

## MOORE

## Dublin Bay South update

Harold's Cross | Rathmines  
Terenure | Rathgar | DartryGet the latest from me at [carolynmoore.ie](http://carolynmoore.ie)

A chara,

I hope you've been enjoying the stretch in the evenings and the first signs of Spring over the last few weeks. There's lots to look forward to in the months ahead as our Summer season of community events kicks off with the Harold's Cross Community Festival in May. I hope to see some of you there!

It's been a busy term on the council, and as always, there's lots going on locally too, so I wanted to give you an update on some of the things I've been working on over the last year, and what's coming up in the year ahead.

If there are any issues I can help with, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thanks for reading!

Carolyn

Green Party Councillor  
for Kimmage Rathmines



## The future of our Urban Villages

The recent announcement by An Post that they plan to sell the Rathmines Post Office building is just the latest blow to a thriving urban centre which is steadily being stripped of essential services. Rathmines was designated a 'key urban village' in the Dublin City Development Plan, but it is sorely lacking in community facilities, and there is currently no plan to address this. Many of us reconnected with our localities when Covid restrictions were in place. We should be building on that sense of community now; tackling vacancy, making our village centres more accessible and inviting, and protecting both the heritage and the future viability of these historic places.

At a national level, the Green Party put a 'Town Centre First' policy at the heart of rural development. That same approach could safeguard the future of our urban villages, restoring vibrancy today and building resilience for the future.

### The Urban Village in the 21st Century

Join me on Thursday May 2nd at 7.30pm for a public meeting in the parish hall of Church of the Three Patrons. Along with Minister for Heritage Malcolm Noonan, MEP for Dublin Ciarán Cuffe, and Dublin Bay South TD, Minister Eamon Ryan, we'll be looking at how to secure the viability of our urban villages.

For more visit [www.carolynmoore.ie](http://www.carolynmoore.ie).



Rathmines has seen a steady erosion of services.



### About me:

In 2020 I was co-opted onto Dublin City Council, representing your local 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.



## Terenure library local information night

In October of 2022, councillors on the South East Area Committee were shown initial plans for the proposed redevelopment of Terenure library. At that time we expected the council to initiate a Part 8 planning process in early 2023, however, unfortunately, this process encountered significant delays. I've been assured we will see some progress on the library this year, and to that end there will be a public information night held during May in the Evergreen Club in Terenure.



## The circular economy in our community

In Ireland we throw away 110k tonnes of textiles a year. Most of that waste - much of it containing plastics - will sit in landfills far beyond our lifetimes. I wanted to raise awareness of this issue and highlight a brilliant pilot project from DCC's waste division: community clothes swap kits. I held a Halloween costume swap in Terenure so people had the chance to give their old costumes a new lease of life. Hundreds of you came and swapped up a storm! We saved 430 costumes from landfill, raised €230 for Crumlin Childrens Hospital, and leftover costumes went to kids living in Houben House family hub in Mount Argus.

## Cost Rental and the redevelopment of Gulistan Depot



The Green Party has always advocated for innovative, progressive solutions to the housing crisis. We were the first to champion a cost rental model in Ireland, and in government we've been able to legislate for its introduction. Cost rental is a new form of public housing; available to everyone, and offering security of tenure and rents that are significantly lower than the market rate, it offers a truly sustainable solution to the housing crisis. Locally and nationally we should be delivering cost rental at scale, and it's starting to happen. The redevelopment of Gulistan Depot in Rathmines will bring on stream a mix of age-friendly and cost rental housing, along with a Primary Care centre, and councillors were assured earlier this year that the development is back on track following some delays. The HSE is working closely with Dublin City Council to deliver agreed milestones for the Primary Care Centre, and it is anticipated a planning application could be submitted in Q4 of 2024. Meanwhile, Clúid are advancing their plans, so pending planning permission we could see commencement on site next year.

## Dublin Bay South home energy information day

We had a full house for our presentations and a continuous flow of visitors to our exhibition stands when the Green Party held a Home Energy Information Day in Rathmines town hall in November. Along with my colleagues, Councillors Hazel Chu and Claire Byrne, I wanted to give people a 'one stop shop' for information they might need to embark on improving their home's energy efficiency, from suppliers to government grants. A report last year from the SEAI showed 21,727 home energy upgrades were funded by government grants in the first 6 months of 2023. That was a 150% increase on the same period in 2022 and it put retrofit figures on track to meet the annual target of 37,000 upgrades. Thousands more households at risk of fuel poverty received free home energy upgrades.



With Minister Ryan, Claire Byrne and Hazel Chu in Rathmines Town Hall

## A clean energy revolution

People are investing in their home's energy efficiency like never before, and private homes are playing a huge role in Ireland's solar revolution. Removing VAT from solar panels and abolishing the need for planning permission means we're now seeing them appear on 100 new homes a day, and schools across Ireland will soon be generating their own clean energy too, thanks to a Green Party initiative that will put free solar panels on the roof of every school in the country. Schools in Dublin City were invited to apply to the scheme in November so hopefully they will be experiencing all the benefits soon.

## Delivering Dublin's Active Travel Network

Kimmage-Rathmines is home to Dublin's cycling hotspot, the electoral division of Terenure A. The 2022 census revealed this area had the highest percentage of people who, when asked "How do you usually travel to work, school, college or childcare?" answered "Bicycle" – about 20%. Neighbouring areas were not far off. With the Greens in government, 20% of Ireland's transport budget is now spent on walking and cycling infrastructure, or about €1 million a day, and this year Dublin City Council will spend €54 million delivering its active travel programme. Yes, this means more cycle lanes, but as a 'walk, wheel, cycle' network it also means improved pedestrian infrastructure, more pedestrian crossings, and school zones to make it safer for kids to walk or cycle to school.

At a public meeting in April, I detailed some of the cycling routes set to be delivered in this area in the next 3 to 5 years, including: Harold's Cross to Ballymount, Terenure to Kimmage, Rathmines to Milltown, Rathgar to Ranelagh, and the South City Loop; along with improvement of the Grand Canal on road cycle scheme and commencement of Grand Canal S2. We've also seen the arrival of school zones in the area. Having first requested it in 2021, I'm delighted that the school zone for Kildare Place National School will include a signalised pedestrian crossing. That project is out to tender now.



Kildare Place School will finally have a signalised pedestrian crossing.



## Dodder & Poddle flood alleviation schemes

In news that will come as a relief to homeowners who have been hit in the past by flooding, work on the Poddle FAS starts at Tymon Park this year and should be underway at Ravensdale by 2025. I've been a big advocate for protecting the biodiversity of the Poddle, and DCC has agreed to my request to engage with local community groups and councillors to ensure we maximise every opportunity to enhance our natural environment through the delivery of this €10 million scheme. Meanwhile, development of the Dodder FAS continues, with construction expected to start in 2026. Last year I visited Glenasmole Valley in the Dublin Mountains with Ministers Eamon Ryan and Malcolm Noonan, who launched a 2,000 ha project restoring the bog and returning native trees to the gorges to improve the habitat locally and provide a nature-based solution to flooding further down the Dodder.



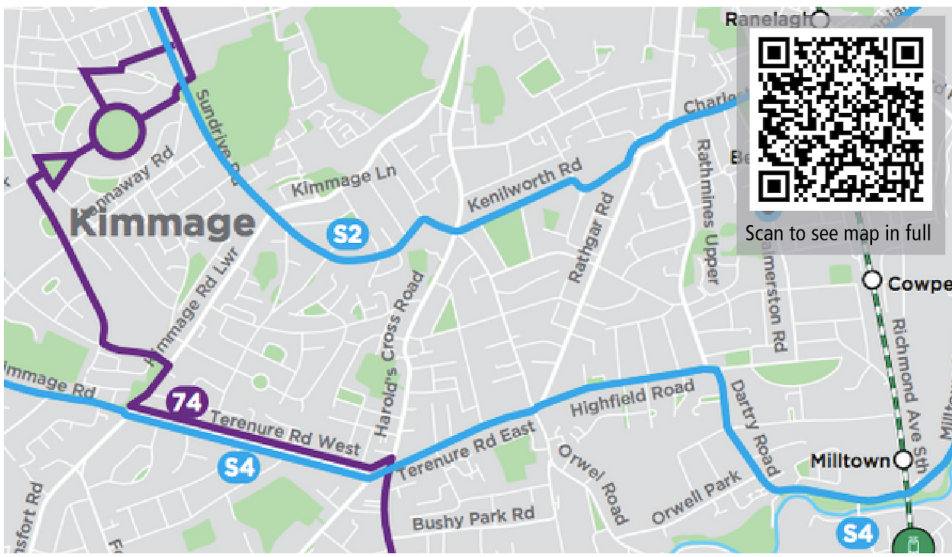
Visiting Kingfisher Project with Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy, Minister Malcolm Noonan, and Deputy Patrick Costello.

## A Ministerial visit to HX Grow at Blarney Park

When our Green Party Minister for Nature, Malcolm Noonan TD, wanted to visit inspirational community projects during National Biodiversity Week last May, I knew I had to bring him to the Kingfisher Project. With then Lord Mayor, Caroline Conroy, and TD Patrick Costello, we were treated to an extensive tour of the project by the HX Grow team. During a packed week of activities, Minister Noonan was blown away by the scope of the project and all that this group of volunteers has achieved for nature and water quality, on site and in the wider community. I was honoured to nominate and accompany Kingfisher Project to the All-Ireland Community & Council Awards 2024, where they made the final five for environmental projects nationally.



With Green Party colleagues at the source of the Dodder.



## 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 Kimmage to City Centre route will become the F spine and the Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre route will become the A spine.

## The transformation of our bus network is underway

Last November, public transport users will have seen changes to bus routes servicing Rathmines, Harold's Cross, Rathgar, Terenure and Dartry, as the new 'orbital' S2 and S4 routes came into service and the 74 'radial' route was introduced. Hopefully this means that more people are now enjoying increased frequency of service and greater connectivity to a wider range of destinations. If this hasn't been your experience, please let me know. I have been in regular contact with the NTA throughout in an effort to ensure the new routes were well communicated locally and the withdrawal of the old routes went as smoothly as possible.

With the S2 servicing Heuston Station via St. James' hospital and out to Poolbeg; the S4 linking to Liffey Valley and UCD; and an 'interchange' option for more destinations, this is an important step in the transformation of our bus network. The Green Party is working to make public transport an affordable, accessible, reliable option for people, and a better bus service is key to that. We've reduced public transport fares for everyone by 20%, by 60% for under 25s, and introduced a flat €2.90 min fare, so it's no surprise user numbers are on the up and a record high number of passengers used public transport in 2023!

## BusConnects update

With public consultation closed on the Templeogue / Rathfarnham 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.

## A new Climate Action Plan with a focus on community



Launching Climate Neutral Dublin 2030 with Min Eamon Ryan & Cllr Claire Byrne

As a member of Dublin City Council's Climate Action Committee, the last year has involved much deliberation on the city's new Climate Action Plan: Climate Neutral Dublin 2030. The plan steps up our ambition for reducing emissions and building climate resilience, recognising the role of communities as drivers of change. With two new Community Climate Officers and a €2 million Community Climate Fund, climate action is going local. Communities will be supported to develop projects on energy, travel, food, waste and consumption, demonstrating and inspiring achievable action at a grassroots level.

## Check the Register

**Think you can't vote in Irish elections? Think again!**

Anyone resident in Ireland who holds a PPS number or a MyGovID can vote in the local elections in June.

Registering to vote can now be done entirely online, and updating your details has never been easier.

Dublin residents: go to [www.voter.ie](http://www.voter.ie) before May 20th and make sure you have your say in the local elections.

## YOUR LOCAL GREEN REPRESENTATIVES

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