

Knowing Dublin



Dublin City
Baile Átha Cliath

Know your City Council



Knowing Dublin

Know Your City Council

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Foreword by the Lord Mayor

Welcome to 'Knowing Dublin', your guide to Dublin City Council, the democratically elected organisation that governs Dublin City. If you live, study or work in Dublin City, everything that Dublin City Council does affects your life. In this guide you will find out how Dublin City Council works, how it achieves its aims and where to find out more about issues that affect its citizens.

Together, Dublin City Council and the people of the city can make Dublin a great place in which to live, work or play!

When people living and working in Dublin City are actively engaged in their communities their efforts make a real and positive difference to life in the city. For many people, this means helping out at a local sports club, serving on a resident's or tenant's association or volunteering with a local charity. It is equally important for people to engage in active citizenship with and through Dublin City Council, your democratically elected organisation.

Local democracy is strengthened by the active participation of citizens working towards a shared future. The active engagement of citizens can lead to an improvement in the quality of services delivered and the quality of democratic debate and dialogue surrounding decisions about the future of the city.

I commend the staff of Dublin City Public Libraries for their initiative in publishing this guide, which contributes to the process of encouraging active citizenship in the community.



Councillor Eibhlín Byrne,
Lord Mayor of Dublin



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Introduction



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Have you ever wondered what would happen if there were no rubbish collections? What would happen if the lighting along public streets were not maintained? What if there were no longer any public libraries or city parks? Imagine a city without any traffic management or parking regulations.

All of these factors contribute to an enhanced quality of life for people of all ages. They are essential to maintaining a safe, vibrant, economically solvent city in which to live and work. In Dublin City there is one organisation that has responsibility for providing these and many other services, for caring for the people of the city and the environment of the city and planning for the future needs of the city. That organisation is Dublin City Council. Dublin City Council is the democratically elected local authority that governs Dublin City. It is the largest local authority in Ireland. Dublin City Council defines its aim as:

To foster a vibrant, attractive, safe and environmentally sustainable capital city with a strong human focus.

To advance and promote the physical, social, cultural and economic environment of the city, through effective civic leadership and through the active democratic participation of our citizens.

(Dublin City Council Mission Statement)

About citizenship

In this guide “CITIZENSHIP” is understood in the broadest sense of civic responsibility as belonging to a community founded on equality, solidarity and freedom. Any person living or working in the City of Dublin is regarded as a citizen of Dublin. This is not to be confused with the more limited legal definition of citizenship referring only to those people who hold Irish citizenship by birth, by descent or by naturalisation. For full details on Irish citizenship see the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs at www.dfa.ie


Democracy and representation

Dublin City Council operates within an overall political system of representative democracy. In a representative democracy, citizens do not exercise power directly but elect representatives to make decisions. In Ireland there are three types of elected representatives.

1. members of the European Parliament who govern at a European level and make laws, which apply all over the European Union.
2. members of Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann, the two Houses of the Oireachtas, who together, govern at a national level and make laws which apply all over Ireland.
3. members of City and County Councils who govern at a local level and are empowered by the Oireachtas to make by-laws which apply only in the city or county that elect them.

Dublin City Council is part of the local government structure, which provides democratic representation for local communities. Dublin Corporation (the name was changed to Dublin City Council under the Local Government Act, 2001) was established in 1548 under a charter issued by Edward VI.

Over the years, there have been many pieces of legislation that have had an impact on local government, but it was not until 1999 that a specific provision for local government was included in the Irish Constitution for the first time. This provision (Article 28A) stipulates that local authorities should be directly elected and that local elections are held at least every five years. The most recent piece of legislation concerning local government is the Local Government Act 2003. That act removed the 'dual mandate', whereby individuals could hold both local and



Those interested in further information on the history of the City and the evolutionary process leading towards democratic governance are recommended to visit "Dublin City's Hall: The Story of the Capital", City Hall Dame Street, Dublin 2. Tel. 2222204

The exhibition is open:
Mon – Sat, 10 am – 5.15 pm
(Last admission at 4.15 pm),
Sunday 2–5 pm
(Last admission is at 4 pm).

Admission fees apply and concessions available for children, students, senior citizens and the unemployed. Groups are welcome.



For a full list of Acts and Bills of the Irish Government that are available for consultation at the Central Library please look at the Libraries section of the Dublin City Council website www.dublincity.ie or view the legislation online at www.oireachtas.ie.

Public Internet Access is available free of charge in all Dublin City Council's Public Libraries.

national elected office at the same time. The main piece of legislation that Dublin City Council operates under is the Local Government Act 2001, which consolidated much of the previous legislation. This Act is available for consultation at the Business Information Centre in the Central Library, Henry St, Dublin 1.



City Council Chambers at City Hall, Cork Hill, Dame St, Dublin 2.

How does Dublin City Council represent the people of Dublin?

The people of Dublin elect 52 public representatives, called councillors, every five years. Anyone who is on the Register of Electors is entitled to vote in these local elections (See the section on Voting and Elections on page 15). The role of the elected city councillors is to lay down the policy framework within which the city operates. Their duties include:

- making and amending by-laws which operate within the City of Dublin;
- overseeing the financial budget of Dublin City Council;
- making or varying the Dublin City Development Plan.

If a council member dies or leaves office between elections the existing council members 'co-opt' (elect) someone to take his or her place. (The rules and procedures for formalising a co-option are contained in the Local Government Act, 2001.) At the Annual General Meeting the council members elect a Lord Mayor and a Deputy Lord Mayor from within their ranks.

How does Dublin City Council achieve its aims and carry out its duties?

There are a number of ways in which Dublin City Council carries out its functions and achieves its aims. Overall policy is determined by the elected members of Dublin City Council. The day-to-day management of services is carried out by the City Manager and his staff.

Some of the chief responsibilities of the city councillors (called 'reserved functions') are:

- making, amending and revoking by-laws;
- adopting the annual 'Estimate of Expenses' at the annual budget meeting;
- making or varying of the Dublin City Development Plan;
- approving borrowings.

The City Manager performs the 'executive functions' of Dublin City Council:

- supervising, managing and paying the employees of the Council;
- making contracts on behalf of the Council;
- affixing the official seal of the Council on documents.

How do city councillors carry out their duties?

Much of the work of Dublin's 52 city councillors is carried out in meetings where decisions are made which affect the lives of everyone in the City of Dublin.

Council Meetings



Dublin City
Baile Átha Cliath

Dublin City Council holds a variety of public meetings in its role as a forum for public representatives. There are five categories or types of meetings:

Monthly Meetings: these are held at 6.45pm on the first Monday of every month in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Cork Hill, Dame St, Dublin 2. They provide a general forum where your elected representatives can discuss and make decisions on issues relevant to the well being of the city.

Annual Meetings: Annual General Meetings are held in City Hall at the end of June each year at which the Lord Mayor of Dublin and the Deputy Lord Mayor are elected by the councillors.

Budget Meetings: these are held in late November or early December each year when city councillors debate the annual budget for the city. At these meetings the city councillors also agree a 'rate', that is the amount of money that businesses in the City of Dublin have to pay Dublin City Council in return for services. Domestic rates – local authority charges on private dwellings, were abolished after the 1977 General Election.

Area Committee Meetings: these are convened by the elected representatives in each of the five administrative areas of Dublin City Council. The five administrative areas of Dublin City Council are: Central Area; North Central Area; North West Area; South Central Area; South East Area. Area Committee meetings are held once a month and provide a forum for discussing issues that are relevant only within the local area. These meetings are held locally, for example the monthly area meeting for the

North Central Area is usually held in Northside Civic Centre, Coolock.

Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Meetings: these are held every second month to prepare and debate policy alternatives for the operational areas of Dublin City Council.

Each SPC consists of fifteen members; ten city councillors and five representatives from different sectors, for example trades unions, local businesses and local community and voluntary sector organisations. The current Strategic Policy Committees are:

- Arts, Culture, Leisure & Youth Affairs;
- Environment & Engineering;
- Transportation & Traffic;
- Housing, Social & Community Affairs;
- Economic Development Planning & European Affairs;
- Financial Development & General.

Each of the Chairpersons of the SPCs work with the Lord Mayor on the Corporate Policy Group. This group links the work of each SPC and provides a forum where policy positions affecting the whole council can be agreed for submission to the full membership.

How do I find out what happens at council meetings?

You are entitled to attend any council meeting. To gain access to a meeting you need a 'pass'. These passes are free of charge. To get a pass contact your local councillor (for a full list of Dublin City Councillors see pages 16 and 17). A person with a valid Press Card may attend without this pass.

The dates and times of council meetings are listed on the Dublin City Council website www.dublincity.ie or you can ask at any council office or public library.

As well as attending a council meeting in person, you can view the Monthly Meeting of Dublin City Council live on a webcast. This sends pictures and sound over the Internet





on the Dublin City Council website. You can watch selected council meetings in the archive section of the website.

Log on to www.dublincity.ie, choose the link COUNCIL MEETINGS from the list under 'Your Council' on the left of the screen. Follow the links to an area where you can access webcasts of live council meetings or view entire archived meetings or portions of meetings. If you do not have a computer with Internet access you can still view the meetings by booking the use of a computer at your local public library. Alternatively, you can view the printed minutes of council meetings in the Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 – 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2.

The Lord Mayor presides at meetings of the City Council and signs its records of proceedings.

Lord Mayor of Dublin



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Since King Henry III issued a charter in 1229, the citizens of Dublin have been allowed to elect a Mayor every year (title changed to Lord Mayor in 1641). At present the Lord Mayor is chosen each year by the sitting city councillors from among their own elected members.

The Lord Mayor is the first citizen of Dublin City ceding status only to the President of Ireland in Dublin City. He/she is chairperson of the elected Council and manages the business of Council meetings. The Lord Mayor also provides civic leadership and facilitates dialogue between different groups in the city. As first citizen of Dublin, the Lord Mayor acts as ambassador for the city locally and internationally. During his or her term of office, the Lord Mayor lives in the official residence, the Mansion House.



If you would like to know more about individual Mayors of Dublin down through the years, you can consult the **History Files**, which have been compiled by staff of Dublin City Library & Archive.

Who are my elected city councillors and how do I contact them?

The 52 city councillors who make up the current council are drawn from six different political parties; Labour, Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, Sinn Féin, Progressive Democrats and the Green Party. There are three councillors who are not affiliated to any political party; two describe themselves as Independent and one as Community. A full list of Dublin City Councillors is included below. This list is correct as of September 2008. However, as some changes may occur, you might like to check a regularly

Dublin City Councillors (by Area)

All the councillors listed may be contacted at The Members Room, City Hall, Cork Hill, Dame Street, Dublin 2, Tel. 2222204. If you are trying to contact any Councillor by letter or telephone you should use his or her title of Councillor to ensure that you reach the right person. Or you can email them using email addresses found on the www.dublincity.ie website.

Central Area

Councillor Maurice Ahern (Fianna Fáil)
Cabra / Glasnevin
Councillor Christy Burke (Sinn Féin)
North Inner-City
Councillor Brendan Carr (Labour)
Cabra / Glasnevin
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Emer Costello (Labour) North Inner-City
Councillor Mary Fitzpatrick (Fianna Fáil) Cabra / Glasnevin
Councillor Séamas McGrattan (Sinn Féin) Cabra / Glasnevin
Councillor Aodhán Ó Riordáin (Labour)
North Inner-City
Councillor Mary O'Shea (Fine Gael)
Cabra / Glasnevin
Councillor Maureen O'Sullivan (Independent) North Inner-City
Councillor Tom Stafford (Fianna Fáil)
North Inner-City

North Central Area

Councillor Paddy Bourke (Labour)
Artane
Councillor Tom Brabazon (Fianna Fáil)
Donaghmede
Councillor Gerry Breen (Fine Gael)
Clontarf
Lord Mayor Councillor Eibhlin Byrne (Fianna Fáil) Clontarf
Councillor Anne Carter (Labour)
Donaghmede
Councillor Pat Crimmins (Fine Gael)
Donaghmede
Councillor Declan Flanagan (Fine Gael)
Artane
Councillor Killian Forde (Sinn Féin)
Donaghmede
Councillor Deirdre Heney (Fianna Fáil)
Clontarf
Councillor Sean Kenny (Labour)
Donaghmede
Councillor Bronwen Maher (Green Party) Clontarf
Councillor Sean Paul Mahon (Fianna Fáil) Artane
Councillor Naoise Ó Muirí (Fine Gael)
Clontarf
Councillor Larry O'Toole (Sinn Féin)
Artane

updated list on the Dublin City Council website
www.dublincity.ie or on www.dublin.ie

On www.dublincity.ie, under the heading ‘Your Council’ click the link ‘Your City Councillors’. From here you can open a link to a list of councillors who represent each of the five Dublin City Council Areas. Click on the area you live in and then click on each councillor’s name to find contact details. (See illustration on following page.)

Dublin North West

Councillor Julia Carmichael (Fianna Fáil) Ballymun / Whitehall
Councillor Ray Corcoran (Sinn Féin) Ballymun / Whitehall
Councillor Dessie John Ellis (Sinn Féin) Finglas
Councillor Liam Kelly (Fianna Fáil) Finglas
Councillor John Lyons (Labour) Finglas
Councillor Andrew Montague (Labour) Ballymun / Whitehall
Councillor Dr. Bill Tormey (Fine Gael) Finglas

South Central Area

Councillor Charlie Ardagh (Fianna Fáil) Crumlin / Kimmage
Councillor Clare Byrne (Fine Gael) South-West Inner-City
Councillor Eric Byrne (Labour) Crumlin / Kimmage
Councillor Joan Collins (Independent) Crumlin / Kimmage
Councillor Michael Conaghan (Labour) Ballyfermot
Councillor John Gallagher (Labour) South-West Inner-City
Councillor Vincent Jackson (Independent) Ballyfermot
Councillor Ruairi McGinley (Fine Gael) Crumlin / Kimmage
Councillor Ray McHugh (Sinn Féin) Crumlin / Kimmage
Councillor Louise Minihan (Sinn Féin) Ballyfermot
Councillor Criona Ní Dhálaigh (Sinn Féin) South-West Inner-City

South East Area

Councillor Michael Donnelly (Fianna Fáil) Rathmines
Councillor Daithi Doolan (Sinn Féin) South-East Inner-City
Councillor Mary Freehill (Labour) Rathmines
Councillor Kevin Humphreys (Labour) South-East Inner-City
Councillor John Kenny (Progressive Democrats) Pembroke
Councillor Dermot Lacey (Labour) Pembroke
Councillor Paddy McCartan (Fine Gael) Pembroke
Councillor Oisín Quinn (Labour) Rathmines
Councillor Sarah Ryan (Fianna Fáil) South-East Inner-City
Councillor Edie Wynne (Fine Gael) Rathmines



Alternatively, on www.dublin.ie, choose the 'Government' section from the home page, and then click on 'Politics in the City'. From here you can search for your local representative by name, electoral area or political party.

Council elections are due to be held in mid 2009, so after this date please check the websites above or you can phone DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICES on 222 2222 or call in to your local area office, public library or Garda station for a list of councillors and their contact details.

Why should I vote?



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Voting is an important way to make your voice heard on the issues that concern you. Voting gives you an opportunity to be part of decision-making that affects your life. Decisions are made on your behalf every day on healthcare, education, housing, global issues like defence and the environment and local issues like bins and leisure facilities. By voting in a local, national or European election, you are deciding who will make decisions on issues affecting your everyday life. If you don't vote, others will make the decisions for you.



Am I entitled to vote?

All residents of the Republic of Ireland, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who are aged 18 or over (or who will turn 18 by February 15th in the year of the election) can register to vote. Your category of citizenship then determines which elections you are eligible to vote in.

- Irish Citizens may vote at every election and referendum;
- British Citizens may vote at national (Dáil), European and local elections (but not at referenda or presidential elections);
- Citizens of European Union countries may vote at European and local elections;
- Citizens of non-European Union countries may vote at local elections only.

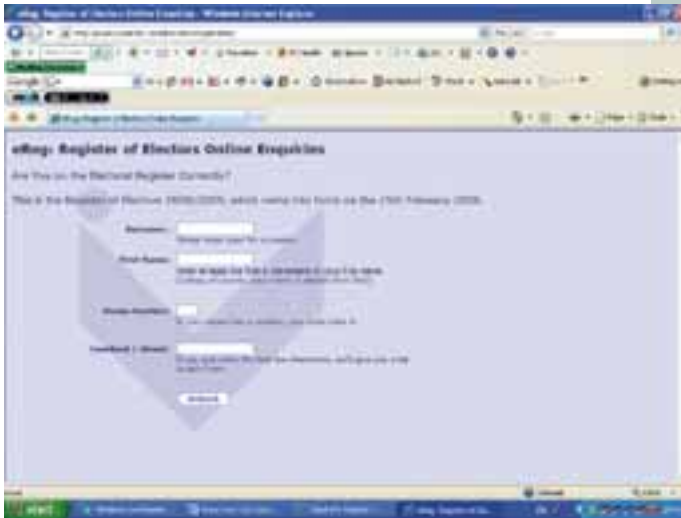


This means that all residents of Dublin who are 18 and over, may vote in the local elections through which our city councillors are elected.

In order to vote, your name must be registered on the Register of Electors. The Register of Electors is a list of the names and addresses of everyone who is registered to vote. Your local authority compiles the Register of Electors.

How do I know if I am on the Register of Electors?

You can check if your name is on the Register of Electors by asking to see the Register at your local council offices, local library or post office. You can also check the Register of Electors online at www.checktheregister.ie. First click on your council area from the list provided (for example Dublin City Council) and then type your name and address into the search box.



If you do not have a computer with Internet access you can use the public access computers at any public library.

 **You don't have to re-register every year, but it is your responsibility to check that your correct name and address is on the Register of Electors.**

How do I register to vote?

You are not automatically registered to vote when you turn 18. Everyone must complete a **Voter Registration Form**. If you have not registered before or if you have moved house or your personal details have changed, then you need to register to vote. The section of Dublin City Council that compiles the Register of Electors for the Dublin City area is called the **Franchise Section**. You can get a Voter Registration Form, a **Supplement to the Voting Register* Form** or a **Change of Address Form** by calling 01 222 5010 (Dublin City Council Franchise Section) to request a copy, or you can download it from the Dublin City Council website www.dublincity.ie by clicking on the 'Register to Vote' link.

Return the completed form to:
Dublin City Council
Franchise Section
City Manager's Department
16 / 19 Wellington Quay
Dublin 2

* Completed forms must be received by the Franchise Section before the fourteenth day (Sundays, public holidays and Good Friday excluded) before polling day in order to be considered for inclusion in the supplement for a forthcoming election or referendum.

How to Vote: what you do on voting day

If you are registered to vote, you will be sent a card before the election. It's called a **polling card** and it tells you where and when you can vote.

On Election Day, go to your **polling station**. The name of your polling station will be on your polling card. It is usually a hall or school near where you live. Polling stations stay open from 7.00am to 10.00pm so there is plenty of time to vote, even if you are working all day. If you are unsure what to do, there will be staff at the polling station to help you.

At the polling station staff will ask for your name and address and your polling card. They will check that you are on the register of electors. You also need to show evidence of identity*.

If you forget your polling card you can still vote, as long as you are on the register of electors and can produce valid evidence of identity.

Staff will give you a ballot paper on which to make your vote. Your ballot paper will list the name of each candidate along with a photograph and the political party he or she belongs to (if any). Take your ballot paper over to a voting booth. Always read the instructions on the ballot paper carefully to make sure you fill it in correctly. If you need assistance to vote, you can ask the election staff. Put your completed ballot paper in the appropriate ballot box.

 **You have now cast your vote!**

* **Evidence of identity – you are likely to be asked to produce one of the following:**


- a passport
- a driving licence
- an employee or student identity card containing a photograph
- a bank or savings or credit union book containing your address in the constituency or electoral area.

You can also produce:

- a cheque book, cheque card or credit card
- a birth or marriage certificate.

However, the last two categories must be accompanied by a formal document that establishes the address of the holder in the constituency or electoral area. Dublin City Council Franchise Section stipulates a utility bill e.g. gas, electricity, for this purpose.

* You will be asked to rank the candidates 1, 2, 3 ... in order of your preference. You can give your vote to as many of the candidates as you like, that is, if there are seven candidates on the ballot paper you can vote 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 in order of your preference.

 For an explanation of how proportional representation works go to the Citizens Information website www.citizensinformation.ie Type in "Proportional Representation" in the search box and click on the link for details.

After the polls close, the votes are counted and the results declared. Ireland uses the single transferable vote system* in local, national and European elections. This system means that even your lowest vote cast can influence the election results. The counting of votes can take some time. It may be a number of days before the final results are known.

The results will be announced on the radio and television news and reported in local and national newspapers.

Remember you must register to vote in order to cast your vote on election day. If you are not registered to vote you will not be able to vote in the next election. If an election is due soon but you are not on the Register of Electors, you can add yourself to the **Supplement to the Voting Register**.



The Dublin City Manager



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John Tierney was appointed Dublin City Manager in 2006 (through a competitive recruitment process organised by the Public Appointments Service). As Chief Executive of Dublin City Council he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the organisation. The City Manager also has responsibility for the implementation of Council decisions. The City Manager works with your elected representatives (councillors) and council staff to implement Dublin City Council's vision for a creative and sustainable city.

... and his staff

While the City Manager has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the local authority operates smoothly and for carrying out policy decisions of the elected council, the actual delivery of services is delegated to council staff.

Dublin City Council is the largest local authority employer in the country. Council staff work in a huge variety of jobs at nearly 500 locations throughout Dublin. Many are administrative staff who support the work of Dublin City Council and many are staff with specialist skills like gardeners, electricians, planners, architects, librarians, health inspectors, engineers, accountants and many who work in the field of arts, sports, community services and in archaeology, conservation and heritage. The smooth running of Dublin City Council and its varied services is dependent on the effort, commitment and the contributions made by each individual staff member.

Keep up to date with information on jobs in Dublin City Council by looking up the website www.dublincity.ie and clicking on the tab 'careers' from along the top of the home page or visit the Irish public service website www.publicjobs.ie

What are the main services and responsibilities of Dublin City Council?

Dublin City Council provides a range of services to the individual, community and business sector. These include:

- Housing;
- Planning;
- Roads and Traffic;
- Water Waste and Environment;
- Recreation and Culture;
- Education, Health and Welfare.

In addition to the functions outlined above, a fundamental role of democratically elected local government is to represent local communities, voicing local concerns and responding to local needs.



Where does Dublin City Council get the money to run services?

In 2008 Dublin City Council has an operating budget of €914.52 million. This covers all expenditure including housing, roads, water, libraries, parks, fire brigade and staff wages. It also operates a three-year capital budget of €2.191 billion (2008 – 2010)

Dublin City Council receives money from the following sources:

- the sale of goods and services, for example rent, parking fees and waste collection charges;
- commercial property rates and water rates;
- government grants;
- the local government fund.

Where are Dublin City Council Offices?



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The administrative headquarters of Dublin City Council, known as the Civic Offices, are based near the city centre in the landmark building on the southern banks of the River Liffey. Because Dublin City Council provides services to over half a million people living in the largest city in Ireland and over one and a half million who visit the city daily, the council has divided the city into five administrative areas for the purposes of coordinating service delivery to your community.



**Dublin City Council
Civic Offices
Wood Quay
Dublin 8**

How do I contact Dublin City Council about any of its services?

The main points of contact for people in Dublin with the various sections of Dublin City Council providing services are:

- The Call Centre, phone 222 2222;
- The Local Area Offices;
- Dublin City Council's website www.dublincity.ie.

Contact details for Local Area Offices

Central Area

(includes Cabra, Broadstone, North Wall, Drumcondra, Ballybough, Phibsboro and the north city centre)

Sean Mac Dermott Street Area Office
51-53 Lower Sean Mac Dermott Street, Dublin 1.
Tel: 222 2248. Fax: 222 3831.
Email: central.area@dublincity.ie

North Central Area

(includes Kilbarrack, Raheny, Donaghmede, Coolock, Clontarf, East Wall and Fairview)

Coolock North Central Area Office (Head Office)
Northside Civic Centre, Bunratty Road, Coolock, Dublin 17.
Tel: 816 6710. Fax: 877 5851.
Email: north.central@dublincity.ie

North West Area

(includes Finglas, Ballymun, Glasnevin and Santry)

Finglas Area Office
Mellowes Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.
Tel: 222 5400. Fax: 834 6431.
Email: northwestarea@dublincity.ie
Ballymun Area Office
Civic Centre, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 13.
Tel: 222 5610. Fax: 842 4466.
Email: northwestarea@dublincity.ie

South East Area

(includes Rathmines, Rathgar, Terenure, Ringsend, Irishtown, Pearse Street and the south east inner city)

South East Area Office
Block 2 Floor 2, Civic Buildings, Wood Quay, Dublin 8.
Tel: 222 2243. Fax: 222 2499.
Email: southeast@dublincity.ie

South Central Area

(includes Ballyfermot, Inchicore, Crumlin, Drimnagh, Walkinstown, The Liberties and the south west inner city)

Liberties Area Office
Units 20 – 21 and 29 The Maltings, Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8.
Tel: 222 5200. Fax: 453 1088.
Email: southcentral@dublincity.ie
Crumlin Area Office
13 Crumlin Village, Crumlin, Dublin 12.
Tel: 222 5513. Fax: 4087030.
Email: crumlinarea@dublincity.ie
Kilmainham Area Office
639 South Circular Road, Dublin 8.
Tel: 222 5120. Fax: 4735526.
Email: kilmainham.regoffice@dublincity.ie
Ballyfermot Area Office
Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.
Tel: 620 7122. Fax: 6215939.
Email: ballyfermot.areaoffice@dublincity.ie

Dublin City Public Libraries supporting democracy

For democracy to work it needs an informed public. As the main information arm of local government, Dublin City Public Library Service is free and open to everyone. It caters equally to the life-long library user and the one-time casual visitor through a network of branch libraries and service points. It serves over half a million people who are resident in the city and provides reference services to over a million residents of the city region including many who study, work in or visit the city on a daily basis. It is the largest library authority in the Republic of Ireland.



If you want to find out more about issues relating to democracy, consult the reading list on the following page.

The headquarters of the Dublin City Public Library Service is at:

Dublin City Library & Archive, 138-144 Pearse Street,
Dublin 2.

Tel: +353 (1) 674 4800. Fax: +353 (1) 674 4879.

E-mail: dublinpubliclibraries@dublincity.ie

www.dublincitypubliclibraries.ie

Recommended reading and further research

Research Note



The authors acknowledge the following websites in developing the section on voting: www.vote.ie and www.aboutmyvote.ie

Further Research



Access to the following:

- Database of Dublin City Councillors from 1881 to the present;
- Information files on the history of Dublin and Dublin City's Lord Mayors and
- Minutes of Dublin City Council meetings;

is available in the Reading Room in the Dublin City Library and Archive at Pearse Street.

The minutes are also available on the Dublin City Council website at www.dublincity.ie

Go to the 'Council Meetings' section of the website and click on the link to 'Minutes of Meetings' from the list on the left-hand side. A PDF document will open.

The following books are available in Dublin City Public Libraries. Check their availability on the online catalogue at: www.dublincitypubliclibraries.ie

- Callanan, Mark & Keogan, Justin F. eds. (2003) "*Local Government in Ireland – Inside Out*". Dublin, Institute of Public Administration.
- Callanan, Mark ed (2007) "*Ireland 2022 -Towards One Hundred Years of Self-Government*" Dublin, Institute of Public Administration
- Clark, Mary (1996) "*Serving the City: Dublin City Managers and Town Clerks 1230 – 1996*" Dublin, Dublin City Council.
- Harris, Clodagh ed. (2005). "*Engaging Citizens: the Case for Democratic Renewal in Ireland. A report of the Democracy Commission*" Tasc at New Island Press.
- Kenny, Liam (2004) "*From Ballot Box to Council Chamber: a Guide to Ireland's County and Town Councillors – 2004 – 2009*" Dublin, Institute of Public Administration
- Kissane, Bill (2002) "*Explaining Irish Democracy*" Dublin, University College Dublin Press.
- Tierney, Myles (2002) "*I Am My Rights: a little book of politics*" Dublin, Public Relations Institute of Ireland

There is also some material – books, files and databases – available for consultation in the library. These include copies of:

- Dublin City Council Yearbook & Diary 2008
- Dublin City Council Corporate Plan 2005-2009
- Dublin City Council's *Annual Reports* and Accounts

You can read the Taskforce on Active Citizenship's report by visiting www.activecitizenship.ie and clicking on 'TASKFORCE REPORT TO GOVERNMENT'.