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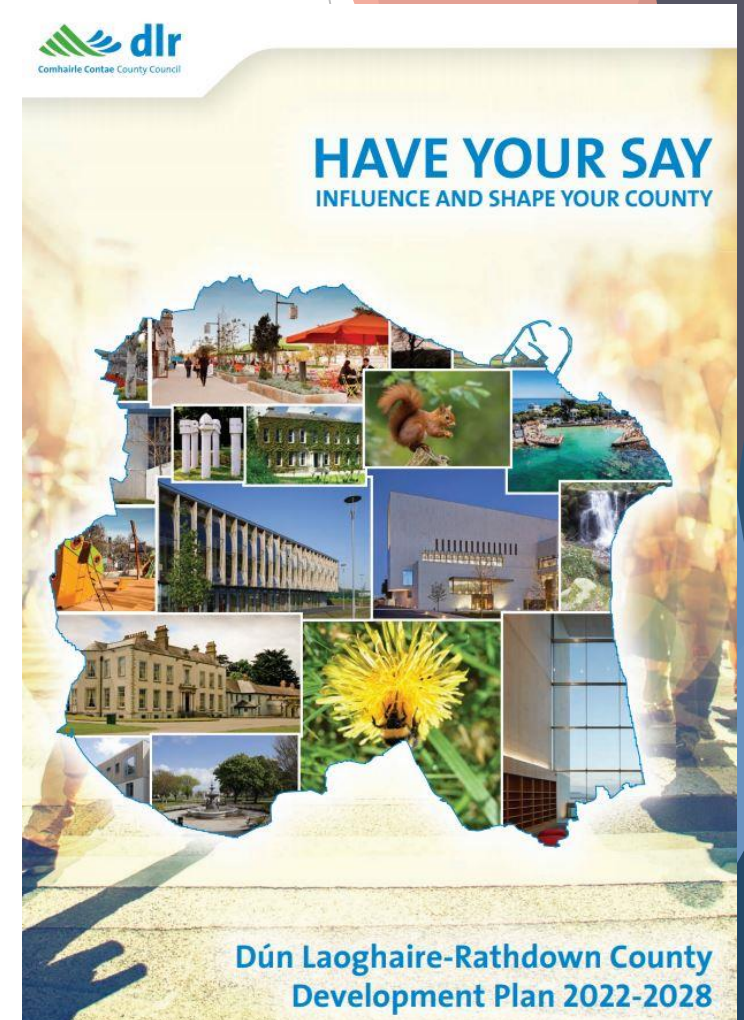
Association of Irish Local Government
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

The Planning Process: The Councillor experience, reflections, questions

Cllr. Anne Colgan

Local Authority Elected Member

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council



Topics covered in this session

- The challenges and opportunities that members encounter as the public face of their local authority and the planning process
- The key supports that elected members depend on in making statutory plans;
- Examples of work with fellow councillors, in the plan making process, to enhance and improve local communities.

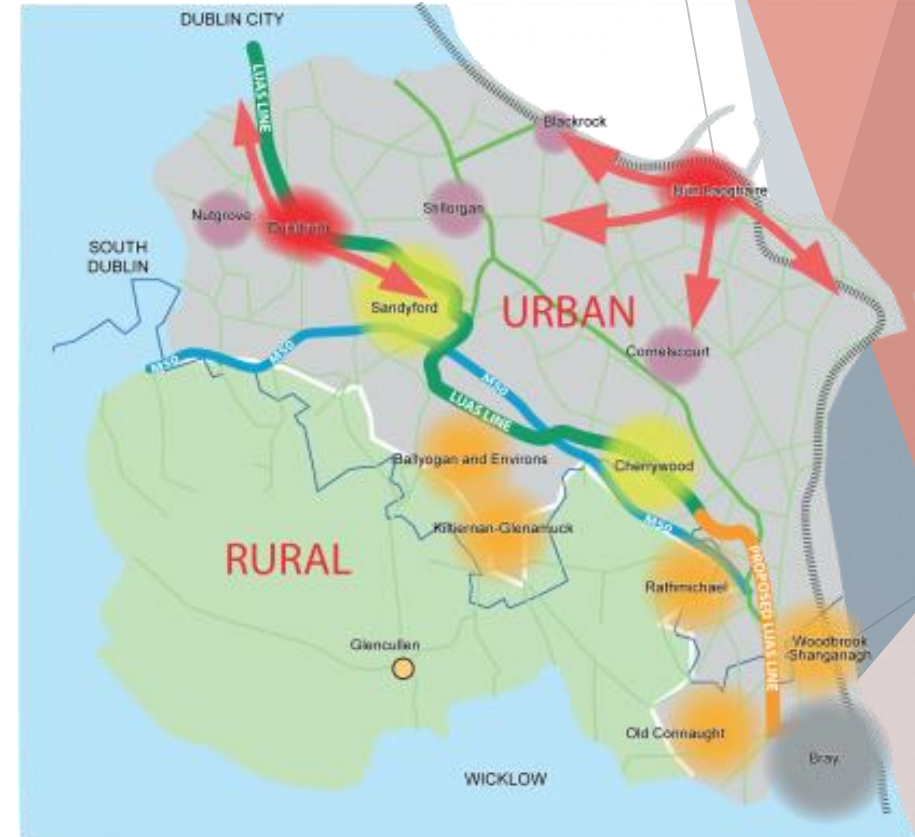
Reconnecting with the purpose of planning

- Why plan?
- Placemaking:
The citizen at the centre
- Partnership, trust,
compromise



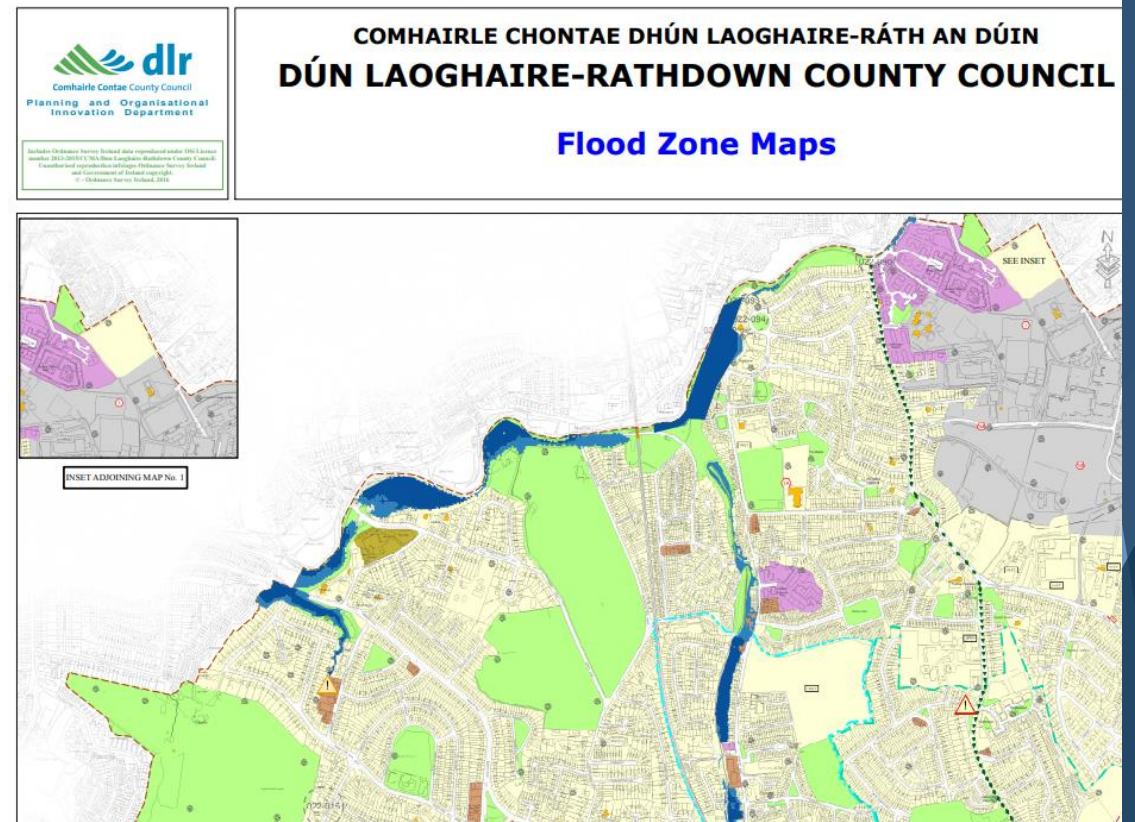
Statutory Plans, Part 8s, Housing, Active Travel: challenges and opportunities

- Opportunities: Strategic directions, motions, Specific Local Objectives (SLOs)
- Challenges: Complexity; Role of national and regional agencies and the state
- Citizen engagement – can we do better?



Responding to Citizen Representations

- Examples of issues: enforcement, change of use, paving the front garden, extensions, zoning, exempted development, masts, individual planning applications, flood maps
- Knowing enough but not too much!
Knowing our limits!
- Managing expectations: Governance v. representation role



What Supports do councillors need?

- Briefings from planners/executive
- Access to independent expertise
- Information and training - Council, AILG, OPR



Examples of work with fellow councillors in plan making process (1)

- Motions to County Development Plans (CDPs)
- Specific Local Objectives (SLOs)
- Community involvement



(1) Examples of Motions to CDP

M: DUNDRUM ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION AREA

That this Planning Authority pursuant to Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) resolves to amend the Draft Development Plan as follows

To reject the Chief Executive's proposal to exclude No. 6 Main Street from the Dundrum ACA boundary; to update supporting Character Appraisal and Mapping for Proposed Dundrum Architectural Area. To retain No. 6 Main Street within the Dundrum ACA boundary;

Reason: No 6 Main Street is an essential and integral part of the proposed ACA for Main Street.



(1) Examples of Motions to CDP

Pallotine Fathers' Land. Map 5

That this Planning Authority pursuant to Section 12 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) resolves to amend the Draft Development Plan as follows –

Pallotine Fathers Land. Map 5

That the zoning of the land owned by the Pallotine Fathers on Sandyford Road (Map 5) be changed from Zone A to Zone INST.

Reason - This change is aligned and in keeping with the INST zoning on all similar lands across the county.

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Working with and for community placemaking

Imagine Dundrum



Imagine Dundrum

Our Village, Our Community

Working together
for the future
of Dundrum



“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about”
Margaret J. Wheatley



The Councillor and the planning process – future challenges and opportunities

- Nationally: Ways for councillors to influence planning policy? Protecting our reserved functions; contributing our experience to help shape guidance, policy
- Locally: Stronger focus on citizen engagement and better practice
- New areas of legislation – pending and needed
- The challenge for AILG and OPR.



References

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Project for Public Spaces, <https://www.pps.org/>

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