

How does the decision making process work:

The legislation underpinning Development by Local and State Authorities is the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended), and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, (as amended). The planning process is called a Part 8 (which refers to Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act).

The Chief Executive delegates duties to senior staff within departments to prepare the Part 8 drawings and reports and to undertake the public consultation process. In this instance, the Chief Executive is delegating the duties to the Parks Section consisting of Ruairi O'Dulaing, Senior Parks & Landscape Officer and Eoin O'Brien, Senior Executive Parks & Landscape Officer. Eoin manages the Parks Capital Programme and is supported by a team of technical resources.

When the public consultation process is complete and submissions/ observations are analysed, a Chief Executive Report is prepared for submission to the Council Meeting, in accordance with Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). The Chief Executives Report is brought to a full Council meeting for resolution. The Elected Members decide if the proposed development may be carried out as recommended in the Chief Executive's report, unless by resolution the members decide to vary or modify or decide not to proceed. There is no right to appeal the decision through An Bord Pleanála.

The Project & Terms of Reference:

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) is seeking to develop an active recreation hub to deliver phase 1 development of the Shanganagh Park & Cemetery Masterplan. The project received Part 8 approval in May 2022 but the High Court quashed the decision in a judicial review. Extensive project information can be found at the following link:

<https://dlrcoco.citizenspace.com/parks/parks-shanganagh-park-cemetery-phase-1-development/> and <http://www.dlrcoco.ie/Shanganagh23>

Brief for Communications Consultant:

There is a requirement to engage a suitable communications consultant to help engage with the local community and build trust for a successful outcome. This will include a communications strategy, a pre-Part 8 series of consultation sessions, a Part 8 Statutory consultation series of sessions and survey. The stakeholders to be engaged will include local schools, local sports clubs and local residents in Shankill, in close proximity to Shanganagh Park.

About the Consultant: Connect the Dots

We are a community engagement organisation that facilitate consultation processes for local authorities to reach their communities and stakeholders.

The values we are guided by in our work are: Collaboration, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Stewardship, Transparency, Accessibility and Creativity.

Decision Making Process & Roles Charter

Remaining neutral at all times we act as mediator between public bodies and the community/public. We aim to ensure that our process, findings and decision making are all conducted with the highest levels of transparency and efficiency.

We are contracted to listen to the community's voice and ensure everyone has a method to engage in the consultation process. We do not control the decisions or outcomes of a project but rather we ensure that insights gathered through the consultation process are reported on clearly to the local authority and implemented where possible. If these ideas cannot be implemented, we endeavour to ensure that an informed explanation for the decision is given.

We collaborate with local organisations as partners where possible along with PPN's DSG's and any other organised bodies/groups that can help us reach the intended audience for any given project.

We are guided by the brief given by a local authority and do not make decisions around scope, budget, project timelines and final decisions made.

We hold ourselves to account for the outcomes of the public consultation work that we carry out, ensuring that all parties are treated in a way that is respectful, fair and equitable. We do our utmost to make our communications inclusive.

Our research and mapping of key stakeholders ensures all levels of the community can be reached.

Feedback on our process:

We are open to your feedback. If you would like to give your opinion on how you think we can improve our process please contact us at info@connectthedots.ie