

## **Sandymount Village Design Statement (VDS)**

Sandymount is an urban village in south Dublin with a particularly well-developed sense of place despite being only 3km from Dublin city centre. Its seaside location, variety of architectural styles, and renowned village character, focused around Sandymount Green, has long made this attractive suburb a very desirable place to live.

Sandymount was selected as Dublin City Council's 'Pilot VDS', in collaboration with the Heritage Council.

The purpose of a Village Design Statement (VDS) is to express the views of local people on how they would like their village to develop.

A Steering Committee was selected from interested parties to oversee the preparation and delivery of a Village Design Statement for Sandymount Village. Membership of the committee is cross sectoral in its composition and represents the actual Stakeholders in the process (Residents, Business Sector, Councillors, City Council Officials, Heritage Council and other stakeholders with relevant interests).

External environmental consultants, Solty Brewster Consulting were engaged to assist and support the community in the preparation and delivery of the VDS for Sandymount. The consultants worked closely at local level with the Project Steering Committee.

The Sandymount VDS has been a collaborative and participative process, which sought the views of all residents and stakeholders. It has been produced by a Steering Committee and jointly funded by the Heritage Council and Dublin City Council.

The aims of Sandymount Village Design Statement are to:

1. Record what is distinctive and important to the residents of Sandymount to ensure these features are protected and / or enhanced through the local planning system and other relevant socio-economic programmes;
2. Devise design principles to guide future development within Sandymount and adjacent areas which would impact on village character;
3. Provide advice and up front guidance on local design issues to decision makers and developers;
4. Suggest how specific projects that will benefit Village residents and their environment may be initiated.
5. Act as a focus for the community to participate and collaborate effectively in the local planning process as well as in regard to other aspects of life in the Village.