

CHAPTER 13

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

Dublin City Council is fully committed to securing the implementation of the policies and objectives of this City Development Plan. The Development Plan sets out new ways of working and new mechanisms to supplement the statutory requirements to ensure effective implementation of the Plan. These new mechanisms include a set of performance indicators and instruments such as the Guiding Principles and Development Standards (see Chapters 16 and 17).

The Framework for Sustainable Dublin (FSD) offers a strategic and systematic approach to prioritise, guide and align actions towards sustainable development, whilst also giving full recognition to the value of public engagement and a partnership approach to secure successful implementation. The emphasis of this approach on the creation of a vision meaningful to individuals, communities and sectoral groups across the city, involves new ways of collaborative working and greater transparency, but will ultimately reinforce and strengthen the statutory requirements, such as the preparation of a two-year progress report on the plan and the monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan, as set out in the Planning & Development Act, 2000 and SEA Regulations, 2004.

13.1 Collaboration & Engagement Mechanisms

The citizens of Dublin are the city's most valuable asset. Dublin's progress in moving towards a resilient low-carbon economy that offers a high quality of life for its citizens will rely on broad public engagement and participation. The skills, awareness and competencies of the city's residents and users, as well as agencies at city, city region and national level, are critical to building and maintaining the city's momentum on sustainability.

The successful implementation of a significant number of the policies and objectives of the plan will necessitate on-going collaboration and a sense of good-will across a range of agencies and stakeholders. Dublin City Council will actively undertake a leadership role to progress and secure the implementation of the Plan. In providing this leadership role, the City Council will foster a collaborative approach with citizens, stakeholders, sectoral interests, city partners and adjoining authorities to achieve collective support and successful implementation of the Plan.

The City Council will, during the life of this Development Plan, engage with the city's stakeholders through the use of new communication tools such as the internet in order to develop online dialogue and debate, create networks and get critical feedback about progress on the plan.

The City Council through collaboration with communities and existing networks and fora, such as the Dublin City Development Board, the Creative Dublin Alliance and the Dublin Community Forum will develop this on-going engagement process for the Development Plan.

13.2 Monitoring

Statutory Two-Year Review & SEA / AA

The Development Plan will be reviewed and a two-year progress report will be prepared on achievements in securing the objectives of the Plan. As far as practicable, every effort has been made to bring in measurable objectives throughout the plan using the SMART Approach (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound). This approach will assist in the transparency and objective evaluation of the two-year review process.

The Plan will also be subject to a separate monitoring and review exercise as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). This aspect of monitoring will ensure compliance with the Strategic Environmental Objectives as set out in the Environmental Report which accompanies this Plan and will also safeguard the special characteristics and features of the designated NATURA 2000 Sites.

Sustainability Indicators

Sustainability indicators provide the means by which the city's progress towards sustainability can be measured in accordance with stated goals by providing benchmarks. Indicators can also prompt action and are a useful tool to communicate to the public the progress made towards the vision.

This Development Plan contains a set of indicators that will build towards sustainability and that evaluate the effect of city initiatives in a broad range of areas such as environmental impact, quality of life, future-proofing for climate change, economic security, governance and empowerment, infrastructure, the built environment and the natural heritage (See Appendix 26). These indicators have been devised to reflect the vision and key components of the core strategy and are broader than the range of purely environmental indicators under the SEA and AA. The set consists of 18 cross-cutting indicators, 6 for each strand of the vision. These indicators represent an initial working set and may be subject to review and refinement as a result of feedback from engagement with the city's stakeholders.

In using these indicators to monitor the Plan, the City Council will measure the city's performance and progress. In addition to the two-year statutory report, a progress report on the indicators will be presented to the City Council on an annual basis.

13.3 Implementation Mechanisms

Dublin City Council will collaborate with the relevant agencies and authorities to progress and expedite the implementation of the plan and will retain a Development Plan Team to oversee and progress the implementation programme arising from the Plan.

To ensure that implementation of the plan is sustainable and contributes towards the long-term vision of the city, the Development Standards section and a series of key guiding principles are included to assist the development management process.

Under the Framework for a Sustainable Dublin the effective translation of higher-level development plan policy to local level plans will be achieved through the inclusion of a Sustainability Toolkit in all local area plans and schematic masterplans. The Sustainability Toolkits will focus on a number of key performance areas with a particular emphasis on sustainable densities and design, green infrastructure, high energy and environmental standards and social infrastructure. The focus will not only be on the energy performance of buildings and the ecological value of open spaces or amenity areas, but also on the social needs of communities with regard to the Development Standards for Making of Good Neighbourhoods.

The City Council believes that this range of implementation measures will progress the delivery of plan and vision in an effective and sustainable manner.

13.4 Framework for Sustainable Development

The Framework for Sustainable Dublin (FSD) is designed to help understand, guide and plan the progress towards a sustainable society for Dublin. It represents an adaptation of a generic, and scientifically robust, framework for planning and decision-making in complex systems.

The Framework for Sustainable Dublin (FSD) takes a whole systems perspective. At each of the five levels, the FSD involves;

- developing a common awareness of the system and of sustainability
- understanding the current reality
- creating a shared vision of success with regard to the key sustainability principles
- back-casting to envisage the future outcome of success and then
- prioritising relevant actions to reach that outcome
- using indicators to measure progress and to show linkages of assets in the city

It is a useful mechanism to prioritise actions and emphasises measures that provide a flexible platform for future developments and an adequate return on investment, connecting short-term measures to the long-term vision of a sustainable society.

Framework for Sustainable Dublin City Council		
A Five-Level Framework For Strategic Planning & Sustainability Principles*		
Level	Explanatory Note	Practical Application
Joined-Up Systems	A whole systems perspective to highlight the dynamic relationships within society and the biosphere. This perspective requires an understanding of how environmental and ecological factors relate to organisational and institutional networks. This level requires a recognition and understanding of the physical environment around us and has an integral role to play in the functions carried out by the City Council.	Six Themes Approach Building Alliances
Vision Level	A concrete vision of success for a sustainable city, striving towards compliance with the four sustainability principles, mindful of the city's responsibility for contribution to sustainability in the region, state and globally.	Vision of a Sustainable Dublin
Strategic Level	Back-casting from the vision of success for a sustainable city, understanding the current reality and awareness of the baseline and developing strategic guidelines to prioritise actions towards sustainability. Making Dublin a Sustainable City in which people can happily live and work.	Development Plan Policies
Actions Level	Actions that move the city towards success, whilst ensuring compliance with the Sustainability Principles.	Implementation of Development Plan Development Management Guiding Principles Sustainable Standards Objectives
Tools Level	Tools that can measure the city's progress towards sustainability.	Monitoring System & Indicators Strategic Environmental Assessment

* All levels have regard to the four Sustainability Principles. This means reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, metals and minerals, as well as synthetic materials and artificial chemicals. It also means that we reduce our encroachment on nature and so should seek to protect the natural environment and bio-diversity. The fourth principle relates to basic human needs, meeting human needs fairly and efficiently. All policies and actions should accord with these Sustainability Principles.