

## DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin on Wednesday, 4 November 2015 at 5.00 pm

#### PRESENT

Bailey, John F	Madigan, Josepha
Bailey, Maria	Martin, Catherine
Baker, Marie	McCarthy, Lettie
Boyhan, Victor	McGovern, Lynsey
Brennan, Shay	Merrigan, Michael
Cuffe, Jennifer	Murphy, Brian
Curran, Chris	Murphy, Tom
Daly, Kevin	Nic Cormaic, Sorcha
Devlin, Cormac	O'Brien, Peter
Dockery, Liam	O'Brien, Shane
Donnelly, Deirdre	O'Callaghan, Denis
Fayne, Mary	O'Neill, Seamas
Feeney, Kate	Richmond, Neale
Gill, Karl	Saul, Barry
Halpin, Melisa	Smyth, Carrie
Hanafin, Mary	Smyth, Ossian
Hand, Pat	Stewart, Patricia
Horkan, Gerry	Tallon, Grace
Kingston, Deirdre	Ward, Barry
Lewis, Hugh	

Absent: Councillor Carron McKinney.

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Barry Saul presided.

#### **OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

Philomena Poole (Chief Executive), Frank Austin (Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change), Helena Cunningham (Director of Finance and Risk Management), Andrée Dargan (County Architect), Mary Henchy (Director of Planning & Organisational Innovation), Dearbhla Lawson (Director, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), Tom McHugh (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Housing and Community), Richard Shakespeare (Director of Municipal Services), Tim Hannon (Senior Executive Officer Finance & Risk Management), Bernie Gilligan (Senior Executive Officer, Corporate, Communication and Governance Department), Fiona Curran (Financial Management Accountant), Grainne Swan (Executive Accountant, Finance & Risk Management), Ian Smalley (Administrative Officer, Corporate, Communications & Governance) and Pamela Graydon (Senior Staff Officer, Corporate, Communications and Governance)

#### **C/633/15**

#### **Presentation of Draft Budget**

It was **AGREED**, on the proposal of An Cathaoirleach, Councillor B. Saul, that Ms. P. Poole, Chief Executive would give a presentation as an introduction to the 2016 Budget, followed by a financial overview of the Budget by Ms. H. Cunningham, Director of Finance and Risk Management and that this would be followed by a presentation of each division of the draft Budget by the relevant Director of Service.

It was **NOTED** that a Book of Graphics containing additional analysis to the figures contained in the main Budget Book was circulated to each Member of the County Council together with a list of capital transfers to be approved at the end of the meeting. It was **AGREED**, on the proposal of An Cathaoirleach, Councillor B. Saul that questions arising from each presentation would be taken at the end of the presentation.

### **C/634/15**

#### **To consider the draft Budget circulated herewith for the Financial year ending on 31st December 2016 (Agenda Item No. 1)**

The presentation commenced with an introduction to the 2016 Budget by Ms. P. Poole, Chief Executive during which the following report of the Chief Executive was **CONSIDERED**:

#### **“To An Cathaoirleach and Members of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council**

#### **Annual Budget 2016**

##### **1. Introduction**

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government has determined that the prescribed period for the holding of the Annual Budget meeting for 2016 is 2 November to 27 November 2015. The statutory Budget meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and the Budget must be adopted within a 14 day period commencing on that date. The draft budget has been prepared in the format prescribed by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

##### **2. Improvement in economic conditions:**

As the wider economy continues to stabilize the positive impact of this recovery is reflected in the Council’s budget as it has been possible to provide for a range of additional initiatives and to expand services beyond current levels in a number of areas. In particular it has been possible to make increased provision in areas including housing, transportation, parks and additional business support initiatives.

The following factors facilitated an expansion in services in 2016:

- A reduction of €2.2m in the rates bad debt provision was possible due to improved collection of rates income and a reduction in the level of rates arrears. Many ratepayers are now availing of sustainable payment plans and more favourable trading conditions for others has resulted in a reduction in the level of rates arrears. This stabilization in the collection of commercial rates is a positive indicator of economic stability but the level of arrears remains unacceptably high and working with the ratepayers to restore acceptable payment levels remains a key objective of the Council.
- There has been a 20% reduction in the number of vacant commercial properties in the last year and this has resulted in a saving of €625,000 in the budget for vacancy refunds.

The budgetary savings arising from the reduction in the rates bad debt and the vacancy refund provisions were diverted to increase service levels in housing, transportation and parks.

In addition there is an increase in a number of income budgets in 2016 also reflecting the improved economic conditions in areas including:

- Buoyancy in rates income of €756,700 from new and revised valuations
- Increase in income amounting to €531,000 from housing rents reflecting improved buoyancy in the economy.
- Increase of €186,300 in parking income.

## 2.1 Expenditure budgets:

Some of the benefit arising from the savings and improved income levels outlined above were offset due to the requirement to make increased provision in a number of expenditure budgets in areas including:

- A net increase of €900,000 for the homeless service
- There is an upward pressure on tender prices in a number of areas and provision had to be made to reflect this.
- Staff numbers have now reached unsustainable levels and this is impacting on the Council's ability to deliver the required level of service in a number of areas and accordingly provision has been made for a modest increase in staff numbers in some critical service areas.

## 3. Local property tax allocation:

The Department of Environment Community and Local Government (DOECLG) has confirmed that 80% of LPT income collected will be retained locally again in 2016 with the remaining 20% paid into a national equalisation fund to ensure that no local authority is worse off from local retention of LPT compared to the previous General Purpose Grant funding method.

The projected LPT income to be collected in this county in 2016 is €43.1m after the 15% reduction is applied and a further €10.1m (20%) goes to the national equalization fund resulting in a local property tax allocation in 2016 of €30.1m.

Despite the significant amount of LPT income paid in DLR it should be noted that only minimal additional income is available to the council to fund services as a significant amount of the local property tax replaces previous central government grant funding. In total 20% of the LPT income is allocated for discretionary purposes but the 15% reduction approved by the Council has to be funded from this discretionary element of the allocation resulting in only €2.67m in residual discretionary income in 2015. There has been no increase in this discretionary income element of the LPT allocation for 2016.

2016 Local Property Tax Allocation	
	€
Total Projected income 2015	50,736,132
less 20% to equalisation fund	10,147,226
less 15% reduction	7,610,420
plus adj maintain disc income at 2015 level	136,821
2016 LPT allocation	<b>33,115,307</b>
<b>Allocated as follows:</b>	
1 Replaces 2014 Local Government Fund grant allocation	5,724,579
2. Discretionary income net of 15% reduction in rate	2,673,628
3. Revenue housing grants replaced	4,269,000
4. Revenue road grants replaced	3,497,531
5. To self fund housing capital	16,950,569
<b>Total allocation 2016</b>	<b>33,115,307</b>

### 3.1 Reduction of LPT charge in 2016:

Each local authority can vary the local property rate for its administrative area by a maximum of +/- 15%. The Elected Members must review this decision on a year by year basis when the LPT is again re-set to the full amount. A decision was taken at the Council meeting on 14 September 2015 to reduce the property tax in the county by the maximum amount allowable. Therefore a reduction of 15% of LPT is provided for.

The cost of this reduction amounts to €7,610,420 and must be funded from the discretionary element of the LPT allocation as set out in the table above.

### 4 . Draft Budget 2016

The draft budget for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 provides for expenditure totalling €166.6m.

The Council has maintained balanced budgets for the last number of years despite a major reduction in funding due to on-going fiscal pressures and a substantial deterioration in rates and other income collected locally. Despite this contraction in income levels service levels were maintained. This was largely due to a significant reduction in staff numbers and pay, the proactive pursuit of efficiencies and the achievement of more competitive tendering over the years.

The preparation of Budget 2016 however presented significant challenges mainly because there is currently an upward pressure on tender prices and demands for services are increasing in many areas. In addition staffing levels have now reached an unsustainably low level with many departments now experiencing difficulties in maintaining service levels due to inadequate staff numbers.

The introduction of the local property tax (LPT) in 2014 has raised expectations in relation to the council's ability to maintain and indeed increase service levels while the reality is that the retention of 80% of the LPT income at local level only resulted in €2.67m of additional revenue income in 2015 with no increase in this allocation in 2016.

It is fortunate therefore that savings arising from reductions in the rates and vacancy refund provision were available which together with some increases in income prevented any deterioration in service levels.

#### 4.1 Payroll and Staffing

As outlined above the Council has continued to provide a broad range of services notwithstanding a reduction of 33% in staffing levels from the peak in 2003 to the current position as set out below:

#### Total staffing levels 2003 – 2014 – Whole Time Equivalents :

	2003	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 Est.	Total change
	1,416	1,229	1,170	1,124	1,049	1,015	995	973	
<b>Number</b>		-187	-59	-46	-75	-34	-20	-22	-443

Significant savings have been made in the cost of payroll during the period from 2009 when the total budget was €78.8 million to €61.6 million for 2015, a 20.9% reduction. Staff in all departments throughout the Council continue to engage proactively in an on-going and

extensive reform process and it is largely through their input that it was possible to maintain service levels in the last number of years.

However staff levels have now reached unsustainably low levels to the extent that the current level is hindering the Council's ability to deliver the desired level of service in a number of areas. Modest increases in staff levels in 2016 will assist in maintaining service levels and enable the Council to shape a better future for the County and all its communities. Recruitment to fill current vacancies and provide for some additional staff resources will get underway shortly.

## **5. Commercial Rates**

The draft Budget provides an amount of €79.48m to be levied from Commercial Rates.

Since 2010 the Council has reduced the ARV by 8.5% and an additional reductions in rates income arose from the general rates revaluation which resulted in a further reduction of €5m annually in the commercial sector's rates demand.

However the Council is conscious of the difficult environment within which many businesses continue to operate and accordingly I have prepared the draft Budget for 2016 on the basis that the Annual Rate on Valuation (ARV) for 2016 will remain unchanged.

## **6. Highlights of Draft Budget 2016**

The main objective in framing the draft Budget for 2016 has been to ensure that the benefits accruing from the general economic recovery are spread fairly and equitably with specific emphasis on promoting a smart vibrant county which is attractive, inclusive and accessible to all.

Service levels have been maintained and indeed expanded in a significant number of areas and I am particularly pleased to draw attention to a number of new initiatives which are proposed within 2016.

### **6.1 Housing:**

The draft 2016 Budget includes an additional €250,000 for housing maintenance contracts. The councils housing stock has been maintained to a greatly improved standard in recent years and the increased budget in 2016 will be used mainly to fund a multi annual boiler replacement programme.

In addition, as new housing units, particularly one bed units, become available the Council will embark on an information and promotion campaign to increase the level of interest in downsizing. This will enable people to stay in the area in which they have lived, reduce the burden presented by a larger property and also free-up family units within the county.

An increase in excess of €2m has been made in the homeless service budget in 2016. It is anticipated that 60% of this amount will be matched with an increase in central government funding for the service.

### **6.2 Transportation:**

The budget for road and footpath restoration and improvement has been increased by €312,500 in order to meet the on-going demand for service provision in this area. The creation of the Municipal Services Department will also increase efficiencies and enable a greater ease in the co-ordination of area based works.

### **6.3 Economic Development**

During 2015 the Council consolidated and strengthened its participation in economic development in the county and established the first Strategic Policy Committee with specific remit in the area of Economic Development. The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) was fully integrated into the Council during 2015 and these structures will ensure Economic

Development in the County is supported and strengthened during 2016. A six year Local Economic and Community Plan will be adopted and will further support and promote economic development in the County. Work with Business Networks will be increased and a new Tourism Strategy for the county will be developed in 2016.

There will be no increase in commercial rates in 2016, on-going provision has been made for Business Support grants, Shop front grants and the Vacant premises incentive scheme. In addition a budget of €195,000 has been provided to fund initiatives and events which will increase footfall in commercial areas countywide.

#### **6.4 Vacancy Refunds**

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 enables local authorities to vary the vacancy refund rate as part of the budgetary process. Previously a proven vacant property incurred no liability. In 2015 the vacancy refund rate was reduced from 100% vacancy refund to 75% refund rate with ratepayers of vacant properties liable for 25% of the commercial rate on vacant properties. This reduction has been maintained in 2016 and it is anticipated this measure will result in a further decline in the number of commercial properties in the county.

#### **6.5 Recreation and amenity:**

The Councils recreational facilities including parks, sports programmes, golf, community facilities, libraries and arts are greatly valued and extensively utilised by residents, visitors and businesses in the county. For the first time in a number of years the 2016 Budget allows for increased expenditure budgets in a number of recreational areas.

##### **6.5.1 DLR LexIcon:**

2015 was the first full year of operation of DLR LexIcon and it has emerged as a major piece of cultural infrastructure in the County. It continues to attract daily footfall in the region of 1500 and has established a presence in the local community and beyond.

The 2016 budget provides for a small number of additional library staff required to leverage the maximum potential the facility offers and to provide the widest range of library and ancillary services that the building is capable of delivering.

In the Arts area €20,000 has been provided for a new Visual Artist in Residence programme in 2016.

##### **6.5.2 Parks:**

The budget to maintain the county's flagship parks and open spaces has been increased by €462,500 which will further enhance the service provided by the Parks Department countywide in 2016.

In addition the budgets for the maintenance of playgrounds and pitches have also been increased by €70,000 and €50,000 respectively in the draft 2016 budget.

##### **6.5.3 Communications:**

The Council is currently involved in a consultation process on the delivery of an upgraded and more contemporary website. It is expected that work will commence shortly on the upgrade. It will also provide for a more mobile friendly interface and 2016 will see the delivery of apps for both CRM and the Capital Programme. Upgrades of the IT infrastructure will continue which will enable on-going developments in this area.

There will be a Communications Action Plan developed for the Council to include social media, service promotion through multi-media and engagement with the stakeholders. There is also provision in the 2016 Budget for five publications of DLR Times

## **7. Conclusion:**

The preparation of the annual budget is an onerous task and involves a substantial level of work and contributions across the organisation. In the preparation of the 2016 Budget I would like to thank An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Barry Saul and the members of the Corporate Policy Group who met on a number of occasions between June and October to discuss the variation of the Local Property Tax and the broad parameters of the 2016 Budget. They also considered and noted the draft Budget for 2016. This is a substantial time commitment and was a valued contribution in the preparation of the draft budget.

I wish to thank the Management Team of the Council and all of their own Teams who prepare the individual service divisions and, indeed who manage the budgetary control process throughout the year in their respective areas.

However the bulk of the work falls within the Finance Department and I want to express my appreciation for the commitment and level of work undertaken by Ms Helena Cunningham, Director of Finance and IT, Ms Grainne Swan, Acting Financial Management Accountant and their team in the preparation of this 2016 Budget. I also want to thank them for their guidance and support to myself and the Management Team throughout the process.

I formally recommend that the Council adopt the draft Budget for 2016 and the Annual Rate on Valuation of 0.1624.

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Philomena Poole  
Chief Executive"

Following her presentation Ms. P. Poole, Chief Executive, responded to questions from and issues raised by the Members.

### **C/635/15**

#### **Financial Overview of Budget 2015**

Ms. H. Cunningham, Director of Finance and Risk Management presented a detailed financial overview of the draft Budget 2016 and outlined the background and context within which it was prepared. An explanation of the main issues that impacted on the budgeted Outturn 2015 and the 2016 Budget was given and the main provisions of the estimated expenditure and income for 2016 was also considered and discussed. Details of the Central Management Charge allocated to Divisions A-H were also explained. Ms. H. Cunningham, Director of Finance and Risk Management responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

### **C/636/15**

#### **Division A - Housing and Building**

The Director of Housing and Community made a powerpoint presentation on Division A – Housing and Building. The draft Budget on Division A was explained by the Director and discussed. Mr. T. McHugh, Director of Housing and Community, responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

### **C/637/15**

#### **Division B - Road Transport and Safety**

The Director of Municipal Services and the Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change made a powerpoint presentation on Division B – Road Transport and Safety. The draft Budget on Division B was explained by the Directors and discussed. Mr. R. Shakespeare, Director of

Municipal Services and Mr. F. Austin, Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

**C/638/15**

**Division C - Water Services**

The Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change made a powerpoint presentation on Division C – Water Services. The draft Budget on Division C was explained by the Director and discussed. Mr. F. Austin, Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

**C/639/15**

**Division D - Development Management**

The Director of Planning and Organisational Innovation made a powerpoint presentation on Division D – Development Management. The draft Budget on Division D was explained by the Director and discussed. Ms. M. Henchy, Director of Planning and Organisational Innovation responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

**C/640/15**

**Division E - Environmental Services**

The Director of Municipal Services and the Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change made a powerpoint presentation on Division E – Environmental Services. The draft Budget on Division E was explained by the Directors and discussed. Mr. R. Shakespeare, Director of Municipal Services and Mr. F. Austin, Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

**C/641/15**

**Declaration of Interest**

*It was **NOTED** that Councillor G. Horkan declared an interest and excused himself from the Council Chamber for the duration of the discussion on Division F Recreation and Amenity. Councillors Horkan is on the Board of the Pavilion Theatre.*

**C/642/15**

**Division F - Recreation and Amenity**

The County Architect and the Director of Municipal Services made a powerpoint presentation on Division F – Recreation and Amenity. The draft Budget on Division F was explained by the Directors and discussed. Ms. A. Dargan, County Architect and Mr. R. Shakespeare, Director of Municipal Services responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

**C/643/15**

**Return to the Chamber of Councillor who Declared an Interest**

*It was **NOTED** that Councillor G. Horkan, who had declared an interest and excused himself from the Council Chamber for the duration of the on Division F – Recreation and Amenity returned to the Chamber.*

**C/644/15**

**Division G - Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare**

The Director of Finance and Risk Management made a powerpoint presentation on Division G – Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare. The draft Budget on Division G was explained by the Director and discussed. Ms. H. Cunningham, Director of Finance and Risk Management responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

## **C/645/15**

### **Division H - Miscellaneous Services**

The Director of Finance and Risk Management made a powerpoint presentation on Division H – Miscellaneous Services. The draft Budget on Division H was explained by the Director and discussed. Ms. H. Cunningham, Director of Finance and Risk Management responded to questions and issues raised by the Members.

## **C/646/15**

### **Proposed Amendments to Draft Budget**

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor B. Saul informed the Members that he has received the following motions from the floor.

#### **Motion (1) from the floor:**

It was jointly proposed and seconded by Councillors G Horkan, B. Ward, J. Bailey, C. Martin, B. Murphy, P. Hand, M. Fayne, C. Devlin, N. Richmond, J. Madigan, K. Feeney, M. Bailey, L. McGovern and M. Baker:

“That the County Council adopt for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, the annual budget set out in Tables A – F as submitted by the Chief Executive.”

#### **Motion (2) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Halpin and seconded by Councillors H. Lewis and K. Gill:

“That the Council remove €100,000 from B0902 ‘Operation of Street Parking’ and put into A05 ‘Homeless Services’.”

#### **Motion (3) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Halpin and seconded by Councillors H. Lewis and K. Gill:

“That the Council remove €15,000 from H0905 ‘Other Expenses’ by reducing payment to Councillors of SPC’s from €5,000 to €2,500 and put into G0507 ‘School Meals’.”

#### **Motion (4) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Merrigan and seconded by Councillors V. Boyhan, K. Gill and D. Donnelly:

“That, given the welcome momentum in the numbers and value of Planning Applications being lodged and the increase in the pace and strength of the economic recovery, that the conservative sum for the projected income from Planning Fees in 2016 be increased by €23,500 to a more reasonable €775,000 and that, the sum of €20,000 to be allocated to F0202 (Archive Service) to provide for the conservation, digitisation and electronic cataloguing of the historic archival collections of local government in the County covering the period 1834 to 1900, many of which, deal with planning and development matters appertaining to the urban areas on the eastern side of the County, with the objective of placing this exceptionally important archival resource online for public access facilitating academic and general research.”

#### **Motion (5) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Halpin and seconded by Councillors H. Lewis and K. Gill:

“That the Council remove €50,000 from B0903 Parking Enforcement to invest in a pilot parking scheme for Dún Laoghaire to give 2 hours free parking in the morning to try to encourage shopping in the town.”

**Motion (6) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor S. O'Brien and seconded by Councillors H. Lewis, D. O'Callaghan and C. Smyth:

"That this Council wish to reduce expenditure item F0505 (Festivals and Concerts) by €50,000 and increase expenditure item D0905 (Economic Development and Promotion) to allow for the securing of lands located between Cois Cairn and Wilford Exchange, which are currently zoned for industrial use."

**Motion (7) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Halpin and seconded by Councillor H. Lewis and K. Gill:

"That the Council increase projected income for planning fees by €50,000 and transfer into A0102 and move €50,000 from A0101 to A0102."

**Motion (8) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Boyhan and seconded by Councillors K. Daly, D. Donnelly and S. O'Neill:

"That the Council increase projected income from planning fees by €14, 500 shown in table F Division D – Development Management page 39 and reverse cuts to conversation services and increase budget item D1102 by €14,500."

**Motion (9) from the floor:**

It was proposed by Councillor D. Donnelly and seconded by Councillors K. Daly, V. Boyhan, M. Merrigan, S. O'Neill and H. Lewis:

"That this Council debate all motions entered this evening before voting on motion no. 1."

A discussion took place. It was **AGREED** to take the motions from the floor at this time.

**Motion (1) from the floor:**

It was jointly proposed and seconded by Councillors G Horkan, B. Ward, J. Bailey, C. Martin, B. Murphy, P. Hand, M. Fayne, C. Devlin, N. Richmond, J. Madigan, K. Feeney, M. Bailey, L. McGovern and M. Baker:

"That the County Council adopt for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016, the annual budget set out in Tables A – F as submitted by the Chief Executive."

A roll call vote on motion (1) from the floor – Formal Proposal of Adoption of Budget, was requested, the result of which was as follows:

<b>COUNCILLORS:</b>	<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAINED</b>
Bailey, John F.	✓		
Bailey, Maria	✓		
Baker, Marie	✓		
Boyhan, Victor	✓		
Brennan, Shay	✓		
Cuffe, Jennifer	✓		
Curran, Chris			✓
Daly, Kevin	✓		

Devlin, Cormac	✓		
Dockery, Liam	✓		
Donnelly, Deirdre	✓		
Fayne, Mary	✓		
Feeney, Kate	✓		
Gill, Karl		✓	
Halpin, Melisa		✓	
Hanafin, Mary	✓		
Hand, Pat	✓		
Horkan, Gerry	✓		
Kingston, Deirdre	✓		
Lewis, Hugh		✓	
Madigan, Josepha	✓		
Martin, Catherine	✓		
McCarthy, Lettie	✓		
McGovern, Lynsey	✓		
McKinney, Carron			
Merrigan, Michael	✓		
Murphy, Brian	✓		
Murphy, Tom	✓		
Nic Cormaic, Sorch			✓
O'Brien, Peter	✓		
O'Brien, Shane			✓
O'Callaghan, Denis	✓		
O'Neill, Seamas	✓		
Richmond, Neale	✓		
Saul, Barry	✓		
Smyth, Carrie	✓		
Smyth, Ossian	✓		
Stewart, Patricia	✓		
Tallon, Grace	✓		
Ward, Barry	✓		
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor B. Saul declared motion (1) from the floor – Formal Proposal of Adoption of Budget **ADOPTED.**

As motion (1) adopted the budget, the remaining motions (2) to (9) from the floor, which proposed amendments to the draft budget, **FELL**.

**C/647/15**

**Formal determination of Annual Rate on Valuation (Agenda Item No. 3)**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Bailey, seconded by Councillor G. Horkan and **RESOLVED:**

“That in accordance with the Budget for the service of the financial year ending 31st December, 2016 as adopted in the foregoing resolution, it is hereby determined that the annual rate on valuation for the several purposes specified in such Budget for such financial year is as follows:-

**General Annual Rate on Valuation      0.1624”**

**C/648/15**

**Formal determination of the Rates Vacancy Refund Rate (Agenda Item No. 4)**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Madigan, seconded by Councillor L. McGovern and **RESOLVED:**

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 31 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Part V of the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulation 2014 it is hereby resolved to retain the level of rates refunds on vacant properties within the administrative County of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown that applies to eligible persons at 75% for the financial year ending 31 December 2016.”

**C/649/15**

**Formal determination of inclusion of €5,900,000.00 parking income in the budget (Agenda Item No. 5)**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Murphy and seconded by Councillor L. Dockery:

“Section 36 (11) (a) of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, specifies that parking fees from a Pay Parking Scheme shall be disposed of in such a manner as the Road Authority may, by resolution, determine.

The County Council determines that income in the sum of €5,900,000 from the pay and display scheme be included in the annual budget for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 and that this sum be used for works in Division B including the Footpath Improvement Programme as set out below:

**SPENDING FROM PAY PARKING BUDGET**

Maintenance & Management of Car Parks	355,900
Operation of Street Parking	1,109,000
Parking Enforcement	1,218,700
Footpath Improvement Programme	780,000
Road maintenance - materials	329,100
Public Lighting	859,000
Signing & Lining Contract	259,000
Traffic Management Signal Maintenance	410,000
School Warden Service	579,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,900,000”</b>

A roll call vote on the formal determination of inclusion of €5,900,000.00 parking income in the budget was requested, the result was as follows:

<b>COUNCILLORS:</b>	<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAINED</b>
Bailey, John F.	✓		
Bailey, Maria	✓		
Baker, Marie	✓		
Boyhan, Victor		✓	
Brennan, Shay	✓		
Cuffe, Jennifer	✓		
Curran, Chris		✓	
Daly, Kevin	✓		
Devlin, Cormac	✓		
Dockery, Liam	✓		
Donnelly, Deirdre	✓		
Fayne, Mary	✓		
Feeney, Kate	✓		
Gill, Karl		✓	
Halpin, Melisa		✓	
Hanafin, Mary	✓		
Hand, Pat	✓		
Horkan, Gerry	✓		
Kingston, Deirdre	✓		
Lewis, Hugh		✓	
Madigan, Josepha	✓		
Martin, Catherine	✓		
McCarthy, Lettie	✓		
McGovern, Lynsey	✓		
McKinney, Carron			
Merrigan, Michael		✓	
Murphy, Brian	✓		
Murphy, Tom	✓		
Nic Cormaic, Sorcha		✓	
O'Brien, Peter	✓		
O'Brien, Shane		✓	
O'Callaghan, Denis	✓		
O'Neill, Seamas	✓		

Richmond, Neale	✓		
Saul, Barry	✓		
Smyth, Carrie	✓		
Smyth, Ossian	✓		
Stewart, Patricia	✓		
Tallon, Grace	✓		
Ward, Barry	✓		
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor B. Saul declared the formal determination of inclusion of €5,900,000.00 parking income in the budget **ADOPTED**.

**C/650/15**

**Deferral of Consideration of the Three Year Capital Programme 2016 - 2018 (Agenda Item No. 6)**

The report of the Chief Executive was **CONSIDERED**.

A discussion took place, during which Ms. P. Poole, Chief Executive responded to Members' queries.

The report of the Chief Executive was **NOTED**. It was **AGREED** to bring the Three Year Capital Programme 2016 – 2018 to the Meeting of the County Council to be held in February 2016.

**C/651/15**

**Certificate of Adoption**

I hereby certify that at the budget meeting of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council held on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015 the Council by Resolution adopted for the financial year ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2016 the budget set out in Tables A – F and by Resolution determined in accordance with the said budget the Rates set out in Table A to be the annual rate on valuation to be levied for that year for the purposes set out in those Tables.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Barry Saul  
An Cathaoirleach

Countersigned: \_\_\_\_\_  
Helena Cunningham  
Director of Finance &  
Risk Management

Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

**C/652/15**

**Conclusion of Meeting**

The meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m.