

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services B – Strategic & General Matters)**

THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026

ITEM NO. 39

Taking-in-Charge - The Orchard Estate - Oldtown - AI109689

Question: Councillor C. Johnston

“To ask the Chief Executive to provide a progress report on the taking in charge of the public open space in The Orchard Estate in Oldtown and to include a timeline for completion of same?”

Reply:

The development of The Orchard Estate, Oldtown was permitted under Planning Reference F17A/0357 (ABP-300045-17) and was constructed several years ago.

The landscaping within the development has been inspected by the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division and has been deemed not to be to an acceptable Taking in Charge standard. A landscape snag list was subsequently prepared and issued to the developer for completion.

In addition, the development was subject to Planning Enforcement, as it was not constructed in full accordance with the approved planning permission. As a result, the Taking in Charge of the estate could not proceed at that time.

On 16th July 2026 the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division attended a site visit with the developer and their architect to discuss the existing landscape works and potential improvements.

The most recent planning permission for Orchard Estate is reg. ref: F26A/0307E. In accordance with the conditions of this planning permission, the developer is required to submit and agree their landscape proposals with Fingal County Council. Once this submission has been submitted and agreed, the developer will be required to carry out the landscape works in accordance with the approved planning permission.

A timeframe for the Taking in Charge process has not yet been established, as several preliminary steps must first be completed. These include the submission and agreement of a landscape proposal with the Planning Authority and the completion of the required landscape works.

Source of Reply:

Gemma Carr, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer