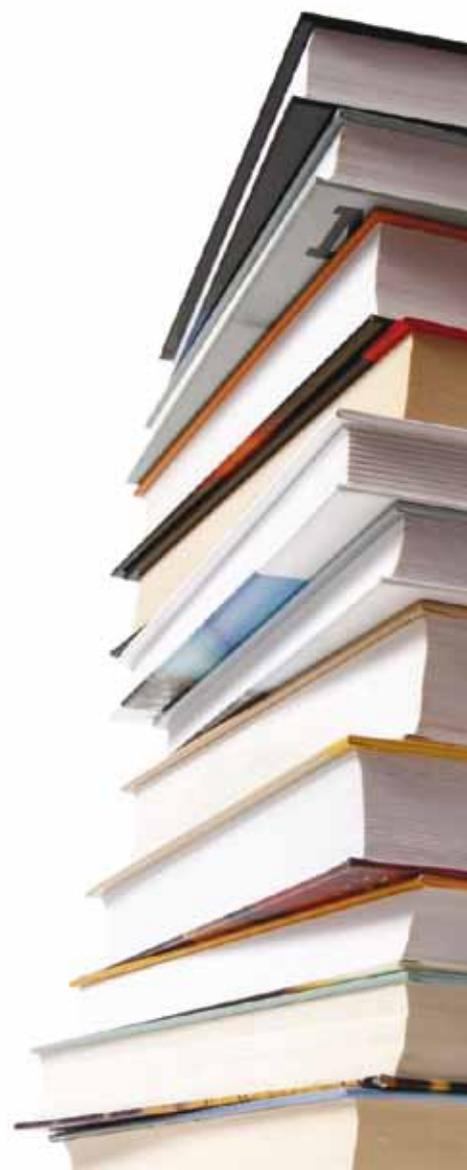


# DRAFT

Dún Laoghaire - Rathdown Library  
Development Programme  
2010-2013

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# Introduction

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's mission is to 'deliver high quality services and infrastructure, which contribute to a better social, physical, economic and cultural environment for all who live in, work in and visit the County'. Within that context Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is obliged under the Local Government Act 2001 'to prepare and adopt a programme for the operation and development of its library service.'

This document sets out the mission, objectives and actions of the library service between 2010 and 2013. The Library Development Plan is informed by a number of documents, which influence its content - including the Local Government Act 2001, Branching Out – Future Directions 2008-2012, the County Development Plan 2010-2016, the DLR Library Development Plan 2006–2010 and the Corporate Plan 2010-14. Each of these plans lays out the strategic focus of the Local Authority's development and contextualises the broader landscape in which the library service is situated.

The Library Development Programme 2004-2010 set out certain objectives for the service in the context of the universal ethos of the Public Library Service, which requires that it provides services that are professionally operated and that it facilitates the promotion of intellectual/talent development, the stimulation of thought, and the educational and recreational needs of the mind as well as the informational requirements of the community.

The Library Service delivered successfully on the objective and goals of that plan but more importantly, during the lifetime of the plan, the library service was expanded to include additional staff with responsibility for special projects & ICT along with culture and marketing. Subsequently the County Librarian has become the line manager for the heritage and arts officers thus bringing together in one section the broad range of cultural output of the local authority. A broad cultural strategy for this area will be devised in due course.

<sup>1</sup> DLR Corporate Plan 2010-2014'

# County Profile & dlr Library Service

The administrative area of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown was established in 1994. The county has a population of 194,038<sup>2</sup>. The DLR rate of growth is the slowest within the Greater Dublin Area (GDA). The vitality ratio measures the population in the main family forming age range (aged 20-40 yrs) relative to that in the older (60 years plus) age group. The higher the figure – the more vital the overall population. In 1996, the vitality ratio in DLR was 2.0, this had dropped to 1.7 by 2006. This is the reverse of the national and regional trend and is a challenging issue for DLR. There were 158,794 persons aged fifteen or over in 2006 in DLR – almost 7,000 persons more than in 1996. 55% of the group were at work, 14% were students, 13% of the population retired and 11% were looking after the home. The largest occupational group were commerce and trade, followed by professional services. It should also be noted that in DLR there is a much higher percentage of the population (51%) with third level degrees or better. DLR is an affluent area though there are pockets of deprivation.

DLR Libraries along with Parks & Community are part of the Environment, Culture and Community Department in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The county has eight branches, serving the educational and recreational needs of people in DLR. The Staff in library headquarters is involved in strategic planning, bibliographic services and reader development, information technology, culture and marketing and outreach - branch libraries are supported from library headquarters. Current library membership is 52,965 and continues to grow<sup>3</sup>. The DLR library budget for 2010 is €5.1million.

<sup>2</sup>Census 2006

<sup>3</sup>Appendix 2

# Mission Statement

The mission of the library service is to **enhance** the **quality of life** in the County by enabling the enjoyment of reading and the pursuit of **lifelong learning**.

The Library service sets about delivering on that mission through the establishment of strategic areas in which it focuses resources and a specific set of actions to be undertaken during the lifetime of the plan.



# Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Corporate Values

The corporate values of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council underpin the approach to delivery of the Library Service plan and in summary they are<sup>4</sup> :

## Public Service

We take pride in providing quality public services that meet the needs of the general public as well as the special needs of the vulnerable and marginal groups in society.

## Respect

We treat all people respectfully.

## Common Good

Our work is defined by a commitment to serve the best interests of the wider community.

## Pride of Place

We are driven by the desire to build and maintain places and spaces in our county that will be appreciated by the current and future generations.

## Accountability

Our performance and service delivery will be open to internal and external scrutiny.

## Collaboration

We develop good relationships with other public bodies, the private sector and community and voluntary groups who contribute to the development of our county.

<sup>4</sup>Corporate Plan 2010 - 2014

# Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Library Values

Within the context of the above we believe that our community deserves a first class library and cultural service, which responds to their needs through the development and dissemination of our collection including the exploitation of new technologies to expand and enhance service delivery processes.

We believe that the community should have the use of our spaces to meet for social conversation and the exchange of ideas.

We believe in inclusivity, and will extend our service beyond library walls through our online services and the vibrant outreach and cultural programmes.

We believe that investing in people (users of services and deliverers of those services) is an important and essential focus of activity.

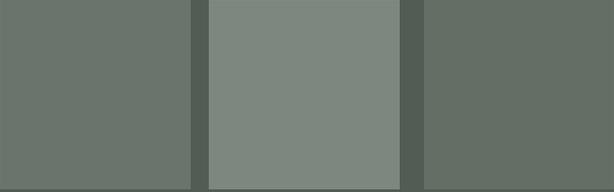


## Overview and Challenges

These are challenging and also exciting times for the library service. The country is facing a tough economic climate over the next few years and this will present challenges in terms of resourcing and opportunities in terms of creative responses, for example; the libraries have never been busier, evidenced by increased membership and usage. Traditional library usage is being enhanced by new media and cultural activities. A primary challenge facing us will be balancing the increased demand for services with a decreasing level of public funding with which to resource that service. We are confident that the creativity and capacity of our staff and users can transcend the challenges and come up with exciting solutions.

Quality of life and cultural expression at a local level are key priorities of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and advocated in the Corporate Plan. Libraries give identity to a community and provide opportunities for everyone within it. Our role is to enrich lives and to play an important part in meeting the aspirations of local communities and our society at large. DLR Libraries through its staff, borrowers, and networks will strive to provide the best possible library service to the people of the county.





# A Strategy for Our Times

## Strategic Objectives

The guiding strategic objectives of the library service are as follows:

- To continue to provide a responsive public library service that caters for all age groups in all of our communities and at every level of ability.
- To ensure that every household and every citizen, living, working, attending school/college or visiting Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown will be within reasonable reach of a well equipped library facility or can access library services remotely.
- To plan and allocate resources in accordance with the demand on services and budgeting constraints.
- To be a key resource for users engaging in lifelong learning by being an accessible gateway to the world of information provision.
- To enhance the traditional role of the library service by further embracing information technology.
- To promote literature, the arts, culture and heritage.

# Key Areas of Delivery

In developing this strategy, we will focus on six key delivery areas. Each of these delivery areas are described in the next sections accompanied by the goals we have established for delivery.

1. Strategy and Planning
2. The Library User
3. The Library Collection
4. Spaces
5. Cultural Programming
6. Staff Development

## 1 Strategy and Planning

### Goal

The library service is a hub for cultural services delivered by DLR. We wish to ensure that our services are planned, integrated and evaluated with a view to enhancing our offering and strategically using the resources available to us to serve the needs of our community.

### Actions

1. Develop and oversee strategic planning for all areas of library service provision.
2. Develop and roll out a culture strategy to align the service's cultural offerings and develop a greater awareness throughout the community.

3. Develop and roll out a marketing strategy and plan to articulate key messages about the service and target new users.
4. Develop a social media and online strategic plan to augment existing services and develop new areas of service delivery.

## 2 The Library User

Library users are at the heart of the DLR library service. The service is used by a large and changing community of users of all ages in varying geographic proximity to the libraries. Library membership and usage in DLR continues to grow - membership at the end of 2009 reached an all time high of 52,965 and issues were in excess of 1.2 million items. This increase is primarily due to the rich library collection in the county. The library's collection seeks to meet the needs of the county's diverse and changing community.

In particular, DLR Libraries recognises the importance of providing an excellent service to children. All branch libraries have a dedicated children's section with a comprehensive stock of books and other materials for children and teenagers. The core collection is designed to encourage young people with all levels of reading ability, and those with special needs.

In recent months, with the launch of a new Outreach Programme, there is strong recognition that the library service is not bound by physical provision. We continue to expand and explore new means of delivering a library service to the people of DLR. The service is currently provided through a network of service points normally housed in community buildings in areas where populations are too small to sustain a branch library.



## Goal

Deliver a world-class library and cultural service to the people of DLR.

## Actions

1. Assess critically the services on offer to the community; identify gaps in provision and create a strategic plan to address gaps within the lifetime of this plan.
2. Promote excellence in service provision to children and young people by reviewing the design and layout of children's sections with a view to creating bright, attractive spaces in which young people can read, learn and develop.
3. Ensure that children's collections continue to be comprehensive, diverse and relevant to the local community.
4. Promote and advocate the use of the Irish Language. Council staff are encouraged to use the Irish language and training is provided to interested staff to improve their competency.
5. Develop a cultural programme of activity to take place online and in virtual spaces to augment the physical activity in library spaces.
6. Augment and develop the social media and online presence of the library service through podcasting, blogging and virtual meeting spaces to enhance user experience and target new users for the service.
7. Roll out RFID and self-service technology throughout the branch network.
8. Ensure that the library website and catalogue are dynamic and user friendly.

- 
9. In partnership with local agencies, develop and support Literacy and Life-Long Learning programmes.
  10. Ensure that the DLR Library Service reaches those communities where there is no existing library building.
  11. Work in partnership with community groups and other agencies to provide library and information services to diverse local communities.
  12. Monitor progress of the Library Outreach programme in 2010 and devise a strategy for the further growth of the DLR Outreach Programme.

### 3 The Library Collection

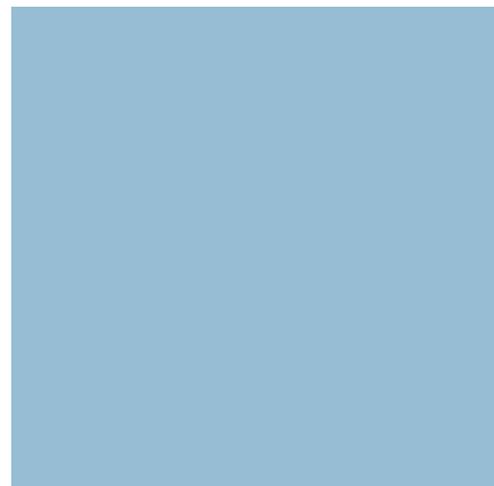
The central function of a library is to select, acquire, retain, preserve and provide access to collections. The stock includes both fiction and non-fiction and promotes intellectual development, the stimulation of thought, the educational and recreational needs of the mind as well as reading for leisure and fun. Many non-commercial titles, out-of-print titles and works by local writers are also included. Items available for loan include printed books, audio books, periodicals, CDs, DVDs, e-books and other specialist titles.

#### Goal

Continue to ensure that the library collection is enhanced, upgraded and delivered in a variety of formats to meet the needs of our members.

## Actions

1. Secure continued investment in the DLR Library Collection in line with agreed national targets and across all media formats.
2. Devise a Collection Development Policy to safeguard the integrity of the stock and meet the wide-ranging educational, informational, cultural and recreational needs of library users.
3. Apply professional awareness and judgement in selecting and acquiring quality material in all formats for a diverse DLR Community.
4. Implement the Local History Strategy, which is to collect, maintain, preserve and make available material and online resources pertaining to the history and heritage of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and to encourage greater public awareness and understanding of the County's rich culture and traditions.
5. Ensure that specific resources for children are maintained at current levels.
6. Develop cultural, outreach and educational programmes that enhance and amplify the collection.



## 4 Spaces

A key objective of DLR libraries is to work towards implementing national objectives as outlined in the recently published report 'Branching Out: Future Directions 2008-2012'. The report recognises the need to continue to build on the progress already made by local authorities in modernising and expanding public library facilities (see Appendix 1).

The economy has changed dramatically since the publication of the previous Library Development Programme. The aspiration was to construct a number of purpose-built new libraries for the county. Our intention is to work towards delivery of those capital development targets within the resources available to us.

### Goal

Modernise and expand our physical public library facilities and provide virtual spaces in which we meet the needs of our users.



## Actions

1. Undertake an in-depth review of services, structures, opening hours and procedures.
2. Develop the central library and cultural centre, providing a mixed use, diverse and culturally active space to enhance the county library system.
3. Improve efficiency of libraries with the introduction of self-service in 2010.
4. Plan a Regional library in Ballyogan in the Sam Beckett Civic Campus.
5. Modify, improve & develop the existing library spaces:
  - Commission a report on the Carnegie buildings during 2010.
  - Secure resources for the improvement of existing library infrastructure - redesign and extend older buildings to create a more welcoming revitalised civic space.
  - Refurbish and extend Deansgrange Library.
  - Retain the existing “Arts and Crafts” style of Cabinteely library and explore the potential to build an extension at the rear of the building.
  - Develop and refurbish and the existing Dundrum library.
  - Ensure the redevelopment of the Blackrock Town Hall and deliver a new library.
  - Develop short term measures to improve the existing library in Stillorgan.

## 5 Cultural Programming

The Library Service organises events and activities such as Bealtaine, Science Week, Children’s Book Festival and many others. It is important that the Libraries’ cultural programmes remain fresh and innovative; partnerships within the Council and with groups and organisations in the community are a vital element of this activity. We have already seen the benefits of such cooperation through successful partnerships with the Arts Office on the DLR Per Cent for Art programme, with the Pavilion Theatre on the Flip Flop festival, and through the Libraries’ involvement with the DLR Mountains to Sea Book Festival. Similarly, new ideas in recent years regarding programmes and venues exemplified by the “Library Voices” series and “Books in the Park” have brought DLR Libraries to fresh audiences.

### Goal

Deliver an annual cultural programme based on the core collection with the focus on people, place and programme.

### Actions

1. Secure resources for the existing cultural programme.
2. Ensure that the culture programme is vibrant, in continual development and reflects the needs of the people of DLR.
3. Develop strategic partnerships with key national and regional cultural agencies with a view to policy development and support for DLR cultural programming.
4. Work in partnership with the arts office, heritage office and other local authority partners to deliver an integrated cultural offering in the county.

5. Establish and support book clubs and reader's groups, both in our libraries and throughout the community.
6. Initiate special book promotions, produce recommended reading lists and run book-related events, which exploit and promote the library collection.

## 6 Staff Development

The Library Service has an expert staff with a wide range of skills and expertise. They work to preserve and enhance the strength of the core collection, with a strong customer care focus that guides members towards what they are looking for and helps stimulate creative thinking.

Staff are central to the provision of quality services and it is of paramount importance to keep library staff energised and enthused about the service given the economic climate of 2010 and beyond. Staff are consulted in the formulation and delivery of library policy. PMDS enhances work performance and enables the service to achieve its objectives.

### Goal

Continue to invest in the training and professional development of our staff.

### Actions

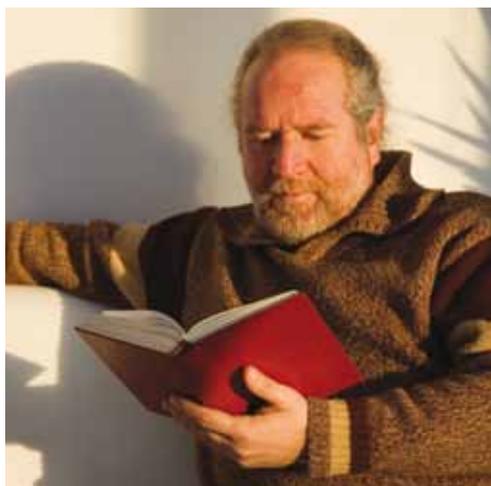
1. Use the PMDS model to identify training needs and create a structured staff development programme.
2. Encourage staff to pursue relevant library, academic and culture related qualifications.
3. Staff will be facilitated in their pursuit of Frontline, an interactive online reader development course.

## The Future

Quality of life and cultural expression of citizens at a local level is a central concern of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the Library Service. DLR Libraries are a source and destination of community and have a unique role in the promotion of reading, literature and creative thinking. The objective of DLR Libraries is to deliver a service to meet the needs of the local community. Library membership and usage continues to grow. Over the life of the previous Library Development Plan 25% of the population in the county were library members. This figure has now increased to 27% (52,965). During the life of this plan it is hoped to grow this figure to 30%.

The library service is delivered through a number of buildings, some of which will now be upgraded. A number of new purpose built new facilities are expected to come on stream during the life of this plan. The service is not bound by physical provision and the Outreach programme will extend the library service to those communities who are not within easy reach of an existing library facility. Virtual presence through the internet and online activity is also increasing. DLR Libraries wishes to support the promotion of e-Government in delivering online local authority services and will position the library as a centre of Internet usage and support in the local community.

Increased access and opportunities to use the library service in various formats, physically and virtually will continue to be explored. Solutions will also be sought





to develop innovative means to extend opening hours and to maximise the availability of the professional expertise of library staff for the benefit of library users. Self-service will be introduced during 2010 as part of this strategy.

The promotion of books and reading, coupled with a reader-centred stock development policy, is an important strand of the library cultural and outreach policy. The Libraries will continue to support reader development initiatives and seek to exploit and promote the library collection. The aim of reader development and promotion is to enhance the reading experience and to improve access to books for all.

The DLR County Development Plan 2004-2010 advocated preparing for the 'knowledge economy'. The current economic climate is posing a challenge for the country. Companies can locate anywhere in the world once they have an internet connection. They require innovative thinking, detailed comprehension and superior communication. Reading is the gateway that makes all learning possible. The kind of literacy necessary for the 21st century requires detailed understanding and complex comprehension. DLR Libraries recognises the importance of promoting reading in this environment.

Children are the future. DLR Libraries will ensure that children's collections continue to be comprehensive, diverse and relevant. We will promote reading, literacy and discovery in attractive spaces designed specifically for children.

The Library is a democratic institution - providing all citizens of DLR with a free and open place to gather, learn, connect, read and enjoy.

DLR Libraries will build on the accomplishments of the past and address new opportunities that will enhance the library's ability to fulfil its mission.

# Evaluation

Strategy Area	Goal	Actions
Strategic Planning	The library service is a hub for cultural services delivered by DLR.	<p>Develop and oversee strategic planning for all areas of service provision.</p> <p>Continue to develop and update culture strategies.</p> <p>Develop and roll out a marketing strategy.</p> <p>Develop a social media and online strategic plan.</p>
The Library User	Deliver a world class library and cultural service to the people of DLR.	<p>Assess critically the services on offer to the community and keep them current.</p> <p>Promote excellence in service provision to children and young people.</p> <p>Develop online cultural programming to complement physical activity in library spaces.</p> <p>Pilot the use of self-service in Deansgrange Library.</p> <p>Ensure that library website and catalogue are dynamic and user friendly.</p> <p>In partnership with local agencies, develop and support Literacy and Life-Long Learning programmes.</p> <p>Ensure that the DLR Library Service reaches those communities where there is no existing library building.</p>
The Library Collection	Continue to ensure that the library collection is enhanced, upgraded & delivered in a variety of formats to meet the needs of library users.	<p>Secure continued investment in the DLR Library Collection.</p> <p>Devise a Collection Development Policy.</p> <p>Implement the Local History Strategy.</p>
Library Spaces	Modernise & expand library facilities & explore virtual spaces.	<p>Deliver library spaces for DLR Communities.</p> <p>Develop the Central Library &amp; Cultural Centre</p>
Cultural Programming	Deliver an annual cultural programme based on the core collection with the focus on people, place and programme.	<p>Series of innovative events &amp; programmes.</p> <p>Ensure that the culture programme is dynamic &amp; reflects the needs of the people of DLR.</p> <p>Develop strategic partnerships with key local, regional &amp; national cultural agencies.</p> <p>Establish and support book clubs and reader's groups.</p>
Professional Development	Continue to invest in the professional development of our staff.	<p>Continue to promote staff development through PMDS and encourage staff to pursue academic, library and culture related qualifications.</p> <p>Staff will be facilitated in their pursuit of Frontline, an interactive online reader development course.</p>

## Outcomes

Improve Library Service Provision  
 Publication of a culture strategy.  
 Production of a marketing strategy.  
 Publication of a social media and online strategy.

Evaluate.  
 Produce a Marketing Strategy.  
 Evaluate the design and layout of children's sections.  
 Increase in cultural programming on and offline.  
 Introduce & promote self service  
 Continue to develop strategic partnerships.  
 Develop an outreach strategy.

Provide enhanced professional library service in DLR

Creative delivery of library services across the county, explore online options  
 Design & construct new facility

Engagement with library users.  
 Evaluate the culture programme.  
 Increase in number and quality of strategic partnerships.  
 Increase in number of book clubs and readers' groups.

Motivated & enthusiastic library team delivering the best possible service to communities in DLR.

## Timeline for Delivery

Ongoing  
 Culture Strategy 2007-2010 is being implemented. It will be evaluated in 2011  
 Autumn 2011  
 Spring 2011

Regular Reviews  
 Autumn 2011  
 Autumn 2011  
 Summer 2011  
 Winter 2010  
 Spring 2012  
 Ongoing  
 Spring 2011

Annually at Estimates time.  
 Winter 2010

Ongoing  
 2013

Launch annually in January 2011  
 Ongoing 2012

Ongoing

# Appendix 1

## Library Building Development

In 2008, DLR prioritised a number of library construction projects, costs associated with these buildings amounted to some €36m. A number of existing library facilities will now be redeveloped and funds will be made available on an annual basis from the development levy scheme. Many of our existing branch libraries are in need of upgrading. The position of the Carnegie buildings in the county is recognised - they have been a major source of inspiration over the years for generations of readers. DLR Libraries has a long and rich tradition of cultural provision in the county and yet existing buildings limit the experience which the public expect and demand. A key priority is to redesign and extend older buildings to create a more welcoming revitalised civic space.

## Central Library & Cultural Centre

The County Development Plan 2010-2016 envisages the creation of places that are vibrant, mixed use, diverse, culturally active and that will attract knowledge economy talent.

A specific local objective is to provide a library and cultural amenity in Moran Park. An international architectural design competition organised by the RIAI in 2007 identified Carr Cotter Naessens Architects who have now proceeded to design the building. The proposed new Central Library & Cultural Centre at Moran Park is a key component of the regeneration of Dún Laoghaire Town. The renewal of the park landscape provides the opportunity to fuse the activities of a library and cultural centre with the enjoyment of a public space in the town centre.



Image © ModelWorks 2009



At the Council Meeting of Monday, 9th November 2009, the Central Library & Cultural Centre was approved under the Part 8 process.

The new Central Library & Cultural Centre will transform the library service locally and will impact on other library services throughout the country. This free public library will develop and enhance services to all age groups of the community at every level of ability. Every effort will be made to streamline access for the people of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown to this public space. It will include books, periodicals, maps, audio books, CDs and DVDs. A special section of the library will be dedicated to recording the history and heritage of the county. Other cultural spaces include a gallery and exhibition space, community meeting rooms as well as a coffee shop overlooking the park. The new Central Library at Moran Park will be at the heart of the community.

## Samuel Beckett Civic Campus

The Library Development Plan 2004-2010 identified the need to provide a library service in areas of major population growth. ‘The location of new units within or in close proximity to new neighbourhood centres should render the library service an integral element of emerging social, community and recreational facilities’<sup>5</sup>.

A Specific Local Objective in the DLR Development Plan 2010 – 2016 is ‘to provide a multi-purpose/Community/Sports/Recreation Facility (Samuel Beckett Civic Campus) to include a regional library, swimming pool plus other community/sports facilities on Council Lands at Ballyogan Road. The mixed-use nature of the Samuel Beckett Civic Campus and its location at a proposed LUAS Stop “Leopardstown Valley” will attract potential library users from a significant catchment, including Cherrywood, Ballyogan, Sandyford, Leopardstown and Kiltiernan.

The design of the SBCC has successfully completed the Part 8 process of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2000-2008.

## Deansgrange Library

The library at Deansgrange is about thirty years old and provides some 639 sq m of space. This branch is extremely busy with an average footfall of about 500 users per day. It is the busiest branch in the county with 238,756 items issued during 2009, growth of 28% on the figures for the previous year. There are some 10,000 members registered in this branch.

Deansgrange boasts a very active cultural programme and the seminar room is in constant use. The building is in need of upgrading and modification. Plans are underway to improve the fabric of the facility and the plans will be taken to the Council for approval during 2010. Deansgrange Library will be the first library to roll out RFID and Self Service technology.



## Cabinteely Library

The public Library in Cabinteely is one of six Carnegie libraries in the care of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Designed by R.M. Butler in the Arts and Crafts style, it is situated in its own grounds on a site donated by the Pym Estate off the Bray Road in the village of Cabinteely. It opened to the public in 1912 and the design of the building has altered little since it was built. In the mid 1980's fire damaged the roof and contents of the building. The roof was repaired and the building refurbished.

Cabinteely library serves a population of over 12,000 people and attract members from a large catchment area. Membership and usage continue to grow every year. In 2009, over 65,000 items were issued. The building needs to be upgraded and renovated to provide more space for the many services the library has to offer. The plan is to build an extension to the library which will enlarge the public space for both the public and staff.

DLR owns the land on which the library stands and the field behind the perimeter wall. This provides the opportunity to extend the library to the rear of the building while taking into account the requirement that "the special interest of the structure is duly recognised and not compromised".

## Dundrum Library

According to the Irish Times, "the opening of the Carnegie Library in Dundrum on 14th August 1914 was a splendid affair conducted by the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Lord Shandon, in the presence of distinguished guests". T.W Lyster, the Librarian of the National Library and the poet W.B. Yeats were present. During the intervening century, many distinguished Irish people frequented the library;

among these were the Yeats sisters, Francis Stuart, C.S Andrews, and the Overend family.

In 1973, a two-storey extension was added to the rear of the building, which increased the size of the library to 427 sq m.

Today, Dundrum library serves a catchment area of over 30,000 people. The position of the library at the heart the community has made it one of the busiest libraries in the country. Membership and usage continue to grow. 205,420 items were borrowed from the library in 2009, an increase of 22% on the previous year. The building is in need of upgrading and renovation. The plan is to develop and extend the existing Carnegie building to provide a more accessible and revitalised public space.

## Blackrock Library

The Carnegie Library in Blackrock was opened in 1905. The library was built to form the centrepiece of a five-bay façade consisting of town hall, library and technical schools. The library is designed in the classical style with a façade of sand cement smooth render and is elaborately sculpted.

One hundred years later, the building is in need of much repair. In more recent times DLR County Council approved the disposal of the Blackrock Town Hall complex to Dún Laoghaire VEC subject to certain terms and conditions including the complete refurbishment of the complex and the provision of an expanded library for the Council.

In March 2009, the Library service moved to temporary accommodation in Valentine House, Blackrock, pending the redevelopment of the site. A new library in Blackrock is due to be completed during the lifetime of this plan.

## Stillorgan Library

The library in Stillorgan is currently housed in a 1970s prefabricated structure, adjacent to a shopping centre. The structure is now thirty-five years old and is totally inadequate in terms of meeting the needs of library users in 2010. The provision of a new public library for Stillorgan has been an objective of the Council for many years.

In the Stillorgan Local Area Plan adopted by the Council on 8th October 2008, it was recognised that the provision of a new library was essential. It stated, “To the east of the Leisureplex site is the existing public library, which is currently an unsuitable and unsightly temporary structure that has been in place since the 1970’s. It is an objective to replace the existing library.”



The library serves a population of over 16,000 people in Stillorgan and attracts readers from a wide catchment area. It has always been a hub of activity and the usage of the current facility continues to be high. In 2009, 223,284 items were issued, an increase of 23%. Success is attributed to the diverse library collection and the dedication of the staff.

As a short-term measure and given the current economic climate, plans are now underway to improve and upgrade the existing facility during 2010. Self service will also be introduced in Stillorgan.

## Other Library Improvements

A conservation grant has been received in respect of the leaded windows in Shankill Library. This work is scheduled for completion by end of 2010 along with some minor improvement works in the branch.



# Appendix 2

## DLR Libraries: Membership & Issues 2005 to 2009

Year	Membership	Issues
2005	45,376	678,089
2006	48,996	733,581
2007	48,737	895,045
2008	49,824	1,037,226
2009	52,965	1,241,438

- Increase of approx 17% in Borrowers over 5 years.
- Increase of 83 % in issues.

# Library information

## BLACKROCK LIBRARY

Valentine House, Temple Road,  
Blackrock, County Dublin.

Tel: (01) 2888117

Email: [blackrocklib@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:blackrocklib@dlrcoco.ie)

## CABINTEELY LIBRARY

Old Bray Road, Cabinteely,  
Dublin 18.

Tel: (01) 2855363

Email: [cabinteelylib@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:cabinteelylib@dlrcoco.ie)

## DALKEY LIBRARY

Castle Street, Dalkey,  
County Dublin.

Tel: (01) 2855317 / 2855277

Email: [dalkeylib@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:dalkeylib@dlrcoco.ie)

## DEANSGRANGE LIBRARY

Clonkeen Drive, Deansgrange,  
Dublin 18.

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## DUNDRUM LIBRARY

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## STILLORGAN LIBRARY

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Stillorgan, County Dublin.

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