

Open bins, brazen birds and Ballyer takeaways

Seagulls are causing havoc on Ballyfermot road with their wild access to food waste

By Ellen Gough
ellen@echo.ie

A NUMBER of bins in Ballyfermot will be replaced over the summer to thwart seagulls pulling out food waste.

Dublin City Council's waste management teams will replace open bins on the Ballyfermot Road to prevent access by seagulls "in the coming weeks".

This is in response to a question brought to the DCC South Central Area meeting on Wednesday, June 18, by Cllr Daithí Doolin (SF).

He asked that the council explore replacing open bins along Ballyfermot Road with closed tops bins to prevent seagulls accessing food waste and adding to rubbish along shop fronts.

He told *The Echo* that Ballyfermot residents had raised the issue of seagulls pulling rubbish from the bins, and that he

welcomed the response from the council. "There's a lot of takeaways along the road in Ballyfermot, people are going to get a takeaway, they put it in the bin and the seagulls take it out.

"It's unhealthy, it's unsightly, it's not welcoming, and it's not good for business," he said.

The solution from the council to replace the more open bins with "big belly bins" – which are fully enclosed and are generally opened using a foot pedal – "ticks all the boxes short-, mid- and long-term solution" for Cllr Doolan.

"Simply, the seagulls can't get into the bins, because no matter how often you clean that street, it will all be full of bits of food wrappers, plastic from the sandwiches, if the seagulls can get into it," he said.

A query has been sent by *The Echo* to DCC for a more detailed number of bins to be replaced, and a breakdown of proposed costs.

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Four out of five houses on Hazel Hill halting site vacant



VACANT: Hazel Hill halting site

FOUR out of five houses available at the Hazel Hill halting site in Killinarden are vacant and have been secured, said South Dublin County Council.

In response to a question by Councillor Dermot Richardson (IND), the Council released data on occupancy at the halting site.

A total of three units are occupied, one house and two bays. A family is living unauthorised at one of the bays.

Two of the day units in the bays have been extensively fire-damaged, due to arson attacks, and have also been secured.

Those will need "extensive refurbishment works," explained SDCC, while "considerable" refurbishment is also needed to bring the day unit at bay 1 back into use.

"The Traveller Accommodation Unit is working with the remaining families on the site to support their current housing needs and examine their future housing needs."

"A recent programme of response maintenance was completed on the occupied house, [with the] installation of a new boiler and replacement [of] windows."



HAVOC: Seagulls are pulling food from bins

SDCC
South Dublin County Council

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, 2001 (AS AMENDED)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT BY A LOCAL AUTHORITY

PART 8 PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the requirements of the above, notice is hereby given of the proposal to construct the following development by South Dublin County Council:

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT THE EXISTING BALLYROAN COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE, MARIAN ROAD, RATHFARNHAM, DUBLIN 14 IN THE CURTILAGE OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT [PROTECTED STRUCTURE, RPS 264] AND MINOR ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING STORAGE UNIT AT BALLYROAN PUBLIC LIBRARY, ORCHARDSTOWN VILLAS, RATHFARNHAM, DUBLIN 14.

Works to comprise of:

- Rearrangement /upgrade of the community centre interior.
- New single-storey flat roof extension.
- Accessibility enhancement works to the existing community centre entrance, and new accessible entrance to the rear of the centre (subject to landowner consent).
- Minor alterations to existing parish boiler house.
- New external screened community centre bin store.
- New solar panels to south facing pitched roof.
- Refurbishment /upgrade of the existing concrete pavers to the south and west of the community centre building (subject to landowner consent and final details to be agreed with the relevant SDCC internal departments).
- All associated ancillary site works as may be required in adjacent lands but not limited to foul and surface water drainage and utility supplies.

The proposal has undergone Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening under the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU. The Planning Authority has made a preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the proposed development. The authority has concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and a determination has been made that an EIA is not required. Any person may, within 4 weeks from the date of publication of this notice, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Persons wishing to inspect drawings and particulars of the proposed development in person can do so as follows:

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy for a period of four weeks from **Thursday 26th June 2025 to Friday 25th July 2025** only; at the Planning Department counter in the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 between the hours 10.00am to 12.00 noon & 2.00pm to 4.00pm Monday to Friday, and at Ballyroan Community & Youth Centre, Marian Road, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 between the hours of 9.00am to 10.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday. Hours may differ on public and bank holidays. The plans and particulars of the proposed development are also available for inspection online on the Council's Public Consultation Portal website <https://consult.sdbulincoco.ie>

Submissions:

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development would be situated, may be made as follows:

Online at <https://consult.sdbulincoco.ie> up to **11.59pm on Monday 11th of August 2025**.

Or

Written submissions not later than **5.00pm on Monday 11th of August 2025** to:

Senior Executive Officer, Community Department, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 A3XC.

Submissions should be labelled **'Ballyroan Community and Youth Centre'**.

NOTE: Please make your submission by one medium only. Only submissions received by **5.00pm on Monday 11th of August 2025** and addressed as set out above, will be considered. Submissions cannot be accepted in any other format or to any other postal address. Submissions and observations should state the name, address, and, where relevant, details of any organization, community group or company etc. which you represent.

Signed: Director of Community, South Dublin County Council.

Web: www.sdcc.ie

