

**Minutes of Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Meeting  
held at 10.00am on Friday, 18 February 2022  
on Microsoft Teams**

**Members Present:** Councillor J Neville (Cathaoirleach)  
Councillors V Liston, Í Cussen, B Caldwell, N Killeen, C Galvin  
and M Coleman.

**Officials Present:** Ms E Wright (District Manager), Mr R Linnane (Municipal District Engineer), Mr D Hodgins, (Senior Engineer), Ms M Hunt and Mr K Kavanagh (Senior Executive Officers), Ms P Pender and Mr D McDermott (A/Senior Executive Officers), Mr S Wallace (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Ms C Whelan (A/ Administrative Officer) Mr C O'Toole (A/Staff Officer), Mr T Shanahan (Meetings Administrator), Ms C Dempsey (Meetings Secretary) and other officials.

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**CL01/0222**

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations from the members of pecuniary or beneficial interests under Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001.

**CL02/0222**

**Minutes and Progress Report**

The members considered the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 21 January 2022 together with the progress report. Notice of motion for amendment of the minutes in accordance with Standing Orders was received from Councillor Cussen who requested amendments on the following items from the January meeting;

That CL10/0122 be amended to include the following, 'correspondence would issue to Superintendent Garda Siochána Leixlip Garda District' as reflected in her motion. Also "Principal at "a" School (not the school) be corrected.

That CL34/0122 be amended to state '*the majority of Members at Plenary Council voted in the last Council*', in the interests of clarity regarding previous decision about location of proposed swimming pool, as expressed at the meeting.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the minutes of the monthly Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District meeting held on Friday, 21 January 2022 be approved to include the above amendments and the progress report was noted.

### **CL03/0222**

#### **Municipal District Road Works**

The Municipal District Engineer stated that a report had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting providing an update of works and a review of 2021. The outdoor crews were carrying out general footpath and road maintenance works in the Municipal District area. These included jet-cleaning of road gullies, mechanical sweeping of roads, road repairs with road patcher unit and general repairs to footpaths and kerbs. Calls received were triaged and then assigned to a crew as appropriate.

Contractors had carried out footpath repair works in Glendale estate.

Hedge cutting at junctions was to commence next week.

#### **Road works programme for 2022**

Road Overlays - Restoration Improvement

- R405 West of Crofton's Garage (560m)
- L1014 Kellystown Lane (460m)
- R403 Shackleton Rd. to Ardras (1100m)
- L5056 Glen Easton to Westfield (455m)
- L1016 Dangan Corner to Lyons Rd (560m)
- L5064 Kearneystown (400m)

- L2008 Boston Cottages (1106m)

Surface Dressing – Restoration Maintenance

- Locations not yet identified

The members welcomed the report and asked when the resurfacing on the Shackleton Road would recommence.

The Municipal District Engineer advised that it was anticipated this work would recommence during the Easter midterm break.

The Cathaoirleach requested permission to take items 7,8,9,13,14,12,15,18,20, 21,4,5,6,19,10,11,16,17 from the agenda in that sequence. This was agreed by all members.

### **Item 7**

#### **CL04/0222**

#### **Black Avenue**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen. Can the council advise if it has applied to take the Black Avenue in charge since the ownership was transferred over and what specific progress has been made in that regard and what remains outstanding?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department. Informing the members that Kildare County Council contacted the OPW in relation to the transfer of ownership of Black Avenue and St Catherine's Park to Kildare County Council. Solicitors have been engaged by the OPW to transfer ownership of St Catherine's Park to Kildare County Council. This work was ongoing.

The report was noted.

**Item 8**

**CL05/0222**

**Upgrade to the existing bridge in Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That this council meet with the relevant project team as a matter of urgency to discuss the upgrade to the existing bridge in Celbridge including pedestrian/cycling details and timeline for Part 8 public consultation.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Team Department informing the members that the Sustainable Transport Team have contacted the NTA seeking an update on this project. They were awaiting the draft documentation from the NTA to progress the scheme to Part 8 consultation.

Councillor Cussen stated she would like the members to be informed as the updates came in and for the information to be received no longer than 6 weeks from now.

The District Manager advised the Sustainable Transport Team would be meeting each Municipal District in March

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 9**

**CL06/0222**

**Maynooth Road in Celbridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Cussen. That the council assess the Maynooth Road in Celbridge, from Tesco junction to Main Street, to identify and commence short-term accessibility measures and plans for submission for a longer-term project.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office would carry out an assessment of the area of the Maynooth Road and report back its findings.

Councillor Cussen noted the report stating this area was a hazard to users, especially those with disabilities.

The Municipal District Engineer advised he could carry out three/four quick fixes for example on ditching and ponding however more significant actions would be a substantial project that may be suitable to address through NTA funding via the Sustainable Travel Team. Councillor Cussen stated she would welcome the actions that could be completed more quickly within current funding by the MD office, and recognised that actions beyond that are a larger project

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Cussen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

### Item 13

#### CL07/0222

#### Dara Court junction

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin. That the council examine the Dara Court junction with the Maynooth Road with the view to improving pedestrian safety and addressing the issue of water ponding.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Neville

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that subject to the members agreement, the municipal district office would carry out an assessment of Dara Court junction and report back to the members.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 14**

**CL08/0222**

**Footpath on Big Lane**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Galvin

That the council examine the footpath on Big Lane, particularly outside the veterinary clinic where it has a significant slope, with the view to levelling it or otherwise making it more accessible

The motion was proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Cussen

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that subject to the members agreement, the municipal district office would carry out an assessment of this area and report back to the members.

Councillor Galvin stated she would like a comprehensive review carried out of that area. The Municipal District Engineer advised the minor works required would be done by the Municipal District office, as there was funding within their budget for this.

The bigger scheme could go to the Sustainable Transport Team to ascertain would it be funded by the NTA.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 12**

**CL09/0222**

**Roundabout on the R449**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston.

That the council urgently provides a safe means for pedestrians to cross before the roundabout on the R449 given the closure of the pathway on the R405 in Celbridge as part of works on the new housing development, as well as the new bus stop requiring children to cross the road at Applegreen.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Neville.

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that temporary pedestrian management measures have been installed by Ardstone under licence to facilitate works to the front of the new development at Crodaun. These were temporary and would be removed on the completion of the works. There was currently an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing between the roundabout and the first entrance to the Applegreen site providing a means for pedestrians to cross the R449.

Councillor Liston noted the report and stated the council should learn from this for future developments.

The District Manager outlined that the Senior Engineer with the Active Travel Team would be the first point of contact. He would examine this with the Municipal District Engineer and advise on the best procedure they should follow.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the Senior Engineer, Active Travel Team would examine this with the Municipal District Engineer and advise on the best procedure they should follow.

**Item 15**

**CL10/0222**

**Footpath on the Hazelhatch Road**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That the council install a footpath on the Hazelhatch Road so as to extend the footpath up to the Shinkeen Road junction.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Neville. A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office had commenced discussions with a landowner at this location. Front boundary alterations would be required to their property to provide space to deliver this footpath. If agreement could be made

on necessary boundary alterations and a source of funding identified for the works, the municipal district office would install the footpath.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 18**

**CL11/0222**

**Celbridge Road in Leixlip**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council review the Celbridge Road in Leixlip with a view to availing of its width through putting the power lines underground and installing cycle lanes to make it safer for school children at Scoil Ui Dhalaigh, Colaiste Chiarain while making the area safer for users of the Wonderful Barn, Barnhall Rugby Club, Hewlett Packard site and the State Laboratory at Celbridge.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Cussen

A report was received from the Sustainable Transport Team informing the members that Improvements along the Celbridge Road, Leixlip do not form part of the Sustainable Transport Section's design programme agreed with the NTA for 2022. However, the link remains a scheme that the council wish to progress and forms part of the Greater Dublin Area Strategic Cycle Network.

Councillor Neville noted the report stating the power lines coming out of the footpaths look unsightly and may be unsafe and he would like the council to raise it with the ESB.

The Municipal District Engineer advised he would make contact with the ESB, he would walk the route and see what was possible.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the Municipal District Engineer would make contact with the ESB, and assess the route and see what was possible.

**Item 20**

**CL12/0222**

**Safety review of the R449**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen. That a detailed report into the safety review of the R449 is given to this council and that the interim, medium term and long-term speed and safety mitigation measures were set out clearly in respect of drivers, pedestrians and cyclists, and that the council liaises with all responsible bodies advising them of such measures.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Neville. A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office carried out a speed survey at this location and had advised the gardai of the findings. This was a dual lane regional road with significant volumes of traffic. The road was a main spine linking Leixlip to the M4 motorway. The road had a grass margin, cycle lanes and footpaths in both directions. There was no history of accidents at this location.

Councillor Killeen noted the report and queried the outcome of the safety audit.

The Municipal District Engineer advised the second safety survey was conducted from the 8 to 14 February. The results were the same as before with 86% of drivers driving over the speed limit. He sent the results to An Garda Síochána on 16 February. Councillor Killeen requested that this item should go on the progress report.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted and this item go on the progress report.

**Item 21**

**CL13/0222**

**Repair of damaged kerbs in housing estates**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Cussen.  
Can the council confirm what measures are in place for the repair of damaged kerbs in housing estates, for example those damaged by refuse trucks?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that repairs to damaged kerbs in housing estates were generally carried out directly by municipal district outdoor staff. Damaged kerbs were identified and scheduled for repair by technical and outdoor staff.

The report was noted.

**Item 4**

**CL14/0222**

**LPT Schedule of Works 2022**

On the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 be deferred to March.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by all members present that the Celbridge-Leixlip Municipal District Local Property Tax (LPT) allocation for 2022 be deferred to March's municipal district meeting.

**Item 5**

**CL15/0222**

**Draft Casual Trading Byelaws**

The members considered the Draft Casual Trading Byelaws.

A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members that the Council gratefully acknowledges the elected members engagement on this matter. It was noted that certain locations suggested for assessment by elected

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members were not in the ownership of the Council and were therefore omitted from assessment. The locations that were assessed were as outlined below, along with the suggested day, times and seasons:

Designated Area	Designated Day/Days	Designated Times
*Celbridge Town, The Slip	Friday Sunday, Bank Holidays	10.00 - 17.00 11.00 -16.00
St Catherine's Park, Black Avenue Car Park, Leixlip.	Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays May – September inclusive.	10.00 -16.00
**William Roantree Park, adjacent Courtyard Car Park, Leixlip*	Sundays and Bank Holidays May -September inclusive.	10.00 -17.00
***Wonderful Barn, Celbridge Rd, Barnhall, Leixlip	Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays May-September inclusive.	10.00 -17.00

*\*Casual trading licences shall not be granted for casual trading at the location indicated, during the period of the Celbridge Festival.*

*\*\*Casual trading licences shall not be granted for casual trading at the location indicated, during the period of the Leixlip Festival.*

*\*\*\*Wonderful Barn proposal for trial period only.*

It should be noted and as communicated at briefings, that some of the above location's present operational challenges, in particular the Wonderful Barn, and that this may affect feasibility or necessitate a stay in commencement of trading/ acceptance of licence applications, should bye laws be made.

A copy of the Draft Casual Trading Bye Laws 2022 for the Municipal District of

Celbridge-Leixlip (the Schedules to which contain maps indicating the proposed designated trading areas) accompany this report.

Should the members resolve, the Draft Casual Trading Bye Laws 2022 for the Municipal District of Celbridge-Leixlip would be placed on public display and submissions invited, in accordance with Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act, 1995. Subject to their decision, it was anticipated that consultation would commence in March 2022 and last for a period of 6 weeks.

Contributions were made by all members, including issues such as the operability of the Wonderful Barn for regular trading, the suitability of Sunday trading at the Slip when adjacent services occur at Christ's Church, the appropriateness of St Catherine's Park regarding concerns about litter, the impacts of new trading locations on town centre businesses and the resources available to the Council to enforce and manage new trading locations.

It was however agreed by members that to reflect these concerns and assist public consultation that the report for this meeting, and the minutes of this meeting (when approved) would also be published on the Consultation Portal.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members, the report was noted and the Draft Casual Trading Bye Laws 2000 be placed on public display and submissions invited.

### Item 6

#### CL16/0222

##### Change of date of the March monthly meeting

The members considered the change of date of the March monthly meeting. A report was received from the Corporate Services Department informing the members in accordance with the requirements of Standing Orders, the members agreement was sought to change the date of the March meeting from Friday 18 March to Friday 25 March due to the announcement that the 18 March was now a public holiday.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by all members that the Celbridge-Leixlip MD meeting be changed to 25 March 2022.

**Item 19**

**CL17/0222**

**Traffic light system at the Black Avenue**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Killeen.

That the council work with the OPW and Irish Water to reinstate the traffic light system at the Black Avenue to secure the safety of drivers and pedestrians in that area.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that if the members agreed, the issue would be reviewed with Irish Water and any repairs required would be made.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Killeen, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 10**

**CL18/0222**

**Lights on Rye Bridge**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell.

That the council in conjunction with Airtricity carry out a repair and upgrade to the 6 lights on Rye Bridge, Leixlip.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville

A report was received from the Roads Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that the public lighting section had requested the maintenance contractor to provide a quote for the repair and upgrading of the lights

to LED. Once the quote was received, lights would be upgraded under the maintenance contract.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 11**

**CL19/0222**

**Overgrowth along the Liffey bank**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Caldwell. That the council remove some of the overgrowth along the Liffey bank at the end of the Main Street car park, Leixlip.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville.

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that subject to the members agreement, arrangements would be made to have the overgrowth cut back.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Caldwell, seconded by Councillor Neville and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**Item 16**

**CL20/0222**

**Outdoor accessible tables**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Coleman. That the council place a sticker on the outdoor accessible tables in this municipal district with the text "Please be mindful of those whose need for a seat is greater than yours" to include the County Kildare Access Network (CKAN) and local area access crests.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Galvin.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation & Public Safety Department and Public Realm Department informing the members that the Accessibility Officer

had consulted with the previous Municipal District Engineer and the Public Realm Team in relation to this matter. It was considered that the public of today were very aware of the needs of others, and it had been agreed that this type of signage was not warranted. If the purpose was to promote the access group, then a similar sign to one attached to a seat in Newbridge may be a better option.

Councillor Coleman noted the report and advised that this idea originated from Celbridge Access group, he stated placing a sign fosters a culture of respect and inclusion it allowed people to be aware of the needs of others.

Ms McCarthy, advised she had been talking to Councillor Coleman since this report was issued and would agree with him and the members regarding the wording to appear, before signs were placed on tables.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed by the members that the report be noted, and the wording to appear on signs would be agreed with the members.

### Item 17

#### **CL21/0222**

##### **Closing of the Blakestown crossing.**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Neville. That the council clarify if they had any discussions with the NTA or with the Department of Transport on the issue of the closing of the Blakestown crossing.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell.

A report was received from the Roads, Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that the closure of the Blakestown Crossing was being proposed under the Dart West Extension Project being delivered by Irish Rail and funded by the NTA. The council had confirmed to Irish Rail that they were not in agreement with this proposal. A decision on the Dart West Extension Project would

be made by An Bord Pleanála under a Railway Order which would consider all submissions including the submission from the council.

The District Manager advised that there was ongoing engagement with Irish Rail on this item.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Neville, seconded by Councillor Caldwell and agreed by the members that the report be noted.

**CL22/0222**

**Roman Bath, Leixlip**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Caldwell.  
Can the council provide an update on the safety barrier in the Spa Area at the Roman Bath, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a Conservation Architect had been engaged to review the feasibility of installing safety barriers.

The report was noted.

**CL23/0222**

**Roads in Castlevillage, Celbridge**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin  
Can the council clarify its position on resurfacing or repairing the roads in Castlevillage, Celbridge?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation and Public Safety Department informing the members that the municipal district office had carried out an assessment of the road surface in Castlevillage estate and deemed it to be in reasonable condition suitable for general maintenance. There were no plans to carry out any resurfacing in this estate.

The report was noted.

CL24/0222

**Celbridge's second bridge and link road**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Galvin.  
Can the council confirm what route the consultants have identified as the "emerging preferred route option" for Celbridge's second bridge and link road?

A report was received from the Roads Design & Projects Team informing the members that the Celbridge to Hazelhatch Link Road project is currently at Phase 2 Option Selection (see image below) and is in the process of identifying an emerging preferred option.



Phase 2 Option Selection is sub-divided into three Stages as set out below,

- **We are here** Stage 1 – Preliminary Options Assessment.
- ← Stage 2 - Project Appraisal Matrix.
- Stage 3 - Preferred Option.

The project was currently in Stage 2 of Phase 2 which involves a detailed assessment of all five shortlisted Route Corridor Options under the six Common Appraisal Framework Criteria: - Economy, Safety, Environment, Accessibility and Social Inclusion, Integration, and Physical Activity.

Non-statutory public consultation no. 2 would take place in Quarter 1 of 2022 which would provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide views on the Emerging Preferred Option.

In response to a request for clarification, the District Manager noted that it was intended that the Sustainable Travel Team would present to members at their March meeting.

The report was noted.

**CL25/0222**

**Tree/woodland planting**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston.  
Can the councils land, Folio number KE 60699F, be made available as a plot for tree/woodland planting?

A report was received from the Kildare National Roads Office informing the members that the folio referenced contains the M4 motorway, embankments and land that was acquired during the M4 scheme. The folio was not available for tree/woodland planting.

The report was noted.

**CL26/0222**

**Percentage of streetlights changed from Sodium to LED**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman.  
Can the members be informed of what percentage of streetlights in this municipal district have been changed from Sodium to LED?

A report was received from the Roads Transportation & Public Safety Department informing the members that the public lighting section does not track this information at municipal district level but at county level. They estimated that municipal district numbers would be close to county level numbers. At county level, 45% of the SOX lights have been upgraded to LED.

The report was noted.

**CL27/0222**

**Planned resurfacing and widening of the M4**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.  
Can the council give an update on the planned resurfacing and widening of the M4 between Leixlip, Celbridge and Maynooth?

A report was received from the Kildare National Roads Office.

informing the members that There were two proposed projects managed by Kildare National Roads Office within this location:

1) The “Maynooth to Leixlip Project”. This was in options selection phase. The project team were currently appraising a long list of potential options. The outcome of this appraisal was to identify a short-list of options. This outcome (short-list) was anticipated in Quarter 2 2022, following which a virtual public consultation event would be held. At this point also, information would also be shared on the project website (<https://maynoothleixlip.ie/>).

The options selection process was focused upon the appraisal of options (including widening options) to eventually identify the preferred option. Details such as surfacing would typically be decided upon following the identification of the preferred option in the later design phases.

2) The “M4 Eastbound Bus Priority Measures Pilot Project”. This project was investigating the potential implementation of bus priority measures along this section of motorway in the eastbound direction (only). This pilot project was in the pre-planning/preliminary design phase and would look to be presented for Part 8 consultation and planning approval later this year. Implementing the bus priority measures infrastructure would require full depth pavement construction (in specific locations) and resurfacing. In this regard, it was anticipated that the eastbound carriageway over the approximate extent of the work would be resurfaced. The surface course was envisaged to be low noise surface eg. SMA.

Kildare National Roads Office were not involved or have no role in carriageway maintenance works along this section of M4/N4. This was managed by TII Motorway

Maintenance and Renewals Contract (MMaRC). Therefore, Kildare National Roads Office cannot comment on matters relating to planned or proposed carriageway maintenance.

The report was noted.

**CL28/0222**

**Homelessness or living in insecure housing**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Liston.

Can the council confirm how many adults and children are 1) homeless or 2) living in insecure housing in Celbridge and Leixlip?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that there were currently 4 adults and 5 children in Emergency Accommodation in the Celbridge/Leixlip area. There were 7 adults and 10 children in Family Hubs that have Celbridge/Leixlip listed as an area of choice on their housing applications. The Homeless Outreach team have confirmed that there were currently no individuals identified as rough sleeping in Celbridge or Leixlip.

No data was available in relation to people living in insecure housing.

The report was noted.

**CL29/0222**

**Housing Allocation**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Neville.

Can the council confirm how many people who have Leixlip and Celbridge as their first-choice location on the housing list, have been housed in the last 2 years?

A report was received from the Housing Department informing the members that Applicants for housing have the opportunity to identify a maximum of three Areas of Choice and could also change any of those Areas at any time. Such Areas of Choice are identified at town/village level.

When properties become available for rental, they were offered to applicants in accordance with our Social Housing policy. This means that a suitable property

would be offered to an applicant who had the location as one of their Areas of Choice but not necessarily their No.1 Area of Choice.

A total of 95 properties were allocated during the last two years to applicants who had locations within the Celbridge/Leixlip MD identified as one of their Areas of Choice.

It was not possible to isolate the number of allocations where applicants had Celbridge-Leixlip MD locations as their No. 1 Area of Choice.

In addition, there was a total of 13 Choice Based Letting (CBL) properties within the Celbridge-Leixlip MD area allocated to qualified applicants who expressed an interest in living within the MD area. As CBL was a county-wide facility, applicants could express an interest in a property anywhere within the county, whether or not the property was located within any of their Areas of Choice.

The report was noted.

**CL30/0222**

**Litter fines**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Coleman  
Can the council confirm the number of litter fines issued in 2021 in this municipal district?

A report was received from the Environment Department informing the members that there were 14 litter fines issued in the Celbridge-Leixlip MD in 2021.

The report was noted.

**CL31/0222**

**LPT grant recipients**

The members considered the following motion in the name of Councillor Liston  
That reports to the council from Local Property Tax (LPT) grant recipients include a summary of the work done and the achievements, which are then compiled for the municipal district members in an open publication, in order to raise awareness of how LPT is spent and its impact for communities.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Cussen.

A report was received from the Environment & Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that Tidy Towns Groups who receive grant funding were asked to provide a short overview on how those funds were used and were also reminded that projects undertaken by the Tidy Town groups should fulfil at least one of the categories of the National Tidy Towns competition.

A further report was received the Economic Community & Cultural Development Department processed over 220 LPT grants in 2021, a significant increase on 2020. They expect this trend to continue upwards. LPT grant approvals were presented to the Municipal District Committee with a group name, brief description and an amount awarded. As part of the application form a brief project description was requested as well as a longer project description. These longer project descriptions could be compiled and made available to the members prior or subsequently to the funding being awarded. Members should be aware that in many cases project descriptions were by the nature of the project short and to the point e.g. Tarmac required at entrance gate. Department staff were already following up to ensure invoice receipts were submitted. Requesting or compelling volunteers to present a report of their activities would put further strain on our limited resources and the voluntary groups themselves.

A final report was received from Climate Action Department 2021 was the inaugural year for the Climate Innovation Fund processed by the Climate Action Office and with further Municipal District support, the fund was expected to grow in availability within the county. Grant approvals were presented to the Municipal District concerned with relevant information. Presently the successful bidders were required to submit progress reports at the launch, interim and final stages and report information could be made available. Payments were made post receipt of appropriate reporting and invoicing.

The members noted the reports and raised the following issues:

- They would like the members and the public to be able to view how the funding was distributed, who it went to and who benefitted from it.
- They would like to see photos and acknowledgements of the projects undertaken.
- A condition of receiving funding should be that photos and a paragraph outlining work be submitted with the application form.
- It would be beneficial to get the Communications Department involved, to assess feasibility for work on this during 2022.
- They noted how difficult it was to get volunteers and extra paperwork may discourage them from volunteering for these projects.
- Could this be looked at as a limited trial for 2022

Mr McDermott noted the member's comments confirming recipients do send in receipts. The Community and Cultural Development Department already post some of these projects on social media through Community stories and have 8,500 followers. Mr McDermott also highlighted the importance of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) especially around the areas of youth groups.

The Community and Cultural Development would also need to ascertain the quality of information sent in by photos and videos, if not of a high standard they may not be suitable for publishing.

The District Manager noted the members comments, she thought interacting with the Communications Department was the best route to go. She also advised that there were monthly updates in the Chief Executives reports on some of these projects. She stated if it was something the council were to take on, they would need to consider what resources were available and it would need to be delivered to a very high standard.

**Resolved** on the proposal of Councillor Liston, seconded by Councillor Cussen and agreed by the members that the report be noted and the Meetings Administrator would raise this with the Communications Team to ascertain could they speak to the relevant departments to see how feasible it was.

**CL32/0222**

**Tree at Dun Carraig, Leixlip**

The members considered the following question in the name of Councillor Killeen.  
Can the council advise when the tree deemed by specialists as being risky, would be removed from the area at Dun Carraig, Leixlip?

A report was received from the Community and Cultural Development Department informing the members that a tender for the removal of the tree would be issued in the next fortnight. A timeframe for its removal would be determined once a Tree surgeon had been appointed to remove the tree.

The report was noted.

The meeting concluded.