

**NO PARTY AFFILIATION - INDEPENDENT**

**Cllr.  
Marcia  
D'ALTON**



**INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY  
EXPERIENCE • PROFESSIONALISM  
WORK ETHIC • DELIVERY  
REAL CHANGE**



**Background**

- 43 years of age
- Currently resident in Passage West, formerly in Monkstown and native of Douglas
- Elected member of Passage West/Monkstown Town Council, 2004 – present
- Bachelors degree in civil engineering; Masters Degree in environmental engineering
- 10 years of practice as a consulting engineer, including 4 years self-employed as environmental consultant
- Mother of five

**KEY PRIORITIES ...**

- Opposing any increase in **Local Property Tax**
- Fighting for a **reduction in Local Property Tax** when water charges are introduced in 2015
- Wanting to **end additional expenses** for councillors attending conferences and training
- Working towards **reducing rates** and **utilising empty business units**
- Working towards **amenities and services** in every community
- Encouraging councillors to establish a **Councillors Community Fund** to support community groups
- Fighting **illegal dumping** of rubbish
- Planning **greater access to Cork Harbour** for all
- Assisting community and voluntary groups in **obtaining grant funding**
- Protecting and preserving our **heritage and amenities**
- Assisting communities in **developing tailored plans** to advance their own areas

**LOCAL ELECTIONS: CARRIGALINE-BALLINCOLLIG WARD**

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## POLITICS IS ABOUT PEOPLE – CHANGE COMES FROM PEOPLE

Change is important for one simple reason: to make people's lives better. My experiences as an engineer and town councillor have led me to firmly believe that the strength of our country lies in its communities at the most local level. It is vital that power and decision-making is devolved as low as practicable.

Real workable change happens with people. So to make real change happen, it needs to come from the people. Politicians interested in people aim for less centralisation of power. They do not permit rhetoric to replace fundamental decency. They do not waste time debating issues simply to score party brownie points. They always answer questions honestly and directly.

This is not what we see in Irish politics today. I have seen at first hand the influence that ill-thought out and insufficiently funded policies can have on communities. Policies originating with government, often compounded by local authority management. Yet at the most basic level of town maintenance, a community working co-operatively with a local authority can move mountains.

There needs to be positive engagement between all the communities within the 51,000 electorate and Cork County Council. If there is not, they will lose the identity that makes them strong. If you choose me to represent you on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, my aim will be to help the people within communities of the Ballincollig – Carrigaline ward to empower themselves. Building up communities is the first step to devolving governance to the people. And that is the only way we will create a content and fulfilled society, realising Ireland's vast potential.

## SOME OF THE KEY WAYS IN WHICH I HELPED TO BUILD MY COMMUNITY IN THE PAST 10 YEARS



- Worked towards balancing infrastructure, schools and amenities throughout the Celtic Tiger era
- Prepared Architectural Design Guidelines for our towns on behalf of the Town Council
- Introduced the Maritime Heritage theme in Passage West as a brand from which the town could move forward
- Sourced funding for and designed the Passage West/Monkstown Railway Trail
- Designed and written several other interpretative panels to highlight special areas in our towns
- Part of the Cork Harbour Forum and its Advisory Group working towards integrated management of Cork Harbour
- Played key role in twice defeating an unsustainable proposal for a hazardous waste incinerator in Cork Harbour
- Part of a team working on a Community Profile and Description of Family Support Services in our towns
- Working with Cork County Council on establishing a Multi-Use Games Area in Passage West
- Ongoing liaison with the gardai, elected representatives and community on the local Joint Policing Committee
- Founding member and Secretary of Passage West Tidy Towns; ongoing volunteer work and liaison with SECAD
- Secured funding and installed pet waste bins at key locations in Passage West
- Worked with local residents to run an annual Bonfire Night Party, eliminating the dirty bonfire problem
- Instigated, designed and wrote the Passage West/Monkstown website, a non-political community resource



The boundaries of our new Ballincollig – Carrigaline electoral area now encompass an electorate of 51,000. With the best will in the world, it will be virtually impossible for me to meet all of you prior to May 23<sup>rd</sup>. But there is a great deal more information available on my website and I am always at the end of an email, telephone or talking through the social media. I would welcome the opportunity to help.

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