# COMHAIRLE CATHRACH BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH



Miontuairiscí Chruinniú Míosúil a tionóladh ar 8 Meitheamh 2015 i Seomra na Comhairle, Halla na Cathrach, Cnoc Chorcaí ag 6.15 i.n.

Mary Freehill

I Láthair an tArdmheara Christy Burke sa chathaoir

## . Comhairleoir:

### **Comhairleoir:**

**Chris Andrews** Catherine Ardagh Kieran Binchy Paddy Bourke Janice Boylan Tom Brabazon Christy Burke Claire Byrne Cathleen Carney Boud Brendan Carr Aine Clancy Anthony Connaghan David Costello Patrick Costello Ciáran Cuffe Daithí De Róiste Daithí Doolan Pat Dunne Gaye Fagan Declan Flanagan Mannix Flynn

#### <u>Oifigigh</u>

Owen Keegan Brendan Kenny Dick Brady Garv Gannon Alison Gilliland Paul Hand Seán Haughey Deirdre Heney Jane Horgan-Jones Vincent Jackson Andrew Keegan Teresa Keegan Greg Kelly Frank Kennedy Dermot Lacey John Lyons Mícheál Mac Donncha Tina MacVeigh Ray McAdam Paul McAuliffe Paddy McCartan Ruairí McGinlev Séamas McGrattan

Jim Keogan Vincent Norton Fintan Moran Terence O'Keeffe

### Comhairleoir:

Ray McHugh Denise Mitchell Andrew Montague Rebecca Moynihan Emma Murphy Críona Ní Dhálaigh Michael O'Brien Jim O'Callaghan Kate O'Connell Damian O'Farrell Ciáran O'Moore Naoise Ó Muirí Larry O'Toole Cieran Perry Noeleen Reilly Nial Ring Noel Rock Éilis Ryan Bríd Smith Paddy Smyth Sonya Stapleton

Mary Pyne Ger Maher Oonagh Casey Oliver Douglas

 The Lord Mayor opened the meeting by expressing sympathy on his own behalf and on behalf of the City Council to the family of recently deceased member of Dublin Fire Brigade, Fire Fighter Robert Kane who died 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015. A minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the deceased. The Lord Mayor then referred to an item referred from the Protocol Committee meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015 - The Members approved for Councillor attendance at the "Affordable Home Ownership with Community Land Trusts" Conference in Dublin on 10<sup>th</sup> June. The Members approved this conference.

Congratulations were then extended to Sheriff YC and Liffey Wanderers on their great game at the FAI Junior Cup Final on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May last. It was a great achievement for both teams to reach the final and congratulations to Liffey Wanderers on their victory.

Referring to the Phibsboro Local Area Plan, the Lord Mayor asked Assistant City Manager, Jim Keogan, to introduce a new colour coding on the additional areas now included in the Phibsboro Local Area Plan to facilitate the local residents in identifying the new sites now included. Mr Keogan agreed to include details of the changes on a separate page.

The Lord Mayor then expressed appreciation to all involved in organising the laying of a plaque to Brendan Archibald, which was laid on 18<sup>th</sup> May. Special thanks were extended to Assistant Chief Executive, Mr Brendan Kenny and the Mandate Trade Union.

The Lord Mayor then proposed a motion which was seconded by Councillor E Ryan calling on the Government to ratify the UN International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The motion was agreed by the City Council.

The Lord Mayor then referred to the proposed acquisition of Dalymount Park by Dublin City Council. A report was circulated by e-mail from Assistant Chief Executive Brendan Kenny. On a proposal by Councillor R McAdam, seconded by Councillor D Costello, Standing Orders were suspended to allow discussion on this matter. Members widely welcomed the proposal.

- Ceisteanna fé Bhuan Ordú Úimhir 16 --- It was moved by Councillor S McGrattan and seconded by Councillor R McAdam "That Dublin City Council approves the Dublin Chief Executive answering the questions lodged". The motion having been put and carried, written answers to the 150 questions lodged for the City Council meeting were issued. The Questions and Answers are set out in **Appendix A** attached.
- 3. The minutes of the Meeting of the City Council held on the Special Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and Monthly Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015.,having been printed, certified by the Meetings Administrator, circulated to the Members and taken as read, were signed by the Lord Mayor.
- 4. Submitted Report No 167/2015 of the Head of Finance (*K. Quinn*) Monthly Local Fund Statement Reports as submitted under the EU/IMF Framework and Payments of the Allocation of the Local Fund Statement. It was proposed by Councillor R McGinley and seconded by Councillor D Flanagan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 167/2015". The motion was put and carried.
- Submitted Report No 196/2015 of the Chief Executive, 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: Former St. Michael's CBS gymnasium and classroom

## Monthly City Council Meeting 08/06/2015

buildings, both Protected Structures (formerly part of Keogh Barracks/Richmond Barracks), St. Michael's Estate, Inchicore, Dubin 8. It was moved by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh "That Dublin City Council notes Report No 196/2015 and hereby approves the contents therein ". The motion was put and carried.

- 6. To fill a vacancy on the Transportation SPC It was proposed by Councillor D O'Farrell and seconded by Councillor D Lacey "That Councillor M Flynn be appointed as a member to the Strategic Policy Committee and to represent Dublin City Council on the Transportation SPC" The motion was put and carried.
- 7. To fill an outstanding vacancy on the board of the AILG for the Ballyfermot/ Drimnagh Local Electoral Area as agreed at Protocol Committee. It was proposed by Councillor S McGrattan and seconded by Councillor G Kelly "That Councillor D Doolan be appointed as a member to represent Dublin City Council on the AILG for the Ballyfermot/ Drimnagh Local Electoral Area" The motion was put and carried.
- 8. Appointment of a Member to the Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Councillor Mannix Flynn from that Committee. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor T Keegan "That Councillor G Gannon be appointed as a member to the Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community Strategic Policy" The motion was put and carried.
- 9. To fill a vacancy on the City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDETB) following the resignation of Councillor Larry O'Toole from that Board. It was proposed by Councillor S Mc Grattan and seconded by Councillor G Kelly "That Councillor M Mac Donncha be appointed as a member to represent Dublin City Council on the City of Dublin Education and Training Board (CDETB)" The motion was put and carried.
- Report No. 165/2015 of the Chief Executive (O. Keegan) Monthly Management Report – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015. It was proposed by Councillor S McGrattan and seconded by Councillor R McGinley "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 167/2015". The motion was put and carried.
- 11. Report No. 159/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Addition of 9-10 Jervis Street, Dublin 1, Licensed premises exterior only, to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 & 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.159/2015 and approves the addition of of 9-10 Jervis Street, Dublin 1, Licensed premises exterior only, to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.
- 12. Report No. 160/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Addition of 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30 Henry Street, Dublin 1, to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 & 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.160/2015 and approves the addition of 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30 Henry Street, Dublin 1, to the Record of Protected Structures

in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.

- 13. Report No. 161/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Addition of Ailesbury House, Ailesbury Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No. 161/2015 and approves the addition of Ailesbury House, Ailesbury Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.
- 14. Report No. 162/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Deletion of the current entry, 28 Fenian Street, Dublin 2 and Addition of 38 Fenian Street, Dublin 2 from/to the Record of Protected Structures, in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.162/2015 and approves the deletion of the current entry, 28 Fenian Street, Dublin 2 and Addition of 38 Fenian Street, Dublin 2, from/to the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.
- 15. Report No. 163/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Deletion of 26 Aston Quay, Dublin 2, from the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 & 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.163/2015 and approves the deletion of 26 Aston Quay, Dublin 2 from the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.
- 16. Report No. 164/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) Deletion of 98 & 99 Leeson Street Lower, Dublin 2 from the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 & 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.164/2015 and approves the deletion of 98 & 99 Leeson Street Lower, Dublin 2, from the Record of Protected Structures in accordance with Section 54 and 55 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000" The motion was put and carried.
- 17. It was agreed by the City Council that Motion No 44 on the Agenda Paper could be taken at this time as it was on a related issue. It was proposed by Councillor J Lyons and seconded by Councillor T MacVeigh "That the following 1916 Buildings, identified in the Frank Myles Battlefield Report, commissioned by Shaffrey Associates on behalf of Chartered Land, be added to the list of protected structures as buildings of National historical importance.

1 .O' Briens Mineral Water Building, Henry Place - Occupied by volunteers.

2 .The White House, Henry Place - Occupied and held by Michael Collins.

3. No.10 Moore Street - Point of entry -The First Council of War - Overnight stay.

4. The Bottling Stores rear. 10 Moore Street and Moore Lane - Occupied by Frank Henderson.

5. Hanlons, 20/21 Moore Street - Surrender order accepted by volunteers after consultation with Thomas Clarke, Joseph Plunkett, Michael Collins and Sean Mac Diarmada"

The motion was put and carried.

- 18. Report No. 153/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*B. Kenny*) Arts Bursaries 2015. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor A Clancy "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No153/2015 and hereby approves the Arts Bursaries 2015 as set out therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 19. Report No. 168/2015 of the Director of Traffic/City Engineer (*M. Phillips*) Report on the proposed Section 85 Agreement regarding the Construction of a Portion of the Hole in the Wall Road/Marrsfield Road Junction Improvement. It was proposed by Councillor M Mac Donncha and seconded by Councillor A Clancy "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No168/2015 and hereby approves the Section 85 Agreement regarding the Construction of a Portion of the Hole in the Wall Road/Marrsfield Road Junction Improvement, as set out therein" The motion was put and carried.

It was also agreed that a regular progress report would be sent to the South Central Area Committee. Members wished Eoghan Madden well in his forthcoming retirement. They also asked that a report be brought to the next City Council meeting detailing recent retirements of key personnel and current vacancies in these areas.

- 20. Report No. 174/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*B. Kenny*) Grants towards the running costs of private swimming pool for 2015. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor D Heney "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No174/2015 and hereby approves the Grants towards the running costs of private swimming pool for 2015.as set out therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 21. Report No 180/2015 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 15 premises. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 180/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 22. Report No 181/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) With further reference to the proposed disposal of a site located at corner of South Circular Road and Dolphins Barn Street, Dublin 8. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 181/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 23. Report No 182/2015 of Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed disposal of a plot of ground to the rear of No 11 Saint Aidan's Park Avenue, Marino, Dublin 3. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 182/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.

- 24. Report No 183/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed disposal of a strip of land at 13a Church Street, Finglas, Dublin 11. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 183/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 25. Report No 184/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed disposal of strip of land at Blackhall Place, Oxmanstown Lane, Dublin 7. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 184/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 26. Report No 185/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed exchange of properties at Parnell Sq. North, Dublin 1(former Colaiste Mhuire Building) and Jamestown Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8 with the O.P.W. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 185/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 27. Report No 186/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed disposal of lands at Raleigh Square, Crumlin, Dublin 12 to Túath Housing Association. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 186/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 28. Report No 187/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the grant of a 4-year licence to operate a tearoom in the Red Stables, St. Anne's Park, Mount Prospect Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin 3 to Olive's Room Ltd (Moloughney's), 35 Kincora Road, Clontarf, Dublin 3. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 187/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 29. Report No 188/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed grant of a Sublease of office accommodation at Third Floor South, Ballymun Civic Centre, Dublin 9 to Health Service Executive. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 188/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 30. Report No 189/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed disposal of the Council's fee simple interest in No. 58 Fassaugh Avenue, Cabra, Dublin 7. Councillors S McGrattan, E Murphy and J Boylan declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the Chamber for the duration of the debate and vote on this disposal. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 189/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.

- 31. Report No 190/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed grant of a letting of the Lock Up Shop Premises at No. 70 Donore Avenue, St. Teresa's Gardens, Dublin 8. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 190/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- Report No 191/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed grant of a further licence of Units S03 of the Markets Area Community Resource Organisation (MACRO) Building, Green Street/North King Street, Dublin 7. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 191/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 33. Report No 192/2015 of the Executive Manager (*P. Clegg*) With reference to the proposed grant of a further licence in Liffey Valley Park, Chapelizod, Dublin 20 to Donore Harriers Limited. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 192/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 34. Report No 193/2015 of the Assistant Chief Executive (*J. Keogan*) With reference to the proposed disposal of site at Balcurris Road/Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 11, to Alanis Group. It was proposed by Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor R McHugh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 193/2015 and assents to the proposal outlined therein" The motion was put and carried.
- 35. Report No. 178/2015 of the Chairperson of the Local Community Development Committee (*Councillor Daithí Doolan*) – Breviate of meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015. It was proposed by Councillor D Doolan and seconded by Councillor L O'Toole "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 178/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 36. Report No. 166/2015 of the Chairperson of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (*Councillor Paul McAuliffe*) – Breviate of meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor D Heney and seconded by Councillor N Reilly "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 166/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 37. Report No. 170/2015 of the Chairperson of the Arts, Culture, Recreation and Community Strategic Policy Committee (Councillor Mary Freehill) Breviate of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor M Freehill and seconded by Councillor L O'Toole "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No170/2015" The motion was put and carried. Members wished to record their opposition to the sale of the stables at the rear of 14/15 St Stephen's Green. The Deputy Chief Executive undertook to brief the Chief Executive on this issue.
- 38. Report No. 175/2015 of the Chairperson of the Finance Strategic Policy Committee (Councillor Ruairí McGinley) – Breviate of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor R McGinley and seconded by Councillor S McGrattan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 175/2015" The motion was put

and carried. Councillor Carr requested that the reference to him under Item No 5 of this report be amended.

- 39. Report No. 176/2015 of the Chairperson of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee (Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh) – Breviate of meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor Councillor C Ni Dhalaigh and seconded by Councillor T Mac Veigh "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 176/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 40. Report No. 195/2015 of the Chairperson of the Planning and International Relations Strategic Policy Committee (*Councillor Andrew Montague*) – Breviate of meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015. It was proposed by Councillor A Montague and seconded by Councillor T Keegan "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 195/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 41. Report No. 194/2015 of the North West Area Committee Breviate for the month of May 2015 – Councillor Anthony Connaghan, Chairperson. It was proposed by Councillor N Reilly and seconded by Councillor C Carney Boud "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 194/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 42. Report No. 171/2015 of the North Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of May 2015 – *Councillor Ciarán O'Moore, Chairperson.* It was proposed by Councillor C O'Moore and seconded by Councillor E Murphy "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 171/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 43. Report No. 173/2015 of the Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of May 2015 – 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 173/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 44. Report No. 179/2015 of the South Central Area Committee Breviate for the month of May 2015 – Councillor Vincent Jackson, Chairperson. It was proposed by Councillor V Jackson and seconded by Councillor P McAuliffe "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 179/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 45. Report No. 154/2015 of the South East Area Committee Breviate for the month of May 2015 – Councillor Mannix Flynn, Chairperson. It was proposed by Councillor M Flynn and seconded by Councillor R McGinley "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 154/2015" The motion was put and carried. Mr Jim Keogan, Assistant Chief Executive, provided clarification In relation to a letter that was sought in order to facilitate a planning application referred to as the SUAS project.
- 46. There were no Emergency Motions so in accordance with Standing Orders, the following motion which had been proposed by Councillor D De Roiste and seconded by Councillor F Kennedy at the May City Council meeting was taken "That this Council notes with dismay, and objects to the decision by NABCO and DCC to proceed with the building of 72 houses on Orchard Lawns Park, Cherry Orchard. Every single elected official in this Chamber understands the need for more houses, we all support housing, but we cannot support dumb houses. Put simply, building 72 houses, in an area with significant crime and anti-social

behaviour problems and in an area with just one newsagents, one church and one school is downright foolish and will certainly lead to further problems down the line"

An Amendment to this motion was put by Councillor B Smith and seconded by Councillor J Lyons as follows – insert the following words after Cherry Orchard 'in the absence of an overall development plan for the area' and remove the following wording 'But we cannot support dumb houses' and 'is downright foolish'. The amended motion was put to a vote and defeated. The substantive motion was then put to a vote and defeated.

- 47. Report No. 157/2015 of the Protocol Committee (*Councillor Dermot Lacey, Chairperson*) Breviate of meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor P McCartan and seconded by Councillor M Flynn "That Dublin City Council approves Report No 157/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 48. Report No. 169/2015 of the South Central Area Joint Policing Sub-committee (*Councillor Vincent Jackson, Chairperson*) Breviate of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015. It was proposed by Councillor and seconded by Councillor "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 169/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 49. Report No. 172/2015 of the North Central Area Joint Policing Sub-committee (*Councillor Larry O'Toole, Chairperson*) – Breviate of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was proposed by Councillor L O'Toole and seconded by Councillor E Murphy "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No172/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 50. Report No. 177/2015 of the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee (*Councillor Daithí De Róiste, Chairperson*) Breviate of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015. It was proposed by Councillor D De Roiste and seconded by Councillor M Flynn "That Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No 177/2015" The motion was put and carried.
- 51. TOPICAL ISSUE –Three issues were listed and voted on to go forward for discussion. The following issue 'July Cuts to Lone Parents' was chosen and consequently was debated by the Members.

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 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

Correct.

LORD MAYOR

**MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR** 

Monthly City Council Meeting 08/06/2015

#### QUESTIONS LODGED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.16 FOR REPLY AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 08<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015

## Q.1 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to make a statement regarding the recent European Court case taken by council tenants against local authorities including Dublin City Council and to give an indication of remedial works required in named housing complexes together with an indication as to when these works will be completed. The Chief Executive should set the level of financial resources required to meet these works and to indicate if he has sought these resources from DOELG to meet the State's responsibilities in this matter.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We are not aware of any case taken by tenants against Dublin City Council. There is a collective complaint against Ireland lodged by FIDH before the European Committee of Social Rights in Strasburg which the DOECLG is dealing with directly. With regard planned works to City Council complexes, Dublin City Council made a proposal for renovation of approximately 1500 flats and maisonettes in 2013 at an estimated cost between €100m and €150m depending on the level of refurbishment undertaken.

This proposal is included in S&E Regional OP 2014 – 2020 Draft Implementation Plan written by DECLG and the Southern and Eastern Region Assembly (SERA), for submission to the European Commission, and includes proposals for funding of the works by European bodies.

The retrofitting programme will be funded by way of :-50% loan finance from the EIB 25% Exchequer grant 25% ERDF grant"

We have had no indication as to when such monies can be accessed or any final indication as to the conditions that will be attached to such funding. However we understand that due to Central Government lending restrictions such funding can only be made available to Approved Housing bodies. In the interim the DOELCG is funding refurbishment works in Dolphin House and St Teresa's Gardens, and they have agreed to fund a pilot scheme designed to satisfy the retrofitting programme referred to above. We also continue to refurbish voids whenever they arise.

#### Q.2 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive is the cycling officer position, funds which were provided for in Budget 2015 has been filled, if not why not, if filled, the Chief Executive should set out the 2015 work scope for this position.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council has sought sanction from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government to fill a post of Cycling Officer. When sanction is received, the post will be filled following a selection process.

#### Q.3 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will give consideration to and report on the suggestion contained in the email supplied below relating to defibrillators?

"Do you know if DCC have ever considered placing signs on lamp posts, indicating the direction where a defibrillator is positioned in a community, this happening of course with the permission of the holder of the AED?. In the greater Bath Ave area, we have a defibrillator in the Spar shop, however no one would know it's there. I know there is one in Clann na Gael and Irishtown Stadium also.

We now have one in the Scout Den, and we donated one to the broader community, which is very recently placed in the Garda Station in Irishtown. We hope to get a flier done for the households about this. But that does not account for people travelling through the area or those who may in the future move into the area. Just a thought, especially as more and more people and young people are becoming more familiar with the AED's"

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Health Information Quality Authority recently completed a Health Technology Assessment at the behest of the Minister for Health investigating the national roll out of a Defibrillator Scheme under The Public Health (Availability of Defibrillators) Bill 2013. The outcome of this report was that a national Defibrillator Scheme would require an additional 2,000 to 38,000 defibrillators at a cost of €105 million for 5 years. It is estimated that this national scheme would save 10 lives a year. The €105 million includes the defibrillator, local signage and training. It is proposed that defibrillators would be put in places with the greatest incidences of cardiac arrest such as entertainment venues, hospitality venues, public buildings, hospitals, sports clubs, retail premises, places of worship and transport stations. It is also suggested that a national database be developed as part of this process. Dublin City Council has already invested in defibrillators in many of its public buildings. The outcomes of the Health Technology Assessment are currently with the Department of Health. It may be more appropriate to wait on the outcome of the Public Health (Availability of Defibrillators) Bill 2013 before embarking on a local signage scheme.

#### Q.4 COUNCILLOR PAUL MCAULIFFE

Can the Chief Executive make immediate repairs to the road surface outside (details supplied)?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance will carry out the repairs at the location within the following month, subject to the prioritisation of service requests and the availability of resources in the area.

#### Q.5 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of all water meters installed by Dublin City Council outside domestic properties prior to the creation of Irish Water.

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

Dublin City Council did not install water meters outside domestic properties prior to the creation of Irish Water

#### Q.6 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

### Q.7 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

To ask the Chief Executive Dublin City Council's advice to residents in Riverside in Clonshaugh who receive demands for ground rent from Fitzwilliam Land Securities?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council cannot advise people in relation to matters pertaining to their private property.

## Q.8 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL O'BRIEN

To ask the Chief Executive to report on the progress of the Housing Assistance Payment pilot among those in emergency accommodation in Dublin, specifically how many have obtained private rented accommodation with the assistance of the HAP and whether any landlords not previously involved in the RAS scheme are participating in the pilot

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

As of Friday 15th May 2015, 16 homeless households moved into private rented accommodation under the Homeless HAP pilot scheme which commenced operationally on 18th February 2015. The Homeless HAP pilot scheme is being operated on a regional basis, therefore Homeless clients of any of the four Dublin local authorities are able to avail of the pilot subject to meeting the criteria set out in the HAP 2014 regulations. Of these 16 HAP households, 9 are proper to Dublin City Council i.e. on Dublin City Council's social housing waiting list with homeless priority.

Additionally the pilot scheme allows households to secure private rented accommodation anywhere within the Dublin region boundaries. Of these 16 HAP tenancies, none of the landlords for these properties were previously involved in the RAS scheme.

## Q.9 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he is going to continue to defy the request from the South East Area Committee for a letter to be issued to enable the Promoter of the SUAS project to apply for Planning permission. Such letter simply allows the planning issues to be considered. It does not confer any advance view of the proposal itself but would allow a public and transparent assessment of the project to be determined.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There was no intention to defy the request from the South East Area Committee in this matter. As previously indicated this proposal was first brought to the attention of the City Council a number of years ago. The proposal was considered at great length by the then senior management team including the departmental heads. It was decided not to support the proposal on the grounds that it was not considered to be in accordance with the proper planning and development of the city.

Within the last year the project has resurfaced and was again considered by the senior management team and the same conclusion was reached. Accordingly it would not be correct to raise expectations or have the proposal incur further costs on a project that is considered not to be in accordance with the proper planning and development of the City. If this project was considered to be in accordance with the proper planning and development of the city, then the City Council would have to invite proposals to comply with public procurement.

## Q.10 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive to follow up on a complaint that I have received from a tenant in **(details supplied)**, stating that his block is not being maintained properly; stairwells are not being brushed or washed and never power hosed. What is the cleaning rota for this block?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Caretaking Supervisor for this flat complex confirms that the stairwells are brushed every day and power washed every two weeks. Additional power washing is carried out when required. This complex is scheduled for power washing next week. The supervisor also reports that the stairwells in this block are currently clean.

## Q.11 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive if the following road signs can be examined with a view to replacing them if possible (details supplied 1) and see attached photos. Some of them are in poor condition. This area played a significant role during the 1916 Rising. Some are barely legible or missing entirely. Ironically it is the newer ones that are in the worst condition. One name seems to have been totally forgotten about in recent years and is now not listed at all, (details supplied 2)

Residents were wondering if in light of the anniversary of the Rising next year if the City Council has a specific budget from which it could pay for the replacement of the signs here. As **(details supplied 1)** was the scene of an actual battle I think it would be appropriate that the sacrifice and memory of those who died here was respected by an appropriate up-grading or replacement of the street signs which bear their names.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance carried out inspections of the existing street nameplates at the locations provided. New street nameplates have been ordered for all locations requested.

## Q.12 COUNCILLOR PADDY SMYTH

Can the Chief Executive outline the steps required for residents of a road to have bollards placed at a mid-point on the road (e.g. Corrib Road, Terenure) to prohibit the use of same as a 'rat run', while still maintaining vehicular access to all houses.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Bollards at the mid-point of a roadway are not generally considered an advantageous means of combating rat runners in the outer residential areas of Dublin City. However if the residents of Corrib Road would like specific traffic measures considered they can email their request to <u>traffic@dublincity.ie</u> and the matter will be referred to the Area Traffic Engineer for examination.

## Q.13 COUNCILLOR PADDY SMYTH

Can the Chief Executive explain the rationale used by the National Transport Authority when deciding not to continue the planned route 7A beyond the junction of St. Francis St. and Cornmarket and on to Dame St., Route C2 (<u>http://www.nationaltransport.ie/downloads/A3 Cycle\_Network\_Plan\_LOW\_RES.pdf</u>, given that there is significant demand predicted along this route (page 4 <u>http://www.nationaltransport.ie/wp-</u>

<u>ontent/uploads/2014/04/Cycling Demand Maps.pdf</u>) as well as the fact that three of the top 10 tourist attractions in the entire country are on same (Book of Kells, Guinness Store House, Kilmainham Gaol)?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All matters in relation to planned Dublin Bus routes are a matter for the National Transport Authority in conjunction with Dublin Bus. All issues in relation to this matter should be referred to either of the above bodies at <u>info@nationaltransport.ie</u> or <u>info@dublinbus.ie</u>

## Q.14 COUNCILLOR PADDY SMYTH

Since the incorporation of Dublin City Council, has any land ever been compulsory purchased (i.e. using a Compulsory Purchase Order) in order to build cycling infrastructure?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will issue directly to the Councillor from the Environment and Transportation Department within the coming week.

### Q.15 COUNCILLOR PADDY SMYTH

In the last 25 years how much money, if any, has been spent on the compulsory purchase of land in the City Council area in order to build road infrastructure, by Dublin City Council, Dept of Transport and the NTA?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will issue directly to the Councillor from the Environment and Transportation Department within the coming week.

## Q.16 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied):

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.17 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the enhancement of the Croppies Acre? In his reply the Chief Executive should detail the works that took place in 2014, what works have taken place to date this year and what further works are expected to be undertaken in the reminder of 2015?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Apart from ongoing maintenance work, no enhancement work was undertaken in the Park in 2014. Quotations will be sought shortly for the construction of a new footpath system in the park that when in-situ will allow the park to be reopened to the public

#### Q.18 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied):

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.19 COUNCILLOR RAY MCADAM

To ask the Chief Executive to detail what, if any, pre-planning meetings have been held involving officials from the Planning Department with regards (details supplied)?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

To date there is no record of a planning application lodged for the above address.

### Q.20 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange a lay-by at Armagh Road, Crumlin where the Blue Cross veterinary van parks. This is a busy service and at present the van parks on the footpath with lots of children and families using it, and parking of cars on the foot path at this time can lead to dangers for children and the elderly. A suitable layby would resolve this danger.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This matter has been referred to the Traffic Engineer for attention. The Councillor will be informed of the recommendation in due course.

### Q.21 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange repairs to the roadway outside (details supplied).

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services carried out an inspection of the carriageway outside (details supplied). The sections of carriageway at these locations have been placed on a list for repairs. Arrangements will be made to carry out these repairs when we have a crew available.

### Q.22 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange the removal of a tree stump at (details supplied).

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

The tree stump at this location is now removed.

#### Q.23 COUNCILLOR RAY MCHUGH

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for the hole remaining after a tree was removed at (details supplied) to be filled in.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services carried out an inspection of the footpath outside (details supplied). There is a tree pit located outside (details supplied). Road Maintenance Services will permanently reinstate the tree pit when we have a crew available to carry out the work.

## Q.24 COUNCILLOR SEÁN HAUGHEY

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

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.25 LORD MAYOR COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive as to what plans Dublin City Council has to protect the public who use Fairview Park, Dublin 3, given the amount of attacks in the Park. Could I ask the Chief Executive to provide funding for CCTV and also to have a Park Ranger and a Garda foot patrol to be put in place, and also that the Chief Executive request assistance from the Garda Commissioner in the plan?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is a currently park ranger located at Fairview Park who is on duty during park opening hours. When incidents occur in this or any park, the Gardaí are the first to be notified. Attacks on the person in Fairview Park are rare and not greater than other

parks in the North Central Area. Discussions are ongoing with regard to the possibility of installing CCTV in the Park.

### Q.26 LORD MAYOR COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive how many mortgage holders with Dublin City Council have run into arrears due to hardship in income and if DCC will assist to help such families on request to revert to renting.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are currently 1,190 mortgages in arrears with their mortgage payments. To date, 295 borrowers have applied to transfer to a tenancy under the Mortgage to Rent Scheme. 40 borrowers have completed the process and are now tenants of Dublin City Council. 106 borrowers are presently in the Mortgage to Rent process and 149 cases are being assessed for the scheme.

### Q.27 LORD MAYOR COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive that the Parks Department (details supplied).

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

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.28 LORD MAYOR COUNCILLOR CHRISTY BURKE

To ask the Chief Executive to send voter application forms to new developments of (details supplied):

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Franchise Section will organise for an inspector to call to both developments where they will carry out door-to-door enquiries and drop voter registration application forms.

**Q.29** COUNCILLOR SEÁN HAUGHEY To ask the Chief Executive the following (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)

## <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.31 <u>COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.32 <u>COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.33 <u>COUNCILLOR NOELEEN REILLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.34 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Can the Chief Executive have the playground in Leo Fitzgerald House Playground repaired?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

An inspection will be carried out to assess what repairs may be required.

#### Q.35 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Can the Chief Executive have the old rent office which is being used as a storage room for brushes be allocated to the resident in **(details supplied)** who is in a two bed and the brushes can be stored in the other room the caretakers have in this flat complex?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

No.1 (two bedroom flat) was allocated to the current tenant by way of inter-transfer with No.14 (one bedroom flat) in 2011.

The unit next door is a one room unit previously used as a rent office. It is currently used by our Caretaking Section for storage of equipment required to carry out their daily duties. Further work will be required to establish whether this proposal is feasible. Dublin City Council's rent scheme is based on household income and does not relate to the size of the dwelling or the number of bedrooms.

### Q.36 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Can the trees in Rostrevor Court have the roots treated and made safe as they are currently a hazard to the senior citizens in this complex?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Team Leader of our Mobile Cleaning Crew will inspect this area over the next two weeks. An assessment of what works are required will be made at that stage.

#### Q.37 COUNCILLOR CHRIS ANDREWS

Can the Chief Executive outline the current status of the ending of the East Link contract and in particular outline the implications for staff contracts and assure the staff that there will be no negative or significant change to staff contracts as a result of the ending of commission.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Discussions are on going between Dublin City Council and the current owners of Eastlink DIF with a view to ensuring that the transition will occur in as smooth a manner as possible and with as little change to any staff contracts etc. as is possible. At present there are no implications for staff contracts and we are hoping to have reached an agreement on this with DIF in the next month to six weeks.

## Q.38 COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive the total costs for removing graffiti by Dublin City Council for the years 2010; 2011; 2012; 2013; 2014. To ask the Chief Executive if all graffiti is removed or if there is a criterion under which graffiti must fall before the Council's Waste Management Section will remove it from city buildings and to identify the main locations in Dublin where graffiti is recurring and problematic. To ask the Chief Executive to outline any measures implemented by Dublin City Council to prevent graffiti and the cost of these measures.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The total costs for removing graffiti by Dublin City Council for the years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 are set out below :-

Graffiti Removal	Ex Vat
2010	162,944.00
2011	243,133.20
2012	307,332.80
2013	388,667.72
2014	186,044.96

Dublin City Council is responsible for the removal of graffiti from our own property including street furniture. However, we do also remove graffiti from private property in some cases, e.g. where it is offensive, or where the property is vacant. We focus on removing graffiti in main thoroughfare areas and we also work closely with residents / community / business groups as regards removal. Graffiti removal in some cases is very specialised, e.g. in the case of protected structures.

Graffiti is usually recurring on vacant property and on street furniture such as utility boxes, public litter bins etc. but also on some very visible private buildings and sometimes at very high levels. Contractors are used to remove graffiti and in addition we have our own dedicated crew removing graffiti around the City which has received many plaudits from businesses and communities alike. Graffiti removal and the effectiveness of same is one of the key items currently being examined as part of the review of the Litter Management Plan.

## Q.39 COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive the total number of hoax emergency calls made to Dublin Fire Brigade (DFB) including its Emergency Ambulance Service for the years 2011; 2012; 2013; 2014 and the total costs associated with responding to hoax calls on an annual basis since 2011.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

DFB do not class calls as *Hoax* calls. However calls can be reported by a DFB attending officer as either *Malicious False Alarm (MFA)* or *False Alarm Good Intent (FAGI)* upon arrival at scene.

Below are the numbers of incidents where either MFA or FAGI have been logged and the fire service has been mobilised.

#### Malicious False Alarm (MFA)

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Count of ORD	329	262	258	243

#### False Alarm Good Intent (FAGI)

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Count of ORD	787	719	751	948

Dublin Fire Brigade works hard with the community to reduce these types of calls. False alarms are not individually costed. However, the resources needed for dealing with them are included in the Fire Brigade Budget.

#### Q.40 COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive whether the Council provides any funding capacity for defibrillators for Community Centres, etc.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council does not provide funding specifically for defibrillators, however groups may apply to the Culture, Recreation, Amenity & Community Department for funding either through the Community Grants or Sports Grants Schemes. The applications will be assessed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the schemes (support of Community and Sport activities).

Successful applicants can arrange the purchase and installation of the defibrillators on notification of the grant award, or following payment of the grant. It is intended to advertise the Community and Sports Grants Schemes for 2016 in the autumn.

#### Q.41 COUNCILLOR JIM O'CALLAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to have the ramps on Annesley Park, Ranelagh resurfaced as they are dangerous to cyclists due to large potholes on them.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Road Maintenance Services Division has previously inspected Annesley Park with regard to the ramps and have included them on the 2015 ramp resurfacing contract.

### Q.42 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

Can the Chief Executive arrange for an inspection of **(details supplied)**? The resident has said that water is coming in from under the window sills in the sitting room downstairs. Can the Chief Executive also arrange for an Insulation inspection of the property and include in any upcoming Insulation programme please?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is no record of a maintenance request in relation to rain ingress under the window sill in the sitting room on our Anite Computer system for this dwelling. I have logged this request and the local area maintenance depot will arrange an inspection. Our Energy Liaison Officer called to this dwelling in February 2015 to survey it in relation to insulation.

Unfortunately this dwelling (solid concrete walls) is not included in this years planned energy upgrades. As we are still completing Phase One of this fabric upgrade programme we are restricted to insulating homes which can have the following measures listed below :-

- Cavity Wall Insulation
- Attic Insulation
- Draught Proofing
- Cylinder lagging Jacket

As a major component of these upgrade works is pump filling cavity walls, this dwellings is deemed not suitable for phase one. Phase two of the programme is to focus on this dwelling type. The scope, extent and start date of phase two will be decided by The Department of Environment, Community & Local Government on completion of Phase 1.

## Q.43 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

Can the Chief Executive arrange (details supplied)?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.44 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

Can the Chief Executive arrange for a Compulsory Purchase Order of (details **supplied**)? The purpose being to develop the troublesome junction located here. The site is currently being used by some people who are most likely homeless but are also involved in drug taking and other anti-social behaviour. This area has a very mature population, some of whom are very intimidated by the presence of these people. Can the Chief Executive ensure that at the very least this site is on the Derelict Sites register and appropriate actions are being pursued by Dublin City Council?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This site will be inspected by the Derelict Sites Section within two weeks and a report will be sent to the Councillor.

## Q.45 COUNCILLOR ANTHONY CONNAGHAN

To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a full inspection of the road markings in and around Finglas village. A lot of these markings have virtually disappeared through wear and tear and need upgrading immediately. The Finglas Festival is going to be run in July and is expected to attract many people from outside the area. It would be great if we could arrange for such basics to be in place to showcase Finglas Village in a good light

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This location has been inspected. Traffic have listed and tasked various locations in Finglas village for renewal. Traffic will endeavour to reinstate the markings in time for the festival (weather permitting).

#### Q.46 COUNCILLOR SEÁN HAUGHEY

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

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

**Q.47** COUNCILLOR SEÁN HAUGHEY To ask the Chief Executive the following (details supplied).

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.48 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY

To ask Chief Executive to remove lamppost stump at (details supplied)

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

For safety reasons the stump on **(details supplied)** cannot be removed until the ESB supply service is removed and transferred permanently over to the new light. It is on a list to be carried out. The ESB will be requested to attend to this as soon as possible.

#### Q.49 COUNCILLOR RUAIRI MCGINLEY

To ask the Chief Executive to deal with household waste collection at (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

### Q.50 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive, with regard to people registering as homeless, what constitutes a family? There are cases whereby a mother and father are not being accepted on the homeless list together as they either have separate housing applications or where not residing together before they became homeless. In some cases they were not residing together as they could not due to overcrowding or no permission to reside from the council. The mother and children do not want to move into emergency accommodation without the father. Can the Chief Executive consider reviewing this policy and allowing families to register as homeless even if they did not have a joint housing application before becoming homeless?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We have, in the past, placed various family dynamics-

- Parent/s and child
- Grandparents, parents and child
- Siblings (when one is over 18)

We will assess all family presentations on the circumstances from which they became homeless-

- where they were living
- who was living there
- how long they were living there
- payments

As a general rule, we will consider two people to be a couple if they have a history of living together and are getting paid as a couple (unless one of them is in receipt of Disability Allowance, in which case they can't have a joint payment). As with every presentation, it is assessed on a case by case basis. If there are deemed to be genuine circumstances which has prevented the parents living together prior to presenting as homeless- they will be afforded appropriate assistance and advice and possible placement.

If a parent presents:

- With a housing application that does not include a partner
- In receipt of a single parent payment
- Previously residing at an address for a long period of time on their own

They would generally be placed on their own with their child as to this point they have not resided with the "partner".

We have had cases like the above, where the other parent who has been living separately and has an individual housing application and payment who has suddenly declared themselves homeless and request they join the family. We would initially offer this person a single placement until the full situation is assessed and verification of their circumstances is received)

## Q.51 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive to consider implementing a street-sweeping policy used to great effect in many cities, notably in the USA, whereby cars may not park on a stretch of road for a given period (e.g. three hours) during the week at regular intervals (e.g. fortnightly, monthly) to enable comprehensive street sweeping and cleaning to take place on those streets. The situation at present is unsatisfactory in that where street sweeping machines are met with a parked car they must simply drive around it.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We have been acutely aware of this problem for many years now and have struggled to find a solution. It has not proven feasible to find a satisfactory mechanism whereby parking could be regularly relocated from one street to another to facilitate street cleaning. Most areas would not have adjacent streets with on-street parking capacity where cars could be accommodated. Residents would be obliged to move their cars before the temporary restriction came into force, late at night or early in the morning, and to reverse the process afterwards. The length of the 'window' before and after the street cleaning permitting residents to park on adjacent streets would be contentious, with resentment by residents of the road to which cars were relocated.

That said, there has been a number of submissions received in relation to the new Litter Management Plan on this issue and we are examining to see could we get this to work even on a trial basis. We have in the past cleared cars off streets to allow a street to be properly cleaned. However this has been organised primarily by the local residents and we would be very happy to work closely with any residents association that would assist us with removing cars, and we will arrange a road sweeper to be available.

## Q.52 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive to explain the rationale for the decision that Councillors are not permitted to attend (as observers, without participating) or read minutes of meetings of the Traffic Advisory Group

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The operation of the TAG system is an Executive function. The Traffic Advisory Group meeting is held monthly and is comprised of senior traffic Engineers and administrative staff. Representatives of An Garda Síochána and Dublin Bus also attends, to discuss issues relevant to those bodies.

Decisions of the Traffic Advisory Group are based on inspections and assessment by the area engineers, in accordance with agreed criteria. Owing to the size of the agenda, decisions of the area engineers are discussed with the Senior Executive Engineer and the Senior Engineer if required, in advance of the Traffic Advisory Group Meeting. Updates to the TAG agenda are agreed at the meeting. The minutes of each meeting, recording the recommendations made, are forwarded to each Area Committee for noting. Overall status reports are also forwarded for noting.

As stated above the Traffic Advisory Group is an executive operation and therefore would fall outside the remit of reserved functions prescribed for members.

## Q.53 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive whether the councillors have the power to prescribe a regime where they can attend (as observers, without participating) and read minutes of meetings of the Traffic Advisory Group

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The operation of the TAG system is an Executive function. The Traffic Advisory Group meeting is held monthly and is comprised of senior traffic Engineers and administrative staff. Representatives of An Garda Síochána and Dublin Bus also attends, to discuss issues relevant to those bodies.

Decisions of the Traffic Advisory Group are based on inspections and assessment by the area engineers, in accordance with agreed criteria. Owing to the size of the agenda, decisions of the area engineers are discussed with the Senior Executive Engineer and the Senior Engineer if required, in advance of the Traffic Advisory Group Meeting.

Updates to the TAG agenda are agreed at the meeting. The minutes of each meeting, recording the recommendations made, are forwarded to each Area Committee for noting. Overall status reports are also forwarded for noting. As stated above the Traffic Advisory Group is an executive operation and therefore would fall outside the remit of reserved functions prescribed for members.

### Q.54 COUNCILLOR FRANK KENNEDY

To ask the Chief Executive to consider a more practical timetable for the preparation of future Development Plans, and other major Dublin City Council projects, in circumstances where members had to digest almost 400 motions in the space of approximately one week prior to the recent Development Plan Council meeting.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The procedure for the preparation and making of a Development Plan is set out in Sections 9 to 12 of the Planning Act 2000 (as amended). The various stages of the 2 year process must be strictly adhered to as there is no flexibility to extend the timelines under the Act.

In this case, the closing date for the submission of Motions was 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015, and the date for the Special Council Meeting to consider the Chief Executive's Report on the submissions by the public and the 394 motions was 5<sup>th</sup> May. All of the 394 motions required an individual report and recommendation, following research and interdepartmental referrals as necessary, and prior to the collation, proofing and printing of the report.

At each stage, every attempt is made to maximise the time for elected members to read the Chief Executive's report in advance of the Council Meeting. There may be ways to reduce the time taken by, for example, grouping similar motions. It is also hoped that by facilitating group leaders focus group meetings and individual party information meetings Councillors will find it easier to participate more fully in the Development Plan process.

## Q.55 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.56COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGANTo ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

## Q.57 COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.58 <u>COUNCILLOR GAYE FAGAN</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.59 COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE

To ask the Chief Executive to make provision for (details supplied)

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

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.60 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will respond to the issues relating to the Disability Act in so far as it relates to Dublin City Council raised in the attachments and email submitted with this Question.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The access officer within Dublin City Council has a liaison/facility role in the area of disability. The provision for people with disabilities is largely mainstreamed to the various departments in Dublin City Council. Dublin City Council operates a programme of adaptations and extensions to City Council dwellings under our 'Scheme for Persons with Disabilities' for tenants of City Council owned dwellings.

Depending on the level of need the adaptations can take the form of:

- Simple hand rails and hand grips to assist the tenant to move around their home
- Installation of ramps and other wheelchair accessibility adaptations (door widening, provision of turning circles, etc)
- Installation of stair lifts
- Bathroom adaptations (replace bath with walk-in shower, replace bathroom suite, etc)
- In extreme cases DCC will provide an extension to the home (to allow living quarters for those tenants who can no longer access the bedrooms or toilet facilities upstairs)

Tenants apply for inclusion on a waiting list for any of the above through an application process which includes submission of medical reports outlining their condition and detailed Occupational Therapist reports describing the exact adaptations required. If the application is assessed as Medical Priority One then they are placed on a list which operates on the basis that all Medical Priority One cases are given the same priority and are dealt with as per the finances available and the length of time they are on the list.

The time on the waiting list to have the works carried out when a case has been approved on medical grounds varies. Firstly, the level and availability of funding for the scheme will decide how long an approved case may be on the waiting list. Secondly, the scale of the works required i.e. if it is an extension and requires major building work at the property or if it is the installation of a stair-lift.

The estimated waiting time for works to commence for cases approved and identified as being a high medical priority case for an extension is approximately two years, when funding has been established. The timeframe for adaptations usually runs at months, also depending on available funding.

The following table details applications and spending on this programme 2012	-2014:
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	2012	2013	2014
Number of Applications Received	311	203	169
Number of Approved Applications	162	87	79
Number of Adaptations Completed	154	131	165
Monies awarded for and spent on adaptations	€870,.000	€816,000.00	€977,900.00

To date in 2015 the following is the position in relation to this programme of adaptations / extensions:

Approved		At Architect / tender stage / works in progress / completed
Showers	87	45
Stairlifts	32	22
Ramps	27	15
Miscellaneous	11	11
Ceiling Hoists	2	1
Extensions	40	15

### Q.61 COUNCILLOR DERMOT LACEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he could supply me with the financial details surrounding the use of Herbert Park for the Web Summit in 2014.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Events are charged at a rate appropriate to the area of the park utilised and the period of the event. This income supports the annual ongoing improvements to the park. The Councillor has been contacted individually and the matter discussed with him directly.

#### Q.62 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.63 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

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

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.64 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.65 COUNCILLOR DECLAN FLANAGAN

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

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

**Q.66** <u>COUNCILLOR LARRY O'TOOLE</u> To ask the Chief Executive to respond to this request, (details supplied).

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.67 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

To ask the Chief Executive to detail, by category and for the past three years, the amounts paid by Dublin City Council for insurance through IPB and amounts paid out under "self insurance" and to further ask for a progress report on his examination of the options open to DCC to achieve "value for money" in insurance services both for self insurance and insurance services procured externally.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council made the following payments to IPB in respect of insurance premiums:

2012 : €2,952,547 2013 : €2,921,595 2014 : €2,926,739

The amounts paid out under self insurance were: 2012: €9,588,634 2013: €10,875,327 2014: €10,881.863

Dublin City Council is commencing a study to ascertain if value for money is being achieved for insurance services in respect of self insurance and insurance services procured externally.

#### Q.68 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

I note from the report to the Finance SPC that the DDDA will be transferring various assets to DCC including a property on East Road, East Wall (details supplied). In relation to this asset, can the Chief Executive confirm that it is the intention of DCC to use this site/property for social housing and to further indicate the size of the site, number of units to be constructed, ownership/management structure (DCC or VHA), funding amount and availability and indicative timescale?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There are issues in relation to the title of this site which must be resolved before it is transferred to Dublin City Council. Respond Housing Association has approached the Council in relation to developing the site for social housing and will progress the discussions further when the title issue is sorted.

#### Q.69 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

In his replies to me (Q48 - Council Meeting 3rd November 2014 and Q52 City Council Meeting 2nd March 2015)) the Chief Executive indicated that approximately 440 parking bays will have to be permanently removed to facilitate the Luas Cross City and that the permanent loss of income from these spaces would be in the region of €1.8M per annum.

The Chief Executive also confirmed that discussions are currently taking place with NTA and the RPA on a compensation package to include a number of items including loss of paid parking revenue and I was informed that a reply would be forwarded to me directly in relation to the issue of compensation to DCC for this loss of income.

Can the Chief Executive now update me on the issue of compensation and confirm what monetary compensation amounts will be taken into the City Council accounts in 2015 and beyond?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Whilst agreement has been reached with the NTA regarding compensation for the Council's involvement in the Luas Cross City project, i.e. staff costs etc., the issue of compensation regarding the long term loss of parking income is still under discussion and it is not expected to be finalised until such time as all works are completed and an accurate assessment of the final loss of spaces and income can be carried out.

### Q.70 COUNCILLOR NIAL RING

Can the Chief Executive provide a report on Housing to include:

A. The Capital Programme 2015-2017 includes a figure of  $\in$ 240m, being expenditure of  $\in$ 108m in 2015,  $\in$ 78m in 2016 and  $\in$ 54m in 2017. Can the Chief Executive confirm how much has been spent to date in 2015 and also confirm whether, or not, he is confident that the total expenditure figure will be achieved?

B. Given the Minister's many announcements regarding a €3,800m spend on social housing up to 2020, can the Chief Executive give the amended Capital Expenditure in light of the announcements or at least give an indication of what share of the amount DCC would be anticipating and/or able to use for social housing build/acquisition?

C. Give the Minister's further announcement that  $\in$  312m (of the  $\in$  3,800m) is to be made available immediately for social housing build/acquisition for 2015-2017, can the Chief Executive confirm if DCC has been allocated it's share of this amount and if it is in addition to the grant amount of  $\in$  160m (of the  $\in$  240m) relating to A above?

D. Can the Chief Executive confirm exactly how much by way of grant has already been paid over to DCC towards it's 2015 housing programme?

E. Can the Chief Executive confirm how many units DCC budgeted to build/acquire for the €240m in the three years 2015, 2016 and 2017 and to indicate the average build/acquisition cost per unit?

F. Can the Chief Executive comment on the validity of the Minister's figures which indicate that the  $\leq 3,800$ m will fund the build/acquisition of 35,000 units (an average of  $\leq 108$ K per unit), whereas his recently announced  $\leq 312$ m will build/acquire 1,700 units (an average cost of  $\leq 183$ k) and compare these figures with the average build/acquisition budgeted by DCC (answer to E above)?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be sent directly to the Councillor within 2 weeks.

## Q.71 COUNCILLOR KATE O'CONNELL

In light of the confusion surrounding the Palmerston Gardens pay & display proposal, can the Chief Executive please clarify the procedure in such matters and suggest how it might be improved given its perceived shortcomings? For instance, how do fractions of votes arise following the ombudsman's ruling? How it is that majority votes are not regarded as binding? Is there a plan afoot to call on the ombudsman to address the shortcomings in such rulings?

In this particular case, there seems to be more dissatisfaction among residents with the opacity of the process than with the final decision. This needs to be addressed.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The following report was recently submitted to the members of the South East Area Committee and a letter was sent to all residents on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 outlining the Council's proposals:

#### "Palmerston Gardens - Report to members of the South East Area Committee

A ballot on the introduction of a residents parking scheme on Palmerston Gardens was originally held in 2005 with the result being 54 against and 2 in favour. Another ballot was held in mid 2011. The result of that ballot was another overwhelming rejection 50 votes against and 14 in favour.

Following another request from residents a third ballot was held in late 2014. The result was 38 votes in favour and 37 against. When the Ombudsman's ruling\* was taken into account the pro-rata vote was 27.6 in favour and 26.3 against. Given the closeness of the vote residents were written to advising them of the situation and asking them to try to come to a clear majority consensus on the issue. It was subsequently discovered that the parking scheme proposed was incomplete as no parking controls were provided for in the cul de sac laneway.

A revised parking scheme was drawn up and submitted to residents for a ballot in Feb/March 2015. The result of that ballot was 28 in favour and 35 against, however the result using the Ombudsman's formula resulted in a reversal, with 25.66 in favour and 25.33 against. This is the first ballot since the Ombudsman's ruling in June 2013 where implementation of the pro-rata formula has resulted in a reversal of the ballot result. The Council has again written to the Ombudsman outlining the anomaly in using the pro-rata formula in a ballot where there are not houses let in multiple units. The Ombudsman's ruling was designed in such a way as to allow occupiers of multi-unit houses have a vote but that numerous votes from a multi-unit house would not skew the ballot result.

As there was a previous ballot in 2011, no critical assessment of the need for a Residents parking scheme was carried out when the second request was made. Nearly every house on Palmerston Gardens has off street parking for one or two cars. Recent inspections appear to indicate that the street does not qualify for the introduction of a scheme as there would not appear to be over 80% parking occupancy. Accordingly it is proposed to monitor the street over the next twelve months to assess parking occupancy accurately before making a decision on the introduction of a scheme.

Experience has shown that the introduction of a residents parking scheme on similar streets can lead to issues with speeding as parked cars have a natural traffic calming effect. On the adjacent road where a residents parking scheme was introduced it led to residents requesting speed ramps. Eight speed ramps costing in the region of  $\in$ 25,000 had to be installed on Cowper Road to slow traffic. The cost of parking infrastructure (parking meters, lines and signs) required for the introduction of a scheme the size of Palmerston Gardens would be in the region of  $\in$ 15,000. Given that the average uptake for residents permits for similar streets is approx 30% of available parking spaces income from permits would not recoup the cost of installing the scheme for 20 to 25 years, which excludes ongoing maintenance and enforcement costs.

The other issue that arises is that by removing commuter parking in areas in the outer suburbs it actually forces further cars into the city centre. While the removal of free parking within the canals was policy, whether this should happen in the outer suburbs is something that needs further consideration.

The Environment & Transportation Department is to examine the current policies relating to the introduction of Residential Parking schemes and will submit proposals in this regard to the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee.

#### May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015

\* The 2013 Ombudsman's Ruling stated that the maximum number of returned votes from any dwelling to be counted in the ballot will be equivalent to the maximum number of permits that the property will be entitled to under the current Parking Control Bye-Laws. The result for the property may therefore be proportioned on a pro-rata basis to obtain an overall result for the property."

## Q.72 COUNCILLOR KATE O'CONNELL

To ask the Chief Executive to encourage relevant staff to be vigilant for anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the council offices and City Hall and not to hesitate in contacting the Gardaí to address any possible concerns. Particular attention should be paid by security staff to Barnardo's Square, about which there have been recent complaints.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

All Council employees are encouraged to be vigilant regarding their own safety and the safety of others. Employees are encouraged through procedures and protocol to contact on site Porter Services/Security and An Garda Síochána when necessary.

## Q.73 COUNCILLOR ÉILIS RYAN

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of landlords whose premises have been found to be in breach of minimum housing standards under the recent inspections programme, who were in receipt of rent supplement or allowance, RAS, HAP or other similar payments, and the estimated amount of rent supplement or allowance, RAS, HAP or other similar payments which was paid to those landlords in total.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008, as amended. In 2014 Dublin City Council had two teams of Environmental Health Officers undertaking inspections of private rented houses in Dublin city. The Environmental Health (EH) team respond to complaints, undertake proactive inspections and undertake inspections of properties considered for the Rental Accommodation Scheme.

The Intensified Inspection Programme (IIP) team undertake proactive inspections in areas of Dublin City where there are high concentrations of what are commonly referred to a pre 63 multi unit buildings. The IIP is a three year programme that commenced in March 2012. Data in relation the payment of rent supplement or allowances is not required to be collected under housing standards legislation.

2014	EH Team	IIP Team	Total
Number of dwellings inspected	1542	1885	3427
Number of inspections	2511	4763	7274
Number of dwellings not meeting regulatory	929	1574	2503

requirements			
2014 (cont)	EH Team	IIP Team	Total
Number of dwellings where compliance was achieved following enforcement action	714	1863	2577
Number of improvement notices served	828	1643	2471
Number of prohibition notices served	80	71	151
Legal actions initiated	40	25	65

# Q.74 COUNCILLOR ÉILIS RYAN

To ask the Chief Executive for a report on the estimated number of private rented properties found to be in breach of minimum housing standards under the recent inspection programme of private rental properties, how many of these premises the landlord carried out necessary works, how many of these premises were sold by the landlord without necessary works, how many of these premises were boarded up with no action taken, and what rent increases resulted from the necessary works being carried out?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008, as amended. In 2014 Dublin City Council had two teams of Environmental Health Officers undertaking inspections of private rented houses in Dublin city. The Environmental Health (EH) team respond to complaints, undertake proactive inspections and undertake inspections of properties considered for the Rental Accommodation Scheme.

The Intensified Inspection Programme (IIP) team undertake proactive inspections in areas of Dublin City where there are high concentrations of what are commonly referred to a pre 63 multi unit buildings. The IIP is a three year programme that commenced in March 2012.

Data in relation the number of properties that have been sold, ceased business or rent being paid is not required to be collected under housing standards legislation.

2014	EH Team	IIP Team	Total
Number of dwellings inspected	1542	1885	3427
Number of inspections	2511	4763	7274
Number of dwellings not meeting regulatory requirements	929	1574	2503
Number of dwellings where compliance was achieved following enforcement action	714	1863	2577
Number of improvement notices served	828	1643	2471
Number of prohibition notices served	80	71	151
Legal actions initiated	40	25	65

## Q.75 COUNCILLOR ÉILIS RYAN

To ask the Chief Executive for clarification on how, under the current 20 year lease/HAP/RAS schemes, the council determines what is "market rent" - i.e. which indicators and data are used, and how discrepancies between different data (Daft versus PRTB, for example) are managed?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The market rent for RAS and social leasing is determined by the use of a combination of DAFT and PRTB datasets. The DAFT listing is an average of new let

properties in the previous quarter over an entire postcode. This rate can represent a broad range of rents within that postcode.

The PRTB figures are based on a much broader sample of current tenancies and include house types not generally included in DAFT. It can be interrogated by urban village or individual suburb and correlated with unit size. It gives a more nuanced view of rents in the immediate locality of the property being offered and ensures that Dublin City Council is not paying over the current market. Rents offered also need to take cognisance of the rent supplement caps. This process is a negotiation process and rents exceeding the current norms are signed off by administrative officer for the RAS and Leasing Unit.

## Q.76 COUNCILLOR ÉILIS RYAN

To ask the Chief Executive, of people who have presented to homeless services over the past 18 months, how many are estimated to have become homeless as a result of rent increases/evictions from private rental properties found to be sub standard?

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

A prevention initiative led by the four Dublin local authorities and delivered by the Tenancy *Protection Service* (TPS), operated by Threshold is in place to respond to the needs of families and individuals who are renting and worried about losing their home in the Greater Dublin Area.

The TPS plays a key role in assisting individuals and families, who are vulnerable as a result of rental inflation or income inadequacy, to sustain tenancies in private rented accommodation and preventing them from entering homeless services.

The service began operation in June 2014 and 2,910 individuals had contacted the service by year end 2014 and an additional 1,229 individuals made contact with TPS in Q1 2015. In total, 4,139 households have contacted the service of which 1,937 (or 47%) were deemed to be 'at risk' of homelessness.

Number of household contacting TPS	June -December 2014	January - March 2015	Total to date
Early intervention: advised of rights	1,607	595	2,202
Tenancies <b>'at risk'</b> of homelessness	1,303	634	1,937
Total	2,910	1,229	4,139

#### Table 1a: Number of callers to TPS (June 2014 – March 2015)

In addition to advocacy and re-housing work with tenants, the TPS, provided by Threshold, can deliver an uplift to rent supplement payments to eligible households<sup>1</sup>. In addition, it assists households to access the PRTB regarding issues such as illegal evictions, rent reviews and invalid notices.

Of the 1,937 households at risk of homelessness:

- 553 tenancies (28%) were protected and prevented from entering homelessness:
  - 462 have been approved by DSP for the a rent uplift (of the 567 referred);

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The uplift in payment is based on a protocol agreed between DRHE, the four Dublin local authorities and the Department of Social Protection (DSP). Referred to as the Dublin Interim Tenancy Sustainment Protocol (ITSP)

- $\circ$  30 were re-housed; and
- 61 TPS engaged in advocacy work.
- An additional 56 (3%) households engaged with the PRTB.
- 917 cases are on-going or being assessed.
- 400 cases have been closed following successful engagement with Threshold.
- 11 families have entered homeless services

Of the families that entered homelessness, one was evicted illegally and three were advised by the PRTB that the notice given was valid and they needed to vacate the property. The remaining seven households were found to have been served invalid notices to quit but reported they had departed the tenancy due harassment from the landlord. In these cases, the level of rent was not the issue that triggered their entry into homelessness.

## Q.77 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue a full report that all English Language schools in the Dublin City Council area are in full compliance with planning permissions and fire safety standards and are up to date with their rates payments.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

I attach for your information a list of ratings relating to English Language Schools across the city. The list includes 27 English Language Schools (49 ratings). The annual charge is €442,618.88. Three accounts are in arrears (Arrears € 25,458.73) and two of these are in liquidation. (\*\*) The third account has arrears outstanding in the sum of €269.11 (\*\*\*)

Company Name	Address	Area
A T C LANGUAGE & TRAVEL LIMITED	34-35A WILLIAM STREET SOUTH	South East
ALPHA SCHOOL OF ENGLISH	31 GARDINER PLACE	Central
ALPHA SCHOOL OF ENGLISH	31 GARDINER PLACE	Central
ASPECT INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIMITED	7 EXCHANGE STREET LOWER	South East
ATLANTIC LANGUAGE DUBLIN	BLOCK C, MAGENNIS COURT	South East
ATLAS LANGUAGE INSTITUTE	34 SOUTH RICHMOND STREET	South East
**AUTHENTIK LANGUAGE LEARNING RESOURCES LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)	UNIT 27 BLOCK 6 WESTLAND COURT,	South East
CENTRE OF ENGLISH STUDIES	31 DAME STREET	South East
CENTRE OF ENGLISH STUDIES LIMITED	DAME COURT HOUSE	South East
CIAN CROSSEN & CIARA CROSSEN - Dublin School Of English	DOLLARD HOUSE	South East
CIAN CROSSEN & CIARA CROSSEN - Dublin School Of English	DOLLARD HOUSE	South East
CIAN CROSSEN & CIARA CROSSEN - Dublin School Of English	3RD FLOOR (PT OF), 2-5 WELLINGTON QUAY	South East
CITAS LIMITED	THE STEELWORKS	Central
*** DARREN HOGARTY T/A Trinity English School	28 FREDERICK STREET SOUTH	South East
Delfin English School	2 PARNELL SQUARE EAST	Central

E F International Language Schools Ltd	29 AND 30 FITZWILLIAM SQUARE SOUTH	South East
Company Name	Address	Area
ENGLISH HOUR	3 ABBEY STREET LOWER	Central
ENGLISH HOUR	3 ABBEY STREET LOWER	Central
ENGLISH HOUR	3 ABBEY STREET LOWER	Central
HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	40 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	40 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LTD	4 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LTD	4 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LTD	4 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
HUGH DELANEY, PATRICK DELANEY & PAUL DELANEY	67 HARCOURT STREET	South East
KENILWORTH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE LIMITED	4 KENILWORTH SQUARE	South East
KENILWORTH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE LIMITED	1 COPPINGER ROW	South East
LANGUAGE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED	25-28 (PT) STRAND STREET GREAT	Central
LANGUAGE COMMUNICATIONS	25-28 (PT) STRAND STREET GREAT	Central
LANGUAGES UNLIMITED SERVICES LTD	20B CONQUER HILL ROAD	North Central
LIVING LANGUAGE CONTACT LIMITED	102 (HALL FLOOR) PEMBROKE ROAD	South East
MOREHAMPTON LANGUAGE INSTITUTE LIMITED	13 FITZWILLIAM SQUARE	South East
MOREHAMPTON LANGUAGE	13 FITZWILLIAM SQUARE	South East
OXFORD COLLEGE OF ENGLISH LIMITED	5 ABBEY STREET LOWER	Central
OXFORD COLLEGE OF ENGLISH LIMITED	5 ABBEY STREET LOWER	Central
POLISH SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	USHERS COURT	South Central
POLISH SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	USHERS COURT	South Central
RULEBOOK LIMITED T/A FRANCES KING SCHOOL OF ENGLISH IRELAND	26 MERRION SQUARE NORTH	South East
S E D A (SKILLS & ENTERPRISE Development ACADEMY) LIMITED	88 CAPEL STREET	Central
STUDY IN IRELAND LIMITED	4 Meeting House Lane	Central
STUDY IN IRELAND LIMITED	39 PARNELL SQUARE WEST	Central
STUDY IN IRELAND LIMITED	4 MEETING HOUSE LANE	Central
**THE CARLYLE INSTITUTE LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)	25 DUKE STREET	South East
THE HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	10 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East

THE HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	10 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
Company Name	Address	Area
THE HORNER SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LIMITED	10 FITZWILLIAM STREET UPPER	South East
THERMAR LTD T/A ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACADEMY	73 CAPEL STREET	Central
TRAVELLING LANGUAGES	6 CLARE STREET,	South East
TRAVELLING LANGUAGES	6 CLARE STREET,	South East

There has been a growth in the number of third level colleges including English language schools located in the city centre over the past number of years. New educational institutions are generally located in buildings with an established or other commercial use, rather than in new purpose built buildings. Since they are deemed to be an educational use, planning permission is normally required for a change of use if the previous/established use was not already educational.

A significant number of planning applications have been submitted and planning permissions granted and all such applications have been determined in accordance with development plan standards. All reported unauthorised changes of use or breaches of planning conditions are investigated and enforcement action taken, as appropriate. It is the responsibility of the owners of the buildings to ensure that their premises are compliant with the Fire Services Act 1981.

## Q.78 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive furnish me with a report with the contractual arrangements with regards the management of postering sites that are managed by the IPA. The report to include all tendering processes and all procurement processes and whether this service was ever put out to public tendering?

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

There is an established agreement between Dublin City Council and Irish Poster Advertising relating to the maintenance of hoardings around building sites and derelict buildings within the confines of the City. The broad terms of the agreement are as follows Irish Poster Advertising provide a service to the City relating to the removal of illegal fly posting and graffiti from hoardings from building sites and derelict buildings in lieu of erecting posters in an orderly fashion relating to <u>events/arts/music only</u>, provided that the size of each individual poster is of a size that could be considered exempted development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001.

This service and agreement has run for over fifteen years. The Planning Department and Waste Management Services consider that the agreement and its operation has created a very positive outcome from the point of view of minimising illegal fly posting while also creating an orderly mechanism for the advertising of events within the City. Given the fact that the agreement with IPA and the associated service has worked so well in excess of fifteen years and is cost neutral to the City Council and is considered exempted development, there is no proposal to tender out the service or amend the agreement in the near future.

## Q.79 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive issue me with a full report as to how many architects are employed by Dublin City Council – full time and part time and how many are under external contracts? Also how many of DCC architects are working on social housing

projects and how many of these architects are engaged in the design of Dublin City Council housing schemes if any?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

29 Architects are employed by Dublin City Council. The FTE (Full Time Equivalent) no is 27.7. There are no Architects employed on external contracts. 14.5 Architects work in Strands 1 and 2 (Housing), which incorporate social housing projects including the design of new housing schemes. The remaining 13.2 Architects work in Strands 3-7 (Civic and Statutory), which incorporates Conservation, Dangerous Buildings, Libraries, and other Civic Buildings. Included in the 29 figure, are two Graduate Architects who joined DCC on 2 June 2015. They are engaged on a temporary 2 years Graduate Programme and will be working across all strands to gain experience in a number of areas.

### Q.80 COUNCILLOR MANNIX FLYNN

Can the Chief Executive examine the possibility of renaming the Dublin Literary Impac award as the W. B. Yeats Literary Award? Given that this is the anniversary of W.B. Yeats and that Impac no longer contribute to this award and it is now wholly funded by Dublin City Council it would be appropriate in this anniversary year to rename it in honour of one of this country's literary icons whose work is world renowned.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Consideration regarding the naming of the award is ongoing. We see significant value in keeping IMPAC in the title in the short term for two reasons:

- 1. The Award is widely known internationally as 'the Dublin IMPAC' and we see little benefit in losing that name recognition in the short term. When Booker ceased its sponsorship of the Booker Prize the organisers and new sponsors kept the name 'Booker' in the title for that same reason.
- 2. It is possible that the name of the Award would need to be changed if a new partner comes on board and so we see little advantage in changing the name now, only to have to change it again when/if a new partnership is agreed.

However, we do not believe that the W.B. Yeats Literary Award would be a suitable title: W.B. Yeats was a poet and playwright and did not write novels. As the Award is given for a novel, naming the Award after a poet would be inappropriate and confusing, particularly in the international context. In addition, the primacy of Dublin in the title is critical to its origins, recognition and patronage.

The company IMPAC ceased operating in the mid-2000s and is no longer in existence. James B. Irwin, the founder and President of IMPAC, died in 2009. IMPAC's sponsorship was provided via a Trust Fund, set up in 1994 specifically to fund the prize money. The prize money continued to be funded solely from monies in the Trust until 2013. At the end of 2013 €10,000 remained in the Fund. This went towards the 2014 prize money, the balance of which was funded by Dublin City Council. As there was no money left in the fund, the Trust was formally dissolved in 2014.

## Q.81 <u>COUNCILLOR BRÍD SMITH</u>

To ask the Chief Executive to outline what are the instructions to staff in respect of sewage blockages in council houses? What are the instructions in emergency out-of-hours incidents of sewage blockages in our housing stock?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

City Council staff dealing with a sewage blockage in a City Council dwelling are advised as follows:

The clearing of chokes is the responsibility of the tenant. The tenant handbook states "Paying the cost of clearing a blocked drain" is tenant responsibility. Housing Maintenance will assist tenants in houses with blocked drains only where resources allow and when priority calls have been completed. The priorities for our Choke Car Service are flat complexes and older persons' units. This is due to the extensive damage that can be caused in such complexes should there be a delay in addressing the matter.

It is the case that the choke car will "fall back" on chokes in houses when there are no priority chokes that require attention. It is not possible to give a time-frame for these "fall back" jobs as they are dependent on the quantity of priority calls. Currently there is a waiting period of approximately 2 weeks if the tenant of the house opts to wait for the "fall back" service by DCC Choke Cars. Tenants who are concerned about waiting for a "fall back" slot becoming available are advised to engage a private contractor to clear the choke. Housing Maintenance does not cover any costs involved. Housing Maintenance 'Out Of Hours Service' will respond to emergency calls on sewage blockages within our flat complexes, after hours. Choke Car requests in houses are attended to during the normal working day.

# Q.82 COUNCILLOR BRÍD SMITH

Why did the Chief Executive not seek the advice of his Chief Fire Officer and the brigades senior management team prior to making his decision on the future of the DFBs Fire Based EMS Ambulance service and could he identify what problems if any he has with the operational ambulance crews proposed model as presented to the forum chaired by (details supplied)?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Chief Executives of the four Dublin local authorities, having consulted with the HSE, have made a proposal in seeking to comply with key recommendations of the HIQA report on emergency ambulances services and in the interests of patient safety for the Dublin region. This proposal is related to integrated call taking/ambulance dispatch and the need for a single clinical governance regime. The Chief Executives were aware of the position of the Chief Fire Office on the relevant HIQA recommendations prior to making such a proposal. The Fire Brigade management team had made a comprehensive submission to the HIQA study prior to the completion of the report.

The Chief Executive is aware that the Trade Unions involved have tabled an alternative proposal on the lines outlined in this question to the Joint DCC/Trade Union Forum chaired by Mr Stephen Brady. This proposal will be considered by that Forum. The Chief Executive has also invited the Chief Fire Officer and his management team to prepare a submission on the two proposals or indeed to submit a further alternative proposal to the Joint DCC/Trade Union Forum. It is now a matter for the Forum to consider all proposals and to seek agreement on the best model of operation for addressing the very important recommendations outlined in the HIQA report.

# Q.83 COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

- Q.84 <u>COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied) <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor
- Q.85 <u>COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.86 <u>COUNCILLOR SÉAMAS MCGRATTAN</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.87 <u>COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied).

> <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.88 <u>COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.89 <u>COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

**Q.90** <u>COUNCILLOR DENISE MITCHELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.91 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to outline his plans to improve the energy savings and efficiencies in street lighting by moving towards the greater use of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) for street lighting and to give the current and proposed running costs, and capital investment required.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The current energy cost per annum is €3.6M approximately.

DCC public lighting consumes approximately 22,000,000 units of electricity annually. Energy savings can be achieved by implementing the following:

- Replacement of Sodium lighting with LED lighting.
- Installation of dimming technology
- Trimming of On/Off times.

Bee have the following range of Eow Pressare boardin (BEX) lanterns				
	Number	Wattage	Units consumed per annum	
	15000 55 Watt (69) <sup>*</sup>		4,243,500	
	2500	90 Watt (116)	1,189,000	
	3400	135 Watt (163)	2,272,000	
		Total Units	7,704,500	

DCC have the following range of Low Pressure Sodium (SOX) lanterns

<sup>\*</sup>The number in brackets is the billed wattage. This figure includes losses.

Initially SOX technology is being phased out as the price of replacement lamps is increasing at a rapid rate.

Note : public lights burn for approximately 4100 hours per annum. These lanterns will be replaced by the following LED lanterns.

Existing Watts	Number	New LED Wattage	Units consumed	per
			annum	
<sup>1</sup> 55 Watt (69) <sup>*</sup>	15000	36 Watt	2,200,000	
90 Watt (116)	2500	70 Watt	720,000	
135 Watt (163)	3400	110 Watt	1,530,000	
e		Total Units	4,450,000	

timated cost of replacing all of these lanterns is of the order of €7,000,000. DCC have the following range of High Pressure Sodium (SON) lamps

Number	Wattage	Units consumed per annum
183	50 Watts (56)	42000
4833	70 Watt (84)	1,664,500
6599	100 Watt(114)	3,085,000
4714	150 Watt (168	2,363,000
3431	250 watt (270)	3,798,000
369	400 Watt (435)	658,000
	Total	11,610,500

The number in brackets is the billed wattage. This figure includes losses. These lanterns could be replaced with the following LED lanterns.

Existing Watts	Number	New LED Wattage	Units consumed per
			annum
50 Watts (56)	183	36 Watt	27,000
70 Watt (84)	4833	52 Watt	1,031,000
100 Watt(114)	6599	65 Watt	1,759,000
150 Watt (168	4714	110 Watt	2,126,000
250 watt (270)	3431	180 Watt	2,532,000
400 Watt (435)	369	290 Watt	439,000
		Total	7,914,000

The estimated cost of replacing these lanterns is  $\notin 9,600,000$ . The above two investments combined yield an energy saving of 35% approximately. It is intended to implement dimming between midnight and 6:00 a.m. This measure would yield a further 15% reduction in energy consumption. The public lighting division have just completed a tender competition for the supply of LED lanterns. A capital fund of  $\notin 1M$  per annum has been set aside for the replacement of all of our Low Pressure Sodium Lanterns. This work will start immediately.

# Q.92 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive in regard to contracts (in excess of one million Euro) to purchase land, or options in land by the city in the years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2009 and 2010 to list the following: 1. proposed use of lands, 2. price paid, 3. area in square metres, 4. address, and 5. current use.

Address	Proposed use of lands	Purchase Price	Area in m <sup>2</sup>	Current use	Year
Site at Raleigh Square	Housing	€1,250,000	2,962	Being transferred to Tuath Housing Association	2004
Land at Jamestown Rd / Kylemore Rd	Roads	€1,206,251	8,710	Roadway	2004
Lands at Cherry Orchard	Housing	€6,648,793	72,450	Vacant	2005
Fassaugh Ave & Dunmanus Road - Church of the Most Precious Blood, Cabra, Dublin 7 - Land Adjacent	Housing	€1,200,000	5,034	In the process of being transferred to Cluid Housing Association	2009
Lands at Saggart, Co Dublin	Water treatment storage reservoir	€1,228,715	72,050	Irish Water took over responsibility on 01/01/2014	2010

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

# Q.93 COUNCILLOR CIARÁN CUFFE

To ask the Chief Executive to provide a list of all projects for which funding was sought from the NTA in 2014/2015 and in each case to provide the following information:

- 1. description and address of the project
- 2. estimated total cost of project
- 3. amount of funding sought from NTA
- 4. amount available from Dublin City Council
- 5. amount of funding obtained

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will issue directly to the Councillor from the Environment and Transportation Department within the coming week.

# Q.94 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive provide a detailed report on how the Spencer Hotel in the Docklands received planning permission for the erection of signage on the front of the building despite planning being refused by Dublin City Council and An Bord Pleanála previously?

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

This question relates to the following planning applications:

1. Dublin City Council (DCC) Plan Reg Ref WEB1031/14 (An Bord Pleanála Ref No. 243371)

2. Dublin Docklands Development Authority Section 25 DD685

It is important to note that WEB1031/14 was assessed under the provisions of Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017; whereas, DD685 was assessed under the provisions of the Dublin Docklands Development Authority Planning Policies.

The Planner's Report DD685 thoroughly assessed the above applications. The Authority thoroughly assessed DCC Drawings and Planners Report on WEB1031/14 and An Bord Pleanála's Inspectors Report and Board Order including the Reason for Refusal. The Authority also thoroughly assessed the proposal to DDDA which was amended to address the issues raised by DCC and An Bord Pleanála Planner's Reports.

DD685 was referred to DCC Planning Department; a response was received on17/12/2014 as follows:

"The proposal to provide additional signage is considered acceptable. However the size of the lettering is considered inappropriate and the use of internal illumination is not favoured."

DD685 was certified by DDDA on 28/1/2015 for the following reason:

- 1. The dimensions, lettering, materials and locations of the signage as well as the internal illumination accords with the provisions of;
- Dublin Docklands Master Plan 2008
- Custom House Docks Planning Scheme 1994 (as amended 1998)
- Shopfront and Signage Guidelines Policy Document specifically Section 5.3

The Section 25 DD685 was certified subject to 8no. Planning Conditions including: Condition 6

The development hereby approved shall incorporate the following amendments:

a) The individual letters 'SPENCER' shall be reduced in height from the proposed 840mm to 500mm in height.

DD685 Drawings and Planners Report as well as DCC's Referral Response are available for inspection at DDDA Offices.

#### Q.95 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive confirm the number of homeless families currently accommodated in hotels and the length of time they have been homeless? Can he also confirm the number of homeless families who couldn't be accommodated on any given evening and who have been referred to a Garda Station by Focus Ireland?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be sent directly to the Councillor in two weeks.

#### Q.96 COUNCILLOR CIERAN PERRY

Can the Chief Executive confirm the number of new staff employed by Dublin City Council over the last five years and their grades?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In the five year period 2009 – 2014 the Council recruited a total of 198.1 staff (Whole Time Equivalents). These positions are primarily in operational grades such as Fire Brigade, Leisure Centres and Facilities Management. Positions were also filled in professional / technical grades such as Engineering Services, Parks Services and Building Control.

#### Q.97 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive if the water services division has detected lead in the water supply in the Dublin City Council area over the past 10 years.?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

 Water related queries should be forwarded to Irish Water directly at the following contact details:

 Telephone:
 1890278278 (Lo-Call)

 Web:
 www.water.ie

 Twitter:
 @Irish Water

 Postal Address:
 Irish Water, PO Box 860, South City Delivery Office, Cork

 City.
 Email:

#### Q.98 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive how many building apprentices have been taken on by Dublin City Council in the past 10 years.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin City Council employed a small number of apprentices in 2008 in the Plumbing and Carpentry trades. Following the introduction of the moratorium on recruitment in 2009, no further apprentices were employed.

Dublin City Council is currently carrying out an analysis of its workforce with a view to determining future workforce needs. This analysis will seek to identify gaps between the present and future need and look to set out solutions to enable the organisations to meet its goals. The potential of an apprenticeship scheme will be considered as part of the examination of future staffing needs.

### Q.99 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive if a report can be issued to this Councillor outlining the current staff levels in area offices and if this can be given in tabular form. And to also state the ratio of staff to area office visits for every area office in the Dublin City Council administrative area.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

We will compile the information requested by the Councillor and reply directly in due course.

# Q.100 COUNCILLOR PAUL HAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.101 <u>COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD</u> Could the Chief Executive (Details supplied)

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.102 <u>COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD</u> Could the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.103 COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD

Could the Chief Executive arrange for (details supplied) <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.104 <u>COUNCILLOR CATHLEEN CARNEY BOUD</u> Could the Chief Executive provide (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.105 COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.106 <u>COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

### Q.107 <u>COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

<u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.108 <u>COUNCILLOR EMMA MURPHY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.109 <u>COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.110 <u>COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY: A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.111 <u>COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

<u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.112 <u>COUNCILLOR GREG KELLY</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.113 COUNCILLOR CRIONA NÍ DHÁLAIGH

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.114 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Can the Chief Executive to arrange for the shortcomings in the waste water removal system at **(details supplied)** to be addressed without delay?

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

A reply will issue directly to the Councillor from the Environment and Transportation Department within the coming week.

#### Q.115 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

To ask the Chief Executive that the facility known as the Abigail Centre, Kildonan Road, Finglas would become a dry facility by agreement during the next review of the service level agreement or sooner?

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A full review of the Abigail Centre is ongoing at present and includes a review of the service level agreement under the terms of reference. When completed, the review will be presented to the North West Area Committee.

### Q.116 COUNCILLOR DAVID COSTELLO

Can the Chief Executive examine the feasibility of introducing "off the lead areas" for dogs to socialise in key Dublin city parks? Please provide a list of existing facilities in Dublin city.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

In relation to parks ,Part 2 section 3 of the bye-laws for the control of dogs under the Local Government Act 1984 stipulate that a person in charge of a dog " shall keep the dog on a sufficiently strong chain or leash, not exceeding two metres in length if a fixed leash, or ten metres if retractable, while in that area, except during the following times when the dog may be unleashed in such areas (but excluding the North Bull Island and any other such area for which a Special Amenity Area Order is made) provided that such dog must still be under the effectual control of the person-in-charge of the dog in accordance with the Control of Dogs Acts, 1986 and 1992:

January & December:	8.00 a.m 11.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m 5.00 p.m.
February & November:	8.00 a.m 11.00 a.m.
March & October	4.30 p.m 5.30 p.m.
March & October:	8.00 a.m 11.00 a.m.
	5.30 p.m 6.30 p.m. (wintertime)
	6.30 p.m 7.30 p.m. (summertime)
April & September:	8.00 a.m 11.00 a.m.
	7.30 p.m 8.30 p.m.
May & June:	8.00 a.m 11.00 a.m.
July & August:	8.30 p.m 9.30 p.m "

An off lead 'Dog Park' as suggested by the councillor currently exists in St Annes Park as a pilot project and the extension of this initiative will be examined in the context of a wider Dog Management policy.

# Q.117 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive if he can please provide copies of all correspondence since 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in relation to completing the Docklands to Merrion Gates section of the route of the Sutton2Sandycove cycle route

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A search of correspondence records is currently underway for the information requested. Copy correspondence, if any, will be supplied in due course.No record of correspondence found in Environment & Transportation Department

### Q.118 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to resurface the traffic Island at the end of Westmoreland Street at the junction of the Quays and O'Connell Bridge as the surface is very uneven with a mixture of tarmac and flagstones following recent works.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The area is currently in the final phase of works to complete the final jointing for ESB works. These are scheduled to complete in the next 2 weeks. On completion of these works, the island will be snagged and remedial works carried out as necessary to ensure that there no trip hazards are present on completion of the works. The island will then be resurfaced as part of the main infrastructure contract, where final finishes will be reinstated and the blacktop removed.

### Q.119 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the progress of the completion of the Grand Canal Cycle Route and if he could consider installing a contra flow bike lane on the stretch along Windsor Terrace to Harold's Cross Bridge as an interim measure.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Environment and Transportation Department is finalising proposals for the Grand Canal Cycle Route, from Portobello to Blackhorse Bridge. It is anticipated that the Part VIII public consultation process will be commenced by end July. On the basis that the preliminary design of the long term solution is well progressed, it is not deemed to be efficient to divert resources towards the development of a short term interim measure.

# Q.120 COUNCILLOR CLAIRE BYRNE

To ask the Chief Executive if he is aware of what happens to the rejected coins and loose change that is left behind on the East Link toll, whether this change is counted and if so what the annual figure of that change is, where that money goes, and when was the last time the machines on the toll bridge were calibrated?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

At the East- Link rejected coins are in the first case returned to the motorist via the reject tray and can be picked up by the motorist there and then. If the motorist chooses not to pick up these then they are added to the coin vault by the shift supervisors. Due to the low volume of coins collected in this manner they are not calculated separately but included with the normal tolls, however the amounts involved are negligible as it is normally copper coins that are rejected.

There is a weekly hardware preventative maintenance programme which includes cleaning and calibrating the Automatic Coin machines at Eastlink.

#### Q.121 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

In relation to recent break-ins at houses that back on to Johnstown Park and my related correspondence to the City Council, can the Chief Executive;

- confirm that the new stronger gates and associated locks securing the park are on track for installation, and
- when the sections of the fence that need to be secured so as to prevent access to rear gardens of properties concerned will be raised and completed.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The fencing referred to in the above question is a chain link fence which is the boundary line of Johnstown Park and existing houses, has been recently inspected by Parks & Landscape Services. There are one or two sections of the fence that require to be secured so as to minimise the possibility of access to rear gardens of houses concerned, and this will be arranged in the coming weeks. This Service has no plans to raise the height of the chain-link fence at this location. Gates are currently being installed at Johnstown Park in accordance with the works programme for 2015 which are stronger than the existing gates.

### Q.122 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

In relation to new bye-laws on busking as recently enacted can the Chief Executive please provide me with a report in relation to:

- Number of Dublin City Council officers engaged in noise level monitoring and technology being used
- Number of permits that have been issued to-date
- Number of permits that have subsequently either been revoked or are in the process of being revoked because of breaches of the byelaws
- The nature of the breaches involved
- Total number of complaints received in relation to busking activities since the bye-laws were introduced.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Street Performers Bye-Laws came into effect on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The number of Street Performance Permits issued to date (correct as of 2<sup>nd</sup> June) is 219. The number of permits issued for the use of amplification is 110. Two members of staff have been assigned to enforce the Bye-Laws. They operate during office hours and on a rota basis in the evenings and at weekends.

Digital Sound Level Meters are used to monitor the decibel levels of performances. The most common breaches of the Bye-Laws are excessive noise levels, performers outstaying the two hour time limit and non-display of the permit. One permit has been revoked to date and a second case is under consideration. 76 complaints have been made directly to Dublin City Council.

### Q.123 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

In relation to Dublin City Council's own housing stock (in particular housing complexes) can the Chief Executive confirm if it has been assessed in relation to the presence of lead piping carrying inbound water supplies? If so how much lead piping is still in situ? What the plans are to remove the piping and associated estimated costs

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply will be forwarded to the Councillor within the next two weeks.

#### Q.124 COUNCILLOR NAOISE Ó MUIRÍ

Can the Chief Executive deal with the following (details supplied).

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.125 COUNCILLOR KIERAN BINCHY

To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans for the use of dublinbike data, whether the data is owned by DCC or by JCDecaux and whether there are any plans to use social media to promote use of the service.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

CCZ dublinbikes open data has been available for use since the first quarter of 2015 through the JCDecaux Open Data API. The availability of this data is helping to guide and inform future policy in relation to cycling in the city. This open data is used by the National Transport Authority to provide real time CCZ dublinbikes data to travel maps and journey planner Apps. This data is also used by the Dublin Dashboard which provides real-time information, time-series indicator data, and interactive maps about all aspects of the city. CCZ dublinbikes real time and static data has also been made available via the Dublinked Data Store.

Static data provides stable information like station position, number of bike stands, payment terminal availability, etc. Dynamic data provides station state, number of available bikes, number of free bike stands, etc. Static data can be downloaded manually in file format or accessed through the API. Dynamic data are refreshed every minute and can be accessed using the API. This information is used by third party developers and other interested parties for various purposes.

Ownership of data rests with the operator, JCDecaux. Dublin City Council retains the right of controlled data access for use in connection with scheme monitoring and strategic planning and development, including membership growth. CCZ dublinbikes data is currently being used by Dublin City Council to inform the development of a promotional campaign to increase the membership and growth of CCZ dublinbikes. This will be a summer campaign and will include extensive use of social media and related platforms to promote the service.

#### Q.126 COUNCILLOR KIERAN BINCHY

To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the formation of a community liaison forum for the Poolbeg incinerator.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

#### Membership:

The committee shall comprise 10 members having an independent chairperson, 3 local community representatives, 3 elected members of Dublin City Council, 2 officials of Dublin City Council and 1 representative from the operators of the waste to energy facility.

#### The Independent Chair

The Chief Executive has appointed Peter McLoone as independent Chairperson of the CGLC. Peter has considerable experience on various Boards, Committees and Agencies in a variety of organisations and sectors.

#### **3 Local Community Representatives**

An Assessment Panel comprising the Chair, the Lord Mayor and the Executive Manager, Environment & Transportation Department met on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June to assess the applications received for membership of the Committee from the following sectors:

(i) community/voluntary/disadvantage (ii) education/sports/art/culture/environment and (iii) business. The Panel has nominated one group from each sector to the Chief Executive who will then appoint the 3 community representatives on confirmation from them that they are agreeable to the appointment.

#### **3 Elected Representatives**

The 3 elected representatives have been selected by the South East Area Committee (SEAC) at its meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. The SEAC has agreed that the following 3 councillors will sit on the CGLC from March 2015 to April 2017: Cllr Chris Andrews Cllr Claire Byrne Cllr Kieran Binchy The following 3 councillors will sit on the CGLC from May 2017 to May 2019: Cllr Dermot Lacy Cllr Frank Kennedy Cllr Frank Kennedy Cllr Paddy McCartan

#### 2 Officials of Dublin City Council

The Chief Executive has appointed the South East Area Manager and the Senior Executive Officer, Environment & Transportation Department to the CGLC.

1 Representative from the Operator of the facility Covanta has nominated its General Manager, John Daly to the Committee.

When all the appointments have been made, it is intention of the Chair to convene the first meeting of the committee which is likely to be before the end of June.

#### Q.127 COUNCILLOR TINA MACVEIGH

To ask that this Councillor be provided with an outline of the process, legal or otherwise, that is used to recover unpaid development levies and to include a report on the levies outstanding for each of the years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. Can the report please detail the number of developers and the amount owed by each?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The following are the steps taken to recover unpaid development levies.

- 1. Invoice issued for full amount of contribution on receipt of commencement notice. In some cases Dublin City Council becomes aware that development has commenced as a result of site inspections.
- 2. In some cases applicant may request a phasing agreement. Dublin City Council will facilitate a reasonable payment schedule but in principle we endeavour to ensure that the full payment has been received on completion of the development.
- 3. If the applicant does not engage with Dublin City Council within 6 weeks of the initial invoice being issued a Warning Letter is issued.

- If there is no response to the Warning letter an Enforcement Notice pursuant to section 154 of the Local Government [Planning and Development] Acts 2000 – 2010 may issue.
- 5. If the terms of the Enforcement Notice served are found not to have been complied with after the specified time allowed, the Planning Authority may proceed with legal action.
- 6. Section 48(15) c of the Planning Development Act 2000 as amended states that; "(c) A planning authority may recover, as a simple contract debt in a court of competent jurisdiction, any contribution or interest due to the planning authority under this section."

While these are the formal steps available to Dublin City Council every effort is made at all stages in the process to come to a mutually acceptable agreement for the payment of the contribution.

It is only in exceptional cases where every reasonable effort has been unsuccessful that we resort to referring the file to our legal team for recovery of the outstanding amount as a simple contract debt in court.

The amount outstanding for Section 48 Contributions at year end from 2009 to 2014 was as follows:

2009	€19,922,891
2010	€21,091,231
2011	€22,323,073
2012	€19,199,842
2013	€16,614,148
2014	€12,194,540

There are currently 300 active accounts with a balance of €13M outstanding (May 2015). A third of these accounts have phased payment agreements in place.

Details of amounts owed by individual developers cannot be supplied as this is considered to be financially sensitive information which could adversely impact on a developer's credit rating and trading conditions.

#### Q.128 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

Can the Chief Executive, as a matter of urgency, have the bollard replaced on the left hand side upon entering the Tesco/Ballyfermot Library car park on Ballyfermot Road, Dublin 10? The old bollard was knocked down last year leaving a 75mm cast iron buttress protruding the footpath with the high volume of people using the Shops, College & Library it is a major accident waiting to happen.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road Maintenance Services carried out an inspection of the footpaths on the left hand side of the main access into Tesco, the College, and the Library and all footpaths leading towards the Library. There is no evidence of a 75mm stump from a broken bollard present along the footpaths examined.

#### Q.129 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

Can the cleansing division please arrange that we have a daily litter pick upon the Grange Cross Le Fanu Road Ballyfermot to Kylemore Road intersection with Le Fanu Road. The current situation is hundreds of youths attend schools on Le Fanu

Road & Kylemore Road all the litter etc is left to blow around here we do our best however the volumes are unsustainable I would welcome an on-site meeting with a couple of residents some afternoon to see at first hand the problems we are encountering..

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services have the above mentioned area cleaned five days a week, Monday to Friday. Staff can be contacted at (details supplied) to arrange an on-site meeting.

#### Q.130 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

Can the Chief Executive please ensure that the large trees/vegetation overlooking the apartment of (details supplied) are cut back?

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

The Team Leader of our Southside Mobile Crew is making arrangements to have the trees at this location inspected in relation to pruning. Our Caretaking Service sweep this complex and clear fallen leaves on a daily / weekly basis as required.

### Q.131 COUNCILLOR VINCENT JACKSON

That I be given an update on (details supplied)

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

# Q.132 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

Will the Chief Executive replace the seat at the corner of Clare Road and Griffith Avenue? It is rotting away and needs to be replaced. Will the Chief Executive also relocate the bin from beside the seat? It makes it unpleasant to sit on the seat when it is beside a bin.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Parks and Landscape Services in association with the Public Domain Office propose to carry our repair work at the seat at this location within the next 8 weeks. Waste Management Services relocated the litter bin away from the seat at the above mentioned location on the 28th May 2015.

#### Q.133 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

Will the Chief Executive arrange a junk collection for **(details supplied)**? They haven't had a collection in 4-5 years.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services will resume the junk collection in September 2015. No schedules have been prepared at this stage and won't be prepared until much nearer the resumption of this service. We will ensure that **(details supplied)** receives a junk collection immediately on the resumption of this service.

#### Q.134 COUNCILLOR ANDREW MONTAGUE

Will the Chief Executive contact Hail Housing and ask them to repair the leak at the front door; the stiff back door and the smell of sewage from the washing machine for **(details supplied)**?

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

These units are not managed by Dublin City Council. This request has been forwarded to the Manager in Hail Housing.

# Q.135 COUNCILLOR BRÍD SMITH

To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a scientific investigation into the prevalence of dampness and mould (as evidenced by the 1,500 complaints received last year) in Dublin City Council properties, instead of continually putting the responsibility for this back on tenant behaviour.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The City Council Housing Maintenance professional and technical staff make scientific determinations regarding the source of moisture using, amongst other observations, empirical data gathered from carrying out assessments using moisture meters, humidity sensors, infra-red thermometers and where necessary thermal cameras. This procedure can definitively differentiate between dampness and condensation in any particular location.

The City Council maintenance professional and technical staff currently manage the maintenance of approximately 23,500 dwellings covering a wide variety of dwellings, types of construction and types of occupancy. As a result the staff have extensive experience in identifying the cause and treatment of mould or damp in dwellings. Every complaint of mould/damp/condensation is investigated by our technical inspection staff and where required the technical inspection staff refer the complaint to the Engineers who then carry out the above procedure.

Mould will only grow where sufficient moisture occurs. When that moisture is from a leak, rising damp or penetrating damp, DCC will treat the source of the moisture in order to arrest the growth and spread of mould. Where the moisture is determined by DCC professional and technical staff to be as a result of condensation, as per page 20 & 21 of the tenant's handbook, the responsibility for maintenance due to condensation is the responsibility of the tenant.

#### Q.136 COUNCILLOR BRÍD SMITH

To ask the Chief Executive to give reason(s) why a one bed flat was allocated to the tenant **(details supplied)** in 2001 when he was the sole guardian of a three year old daughter?

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The flat was allocated to the tenant in November 2000 when the tenant was a lone parent with one child. While the allocation of a two bed property would be more preferable, it was the regular practise to allocate one bed properties to applicants with one young child, having regard to the individual circumstances of the case, the availability of suitable accommodation and the applicant's willingness to accept such accommodation.

# Q.137 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive, with regard to the response issued to Q100 (Cllr Alison Gilliland Council meeting of 11th May), to clarify the following: that 'No other models were considered as none were considered feasible' in light that the union representatives (SIPTU and IMPACT) submitted a framework proposal for the future of for the future of the Fire Based EMS Emergency Ambulance in Dublin. This framework proposed:

 DFB to provide the emergency ambulance service for the entirety of the Dublin Region. This fire based EMS service would incorporate any future alternative care pathways developed in line with Recommendation 3 of the HIQA report. It will provide an Advanced Paramedic deployment, rapid response vehicles as required and the required additional fleet.

- DFB to provide the call taking and dispatch functions from the control centre in Townsend Street, which would mirror and provide resilience complimentary to the NAS control centre in Tallaght in line with Recommendation 1 of the HIQA report. It would have access to identical equipment, training, and Alternative Care Pathways with identical deployment protocols that are being introduced to improve the national ambulance service.
- the appointment of an Ambulance Officer with responsibility for the ambulance service and the role of the medical director to be re-examined to reflect the enhanced service, and to develop clinical Governance procedures, in line with national policies. DFB's clinical governance will be subject to the relevant oversight bodies in line with the rest of the National Ambulance Service."

And to explain in detail the rationale and evidence for a) not considering this proposed framework/model as a 'feasible' model and b) for choosing an alternative model that transfers responsibility for ALL emergency ambulance calls and dispatch to the NAS (completely opposite to the SIPTU/IMPACT Proposal) despite the fact that DFB completes more dispatches than the NAS and in light of DFB's superior efficiency record.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Chief Executives of the four Dublin local authorities, having consulted with the HSE, made a proposal in seeking to comply with key recommendations of the HIQA report on emergency ambulances services and in the interests of patient safety for the Dublin region. This proposal is related to integrated call taking/ambulance dispatch and the need for a single clinical governance regime and is outlined as follows:

- The National Ambulance Service Control Centre would assume responsibility for call taking in respect of all emergency ambulance calls in the Dublin region. *All emergency ambulance call taking for the Dublin region would be handled by the National Ambulance Service Control Centre, in Tallaght.*
- The National Ambulance Service control Centre would assume responsibility for the dispatch of emergency ambulance resources of both the National Ambulance Service and Dublin Fire Brigade. The dispatch of all emergency ambulances in the Dublin region, including the dispatch of all Dublin Fire Brigade emergency ambulances, would be done by the National Ambulance Service Control Centre, in Tallaght.
- Dublin Fire Brigade emergency ambulance resource would be subject to an integrated clinical governance structure. The National Ambulance Control Centre would handle all communications with Hospitals re release of emergency ambulances.
- National Ambulance Service and Dublin Fire Brigade emergency ambulances would have the same IT equipment and systems. *This equipment would indicate the current location and status of every ambulance.*
- Dublin Fire Brigade would continue to be fully involved in emergency ambulance service delivery as part of this reconfiguration project.

• There would be no diminution in emergency ambulance service delivery to the population of the Dublin Region.

Since then the Trade Unions involved have tabled an alternative proposal on the lines outlined in this question to the Joint DCC/Trade Union Forum chaired by Mr Stephen Brady. This proposal will be considered by that Forum. The Chief Executive has also invited the Chief Fire Officer and his management team to prepare a submission on the two proposals or indeed to submit a further alternative proposal to the Joint DCC/Trade Union Forum. It is now a matter for the Forum to consider all proposals and to seek agreement on the best model of operation for addressing the very important recommendations outlined in the HIQA report.

### Q.138 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive to outline Dublin City Council plans to address the ongoing crewing shortages in the DFB, whereby critical minimum safety levels are not being maintained on an ongoing basis, and which in one incidence has resulted in essential safety training having to be cancelled so as to re-allocate officers to active fire duty.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Dublin Fire Brigade manages crewing levels on a daily basis in order to ensure that there is adequate cover at any time for any emergency. There have been ongoing discussions with the Trade Unions in relation to the filling of vacancies at all levels within Dublin Fire Brigade. It is expected that the results of these discussions will be positive and agreement will be reached on a recruitment process.

### Q.139 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.140 COUNCILLOR ALISON GILLILAND

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.141 <u>COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.142 <u>COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

> <u>CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:</u> A reply has been issued to the Councillor

Q.143 <u>COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL</u> To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

### Q.144 COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'FARRELL

To ask the Chief Executive (details supplied)

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

A reply has been issued to the Councillor

#### Q.145 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide this councillor with the information regarding the rules and regulations, if any, in relation to local authority home adaptations carried out privately by local authority tenants.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Any tenant wishing to carry out works/alterations to their City Council dwelling must apply in writing for permission to the Senior Executive Officer, Housing Maintenance, Housing and Residential Services, Block 2, Floor 3, Civic Offices, Dublin 8. The nature and feasibility of the works will be investigated by our Area Maintenance Officers and Engineers. If works are refused a letter will be issued to the tenant outlining the reasons for refusal. If permission is granted a letter will issue giving permission but outlining the following conditions;

- All costs involved in providing these facilities and modifications/alterations to the property must be borne by the tenant.
- The Tenant shall ensure, that any project/works/construction/maintenance/repairs to the dwelling, which arise in accordance with the Tenant's responsibilities under the Letting Agreement, or otherwise, and which are carried out by the Tenant personally, or by a Third Party/Contractor, are carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013'.
- All alterations or developments must comply with all current building regulations and standards, including the building control regulations and regulations applicable to landlords such as S.I. 534 Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2008 and S.I. 462 534 Housing (Standards for Rented Houses)(Amendment) Regulations 2009.
- Dublin City Council will not take responsibility for maintenance of any new structure or any structural alterations made to the existing dwelling.
- Given that Dublin City Council are not making these alterations to the property, any accident or injury caused to the tenant whilst utilising facilities that were installed by the tenant or others will not be the responsibility of Dublin City Council.
- If any damage is done to the fabric of the property during the installation of these facilities, the damage must be rectified and the property made good by the company employed to do the works.
- It is recommended that a professional builder is employed to carry out the proposed works and it is recommended that there is a works guarantee or warranty in place for any issues that may arise post completion.

To request permission to carry out <u>structural alterations</u> to a DCC property the tenant must request permission from Housing Maintenance (HM) in writing with a drawing showing the following details:

- a. The proposed layout.
- b. The proposed foundations.
- c. The proposed wall, floor and roof build ups.
- d. Details of the weathering at the joints with the existing structure.
- e. Details of any structural support beams.
- f. The location of any drainage in the garden and alterations to same or bridging details of any underground services if required.

Housing Maintenance will review the drawings and may request further information depending on the details required. Once HM is satisfied with the proposed build a letter would be sent to the tenant indicating that the tenant has permission from DCC HM as the property owner, to carry out the proposed works to the property.

Should the proposed development require planning permission, this must be sought separately only after permission has been received from Housing Maintenance that the structure may be altered. The tenant must notify DCC HM as to the start date.

Should the tenant vacate the property in the future, DCC will remain in possession of the new structure including all standard fixtures and fittings. The tenant shall not be reimbursed for any new works, fixtures or fitting.

# Q.146 COUNCILLOR JOHN LYONS

To ask the Chief Executive to provide this councillor with a report on the turnaround of voids, including a detailed breakdown of the costs and timescales involved in turning an empty local authority property into a habitable home.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

538 vacant units have been turned around by a combination of contractors and direct labour to date in 2015. Refurbishment is at present being carried out in a further 294 units or 1.22% of the total housing stock. The average cost of turning around a property ranges from €18,341 to €34,839. Properties, depending on the level of refurbishment works required can take 6-8 weeks to be turned around by a contractor.

# Q.147 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will refer to request from (details supplied at A) and say if he will agree to accede to their request at (details supplied B) as part and also arrange to have one of his officials contact (details supplied A) to discuss the matter.

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

The Public Domain Officer will meet with (details supplied A) to discuss the possibility of (details supplied B).

# Q.148 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

To ask the Chief Executive if he will refer to request from constituent as per (details **supplied)** to waive the €500 charge for required disabled dishing at entrance to house and say if, in the circumstances, he can agree to request

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Road maintenance has inspected the existing driveway. Under the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, planning permission is required for the creation of, widening of a vehicular access to a domestic dwelling. A copy of the grant of planning permission should be submitted with any request for a dishing.

However, where no planning permission exists and the new vehicular entrance has clearly been in existence for a long time it will be necessary for the applicant to prove by sworn affidavit that the entrance has been in use as a vehicular access for a period of seven years. Please note that a sworn affidavit is a letter of declaration signed/witnessed by a solicitor or peace commissioner.

The standard domestic concrete dishing fee of €556 would apply for construction of a new dished driveway. I called the Irish Wheelchair Association to see if there were grants available for these works and was told that they direct people to the Citizens Information Services for advice on grants. Following the Irish Wheelchair advice, I would suggest that this is the best place to enquire regarding grants for these works. Please contact Road Maintenance Inspector, Paddy Murphy at 8367825 if you wish to carry out this work.

### Q.149 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

Can the Chief Executive refer to my question number 77 at the April North Central Area Committee and say if he can arrange removal of the over-hanging bushes at location as per **(details attached)** as local resident who uses details attached to get to the shops is partially sighted and is continually fearful of walking into over-hanging briars."

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

Road Maintenance Services have inspected this location. The bushes which were blocking the lane at the rear of house 37 have been cut back.

### Q.150 COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE HENEY

Can the Chief Executive refer to laneway at location as per (details supplied) and arrange to have same cleared of overgrowing weeds etc as promised

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPLY:

Waste Management Services cleaned the laneway at (details supplied) during the first week of June 2015.