

COMMUNITY

8



Vision

To plan for communities and create a County with a shared identity built on the achievement of the goals outlined in the County Development Board Strategy 2002 – 2012.

Context

- *The National Spatial Strategy, People, Places, Potential, 2002 – 2020, November 2002, DOELG.*
- *National Anti-Poverty Strategy*
- *Local Agenda 21*
- *National Children's Strategy*
- *Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Board, An Integrated Strategy for Social, Economic and Cultural Development, 2002 – 2012.*

Strategy

One of the mandatory objectives to be contained in Development Plans outlined in the Planning and Development Act 2000 is the objective to ensure the integration of the planning and sustainable development of the area with the social, community and cultural requirements of the County and its population.

Many of the goals relating to social, economic and cultural development in the County Development Board Strategy are goals that the Development Plan also strives to achieve. The County Development Plan and the County Development Board Strategy shall operate parallel to one another with the County Development Board Strategy providing the social, economic and cultural vision while the County Development Plan provides for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County. It is a symbiotic relationship between the two with both working in order to plan and create viable communities.

Chapter 5 - Residential:- contains a number of policies in relation to the neighbourhood concept and the creation of communities which further complement the range of policies outlined below. There is cross compliance between policies contained in this plan so as to ensure the creation of communities.

Viable and sustainable communities which enhance quality of life are built on the principles of proper planning and sustainable development. It is the strategy of this Plan to:

- Integrate sustainable development and planning with the social, economic and cultural development of the County.
- To provide or facilitate the provision of services for the community including, schools, crèches and educational facilities.
- To facilitate the goals identified in the *Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Development Board Strategy 2002 – 2012.*
- To ensure the integration of settlement structures and service provision in accordance with the *National Spatial Strategy 2002 – 2020* thus enhancing the quality of life for the residents of the County.
- To ensure a balanced and equitable provision of community facilities throughout the County.
- To provide or facilitate the provision of accessible facilities/services through a community development process that is responsive to the identified needs of the local community including local community/resources centres, recreational amenities and sporting facilities.

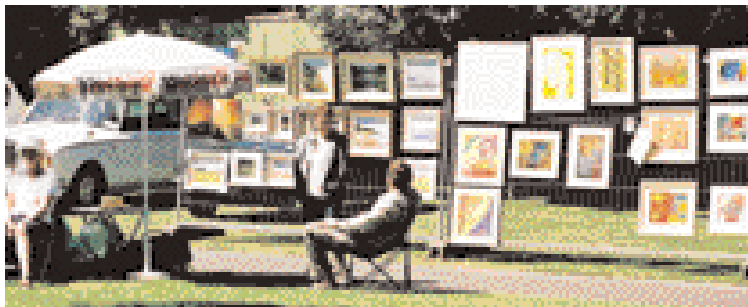
Policy

8.1 Community Development

8.1.1 Policy CD1: County Development Board Strategy

It is Council policy to support the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Board's, Integrated Strategy for Social, Economic and Cultural Development, 2002 – 2012 in order to reach a shared vision for the long-term social, economic and cultural development of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.

It is Council policy to facilitate the achievement of the goals as set out in the Strategy in relation to social development including community and local development, education, family support, health, rural communities, safety, security and policing, social inclusion and substance abuse.



COMMUNITY

8

It is Council policy to facilitate the achievement of the goals as set out in the Strategy in relation to economic development including enterprise, living space, physical infrastructure, tourism, training and transportation.

It is Council policy to facilitate the achievement of the goals as set out in the Strategy in relation to amenity, the arts, conservation and heritage, culture, marine, coast and sports, recreation and leisure.

8.1.2 Policy CD2: Safer Living Environment

It is Council policy to facilitate the achievement of a safe environment for residents of and visitors to the County.

Ensuring personal safety and security for the community enhances quality of life. It is an objective of the Council to develop an environment of natural surveillance on our public walkways and open spaces by encouraging supervised people centred activities in these areas, improve the use of targeted lighting and CCTV cameras in liaison with An Garda Síochána. An environment of natural surveillance will also be created in newly planned areas through high quality urban design.

8.2 Participation

8.2.1 Policy P1: Community Participation - Information and Consultation

The Council recognises that people in communities have a right to a view on the planning and development of the areas in which they live and it is Council policy to facilitate people in examining that view. It is Council policy to build on the spirit of partnership so as to ensure real social development.

It is intended to promote public awareness of the functions and activities of the Council, to provide information in relation to its policies and objectives and to engage in consultation with local communities as appropriate. The Council is already involved in a wide range of activities in this regard including:

- Supporting environmental education;
- Liaising with local schools/colleges;
- Supporting the initiatives of local voluntary groups;
- Compiling and publishing local environmental information;
- Maintaining statutory registers;
- Consulting widely with local communities on planning and environmental issues;
- Forming partnerships with local residents, business and environmental groups to counter disadvantage and social exclusion and to secure improvements in the quality of life, (e.g. Southside Partnership, County Enterprise Board, Blackrock Initiative).

It is intended to continue these activities and further expand on them in the future in line with the Council's commitment to the preparation of Local Agenda 21 and the promotion of sustainable development.

8.2.2 Policy P2: Community Support

It is Council policy to encourage and assist the formation, development, guidance and co-ordination of community organisations, local interests and self-help groups, with an emphasis on areas of special need within the County.

The Council will continue to influence the provision of services/facilities that are responsive to and meet the needs of communities, particularly in areas of social disadvantage in the County. This provision of services/facilities promotes the integrity and vitality of the local community and enables them to develop structures that ensure sustainable neighbourhoods. This also facilitates a multi-agency approach that provides services in a targeted, efficient and timely manner.

The Council will continue to support the provision of community facilities where necessary, and will continue to sponsor community projects where appropriate. It will continue to liaise with other statutory bodies involved in community development work, i.e. F.A.S., E.H.B., V.E.C., Youth Services.



It is a Council objective to provide a resource centre at Fitzgerald Park. It is a Council objective to protect and enhance the community infrastructure of the Church of Ireland.

8.2.3 Policy P3: Estate Management

It is Council policy to support the continued development of Estate Management in order to enhance the role of neighbourhood development as resources allow. Estate Management is about working together to exchange information and ideas and to generate for tenants a greater sense of involvement and responsibility in the decision-making process impacting on their areas.

8.3 Education

8.3.1 Policy ED1: School and College Sites

It is Council policy to ensure that school and college sites are made available in accordance with the requirements of the relevant education authorities.

8.3.2 Policy ED2: Second Chance School

It is Council policy in conjunction with the VEC and other relevant bodies to promote the establishment of a special second chance school for early school leavers in the County

8.3.3 Policy ED3: Third-Level Educational Facilities

It is Council policy to support the ongoing provision of third level institutions in the County including University College Dublin, (Belfield and Carysfort); Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology; Sion Hill; Blackrock; Dun Laoghaire Senior College and Blackrock VEC.

8.4 Community Facilities

8.4.1 Policy CF1: Libraries

It is Council policy to promote and develop the library service in accordance with the highest professional standards and in accordance with the objectives laid down in the report "Branching Out: A New Public Library Service" of the Department of the Environment and Local Government 1998, and the report "Joining Forces: Delivering Libraries and Information Services in the Information Age" of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna 1999 to meet the needs of the community subject to the availability of finance.

In its implementation of this policy the Council, will as resources permit, expand its existing branch network to those areas which are currently without a branch library and will improve its existing facilities and services.

The need for specialised and centralised services in a Europe of the Regions setting will be promoted through the development of a Europe of the Regions Centre of Literature and Culture, which will be both a local and European focal point for literature, culture, and related co-operative activity.

The overall library policy will be in accordance with the objectives and priorities identified in the Library Development Programme (New Library Development Programme-To be prepared). Suitable sites shall be identified for library purposes throughout the County.

8.4.2 Policy CF2: Provision of social services throughout the County

It is Council policy to ensure that the provision of social services i.e. drop in centres, drug centres, crèches/childcare facilities, educational and rehabilitation centres, be spread equitably throughout the entire County so as to ensure that these services are provided locally as indicated by need and not centred in one area.

Photo: Our Lady of the Wayside School, Kiltiernan.



COMMUNITY

8

8.4.3 Policy CF3: Cemeteries

It is Council policy to continue the development of Shanganagh Cemetery to cater for the needs of the County and to continue on a planned basis with the improvement of the appearance of the cemeteries now closed.

8.4.4 Policy CF4: Public Toilets

It is Council policy to improve public toilet facilities at suitable locations throughout the County.

Public Toilets are the responsibility of the Culture, Community Development and Amenities Department and are provided at various locations throughout the County. The provision of public toilets is under continuous review.

8.4.5 Policy CF5: Fire Brigade Services

It is Council policy to co-operate with Dublin City Council in the development of the fire service in the Dublin region.

8.5 The Arts

8.5.1 Policy A1: Community/Public Art

It is Council policy to encourage and assist in the development of the arts throughout the County. The Council will require major new commercial developments in the County to incorporate works of public art in the scheme in order to enhance the amenities of the local environment. Major new Local Authority construction schemes will also incorporate permanent artistic features.

The Council will foster an understanding of the diversity of cultures as part of the County and wider environs.

The Council is preparing an Arts Development Plan to ensure a proper foundation for the advancement of arts and culture in the County and to prioritise direction for future development. This Plan will be implemented and updated as resources permit.

8.6 Social Inclusion

8.6.1 Policy SI1: Planning for Social Inclusion

It is Council policy to progressively reduce all forms of social exclusion whether by race, creed, sexuality, educational attainment, geographical location or levels of physical and intellectual ability.



