly cocooners. They delivered groceries, pharmacy medicines, books, provided companionship from a distance and even dog walking!



Volunteers were co-ordinated through the Council 'dlr Community Call' platform, which answered calls 7 days a week reaching over 5,000 total calls by June and by a weekly Community Response Forum. This one-stop resource for people in need throughout the county ensured that no-one was left waiting for assistance during the height of the pandemic lockdown. A huge cast of participants from across the volunteer spectrum, state agencies and local clubs helped to coordinate the response with the Council.

Special mention should go to the GAA local clubs in particular Cuala, Ballinteer St. Johns, Geraldine Morans, Kilmacud Crokes, Stars of Erin, Shankill GAA and Naomh Olaf who provided a wealth of volunteer spirit and expertise, working tirelessly with the Council every day and lead with the on the ground response in the shopping for and delivering of groceries to hundreds of elderly people in every corner of the county who were cocooning since the middle of March. This public health crisis has changed life for so many and the GAA clubs were there to help ease the burden on individuals.

Scouting Ireland provided much needed assistance through their local lodges in the vital delivery of pharmacy prescriptions to cocooners. Their energy and organisational skills helped many to access vital prescriptions and medicine during this time.

## Public Information



Southside Traveller Action Group worked with the Council on ensuring that all their community programmes were kept running and that additional physical distancing resources were provided to people in the Travelling Community in their area.

Serve the City worked with dlr Volunteer Centre and assisted in providing grocery delivery to cocooners across the county, recruiting a new army of volunteers who were looking to help where they could.

Making Connections volunteer agency worked on the ground with Airfield Estate to deliver over 2,000 hot meals to those who need them, help collect pensions for those unable to leave their homes and provided a voice and an ear to people suffering from social isolation, providing information and support.

Care and Repair Service were very responsive where there were requests from cocooners for minor repairs as well as the family resource centre who continued to engage with vulnerable families in very creative ways.

Southside Partnership, HSE, Order of Malta and other agencies all provided invaluable coordination and information assistance from the very start of the crisis, with unique insights that assisted the response as a whole.

dlr staff also put their hands up and worked on their own time to operate alongside these volunteers in providing much needed support.

Though the worst has now thankfully passed and we find ourselves more comfortable in our reopening, many of the established volunteers groups are still working with the elderly and vulnerable. Many things have changed but volunteering is still a great way to connect with one another and causes we care about. Agencies like the dlr Volunteers Centre and their Volunteer From Home initiative and Making Connections who specialise in linking in with the elderly, continue to provide assistance in a variety of ways and if you want to help, you can contact them at [www.volunteerdlr.ie](http://www.volunteerdlr.ie) and [www.makingconnections.ie](http://www.makingconnections.ie)

During this unprecedented time, despite all the challenges, the volunteers, organisations, agencies and the Council have come together and ensured that those who were most vulnerable living in our communities were the ones that were protected the most. As we move through the reopening phases into brighter days we do so in the knowledge that this county's community spirit is something to be really proud of and be reassured to know that it can be relied on even at the most challenging of times.



# Reimagining our villages and roadways

## Creating safe and inviting public places

dlr have been working in partnership with local stakeholders in a number of areas around the county to create temporary designs for re-imagined public spaces in our villages and dedicated cycling links on our roads.

We want to ensure we can provide a safe and welcoming place for residents, businesses and visitors and help re-open our areas as our society gets on the path to recovery following the impact from COVID-19.

Safety is at the heart of this public realm project, in terms of safe physical distancing and road safety. This initiative will allow pedestrians and cyclists to move around safely, to shop, rest and enjoy this new public space. These projects will roll out over the summer months through June and July.

Commencing in Blackrock Village, in order to create an attractive public space in this village setting, we will be integrating planters and street furnishings to help make visiting, shopping or simply spending time in Blackrock Village a safe and enjoyable experience. The design concept envisions a 'soft' separation between pedestrians and cyclists, as this is intended to be a public space through which people can move through at a leisurely pace, taking time to rest and enjoy. We want to ensure that the village is safe and can be enjoyed by all - the young and old, those who are new to cycling or who may have taken it up again after a long time; those who are mobility-challenged, including, amongst others, the blind and visually impaired.

This design will provide a new temporary one-way flow for vehicular traffic and cyclists from Rock Hill down through Main Street with the space resulting from the removal of a traffic lane and sections of on-street parking being reallocated for the safety of pedestrians, through wider footpaths, and cyclists, by means of a new contra-flow facility. We will be using screw-down kerb separators between traffic and pedestrians and cyclists, as well as placing a contrasting layer buff-coloured anti-skid surfacing to mark the areas clearly.

The expanded pedestrian zones may also offer opportunities for cafes and restaurants to use the public realm whilst ensuring safe physical distancing is adhered to.

**We are actively looking at other villages and locations within dlr and engaging with communities and businesses whereby we can improve our public realm in order to allow our citizens to move around safely, to shop, rest and enjoy our public spaces.**



## Allowing people of all abilities to enjoy our public spaces

In Dundrum Village we are also liaising closely with community, business groups, Gardaí and the National Transportation Authority (NTA) as we plan to create an inviting public space that will help to make visiting, shopping or spending time in Dundrum Village a safe and enjoyable experience. Plans include a temporary one-way traffic system on sections of Main St./Sandyford Road in the village and the reallocation of road space for the safety and benefit of pedestrians, cyclists and local businesses. These necessary changes to the public realm in the Village will facilitate safe physical distancing, mobility and support businesses reopening. Street landscaping and furniture will also be introduced in the area to make it a place to have the space to rest and enjoy safely.

We are aiming to promote the switch to active modes of walking and cycling to help meet the transport needs for Dundrum Village. It is expected that there will be minor alterations to certain bus routes, but we are working with the NTA to ensure minimal impact on public transport serving the village.

## Two way cycle lane from Blackrock to Sandycove

As part of the plan to improve the public realm in the County there will also be works commencing in July to create a segregated two-way cycle lane between Blackrock and Sandycove along our coast via Seapoint Avenue. To accommodate this vehicle traffic along parts of the coast road will be rerouted on a one-way system towards the city. The idea is to allow people more transport options and create space and usability of the route for all ages and abilities.

It is envisaged that these temporary measures will remain in place as long as we are dealing with the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions, which may be a matter of months or even longer.

For more information on these and other initiatives please see our website [www.dlrcoco.ie](http://www.dlrcoco.ie) or any of our social media channels in the coming weeks.



# dlr Baths to welcome Roger Casement statue



**Mark Richards, Sculptor with statue of Roger Casement**

On the centenary of the Easter Rising, dlr approved the erecting of a sculpture of Roger Casement, who was executed for his part in the 1916 Rising. Casement was born in Sandycove in 1864.

Working with Visual Artist's Ireland and following a two-stage selection process the artist Mark Richards was selected to undertake the commission. Mark Richards is a sculptor specialising in fine figurative work and has created well known memorials such as *The Athy Shackleton* in Athy and *The Nickey Rackard Statue* in Wexford.

The sculpture is a figurative representation of Casement. It is just over 1.5 life size and will be nearly 3m high. It is the artists intention that the figure appears to be stepping ashore - thematically that Casement is returning to Ireland and the place of his birth. It is the artists reflection of Casements speech from the dock in 1916 where he said 'I landed in Ireland. It was to Ireland I came; to Ireland I wanted to come.' The head of the memorial looks towards the GPO the symbol of the Easter Rising.

The location chosen for the commission is on a plinth at the end of the jetty which is currently being constructed as part of the Baths Project. This location has been chosen for its dramatic position overlooking the Dublin Bay and will be visible from many directions. The figure will be cast in bronze which, given the weather conditions and seaside location will age beautifully. The classic brown patina will soon darken and green flecks will show after a year or so. This will continue to mature and change and reflect the climatic conditions of the site. We will keep you up to date on the latest information as the project develops.



**Therese Langan**

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR  
COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL  
DEVELOPMENT

### **What do you do?**

I am Director of Services for Community and Cultural Development. We focus on the development of sustainable communities and promoting the wellbeing and quality of life of all citizens in the county. My team works to provide community facilities, supports and advice to local residents to encourage more participation at local level. I also have responsibility for our Libraries and the Arts and Culture programme.

### **What is your typical working day like?**

There is nothing 'typical' about my working day. The impact of COVID-19 on communities has been unprecedented. We are all finding it strange to be working remotely and distancing from our family, friends, and community activities. I am currently leading out on the dlr community response to the pandemic. This means coordinating an overall community response, directing assistance to where it is needed and marshalling volunteer energy to collaborate in support of our communities and vulnerable citizens. Our partners reach out to those who may be lonely or distressed, collecting medication and food shopping, delivering meals on wheels to them, or giving them social support.

### **What is the most difficult part of your job?**

Juggling the many elements of the role can often be challenging but I have a committed team working with me. Community engagement goes beyond the Community Call; we have a broad range of activities supporting health, wellbeing and making connections within our communities, including physical fitness, the arts, music generation, heritage, libraries and much more. Imposing physical distancing and delivering our programmes won't be easy until things improve, and we'll have to reach out to people in a different way.

### **What is the most rewarding part of your job?**

I welcome the variety and diversity of the work that I do and interacting with our partners to make a difference for our citizens. We have had 5,000 interactions to the Community Call. It could not have been done without our stakeholders; Southside Partnership, S.T.A.G, An Garda Síochána, the GAA, the Scouts and the Lions. Food poverty has been a concern and we have worked with Airfield, Meals on Wheels and Crosscare to support these organisations in their response. It's been a combined effort and we have worked really well together.

# dlr Libraries Update

## Bag a Book: Contact & Collect service

Over the summer months, dlr Libraries will continue to follow the dlr Roadmap to Recovery. In Phase II we're offering our Bag a Book: Contact & Collect service. Just contact your local participating dlr branch library to place your order for a selection of library material based on your reading habits and interests. For further information on the service see our website [www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie)

Phase III will see us begin to partially re-open some of our physical library spaces to users and also make some library IT equipment available. Phase IV will see the re-opening of remaining library spaces and increased access to collections and library IT equipment. The health & safety of our users and staff remains our priority, so each Phase will be implemented in line with Government protocol, adhering to ongoing public health advice around hygiene and social distancing.

## dlr Libraries Online

Over the summer months and beyond, we will continue to offer you events and services online, including storytime sessions, bookclubs, arts and crafts workshops and much more. This is in addition to our ever-expanding selection of online resources.

The Summer Stars Reading Challenge takes place at home and online from mid-June until September. This year includes a short story competition, plus online events with your favourite children's writers and illustrators.

Keep an eye on our social media platforms, website and e-bulletin for more details on this and all our event programming.

# Graphic Studio Dublin 60th Anniversary



Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is delighted to present the online exhibition 60 Years of Graphic Studio Dublin which celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the Graphic Studio Dublin and features works by Graphic Studio Dublin Members including recent graduates of IADT, Dun Laoghaire and artists born or living in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown. The exhibition is one of a series of exhibitions to be held in 2020 as part of Graphic Studio Dublin's 60th Anniversary celebration.

Exhibiting artists include Jean Bardon; Jack Barrett; Gerard Cox; Grainne Cuffe; Terry Dempsey;

Aisling Dolan, Cliona Doyle; Susan Early; Melissa Ellis; Camilla Fanning; Clare Henderson; Ann Kavanagh; Jennifer Lane; Richard Lawlor; Stephen Lawlor; Kate MacDonagh; Ruth O'Donnell; Robert Russell; Joe Ryan; Adrienne Symes and many others. The exhibition includes a diverse range of some of the best contemporary Irish fine art printmaking including etchings, screenprints, woodblocks and artist's books.

Graphic Studio Dublin, Ireland's oldest printmaking studio, was founded in 1960 by five visionaries - artists Elizabeth Rivers, Anne Yeats, Pat Hickey, Leslie McWeeney and Liam Miller, Fine Art Editions publisher and founder of Dolmen Press. With an artist-led ethos since its inception, Graphic Studio Dublin has protected the traditional skills of etching, stone lithography, wood and linocutting while continuing to embrace contemporary techniques such as photo-intaglio and screenprinting. Hundreds of artists have passed through the doors of the Studio, from the first premises in Lower Mount Street, through its long and productive sojourn in Green Street East in Dublin's Docklands to its present home in a spacious four storey former brewery on the North Circular Road.

Find out more on our website [www.dlrcoco.ie/arts](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/arts)

# dlr Writer in Residence Sadhbh Devlin



Our dlr Writer in Residence Sadhbh Devlin has been busy over the past few months. Not only has she been posting regularly on social media and appearing on Cúla 4, she's also made some online craft videos for us.

Check out our Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council YouTube channel.

We look forward to the autumn when we can help Sadhbh celebrate the launch of her latest book, written during her residency with dlr Libraries.

Keep in touch for further details!

[www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/dlr-writer-residence-2019-2020-sadhbh-devlin](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/dlr-writer-residence-2019-2020-sadhbh-devlin)

# Online Resources



As the old saying goes, "Necessity is the mother of invention", so during the recent strange and unusual times, we adapted many of our usual services to an online environment. In addition to hosting many events online including daily Storytime on Facebook Live, poetry readings via Zoom and Positive Parenting webinars on Vimeo, we also expanded our existing collection of online resources.

Apart from ebooks and audio ebooks via BorrowBox, we also have Overdrive, and are happy to announce that over the past few months we've added many new titles and multiple copies of popular titles, including some classroom sets for children.

We also offer other online resources including Freegal, a music streaming/downloading service, PressReader for online newspapers and RBDigital for magazines. You can learn a language with Transparent Language Online or a variety of online courses via Universal Class.

For the full list of our online resources and how to access them, visit [www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/online-library](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/online-library)



## Stay in touch

Keep up with latest events in dlr Libraries by signing up to our fortnightly e-bulletin: [www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/events-and-news/dlr-libraries-ebulletin](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/events-and-news/dlr-libraries-ebulletin)

# Musician in Residence Programme 2020

Organised by dlr Arts Office, the dlr County Council Musicians-In-Residence scheme is jointly funded by the Arts Council, and managed by Music Network.

Dave Flynn has been selected as the first of three Musicians-in-Residence for 2020 in a scheme jointly funded by dlr and the Arts Council and managed by Music Network. During his Residency he will collaborate with musicians from the Guitar Training Centre in Dún Laoghaire and their tutor Ciaran Swift, to compose and perform an exciting new composition for guitar ensemble, Dún Laoghaire Guitars. Dave was born and raised in the area and his connections to the place will influence his work.

Over the Residency audiences will be able to follow weekly video updates, insights, performances and interviews from Dave and his collaborators on dlr's and Music Network's social media channels.

Then on Thursday 30 July at 7pm there will be online premiere of the new work Dún Laoghaire Guitars created during the Residency.

Dave Flynn works with some of the world's best musicians across several genres and his music is acclaimed internationally. He is also a virtuoso guitarist who has toured worldwide. Recent work includes being the first Composer-in-Residence at Ireland's state guest-house Farmleigh and the ground-breaking world premiere of The Vision Symphony by the Irish Memory Orchestra and 26 blind/vision-impaired musicians in glór.

Keep an eye on [www.dlrcoco.ie/arts](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/arts) for updates and features on the Residency.



## Online Exhibitions

Many of our exhibitions are now available online at [www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/library-services/local-history/](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie/library-services/local-history/)  
Scroll down and click on Local History to see the full list.

# St Michael's Church: Gothic Revival Splendour in Dún Laoghaire



In July 2020, it will be 55 years since St Michael's church burnt to the ground.

dlr Archivist in Residence David Gunning has used archival material and photograph albums, donated to dlr Local Studies in 2015, to curate an online exhibition telling the story of the destruction of this vast Gothic Revival church that once stood in the heart of Dún Laoghaire. Find out about the old church and its importance in the town until its destruction by fire in 1965.

dlr Local Studies also holds further archival material relating to the new St Michael's church, completed in 1973 which will be digitised and exhibited at a later date.

Use your computer or device to view the exhibition which is displayed using Microsoft Sway, a more interactive way of showcasing our digitised material. Click images to zoom in and progress through the exhibition via arrows at bottom right of each page. The exhibition is best viewed in landscape mode on devices. Go to our main library page and look under local history ([www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie))

If you have any comments or queries, or if you have any further photos or information you would like to donate to us, please contact [localhistory@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:localhistory@dlrcoco.ie)

## dlr Libraries Lego Competition



Children and adults are invited to participate in dlr Libraries Lego competition 2020. Entrants are asked to use their imagination and build a piece based on this year's theme: 'Design your ideal outer space world using Lego' What would your ideal outer space world look like? Use your imagination! Think it! Build it! Tell us about it!

As in previous years we hope to display all the Lego builds we receive on Culture Night at dlr Lexlcon in September. Please note if COVID-19 restrictions impact this, we will accept Lego builds entrants via photo attachment over email. Please see further details on our website [www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie](http://www.libraries.dlrcoco.ie)

Entry forms will be available from June online or you can email [libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie)

# your dlr Councillors represent you

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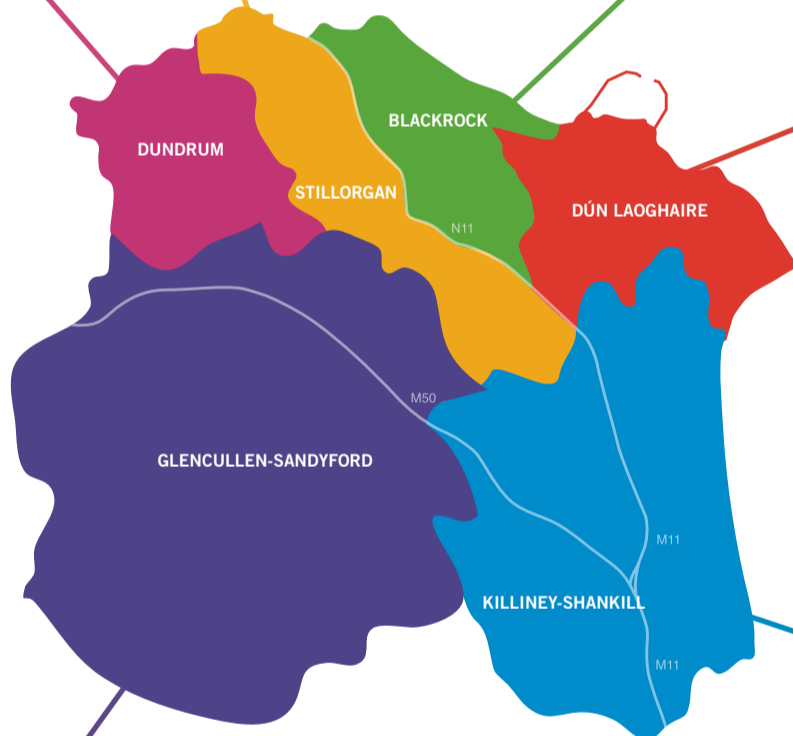
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