

DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN LOCAL ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY PLAN

Annual Progress Report 2020





Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Economic & Community Plan Annual Progress Report 2020 for Community Objectives

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Background

Following legislative changes in 2014 related to the local government strategy ‘Putting People First’, the remit of local authorities includes a renewed and clearer role in economic and community development. In this regard, each Local Authority is required to develop and make a Local Economic and Community Plan which is a statutory plan for the area.

Dún Laoghaire –Rathdown’s Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021 was developed throughout 2015 and adopted by the County Council on the 14th December 2015. The LECP is structured around 8 high level goals, 21 thematic objectives and 156 individual actions which are aimed at supporting community development, enhancing quality of life and driving economic development for the County.

Monitoring of the progress and implementation of the Community Objectives and relevant shared Community and Economic Development Objectives is undertaken by the Local Community and Development Committee during the year with reports, presentations and updates to the LCDC which includes this Annual Report.

This Report tracks overall progress during 2020 with implementation of the LECP Objectives that come under the remit of the LCDC for oversight. It also highlights issues which may require further consideration or may need review.

The Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee monitor progress and implementation of the economic development and enterprise objectives and related shared economic and community objectives for which the SPC is responsible.

Progress on the LECP is dependent on the County Council and Lead Partners supporting implementation of key objectives for which the LCDC has oversight. These include shared Community Objectives numbers 7 to 14 as well as Community Objectives numbers 15 to 21 inclusive.

Partners who have directly supported implementation and in many cases, delivery of key objectives during the past 5 years include; all departments of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Southside Partnership DLR, An Garda Síochána, County



Childcare Committee, Health Service Executive, Crosscare, DLR Children's and Young People's Services Committee, Túsla, Comhairle Na nÓg, DLR Volunteer Centre, Drugs and Alcohol Task Force, DEASP, PPN, and DDETB. The on-going support and engagement of partners is much appreciated and is vital in helping the LCDC in achieving the LECP goals and objectives which were developed and agreed by the LCDC in 2015.

There have been 5 full years of implementation since the adoption of the Strategy and good progress is being made overall. It is timely now for the LCDC to review overall progress for 2020 and to consider areas for potential focus or greater collaboration as we move in to the final year of the current plan.

COVID-19 impacted on the delivery of actions in the LECP and resulted in increased collaboration between stakeholder groups in the county in addressing the emerging needs as the pandemic progressed.

The following report clarifies key achievements made on implementation during 2020 and highlights some of the key issues to be considered by LCDC.

Actions are wide and varied in terms of scope, definition, responsibility and level of stakeholder engagement. An owner, lead departments, support departments, and timelines have been assigned to each action. Action owners were requested to provide updated information on their actions for 2020.

The current status of each action has been assessed and highlighted using a traffic-light system. This system assists with reporting and monitoring progress and in identifying actions that require attention or review.

Green	• Action on schedule / completed
Orange	• Action is on schedule / but more work to do
Red	• Action needs further development / Review

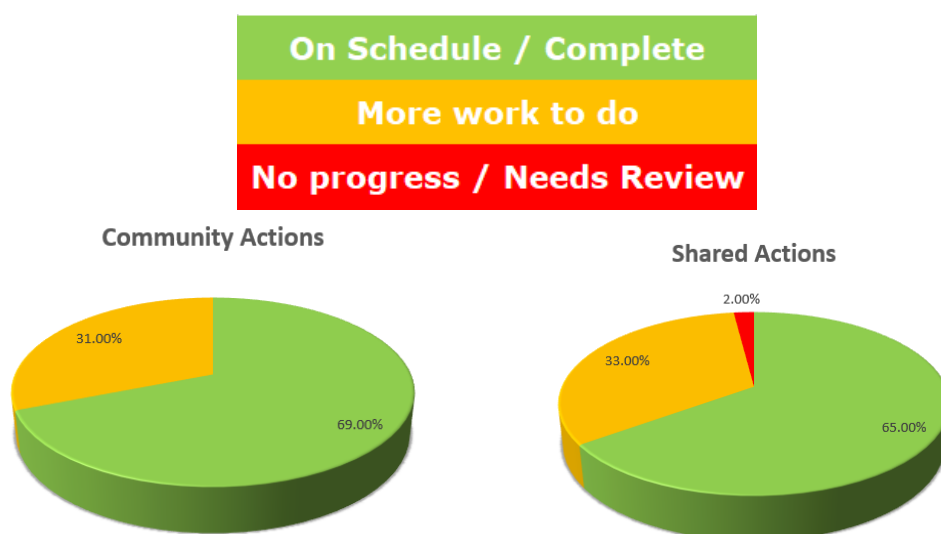
The online reporting system 'Viclarity' was developed to aid monitoring, tracking of progress and reporting of LECP actions. Each action owner is required to update their progress on action and the system enables reports to be generated regarding specific objectives and this aids with collection of data, analysis, reporting and implementation monitoring.



Overview of DLR LECP actions by Objective

The pie charts below provide the breakdown of progress being made on both Community and shared Community actions (shared Economic and Community Actions) under 15 of the LECP objectives.

The Plan is in place until 2021, and to date some 69% of Actions have been fully completed. A number of actions will not have a completion date as they are on-going activities. In other areas some more work is needed or in some cases, there may be Actions that require further consideration or review, and these will be raised under each of the relevant objectives in the following sections of the report.





Public Health Pandemic

The reporting period that is covered by this update included the unprecedented global health pandemic triggered by the appearance of the COVID-19 virus. The impact of the pandemic and the associated restrictions in the interest of Public health have been considerable. In response to this situation a number of responses were developed in the County to support communities in this difficult time.

The Community Response Forum was established on an inter-agency basis to ensure a coordinated response to community support and is led by DLR County Council. A Family Support Subgroup of the Community Response Forum was set up and Health & Wellbeing subgroup was also established under the forum. The Community Response Forum met on a weekly or fortnightly basis as required and reviewed emerging needs and developed initiatives to support the community through the pandemic. The Forum stakeholders provided updates on emerging needs and these updates framed the ever changing responses to needs in the community. The Community Call Helpline was established to provide accessible support and coordination of responses in the community and registered approximately 3,900 calls in 2020. The Local Authority administered an emergency grant fund to support COVID-19 frontline activities with the funding support of the Department of Rural and Community Development.



Community Objectives

Community Objective 15: Develop a Supportive Environment and Promote Healthy Lifestyle Choices so that Everyone, Regardless of Ability, Education or Income, has the Opportunity for Better Physical and Mental Health and Well-Being, through access to Community Services, Amenities, Sports, Recreation and a High Quality Public Realm

9 Actions, of which 9 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 15 include;

- DLR LCDC with other public and private partners continued working in collaboration with HSE and DLR CYPSC to implement actions for Healthy Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.
- Healthy Ireland Coordinator for DLR recruited and commenced in post in March 2020.
- Round 3 Healthy Ireland Actions commenced, and progress made on supporting a healthy DLR despite impact of COVID-19 on action delivery; Actions redesigned for online delivery due to restrictions. Community Engagement Fund provided funding to three community projects through underspend in other action areas due to COVID-19.
- Healthy Ireland Round 3 deadline extended from June 30th 2021 to December 31st 2021 in response to community needs resulting from COVID-19.
- DLR LCDC approved 8 projects for funding to a total of €30,000 under the Healthy Ireland Small Grants Scheme Community Mental Health Fund for community-based projects addressing issues related to mental health



- Southside Partnership, in partnership with DLR Healthy Ireland (hosting of project and line management of development worker) successfully completed a series of actions targeting young people, adults and seniors in DLR.
- Southside Partnership continued to link with schools and relevant agencies to support after-schools and out of school clubs in Mounttown and Loughlinstown, to support families within the County.
- DLR Libraries supported wellbeing through a diverse cultural and community development programme across the 8 branches. 'My Open Library' service rolled out to Dalkey Library.
- DLR Libraries developed the 'book drop service' in conjunction with the Community Call to support those cocooning during the COVID-19 restrictions
- Against the background of the Covid Restrictions, it was necessary to develop a range of initiatives to support health and wellbeing in our communities. Some of the initiatives rolled out include:
 - Cúirt and Culture Programme delivered to 5 care settings via targeted 'live' programme.
 - Online cultural activities for all care settings in the County with pre-recorded workshops and singalongs especially created for care settings for older people.
 - Online bookclubs
 - Remote Learning supports
 - Passive Christmas – illuminations throughout the county, Concert of Light, accessible Marlay Park lighted walk, diaspora programme over Christmas, videos of support and interest from Cathaoirleach.
- dlr Arts Office delivered family events in line with Public Health measures through Cruinniú na nOg 2020 and through the adapted online Gallery Learning Programme.
- The Sports Partnership organised and delivered a wide range of training courses, workshops and targeted physical activity programmes for all ages, levels of ability and sporting types.
- COVID-19 restrictions resulted in the Sports Partnership pivoting much of its activity to online events and providing resources to promote healthy activity during the restrictions.
 - Participation Programmes & Events (6,700 Participants)
 - Operation Transformation – public walk event in January with 185 participants
 - dlr Community 5K – flagship participation moved online for 2020 with 620 participants receiving medals and T-shirts for completing a 5km near their homes due to COVID restrictions.



- The Daily Mile – primary school level regular participation events involving over 900 pupils.
- Couch to 2k and Couch to 5k programmes delivered online supporting 750 adults to get active and increase their wellbeing.
- Map My Park initiative rolled out in conjunction with DLR parks in 6 local parks and will be completed in 2021.
- Development of online content for social media (Youtube, facebook) to support activity for all ages during COVID restrictions.
- Development and circulation of printed activity material for older adults during COVID restrictions
- Parkrun – support for three park runs and three junior park runs in DLR prior to COVID restrictions in March 2020
 - Volunteer Training & Development including autism in sport workshop, first aid, development networking, insurance.
 - Disability Sports Inclusion including Open evenings, autism camps, health interventions, multi sports club, cycle training, dementia friendly walks, inclusive GAA, Woodlands for Health Initiative, provision of inclusive playground equipment.
- **Ballyogan Sports & Physical Activity Hub (1,010 Participants)**
 - Hub Mid-Term Review– an external research process and review carried out to measure progress to date & guide future development.
 - Schools – liaising with the local schools in relation to ongoing situation and initiatives that can take place through COVID-19.
 - Women on the Move – activity programme for local women with the objective of raising awareness and identifying future champions.
 - Get Going Get Rowing – 4-week programme being rolled out in two local secondary schools in Q1.
 - Activity Programmes – Basketball programme rolled out for young teenagers with Crosscare Youth Service and a 6-week mixed activities initiative for 16 year old girls. Also delivered a week of taster activities for local children aged 10-12 with the Family Resource Centre.
- HSE continued development of e-learning programmes for front line staff - Making Every Contact Count (MECC) was developed in 2018 with continued roll out in 2020.
- The Department of Health, through the Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF) SlainteCare and Creative Ireland has allocated funding to Local Authorities for a new initiative called the “Community Resilience Fund” to support the Keep Well Campaign. It has a budget €107,560. An application has been submitted to



Pobal to deliver actions under the headings 1) Your County 2) Switching Off and Being Creative and 3) Staying Connected. An outline programme of work for DLR was submitted to and approved by POBAL in December 2020.

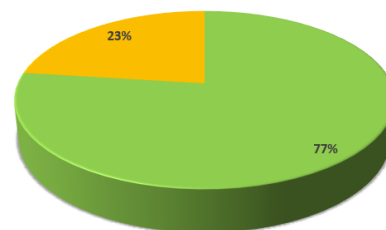
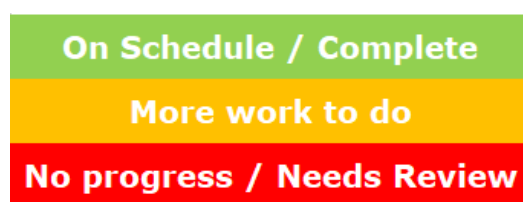
- HSE Atlas provides data on population profiles for the county together with census, hospital data to inform planning needs for the county.
- Site for Primary Care Centre identified by HSE Estates as DLR Shopping Centre. Considerable progress made towards development of centre in 2020.

Overview of Progress with Objective 15:

Significant progress and activity underway in relation to the Actions for this Objective, including the commencement of actions under Healthy Ireland Round 3 and the recruitment of a Healthy DLR Coordinator. The HSE is reporting progress towards a Primary Care Facility for the county. The Sports Partnership, Libraries and Arts Departments delivered a comprehensive programme of events in 2020 supporting the health and well-being of the county in responding to the emerging needs as a result of the impact of COVID-19 restrictions. A nationwide 'Keep Well' initiative aiming to support the health and wellbeing throughout the COVID-19 restrictions will be promoted in DLR in 2021.

Community Objective 16: Support Families within the County

4 Actions, of which 4 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 16 include;

- The Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Children & Young People's plan 2020-2022 was successfully launched online by the CEO of Tusla Child and Family Agency in September 2020 with over 70 services from the DLR area attending the web launch. Both a short summary and the full plan are available on <https://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/d%C3%BAan-laoghaire-rathdown.232.html>



- Lets Talk DLR initiative launched in 2020 by Tusla to provide a signposting service to mental health supports and resources for young people – <https://www.letstalkdlr.ie/>
- During COVID the Council set up the Family Support Group under the Community Response Forum meetings with stakeholders from across the County to ensure an integrated inter agency response to feedback the needs of vulnerable families to the forum.
- The Community Department managed the Community Call line which provided information, support and referral pathways to those who needed them during the COVID crisis
- As a result of the implications of COVID 19 and the support and funding received from the NTA, DLR have put a particular focus on active mobility schemes in 2020 including footpath, cycle lane and carriageway enhancement works and the installation of enhanced segregation measures between pedestrians and cyclists. Pedestrian and disabled footpath user accessibility improvements have also been at the forefront of works completed.
- Active School Travel consultations took place from September to November 2020 - <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/environment/active-school-travel>
- Southside Partnership continued to support and make progress including;
 - Hosting the Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE) and coordinating crisis counselling service.
 - Chairing DLR Youth at Risk Network and hosting 3 countywide network meetings in 2020.
 - Continuing in partnership with Barnardos, My Project and Springboard to support a Parent Early Education Programme through First Friends/ Baby Steps Parent and Infant Groups.
 - Continuing to collaborate with CYPSC, Tulsa, the HSE, Family Resource Centres, Southside Travellers Action Group, the Drug & Alcohol Task Force and the Age Friendly Alliance.
- Exit 15 community arts programme continued to deliver an innovative programme of events within the Ballyogan and surrounding areas. <http://exit15.ie/>
- With funding from the DLR DATF and SICAP, Southside Partnership continued to provide supports to young people at risk of substance misuse.



- Southside Partnership continued to provide a range of supports to targeted young people at risk of leaving school early, including an online grinds programme for Leaving and Junior Certificate students, and homework supports for primary school children and some children with special needs living in the Loughlinstown/Ballybrack area.
- Southside Partnership continues to support the work of Southside Travellers Action Group, which works with Traveller youth and children to support their education and personal development.

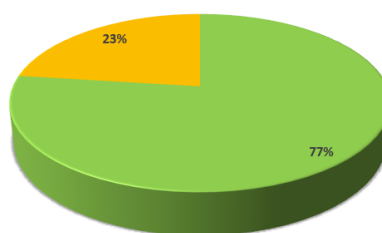
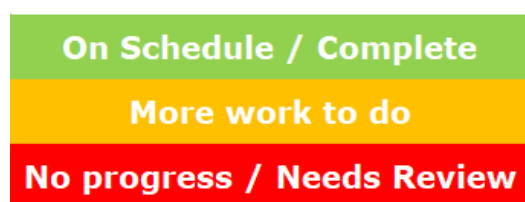
Overview of Progress with Objective 16:

Significant progress and activity with most Actions in this objective underway and Dlr CYPSC is established and is making good progress through collaboration between services. DLR CYPSC Plan successfully launched in 2020.

The LCDC noted that support for families was a key area of focus for 2020 and supporting vulnerable families through the COVID crisis was a key priority. Issues such as digital poverty and the identification of families in need of support were discussed and prioritised, with further progress to address these issues expected in 2021.

Community Objective 17: Support an Age-Friendly County

4 Actions, of which 4 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 17 include;

- Implementation of the dlr Age Friendly Strategy 2016-2020 continued <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/community/dlr-age-friendly-county>. Preliminary planning for the development of a new Age Friendly Strategy has commenced. A questionnaire was available both online and in hard copy format from early November which will inform the 2021-26 Strategy.
- dlr Age Friendly Magazine for Winter 2020/21 was issued in December which provided information and supports, health and wellbeing information, short



stories, poetry, recipes, activities and puzzles.- Need identified through consultation with OPC and Age Friendly Alliance

- On-going support for the Age Friendly Alliance and Older Persons Council (OPC). The Alliance met 4 times during the year, once in person and three remote meetings, to progress actions in the Age Friendly Strategy.
- The OPC deferred meetings once the lockdown measures came into effect. CEP grant funding awarded to OPC to facilitate development of digital literacy among members to allow for online meeting to take place with the support of the County Council.
- Comprehensive supports for Older people during COVID-19 lockdown measures were put in place through the Community Call helpline and the Community Response Forum.
 - Helpline supports and referrals to local volunteers for shopping, prescription, pension collection and other needs
 - Social supports and befriending services through Alone and Making Connections
 - Physical wellness supports through DLR Sports Partnership
 - “Click and collect” and the book drop service from dlr Libraries
 - Online supports and activities from dlr Arts, Heritage and Biodiversity sections
- Age Friendly Ezine.
- Age Friendly Community Grant Scheme.
- Age Friendly dlr Twitter Account.
- The role of Age Friendly Housing Technical Advisor was launched nationally in December and the role has been assigned to a member of the Architects staff in dlr County Council.
- With funding from Healthy Ireland, Southside Partnership continues to facilitate the delivery of ‘Chair Gym’ exercise classes for older people and ‘Well Now’ workshops to help improve health literacy for disadvantaged and marginalised groups

Overview of Progress with Objective 17:

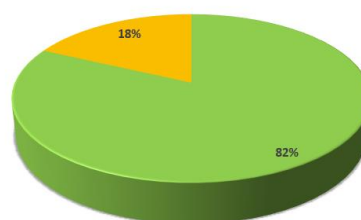
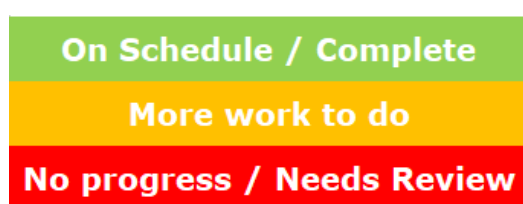
Very good progress being made on the Actions in this Objective, with support from Age Friendly Alliance partners, in progressing implementation of dlr’s Age Friendly Strategy, preparatory work in advance of developing a new strategy and providing a range of supports for older people during the pandemic.



Key area of focus for 2021 will be addressing digital poverty and social isolation and supporting DLR's older population in the use of digital communication as made necessary by COVID-19 restrictions. The 'Keep Well' programme will support this objective in 2021.

Community Objective 18: Support a Safe and Secure County

5 Actions, of which 5 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 18 include;

- The Joint Policing Committee and Local Policing Fora provide a forum for identifying and discussing appropriate responses to issues relating to public safety and policing. A 6 year JPC action plan has been developed and is being implemented <http://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/community/joint-policing-committee-local-policing-forums>
- The JPC Strategic Plan 2016-2021 contains 18 individual actions across three strategic Goals:
 1. Supporting and promoting Crime Prevention in DLR
 2. Enhancing Community Safety & Security in DLR
 3. Facilitating Community Engagement and Collaboration on Safety Issues
- An annual Implementation plan for 2020 was developed with progress achieved against objectives related to the 3 goals. There was ongoing engagement with Policing Authority regarding Policing Priorities.
- JPC held two meetings in 2020 - on 27th February in DLRCC County Hall and 25th November (virtual meeting). Commissioner Harris attended the February meeting upon invitation from the committee. Commissioner Harris gave a presentation on the new Policing Model "Keeping People Safe". A meeting was scheduled for 30th September but had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 situation at the time.
- Three Local Policing Forums are in place and they met on the following dates:
 - Loughlinstown/Shankill/Ballybrack LPF met on 5th February.
 - Sandyford/Stepaside met on 14th January and 3rd March
 - Central Dún Laoghaire LPF met on 29th January.



No public meetings were held in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic.

Consideration being given to the establishment of a LPF for the Dundrum/Stillorgan area.

- AGS Crime Prevention Officer liaising with key transport providers in dlr regarding safety and security at transport hubs (bus and rail).
- Operation Crossover is in place to ensure maximum high visibility beats and patrols by An Garda Síochána across the County. All personnel (uniform, plain clothes etc.) are made available for the Operation
- There are now 157 Neighbourhood Watch schemes being supported by the AGS and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, together with 14 Business Watch schemes
- Three Youth Diversion Projects currently exist in dlr
 - Castle Project – Ballyogan
 - LAB (Loughlinstown & Ballybrack)
 - SAY – Sandyford Area Youth Project
- A number of text alert projects are in place in some parts of the county. Dún Laoghaire Garda Superintendent is exploring further avenues for development.
<https://www.garda.ie/en/Crime-Prevention/Text-Alert-Guidelines-.pdf>
- DMR East continues to engage across the official An Garda Síochána social media platforms to disseminate pertinent safety & security issues in the DMR East Division.
- The Children and Young People’s Services Committee (CYPSC) facilitated interagency meetings in 2020 between statutory, community and voluntary services to progress improved Domestic Violence services for the county of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown.
- Expressions of interest were sought by the national Tusla Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence Service (DSGBV) for a specialist service to employ a full time Domestic Violence Outreach Worker for the county. The tender was allocated to Sonas Domestic Violence Charity who will commence the recruitment process in January 2021.

Overview of Progress with Objective 18:

Good progress continues in line with JPC Action Plan and with support of Local Policing Fora.

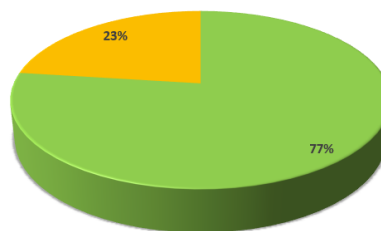
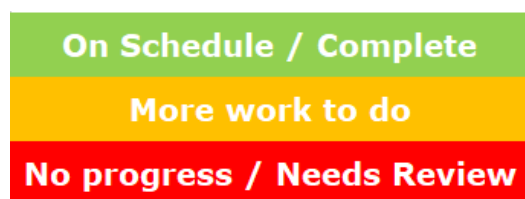
Action 18.5 In relation to: *Investigate the preferred future approach to delivery of domestic violence response services – requires future exploration, there has been good progress to date. A TUSLA project worker is to be recruited in 2021. On-going interagency engagement to secure Domestic Violence protective and wraparound DV services, including a refuge facility for DLR, is a priority for 2021. Provision has been*



made in DLR budget 2021 for funding for a feasibility study regarding the need for a women's refuge.

Community Objective 19: Develop Capacity Building within Communities to create improved support for Individuals and Community Organisations, enabling them to meet the needs of their areas more effectively

4 Actions, of which 4 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 19 include;

- Support is provided on an on-going basis to Communities, Residents Associations, Clubs and other organisations in the development and use of their public open spaces within Estates and in the Public Parks
- The Community Team have continued to work closely with groups across the County. With the onset of COVID 19 capacity building training for management structures in centres has focused on COVID compliance and the community team have played an instrumental role in supporting centres as they implemented policies, procedures and processes.
- The Network of Community Facilities has been re-established and have met regularly throughout 2020 to participate in a capacity building and skills development programme
- The Community Development Team held online information sessions in September providing advice and guidance to help groups to maximise their chances of securing funding with the Councils new online grant system. One to one support provided to community groups where required.



- Community call worked closely with a range of volunteer organisations to respond to almost 4,000 calls to the helpline in 2020. Alone, GAA, Volunteer Corps, PPN, Serve the City
- During 2020 the Volunteer Centre saw the further development of the DLR Volunteer Corps supported by DLRC <http://dlrvolunteercorps.ie/>.
 - 123 new sign ups. Total membership now 495.
- Due to the pandemic the focus shifted from supporting events which were cancelled to involving volunteers in the Community Call and in other Council related and local initiatives.

2020 Events and Highlights

Volunteers supported the following Initiatives in 2020

- Lexicon Book Drop
- Ballybrack Foodbank
- Heritage Poetry Initiative
- Sitting Pretty Initiative
- Delivery of dlr Age Friendly Magazine
- Active promotion of dlr Volunteer Centre and Corps on social media resulting in 708 Facebook and 844 Twitter followers. (36% and 20.9% increase respectively from 2019).
 - Induction video shared with volunteers prior to each event.
 - During 2020 DLRVC were represented on the Local Community Response Forum and the Volunteer Forum.
 - DLRVC partnered with DLR on an initiative called #dlrsaysThankYou to recognise and thank volunteers which ran across the whole week of National Volunteer Week 2020. A large scale social media campaign was ran and a video was developed with local councillors and organisations acknowledging volunteer efforts locally
- A total of 12 Estate Management areas within the County are engaged in the Estate Management Programme.
- The groups continued to meet regularly with their Council representative through Zoom during 2020.
- Each Estate Management Forum submitted 2 Service Plans for 2020. Service Plan 1 detailed the works that would be carried out/overseen by the group with financial assistance from the Council while Service Plan 2 detailed the works to be undertaken by Council Departments
 - Internal Management Implementation Team (MIT) met throughout 2020 to progress specific actions as identified in Services Plans 2



- The Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) was announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development with two separate rounds of funding.
 - CEP Grant funding totalling €216,289 supported community facilities and projects in 2020

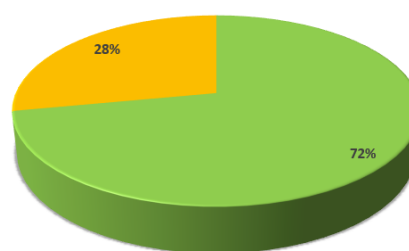
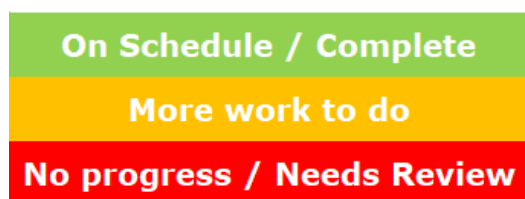
Overview of Progress with Objective 19:

Significant progress and activity have been completed and is on-going with the Actions in this Objective related to building community capacity, volunteerism and estate management.

The Community Call continues to respond to needs in the community arising from COVID-19 though the stakeholders represented: DLR CoCo, HSE, An Garda Síochána, Making Connections, DEASP, STAG, Alone, GAA, Volunteer Corp, PPN Sports Partnership.

Community Objective 20: Support Marginalised Communities through Collaboration with Local Communities and Agencies to Reduce Social Exclusion and Poverty, and Value Cultural Diversity, to include Individuals, Members of the Travelling Community, and Other Target Groups

10 Actions, of which 10 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 20 include;

- The DLR Community website is up and running. This provides an opportunity for centres to manage bookings online and coordinate and promote the wide range of services and activities that they offer to the



local community. The Network of Community Facilities also supports this process by facilitating information sharing and learning.

- The dlr Integration Forum (formerly dlr Ethnic Minority Integration Forum) received continued support in 2020 with the commencement of the development of a new integration strategy for DLR in Q1.
- SICAP programme continued to work with the most marginalised groups in the county working with some 33 community groups and in excess of 1000 individuals in both caseload and non-caseload capacity. This was despite the challenges presented by COVID-19 restrictions on the most marginalised in society, with whom the SICAP programme aims to work.
- SICAP Case study was produced highlighting flexibility of SICAP programme in responding to emerging needs in the community:
<http://southsidepartnership.ie/documents-library/#>
- The DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force provided a number of supports for this objective in 2020:
 - a prevention coordinator in Holly House, Loughlinstown
 - a preventive intervention service in MY project
 - a preventive / intervention service in DLR-CAT, Sandyford.
- DLR County Council approved grants supports through 211 community grants to a value of €176,776 in 2020

Grant Category	2020
Community Facilities Grant	7
Community Activity Grants	36
Community Development Initiatives	1
Start Up Grant	5
Running Costs	73
Training for Community Development	5
Equipment Grants	45
Age Friendly Grants	18
Summer Projects	21
Total	211



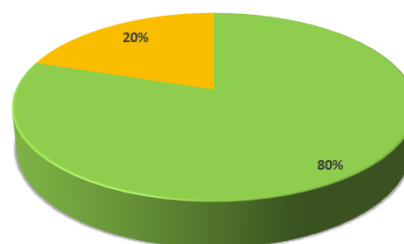
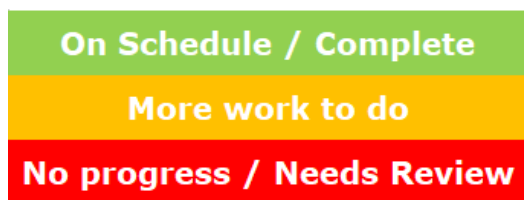
- Crosscare Community Café in Dún Laoghaire continued to operate a community inclusive service in central Dún Laoghaire. COVID-19 restrictions impacted on service delivery but a take away service was offered throughout the restrictions to support vulnerable customers.
- 2 projects approved for DLR under the LEADER Programme: 1) Biking Equipment Ticknock, amounting to €8,320.23 under sub theme - Rural Tourism. 2) Development of Sports Facility in Tibbradden Road, amounting to €95,212.31 under the sub theme -Basic Services for Hard-to-Reach Communities.

Overview of Progress with Objective 20:

Good and on-going progress achieved during 2020 to support marginalised communities, reduce social exclusion and poverty and value cultural diversity. The SICAP programme achieved its headline targets which were revised in October 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on service delivery. There is on-going support from a range of partners to reduce social exclusion and value cultural diversity in dlr.

Community Objective 21: Develop and Encourage Community Spirit, Public Participation and Volunteering which Allow Greater Community Development for All within the County

8 Actions, of which 8 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 21 include;

- At the end of December 2020 DLR PPN had 487 active member organisations This includes 383 Community & Voluntary, 90 Social Inclusion and 14 Environment groups <http://dlrppn.ie/>



- The PPN Steering Committee met on a monthly basis to plan and organise the 2020 programme of work and one plenary meeting of members was held in 2020.
- ‘Community Connections’ programme and podcast in conjunction with Dublin South FM produced 12 times in 2020.
- 23 nominees represented the PPN on six Strategic Policy Committees
- Two new Secretariat members ratified (1 from the Environment Pillar and 1 from the Social Inclusion Pillar).
- DLR PPN filled 3 vacancies for representatives on the LCDC, 2 vacancies on SPC’s, 2 vacancies on the Rural Task Force, 1 vacancy on the Public Art Steering Group and 1 vacancy on the LAG.
- DLR PPN was represented on the Community Response Stakeholder Forum and the Health and Wellbeing Subgroup, both led by the Local Authority.
- During the COVID -19 pandemic, DLR PPN contacted various groups to help map out the needs of the most vulnerable in the community.
 - Contacted over 90 Residents Associations in DLR to help map the support given to elderly people cocooning, with very informative results.
 - Supported the Deaf community in DLR.
- The PPN delivered 4 training sessions for members in Q3 2020
- 4 training videos were produced by the PPN in collaboration with the Council on how to use Zoom for complete beginners - December 2020.
- Community Wellbeing Survey created and circulated, with a focus on identifying the needs of the local community
- DLR community portal continued to be developed in 2020. Additional development on www.dlrcommunity.ie allowed for relevant community information during COVID to be easily accessible during the pandemic.
- Comhairle na n’Óg continued to meet virtually via zoom.
- Comhairle na nÓg progressed their project on Fast Fashion by developing and circulating a questionnaire to gauge Young Peoples level of awareness of Fast Fashion. The results from this questionnaire will be analysed and the topic progressed in 2021.
- The 2020 Comhairle na nÓg AGM took place in November via Zoom. A total of 14 Secondary Schools throughout the county engaged with a total of 43 young people in attendance. The theme for the 2020 AGM was Climate Change and



the session included input from An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Una Power and dlr's Climate Action Officer, Anthony Mc Namara.

- Comhairle na nÓg participated in the National Showcase in early December which is a national event acknowledging the work of all 31 Comhairles
- The Shanganagh Community Garden continued to develop to meet the needs of the local community throughout 2020.
 - Following a brief closure in the second quarter of the year, due to the emerging pandemic, the Community Garden reopened with all Public Health Protocols in place.
 - Work continued on the Sensory Reflective Space and the Butterfly and Pollinator Wildflower Biodiversity Meadow with the installation of boundary fencing and the purchase of sensory friendly vegetation.
 - The Men's Shed group continued to meet outdoors and assisted with the provision and installation of increased hand washing facilities to enhance COVID compliance for garden users.
 - Enable Ireland service users made much use of their project space, which was essential to their wellbeing in light of COVID restrictions.

Overview of Progress with Objective 21:

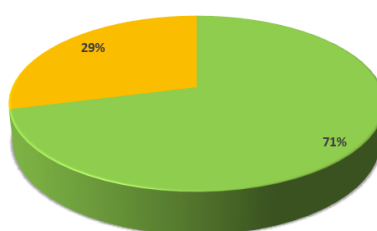
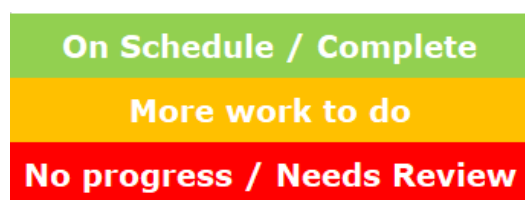
Progress is on-going with activity progressing well under the objective to develop and encourage community spirit, public participation and volunteering within the county.



Shared Economic and Community Objectives

Shared Objective 7: Access to a range of services and amenities, including good quality housing at affordable levels, suited to needs, and as far as possible, at the tenure of choice

13 actions, of which 12 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievement for Objective 7 includes

- Rebuilding Ireland has set targets for the delivery of dwellings and the Council is monitoring and actively working to achieve those targets through a range of measures such as construction, acquisition, leasing, Part V through the implementation of the Housing Strategy of the County Development Plan and the Annual Service Plan.
- The Council continued to work with the Shared Service of the DRHE to deliver Homeless Services within the County.
- No families self accommodating at 9th of December, on target for our delivery of Housing First Tenancies within dlr.
- As of the 9th December 42 allocations made to homeless households with an additional 12 offers on hand. Numbers of families down from 96 in January to 66 in December 2020. Over 202 Homeless HAP tenancies created so far in 2020.
- Re-lets are progressing but there have been delays during COVID in access and supply chains to get re-let works completed. In addition, there has been challenges given restrictions on movement.
- Due to COVID-19 there were no inspections for March, April & May in Private Rented Accommodation. Inspections resumed in June 2020 with 1117 Inspections carried out up to the 9th December, 2020.



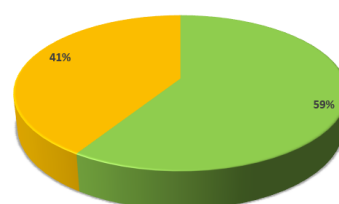
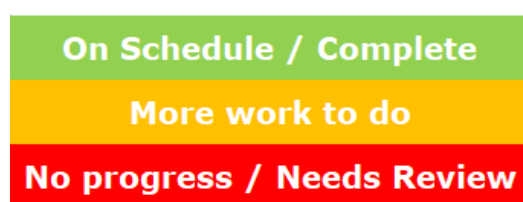
- The Housing Department are developing a Standards Inspections App that will allow a more effective and streamlined service delivery.
- The Housing Department continues to participate and contribute to the work of the DRHE shared homeless service. The Place Finders team continues to work with households to prevent homelessness and has created 2020 Homeless HAP tenancies in 2020. The Council continues to work with NGO's on the delivery of emergency and Key worker supports.
- Implementation of The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 continues.
- The Council continues to deliver publicly accessible recreational facilities throughout the County in line with the County Development plan and the Corporate Plan

Overview of Progress with Objective 7:

The majority of actions under this objective relates to access to housing and related services. There has been a significant focus of activity and resources, particularly by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, to help ensure that targets for social housing in 2020 have been achieved, and that good progress is made on developing a pipeline for the future to support with increasing availability of social and affordable housing across the country. Good progress has been achieved and the actions here are significant and on-going to maintain progress. A reduction in the number of homeless families from 96 to 66 in 2020 is to be welcomed. COVID-19 restrictions impacted on re-lets in 2020.

Shared Objective 8: Support life-long learning, enterprise development and strengthen employment in local communities

13 Actions, of which 8 are for LCDC oversight





2020 Achievement for Objective 8 includes;

- Planned Social Enterprise networking and showcase events for 2020 were cancelled however Southside Partnership DLR has continued to provide supports to local social enterprises as needed through Zoom and over the phone.
- Southside Partnership provided 142+ mentoring hours and 16 bespoke training workshops, over Zoom, to 24 DLR Based Social Enterprises / aspiring Social Entrepreneurs.
- In an effort to raise awareness of local social enterprises in the County, and showcase their success, 10 short promotional videos have also been produced in late 2020 (to showcasing organisations from the DLR/Bray area) and these will be promoted through social media in Q1/Q2 2021.
- 220 individuals accessed Southside Partnership's self-employment supports.
 - 76 unemployed individuals progressed into self-employment with the support of the DEASP Back to Work or Short-Term Enterprise Allowance schemes.
 - 42 became sole traders
 - 3 limited companies.
- 25 self-employment related workshops were facilitated in 2020, covering topics including Starting Your Own Business, Exploring Self-employment, Business Idea Generation, Marketing, Pricing, Taxation, Social Media and Restarting Your Business Post COVID-19. 375 training sessions took place with many individuals attending more than one session as their needs required.
- 7 information sessions, promoting Southside Partnership enterprise support services, were provided to various target groups, including jobseekers and Springboard training participants, from Jan to Dec 2020, primarily by Zoom
- Southside Partnership, through the Southside Community Training Network, continues to work with stakeholders in providing relevant training, information and supports to targeted communities across DLR.
- In Q4 2020, Southside Partnership ran a number of online programmes to support migrant women, including English Conversation and English Grammar classes.
- Southside Partnership continues to engage with the DDL ETB, the FE Colleges, the IADT and the DLR CTC to identify suitable programmes and pathways for targeted, marginalised communities and individuals across the county.
- Southside Partnership continues to support unemployed people in the county to identify suitable training and up-skilling opportunities that will help improve



their skills and employability prospects. The Partnership also provides job seeking workshops, including training on CV preparation and interview skills, to support unemployed people back into employment.

- The DLRCC Corporate Procurement Plan, 2021 to 2023, is currently being drafted and includes the objective: Promote Environmental and Social Considerations. The 2021 Procurement Action Plan will include an action for spot checking compliance with this objective in appropriate procurement procedures and will include KPIs for reporting on both Green and Social Procurement within DLR.
- Targets achieved from The New Public Library Strategy "Our Public Libraries 2022: Inspiring, Connecting and Empowering Communities include removing library fines to increase membership and accessibility, and delivering programmes under Right to Read, Healthy Ireland, and Work Matters. The development of a national catalogue, with national delivery system, and capital investment in buildings, ICT, etc

Overview of Progress with Objective 8:

Good Progress has been made through the SICAP Programme with headline targets achieved for 2020, through provision of assistance by Southside Partnership to support community and enterprise development and access to employment and learning in partnership with DDLETB during 2020. This work is supported by the library services through the 'Our Public Libraries 2022' strategy.

Action for Consideration/ Progression for 2021

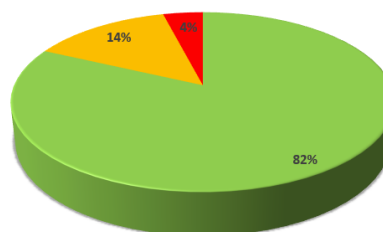
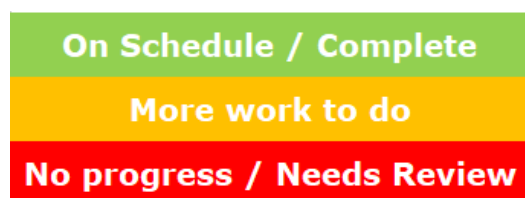
Action 8.4 – *Build an environment that makes it easier for people to start enterprises to address social issues and build a network for collaboration* - it has been discussed that a social enterprise hub would be beneficial to the rural parts of the county to encourage enterprise development.



Shared Objective 9: Support locally-based creative and knowledge enterprises, and strengthen up-skilling within the County, including support for start-ups and for business incubation facilities

This Objective includes Actions to support locally based creative and knowledge enterprises and strengthen up-skilling within the County. Oversight of the implementation of three of the four Actions under this Objective comes under the remit of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC.

4 Actions, of which 1 is for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievement for Objective 9 includes;

- LEO DLR continued to provide a full range of supports including finance and advice to support the development of micro enterprises across the County. In response to COVID the Trading Online Vouchers Scheme was available to help micro enterprises develop their website or digital strategy.
- DLR LCDC promoted the Social Enterprise Development Fund with all its stakeholders and on dlr social media platforms. The Social Enterprise Development Fund is a €3.2 million Fund being delivered from 2018 – 2022. The fund was created by Rethink Ireland in partnership with Local Authorities Ireland and funded by IPB Insurance and the Department of Rural and Community Development through the Dormant Accounts Fund. https://rethinkireland.ie/awarded_fund/social-enterprise-development-fund-2020/
- Preliminary planning for the development of a ‘Social Enterprise Strategic Plan’ for dlr underway through Southside Partnership Social Enterprise staff with multi agency meeting planned for 2021.



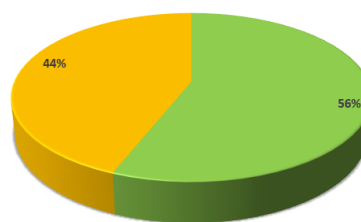
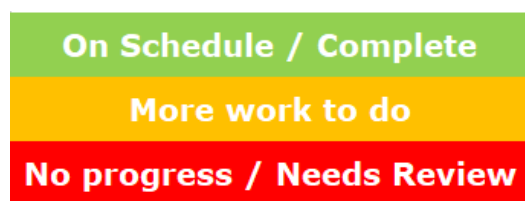
Overview of Progress with Objective 9:

Progress is on-going in relation to supporting economic development and enterprise. The Economic Development and Enterprise SPC has oversight in relation to monitoring implementation of the majority of actions under this Objective.

Action 9.1 - *Investigate potential for development of social innovation centre to support social enterprise within the county – consideration for leveraging LEADER funding to develop such a centre in rural dlr.*

Shared Objective 10: Facilitate access to affordable, quality early-childhood care and education

4 Actions, of which 3 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievement for Objective 10 includes;

- Assessing demand for childcare and supply of childcare facilities in DLR was affected during 2020 by COVID-19 restrictions and the subsequent closure of childcare services for a number of months.
- Work with national policymakers, investors and employers to promote investment in high quality, accessible and affordable early, pre-school and school-age childcare facilities was also affected by COVID-19 restrictions. However, new housing developments in the County will assist in provision of new childcare facilities into the future.
- Promotion of awareness of childcare options for all parents, including support for existing community childcare services and provision of community childcare in disadvantaged communities continues through our website, social media, e-mails and telephone calls. Community childcare facilities are supported through assisting with compliance and governance, assuring greater sustainability in community childcare and childcare in disadvantaged communities.



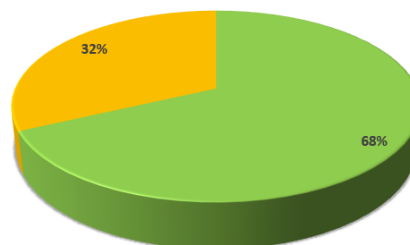
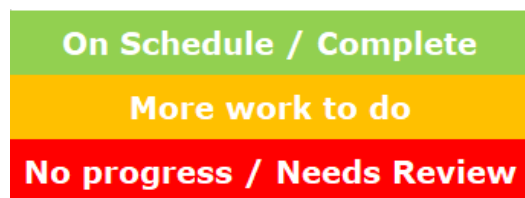
Overview of Progress with Objective 10:

Good progress has been made with a focus on training and support for Childcare workers, and roll out of national policy requirements. However challenges remain, particularly with high costs of childcare and availability of carers in the County. Additionally insurance costs are presenting as an escalating issue among childcare providers in the county.

The impact of COVID-19 restrictions has had a marked effect on the provision of childcare services in the county with many facilities closing throughout the lockdown periods. Amended work practices and have meant that childcare services for frontline workers have remained in place to support working parents in the county.

Shared Objective 11: Facilitate the delivery of transportation, enhanced connectivity and other infrastructure in the County

10 Actions, of which 4 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievement for Objective 11 includes;

- Council Travel Plan and Walking Bus Guide issued to schools in the County <http://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/travel-transport/traffic-management/travel-planning>
- Due to COVID19 restrictions, limited cycling activities were held during Bike Week in 2020. Three public bike clinics and a staff cycle were held. It was not possible to proceed with the Newtownsmith to Blackrock 6km Cycle
- Assisted the DTTAS in the delivery of school cycle training (www.cyclerright.ie) to 528 pupils were trained in 2020.



- Three Cycle Forum meetings were held in 2020 to provide a focus on cycling issues
- DLR is working with NTA to identify bus priority measures that will help deliver better bus routing in the County. A number of submissions were made to Bus Connects on Infrastructure and Services.
- Introduction of improved bus infrastructure along existing and new bus routes as per of the development of cycle routes
- Southside Partnership staff continued to provide Board participation and support to Accessible Community Transport Southside (ACTS).
<http://www.actsltd.ie/> Further collaboration with DLRCC being explored to enhance this service.
- A priority list of actions has been drawn up stemming from the walkability audits completed in 2019/2020 in estate management areas in the County.

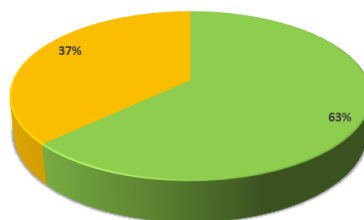
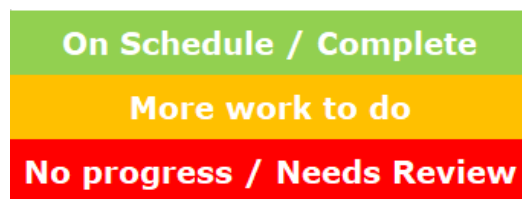
Overview of Progress with Objective 11:

Good progress is being made on transport and enhancing connectivity and particularly for cycling as a means of active healthy and sustainable travel in dlr. Road safety has continued as a priority activity particularly with schools and students. The redesign of the Dublin Bus Network continues to present opportunities to consider better east west connectivity across dlr.



Shared Objective 12: Promote and improve the prosperity and sustainable development of Town, District and Neighbourhood Centres

9 Actions, of which 6 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievement for Objective 11 includes;

- dlr had two entries submitted into 2020 Irish Public Bodies (IPB) Pride of Place competition for which the judging took place in September. At the national judging event on the 21st of November 2020 dlr was awarded two overall prizes.
 1. Airfield Estate - runner up award in the Community Well Being Initiative
 2. Patrician Community - runner up award in the Housing Estates Category
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions the CoCo Markets in Marlay and Peoples Parks were suspended – however ongoing support for their development and promotion in 2021 is in place <http://www.dlrcoco.ie/en/parks-outdoors/markets>
- Town and Village Scheme announced by Department of Rural and Community Development in May 2020. The Scheme is administered by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Two separate schemes were announced under the 2020 scheme.
 - Accelerated measure (Round 1, 2 and 3)
 - Main Towns and Villages.1 application submitted for round 3 under Accelerated measure but was unsuccessful. 2 applications were submitted under main towns and villages schemes- Sandyford Village and one for Stepside Village. The DRCD decision is expected in early 2021.



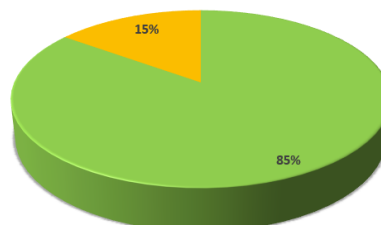
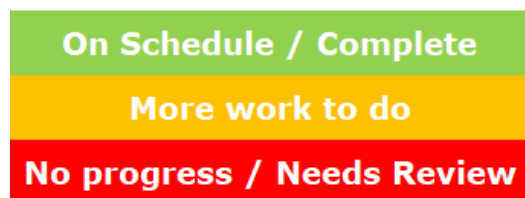
- Tidy Districts, Tidy Towns and Pride of Place competitions continue to be promoted with resident groups and the wider public. In 2020 dlr's Tidy Districts Competition has been replaced with the Tidy Districts Consultation 2020
- The Draft Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 was developed in 2020 and will be on display in the first quarter 2021.

Overview of Progress with Objective 12:

Good progress in relation to supporting Markets, Tidy Towns and Estate Management and with planning for the future development and on-going enhancement of towns and villages across the County. Communication with DRCD ongoing, when 2021 Town & Village Scheme is available, applications will be prepared to issue to DRCD

Shared Objective 13: To increase the level of philanthropy in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and to expand the community of engaged donors who are regular, strategic, long-term contributors to good causes

6 Actions, of which all are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 13 include;

- The Volunter Centre is continuing to encourage the spirit and practice of Volunteerism in DLR. <http://www.volunteerdlr.ie/>. The focus of this work changed to meet the needs of COVID 19, as the Centre stepped up to help with the Community Call.
- 2020 saw over 2100 new volunteers register with the Volunteer Centre, double what we normally deal with. Significant work was done to engage these volunteers locally.



- The Volunteer Centre worked with local frontline organisations to recruit the additional volunteers they needed, including local meals on wheels groups and recruiting volunteers for stakeholder groups involved with the Community Call Forum.
- The Centre also engaged with the Wellbeing Forum and has developed a number of volunteering initiative to promote a sense of connection between volunteers and their communities. Including our Volunteer from Home Initiative.
- Over 66+ Volunteers for Serve the City were recruited in DLR. These volunteers were involved with food, meal and prescription delivery, as well as gardening and IT support. Volunteers were also involved in delivering books on behalf of the dlr Library Services to residents in the area and were crucial to the opening of the Ballybrack foodbank.
- Infographic from Serve the City Food Bank Project



- Significant philanthropic funding was received from Music Generation, Ireland’s national music education programme initiated by Music Network and co-funded by U2, The Ireland Funds and the Department of Education and Skills. Locally, Music Generation dlr is managed by dlr Music Education Partnership, led by dlr



County Council in partnership with Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board, TUSLA, Southside Partnership dlr, Blackrock Education Centre, IADT, UCD and Crosscare.

<http://www.musicgeneration.ie/programmes/details/music-generation>

- Music Generation dlr (MGdlr) sent weekly videos over an 8-week period to guide teachers on music therapy techniques that might be beneficial to all children in the school in the absence for live interaction. 3 special needs schools availed of this. Carmona Special School received in-person music therapy 6 hours per week from 30th September up to school Christmas holidays.
- In total, 1408 primary school students availed of MGdlr online workshops. MGdlr collaborated with Crash Ensemble, a professional music group of international repute that provided training to 1 teacher in 3 schools. In addition, 1 class in each of the schools got 3 hours of guidance from Crash Ensemble over a 3 week period.
- MGdlr also collaborated with TEDxdlr in securing musicians to partake in their virtual choir, as well as the MGdlr Sandyford Youth Band pre-recorded video being aired during the event. In addition to this, a video in relation to the work that MGdlr are doing with Carmona Special School in relation to a grant received in 2019 by Google was played at this event. The MGdlr Development Officer was also interviewed by TEDxdlr in relation to the work being carried out in Dlr.
- MGdlr Sandyford Youth Band continued their band work online while MGdlr collaborated with dlr libraries to bring dlr musical storytime to the public on 22 occasions.
- An Expert Advisory Group has been working with consultants to develop a framework for the establishment of a Community Foundation in DLR. This work has continued online but has been delayed due to COVID-19. However, the documentation and promotional material has now been finalised and the plan is to launch this new initiative in 2021.

Overview of Progress with Objective 13:

The COVID-19 pandemic saw a considerable increase in the number of people offering to provide volunteering services in the county. The volunteer centre registered a 100% increase in registered volunteers in 2020.

Music Generation DLR continued to progress this action with a range of opportunities and events throughout the year despite the COVID-19 restrictions.



Launch of DLR Community Foundation delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions but launch is scheduled for 2021.

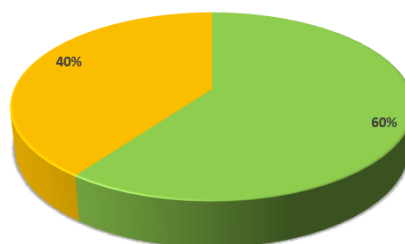
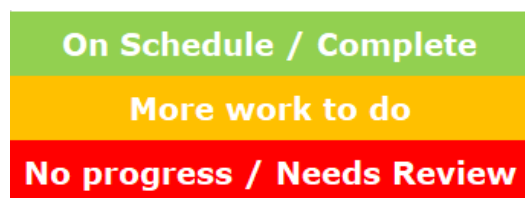
Action for Consideration/ Progression for 2021 - There are a number of related actions being considered for progression in this objective.

Actions 13.2, 13.3, 13.4, 13.5 - which include Develop and Implement a Philanthropy Strategy, Explore and develop mechanisms to attract prospective donors to select and contribute to such good causes, establish a Community Foundation to support appropriate facilities or services and Explore how Businesses are using Corporate Social Responsibility to examine how it can benefit the local community

Community Foundation for DLR to be launched in 2021.

Shared Objective 14: Protect the natural and built environment

8 Actions, of which 5 are for LCDC oversight



2020 Achievements for Objective 14 include;

- DLR's Biodiversity Officer has been working with Birdwatch Ireland and the RSPB to create a Dalkey Island Infographic to provide information to the public across the county.
- DLR'S Biodiversity Officer assisted with the drafting of the Biosphere Education Strategy and attended consultation meetings with Stakeholders and other interested parties.
- The biodiversity actions of the Biodiversity Plan continue to be implemented with most of this information disseminated online through our website during COVID including additions to the webpage for Biodiversity Activities including the Bird Video to encourage the public to get involved in bird watching. The



Gardening for Biodiversity Booklet was also posted out to residents and groups. A county Hedgehog Campaign is planned for before Christmas 2020 with a new Citizen Science project commencing in 2021.

- Due to COVID -19 Spring of Heritage Programme was cancelled. Virtual 3D Virtual tours of Marlay House and Cabinteely House were available for the public to view.
- Summer of Heritage 2020 programme was reduced in size in terms of sites / tours put on. 2 more 3D Virtual Tours for the Summer Programme for 2020 were added- The National Maritime Museum and The Oratory of the Sacred Heart in Dún Laoghaire.
- <https://events.dlrcoco.ie/event/summer-heritage-2020>
- DLR launched outdoor guided heritage walks which were fully booked from week one such was the demand
- DLR have been able to avail of significant NTA funding to the value of €8.5m expenditure on public realm enhancement schemes across the county.
- Funding also received to facilitate COVID 19 mobility measures across the county and included temporary village renewal measures in locations such as Blackrock, Dundrum, Glasthule, Dalkey and more. The net result is a significant investment in public realm enhancements at a time when the general public has so needed it.

Overview of Progress with Objective 14:

Good and on-going progress in relation to public realm and enhancing access to our natural environment in dlr

Action for Consideration/ Progression for 2021

Continue with development of virtual tours etc of culturally significant sites in DLR. Continue with development of cycle ways and walk ways – with increased space to allow for continued social distancing.



Conclusion:

Overall good progress has been made in 2020 in relation to the implementation of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), and achievement of objectives despite the impact of COVID-19 restrictions commencing in Q1. It is important to acknowledge the considerable contributions made by key partner organisations and departments of DLRCC who are leading and supporting the implementation of actions. In particular, the action owners play a key role in driving implementation and progress in relation to their actions and providing updates, which is appreciated. The successful implementation of the LECP is dependent on support and collaborative actions from partners. It is important to acknowledge the commitment and participation of all to support with implementing the LECP and helping to achieve the overall goals.

The ongoing COVID-19 situation impacts on plans for the remainder of the LECP implementation cycle, but it can be noted that initiatives that have arisen as a result of COVID-19 such as increased cycle infrastructure funding have had a positive impact on progress.

Under each objective, there are actions which have been highlighted for consideration, and in some cases, these now require review or further consideration to determine whether the actions are relevant and can be progressed during 2021. It will also be important to consider actions where partners can collaborate to support with delivering the overall objective. The LCDC will consider progress to date and areas for focus during 2021 at a forthcoming meeting.

