



INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

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Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown **County Council**

County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. A96 K6C9 **PHONE:** 01 205 4700 EMAIL: info@dlrcoco.ie

Dundrum Local Area Office

Dundrum Office Park, Main Street, Dundrum, D14 Monday – Friday 9:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 4:30pm PHONE: 01 205 4880 EMAIL: info@dlrcoco.ie

dlrcoco.ie

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

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DunLaoghaireRathdownCountyCouncil

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Message from An Cathaoirleach

This Winter edition of the dlr Times covers the adoption of the Council Budget for 2022 and outlines various upcoming events and news items from across the county. There is information on the SEAI Energy team of the year award and the Council's Winter Maintenance Programme.

This Christmas the Council will again be putting up lights across the County and will also be organising a range of wonderful Christmas Events such as the illuminated forest walk in Marlay Park and Christmas Markets. Inside you can also find the locations of Santa's Post Boxes across the county.

Information is also available about the 2022 dlr Grant Scheme. This scheme offers funding to groups in the area of Business, Environment, Heritage, Events, Sport, Community and Arts and is a brilliant opportunity that can help groups get projects and activities up and running.

Finally, I would ask you all to help local businesses across the County again this year by shopping locally whenever you can. Happy Christmas and wishing you and yours many blessings during 2022.





As we come to the end of vet another extraordinary year I would like to pay tribute to all staff in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council who provide this county with over 800 services. They have demonstrated remarkable flexibility and provided vital and essential public and community services, often in difficult circumstances, throughout this ongoing pandemic. I also want to thank you, the citizens of the county, for your forbearance and generosity of spirit as you have worked with us this year.

There are several reasons to be optimistic for 2022 locally; we have developed a more comprehensive online service, we made significant progress in our public realm work in our towns and villages across the county, enhanced our road, cycle and pedestrian facilities and pushed into new territory with the award winning Coastal Mobility Route project.

We also have the finalisation of our County Development Plan 2022-2026 and we look forward to engaging with you throughout the year on all aspects of Council work.

As ever our dedicated outdoor teams will be ready for whatever Winter throws at us this year and you can be sure that we will do our best to keep your county running.

I'd like to wish everyone in our county a healthy, happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

TOM MCHUGH

CoCo Markets

PEOPLE'S PARK & DLR LEXICON, Dún Laoghaire

MARLAY PARK Rathfarnham, Dublin 16

EMERGENCY **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Out of Hours : kends] [after 5pm + wee Homeless Persons: [after hours services] Irish Water: [24 hours]

Your dlr parks

BLACKROCK PARK TIME: Open Access

CABINTEELY PARK

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

DEER PARK TIME: Open Access

FERNHILL PARK & GARDENS TIME: 9am - 6pm

KILBOGGET PARK TIME: Open Access

KILLINEY HILL PARK TIME: Open Access

MARLAY PARK

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

PEOPLE'S PARK

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

SHANGANAGH PARK **TIME:** Open Access

Recycling information

BALLYOGAN RECYCLING Ballyogan Road

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

EDEN PARK RECYCLING

Summerhill Road, 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

 $\label{eq:Fri} Fri-Sat\,8.30 am \,to\,3.30 pm.$ CLOSED: Sunday, Bank Holidays, Public Holidays.

Your dlr libraries

dlr LexIcon Haigh Terrace, Dún Laoghaire TEL: 01 280 1147 TIME: Mon – Thur 9.30am – 8pm . Fri to Sat 9.30am – 5pm | Sun 12noon – 4pm

BLACKROCK

Blackrock Town Hall, Main Street **TFI:** 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* mode NOT currently in operation.

DUNDRUM

Upper Churchtown Road, Dundrum TEL: 01 298 5000 TIME: Mon, Fri & Sat 10am -1pm, 2pm – 5pm | Tue to Thur 10am – 8pm

SHANKILL*

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

STILLORGAN

Unit J (First Floor), Stillorgan **Shopping Centre TEL:** 01 288 9655 TIME: Mon, Tue & Wed 10am -5pm| Thurs 10am – 8pm|Fri & Sat 10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

- Libraries with an asterisk are open either Friday or Saturday – please contact them for further details.
- On Bank Holiday weekends, all libraries are closed Saturday. Sunday & Monday.





01 677 8844

1800 724 724

1850 278 278

With

Feature



The dlr Annual Budget 2022 commits to an investment of €213 million in the delivery of high quality services for the citizens of this county next year, which equates as a spend of approximately €977 per person.

At the end of November Elected Members for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council voted to adopt Budget 2022, which provides for over €213 million in expenditure on service provision.

Budget 2022

The annual revenue budget provides funding for a very broad range of services including foot path, cycle lane and road maintenance, energy efficient streetlighting, enhancing our parklands and public spaces, developing sports and community facilities, enhancing biodiversity and heritage initiatives as well as fostering economic development and resilience by providing grants for local businesses. The budget also provides for the maintenance and repair of Council owned homes, corporate buildings and parks. In fact, the Council provide over 700 different services to the residents, businesses and visitors in our county.

Deciding on the annual budget is an in-depth process, involving many months of consideration. The overall operating environment for each annual budget must also be considered as part of the County Councils deliberations, including consideration of economic conditions, which since the start of the ongoing pandemic have been hugely challenging for all sectors of our society.

In preparing the annual budget, we must also consider, hand in hand with our statutory obligations, our delivery of the Council's objectives based on our Corporate Plan 2020-2024. We need to take into account the varied needs of all parts of our communities. The Council is obliged to run a balanced budget each year and income and expenditure must match. In order to ensure a reasonable distribution of funding to allow the delivery of key services, Budget 2022 has made some adjustments on the previous years budget and we aim to maintain services level as high as possible. In considering this balance of funding and service provision and the potential for financial impacts on the citizens of this County, your Councillors, for example, voted to ensure no increase in commercial rates & no increases in rents. They also kept recycling & waste charges, cemetery fees or pay parking at the current rate. You can see more on the service areas funded by the dlr Budget 2022 on pages 5-8 of this issue and you can read the full annual budget 2022 on our website, www.dlrcoco.ie

Speaking of the adoption of the Budget, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lettie McCarthy said:

"The Council Annual budget meeting is an extremely important time in the year of every County Council. I am ambitious for what we can do as a Council, to continue to develop this as a great place to live and thrive, to be young and grow old, as well as an attractive place to do business. I am happy that we could provide a budget to maintain most services at a high level despite a challenging economic climate."

The development and adoption of this Budget for 2022 by your elected Councillors, working with Council officials, demonstrates this Councils commitment to continuing to provide high quality services and public amenities for all the citizens of this county.

Walking in a winter wonderland



Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is all set to sparkle this Christmas to spread light and cheer right across the county as we bring you our plans for the festive season. All activity this year will be outdoors inviting you to wrap up warm, get out in the crisp clean air, soak up the festive spirit and go ... walking in a winter wonderland.

The county will be illuminated by thousands of lights with exciting new 3D light installations, new enchanted fairylike forest walks and several buildings will be bathed with a magical glow. The bandstand on the east pier will be dressed in beautiful shining lights. The enormous red Christmas Bauble will be at Myrtle Square and the glittering illuminated 3D picture frame at Marlay Park.

A new 3D illuminated gift tower will bring festive cheer to dlr LexIcon at Haigh Terrace and Dundrum Library will host another beautiful 3D illuminated Christmas scene. Official dlr Christmas trees are all living trees and their lights are LED extra low voltage for safety and each set only uses 4.8watts of electricity so they are very energy efficient.

The very popular illuminated forest walk at Marlay Park will be back this year and Cabinteely Park will also have a brand-new Christmas illuminated walking trail. Both are open from 4pm to 8pm Monday to Friday, fully accessible for wheelchairs and buggies and are an oasis of calm beneath the twinkling lights away from the hustle and bustle of Christmas.

Santa Post Boxes will be in place at dlr LexIcon in Dún Laoghaire, Marlay Park in Rathfarnham, Deerpark in Mount Merrion and Cabinteely Park by special commission of Santa Claus. The letters are whizzed off to the North Pole direct to Santa who replies to every single one.

We would like to wish all our citizens a peaceful Christmas and hope to see you out enjoying the festive lights!



Shop Local, Click Local!

Over the last 18 months, people really understood the importance of their local businesses in providing goods and services. But people mightn't realise just how important local shops are to the local economy.

For every €10 spent locally, an additional €40 is generated through spending on local suppliers and services, and by staff spending their wages on local goods and services.

Paying this money to an overseas-based online retailer means it doesn't get recycled in the local economy and it is lost to the community.

The good news is that businesses have adapted over the last year to ensure that you can support your local shops in a number of ways. Many have now also moved online, so there's no longer any need to stick to the big international online retailers – check around to see what's available in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, you might be surprised to see how many great Irish producers and retailers will now deliver straight to your door.

What you can do to support local:

- Shop locally, safely
- Buy gift cards online from local retailers or restaurants
- Order take away from your favourite local restaurant
- When shopping online buy from local stores

We can all make a difference by staying local, shopping local and clicking local.

04 dlr times

dlr Grants Scheme 2022 is open!

Do you have a project idea that will benefit your local community? Need funding?

Each year Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council opens a grant funding scheme, known as the dlr Grants Scheme, that provides funding to individuals, groups and organisations engaged in projects, events or initiatives at a neighbourhood or County level within our area. It has a particular emphasis on supporting locally driven and grass roots initiatives. The scheme aims to assist locally run projects that promote growth and development in sports of all types, the arts, our local heritage, environmental enhancement, events, community-based initiatives and local business promotion. This scheme can assist the development of projects and initiatives to help them achieve their full potential.

Applications are all administered via a dedicated portal on the Council website on dlrcoco.ie/grants

In order to ensure good governance and transparency there are a number of general guidelines that refer to applying for the grants and some additional guidelines around specific grant categories. This helps ensure that the Council is supporting the very best in the development of our communities.

We will be holding information workshops in December and January, which will be advertised on our social media channels. The Scheme has been advertised and open for online applications since the end of November and will close for applications on Friday 28 January 2022.

The dlr Grants Scheme is of real assistance to community groups and local people with innovative initiatives in a wide variety of fields and pursuits; you can find more information and apply on line at dlrcoco.ie/grants



Grants Scheme 2022 Apply online at

dircoco.ie/grants Applications should be in by Friday 28 January 2022

the arts Arts grants supported by the Arts Council.

SOME HIGHLIGHTED SERVICE AREAS FUNDED BY

Budget 2022

The dlr Annual Budget 2022 commits to an investment of €213 million in the delivery of high quality services for the citizens of this county next year, which equates as a spend of approximately €977 per person. Some of the headline figures are listed below. For full details on the budget please see the Finance page on our website dlrcoco.ie



Main categories of Expenditure 2022



Main categories of Income 2022



SOME HIGHLIGHTED SERVICE AREAS FUNDED BY

Budget 2022

















dlr Win the Top SEAl Award **'Energy Team** of the Year'

Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council won the top Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) 2021 award, 'Energy Team of the Year'. The award recognises the collective ambition and long-term leadership in energy management and continuous ongoing improvement in all areas of energy across all departments.



The cross-departmental dlr Energy Team collaborate to achieve energy efficiency and carbon reduction across its own buildings, public lighting, fleet, functions and services and the wider community. DLR continually improves its own energy efficiency through ISO 50001 Energy Management System and by implementing energy projects.

Energy performance has improved by 51% in 2020, compared to the baseline year of 2009, exceeding the public sector energy efficiency target of 33% energy efficiency savings by 2020. 75% of the public lighting in the county will be LED by the end of this year and the fleet includes 24 electric vehicles. Compared to the baseline, DLR's carbon emissions in 2020 had reduced by 44%.

There has been significant investment recently in staff resources and sustainable infrastructure, a greener environment, community engagement and working with businesses and the community to encourage behavioural change. There are seventeen Sustainable Energy Communities in the county registered with SEAI. Public energy awareness initiatives include the popular annual 'Home Energy Upgrade' webinar and Home Energy Saving Kits available through libraries.

Coastal Mobility Route wins Local Government Award





At the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards your Coastal Mobility Route took the honours in the Sustainability category. The Awards showcase the very best in innovative local authority works from across the state and we are delighted with the projects recognition. The 5 km-long dedicated cycle route extending along the coast between Blackrock and Sandycove was designed by DLRCC staff and constructed in the summer of 2020 as part of DLRCC's Covid Mobility and Public Realm Response Projects. In its first year, there have been over 2 million walking and cycling trips along this route, with a wide variety of users of all ages and abilities.

dlr staff profile



Anne Murray BIODIVERSITY OFFICER

What do you do?

I am the Biodiversity Officer and my main aim is to protect and restore nature (biodiversity) across the county and to work with our partners, local communities, businesses and individuals.

What is your typical work day like?

My job is very varied which is good.

A typical day can involve responding to public and staff queries, meetings in relation to projects and plans that affect biodiversity, or providing biodiversity advice to staff regarding planning, development, flood schemes and other topics. I also manage habitat and species surveys such as bird, badger and hedgerow surveys for 2021.

I work with staff and others to fulfill the biodiversity actions of the Biodiversity Action Plan, Invasive Species Action Plan, Dalkey Island Heritage Plan, DLR Climate Change Action Plan, All Ireland Pollinator Plan, Biosphere Conservation Plan and Communications and Education Strategy.

There are many projects with our partners to complete such as the Brent Geese tagging project, Terns project and Gardening for Biodiversity volunteers project.

Organising monthly biodiversity events for the public to raise awareness of biodiversity is important and I provide information on our webpages, workshops, training and biodiversity tools for schools.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

We are very fortunate to have such great enthusiasm in our county for biodiversity and the public are doing their part to help biodiversity. Sometimes people want to see the results of their work immediately, but it can take years to develop a biodiversity habitat. It can be disappointing for people when I tell them this and it is the most difficult part of my job.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is increasing public appreciation, education and awareness of the value of biodiversity, and getting public involvement in its conservation.

I was always aware of biodiversity growing up, it was part of my everyday life and all around me. I would like to see this generation and the next have those same opportunities to experience the joy of spotting the fleeting blue of a Kingfisher on a stream or the sound of the hedgehog as it shuffles along our native hedgerows.

Public information



Winter is Coming!

Winter maintenance on dlr's network of roads, footpaths and cycle tracks is an important and on-going task for the Cleansing and Road Maintenance Departments throughout the winter season.

Our sweeping schedules are suspended in the Autumn and early Winter months due to the level of leaf fall, thus enabling our sweeping crews to target and prioritise areas that have high densities of trees and vegetation.

Our gully cleaning programme involves a planned maintenance regime for all gullies within the County whilst also targeting and prioritising areas within the County that are known to cause problems during times of heavy rainfall. Such areas are referred to as 'hot spots' and are cleaned out in advance of periods of heavy rainfall and are also monitored closely during extreme weather events. Such areas are also targeted every two weeks as part of a planned schedule of maintenance works.

The current Winter Maintenance gritting season commenced on 18 October and ends on 30 April 2022. During the winter season, the duty engineers will assess the weather forecast and instruct the gritting operation accordingly. The gritting crews will carry out gritting operations covering the 10 routes throughout the County. Please refer to the national 'Winter Ready' website (www. winterready.ie) for some very useful public information.

Any queries regarding road or cycle lane sweeping, gully cleaning or gritting can be directed to the Civic Hub on 01 205 4700 or emailing info@dlrcoco.ie.

On behalf of the Cleansing and Road Maintenance teams, we would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable festive season.

Cycle and Scooter parking for schools



Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council supplied 155 cycle parking stands and 45 scooter parking stands to 26 schools in 2021 as part of the Active School Travel programme funded by National Transport Authority. The stands provide cycle parking for 310 bikes and 340 scooters. All primary, secondary and special needs schools in the County were requested to apply to the Council for the cycle and scooter parking with high usage observed. In addition, the Council supported the provision of cycle training in schools as part of the Department of Transport Cycle Right programme. In 2021, 837 pupils were trained in 17 primary schools. The Council intend inviting schools to apply for further cycle and scooter stands early in the new year and will continue to support cycle training in schools.

Christmas Tree **Recycling**

Christmas tree recycling will take place from Monday 3 January to Sunday 16 January 2022 inclusive between 9.30am and 3.30pm at the following locations.

- Blackrock Park (Phoenix Terrace Entrance)
- Cabinteely Park Car Park
- Killiney Hill Car Park
- Marlay Park, College Road Car Park
- DLR Parks Depot, Sandyford Road (near Kilcross Estate)
- Shanganagh Recycling Centre Car Park
- West Pier Car Park, Dún Laoghaire

Please do not leave Christmas Trees before or after these dates or outside the designated areas. The provisions of the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 – 2009 will apply.

One Christmas tree per car will also be accepted free of charge at the Ballyogan Recycling Park for the month of January 2022, except on New Year's Day when the facility will be closed.



dlr Age Friendly Magazine 2022

Free & packed with information and activities!

Look out for the 2022 dlr Age Friendly Magazine, produced by the dlr Age Friendly Programme and supported by dlr Libraries.

The magazine is available free of charge and is packed with short stories, poems, recipes, lyrics, puzzles, exercises and information on the services and activities provided by dlr County Council and Age Friendly organisations and groups operating across Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

The magazine will be available from mid December 2021 in all dlr Libraries and County Council offices as well as churches, community centres and shops.

Further information: Community Section, dlr County Council at 01 2054893 / community@dlrcoco.ie and available to view online at https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/community/dlr-age-friendly-county

Funded by Creative Ireland, Healthy Ireland and the dlr County Council, Age Friendly Programme.



Arts & Library



All Right on the Night:

Anne Makower and Christopher Fitz-Simon dlr Lexicon until 31 January 2022

This fascinating exhibition celebrates the work of Anne Makower and Christopher Fitz-Simon in theatre, television and radio. This remarkable couple share the same birthday and have lived in the Dún Laoghaire area for 56 years. They worked in RTÉ from the early days, Christopher initiated such iconic series as *Tolka Row,* and Anne produced most of the classical music programmes throughout her extensive career whilst juggling her other career as a soprano in recitals, oratorio and opera.

Christopher moved to and fro between TV and the theatre. He held executive positions at the Abbey Theatre, the Irish Theatre Company and the Lyric Theatre, Belfast. He has lectured on Irish theatre in ten countries on four continents; among his many books (all available at dlr Lexlcon) are *The Boys*, a joint biography of Hilton Edwards and Micheál MacLíammóir, founders of the Dublin Gate Theatre. He has also been an adjudicator in the Tidy Towns Competition since 1991.

Shifting Foundations

The Big Houses of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

A new publication entitled *Shifting Foundations – The Big Houses of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown*, along with an accompanying exhibition will be launched at dlr Lexlcon this December. The book explores the history of the big house in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and offers an insight into the lives of the residents of these grand homes, as well as the people who worked in the houses or on the grounds. The publication looks at how the big houses of the area adapted to the social and political changes that came with Irish independence and includes chapters on Marlay, Cabinteely and Fernhill, three big houses under the care of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

This project has been curated by David Gunning, dlr Historian in Residence for dlr Heritage, and is an initiative of the Decade of Centenaries, funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media.

Re-development of Stillorgan Library



Stillorgan Library is in the process of being redeveloped. While the new library is being built on the existing site in St Laurence's Park, we have opened a Stillorgan Village Library Hub upstairs in the shopping centre, which will deliver all our core library services.

Stillorgan Village Library is located on the 1st floor of the Stillorgan Shopping Centre in Unit J.

Staff can be contacted by phone at the same number, 01 288 9655 and via email at

stillorganlib@dlrcoco.ie. Drop in for a visit and say hello to the team!

Read all about the re-development plans here www.dlrcoco.ie/stlaurence

MUNICIPAL GALLERY | dlr LEXICON UNTIL 13 MARCH 2022

ON STEADY GROUND/ UNSTEADY GROUND

New Work by Cora Cummins and Saoirse Higgins, Curated by Marysia Wieckiewicz-Carroll



LEFT: Cora Cummins, *Monument* (detail). RIGHT: Saoirse Higgins, *Height Above Sea Level*, St Boniface.

This is a collaborative exhibition by artists and dlr residents Cora Cummins and Saoirse Higgins, awardees of a Visual Art Commission from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, funded by the Arts Council. Featuring new work in etching, video, photography and sculpture, the exhibition connects the artists' research interests in environment and landscape change, and reflections on losing what seemed permanent.

COMING SOON IN 2022

Health & Well-being programme

dlr Libraries continue to be involved in the national Healthy Ireland at your Library programme. We purchase bookstock and programme events with an emphasis on health and wellbeing. This includes workshops and sessions on Meditation, Tai-Chi and Yoga as well as talks from well-known experts on parenting, maintaining resilience, coping with loss and using mindfulness in your daily life.



Get Crafty with dlr Libraries! Arts & Craft Programme

for adults & children

During Jan–Mar 2022, dlr Libraries will bring you a varied programme focusing on craft-based workshops, from felting to basket-making, Brigid's crosses to jewellery and candle crafting for adults.

We want to see children using their hands and their creativity as we plan an exciting programme of process-driven art and crafts-based activities for those aged 4-12yrs.

Keep an eye on our website and our events guide in early January to see what we've planned in 2022!

YOU1 dir Councillors represent you



INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL