

COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT BYE-LAWS 2026

**MADE UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 2004
(as amended)**

Planning and Transport

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1.0 DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL

1.1 South Dublin County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 9 of the Road Traffic Act 2004 (No. 44 of 2004) (as amended), and subject to consultation with the Garda Commissioner and the written consent of Transport Infrastructure Ireland, relating to national roads and motorways, hereby make the following Bye-Laws in respect of the area comprising the administrative area of the South Dublin County Council, as defined by the map prepared in accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993.

1.2 These Bye-Laws shall come into operation on the 31st March 2027.

1.3 In these Bye-Laws:

"administrative area" has the meaning assigned to it by the Act of 2001; "built-up area" has the meaning assigned to it by the Act of 2004; "distance" means distance as measured along the centre line of a road; "local road", "regional road", "national road", and "motorway" have the meaning assigned to them, respectively, in the Roads Act 1993;

"speed limit" applies to all lanes of a road in both directions unless specified otherwise;

"the Act of 1961" means the Road Traffic Act 1961 (No. 24 of 1961); "the Act of 1993" means the Roads Act 1993 (No. 14 of 1993);

"the Act of 1994" means the Road Traffic Act 1994 (No. 7 of 1994); "the Act of 2001" means Local Government Act 2001;

"the Act of 2004" means the Road Traffic Act 2004 (No. 44 of 2004); "the Act of 2010" means the Road Traffic Act 2010 (No. 25 of 2010).

1.4 The following default speed limits apply, except where special speed limits or road works speed limits are in force, and subject to Sections 10 and 11 of the Road Traffic Act 2004:

- Built-up area speed limit: 50 kilometres per hour for all mechanically propelled vehicles.
- Local road speed limit (in rural settings): 60 kilometres per hour for all mechanically propelled vehicles.
- Regional road speed limit: 80 kilometres per hour for all mechanically propelled vehicles.
- National road speed limit: 100 kilometres per hour for all mechanically propelled vehicles.
- Motorway speed limit: 120 kilometres per hour for all mechanically propelled vehicles.

1.5 Special speed limits may be specified in Bye-Laws and applied as follows:

- a) 30 kilometres per hour in respect of a road or roads, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Minister under section 9(9) of the Road Traffic Act 2004.
- b) 50 kilometres per hour, in respect of any road other than a road in a built-up area.
- c) 60 kilometres per hour, in respect of any road.
- d) 80 kilometres per hour, in respect of a motorway, a national road, or a road in a built-up area.
- e) 100 kilometres per hour, in respect of a motorway, a non-urban regional or local road, or a road in a built-up area.
- f) 120 kilometres per hour, in respect of a dual carriageway forming part of a national road that is not a motorway, in accordance with guidelines issued by the Minister under section 9(9) of the Road Traffic Act 2004.

1.6 The changes of speed limits at junctions will be located within 15m of a junction. The changes of speed limits located away from junctions will be as shown on the drawing titled *South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*.

1.7 The speed limit only applies to roads taken in charge by SDCC.

1.8 Under Section 87 of the Road Traffic Act 2010 the speed limit does not apply to a driver of a fire brigade vehicle, an ambulance or the use by a member of An Garda Síochána of a vehicle in the performance of the duties of that member or a person driving or using a vehicle under the direction of a member of the Garda Síochána, where such use does not endanger the safety of road users.

1.9 The existing South Dublin County Council Road Traffic Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws, including any amendments thereto, are revoked on the date that the *South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026* come into operation.

2.0 CITATION

- 2.1 These Bye-Laws may be cited as the *South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*.

3.0 SPECIAL SPEED LIMITS

3.1 FIRST SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 30 KM/H

A special speed limit of 30 kilometres per hour (30 km/h) shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on public roads within the administrative area of South Dublin County Council, as delineated on the county boundary map prepared in accordance with section 10 of the *Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993*, and as shown on the drawing entitled “*South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*”, where such roads are indicated by a yellow line.

This speed limit shall apply except where another special speed limit is prescribed for a road in the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth or Seventh Schedule to these Bye-Laws.

3.2 SECOND SCHEDULE - SPECIAL PERIODIC SPEED LIMIT OF 30 KM/H

A special periodic speed limit of 30 km/h shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on the public roads shown by a dashed black line on the drawing entitled “*South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*”. This special periodic speed limit shall apply Monday to Friday during the Standardised School Year, as specified by the Department of Education, between the hours of 07:30 and 09:30 and 13:00 and 16:30. At all other times, the speed limit on these public roads shall be 50 km/h.

3.3 THIRD SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 50 KM/H

A special speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on the public roads shown coloured orange on the drawing entitled “*South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*”.

3.4 FOURTH SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 60 KM/H

A special speed limit of 60 km/h shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on the public roads indicated in red on the drawing entitled *South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*.

3.5 FIFTH SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 80 KM/H

The special speed limit for mechanically propelled vehicles shall be 80 kilometres per hour on the public roads shown in green on the drawing entitled *South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*.

3.6 SIXTH SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 100 KM/H

A special speed limit of 100 km/h shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on the public roads shown coloured blue/cyan on the drawing entitled "*South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*".

3.7 SEVENTH SCHEDULE - SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT OF 120 KM/H

A special speed limit of 120 km/h shall apply to mechanically propelled vehicles on those public roads identified and shown in purple on the drawing entitled "*South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026*".

M50

The section of the M50 within the South Dublin County Council (SDCC) administrative area extends from the Lucan area near Junction 7 southwards through Tallaght and Firhouse to the county boundary near the N11. While the motorway lies within SDCC's jurisdiction, it forms part of Ireland's national road network and is managed and maintained by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

Note: National roads and motorways, including the M50, N4 and N7, form part of Ireland's national road network and are managed by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Although these roads pass through the administrative area of South Dublin County Council (SDCC), responsibility for setting speed limits on these routes does not rest with SDCC. Consequently, the Urban Speed Limit Review does not apply to, amend, or otherwise affect the speed limits on national roads and motorways within the county.