

Feasibility study for new district heating scheme for Grange Castle

INVESTMENT: A feasibility study for Grange Castle is included in the €9m investment

€9 million investment to expand Tallaght District Scheme to several ongoing projects

By James Roulston Mooney
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A FEASIBILITY study for Grange Castle Business Park is included as part of a €9m investment into expanding the Tallaght District Heating Scheme.

A quarter of a million euros has been set aside for various climate action and public realm works in South Dublin as the council look to expand several ongoing projects.

The Tallaght District Heating Scheme is set for an expansion that will cost seven figures.

€9m has been put aside to expand the council's district heating scheme to areas outside of Tallaght, two and a half years after it became operational.

South Dublin County Council Director of Planning and Transport Teresa Walsh noted that part of that sum will be dedicated to a feasibility study for a new scheme to be created for Grange Castle Business Park.

If viable, the network will provide heating for the growing

enterprise centre, which includes multiple data centres.

Studies relating to the potential scheme are set to be carried out this year.

The expansion is earmarked to include a new housing and mixed-use development in Cookstown, while the possibility of an additional scheme in a local business park is being touted.

Walsh said that the scheme currently operates at four megawatts but has the potential for more.

The SDCC Director of Planning and Transport said: "The full capacity for the Tallaght scheme is 10 megawatts.

"So, we propose that we would now move on to providing the infrastructure to deliver those additional connections which will further deliver district heating to new housing and mixed-use development in the Cookstown area as well as connecting further state and commercial buildings."

Current beneficiaries of the scheme include SDCC themselves and other public sector workplaces, like Technological University

Dublin in Tallaght, but also some cost-rental apartments in Innovation Square.

The existing network makes use of excess heat from Amazon Web Services' (AWS) data centre to provide low carbon heat to the network customers.

Funding has been awarded to the project for development of the Phase 2 model under EU Interreg RODEO Programme which commenced in Jan 2025.

Discussions with the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment are ongoing to finalise the Climate Action Funding figure for this second phase.

SDCC noted that they are continuing to work with the Department, as well as the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and Codema to advance District Heating projects in South Dublin.

"A full report on the district heating and the expansion and the feasibility will be brought back to council in a couple of months."

Funded by the Local Democracy Reporting Scheme.



CONCERNS: Cllr Daithí Doolan and Aengus O Snodaigh

months of 2026, given the timescale for the implementation of the longer-term plan for the park.

Funded by the Local Democracy Reporting Scheme.

Council view astro pitch as 'potentially hazardous'

THE astro pitch in Cherry Orchard that was tarmacked over prior to Christmas was viewed by the council as "potentially hazardous", reports James Roulston Mooney

A tarmac surface was laid over the astro pitch located behind St Ultan's National School in Cherry Orchard as the existing surface was not up to health and safety standards, according to Dublin City Council.

The location is set to be reworked as part of the redevelopment of Cherry Orchard Park, set to be complete in the next year or two, but calls have been made to restore the astro surface as soon as possible.

Clubs that made use of the pitch will have to look elsewhere due to

the installation of the "temporary surface."

Councillor Daithí Doolan told *The Echo* following the resurfacing of the pitch that the alternatives that clubs will have to avail of will prove to be "expensive and impractical" and criticised the council for stripping an area in need of amenities of one already in place.

Cllr Doolan said: "The council cannot expect this whole community to go without their only astro for this length of time..."

"...Cherry Orchard has very little resources and sports facilities. The council should be improving the facilities not removing them."

The new tarmac surface is expected to be reviewed in the first

PROPOSED EXTINGUISHMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN BELGARD SQUARE SOUTH AND N81, TALLAGHT, UNDER SECTION 73 OF THE ROADS ACT 1993 (AS AMENDED)

South Dublin County Council (SDCC) hereby gives notice, under Section 73(1) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended), of a proposal to extinguish a Public Right of Way relating to the slip road between Belgard Square South and the N81 in the townland of Tallaght, Dublin 24.

The Extinguishment of the Public Right of Way is being proposed on foot of a permission under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), to remove the slip road and construct a Bus Layover Facility to accommodate an increase in volume of buses in the area and welfare facilities for Bus Drivers. The Bus Layover Facility was permitted in October 2024 under Reg. Ref. SD23A/0231 and the period for making submissions and observations on that permitted development has closed.

A map showing the Public Right of Way that is proposed for extinguishment, as well as an existing alternative route available to vehicles, may be inspected on South Dublin County Council's online Consultation Portal – go to www.consult.sdublincoco.ie or use your camera phone to scan the QR code below.

For the purposes of Section 73 (1)(a) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended), the period for inspection of the map regarding the Public Right of Way runs from Thursday 22nd January 2026 until Saturday 22nd February 2026.

Objections or representations regarding the proposal to extinguish the Public Right of Way may be made in writing from Thursday 22nd January 2026 until Monday 9th March 2026 (inclusive) by way of one of the following two options:

- Online via the Council's Consultation Portal – www.consult.sdublincoco.ie (up to 23:59 on Monday 9th March 2026)
- OR
- In hard copy to the Senior Executive Officer, Planning and Transport, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 A3XC. (Up to 16:00 on Monday 9th March 2026)

Persons making objections or representations may make a written request, to state their case, at an oral hearing.

Further to the Roads Act, 1993 (as amended) written objections and representations, including those that make such submissions, will be referenced in a statutory Chief Executive's Report to be submitted to the members of SDCC. The Report will be available to members of the public thereafter. To inform the public consultation, objections/representations will be made available to view on the Council's online Consultation Portal. SDCC reserves the right to make reference to objections and representations, including to those that make such submissions, in the Chief Executive's Report in a manner that is deemed fit and to exclude any vexatious, libellous, or confidential information from publication in the Report or online. Contact details contained in objections/representations may be used to notify persons of the outcome regarding the proposal. For information on SDCC's Privacy Statement and Data Protection Policy, please see: www.sdcc.ie/en/services/our-council/access-to-information/data-protection

