# COMHAIRLE CATHRACH BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH



Miontuairiscí Chruinniú Míosúil a tionóladh ar 1 Nollaig 2014 i Seomra na Comhairle, Halla na Cathrach, Cnoc Chorcaí ag 6.15 i.n. I Láthair an tArdmheara Christy Burke sa chathaoir

Comhairleoir:	Comhairleoir:	Comhairleoir:
Chris Andrews	Mannix Flynn	Ray McHugh
Catherine Ardagh	Gary Gannon	Denise Mitchell
Kieran Binchy	Alison Gilliland	Andrew Montague
Paddy Bourke	Paul Hand	Rebecca Moynihan
Janice Boylan	Seán Haughey	Emma Murphy
Tom Brabazon	Deirdre Heney	Críona Ní Dhálaigh
Christy Burke	Jane Horgan-Jones	Michael O'Brien
Claire Byrne	Vincent Jackson	Jim O'Callaghan
Cathleen Carney Boud	Andrew Keegan	Kate O'Connell
Brendan Carr	Teresa Keegan	Damian O'Farrell
Aine Clancy	Greg Kelly	Ciáran O'Moore
Anthony Connaghan	Frank Kennedy	Naoise Ó Muirí
David Costello	Dermot Lacey	Larry O'Toole
Patrick Costello	John Lyons	Cieran Perry
Ciáran Cuffe	Mícheál Mac Donncha	Noeleen Reilly
Daithí De Róiste	Ray McAdam	Nial Ring
Daithí Doolan	Paul McAuliffe	Noel Rock
Pat Dunne	Paddy McCartan	Éilis Ryan
Declan Flanagan	Ruairí McGinley	Paddy Smyth
	Séamas McGrattan	Sonya Stapleton
<u>Oifigigh</u>		
Owen Keegan	Kathy Quinn	Celine Reilly
Philip Maguire	Michael Phillips	Antoinette Power
Brendan Kenny	Terence O'Keeffe	Carmel Walsh
Cathal Morgan	Vincent Norton	Gerard Maher Oonagh Casey

- 1. The Lord Mayor opened the meeting by expressing sympathy on his own behalf and on behalf of the City Council to the families and friends of the following recently deceased:-
  - Brendan Archbold who had been active in the Mandate Trade Union for many vears
  - Mrs McGinley, mother of Councillor Ruairi McGinley
  - Mr Jonathan Corrie, a homeless man who died tragically on Molesworth St

A minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for all the deceased. A discussion on the situation of homeless people on the streets of Dublin then took place. The City Council suspended Standing Orders to agree the following emergency motions.

a) In light of the decision of the Minister for the Environment to postpone the scheduled meeting with the Lord Mayor of Dublin and the Group Leaders of the City Council to discuss the housing and homeless crisis in Dublin, this City Council supports the Lord Mayor's call on the Taoiseach and the Tanaiste to immediately reschedule and attend the meeting in order to address what short-term measures can be taken to ease the crisis.

# **Submitted by Councillor Paul McAuliffe**

b) That this Council takes a moment to reflect the loss of another homeless person on our city streets today and calls on the Chief Executive to Identify unused council property in the City Centre that could be quickly converted into temporary shelter for people living on our streets.

# **Submitted by Councillor David Costello**

c) The City Council calls on the Chief Executive to meet with the Archbishop of Dublin and the board of the Catholic Housing Aid Society managing Fr Scully House with a view to resolving the impasse inhibiting those people already nominated to occupy the 99 newly renovated units in Fr Scully House.

## **Submitted by Councillor Alison Gilliland**

- d) In light of the fact that the Housing Strategy announced this week:
  - fails to address or implement key measures that will immediately address the issue of homeless persons rough sleeping on the streets of our capital
  - further emphasises the privatisation of local authority housing through the HAP and the reliance on the private sector

This Council calls on the Government to:

- immediately requisition or release from NAMA or local authority stock, a number of buildings that will be renovated in addition to hiring support staff to service them:
- immediately raise the rent allowance bands (measures upon which the HAP is predicated in any case) so as to facilitate access for individuals and families at risk of homelessness to either remaining in their current homes or accessing rental properties in the private housing market.

# Submitted by Councillors John Lyons, Andrew Keegan and Sonya Stapleton

The Lord Mayor then sent good wishes to Councillor Tina MacVeigh and Councillor Jonathan Dowdall. He then commended the staff of Dublin Fire Brigade and other Dublin City Council staff who saved lives at the scene of a recent fire in Sean McDermott St.

The Lord Mayor then informed the Members that this was the last monthly City Council meeting that Mr Philip Maguire would attend before his retirement at the end of the year. He paid tribute to Philip's many achievements during his time with the City Council and thanked him for his dedication over the years and wished him well in his retirement. Mr Maguire responding to the Lord Mayor's words of commendation said it was a pleasure to serve the citizens of Dublin and that the City Council functions at its best when there is co-operation between Councillors and the Executive.

The Lord Mayor reminded the Members that Irish Water would hold a clinic in City Hall on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> December to which all Members were invited. He then went on to inform the Council of a proposal for a **1916 Rising Trail** as part of the 1916 centennial celebrations. It would be broadly similar to the Freedom Trail in Boston which would link key locations in the 1916 Rising including the GPO, Liberty Hall, Mansion House etc. It was agreed that a short report would issue to Members detailing the proposals.

The Lord Mayor then referred to the Eastern – Midlands Draft Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021, saying that a briefing note on the Draft Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Management Plan was circulated by e-mail to all Councillors on 26<sup>th</sup> November. Public consultation period commenced on the 18th of November 2014 and will run until the 3oth of January 2015. Following the public consultation, submissions will be considered and the final plan will be published by the end of March 2015.

The City Council suspended Standing Orders to agree to refer the following emergency motion to the Finance & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee for consideration "Given the grave concern expressed by local business in the St. Stephen's Green area and the recent media controversy, regarding the Christmas Market at St. Stephen's Green and its negative impact, and given the lack of any clarity or accountability on the initiation of this market, that this City Council call on the CE to make a clear statement with regards the setting up of this market, what processes, planning and consents were given by DCC? What resources were given by DCC and what endorsements were given by DCC? Further, what environmental impact studies were carried out, given the fact that this location is a protected National Heritage area? Also what traffic arrangements were made by DCC for this area?"

# **Submitted by Councillor Mannix Flynn**

- 2. Ceisteanna fé Bhuan Ordú Úimhir 16 It was moved by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council approves the Dublin Chief Executive answering the questions lodged". The motion having been put and carried, written answers to the 132 questions lodged for the City Council meeting were issued. The Questions and Answers are set out in Appendix A attached.
- 3. Letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 from Kerry County Council conveying the terms of a motion agreed at a recent meeting calling on the Minister for Defence to rescind the 21 year rule for members of the Defence Forces. It was moved by Councillor R McGinley and seconded by Councillor T Brabazon "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of this letter". The motion was put and carried.
- 4. The minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014, the Special Meeting and the Budget Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014, having been printed, certified by the Meetings Administrator, circulated to the Members and taken as read, were signed by the Lord Mayor.
- 5. Submitted Report No 348/2014 of the Head of Finance (K. Quinn) Monthly Local Fund Statement. It was proposed by Councillor P McCartan and seconded by Councillor R McGinley "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No348/2014". The motion was put and carried.
- Submitted Report No 336/2014 of the Chief Executive, Dublin City Council, in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act 2001 informing the Council of works which are about to commence and in compliance with the Planning and

Development Regulations 2001, Part 8: Reconstruction of 3 damaged houses at No.'s 1, 6, 7 Kylemore Grove, Labre Park, Dublin 10. It was moved by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McGinley "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 336/2014 and hereby approves the contents therein". The motion was put and carried.

- 7. Appointment of two Members to the Transportation SPC it was proposed by Councillor S McGrattan and seconded by Councillor J Boylan "That Councillor Ciaran O'Moore be appointed as a member to the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee" The motion was put and carried. The filling of the 2<sup>nd</sup> vacancy was deferred to the next meeting of the City Council to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.
- 8. Ratification of nomination of Councillor A Gilliland to represent the North Central Area on the North Dublin Development Coalition - it was proposed by Councillor R McAdam and seconded by Councillor M MacDonncha "That Councillor Allison Gilliland to represent the North Central Area on the North Dublin Development Coalition" The motion was put and carried.
- 9. Submitted Report No 354/2014 of the Chairperson of the Audit Committee (*Brendan Foster*) With reference to consideration by the Audit Committee of the Audited Annual Financial Statement for 2013 and the Local Government Auditor's Report on the Accounts of Dublin City Council for 2013. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor G Gannon "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 354/2014". The motion was put and carried. The Chief Executive, responding to queries raised by some Members in relation to items in the report, agreed to furnish information to the Members on the various issues raised.
- 10. Submitted Report No 358/2014 of the Head of Human Resources & Corporate Services (*M. Pyne*) Corporate Plan 2015 2019. The City Council agreed to defer consideration of this report to the next meeting of the City Council to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.
- 11. Submitted Report No 338/2014 of the Executive Manager (C. Reilly) With reference to the disposal of the fee simple interest under the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) No. 2 Act 1978 in 11 premises. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 338/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 12. Submitted Report No 340/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed disposal of a lease of the childcare facility at Kilbarrack Community Building, Swan's Nest Avenue, Kilbarrack, Dublin 5. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 340/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 13. Submitted Report No 341/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed grant of a further licence of the Café Area of the Markets Area Community Resource Organisation (MACRO) Building, Green Street/North King Street, Dublin 7. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 341/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.

- 14. Submitted Report No 342/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed disposal of a plot of ground to the rear of No.'s 16 & 18 Saint Aidan's Park Avenue, Marino, Dublin 3. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 342/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 15. Submitted Report No 343/2014 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*P. Maguire*) With reference to the proposed grant of a sublease of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Ormond Building, Ormond Quay, Dublin 8. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 343/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 16. Submitted Report No 344/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed grant of a sublease of the third floor north of the Ballymun Civic Centre, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 9. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 344/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 17. Submitted Report No 345/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed disposal of the common areas in a multi- use development at Shangan Neighbourhood Centre, Ballymun, Dublin 9. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 345/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 18. Submitted Report No 346/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed disposal of the common areas in a multi-use development at Coultry Neighbourhood Centre, Ballymun, Dublin 9. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No346 /2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 19. Submitted Report No 350/2014 of the Executive Manager (*J. Keogan*) With further reference to the proposed disposal of portion to the front of 105, Crumlin Road, Dublin 12. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 350/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 20. Submitted Report No 351/2014 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*P. Maguire*) With reference to the proposed disposal of a site at Naas Road, Dublin 12. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 351/2014 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 21. Submitted Report No 349/2014 of the Chairperson of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (*Councillor Paul McAuliffe*) Breviate of meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014. It was proposed by Councillor P McAuliffe and seconded by Councillor S Haughey "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 349/2014" The motion was put and carried.

- 22. Submitted Report No 353/2014 of the Chairperson of the Finance and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee (*Councillor Ruairí McGinley*) Breviate of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014. It was proposed by Councillor R McGinley and seconded by Councillor N Reilly "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 353/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 23. The City Council agreed to take Motion 28 at this time. Accordingly, it was proposed by Councillor B Carr and seconded by Councillor D Lacey "That in line with European legislation, the Chief Executive ensures that the staff currently employed by Greyhound Household to carry out the Sheltered Housing waste collection in Dublin City Council area, be covered by the terms of TUPE if the contract is transferred to a different provider"

An Addendum to this motion was proposed by Councillor Séamas McGrattan and seconded by Councillor Mícheál MacDonncha as follows:-

"and the CEO agrees to meet a delegation of the workforce of Greyhound waste with the purpose of taking on board their concerns in relation to the sheltered housing contract and the implications of this contract being transferred to a different provider"

Following discussion and clarification of the position by the Chief Executive, the following amended motion was put and carried:-

"That in line with European legislation, the Chief Executive ensures that the staff currently employed by Greyhound Household to carry out the Sheltered Housing waste collection in Dublin City Council area, be covered by the terms of TUPE if the contract is transferred to a different provider and the CEO agrees to meet a delegation of the workforce of Greyhound waste with the purpose of taking on board their concerns in relation to the sheltered housing contract and the implications of this contract being transferred to a different provider"

- 24. Submitted Report No. 347/2014 of the North West Area Committee Breviate for the month of November 2014 *Councillor Anthony Connaghan, Chairperson.* It was proposed by Councillor S McGrattan and seconded by Councillor E Murphy "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 347/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 25. Submitted Report No. 352/2014 of the North Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of November 2014 Councillor Ciarán O'Moore, Chairperson It was proposed by Councillor M Mac Donncha and seconded by Councillor D Flanagan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 352/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 26. Submitted Report No. 357/2014 of the Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of November 2014 *Councillor Janice Boylan, Chairperson.* It was proposed by Councillor J Boylan and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 357/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 27. Submitted Report No. 355/2014 of the South Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of November 2014 – Councillor Vincent Jackson, Chairperson. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor M Flynn "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 355/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 28. Submitted Report No. 335/2014 of the South East Area Committee Breviate for the month of November 2014 Councillor Mannix Flynn, Chairperson It was proposed by

Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor M Flynn "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 335/2014" The motion was put and carried.

- 29. Submitted Report No. 339/2014 of the Protocol Committee Breviate of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014 *Councillor Dermot Lacey, Chairperson*. It was proposed by Councillor D Lacey and seconded by Councillor D Heney "That Dublin City Council adopts Report No 339/2014" The motion was put and carried.
- 30. Submitted Report No. 356/2014 of the South Central Area Joint Policing Subcommittee Breviate of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Councillor Vincent Jackson, Chairperson. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No" The motion was put and carried.
- 31. It was proposed by N Ring and seconded by Councillor C Perry "That in view of the public reaction to the recently announced Government events schedule for the centenary of the 1916 rising, the Members accept that it is incumbent on Dublin City Council to take a leading role in ensuring that, in Dublin at least, the centenary will be celebrated in a proper manner. The Members further agree that, in order to achieve the above we should:
  - a) Ensure that the budgeted amount of €200,000 allocated for 1916 events in next year's budget be increased to a minimum of €1 million, the increase coming from identified savings and unaccounted/unidentified/unrealised revenue streams.
  - b) That the Members agree that a separate 1916 committee (either separate to or as a sub-committee of the Commemorations Committee) be immediately set up with terms and reference to include publicity for the fund, conditions under which applications are taken, allocation of funds, monitoring of use etc. (a brochure on the lines of that produced by DCC in relation to Community Gain Grants could be the template)
  - c) Use the contact base developed at Area Office level to engage with groups at a local level in Dublin on their planned events.
  - d) Commit to further funding being made available in 2016 to continue support of cultural, community and historical projects relating to the Rising
  - e) Agree that such funding shall be in addition to and not in substitution for any funding which may be allocated to DCC by the Minister for Arts Culture and the Gaeltacht out of the €4m announced for non-capital projects.
  - f) Do all in our power to achieve the objective of ensuring that in Dublin, suitable, dignified and celebratory events take place to commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Rising.

An Amendment to this motion was proposed by Councillor M Mac Donncha and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan as follows :

In point (a) to delete the words after "budget" and replace with "will be revisited and increased based on a costed plan"

To amend point (b) as follows:

"That the Members agree that the Commemorations Committee should prioritise the 1916 Rising centenary and its membership should be expanded in consultation with the group leaders, with terms of reference [etc. "continuing as in original point (b)].

The following amended motion was then put and carried "That in view of the public reaction to the recently announced Government events schedule for the centenary of

the 1916 rising, the Members accept that it is incumbent on Dublin City Council to take a leading role in ensuring that, in Dublin at least, the centenary will be celebrated in a proper manner. The Members further agree that, in order to achieve the above we should:

- a) Ensure that the budgeted amount of €200,000 allocated for 1916 events in next year's budget will be revisited and increased based on a costed plan
- b) That the Members agree that the Commemorations Committee should prioritise the 1916 Rising centenary and its membership should be expanded in consultation with the group leaders, with terms of reference to include publicity for the fund, conditions under which applications are taken, allocation of funds, monitoring of use etc. (a brochure on the lines of that produced by DCC in relation to Community Gain Grants could be the template)
- c) Use the contact base developed at Area Office level to engage with groups at a local level in Dublin on their planned events.
- d) Commit to further funding being made available in 2016 to continue support of cultural, community and historical projects relating to the Rising
- e) Agree that such funding shall be in addition to and not in substitution for any funding which may be allocated to DCC by the Minister for Arts Culture and the Gaeltacht out of the €4m announced for non-capital projects.
- f) Do all in our power to achieve the objective of ensuring that in Dublin, suitable, dignified and celebratory events take place to commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Rising.
- 32. The City Council agreed to take Motions No 40 and 50 on the Agenda Paper at this time as they were on a similar subject. Accordingly, it was proposed by Councillor by Councillor K Binchy and seconded by Councillor P McCartan "That this Council agrees to commemorate with due dignity, as an integral part of the proposed Moore Street Museum, all lives lost in the 1916 uprising, including the 256 Irish civilians and 153 soldiers in British uniform, 52 of whom were Irish, who died during the uprising, in the interests of respect, tolerance and understanding" The motion was put to a vote and defeated.
- 33. It was proposed by Councillor J O'Callaghan and seconded by Councillor P McAuliffe "This Council agrees that the Centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising is an occasion of such importance that an adequate line of finance should urgently be created by management for the development in 2015 of appropriate cultural, community and civic projects to commemorate this anniversary in Dublin. Furthermore, this Council agrees that this line of finance should be allocated from Council funds, and not be dependent on whatever additional amount can be obtained by DCC from the Government's €4 million fund for the 2015 development of centenary projects for the Somme as well as the Rising by other Local Authorities, the National Cultural Institutes and other Government agencies" The motion was put and carried.
- 34. It was proposed by Councillor L O'Toole and seconded by Councillor D O'Farrell "That this Council agrees that the Chief Executive accepts responsibility for the decision to grant permission (2626/11) for the road constructed between Beaumont Hospital and Ardmore Drive//Montrose Drive, which Dublin City Council admitted was granted in error and that it puts in place a plan to have the road removed as a matter of urgency" The motion was put and carried.
- 35. It was proposed by Councillor F Kennedy and seconded by Councillor T Brabazon "That the Council recognises that the ongoing and continually increasing risk of flooding, be it from the sea, the City's rivers or the drainage system, is one of the

great infrastructural issues facing Dublin in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and resolves to put in place a plan which will scientifically identify the flood risks likely to be faced by every part of Dublin in 2100, and construct defences accordingly" The motion was put and carried.

36. The City Council agreed to take Motion No 33 on the Agenda Paper at this time as it was on a related topic. Accordingly, it was proposed by Councillor C Cuffe and seconded by Councillor T Keegan "That this Council prepares a new Climate Change Plan to replace the strategy that expired in 2012, and that the Plan contains a target of reducing carbon emissions under the control of the city by 3% per year; working with the City of Dublin Energy Management Agency and other bodies; and that this plan encourages low-carbon housing and transport solutions, and provides new blue and green layers to the city to reduce flood risk and encourage biodiversity" The motion was put and carried. Councillor D Lacey commended Mr Pat Cronin and Gerry O'Connell was their excellent work in this area.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm in accordance with Standing Orders and all items remaining on the Agenda were deferred to the next meeting of the City Council to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The Lord Mayor wished everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Correct.	
LORD MAYOR	MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

# QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 01<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2014

# Q.1 COUNCILLOR RUAIRÍ MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to deal with the urgent street flooding situation (details supplied) which is directly down to the removal of the footpath due to recent works.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A Contractor working for Dublin City Council on the Watermain Rehabilitation Project replaced water mains in **(details supplied)** earlier this year.

Dublin City Council has pursued the Contractor regarding the completion of reinstatement work following the water main installation, including the correct reinstatement of the footpath on (details supplied).

These works have now been programmed and are expected to be completed in the coming weeks.

## Q.2 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to give me an update on when he feels **(details supplied)** will be transferred to a downstairs apartment. The area office already moved the 76 year old lady, but the apartment was too small for her furniture, and she returned to her upstairs flat, she suffers with severe emphysema and badly needs a ground floor flat.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tenant was transferred from her upstairs apartment at (details supplied) to a ground floor unit at No. 30 on 15th September last. However, she returned the keys on 24th September as she considered that the different configuration of the new apartment would not accommodate all her furniture. She will be considered for any future ground floor vacancies that may arise but it should be noted that there are other applicants seeking such accommodation.

# Q.3 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for repair to the footpaths outside (details supplied).

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services attempted to repair the footpath at the above location on two previous occasions, the footpath and tar margin could not be repaired as the resident's car was parked on the footpath. Arrangements will be made again to repair this footpath and the tar margin if the resident agrees to move the car to allow the works to proceed. We will carry out the repairs to the footpath in the New Year when we have a crew available.

## Q.4 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for 'No Smoking' signs to be erected at the all-weather pitch (**details supplied**). Spectators smoking near the synthetic surface can cause considerable damage to the surface of the pitch.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No Smoking signs can be placed at the sports facility at **(details supplied).** This will be carried out by next month.

# Q.5 COUNCILLOR SEAN HAUGHEY

To ask the Chief Executive the following; (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.6 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

When applying for rent allowance all applicants must go to Dublin City Council housing section and get their rent allowance form stamped by Dublin City Council. A lot of housing applicants presume that when the council stamp this form that the council also take note of the applicant's new address - this is not the case and some applicants are removed from the housing list as the council do not have official notification of change of address. Could the Chief Executive consider changing the system and that when housing applicants come in to have their rent allowance forms stamped that;

- a. the council take note of the new address and change it on the system?
- b. that a note is handed to the applicant to instruct them to officially notify the housing section of their new address?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

When applicants first apply for housing, they sign a declaration that they must advise the City Council of any change in their circumstance. The Housing Advisory Staff are specifically required to reiterate this point to each new applicant with particular emphasis on any change of address.

Applicants regularly present to the public counter in order to have rent supplement forms completed. They may have been requested to do so by the Community Welfare Officer in order to confirm they are on the social housing waiting list. In some instances they may be changing address and the Community Welfare Officer requires confirmation that the applicant has notified the City Council.

In most of these cases, the applicant has confirmation of their new address as they are in possession of a new lease agreement. These applicant's details are amended accordingly. In other cases where the applicant presents with the form but has no confirmation of the change of address, the Allocations Staff inform the applicant that their application cannot be updated or the rent supplement form processed until the required verification is received. In these instances, the rent supplement form is not completed until the confirmation is received and the applicant must return with the information as requested in order that their application is updated and ensuring the rent supplement form is also processed accordingly.

The above policy is designed to ensure applicants maintain their correct address with the City Council. A further directive in this regard will be issued to all Allocations Staff that this policy should be strictly adhered to in order to ensure applicants current contact details are maintained.

# Q.7 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive who is responsible for the resurfacing of the **(details supplied)**? The road is an awful state and a lot of the damage when the road was being used as a base for recent works that took place in the area. Is the Council going to carry out the repairs or is the contractor who used the road as his base responsible for the repairs?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

KN carried out works in the Rialto area several months ago; The Council is responsible for the Maintenance of (details supplied). Road Maintenance Services is aware of the condition of (details supplied) and this road has been put forward for consideration for inclusion in the 2015 Road Maintenance Works Programme..

# Q.8 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the following; (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.9 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this matter (details supplied).

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.10 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this letter from housing applicant. (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.11 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he can clarify the basis and the authority, for the Dublin City Council representative supporting provision for and completion of an Eastern Bypass / Southern Port Access route at the recent An Bord Pleanála hearing on the Dublin Port planning application given that successive Dublin City Councils and indeed more recent Government decisions have ruled out the completion of that proposal and to ask the Chief Executive if he will write to An Bord Pleanála specifically confirming that in the course of the adoption of the last several City Development Plans that such a proposal was specifically deleted.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The representative for the Planning Authority indicated at the oral hearing for the redevelopment of Alexandra Basin / Berths 52 and 53, Dublin 1 that it is the stated policy of the Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017;

(SI19:To support the provision of a link between north Dublin Port and the Southern Cross/South Eastern Motorway via an eastern bypass of the city, in conjunction and co-operation with other transport bodies, the National Roads Authority and local authorities. The preferred method is by means of a bored tunnel and the preferred route is under Sandymount and Merrion Strand and Booterstown Marsh. However, the route and detailed design of the link road will be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment and all statutory requirements, including a public consultation process, by the relevant authorities. An Appropriate Assessment of the proposed project for the entire route is also required in accordance with the Habitats Directive.

It was also indicated that the submitted documentation indicates that while the proposed development is consistent with the objective of delivering the Dublin Eastern By Pass in the medium to long term <u>any proposal for the route would be</u> subject to a full separate planning process which would include the

preparation of an EIA which would determine the exact alignment and detail of the Eastern Bypass and would also be subject to an Appropriate Assessment.

# Q.12 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to erect no dumping signs at the following locations (details supplied). These are hot spots for illegal dumping but it has emerged that a lot of residents are not really aware of the new bye laws rules around presenting waste. Could the Chief Executive arrange a door knock in this area? I realise that the due to a resources issue that staff are not available to deliver information leaflets on waste bye laws and day and time of presentations of waste but if the Chief Executive were to produce a leaflet I would be more than happy to deliver it during one of my leaflet drops. I would also like to acknowledge the constant assistance and advice of Ger Toner from Dublin City Council to try and address the illegal dumping here.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Arrangements will be put in place to erect No Dumping signs at details given.

A leaflet can be provided giving the main headlines of the bye-laws together with details of where the full version can be accessed on the Dublin City Council website.

A request has been made to Waste Services for all illegally dumped bags to be searched to identify and prosecute those responsible under the 1997 Litter Pollution Act. All reports of illegal dumping should be reported to Dublin City Council Customers Services Tel No: 01 – 2221000

The South Central Area has completed its 2013 Bye Laws Pilot Scheme for the Storage, Presentation and Collection of Commercial and Domestic Waste. This area will be listed as a priority area for inclusion in any future enforcement programme.

There are a number of different waste collection companies operating in the area. Each of these companies have their own collection arrangements. It is the responsibility of these companies to communicate and advise their customers on waste collection arrangements.

#### Q.13 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive to if he will respond to the concerns about the consideration of the planning application; (details supplied).

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.14 COUNCILLOR BRENDAN CARR

Can the Chief Executive provide details of the number of households who lost out on the waiver for the collection of household waste as a result of the handover of this service to the private sector?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council exited the waste collection business in January 2012. At the time of our exit we operated a waiver system for residential households based primarily on economic grounds. As part of the conditions of the exit it was agreed that all households in receipt of a waiver at the time of our exit would have that waiver honoured for the upcoming year 2012 after which households would be required to enter into a waste collection agreement directly with Greyhound or if they preferred with any other authorised waste collection company of their choice. When we exited

the market in January 2012 there were approximately 37,000 households in receipt of waivers of one form or another from the City Council.

## Q.15 COUNCILLOR SEAN HAUGHEY

To ask the Chief Executive the following (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.16 COUNCILLOR SEAN HAUGHEY

To ask the Chief Executive the following; (details supplied).

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.17 LORD MAYOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive what role Dublin City Council would play, and what plans are in place with Dublin City Council in the event of a case in Dublin City of Ebola.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Fire Brigade in its role of the provision of an Emergency Ambulance Service may attend incidents where Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is suspected. A policy has been developed by the Brigade to enable personnel safely manage such incidents.

The policy covers the emergency control centre's triage of calls, an enhanced response for incident command at scene and additional support for ambulance personnel, the EVD risk assessment tool for use by ambulance personnel at scene, the remote risk assessment by the Infectious Disease Consultant in the National Isolation Unit (NIU), the necessary Personal Protective Equipment that is required to be worn by crews, the arrangements for the transport of the patient to the NIU, the decontamination procedure post patient handover and the requirements for the notification of Public Health.

# Q.18 LORD MAYOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive if all road works in the City will halt during December.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

All roads/streets in Dublin City have been graded according to their importance as strategic traffic routes by assigning Traffic Impact Numbers 1 to 5, where Impact Numbers 1 and 2 include lightly trafficked routes and Numbers 3, 4 and 5 are the heavily trafficked routes. Having regard to the need to minimise the disruption to traffic caused by road works the City Council has decided that no roadworks, other than emergency roadworks, permanent reinstatement works, certain Luas works and other major infrastructural works will be permitted on roads with Traffic Impact Numbers 3, 4 and 5 up to the 6th December. After that, no road works, other than emergencies, Luas works and certain major infrastructural works, will be permitted on roads with Traffic Impact Numbers 3, 4 and 5 in the run up to Christmas.

## Q.19 LORD MAYOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to ask the Parks Dept. to remove the growth along the wall and railings on the green area of (details supplied):

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The vegetation referred to above was removed from the location during the third week of November 2014.

## Q.20 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to a person (details supplied) who is seeking local authority housing for herself and her young daughter and say;

- 1. When it is likely she will be accommodated?
- 2. Will she be offered accommodation under both,
  - a) Council housing list
  - b) Voluntary housing list?
- 3. If she needs to contact the City Council in relation to voluntary housing or if she is on this list already?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The applicant (details supplied) is on the housing list in 1017th position for Area B (Kilbarrack/Raheny/Darndale) and for housing in the Voluntary Sector. Unfortunately, based on this position it will be some time before she is reached for an offer of accommodation.

# Q.21 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

Can the Chief Executive please refer to tree at **(details supplied)**, the low hanging/growing branches of which are posing a serious hazard to passers-by and to patients attending the nearby medical and dental practices and say if he can arrange to have same seriously cut back/pruned as local people feel someone is going to get hurt by low hanging branches of this huge tree which were swaying heavily during recent stormy weather and which also seriously blocks light from the home the tree is fronting?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks and Landscape Services have inspected the tree concerned; it is proposed to carry out pruning works on this tree in 2015, subject to the necessary resources being available.

# Q.22 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to dangerously over-hanging trees from (details supplied) and say if he will arrange to have the householders responsible to cut back the overhanging branches/bushes as they are a danger to pedestrians, particularly children running, senior citizens and wheelchair users?

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Road Maintenance Services will issue hedge cutting notices to the relevant home owners along (details supplied) in the coming 1-2 weeks.

## Q.23 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive to refer to public light at **(details supplied)** which has been out or order for over 3 weeks now and say if he can arrange to have same repaired as soon as possible?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The light at House (details supplied) was repaired on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

# Q.24 COUNCILLOR REBECCA MOYNIHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to address the housing issues of (details supplied):

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.25 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Will the Chief Executive erect railings along the low boundary wall of Vincent Street similar to the railings around the playground as there is a significant amount of dumping because of where the bins are situated.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no resources currently to carry out these works.

The complex will be examined in relation to the possible relocation of the waste bins and a report issued to the Councillor in due course.

## Q.26 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Has there ever been any vehicles clamped on Duke Lane Lower, Dublin 2 and if so when was this and how many?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Following on from a question to the South East Area Committee received in August the Council's Parking Enforcement Contractor, Dublin Street Parking Services (DSPS) has attended this location on eight occasions over the past three months. One vehicle was clamped in September for a Double Yellow Line offence. On all other visits the location was not enforceable as there was either no illegal parking, drivers on board vehicles (a vehicle cannot be clamped with someone on board), vehicles drove away or the vehicles were actively loading / unloading (vehicles actively loading / unloading are permitted to park on Double Yellow Lines for a maximum of 30 minutes). DSPS have been instructed to continue monitoring the location on an ongoing basis and enforce as applicable.

## Q.27 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Will the Chief Executive have the tree at (details supplied) cut back as it has become an extremely large tree and is blocking the light out of the rooms in this house.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tree at the above mentioned location has been scheduled for pruning work over the winter months.

#### Q.28 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he could advise this very worried tenant of **(details supplied)** who had a valve burst on her washing machine recently, who immediately contacted Dublin City Council, who called out and according to them stopped the leak. Subsequently the water seeped through to the flat below and the tenant in that flat is seeking compensation. The tenant of detailed supplied does not have insurance and is seeking clarification that Dublin City Council is responsible in the circumstances for their tenant below.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The tenant in (details supplied 1) contacted the City Council depot to state she had a problem with the stop cock and was advised by local staff at the council depot not to turn the water off until a Dublin City Council plumber came out the next day. However, the tenant in details supplied 1 went ahead and tried to turn the water off

and in doing so caused damage to the stop cock and a pipe, which runs through the flat complex. The result of this was that the water leaked down into the flat below, details supplied 2, causing damage to the lino and furniture in this flat and the tenant of details supplied 2 had to remove all the lino in her flat and her furniture was left in water as it sits directly on the floor. This tenant in **(details supplied 2)** was very distressed, particularly as she has two young children and she had to move into her mother's flat as a result of the dampness in her own flat.

While the tenant in (**details supplied 1**) has stated that she does not have insurance and wants clarification that Dublin City Council is responsible for the tenant below, this is not entirely accurate as she is the person who caused this flood. Obviously this tenant is stating that she has no means to compensate her neighbour below, even though she caused the flood. However, as Dublin City Council has a duty of care to the tenant in (**details supplied 2**), an offer by way of an ex-gratia payment will be made to her in order to assist her in replacing the lino and furniture to make the flat habitable for her to go back into.

# Q.29 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.30 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.31 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.32 COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.33 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue a full report regarding the NYE Festival. The report to include all financial arrangements and grants and monies given to this initiative since its inception. All facilities in lieu. A full breakdown of all contractual arrangements and procurement processes and artists fees. A complete breakdown of all personnel and companies involved.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Following discussions with Fáilte Ireland in early 2014 on foot of the success of the New Year Festivals in the previous three years 2011-2013, it was agreed to maintain the Fáilte Ireland / Dublin City Council Partnership approach to deliver a Dublin New Year Festival for a further period of five years.

A procurement process conducted by lead partner Fáilte Ireland, in association with Dublin City Council, resulted in a new contractor, Holohan Leisure being appointed to programme and deliver the New Year Festival via a Concession Agreement between Fáilte Ireland and Leisure Project management Ltd. T/A Holohan Leisure, for a three year period to February 2017. Under the terms of a Concession Agreement, which in this case provides for the financial contributions of the funding partners, the Contractor bears all the risks and responsibility for the provision of the services and is also entitled to retain any profit arising in the course of provision of the services. It is a matter for Holohan Leisure to enter into contractual arrangements with other parties to deliver the services and the funding partners have no involvement or entitlement to details of contractual negotiations between Holohan Leisure and any third party.

The annual cash contributions committed by the partners are €200,000 (excl.) VAT by Fáilte Ireland and €100,000 (excl VAT) by Dublin City Council. These cash contributions will be supplemented by in-kind support, in the case of Dublin City Council it is estimated that in-kind support to the value of approx. €100,000 will be provided to the Festival. This will include use of public spaces, promotional activity and waiver of some fees/charges. Dublin City Council's annual financial contribution will be transferred directly to Fáilte Ireland to fund the festival in accordance with the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding, separate to the Concession Agreement. This includes a stipulation that Dublin City Council financial contribution is to be directed towards the elements of the Festival programme that are either free to the public or in the case of entry fee charging cultural attractions, result in no additional charges over and above the normal cost of entry.

The New Year's Eve Countdown Concert and Procession of Light which are the core public events of the Festival will be the subject of a Public Event Licence application under Part XVI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Planning & Development Regulations 2001.

Dublin City Council is represented on the NYF Project Monitoring Group. This group is in place to address any issues arising which may impact on the performance of the Concession Agreement and to agree milestones, compliance schedules and operational protocols.

# Q.34 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue a full report regarding the setting up of a Christmas market in and around St Stephens Green. This report to include what arrangements were made with Dublin City Council traffic. What arrangements were made with Dublin City Council Community Department? What arrangements were made with the markets and traders in the public domain committee? What public safety checks have been carried out by Dublin City Council? What arrangements were made with the operators of horse drawn carriages and taxi ranks at this location? Who issued the licenses? What was Dublin City Council not informed of this not withstanding the disregard for the South East Area representatives on this matter. Also can the Chief Executive clarify the amount of correspondence he has received with regard to this particular market and its impediment? Also what planning arrangements and applications were adhered to with regards the setting up and construction of this market? Can the Chief Executive clarify whether this particular market is in breach of Dublin City Council planning laws?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Christmas Market on St. Stephen's Green is an initiative of Dublin Town (formerly Dublin City BID) that was formally launched by Brian Hayes, Minister of

State at the Office of Public Works (OPW) in May 2014. Research carried out by Dublin City BID demonstrated that Christmas markets have proven successful in attracting significant visitor numbers into city and town centres in Ireland and abroad encouraging people to shop and absorb the city centre festive spirit. It is estimated that the St. Stephen's Green Market, which runs from mid-November until 23<sup>rd</sup> December, will attract a footfall in excess of 600,000, generating an additional €20m for the city centre economy and creating 150 seasonal jobs.

The infrastructure for the Market is located primarily on OPW property on St. Stephen's Green North with permission granted to the Market Operator, Milestone Inventive Ltd., by the National Historic Properties Section of OPW.

As the impact of the market affects the public domain under the control of Dublin City Council the Events Unit sought to be included in the process and offered to assist OPW using our established procedures to co-ordinate the inputs of a range of statutory agencies with the objectives of facilitating the safe operation of the market while minimising the disruption and impact on others city stakeholders.

A draft Event Management Plan was submitted to Dublin City Council Events Unit on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October. This was processed in the normal way by the Events Unit i.e. the draft plan was circulated to all relevant statutory agencies for information and feedback. These include Dublin City Council Departments, i.e. Roads & Traffic, South East Area Office, Waste Management, Building Control, Dublin Fire Brigade; An Garda Siochána, Environmental Health (HSE), Dublin Bus, Luas, etc.

A series of discussions and site meetings took place with Milestone Inventive at which the requirements of the various agencies and stakeholders were examined for incorporation into a revised Draft Event Management Plan. These requirements included event management structure and responsibilities; site facilities and suppliers, stakeholder engagement; risk assessments; environmental monitoring; building and decommissioning of structures; site stewarding; emergency and evacuation procedures; pedestrian traffic management etc.;

A full statutory agency meeting, including representatives of OPW, Dublin City Council, Dublin Town, Milestone Inventive, An Garda Siochána, Dublin Fire Brigade, HSE Environmental Health and Luas Cross City was held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Following that meeting permission was granted by OPW for construction of the market to commence on-site on Sunday morning 9<sup>th</sup> November. This timeframe was deemed to be the least disruptive time to allow construction to be carried out to ensure that the market could be ready to operate on November 13<sup>th</sup> as planned.

A further full statutory agency meeting was held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November at which a number of outstanding operational matters were identified. These were satisfactorily resolved in the following days in consultation with the relevant agencies. The final Event Management Plan was approved by Dublin City Council and OPW granted permission for the market to open to the public on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

The operation of the Market will be subject to regular inspection, monitoring and review by a number of agencies for its duration and the market operator Milestone Inventive will be required to address any issues arising during that period.

A minimal amount of direct correspondence has been received by Dublin City Council in relation to the market. We are aware that related matters have been raised in writing with OPW by a local business owner and there have been three telephone calls received by the Events Unit in relation to different aspects of the Market.

This market is not in breach of Dublin City Council planning laws.

The 2014 Christmas Market is being operated on a trial basis. Any decision to facilitate the market in future years will be informed by review and feedback received from multiple agencies on this year's experience. To date the feedback has been generally positive. Research conducted by Dublin Town on the first 10 days of operation has indicated as follows:

- 158,000 people have visited the market
- Footfall has increased significantly in the general Grafton and South King Street compared to the same time period last year.

A sample of 433 market visitors surveyed found as follows:

- 100% of respondents say the market is good for the city,
- 71% of visitors say the market encouraged them to shop elsewhere in the city centre.
- 87% of visitors said the market is an incentive to encourage them to shop in the city centre over suburban shopping centres,
- 84% of visitors said they will visit the market again before it finishes on Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 99% of people said they would like to see the market return again in 2015.

## Q.35 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue a full report as to the amount of Dublin City Council staff on any external boards or companies. Also this report to include how much grant aid or financial subsidy is given to these companies, bodies or entities that have Dublin City Council staff as board members.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The information required in this question is in the process of being compiled and reviewed and will be supplied to the Councillor when the work has been completed.

## Q.36 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue a full report with regard the safety of the Christmas lights which are now in operation throughout the city. This report to include a full report and audit of public and fire safety that would have been carried out by the Dublin Fire Brigade Chief Fire Officer. Also, what planning arrangements or applications are used in this process? Further, are there any fees paid to Dublin City Council for the use of our streets regarding the Christmas lights and Christmas tree events that are initiated by a private company? There are grave concerns with regards the safety and electrical standards of wiring etc in certain streets that avail of the Christmas lights.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With the exception of O'Connell Street, Dublin City Council has no involvement with the Christmas Lights installed in the city centre. The Dublin Business Improvement District (BID) office looks after the installation of the Christmas lights in the rest of the city centre.

Public Lighting Services is involved with the lighting of O'Connell Street and approximately 2/3 of the Christmas trees installed around the city. The remaining Christmas trees installed around the city are looked after directly by the local area offices and Public Lighting Services & Electrical Services have no involvement with these trees.

# **Lights for Christmas Trees:**

All the lights used by Public Lighting Services for the Christmas trees and the small trees are extra low voltage lights (running at 12V or 24V). All light sets are tested each year before they are installed. They are tested on site after installation also.

There is a permanent supply in place for each of the trees. All light sets are fused through appropriate MCBs/RCBOs at the supply point. Some of the trees have fireman switches, but not all. We are currently in the process of putting all the trees onto metered supplies, and as part of this process we will be installing new fireman switches where possible.

The connections for the lights are made via low-voltage safety transformers located at the base of the trees and the bases of the trees are surrounded with a small fence and covered in to prevent access.

With regards to the trees that are looked after completely by the local area offices and have no involvement from either Electrical Services or Public Lighting Services, it is up to the area office to ensure that the lights they use are extra low voltage and that they appoint a registered, competent electrical contractor to test and install all the lights on these trees.

# Lights for small trees around GPO plaza:

The lights used by Public Lighting Services for the small trees around the GPO Plaza are extra low voltage lights. All light sets are tested before they are installed. They are tested on site after installation also. All light sets are fused through appropriate MCBs/RCBOs at the supply point. A temporary supply for the small trees around the GPO Plaza is used each year.

# Festive Motifs installed on the main public lighting poles along both sides of O'Connell Street:

These motifs are tested each year before installation. They are supplied from a supply via time-clocks located inside the PL poles.

Installations Section lights 4 No. outdoor Christmas Trees in public places.

We light 3 No. trees at Ballyfermot Civic Centre, Eamonn Ceannt Park and Donore Avenue Community Centre respectively. Permanent provision for electricity supply to each of these trees is in place. Each of these trees has an accessible Fireman's switch permanently installed some distance from the tree which allows the electricity supply to the tree to be isolated in the event of fire. The mains supply is connected to a metal-clad distribution board, which is fixed to the trunk of the tree. This feeds low voltage safety transformers, fixed to the trunk of the tree that feed the lights. Each tree is surrounded by a fence about 1m high.

We also light the tree at the Mansion House. The mains connection there is made at the basement level, not accessible to the public. There is not a fireman's switch for the tree at the Mansion House.

All the lights on the four trees are supplied at 24 Volts. These lights are electrically safe, even if they are interfered with.

Due to the temporary nature of the lighting, there is not normally a requirement for planning permission.

# Q.37 COUNCILLOR PADDY BOURKE

Will the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.38 COUNCILLOR PADDY BOURKE

Would the Chief Executive ensure (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.39 COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE

Can the Chief Executive repair the pavement outside (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.40 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the **(details supplied)** to be converted into a Hurling Wall for the **(details supplied)**. This club is prepared to build the wall and have their own surveyor. The club is expanding this site or an alternative site would be a great advantage, and the wall would be a great benefit to the young children in the area and in the club to learn the art of hurling.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Council Depot at **(details supplied)** is still in use by Park Services Staff and can therefore not be considered for this proposal as yet.

# Q.41 COUNCILLOR RUAIRÍ MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to outline the total operation of ambulance service in Dublin region, which to say how many ambulances do Dublin Fire Brigade operate, how many ambulances do HSE operate, how many total 999 calls are received in Dublin Region and what is the split between HSE and DFB in responding to such calls. The Chief Executive should out the pattern of the combined number of calls in the past 3 years and comment on the sustainability of current arrangements in terms of response time, suitable equipment and personnel having regard to the normal daily pattern of the time of receipt of 999 calls.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin Fire Brigade operate 12 Emergency Ambulances on a 24/7 basis 365 days a year, for most of the city and part of the county of Dublin. We are not aware of the number of dedicated emergency ambulances provided by the National Ambulance Service.

Figures supplied by BT, ECAS show that Dublin Fire Brigade handled 111,762 (39%) of the 289,168 emergency calls nationally in 2013. Dublin Fire Brigade responded to 73,240 incidents and NAS responded to 8,076 out of the 111,762 emergency calls processed by Dublin Fire Brigade.

Dublin Fire Brigade has supplied 3 years data for analysis to Lightfoot (a UK company who have been engaged by the HSE to carry out a National Capacity Review) to determine the necessary resources required for the provision of the ambulance service.

# Q.42 COUNCILLOR RUAIRÍ MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to set out in respect of the 3 years 2012, 2013 and 2104 to date the number of instances that the fire brigade responded to commercial and domestic fire callouts, the number of bills raised in each period, the invoice values in each period and the cash collected to date. The Chief Executive should set out the steps being taken to recover any unpaid amounts. The Chief Executive should comment if he sees possible scope to increase revenue from this source.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Statistics on Fire Charges 2012-2014 at 24th Nov. 2014

Year	2012	2013	2014
No. of Incidents	1,342	1,386	1,148
COMMERCIAL			
NO. OF INVOICES	684	605	600
RAISED (Including false			
alarms).			
Collectable	€508,402	€533,282	€670,066
PAID TO DATE	€407,102	€357,662	€203,931
Percentage collected	80.07%	67.06%	30.43%
DOMESTIC			
NO. OF INVOICES	819	996	990
RAISED (includes			
RTA's & false alarms)			
Collectable	€328,720	€420,402	€449,691
PAID TO DATE	€196,803	€247,452	€237,696
Percentage collected	59.86%3	58.86%	52.86%

In cases where bills have not been paid, reminders are automatically generated at intervals of 30 days, 60 days and 90 days. If the invoice still remains outstanding, a further letter is issued by the Fire Brigade Accounts Section and followed up at intervals by means of further letters. Every effort is made by Dublin Fire Brigade to facilitate the recipient for payment of the service provided, in some cases arrangements are put in place where payment can be made by instalments.

## Q.43 COUNCILLOR KATE O'CONNELL

To ask the Chief Executive, given the large volume of complaints received about the operators of the city's waste services, if there are any plans afoot to take a more active role in the monitoring of the situation, such as: creating an oversight committee, introducing/enforcing penalties for poor service, altering the bye laws etc. If not, why is it felt that this is unnecessary?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Waste Operators are currently obligated to adhere to the terms of their waste collection permit and the City Councils Bye-Laws for the Storage, Presentation & Collection of Household & Commercial Waste in terms of their waste collection operations.

As customers primary relationship/contract for their waste service is with their waste operator it is difficult for the City Council to intervene on certain aspects of that contract particularly in terms of issues regarding poor service, collection frequencies and charging mechanisms. There are also Data Protection considerations which preclude the City Council from obtaining information in that regard.

In addition the current regulatory regime also does not have provisions for penalties concerning issues around customer service, collection frequency or charging. The Government is planning to introduce legislation in 2015 which will address those matters and the City Council will await that legislation before determining if any alterations are required to current Bye-Laws.

The main provisions of the current Bye-Laws are as follows:

- Waste Operators are only be able to collect waste in defined areas on a designated day.
- All holders of waste to have their waste collected by an approved collector or disposed of at an approved facility.
- Waste collection times will be from 6am to 9pm (8am to 8pm weekends and Bank Holidays) with the exception of the City Centre Commercial District where collections will be restricted to 7pm to midnight.
- Customers and waste collectors must be clearly indentified on waste containers (including bags).

In the period Jan 2013 to end of October 2014 there have been 303 fines issued to Waste Operators for Bye-Law breaches.

## Q.44 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

In answer to Q.64, November Council meeting, the Chief Executive referred to "a preliminary feasibility study [that] has identified the need to have flood gates at the 14 openings on the promenade with some slight rising (100 - 250mm) of the existing sea wall at limited locations". When was this feasibility study undertaken and by whom?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This feasibility study was carried out mainly in 2013, by the Regional Projects and Emergency Services Division (now Regional Projects and Emergency Services Office) of Dublin City Council.

## Q.45 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

In answer to Q.64, November Council meeting, the Chief Executive said that the "highest tide ever recorded in Dublin City occurred on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 with very minor local flooding in Sandymount". Does the Chief Executive acknowledge:

- (a) that the flood risk is greatest when there is a combination of high tide, low atmospheric pressure and onshore winds and rainfall?;
- (b) that in fact we were not seriously tested on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 because there was only moderate pressure and westerly winds of about 28 knots?; and
- (c) a much more significant test will arise when there is a combination very high tides, Easterly storm force winds with rainfall and pressure in the 950's or lower? [Weather data is available at <a href="http://www.met.ie/climate/daily-data.asp">http://www.met.ie/climate/daily-data.asp</a>]

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- (a) High Astronomical Tides, low atmospheric pressure, southerly winds and heavy rainfall give the highest tidal surge and risk of tidal flooding from a relatively static tide.
  - High Astronomical Tides, low atmospheric pressure, easterly winds and heavy rainfall give the highest risk of tidal flooding from wave action.
- (b) The high tide on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014, which peaked at 3.014m Malin Head, had an associated atmospheric pressure of 976hPa and an Irish Sea wind of 32knots from a south south westerly direction. There was also a standing wave in

Dublin Bay. All of this gave a surge of 1.014m above the Astronomical Hightide level, one of the largest on record.

The previous highest tide on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2002 had a slightly higher pressure but a stronger southerly wind and reached a recorded level of 2.95m Malin Head at Alexandra basin in the Docklands. It flooded over 1250 buildings in Irishtown, South Lotts, Shamrock Cottages, Ossory Road, Sandymount, Clontarf and elsewhere in the City causing an estimated €60m in damages. €25m of flood alleviation works in the meantime have reduced this tidal risk quite significantly.

(c) Yes, high astronomical tides, storm force easterly winds (80km/hr or higher) and atmospheric pressure around 950hPa plus significant rainfall would give a higher tide with wave action, but this is likely to occur approximately once every 2,000 years.

# Q.46 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

Does the Chief Executive believe that it would (a) save Council officials time, and (b) lead to either a reduction or an increase in red tape and bureaucracy, if, as condition of receiving grants/funding etc from Dublin City Council, any applicant/group was required to be compliant with the Governance Code in order to be eligible? [http://www.governancecode.ie/organisations.php]

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

This is an issue currently under consideration by the Culture Recreation Amenity and Community Department who provide Grants for Arts, Community Development and Sport to a variety of Groups. We would need to give reasonable notice to Groups to enable them to comply if not already compliant with relevant Codes of Governance and such a rule might not be appropriate for very small Grants. We will report back to Council further in due course.

#### Q.47 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

Local residents had been assured that after the Google Bridge on Barrow St was completed (which completion took place at the end of June) there was a plan to resurface Barrow St and also to reduce traffic by making the traffic under the bridge operate one way only. What are the exact details of what is planned on Barrow St and when will the plan be implemented?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A Part 8 application for public realm and traffic management works was approved by the City Council in December 2012 (planning ref: 3054/12). The approved traffic management works include the provision of a one-way system under the bridge.

It is intended that the carriageway north and south of the bridge be two way, but that only north bound traffic i.e. one way traffic will be permitted under the bridge. This would result in traffic coming from Upper Grand Canal Street being able to travel northwards down Barrow Street all the way to Ringsend Road, but traffic travelling southwards from Ringsend Road will terminate at the railway bridge. This system is required to facilitate the provision of a wider footpath under the bridge where, particularly at peak times, there are high volumes of pedestrian traffic and very narrow footpaths. In this respect, the footpath on the western side would be increased in width to approx 3.5m while the footpath on the eastern side of the road would remain the same width. This will increase the space available for pedestrians coming and going from the DART station.

The traffic management measures will not be put in place until such time as construction is complete on the physical environmental improvements to Barrow Street. The commencement of these works could not take place until the completion of the Google Bridge and other developments on the street.

The bridge is now in place and Dublin City Council has contacted Google with a view to progressing the public realm works as soon as is practicable.

#### Q.48 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Would the Chief Executive explain why the residents of York Street apartments have to pay a standing charge of 17 euro every two months for the heating of water and heating of radiators, bearing in mind that there is a solar panel on the apartments that heats the water and can he explain how the 17 euro standing charge was arrived at and confirm that the solar panel is working?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The standing charges are based on the average rate this is applied by all other utility suppliers.

In relation to the solar panels, 3 of the 5 solar panel systems are in working order with the other 2 requiring some maintenance work. The solar panels are for hot water only and do not heat the apartments. Notwithstanding this, the solar panels will always require a back-up from the gas powered boilers to heat water during periods of poor sunlight and bad weather.

# Q.49 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN O'MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.50 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN O'MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.51 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN O'MOORE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.52 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive how many (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

#### Q.53 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.54 <u>COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN</u>

To ask the Chief Executive what bye laws govern (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.55 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.56 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive provide a comprehensive list of the Off Licences or Part Off Licences which have submitted planning applications since the introduction of the current Dublin City Development Plan as per my question (Q.181) to the July City Council meeting? Can he also detail if the application was granted or refused?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

PLAN REF	LOCATION	DECISION DATE	REGISTERED DATE	DECISION	Final Grant
4190/10	35, Dorset Street Lower, Dublin 1	11/07/2011	14/06/2011	Granted	26/08/2011
4191/10	Site at junction of Swords Road and Schoolhouse Lane and Magenta Crescent, Santry, Dublin 9	16/09/2011	22/08/2011	Granted	27/08/2012
2365/11	Spar, 5, Fitzmaurice Rd, Ballygall, Finglas, Dublin 11	24/10/2011	04/10/2011	Granted	07/12/2011
2707/11	KCR Convenience Stores & Wine Warehouse, 140, Terenure Road West, Dublin 6w	07/07/2011	17/05/2011	Granted	19/08/2011
3244/11	Spar Units 1-2, Chandlers Guild, James St, Dublin 8	21/10/2011	05/09/2011	Refused	N/A
3755/11	Retail Unit 1, Ground Floor , The Oval, 160, Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4	21/02/2012	21/12/2011	Granted	05/04/2011
2093/12	Site of former Sunday Newspapers Offices, 18, Rathfarnham Rd and Beechlawn Way, Terenure, Dublin 6W	28/05/2012	10/05/2012	Granted	18/02/2013
2653/12	18/19, College Green, Dublin 2	18/07/2012	25/05/2012	Refused	30/11/2012
2670/12	47-51, Decies Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10	24/07/2012	30/05/2012	Granted	12/12/2012
2720/12	No's 20-22 (Annesley Motors), 22B, 23, 24 And 25 And 26 Ballybough Road, Ballybough, Dublin 3	02/01/2013	28/11/2012	Refused	11/07/2013
3318/12	Lidl Store, Junction Of, North Road, & St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11	11/10/2012	04/10/2012	Invalid	N/A

3365/12	Lidl Store, Junction Of, North Road, & St. Margaret's Road,	10/12/2012	16/10/2012	Granted	29/01/2013
	Finglas, Dublin 11				
2567/13	48, Clontarf Road, Clontarf,	30/07/2013	09/07/2013	Granted	02/09/2013
	Dublin 3				
2177/14	The Maple Centre, Navan	25/02/2014	07/02/2014	Invalid	N/A
	Road, Cabra, Dublin 7				
2259/14	45, Temple Bar, Dublin 2	15/04/2014	21/02/2014	Granted	28/05/2014
2406/14	The Maple Centre, Navan	26/03/2014	21/03/2014	Invalid	N/A
	Road, Cabra, Dublin 7				
2454/14	The Maple Centre, Navan	15/05/2014	28/03/2014	Deferred	N/A
	Road, Cabra, Dublin 7				
3484/14	27, Ballybough Road,	14/11/2014	06/10/2014	Deferred	N/A
	Ballybough, Dublin 3				
3532/14	11A, 12, 13 & 14A, Kevin Street	N/A	14/10/2014	Pending	N/A
	Upper, Dublin 8				

# Q.57 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.58 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.59 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.60 COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.61 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

In relation to the former DDDA area can the Chief Executive comment on the following?

A number of companies have changed their signage in the area, apparently without planning permission.

The Point is now called the '3 Arena' and has been covered in advertising that breaches the DDDA Shopfront and Signage policy, as well as Dublin City Council regulations. This is a conservation area and the building is a protected structure. Permission was refused on 26-8-2014 (Planning reference 0224/14. (The new advertising signage is significantly larger and illuminated, compared to the previous O2 signage. Like the Aviva Stadium, this signage is not meant as advertising signage and it is meant to 'name' the building. If '3' thought this was an exempted

development why did they apply for planning in the first place and when it was refused then claim exempted development?

'3' have placed new advertising on the 'O2' offices on Sir John Rogerson's Quay and again this new adverting sign is in breach of the guidelines. The new advertising sign is at least twice the size of the old sign and very bright. A planning application doesn't appear to have been lodged.

The AIG building on the corner of North Wall Quay and Guild Street has new (illuminate) advertising signage placed at the upper level. Permission was refused on 26-4-2014. (As noted in the Dublin City Council refusal to the Spencer Hotel and the subsequent refusal of the Hotel by An Bord Pleanála, this is an area of conservation, and the unauthorised illuminated signage breaches the Dublin City Council and DDDA guidelines. Previously the AIG building had the company name above the entrance door in a manner consistent with the DDDA guidelines [no illumination etc.). (Planning reference 2115/14) Has AIG proceeded without permission?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

#### 3 Arena

Planning permission is not required to change the name of a business or the name by which its building is known. Planning permission was granted by the Dublin Docklands Development Authority for the original signs (Planning references DD496 and DD533 refer). These signs were replaced recently by new signs reflecting the new name by which the building is known.

Normally, planning permission is not required for such replacement signs. However, as the building is included in the Council's Record of Protected Structures, the normal planning exemptions for replacement signs do not necessarily apply. To clarify the situation, the owner lodged an application in August 2014 for a determination under section 5 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2013 as to whether "the replacement of the existing 5 no. external signs at The O2, North Wall Quay, Dublin Docklands, Dublin 1 with signage at the same locations and of the same type, size and illumination to comprise of the new sponsor's name is or is not development and/or is not exempted development".

Having considered the request, the Council decided that the colour scheme of the replacement signs materially affected the character of the structure and, as a result, their installation does not qualify as exempted development. This decision has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála and the Board's decision is due in January 2015.

A complaint concerning these signs was received by the Council's Planning Enforcement Section in September 2014. In accordance with the provisions of section 152 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2013, a warning letter pursuant has been sent to the owners and the matter is under investigation. As the aforementioned application was lodged with the Board before the complaint was received, it is considered reasonable to await the Board's decision before deciding whether to issue an enforcement notice.

#### 28/29 Sir John Rogersons Quay, Dublin 2

A planning application (DDDA planning reference DD674) for the replacement of existing  ${}^{'}O_2{}^{'}$  Signs was certified by the Authority on 23 September 2014. The permission includes:

- 2 high level stainless steel back-lit '3' logos on the north and east elevations

- 1 no. stainless steel '3' logo on the north elevation beside entrance doors
- 1 no. external street level sign at the front of the building

This development is required to allow for the re-branding of the office block by Hutchison 3G Ireland Ltd. 'three'. Signs at these locations has been previously certified under DDDA planning references DD343 and DD634.

No third party observations were received by the Authority in respect of the recent application.

## AIG building

A planning application (DDDA planning reference DD052) was certified by the Authority on 11 March 1999 for high level signage to a previously approved 5-storey over basement office block (DDDA planning reference DD028 refers). The Planners Report stated "the two signs are to be erected on the south east corner of the AIG office building on the balustrades at fourth floor level. The signs consist of individual letters in stainless steel and it is indicated that they will likely be back-lit. They measure 1m in height. The design, scale, materials and location are appropriate to the building."

Permission was refused by Dublin City Council for the installation of four illuminated painted aluminium signs, two at roof level and two above the ground floor glazing. This decision was not appealed. Information has been received recently that the proposed signs have been installed despite the refusal of permission. This development is under investigation.

## Q.62 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the projected costs of fees for all consultants engaged by Dublin City Council for the last 3 years and to provide a breakdown by Service Division of these fees.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Attached is a spreadsheet of the requested information

## Q.63 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

To ask the Chief Executive to provide the projected costs of fees for all private contractors, on contract to the Housing or Environment & Transportation departments, excluding consultants, engaged by Dublin City Council for the last 3 years and to provide a breakdown by Service Division of these fees. This question applies only to contracts awarded following a tendering process (over the value of €25,000).

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

**Housing Department** 

YEAR	TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIVATE CONTRACTORS (EXCLUDING CONSULTANTS)	TOTAL AMOUNT PAID
2012	38	€ 24.971,315
2013	56	€ 47,875,329
2014 TO DATE	55	€ 37,107,506

This involves a detailed and comprehensive examination of Manager's Order's. It is not possible to provide all the information in the time available prior to this meeting. A more comprehensive reply will be forwarded to the Councillor when available.

**Environment and Transportation Department** 

Livironnient and ma	insportation Department	
	TOTAL NUMBER OF PRIVATE	
YEAR	CONTRACTORS (EXCLUDING	TOTAL AMOUNT
	CONSULTANTS)	PAID
	**Parking Enforcement:-	
	Parking Meters/Enforcement	
2012	3	€8,019,795
2013	3	€7,147,503
<b>2014 TO DATE</b>	3	€6,274,795
	Drainage Division	
2012	4	€389,515
2013	3	€864,579
2014 TO DATE	2	€421,750
	Waste Management Division: -	
	(a) Recycling Services	
2012	1	€704,430
2013	1	€653,872
2014	1	€594,988
	(b) Street Cleaning Services	
2012	2	€688,533
2013	2	€862,216
2014	2	€526,388
	(c) Fleet Management Services	
2012	7	€5,293,432
2013	7	€4,194,241
2014	7	€3,255,368

<sup>\*\*</sup>Parking Enforcement also has a contractual arrangement with Payzone for the Parking Tag (Pay by phone) service, however, no invoices are raised and no direct payments are made. A percentage of the Parking Tag income is retained by Payzone for provision of the service.

# Q.64 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

That the following be looked into (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.65 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

That the long awaited door replacement for (details supplied) be done before Christmas.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.66 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

That the following be looked at (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.67 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

The following be done on compassionate grounds (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.68 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to confirm that no accrual was included in the 2014 actual or 2015 budget figures in respect of the loss of income from the 440 (approx) parking bays permanently removed to facilitate the Luas Cross City project as detailed in answer to my question (no. 48) at last month's City Council meeting. Also, to ask for an update on the discussions taking place with NTA and the RPA on a compensation package for this permanent loss of revenue.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It is confirmed that there was no income accrual provided for in the 2014 or 2015 Budgets re potential income that might be recovered from the RPA in respect of lost revenues as a result of LUAS works (Roads Accounts). The figure in the estimates is the figure we have recived (2014 revised) or expect to receive (2015 estimate) in actual parking meter receipts. The discussions with the RPA / NTA are ongoing and the form and level of compensation have yet to be agreed.

# Q.69 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail the current status of the 21 Castleforbes/Northbank units, specifically to indicate a completion date and negotiated cost of the units. (The original amount of €4,679,808 has, I understand, been negotiated downwards with NAMA)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

While it is a requirement of the existing agreement that the Council should purchase 21 units - the location of the units within the scheme including the size of the units and floor on which they are located has not been decided and these decisions will influence price. Negotiations are ongoing between the owner's representatives and the Council's Valuers Section but a price is not yet agreed.

Housing is anxious to rationalise its purchase so that all the units are located close together to provide better management services to social housing tenants. The units being acquired by the Council will be a minimum of 21 and may be as many as 26 i.e. the entire residential content of one block and they should be available for occupation in the Autumn of 2015.

Although some of the scheme is occupied it is not yet compliant with planning and so units cannot be sold or purchased at this time for legal reasons. The construction works required including road, landscaping and some refurbishment works to make units themselves compliant with the planning permission from An Bord Pleanala achieved earlier this year should be completed by the end of 2015.

#### Q.70 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

In relation to the proposed water charges as they may apply to City Council tenants can the Chief Executive answer the following:

- a. Are City Council tenants obliged to complete the Irish Water "application" forms and if so by what date?
- b. Is Dublin City Council, in any way, liable for water charge in City Council housing units?

- c. Is there any possibility that Dublin City Council may be asked by Irish Water to collect water charges through the rent collection process and, if requested, what is the role of City councillors in accepting or rejection such a proposal?
- d. What are the implications for a City Council tenant if he/she decides not to pay the water charge and again what role/influence would City Councillors have in approving/rejecting and sanctions?
- e. What is the situation regarding Irish Water and the liability for any rates due to the City Council?

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

(a) In order to ensure that households are billed correctly, tenants must register with Irish Water by 2nd February 2015. Tenants who fail to register will receive a default quarterly bill of €65, amounting to €260 per year. In addition a household will not be eligible for the €100 annual water conservation grant.

In relation to parts (b) (c) and (d) above, the Government has stated that new legislation will place certain obligations on landlords, where the tenant has not paid water charges. The Chief Executive will give the matter full consideration when details of the legislation become available

(d) The Irish Water liability for 2014 rates is €13.8M and this amount has been discharged in full. I note per the Dail speech dated 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014 by the Minister for the Environment , Community and Local Government reference to exempting Irish Water from Local Authority commercial rates given that the LA's will be compensated directly by the DoECLG for the loss in rates revenue. No formal correspondence has been received to date.

# Q.71 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

Grangegorman Development Agency has indicated to the Community Liaison Committee that the compound on the east side of the site will be put in place to service the East Quad and will be used predominantly for car parking. The committee was also informed that the area in question is identified as a temporary car park in the Grangegorman Planning Scheme under section 8.1.5.7. This section states that "The quantum of carparking to be provided on the site during the phased implementation of development will be commensurate with the quantum of occupied development on the site at that time and the maximum number of spaces permitted in accordance with the parking strategy developed in the Transport Assessment.

In this regard, car parking spaces will not be utilised prior to the occupation of the relevant building or zones." My question is to ask the Chief Executive to confirm at what point in time, and under what planning permission, this compound can be constructed and utilised as a temporary car park as it would appear that the planned temporary car park will initially be used for car parking for construction workers which, on reading the above section, would appear to be contrary to the "phased" development and allowability of car parking being commensurate with occupation of the development.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The provision of construction compounds and temporary car parking is set out in Grangegorman SDZ Planning Scheme Chapter 8 Phasing and Implementation.

Temporary surface carparking (Fig. 8.1) can be provided in advance of completion of underground/undercroft car parks. Car parking spaces in temporary surface carparks are permitted under planning permissions and as required by 8.1.5.7. are

commensurate with the quantum of occupied development on site. For example, 48 operational spaces have been permitted for the Primary Care Centre, Reg. Ref.GSDZ2264.

These operational spaces are distinct from the parking of contractor's vehicles. 'In addition to the carparking associated with the operation of the campus, temporary carparking and construction compounds will be necessary during the construction phase' (Planning Scheme 8.1.5.7)

Classes 16 and 17 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2013 provide exemptions for contractor's temporary on –site accommodation, plant and machinery needed in connection with development being carried out pursuant to a planning permission. This is generally interpreted to include contractor's vehicles in which they transport their tools and equipment.

A number of construction compounds related to separate building contracts will be required on the eastern side of Grangegorman Lower. There are two compounds for developments currently on site as follows:

Reg. Ref. GSDZ3516/13 Replacement Bus Garage Structure adjacent to Broadstone/Phibsborough Dublin Bus Garage.

Reg. Ref. GSDZ 2730/14 Stabilisation works to the Lower House former Richmond Lunatic Asylum (Protected Structure)

The compound to service the East Quad PPP will not be put in place until the project is commenced. It is anticipated that following the appointment of the preferred bidder, planning permission will be sought and that construction will start in 2015.

In accordance with Planning Scheme 8.2.3.2 compounds are selected for proximity to key construction sites they will serve whilst also being readily accessible from the primary entrances to the site and also in locations where there will be minimal effect on residential amenities. A Project Traffic Management Plan for all stages of construction traffic is a requirement of the planning permissions, together with the appointment by the GDA of a Traffic Management Co-ordinator responsible for the coordination of all traffic safety and traffic management matters for all stages of the construction works. The Traffic Management Coordinator is to ensure that all traffic management requirements set out in the project traffic management plan are met and to submit regular monitoring reports to DCC on traffic management for all combined projects on site.

## Q.72 COUNCILLOR BRENDAN CARR

Will the Chief Executive agree to meet a delegation of the workforce of Greyhound waste with the purpose of taking on board their concerns in relation to the sheltered housing contract and the implications of this contract being transferred to a different provider?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

It would not be appropriate for the Chief Executive to meet such a delegation as he has no role in relation to the workforce of any provider of waste services.

# Q.73 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

Ask the Chief Executive the status of (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.74 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

Ask the Chief Executive to (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.75 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

Ask the Chief Executive to indicate (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.76 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Can the Chief Executive place a Cul De Sac Sign at the entrance to (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Assistant Trafffic Officer reports that the sign in question was erected at approximately 3 pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

# Q.77 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Following the proposed transfer of ownership from the OPW to Dublin City Council, can the Chief Executive provide me with projected annual maintenance and upkeep costs for the St. Laurances Site, Kildonan Road, Finglas?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The proposal for the St. Laurances Site, Kildonan Road, Finglas is a share service arrangement between HSE, CDVEC, Prison Service, Probation Service and the local authorities. Negotiations to apportion annual maintenance and upkeep costs are ongoing at present and will be considered at a series of meetings including one beginning today at 3pm. Until we conclude these meetings DRHE are not in a position to confirm final figures. A full reply will issue to Cllr Costello once these figures are confirmed and this is expected within two week from Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

## Q.78 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Can the Chief Executive provide me with an update in relation to the investigation into the spill of Chemical substances in to the Tolka River 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2014? A nearby factory (details supplied) said they had an incident in their building on the night of the spill and while it can't be proven just yet if it was them they did contact the council, Gardaí and IFI on this? They make detergents. Where/are this company licenced by Dublin City Council or the EPA (Integrated Pollution Prevention Control (IPPC) licence) did they meet their licence conditions in relation to storage and movement of potentially polluting substances? When where they last inspected and do they have a dangerous goods safety advisor?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The incident in the Tolka on 22<sup>nd</sup> July has been investigated by both Dublin City Council and Inland Fisheries Ireland. Dublin City Council is not in a position to comment on the status of these investigations, while certain matters related to the incident are under consideration as the basis for possible legal proceedings.

The activities at the queried premises do not generate a trade effluent discharge to the sewer network and therefore there is no requirement for a trade effluent discharge licence for this premises. Similarly, there is no requirement for an IPPC licence, to be issued by EPA.

# Q.79 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Can the Chief Executive arrange for the resurfacing of (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.80 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify this matter (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.81 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

To ask the Chief Executive, in line with European legislation can he ensure that the staff currently employed by Greyhound to carry out the Sheltered Housing waste collection in Dublin City Council area, be covered by the terms of TUPE if the contract is transferred to a different provider?

Will the Chief Executive agree to meet a delegation of the workforce of Greyhound waste with the purpose of taking on board their concerns in relation to the sheltered housing contract and the implications of this contract being transferred to a different provider?

Can the Chief Executive clarify if there is a clause in the tendering documents regarding a TUPE, if not then why not and would he consider inserting one?

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

As in all contracts of this nature, it is the Council's practice to draw the attention of the contractor to their obligations under TUPE if it applies.

It would not be appropriate for the Chief Executive to meet such a delegation as requested in the question as he has no role in relation to the workforce of any provider of waste services.

### Q.82 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

Can the Chief Executive ensure that no local authority tenant will be pursued by Dublin City Council for outstanding domestic water charges?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive will give the matter full consideration when details of the legislation become available.

# Q.83 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

Can the Chief Executive confirm what contact the Minister for Environment or his department has had with your office our any other office in Dublin City Council to discuss the collection of outstanding domestic water charges, what was agreed and can records of this contract be made available to the Councillor?

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The position is that neither the Minister for Environment nor his department has had any contact with our office on this matter.

# Q.84 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DOOLAN

What buildings in Dublin City are exempt from paying commercial rates and if government buildings were to pay commercial rates, how much would it total?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Schedule 4 of the valuation Act 2001 sets out details of relevant property not rateable. The schedule includes land used for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and sport. Also, buildings used exclusively for public religious worship, caring for sick persons, educational institutions, any art gallery, museum, library, park or national monument which is open to the public and not maintained for the purpose of making a private profit, community halls and buildings used for charitable purposes by a charitable organisation (see sec. 16). Buildings occupied by members of either house of the Oireachtas or a member of the European Parliament exclusively as his/her constituency office.

Section 15 of the Valuation Act provides that where "a building or part of a building, land or a waterway or a harbour directly occupied by the State (including any land or building occupied by any Department or office of the state, the defence Forces or the Garda Siochana or used as a prison or place of detention), shall not be rateable".

The Valuation office assess each property and use in order to establish if it is list rateable or exempt in accordance with Schedule 4 and Section 15.

Prior to the revaluation of Dublin City, property directly occupied by the state was valued and entered on the valuation list but was not rateable. This is no longer the case. The Valuation Office no longer value state occupied property, as such it is not possible to determine the value of exempt rates in respect of government buildings. However prior to 2014 the value of state occupied properties was €30m.

# Q.85 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DE RÓISTE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### Q.86 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DE RÓISTE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### Q.87 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DE RÓISTE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.88 COUNCILLOR DAITHÍ DE RÓISTE

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.89 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this housing query (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.90 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to engage in workplace changes, such as different rosters, new workplace practices and employee redeployment in the Public Lighting Department of Dublin City Council.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Public Lighting and Electrical Services Division are currently having discussions with staff and union representatives in relation to the operation of our night scouting work. Night Scouting is the inspection of each street lamp on a regular basis.

At present, each lamp in the Dublin City Council area is inspected every two weeks. This practice has been the norm for many years. The two week cycle was chosen at a time when incandescent lamps were used and the lifetime of such lamps was approximately 2000 hours. Modern lamps last up to 20,000 hours.

The current scouting regime is deemed to be no longer appropriate and it is now proposed to reduce the frequency of scouting. We are now engaging with staff in relation to a proposal to move the staff currently engaged on night scouting duties to day duties.

# Q.91 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

#### Q.92 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.93 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### Q.94 COUNCILLOR SEAN HAUGHEY

To ask the Chief Executive the following (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.95 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive the discussions, if any, he has had with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government about the proposed use of local authorities to collect arrears of water charges on behalf of Irish Water/Uisce Éireann; if he has made clear that this proposal is unacceptable and if he will make a statement on the matter.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

No discussions have been held with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government on this matter.

The Chief Executive will give the matter full consideration when details of the legislation become available.

# Q.96 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.97 COUNCILLOR MÍCHEÁL MAC DONNCHA

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.98 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

## Q.99 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### Q.100 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

### Q.101 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor.

# Q.102 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive provide the following please:

- 2014 Service Plan with Irish Water
- 2015 proposed Service Plan with Irish Water
- Full details of the Irish Water position as communicated with respect to the negotiations of the cost reductions of the 2015 SLA as indicated in the 2015 Budget notes.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

- The 2014 Annual Service Plan is attached.
- The 2015 Annual Service Plan has not, as yet, been finalised. Some elements of the 2015 ASP, such as the Central Management Charge and the Irish Water Goods & Services budget are still to be finalised nationally, prior to any local finalisation of the ASP with Dublin City Council. However, the nationally agreed template under which individual ASPs are to be agreed is attached.
- The cost reductions sought by Irish Water for 2015 are in accordance with those set by the Commission for Energy Regulation. This sets out an average efficiency requirement of circa 7% per annum for both 2015 and 2016 with this being profiled circa 10% in 2015 and 4% in 2016.

# Q.103 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive answer the following in relation to the Santry River please:

- (1) Who has management responsibility for it
- (2) Has it ever been assessed as a potential source of local rodent infestation in Raheny Park
- (3) The mechanism by which this could be done.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Management responsibility for the river Santry lies with the riparian owners. It can be noted however, that Dublin City Council, Environment and Transportation Department, on a regular basis, removes general debris and obstructions from the beds of rivers and streams, as a flood prevention measure. This work is carried out on an on-going basis and includes removing fallen trees and other items, which, if carried downstream could cause blockages at bridges and give rise to flooding.

The Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919 is enforced by the Health Service Executive, Environmental Health, Pest Control Section, Unit 13F, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. Tel: 01 809 8300.

The matter will be referred to this section for investigation.

### Q.104 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive, given the recent fatal accident in Ranelagh at a junction which has been highlighted in the past as a problem, what steps will be taken to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, and to provide a timeline of when these works will be completed by.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

With respect to the fatality which was reported to have occurred at Westmoreland Park, this matter will be dealt with in accordance with the agreed National Roads Authority, Collision Reporting Procedure which is implemented jointly between An Garda Siochána, Dublin City Council and the National Roads Authority. This procedure is currently ongoing and will include a joint site visit by a member of the Garda Investigation Team and a Dublin City Council Engineer. At its completion, the outcome/recommendations of this procedure will be forwarded to the Dublin City Council Traffic Area Engineer. The Councillor will be advised of any recommendation in due course.

### Q.105 COUNCILLOR PATRICK COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the development of the Sutton 2 Sandycove within the Dublin City Council area particularly in the light of recent award of contracts for study with the Dun Laoighre Rathdown area.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The National Transport Authority has appointed a consultant to prepare a feasibility report for the S2S to cover both the Dublin City Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown areas. It is anticipated that the report will be competed mid 2015.

Dublin City Council will review the report with the NTA and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown upon completion. An update on the project may be provided at that stage.

# Q.106 COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.107 COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.108 COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.109 COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.110 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.111 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.112 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.113 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.114 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive Officer if there are any plans to review the junction at the bottom of Lower Leeson Street to make it more favourable for cyclists, as this is currently a black spot for cyclists turning right.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The works for the provision of additional cycling facilities at this location is under review. It is anticipated that the improvements will be carried out during the first quarter of 2015.

## **Q.115 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE**

To ask the Chief Executive Officer to outline how many allotments have been allocated from Dublin City Council lands over the last 10 years, how many people are currently on the waiting list, what the criteria is for allocating allotments, and if there are any plans to increase the amount of lands available for allotments.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Parks and landscape Services supply allotments to the public from within the Parks and Open spaces under its care.

Parks and Landscape Services	Location	Allotments
Parks and Landscape Services	St. Anne's Park	90
Parks and Landscape Services	Ringsend Park	30
Parks and Landscape Services	Herbert Park	12
Parks and Landscape Services	De Courcy Sq.	12
Parks and Landscape Services	Meekstown	60

At present there is a waiting list of 573 people looking for an allotment in DCC Parks.

Parks and Landscape Services have recently taken over the Meekstown allotments which were administered by BRL (Ballymun Regeneration Limited) from information received there appears to be 29 plots available. It is Parks and Landscape Services intention to allocate the vacant allotments to people at the top of its allotment waiting list for the 2015 growing season.

All allotments within DCC Parks and Landscape Services are allocated only to people living within the DCC catchment area. As much as possible it is preferred to allocate allotments to people living within the adjacent communities for sustainability purposes. With this understanding a waiting list is compiled drawing names from the top of the list as allotments become available.

Allotment Scheme	Number of Plots	Waiting list
Braithwaite Street	19	18
Weaver's Square	27	19
Grattan Crescent	40	33
Blarney Park, Crumlin	12	10

Springvale, Chapelizod	36	100
Total	134	180

Allotments in the South Central area are allocated to people on a waiting list. The list was compiled when the allotment site was initially advertised. Where there were more applicants than plots available, a draw took place and the unsuccessful applicants were put on the list and allocated a plot when one became available. The City Council are active in taking back plots which are not being maintained, as per license agreement and some are handed back voluntarily at the end of the year.

A new allotment site is currently being developed on part of a site on Bridgefoot St. and we are looking at other sites in the area which may be suitable.

North Central Area manages 112 Allotments and a Community Garden in Belmayne Dublin 13. These allotments were opened in March 2014. The criteria for selection was based on a ratio of 2:1:1. Local residents were allocated half of the allotments as many live in the apartments nearby, a quarter to those residing in the North Central Area, and a quarter to those on the St. Annes allotment waiting list. Currently we have over 90 on our waiting list and will be allocating surplus allotments in the Spring of 2015.

The South East Area Community Team manage two Allotment Schemes, in Ringsend Park (34 allotments) and Herbert Park (13 allotments). All the sites are currently in use and licenced to local users on an annual basis and there is a considerable waiting list for any vacant allotments that become available. Further details can be provided to the Councillor if necessary.

In the Finglas Area there are two Community Gardens: one at Prospect Hill which consists of 25 allotments, and the second one is at Tolka Valley Road which has 54 allotments.

Both of the Community Gardens were advertised in the local area and the allotments were allocated on a first come first served basis. At present there is no waiting list in the Finglas area.

### Q.116 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive Officer what function the proposed Docklands Community Liaison group will have in approving city block roll-out agreements and city block community infrastructure audits required by the Docklands SDZ

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Section 6.1.2 of the North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock SDZ states that City Block Roll out Agreements (CBRAs) are required to secure the co-ordinated delivery of the mix of uses and infrastructure, "unless an individual planning application addresses these matters".

Similar to all planning applications made under Section 34 of the Planning Acts, SDZ planning applications are assessed and decided through the development management process, and are decided by the Chief Executive.

The use of a City Block roll out agreement is considered to form part of the development management process, and as such it would not be considered appropriate that individual agreements would require the decision of the Docklands

Consultative Forum. The Group does however have a key role in monitoring the implementation of the SDZ, and will play an important function in monitoring delivery of planning applications (including where in place, CBRAs) and examining how the planning process is meeting the objectives of the Scheme.

In relation to the Community Audit, in making the SDZ An Bord Pleanala stipulated that rather than each planning application undertaking individual community audits and coming up with recommendations; that Dublin City Council would undertake a Coummunity Infrastructure Audit for the entire SDZ; and update this every 2 years. The process of preparing the first Community Audit has recently commenced. The Community Liaison Committee/Community Council of the DDDA are on the Community Audit steering group which has oversight of the delivery of the Community Audit.

#### Q.117 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive whether Dublin City Council will assist in finding an alternative location for MABOS, which provided an essential service for young people in the local area, given the objective CD13 of Docklands SDZ which states "it is an objective of Dublin City Council to promote the use of vacant commercial units and appropriate vacant spaces for artistic, cultural and community uses on a temporary basis to encourage the community to meet (the concept of third spaces) for community development" and if he will make a statement on the matter.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The City Council is committed to ensuring that all of the objectives of Docklands SDZ, including CD13 are met as part of the plan's implementation. Given the contribution and strong commitment that Mabos has given to the area it should be well positioned to take advantage of the relevant provisions of the SDZ. However, the City Council is not in a position to ensure that one particular cultural and/or community use is favoured over any other.

### Q.118 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to inform this councillor as to the amounts uncollected by Dublin City Council in commercial water charges for each year 2008-2013 and what actions, if any, are actively pursued by Dublin City Council to recoup said monies.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I have set out below the debtor for commercial water for the years 2008 - 2013

Non Domestic Water Debtor				
Year	Debtor			
2008	€18,976,431			
2009	€21,373,541			
2010	€22,188,966			
2011	€17,243,779			
2012	€15,970,773			
2013	€16,502,531			

Dublin City Council are acting as agents for Irish Water in relation to the billing and collection of commercial water since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. Arrears of commercial water are pursued through telephone calls, reminder notices, disconnection notices and

disconnection of supply. At all times Dublin City Council liaise with customers to reach agreements to discharge arrears.

## Q.119 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to inform this councillor as to Dublin City Council's position vis-a-vis the government's directive to all local authorities requiring them to deduct water charge arrears from local authority tenants' rent and remit said sums to Irish Water.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Chief Executive will give the matter full consideration when details of the legislation become available.

## Q.120 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

As Dublin City Council is a key stakeholder in delivery of the Young People's Facilities and Services Fund (YPFSF), to ask the Chief Executive to request from the Dept. of Children a copy of the Value for Money and Policy Review of the YPFSF and to circulate it to Councillors for discussion on its findings and recommendations.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

I have forwarded your request to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and I have been advised that the Value for Money Review is currently with the Minister and is due to be published shortly.

## Q.121 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a breakdown of all Young People's Facilities and Services Fund (YPSF) monies invested in youth services and facilities in the City Council area from inception of YPFSF in 1998 to date and inform this councillor as to what systems Dublin City Council has in place to monitor how its facilities and services funded through YPFSF are proactively engaging with and including the young people in our communities who are most at risk of drug use.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The current annual grant from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to Dublin City Council under the auspices of the Young People's Facilities and Services fund totalled €1,700,803 in 2014. The breakdown of these grants from 2009 is set out in the table below:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sport Development	€62,100	€59,400	€54,000	€50,490	€45,441	€43,737
Officer Ballyfermot						
Ballymun East Youth	€	€20,140	€15,000	€14,025	€12,623	€12,149
Centre						
Sport Development	€124,200	€118,800	€108,000	€100,980	€90,882	€87,474
Officers(2)						
Bluebell Youth Centre	€0	€21,430	€84,000	€106,310	€95,679	€92,091
Sports Development	€62,100	€59,400	€54,000	€50,490	€45,441	€43,737
Officer Canal						
Communities						
Donnycarney Community	€216,300	€206,560	€185,700	€173,630	€156,267	€150,407
Centre						
Sports Development	€62,100	€59,400	€54,000	€50,490	€45,441	€43,737
officer Donnycarney						
St. Catherines	€396,800	€378,930	€340,900	€318,742	€286,867	€276,110
Community centre						

St. Teresa's Hall Donore Avenue	€216,300	€206,560	€185,700	€173,630	€156,267	€150,407
2 Sports Development (Citywide) Officers	€124,200	€118,800	€108,000	€100,980	€90,882	€87,474
Sports Development Officer, D12	€62,100	€59,400	€54,000	€50,490	€45,441	€43,737
Ballybough Youth & Community Centre	€174,200	€166,360	€149,500	€139,783	€125,804	€121,087
Sports Development Officer Ballybough	€62,100	€59,400	€54,000	€50,490	€45,441	€43,737
John Paul Park Community Centre	€439,000	€419,240	€376,900	€352,402	€317,161	€305,268
2 Sports Development Officers Finglas/Cabra	€124,200	€118,800	€108,000	€100,980	€90,882	€87,474
Homeless Street League	€21,250	€21,250	€21,500	€20,103	€18,092	€17,414
<b>Boxing Start Programme</b>	€0	€80,000	€72,000	€67,320	€60,588	€58,316
Technical assistance	€53,000	€50,680	€45,000	€42,075	€37,868	€36,447
TOTALS	€2,199,950	€2,224,550	€2,070,200	€1,963,410	€1,767,067	€1,700,803

As a requirement to draw down the grants each year, Dublin City Council provide annual reports on each individual grant to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs outlining in detail the extent of the service provided by way of engaging with young people at risk. Our Sports and Recreation Section also provides, on a three monthly basis, in its report to Area Committee's, an update on the work carried out by its Sports Development Officers and the activities in the centres. Our Sports Development Officers report on a weekly basis outlining their programmes and the specific target group. The Centre Managers also report with details of the services they provide for the target group.

### Q.122 COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE

Can the Chief Executive provide me with a report which details the following (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

### Q.123 COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE

Can the Chief Executive provide me with a report detailing the number of litter bins which have been removed in the City in 2012, 2013, 2014 broken down by administrative area. Can the Chief Executive state why this has taken place and the total saving to waste management as a result of reducing the number litter bins to be collected

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

There are no figures available for the number of bins removed from specific different areas of the city over the past 3 years. We are in the process of upgrading our computer records systems and electronically tagging all our litter bins so such information should be available in the future once this process is complete. There are currently approximately 3,700 litter bins in place.

Waste Management Services carried out a review of the usage of our litter bins citywide in 2011. As a result of this review we removed some litter bins, mainly from residential estates, as they were being used to dispose of domestic waste and had in fact become focal points for dumping and were adding to the litter problem in these estates. The bins which were most abused were removed at that time. We continue

to monitor usage of our litter bins and when necessary, most frequently following complaints from residents regarding illegal dumping, remove a litter bin.

Decisions in this regard are made on a case by case basis. Local Councilors are now informed of any proposal to remove a litter bin and the reason for such a proposal.

It is not possible to quantify any savings to waste management as the result of the removal of a litter bin however any such savings are likely to be insignificant and are never a factor in reaching a decision as to whether or not to remove a litter bin from any area.

## Q.124 COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE

Can the Chief Executive provide me with (details supplied)

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.125 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to please supply this councillor with:

the number, categories and location of local authority dwellings in the city, the criteria used to assess accomodation standards for local authority housing, and whether/how they differ for each dwelling category, what specifically are the criteria that deem a dwelling to be sub standard the number and location of the units for which accommodation standards have been deemed to be sub-standard.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Individual assessments are carried on dwellings as they become vacant and appropriate action is taken at that stage to ensure that the dwellings are brought up to lettable standards. The Housing (Standards For Rented Houses) Regulations 2009 which apply to social housing (excluding regulation 8) are applied. Other standards which also apply are Building and Fire Regulations. In some cases works carried out by previous tenants may breach Health and Safety regulations and these are also rectified. None of the City Council's housing units are considered sub-standard unless rendered so by tenants between lettings.

The following table is a breakdown of the units currently let.

	Central	North	North	South	South East	Total
		Central	West	Central		
Apartments	2299	392	934	2609	2215	8449
Houses	1875	2544	3266	3802	520	12007
Senior	737	682	406	758	535	3118
Citizens						
Totals	4911	3618	4606	7169	3270	23574

# Q.126 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to please supply this Councillor with:

the total number of commercial entities conducting their business in the city, whether there is a distinction between entities registered and conducting business and not registered but conducting business, particularly in the financial services centre. The number of these that are liable for commercial rates and the amount this yields in revenue, the criteria that render commercial entities liable for rates and those that render commercial entities liable for exemption from rates

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council complies with the Valuation List determined by the Commissioner of Valuation when charging rates. Properties are deemed list rateable by the Valuation Office when charging rates unless they are included in Schedule 4 of the Valuation Act 2001 which sets out details of relevant property not rateable.

The schedule includes land used for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and sport. Also, buildings used exclusively for public religious worship, caring for sick persons, educational institutions, any art gallery, museum, library, park or national monument which is open to the public and not maintained for the purpose of making a private profit, community halls and buildings used for charitable purposes by a charitable organisation (see sec. 16). Buildings occupied by members of either house of the Oireachtas or a member of the European Parliament exclusively as his/her constituency office.

Section 15 of the Valuation Act provides that where "a building or part of a building, land or a waterway or a harbour directly occupied by the State (including any land or building occupied by any Department or office of the state, the defence Forces or the Garda Siochana or used as a prison or place of detention), shall not be rateable".

The Valuation office assess each property and use in order to establish if it is list rateable or exempt in accordance with Schedule 4 and Section 15.

There are currently 20,858 ratings in Dublin city and the annual charge for 2014 €342,234,445.

# Q.127 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to clarify the amount and type of assets of the Council that are kept in cash, equities, bonds or other financial instruments; to outline what criteria is used in determining such investment and whether a tendering instrument is used? In his reply the Chief Executive might give an update on the most recent figures available for such holdings"

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Dublin City Council tender for its Banking Services. The last tender issued was in June 2012, when following a public advertisement for the provision of banking services for a period of three years, with an option to extend for a further year by mutual agreement, three tenders were received. An evaluation of the valid tenders was carried out based on value-for-money, product, services / support and future developments as the award criteria. Following the process Allied Irish Bank was found to have submitted the most advantageous tender for the required services and was awarded the tender. The tender covers the management of our current accounts and the provision of an overdraft facility.

Local Authorities are prohibited from investing in any type of instrument or investment product where the capital value is not guaranteed. The City Council does not trade in equities or bonds. When surplus cash is available it is invested in short-term deposit accounts with one of the financial institutions. The length of time it is invested for is dependent on ensuring that Dublin City Council has sufficient financial resources to meet its short-term liquidity requirements. All investments are managed in line with our treasury policy which balances security, liquidity and yield. Below is a list of the investments held by Dublin City Council on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 and the period the investment is for.

- €40,000,000.00 with Bank of Ireland for 3 months
- €25,000,000.00 with the HFA for 3 months period
- €3,818,133.22 with Permanent TSB rolling 3 months period.
   (€3.8m is development contributions collected by DCC but belonging to another authority)

# Q.128 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to list the land interests that the city holds in Temple Bar, in each case indicating the address, area and interest held

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Smock Alley Court Aparts. Essex St. West/ Fishamble St/Exchange St Lr	Freehold
Demolished Site at 29/30 Fishamble St. (formerly Staffords)	Freehold
Smock Alley Court Retail units Grd Flr Essex St. West/ Fishamble St	Freehold held jointly with Temple Bar Properties subject to leases

Crampton Buildings 54 of the 70 Apts, 1st	Leasehold 999 years from 1998
& 2nd flr level Crampton Quay / Bedford	·
Row	

Freehold subject to 2 leases granted to the ESB

# Q.129 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

Given recent controversies in regard to waste management services in the city can the Chief Executive state whether the Council has powers to include a clause in contracts that are put out to tender by the Council specifying reasonable conditions of employment and pay rates in excess of the minimum wage for the employees of those who tender for such contracts, and to give details of any tender that will be considered over the next year?

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

Tenderers are advised at tender stage, via a standard clause in the <u>Instruction to Tenderers</u> document, that national legislation applies in matters such as Employment, Working Hours, Official Secrets, Data Protection and Health and Safety and that all relevant aspects of such legislation must be observed at all times by the successful tenderer.

Furthermore, Dublin City Council's <u>General Terms and Conditions</u> for Supplies and Services, which must be accepted by all suppliers at award of contract stage, contain the following standard clauses in respect of compliance with Irish legislation, Pay and Conditions.

<u>Pay and Conditions:</u> The Supplier shall ensure that the terms and conditions of employment in respect of work persons employed by, or otherwise working for, the Supplier in the performance of this Agreement [including in relation to pension contributions] comply with terms of the Employment Regulation Order applicable [to

the relevant sector] registered under the Industrial Relations Acts 1946 to 2004. The Supplier shall ensure that the rates of pay and conditions are no less favourable than those for the relevant category of work person set out in the Employment Regulation Order.

Dublin City Council's Works contracts are covered in this regard under the Terms and Conditions of the Conditions of Engagement as set out in the Department of Finance Capital Works Management Framework suite of model documents.

All tenders published by Dublin City Council contain such clauses in the suite of tender documents.

# Q.130 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive if he can arrange for a further investigation of the gullies and sewer system at a location (details supplied) as flooding and blocked gullies is continuing even though gullies were recently cleared and cleaned.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The gullies and drainage network in the area was extensively cleaned on 25th November. The drainage network in the area is in good working order.

## Q.131 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask Chief Executive why Dublin Fire Brigade workers are not paid an Advanced Paramedics allowance like their colleagues in the National Ambulance Service performing the same duties; and now that DFB staff are responding to all echo and delta calls that they be considered for this Advanced Paramedics allowance due to additional workload.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The pay rates of DFB's operational staff are linked to their grades and not qualifications. These pay rates are set nationally.

### Q.132 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

To ask the Chief Executive if he will arrange for road markings to be redrawn at a location (details supplied) due concerns about safety and traffic not being aware of their need to yield at junctions.

# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:**

The Traffic Officer reports that the above location has been listed for inspection. Where renewal is required, it will be included in the lining reinstatement schedule.