

MOORE

Drimnagh & Crumlin local area update



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Dear Resident,

There have been lots of positive developments recently for the Crumlin and Drimnagh areas, and looking ahead for 2024 there are more exciting projects underway. But there are also some key challenges that need to be addressed, so I wanted to provide an update on some of the things I've been working on since my last newsletter in 2023, and set out my priorities for the year ahead.

As always, if there are any issues I can help with, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks for reading, and happy spring!

Carolyn

Green Party Councillor
for Kimmage Rathmines



€11m for Crumlin/Drimnagh library, €2.4m for Brickfields Pavillions in new Capital Programme

Dublin City Council's Capital Programme for 2024-26 brings significant investment in community facilities in the Crumlin and Drimnagh areas. The programme confirms that funding has been made available for a new library on the former Árdscóil Éanna site, with a total allocation of €11 million over two years (2024 to 2026) set to transform this currently derelict site into a fantastic new community resource.

And there's good news on the parks side too. In summer 2023 I met with the Dynamic Drimnagh group to discuss how we might secure the capital funding needed to undertake the construction of new pavillions at Brickfields Park. Their campaign has yielded incredible results, with an allocation in the Capital Programme of €2.4 million to progress this significant enhancement of the sports and community facilities in Brickfields. I look forward to seeing both projects progress in 2024.



Franshaw House will be renovated for the new library, with an adjacent new building added.



About me:

In 2020 I was co-opted onto Dublin City Council, representing your electoral area, Kimmage Rathmines. Born and raised in Dublin, I've lived in this part of the city since 2005, and in that time we've seen huge changes - not always for the better. I believe we can drive positive change at a local level by focusing on the delivery of affordable housing, a better, more inclusive public realm, and climate action that has real, positive impacts for our communities and urban villages - how we live in them, spend time in them, and get around them.



Thinking outside the Box and putting inclusive play in our parks

In April 2022, Eamonn Ceannt park was one of 30 parks around the country to receive funding for inclusive play projects, and a full accessibility upgrade of the play-ground was completed just before Christmas. Having brought a motion to our local area committee in 2021 requesting a wheelchair accessible swing, I'm delighted that this has been included in the upgrade, recognising the value of inclusive play.

There's good news too for our teens, who can now enjoy a new teen hangout space in the park, and the new 'Box Up' locker system is proving to be a big hit, allowing park users to rent sports and leisure equipment free of charge for up to three hours, so there's no excuse not to be making the most of this world class park in our area!



Eamonn Ceannt Park wins Green Flag award

If you've passed by Eamonn Ceannt Park in the last few months, you may have noticed the latest addition to the Sundrive entrance: a prestigious Green Flag now flies over the park, indicating it reaches the international benchmark for quality parks and green spaces. The park really has been going from strength to strength in recent years, and seeing the flag raised was a proud day for our Kimmage Rathmines Parks staff.



With Green TD Patrick Costello at the raising of the Green Flag over Eamonn Ceannt Park.

It is a well deserved recognition of their efforts to improve the park through key measures like biodiversity enhancement, accessibility, and provision of quality facilities and amenities. The Green Flag Award is the most widely recognised parks accreditation programme in the world, and it's awarded on an annual basis, so each park must consistently meet high standards in order to gain or retain its Green Flag status. A great incentive to keep up the good work and continue Dublin City Council's strong and productive engagement with local community groups and councillors on the management of this invaluable local amenity.



Bloomin' Crumlin's Siobhán McNamara presents Minister for Nature Malcolm Noonan with a copy of the Crumlin Biodiversity Action Plan in Pearse Park.

The Pearse Park community garden is taking shape

Over the last year, an exciting new development has been underway in Pearse Park, as the Bloomin' Crumlin group sees its vision for a community biodiversity garden take shape. Councillors for the area were only too happy to support this project to get off the ground, particularly as we know that any project driven by Bloomin' Crumlin will bear fruit (sometimes literally!), will be absolutely collaborative, and will bring untold benefits to the area. True to form, the Pearse Park community garden has been founded on strong community consultation so that everyone can get involved and everyone can feel invested in the outcome. With ambitious plans for an outdoor classroom and social space, this is shaping up to be something really special for nature and for Crumlin. Pearse Park users got another boost last year with the installation of new exercise equipment, which local councillors funded through the 2023 discretionary fund.

Turning our streets from grey to green!



There are many reasons why we need to 'soften' our streetscapes with greening. It's good for our mental health to be surrounded by nature, and in a very tangible way it adds to our sense of place and makes our communities nicer places to live. But it also brings biodiversity to our neighbourhoods, supporting pollinators and other wildlife, and when the kinds of extreme rainfall events which are becoming more and more commonplace occur, planted areas provide soakage. They slow the flow and give those sudden downpours somewhere to go, reducing the risk of flooding and pollution.

That's why we need people to leave space for nature in their front gardens, and it's also why we need to be greening our streets with planting and tree pits. Last year, inspired by the gorgeous planting on the traffic island outside Busáras, I requested the greening of the concrete traffic islands on Kildare Road, and I'm delighted to say that our public domains team has taken on this project. Watch this space go from grey to green this year!



L: Paul Kimmage R: Cllr. Paddy McCartan.

Honouring a local legend

Last summer I had the honour of deputising for the Lord Mayor to unveil a commemorative plaque on Old County Road to Shay Elliot - a true trailblazer in Irish cycling: the first Irishman to ride in the Tour de France, the first to win a stage, and the first to wear the yellow jersey. It was a big moment for Shay's family, friends and former neighbours, and a lovely event to be part of.



With my Green Party colleagues, Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy, Minister Malcolm Noonan, and Deputy Patrick Costello.

A Ministerial visit to Blarney Park Community Gardens

When our Green Party Minister for Nature, Malcolm Noonan TD, was looking for inspirational community projects to visit during National Biodiversity Week last May, I knew I had to bring him to the Kingfisher Project in Blarney Park Community Garden. Along with the Lord Mayor, Caroline Conroy, and TD Patrick Costello, we were treated to an incredible tour of the project, followed by coffee and cakes from Pickles. During a jam-packed week of activities, Minister Noonan was blown away by the scope of the project and all that this dedicated group of volunteers have achieved for nature and water quality.



New seating for Kimmage

If you've noticed the new pavement build out that's appeared outside the Arty Baker on Kimmage Road Lower, the good news is that it's a work in progress! Coming soon and funded by local councillors as part of our discretionary fund budget: a new parklet-style seating area to provide some much-needed social space in the heart of Kimmage village.



Bus network FAQs:

What is an orbital route?
Orbitals provide connections between suburbs, without having to travel into the city centre.

What is a radial route?
Radials are services that travel into the city centre, but they don't operate on a 'Spine'.

What is a spine?
Spines are very frequent routes made up of individual bus services timetabled to work together.

If the BusConnects corridor proposals get planning permission, the Tallaght / Clondalkin to City Centre route will become the D spine, and the Kimmage to City Centre route will become the F spine.

The transformation of our bus network is underway

On November 26th, users of public transport will have seen changes to the bus routes servicing Drimnagh, Crumlin, Kimmage and beyond, as the new 'orbital' S2 and S4 routes came into service, replacing the 17 and 18, and the new 74 'radial' route was introduced. Hopefully what this has meant is that more people can now enjoy greater connectivity to more destinations, with increased frequency of service. If this hasn't been your experience, please let me know. I have been in regular contact with the NTA trying to ensure these changes go as smoothly as possible

and are well communicated locally. With the S2 servicing Heuston Station via James' hospital, and out to Poolbeg; the S4 linking to Liffey Valley & UCD; and the option to 'interchange' for more destinations, this is an important step in the transformation of our bus network, with BusConnects still to come. The Green Party is working to make public transport an affordable, accessible and reliable option for people, and an improved bus service is key to that. We've also reduced fares for everyone by 20%, and by 50% for under 25s, so it's no surprise user numbers are on the up!

BusConnects update

With public consultation closed on the Tallaght / Clondalkin and Kimmage to City Centre corridors, we now await the decision of An Bord Pleanála. Whether the schemes get the green light as proposed, or are granted permission with conditions, I hope to see a decision that makes our roads safer for everyone, improves our public realm, and maximises the potential for this major infrastructure project to transform our communities for the better. You can read more on this on my website.

New crossings and upgrades to finally be completed



The pedestrian safety upgrades to key junctions along the canal hit a bump in the road last year when the contractor went into liquidation. This led to an extremely frustrating delay in completing the long-awaited crossings at Herberton, Clogher and Aughavanagh Roads, as well as unsafe and unnecessary debris being left behind by the contractors. Almost a year later, I'm pleased to report a new contract has finally been awarded and completion of the work is scheduled to take place at night between March 19th and April 4th.

What else?

Check out www.carolynmoore.ie for updates and local news, including:

My submissions on proposed new developments for the Drimnagh area.

The campaign to make the Crumlin Road safer for all road users.

My upcoming public meetings on:

Cycling in the City - Delivering Dublin's Active Travel Network.

Litter in the Community - Looking at solutions from top down & bottom up!



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✓ More accessible, nature-rich parks and green spaces.

✓ School zones, safe cycling and more pedestrian crossings.

✓ Connected communities in a climate-resilient city.

